

BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Technical Committee

Minutes of January 8, 2020 Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Voting: Donna Hutchison (for Mallory Avis), Terry Blaniar, Chris Dopp, Jeff Franklin, Amy Lipset, Kristine Parsons, and Glenn Perian

Non-voting: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Voting: None
Non-voting: Andy Pickard and Southcentral Michigan Planning Council (SMPC)

OTHERS PRESENT: Brian Kernstock, Terry Martin, Pat Karr and Andrew Tilma

Chair Dopp called the meeting to order at 1:31 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 completed for the benefit of all in attendance and to establish a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was noted by Dopp that item 7.B. will now be an ACTION item on the agenda.

It was moved by Franklin, supported by Parsons, to approve the agenda with the noted change. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
20-01**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Parsons, supported by Perian, to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2019 meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
20-02**

COMMUNICATIONS

Karr shared the following communications:

- BCATS received updated local program allocations from MDOT for 2020 for the STUL and planning program funds. The STUL information will be discussed later on the agenda.
- BCATS received a notice from the City of Battle Creek about an infrastructure and utility services coordination meeting being held next Thursday, the 16th. BCATS will be represented at that meeting.
- BCATS received notification of one final phone/web meeting for the county transit study to be held sometime in early February.
- BCATS staff completed the Obligated Federal Transportation Projects report for 2019 at the end of December. The report was posted to the BCATS website and sent out electronically to BCATS' newsletter lists. Copies of the report were provided to the members at the meeting. Copies were also provided to all of the BCATS' area township offices, the Calhoun County Road Department office, the City of Battle Creek Public Works office, and to the City of Battle Creek's eight Neighborhood Planning Councils.
- BCATS sent out a list of the BCATS Committee meeting dates for 2020 to a listing of known private transportation providers following Policy Committee action on its portion of the schedule on December 18, 2019.
- BCATS staff sent the safety and transit target resolutions and supporting materials to MDOT following the actions of the BCATS Committees at their respective December meetings.
- BCATS received notice of the rescheduling of the previously weather cancelled regional infrastructure asset management summit from November. It has been rescheduled for Friday, February 7, 2019 from 9:00am to 12 noon at the Van Buren Conference Center in Lawrence, MI. Registration is requested and members should see the distributed notice for details.
- The City of Battle Creek has officially been notified that a project for railroad grade crossing work on Main Street has received Local Grade Crossing Surface Program Project funding for 2020.
- The City of Battle Creek has now posted all of the signs at City entrances related to its local ordinance prohibiting the use of hand-held cell phones from being used for any purpose within the city limits. Enforcement is now occurring for this recent ordinance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

A. FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #4

Tilma reviewed the proposed one MDOT project to be amended in the current TIP for this amendment. He distributed a sheet showing the description of the proposed amendment, including the amendment notice as it appeared in the *Battle Creek Enquirer*. There were no comments on this item from the members.

It was moved by Parsons, supported by Blaniar, to recommend Policy Committee approval of Amendment #4 to the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
20-03**

B. Status of FY 2020 and FY 2021 Local Fed-Aid Road Projects in FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Allocation/Obligation of Federal Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) Funds in FY 2020 or FY 2021

Tilma provided information to the members about the various funding decisions to be made relative to the HIP funding and the small amount of additional STUL funding the new estimates from MDOT indicated. He distributed two memos discussing these funding sources. There was discussion about FY 2020 local projects that have been determined will require additional funding and/or which are currently overmatched by the local agencies. There was consensus that the HIP funding of \$92,518 would be recommended to be allocated between the City of Battle Creek's 2020 Main Street project and the Calhoun County Road Department's 2020 N Drive N (Gorsline Rd.) project, \$41,000/\$51,518 respectively. In addition, the \$22,710 in additional federal STUL funding would be split 50/50 between the Capital Avenue NE/Van Buren Street signal project and the N Drive N (Gorsline Rd.) project. The N Drive N project will still be overmatched by the county, even with this additional funding. There was discussion about whether funding can still be applied to the N Drive N (Gorsline Rd.) project due to its status in the project pipeline. Franklin will ascertain the project's status and ability to accept this additional funding. If that project is not feasible for the funding allocated, adding that funding to the county's portion of the 2020 Main Street project, which is being advance constructed, will be pursued. If the N Drive N (Gorsline Rd.) project can still be funded, the changes will likely need to be expedited in order to occur.

It was moved by Perian, supported by Lipset, to recommend that the BCATS Policy Committee endorse the funding additions and changes for the FY 2020 transportation

project program, as decided upon by the Technical Committee, above, with the potential for modification if the N Drive N (Gorsline Rd.) project is not allowed to utilize the funding designated to that project.

**Res.
20-04**

COMMENTS

A. Next Meeting

Chair Dopp announced that the next meeting of the BCATS Technical Committee is scheduled for February 12, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. at the same location.

B. Committee Member Comments

Parsons provided an update regarding the county's projects including when tree clearing is expected along the stretch of N Drive N that will include the upcoming STUL project. The tree clearing will require a total road closure in late February from McAllister Road to 12 Mile Road. The Emmett Township road program, made possible by the passage of a local road millage, is moving forward with the largest year of work within the three-year program expected to commence in 2020. The CCRD is working with Emmett Township on a contract to move the road work forward.

C. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.