

# BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

## Technical Committee

### Minutes of July 10, 2019 Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Voting: Mallory Avis, Chris Dopp, Jeff Franklin, Brian Sanada (for Amy Lipset), and Kristine Parsons  
Non-voting: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Voting: Terry Blaniar and Glenn Perian  
Non-voting: Andrea Dewey and Southcentral Michigan Planning Council (SMPC)

OTHERS PRESENT: Brian Kernstock, 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). Karr acknowledged the existence of a quorum for the record.

### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

**Res.  
19-23**

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

**It was moved by Parsons supported by Avis, to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2019 meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Res.  
19-24**

### COMMUNICATIONS

Karr shared the following communications:

- A letter of support was provided to Battle Creek Transit for its discretionary capital grant application to the Federal Transit Administration. Avis sent a thank you note to BCATS for its support.

- The final FY 2020-2023 TIP document was transmitted to MDOT at the end of June. All 2020 projects are now “frozen” until the new TIP is federally approved.
- BCATS received a copy of a letter sent to MDOT from FHWA indicating that the air quality conformity determinations for several counties and urban areas, including the Kalamazoo-Battle Creek area have been found to meet the requirements of conformity regulations in 40 CFR and guidance related to the court decision for the 1997 ozone NAAQS. This topic was addressed by the BCATS Committees back in February of this year. Parsons asked how this impacts the implementing road agencies in a grade inspection situation when they are asked if the area is non-attainment. Franklin responded that the area is formally considered maintenance under the 1997 standard for air quality for quite a few years to come. He added that Interagency Work Groups and conformity analysis for non-exempt projects will still be required.
- BCATS received information from the City of Battle Creek and from the Calhoun County Road Department regarding planned safety project applications. This topic is to be addressed later on the agenda.
- Karr distributed to the two impacted agencies a map of Michigan detailing those units of government required to develop Asset Management Plans per the 2018 state legislative requirements. An updated template is expected to be available from the Asset Management Council by October 1<sup>st</sup> of this year as a guide for agencies in meeting this requirement. The governmental units with over 100 miles of certified roads have been divided into three groupings, with submittal deadlines for the plans staggered over three years. The Calhoun County Road Department’s plan is due by October 1, 2020 and the City of Battle Creek’s is due by October 1, 2021.
- PASER data on federal-aid roads is anticipated to be collected in the BCATS area in September this year. There was discussion that the Calhoun County Road Department would like to do that data collection in early August with BCATS, while summer interns are still working. This will be investigated.
- BCATS will be asking the local road agencies for proposals for collection of non-federal-aid road PASER data again in FY 2020. Karr asked the agencies involved to start thinking about their plans in this area for next year.

### 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 #B17/J8**

Tilma reviewed the items proposed for this amendment to the FY 2017-2020 TIP, as outlined in the public notice and on the spreadsheet he distributed. He stated that this is the final amendment to the current TIP and the last chance to modify FY 2019 projects.

A notice was published in the local newspaper to advertise the proposed changes in this amendment. It was also posted to the BCATS website. Tilma noted that one public comment was received as a result of the newspaper public notice and this will be noted with the amendment submittal.

**It was moved by Parsons, supported by Franklin, to recommend that the BCATS Policy Committee approve Amendment # B17/J8 to the BCATS FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) document, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Res.  
19-25

### B. **Requests for Letters of Support for FY 2021 Federal Local Safety Program Applications**

Karr discussed the memo outlining the list of projects that are planned to be submitted relative to MDOT's call for local safety projects for FY 2021. It was determined that none of the Calhoun County Road Department projects will be submitted in the "systemic" category, but will be submitted under the standard HSIP local safety category. The description will be updated before being presented to the BCATS Policy Committee.

Karr noted that these projects will be evaluated under the statewide competitive program.

**It was moved by Avis, supported by Franklin, to recommend that the BCATS Policy Committee approve the development of letters of support for all of the local road agency applications being submitted for safety funding for FY 2021, as presented in the memo. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Res.  
19-26

## COMMENTS

### A. **Next Meeting**

Chair Dopp announced that the next meeting of the BCATS Technical Committee is scheduled for August 14, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. at the same location. Karr noted that it is hoped that the August meetings can be cancelled due to a lack of agenda items. If the meeting is to be cancelled, Committee members will receive a cancellation notice.

**B. Committee Member Comments**

Parsons reported that the North Avenue project (from Halbert to Baseline) is set to begin next week and motorists should consider alternate routes.

**C. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.