

# **BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY**

## **Technical Committee**

### **Minutes of January 10, 2018 Meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Voting: Terry Blaniar, Rick Fowler, Angela Kline, Glenn Perian (for Christine Zuzga), Brian Sanada, and Rich Werner  
Non-voting: Andrea Dewey

MEMBERS ABSENT: Voting: Chris Dopp  
Non-voting: Southcentral Michigan Planning Council (SMPC)

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Franklin, Justian Crane, Pat Karr and Andrew Tilma

Vice-Chair Werner called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. in the Council Room of Springfield City Hall, 601 Avenue A, Springfield, MI 49037.

### **ROLL CALL**

A quorum was present (see above for voting members present). Introductions were conducted for the benefit of all in attendance.

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**It was moved by Perian, supported by Kline, to approve the agenda as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Res.  
18-01**

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**It was moved by Blaniar, supported by Perian, to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2017 meeting.** Karr indicated a misspelling on page 2 that will be corrected before the minutes are posted. This change was noted. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Res.  
18-02**

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Karr shared the following communications:

- The City of Battle Creek was successful with a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant for a multi-use path along Hill Brady Road in the Fort Custer Industrial Park. This will be included in the amendment on today's agenda.

- BCATS received a notice about the Marshall TSC's plans for a transportation summit to be held on March 1, 2018 from 1 - 4 pm.
- The City of Battle Creek announced that it has two rail crossings which will be updated utilizing funding from the MDOT Office of Rail. The crossings are at Capital Avenue and Elm Street.
- MDOT has provided a news release about the success of the green warning lights on snow plows. A copy of the news release was provided to the members.
- It was noted that the "Rolling Forward: Michigan Bicycle Conference" will be held in Grand Rapids in June.
- There has been an announcement by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding the designation of air quality status for each of the counties in Michigan. Calhoun County is in the "attainment/unclassifiable" category.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to come before the Committee at this time.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### A. FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) - Amendment #8

Tilma presented the projects under consideration for Amendment #8 to the FY 2017-2020 TIP. He distributed a copy of the public notice for the amendment and a spreadsheet table indicating the proposed changes. This is the regularly scheduled amendment for January for each year. The listing also includes some non-federal projects, provided by MDOT. These will be added to the TIP by administrative action. The rail projects are funded through MDOT and the rail companies at a 60/40 split, respectively. Tilma noted the section on the table which shows MDOT projects that have only some work in the BCATS area, but most of the work outside of the BCATS area.

There was discussion about projects with no federal funding still being included in the TIP and being included in formal amendments. Dewey stressed that the MPO should determine, based on regional significance, whether MDOT's wholly state funded projects should be included in the amendment process.

**It was moved by Kline, supported by Perian, to recommend that the BCATS Policy Committee approve Amendment #8 to the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program, as presented.**

**Res.  
18-03**

**B. Resolution for Transportation Safety Targets**

Karr reviewed the material provided to the members for this topic. She noted that MDOT set its safety targets back at the end of August, 2017 and sent a letter to Michigan's MPOs indicating that the target setting had been completed. MPOs have 180 days following the state setting of safety targets to either support the state targets or set their own targets for the 5 categories established in the federal regulations. This is an item that has been discussed previously with both the BCATS Technical and Policy Committees. The members were provided with several items related to this topic that Karr reviewed, including a sample resolution for BCATS to adopt which would indicate that BCATS selects supporting the state safety targets for calendar year 2018.

**It was moved by Kline, supported by Perian, to recommend that the BCATS Policy Committee adopt the proposed resolution regarding safety targets, as presented.**

**Res.  
18-04**

**COMMENTS****A. Next Meeting**

Vice-Chair Werner announced that the next meeting of the BCATS Technical Committee is scheduled for February 14, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. at the same location.

**B. Committee Member Comments**

Kline indicated that she would not be able to attend a February meeting due to a conflict. It was noted that in many years a February meeting has not been necessary due to a lack of agenda items. Members will be notified if that is the case.

Karr indicated that, once safety targets are adopted, the next step is to develop language for inclusion in the current TIP that addresses the performance measures, and the safety targets. It is expected that material for this topic will be presented to the BCATS Committees in April, 2018.

Tilma noted that, based on a query from Sanada, that the provisions governing TIP amendments in the BCATS area are stated in the TIP document, which is posted on the BCATS' website. However, he expects there to be some changes to the process based on the updates happening at the state level relative to GPAs as well as the performance measures.

**C. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by Vice-Chair Werner at 2:08 p.m.