

BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Technical Committee

Minutes of June 12, 2019 Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Voting: Mallory Avis, Terry Blaniar, Chris Dopp, Jeff Franklin, Amy Lipset, Kristine Parsons, and Glenn Perian
Non-voting: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Voting: None
Non-voting: Andrea Dewey 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 1:32 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

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

**Res.
19-20**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Perian supported by Lipset, to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2019 meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
19-21**

COMMUNICATIONS

Karr shared the following communications:

- The May TIP amendment was submitted to MDOT on June 3rd, after the late addition of transit changes that were required to be made before the middle of this month. The amendment was federally approved on Thursday, June 6th.

- The FY 2020 Unified Work Program document was submitted to MDOT by the June 1st deadline. Subsequent requests from MDOT SUTA and MDOT Air Quality staff to slightly modify language for work items 2.0428 and 2.0645, respectively, were accommodated and an updated document was provided to MDOT with the changes.
- Karr attended a full meeting of the Regional Prosperity Committee last Thursday. The emphasis this year is on creating a housing toolkit for communities in the region and on asset management through a separate state grant to the Committee. There was a Regional Prosperity Committee Asset Management summit this morning in Lawrence, Michigan. Lipset and Parsons reported on their participation at that meeting that covered all types of infrastructure. There will be another set of summits in the fall as well.
- Notice was published of the finalization of the new FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program.
- The Certification Resolution from last month has been executed by both BCATS and MDOT and is ready for inclusion in the final new TIP.
- A reminder was provided to let BCATS staff know of planned local safety project applications before the July Committee meetings so that letters of support can be considered from BCATS.
- BCATS received a request for a letter of support for Battle Creek Transit's planned funding application to the Federal Transit Administration for vehicles and a new facility. She asked for a general consensus that Technical Committee would support such a letter of support. The application is due on the date of the Policy Committee meeting, June 19th. There was consensus that this would be desirable.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

A. **FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Adopting Resolution**

Karr reviewed the changes that have been made to the TIP document since the last Technical Committee meeting. The language in the Implementation section was changed to reflect the result of the discussion about the "regionally significant" definition in that section that was held at the May Policy Committee meeting. Karr noted that the action today is to recommend that the Policy Committee approve the adopting resolution, as well as the actual TIP document. All of the other sections of the document have now been completed as well.

Tilma reviewed the mapped projects, as shown on the distributed map and map insert. He also noted that the project list has minor changes as well, including a change to each year's transit operating assistance project with federal 5307 funding that will have the state funding to transit removed and ultimately included under separate job numbers each year in the JobNet system. The change to add the separate transit projects for state funding, along with other needed changes, will be addressed with the first amendment to the new TIP this fall. The

project list has been set as final as of May 31, 2019. Over \$43 million in transportation projects is represented in the FY 2020-2023 TIP.

Karr noted that Lipset forwarded comments this morning from the MDOT Southwest Region office on the draft document. BCATS staff will review the comments and will work on developing an Executive Summary for the document, as the Region recommended. An Executive Summary will be completed before the Policy Committee action.

It was moved by Parsons, supported by Perian, to recommend that the BCATS Policy Committee approve the Adopting Resolution and the BCATS FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) document, with the noted changes.

Lipset opened for discussion the topic of the Administrative Adjustment category and the fact that this category has subjective rather than definitive language for this type of category. Karr noted that this is a middle category where there is less certainty about what action should be taken regarding a change, therefore it is less specific than the other categories. Lipset indicated her hesitancy with the language for this section. There was general discussion on this topic.

MOTION CARRIED.

**Res.
19-22**

COMMENTS

A. Next Meeting

Chair Dopp announced that the next meeting of the BCATS Technical Committee is scheduled for July 10, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. at the same location.

B. Committee Member Comments

Avis thanked BCATS staff for their efforts for transit on the last TIP amendment.

Parsons indicated that the County's North Avenue resurfacing project will begin in 2 weeks and there will be lane closures.

C. Public Comments

Terry Martin asked what the local safety grants cover, as noted under Communications. Karr reviewed the three categories open for the local agencies to apply for funding for safety projects. Parsons indicated that details about these categories can be found on MDOT's website.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:12 p.m.