

BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Technical Committee

Minutes of May 8, 2019 Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Voting: Mallory Avis, Terry Blaniar, Chris Dopp, Jeff Franklin, Amy Lipset, Kristine Parsons, and Glenn Perian
Non-voting: Andrea Dewey

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

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

Chair Dopp called the meeting to order at 1:37 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 made for the benefit of all in attendance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Karr noted that item 7.C. FY 2020-2023 TIP will not be an action item today and will be acted upon in June. It will be a discussion item today.

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

**Res.
19-15**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Parsons supported by Blaniar, to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2019 meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
19-16**

COMMUNICATIONS

Karr shared the following communications:

- A welcome is extended to Mallory Avis, the new Transit Director for the City of Battle Creek/Battle Creek Transit.
- BCATS received approval of the March Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendment on April 18th. Notification of the approval was provided to the implementing agencies.
- BCATS provided letters of support to the local road agencies for the local bridges applications they submitted in response to MDOT's "call" for local bridge projects for FY 2022. Hopefully, all of those applications were submitted by the May 1, 2019 deadline.
- The Michigan State Police/Office of Highway Safety Planning has released official traffic crash data for 2018. The news release was distributed to the members.
- The City of Battle Creek held public workshops on its update of the City's Non-Motorized Plan in late April. The current Plan was completed in 2006.
- A notice has been published for the May TIP Amendment.
- MDOT has released a call for 2021 local safety projects with a due date of August 5, 2019. There are three categories of projects, the traditional local safety projects, high risk rural roads, and streamlined systemic projects. Karr noted that BCATS would like to be informed of planned local safety project applications so the BCATS Committees can consider letters of support for the projects.

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 #B16/J7**

Tilma reviewed the material associated with this proposed amendment to the current TIP. He distributed copies of the public notice and a table showing all of the FY 2019 and 2020 projects, with those being considered for amendment highlighted on the table. There are seven (7) items included in the proposed amendment.

He noted that this is the last opportunity to make changes by amendment to the 2020 transportation projects that will be included in both the current and new FY 2020-2023 TIP. There is one more opportunity to amend FY 2019 projects in July.

It was moved by Parsons, supported by Perian, to recommend that the BCATS Policy Committee approve Amendment #B16/J7 to the BCATS FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
19-17**

B. Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process Certification Resolution

Karr discussed the Certification Resolution and indicated that this process is only done in TIP development years. The Resolution is included as part of the TIP submittal and will be included in the new FY 2020-2023 TIP when it is completed.

It was moved by Perian, supported by Parsons, to recommend BCATS Policy Committee approval of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Process Certification Resolution, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
19-18**

C. Draft FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Document and Resolution

Karr introduced the current in-process version of the final draft of the FY 2020-2023 TIP which includes the document material. She indicated the various narrative sections of the document, especially noting the material that is new or different from the current 2017-2020 TIP. Karr stated that once the final document is completed an additional public notice will be published and the document will be considered for action by the BCATS Committees in June. The June Policy Committee meeting may be advanced in order to work with the TIP submittal schedule required by MDOT for the FY 2020-2023 TIP.

Tilma reviewed the project listing section of the new TIP and the other tables and materials which he has developed to include in the document. He indicated the areas that are still in development for the document, including the environmental justice review.

There was discussion about the financial chapter for the document and how that has changed from the FY 2017-2020 TIP. There was also discussion about the Implementation section of the document including how amendments vs. adjustments vs. administrative modifications will be addressed for various types of projects now that the JobNet system is being utilized and how the pro-rata vs capped project cost process operates with MDOT. Lipset voiced her concern about expanding the definition of when projects will be considered TIP amendments, as was listed in the Implementation section, specifically as it relates to region-wide projects involving multi-MPOs and rural areas. This will be reviewed before the final document is considered.

This item was changed to an information/discussion item for this month and is expected to be acted upon at the June 2019 BCATS Committee meetings.

D. FY 2020 Unified Work Program (UWP) Final

Karr stated that the document has final figures for MDOT and has language added to the Data item for a data gathering project (MIRE data) requested by MDOT, but otherwise remains unchanged from the draft that Technical Committee received last month. She highlighted local agency participation in the work program and the local financial contributions needed to match the federal funding.

It was moved by Parsons, supported by Perian, to recommend that the BCATS Policy Committee approve the FY 2020 Unified Work Program, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
19-19**

COMMENTS

A. Next Meeting

Chair Dopp announced that the next meeting of the BCATS Technical Committee is scheduled for June 12, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. at the same location.

B. Committee Member Comments

Parsons indicated that she has discussed with Carl Fedders at the City of Battle Creek the possibility of coordinating the City and County projects for Main Street, which are currently listed two years apart in the new TIP. This possibility will be investigated as soon as feasible.

C. Public Comments

Ms. Shari Herman, of Global Traffic Technologies, expressed appreciation for being able to attend the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.