

BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Technical Committee

Minutes of May 11, 2016 Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Voting: Chris Dopp, Rich Werner, Terry Blaniar, Rick Fowler, Jason Latham, and Kristine Parsons (for Angela Kline)
Non-voting: Danielle Coles, FHWA

MEMBERS ABSENT: Voting: Christine Zuzga
Non-voting: SMPC

OTHERS PRESENT: Dharmesh Valsadia, Pat Karr and Andrew Tilma

Chair Dopp called the meeting to order at 1:38 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 carried out for the sake of all in attendance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Werner, supported by Blaniar, to approve the agenda. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Res.
16-10

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments at this time.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Fowler, supported by Werner, to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2016 meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Res.
16-11

COMMUNICATIONS

Karr shared the following communications:

- Karr noted that relative to the call for projects to utilize unobligated transit 5303 funds, Werner has provided BCATS with a summary of a transit study BCT would like to carry out with funds under the special "call". The Policy Committee approved the submittal of a grant

request for that study and BCATS is waiting to hear when the evaluation of the project requests will be completed. Fowler indicated that he has been informed that the decisions on those projects will be completed by the end of May. Karr added that if BCT's application is funded the project will be amended into the FY 2016 Unified Work Program in June.

- An OHSP news release regarding increasing traffic fatalities in Michigan was distributed to the members. The total traffic fatalities in Michigan in 2015 increased 10% over the total for 2014. Sectors seeing over a 20% increase in deaths so far this year are those that are alcohol-involved, bicyclists, teen drivers, and motorcycle riders.
- In addition to Danielle Coles of FHWA taking a new position with the FHWA in Florida starting at the end of this month, Rachael Tupica of the Lansing FHWA Division office has accepted a promotion within FHWA and will be moving to the Oregon office next month.
- Karr attended a workshop last week in Lansing on setting safety performance targets for states and MPOs. Attendees included MPOs, MDOT, OHSP, FHWA and consultants facilitating the workshop. Michigan has good quality crash data to address the performance planning process.
- BCATS has officially requested an extension of the completion date for the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan until November, 2016. The request was sent on April 22, 2016. Karr asked Fowler to follow-up on the request for BCATS. He indicated that he would check on the status of the request.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

A. FY 2017 Unified Work Program (UWP)

Karr indicated that the draft FY 2017 UWP document presented at the April meeting is unchanged except for the page 8 Long Range Transportation Planning item. The information for that item has been updated to reflect BCATS' completing the minor update of its long range plan in November, 2016, two months into the 2017 fiscal year. The updated page was available to members in advance of the meeting.

It was moved by Werner, supported by Blaniar to recommend approval by the BCATS Policy Committee of the FY 2017 Unified Work Program, with the changes to page 8 as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
16-12**

B. FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #12

Tilma reviewed the public notice and table detailing the changes proposed for Amendment #12 to the current TIP. The table also notes the Administrative Changes that are being reported along with the amended projects. A total of 5 amendment actions are included in Amendment #12. Tilma discussed the specifics of the proposed amendment. Werner noted that the transit fleet capital program, 5339b, has been made available for application for BCT to try to replace some buses. There is also a 5339a capital program for transit facilities.

It was moved by Latham, supported by Blaniar, to recommend approval by the BCATS Policy Committee of Amendment #12 to the FY 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
16-13**

C. FY 2017 -2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Tilma discussed the project listing included in the new TIP and pointed out some minor changes that have occurred in the details for a few of the listed projects since the list was developed.

Karr reviewed the other sections of the document, which are primarily narrative in nature covering aspects such as financial constraint, performance measures, public involvement, consultation, air quality and implementation. Karr noted that the financial chapter is based on a standardized format developed at the state level for use by all of the MPOs. There has been a minimal amount of customization of that chapter to reflect local conditions in the BCATS area. Dopp indicated that cost increases for the projects in the TIP are very unpredictable and it is expected that costs would have the potential to be amended in the future. Tilma commented on the status of the project summary information and the environmental justice program review.

Dopp thanked BCATS staff for their work on putting together this document. Werner asked about public involvement language needing to be included in public notices since BCT has had some comments from their MDOT transit program manager about this topic. Fowler agreed to check with the MDOT transit section on this topic to find out if BCATS will need to add certain language to its notices where transit projects are included.

It was moved by Werner, supported by Latham to recommend approval by the BCATS Policy Committee of the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program, with the addition of specific information, as noted by staff. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
16-14**

D. Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process Certification

Karr noted that the language on the Certification resolution is the same as the last such resolution adopted in 2013 for the current TIP. Rachael Tupica, of FHWA, has indicated that there are no language changes to be made on the resolution at this time.

It was moved by Fowler, supported by Werner, to recommend adoption by the BCATS Policy Committee of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process Certification resolution, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
16-15**

COMMENTS

A. Next Meeting

Chair Dopp announced that the next regular Technical Committee meeting is scheduled for June 8, 2016 at 1:30 p.m. at the same location.

B. Committee Member Comments

Latham announced upcoming public meetings regarding MDOT's update of its long range transportation plan. Locally, there will be a public session on May 24th in Kalamazoo in the early evening, with presentations at 5:15 and 6:15, at the Kalamazoo Metro Transit offices.

Werner announced that Battle Creek Transit (BCT) will taking delivery of another propane fueled van in about two weeks. A new maintenance supervisor has also been hired at BCT.

C. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Dopp at 2:19 p.m.