

BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Technical Committee

Minutes of July 12, 2017 Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Voting: Terry Blaniar, Chris Dopp, Rick Fowler, Angela Kline, Rich Werner, Dharmesh Valsadia (for Jason Latham), and Glenn Perian (for Christine Zuzga)
Non-voting: Andrea Dewey (FHWA)

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Franklin, Pat Karr and Andrew Tilma

Chair Dopp called the meeting to order at 1:35 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 conducted for the benefit of all in attendance. Andrea Dewey was introduced as the person now assigned to the BCATS area from the Federal Highway Administration. The Committee members welcomed her. Fowler introduced Jeff Franklin, in the audience (who had accompanied him to the meeting), as new at MDOT.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Kline, supported by Fowler, to approve the agenda, with the change of deleting item 7.B. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Res.
17-13

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Kline, supported by Perian, to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2017 meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Res.
17-14

COMMUNICATIONS

Karr shared the following communications:

- Construction projects for the season are underway. The City of Battle Creek has an upcoming project to resurface Hill Brady Road between Skyline Drive and Dickman Road.
- The Unified Work Program for FY 2018 was submitted to MDOT and has been forwarded to FHWA/FTA for review.
- Amendment #4 to the FY 2017-2020 TIP is still in process. That amendment was approved locally in May.
- Safety targets have been announced by the Office of Highway Safety Planning and by MDOT. MPOs have until February, 2018 to either adopt the state's target or establish their own. Karr indicated that this is a topic that will be addressed by the BCATS' Committees this fall.
- Tilma will soon be contacting the City of Battle Creek and the County Road Department about setting up dates for the PASER rating field work.
- An RFP went out for proposals regarding the Battle Creek Transit Master Plan project. Eight (8) proposals from consultants were received and are in the review stage at present.
- Calhoun County has received notice that their application for rural transit planning funds to complete a county transit study has been successful and they will be proceeding shortly with seeking a consultant also.
- MDOT is updating its Freight Plan to meet new federal requirements and is seeking public comments. Karr indicated that comments can be offered at www.michigan.gov/freightplan.

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 #5

Tilma reviewed the changes proposed for Amendment #5 to the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program. There was discussion about each of the three proposed groups of changes included in the amendment. The changes include: regrouping "like" resurfacing projects by the City of Battle Creek over the remaining three years of the TIP; adding transit funding for Battle Creek Transit under the FTA 5339(a) category for all four years of the TIP; and adding Calhoun County Road Department guardrail projects that have been awarded safety funding. Tilma also reviewed the status of Amendment #4, currently pending at

FHWA/FTA. There was a recommendation to add the Hamblin Avenue project to the group project for the City of Battle Creek in 2018.

It was moved by Kline, supported by Werner, to recommend approval of Amendment #5 to the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), with the one change noted above, by the BCATS Policy Committee at its meeting of July 19, 2017. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
17-15**

COMMENTS

A. Next Meeting

Chair Dopp announced that the next regular Technical Committee meeting is scheduled for August 9, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. at the same location. Karr noted that a lack of agenda items next month could result in the cancellation of that meeting. Members will be notified about the status of next month's meeting at the beginning of August. Several members indicated that they may not be available on that August date.

B. Committee Member Comments

It was noted that the former Wendy's restaurant is being converted into a Qdoba. The upgrading of the funeral home site next to Belle Tire on Capital Avenue SW was also noted.

Valsadia noted that the M-66 road project south of B Drive North is on schedule.

Dewey indicated that she has been assigned as the FHWA representative for all seven MPOs on the west side of Michigan.

C. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Dopp at 2:15 p.m.