

BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
Policy Committee
Minutes of April 24, 2019 Meeting

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Mallory Avis, Harry Burdett, Derek King, Amy Lipset (for Annjanette Kremer), John Midgley, Dave Morgan, Jeff Franklin (for Eric Mullen), and Greg Rickmar

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: None

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Laveta Hardish, Tim Hill, and Rande Johnson

NON-VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Andrea Dewey (FHWA) and SMPC

OTHERS PRESENT: Donna Hutchison, Kenton McAndrew, Pat Karr, and Andrew Tilma

Chair Burdett called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. in the Council Room of the Susan L. Anderson Municipal Building (Springfield City Hall), 601 Avenue A, Springfield, MI 49037.

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present (see above for voting members present). Introduction of members was completed for the benefit of all in attendance, especially new member Mallory Avis from the City of Battle Creek.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Rickmar, supported by Lipset, to approve the agenda as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Res.
19-19

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Midgley, supported by Morgan, to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2019 meeting, as presented, subject to any additions, corrections or changes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Res.
19-20

COMMUNICATIONS

Karr reported the following items of communication:

- Karr welcomed new member Mallory Avis to the Policy Committee as the permanent alternate for City of Battle Creek Mayor, Mark Behnke.
- MDOT is still awaiting federal action on the area's air quality conformity determination completed last month.

- BCATS received approval of the March TIP amendment on April 18, 2019.
- There has been one positive comment on the draft project list for the new TIP. The second newsletter about the development of the new FY 2020-2023 TIP was distributed at the beginning of April and made available on the BCATS website.
- BCATS is promoting the Calhoun County Transit Study survey now available on-line at the website created for the Study, which is calhouncountytransit.com. A link to the survey is also currently available on the BCATS website.
- The Michigan State Police/Office of Highway Safety Planning has released official traffic crash data for 2018. A summary of that information was provided to the members at the meeting. The data indicates a 5% reduction in fatalities in 2018 over 2017.
- MDOT Statewide Planning Section has announced the replacement for Eric Mullen, who was promoted to Section Manager. Mr. Don Mayle will assume one of the two supervisor positions in the Section and will be the new Statewide Planning representative to the BCATS Policy Committee.
- BCATS received information from the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council about an upcoming workshop of wind and solar energy facilities. The information was forwarded to the local agencies in the BCATS area in case they are interested in attending, as registration is required.
- The City of Battle Creek is holding workshops about its update of the City's Non-Motorized Plan. The current Plan was completed in 2006. A flyer about the workshops was distributed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Quarterly Financial Report January - March, 2019

Karr indicated that the January - March, 2019 Quarterly Financial Report for BCATS was provided in the advance material. Now halfway through the year, 49% of the budget has been spent, so the program is on track. The only local expenditure reported to-date is the reimbursement for the BCT transit study last fall. Work on traffic counting will begin soon.

It was moved by Rickmar, supported by Morgan, to receive and file the Quarterly Financial Report for January - March, 2019, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Res.

19-21

B. Letters of Support for Local Agency Bridge Project Submittals

Karr discussed the memo that had been provided for this item and the bridges that the local agencies are interested in improving. It was noted that the deadline to apply to MDOT for FY 2022 local bridge funding is May 1, 2019.

It was moved by Rickmar, supported by King, to authorize preparation of letters of support for the listed local bridge projects and provide the letters to the local agencies preparing the funding applications. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
19-22**

C. FY 2020 Unified Work Program (UWP) Draft

Karr stated that a draft of the new FY 2020 Unified Work Program (UWP), including the financial tables was provided in the advance material. MDOT participation in the UWP is included in the tables of the draft. She reviewed the content of the draft document. She requested that any questions on the draft be directed to her as soon as possible since action on the final document is scheduled for the May BCATS Committee meetings.

This was an information item not requiring action at this time.

D. FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Tilma updated the Committee as to the status of the development of the new FY 2020-2023 TIP that is scheduled for Committee action next month. He reviewed a table distributed at the meeting. Tilma noted that transit projects for the “out years” of the TIP are yet to be programmed in the prescribed JobNet format. He also reviewed a listing of “STIP Exempt” projects and there was discussion about these types of projects.

Karr indicated that the remainder of the document that constitutes the TIP is also being finalized for the new FY 2020-2023 TIP.

Tilma discussed the “freezing” of 2020 projects for the transition year of the TIP and that changes to any 2020 projects will need to be addressed in the May TIP amendment or wait until the November meeting before any changes to 2020 projects can be made.

There was discussion about the funding process for transportation projects needed in the County.

This was an information item not requiring action at this time.

COMMENTS

A. Next Meeting

Chair Burdett announced that the next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 22, 2019, 1:30 p.m. in the City of Springfield Council Chambers. Karr noted that this is a very important meeting with several big action items on the agenda and asked the members to note this date on their calendars.

B. Committee Member Comments

Avis thanked BCATS staff for the joint meeting last week to acclimate her to the BCATS process.

C. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Burdett adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m.