

BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Technical Committee

Minutes of September 14, 2022 Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Voting: Mallory Avis, Susan Cronander, Carl Fedders, Skylar Cudney (for Kristine Parsons), Luke Walters and Chaz Wilkey
Non-voting: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Voting: Josh Grab
Non-voting: Andrew Sibold (FHWA) and Southcentral Michigan Planning Council (SMPC)

OTHERS PRESENT: Pat Karr and Andrew Tilma

Chair Fedders called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in the Springfield City Hall Council Chambers, 601 Avenue A, Springfield MI.

ROLL CALL

Fedders asked all in attendance to introduce themselves. It was determined that a quorum of the voting members was present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Avis, supported by Wilkey, to approve the agenda. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
22-25**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Cronander, supported by Wilkey, to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2022 meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
22-26**

COMMUNICATIONS

Karr shared the following communications:

- Amendment #17 to the FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was approved on September 7, 2022.

- A public notice for Amendment #2 to the FY 2023-2026 TIP was published in the Battle Creek Enquirer on September 7, 2022.
- As of last Friday, the Amendment #1 package for the new FY 2023-2026 TIP had been approved by FTA and is awaiting FHWA approval. Amendment #1 moved projects for the new TIP into the JobNet system.
- Darren Campbell has been promoted to the Traffic Engineering Manager position at the City of Battle Creek Department of Public Works, replacing Greg Rickmar who retired.
- BCATS has received approval of its new FY 2023 Unified Work Program, which starts October 1, 2022.
- A flyer about the new federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (BIL) was distributed to the members that has a listing of on-line resources to find information about the new BIL. This flyer was also provided to the Policy Committee members in August.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

A. FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #2

Tilma discussed the projects being proposed for this actual first amendment to the new FY 2023-2026 TIP, which is deemed Amendment #2. Amendment #1 initially adds the projects to the JobNet database for the new program period.

It was moved by Walters, supported by Avis, to recommend that the BCATS Policy Committee approve Amendment #2 to the FY 2023-2026 TIP, as presented.

Fedders asked for clarification of the City of Battle Creek's financial obligation for the MDOT project included in the amendment. Walters agreed to research this matter for Fedders.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
22-27**

B. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment Schedule for 2023

Tilma presented the amendment schedule for the new FY 2023-2026 TIP for the fiscal year 2023. The time designations for providing information to BCATS for each amendment opportunity are consistent with prior year schedules. He emphasized the July 2023 amendment opportunity as the last for changes to FY 2023 projects.

It was moved by Cronander, supported by Wilkey, to recommend Policy Committee approval of the TIP Amendment schedule for FY 2023.

Avis asked that these deadlines be presented to the local non-profit transportation providers so that they get their information to BCATS when needed for future year projects.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
22-28**

COMMENTS

A. Next Meeting

Chair Fedders announced that the next meeting of the BCATS Technical Committee is scheduled for October 12, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.

B. Committee Member Comments

Walters indicated that interviews are happening to fill Jeff Franklin's position as a Program Manager now that Franklin has assumed a Supervisor position in the MDOT Statewide Planning Section. Walters has been covering multiple areas until a new hire can assume Program Manager duties for Franklin's former areas. He stated that he has enjoyed working with this group.

Cudney stated that the Emmett Township local road project is set to wrap up in October.

Fedders reported that an RFP was advertised for a Beckley Road Corridor Study involving multiple road agencies and that proposals are currently under review, with consultant interviews over the next few weeks. He also indicated that the City of Battle Creek DPW staff have met with the consultant working on the City's update of its non-motorized plan.

Avis noted that there is another new FTA program manager for Michigan, although that person may be temporary. She also told BCATS staff that based on the status of some 2022 transit projects that there will be a request for an amendment to the new TIP from transit for the November 2022 opportunity.

In response to a question from Tilma, Wilkey updated the Committee as to the status of the non-standard intersection at Michigan Avenue and VanBuren Street and that Springfield is working with MDOT to find the best solution for traffic control at the intersection. A temporary solution is in place, but the intersection is being further investigated.

C. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:07 p.m.