

**BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY**

**Technical Committee**

**Minutes of July 14, 2021 Meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Voting: Donna Hutchison (for Mallory Avis), Carl Fedders, Eric Feldt, Kristine Parsons, Brian Sanada, Luke Walters, and Vester Davis, Jr. (for Chaz Wilkey)  
Non-voting: None

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

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

Chair Parsons called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of the Susan L. Anderson Municipal Building of the City of Springfield, located at 601 Avenue A, Springfield, MI.

**ROLL CALL**

A roll call was conducted of members and any guests. Members indicated their presence and affiliation for the purpose of establishing a quorum and for the introduction of some new members.

It was determined that a quorum of the voting members were participating.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**It was moved by Fedders, supported by Feldt, to approve the agenda. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Res.  
21-18**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**It was moved by Fedders supported by Feldt, to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2021 meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Res.  
21-19**

## COMMUNICATIONS

Karr shared the following communications:

- Amendment #12 to the current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was approved within two days after the May BCATS Policy Committee meeting in order to meet the MDOT Office of Passenger Transportation June 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for flexing funds.
- Since that amendment, several amendment type actions that are termed technical corrections have been addressed by BCATS staff and MDOT staff.
- BCATS staff submitted the FY 2022 Unified Work Program document to MDOT by the June 1, 2021 deadline.
- There is no TIP amendment this month as there were no substantive changes that could not be dealt with within the next amendment opportunity, which is September.
- BCATS will miss Eric Feldt on the Technical Committee as this is his last meeting. He is taking another job and will leave the City of Battle Creek Planning Department at the end of July.
- Another change to the Technical Committee membership is the promotion of Jeff Franklin to Unit Supervisor in the Statewide Planning section at MDOT in Lansing. Franklin will now participate on the BCATS Policy Committee.
- Franklin's replacement is Luke Walters, who was welcomed to the Technical Committee. Walters will serve as BCATS' MDOT Program Manager.
- BCATS staff is back in the office most of the time now, but some remote work is still happening.
- Traffic count work is underway by the local units for this summer.
- Asset Management PASER rating work will be done by BCATS staff in late August or early September.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

## NEW BUSINESS

### A. BCATS 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) - Progress Report

Karr provided the members with a draft table of contents for the 2045 MTP as an overview of the content of the Plan. She noted the various draft chapters that have been prepared for the MTP update that were posted in advance of the meeting for the members to review. Additional work continues on the Plan's contents. Tilma reviewed several tables of project information which he distributed to the members. The tables included a summary of current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) projects for 2022 and 2023, projects shown in the state's JobNet database for years beyond 2023, potential projects provided by the local units of government, a very preliminary draft of non-motorized priorities for the

City of Battle Creek, and projects potentially related to economic development priorities in the BCATS area.

There was additional discussion about each of the lists Tilma presented.

This was an information item at this time not requiring action.

## COMMENTS

### A. Next Meeting

Chair Parsons announced that the next meeting of the BCATS Technical Committee is scheduled for August 11, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. Karr noted that August is one of the summer months when the Committee meetings may be cancelled due to a lack of agenda items. Members will be notified in early August of the status of that meeting date.

### B. Committee Member Comments

Parsons reported that the Road Department is continuing with the Emmett Township local road project which is going well and that its federal-aid projects are proceeding as well, even though all of the rainy weather has led to some delays.

Feldt reiterated that this was his last Technical Committee meeting, as he has accepted another job and will leave the City of Battle Creek at the end of July. Since he is the only planner for the City at this time, he will check to see who may be participating on the Technical Committee until new planning staff is hired.

Sanada indicated that the MDOT Southwest Region office has hard copies of the Southwest Region's non-motorized guide maps and is anxious to get them distributed throughout the region.

### C. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 p.m.