

BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Technical Committee

Minutes of May 9, 2018 Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Voting: Terry Blaniar, Chris Dopp, Rick Fowler, Kristine Parsons, Glenn Perian (for Christine Zuzga), Brian Sanada, and Donna Hutchison (for Rich Werner)
Non-voting: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Voting: None
Non-voting: Andrea Dewey and the Southcentral Michigan Planning Council (SMPC)

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Franklin, 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).

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Perian, supported by Fowler, to approve the agenda, as amended. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
18-12**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Fowler, supported by Blaniar, to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2018 meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
18-13**

COMMUNICATIONS

Karr shared the following communications:

- The BCATS March TIP Amendment was approved by the federal partners last Friday, May 4th. The changes in that amendment can now proceed.
- BCATS received an e-mail from Donna Wittl at MDOT who is working in the air quality area. A court case against the U.S. EPA was ruled on and has resulted in the air quality status of all areas of the country reverting to the 1997 Ozone standards and designations. The EPA had revoked those standards and designations in April 2015. The EPA is appealing the decision, but in the interim, the U.S. DOT has put out guidance for dealing with the results of this court case. The bottom line is that Battle Creek/Calhoun County is being included back in with Kalamazoo and VanBuren counties and will be subject to air quality conformity again. This means doing conformity on the BCATS TIP and MTP if the ruling stands. Although conformity requirements will apply, the areas like BCATS are not being re-designated as non-attainment under this process.
- The April narrative TIP amendment regarding Performance Measures has been submitted to MDOT. FHWA wants MDOT to send all of the MPO's amendments on this matter together in one submittal. It is expected that MDOT will do this later this month.
- A second billing has been processed for the Transit Master Plan project. BCT is working to evaluate routing options proposed by the consultant.
- The City of Battle Creek and the Calhoun County Road Department have been given approval by BCATS to proceed with collecting PASER data for non-Federal aid roadways within the BCATS area under special efforts for the Asset Management program this year.
- The City of Battle Creek may participate in a collection of culvert data being coordinated by the Asset Management Council. Special funding has been made available by the state legislature for this statewide project.
- MDOT is holding a public information meeting on May 14th from 4-6 pm about the M-311 bridge replacement project. The bridge goes over the Kalamazoo River and its replacement will close that segment of M-311 and result in a detour.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

A. Final 2019 Unified Work Program (UWP)

Karr noted that the only changes from the draft UWP document presented in April are the addition of MDOT budgets and staff days to tables A-C in Attachment C. This information

was provided by Jeff Franklin of MDOT, Fowler's soon-to-be replacement on the BCATS Technical Committee.

It was moved by Perian, supported by Blaniar, to recommend that the BCATS Policy Committee approve the final FY 2019 Unified Work Program, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
18-14**

B. FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) - Amendment #10

Tilma reviewed the large spreadsheets that he distributed that summarizing MDOT TIP projects in the TIP, projects only partly in the BCATS area, and the STUL funded projects for the 2018-2020 years of the current TIP. After review of the administrative changes made by Tilma to various projects, there was discussion about how to proceed with the bid savings from two STUL projects already bid this year.

It was moved by Parsons, supported by Perian, to recommend that the BCATS Policy Committee approve as an amendment changes to the FY 2017-2020 TIP, as discussed and decided upon by the Technical Committee. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
18-14**

COMMENTS

A. Next Meeting

Chair Dopp announced that the next meeting of the BCATS Technical Committee is scheduled for June 13, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. at the same location. Karr noted that it is highly likely that the June meeting will not be held due to a lack of agenda items. June and August are months when meetings may not be held during the summer.

B. Committee Member Comments

Sanada announced that the Regional Planner position, formerly held by Jason Latham, had been posted and it is likely that interviews will be conducted for the job next week.

Fowler stated that this would be his last meeting with the BCATS Technical Committee as he is retiring from MDOT at the end of May. He confirmed that Jeff Franklin, who has been coming to the Technical Committee meetings with him for several months, will be his replacement as the MDOT Project Manager for BCATS.

Karr expressed appreciation for Fowler's long service to BCATS (15 years on the Technical Committee) and he was given well wishes on his pending retirement.

C. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Dopp at 2:37 p.m.