

BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Technical Committee

Minutes of October 11, 2023 Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Voting: Mallory Avis, Darren Campbell (for Jarret Geering), Vester Davis, Jr. (for Chaz Wilkey), Josh Grab, Kristine Parsons, Travis Sullivan, and Madee Thorburn (for Heather Bowden)

Non-voting: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Voting: None

Non-voting: Jenny Staroska and Southcentral Michigan Planning Council (SMPC)

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Franklin, Pat Karr, Brian Kernstock, and Andrew Tilma

Chair Parsons called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. in the Springfield City Hall Council Chambers, 601 Avenue A, Springfield MI.

ROLL CALL

Parsons asked all in attendance to introduce themselves. It was determined that a quorum of the voting members was present. It was announced that Jeff Franklin has started as the next Executive Director, working with Pat Karr, at BCATS.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

**Res.
23-23**

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Sullivan, supported by Davis, Jr., to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2023 meeting. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
23-24**

COMMUNICATIONS

Franklin shared the following communications:

- Amendment #6 to the current TIP was approved by the BCATS Policy Committee on September 27th and the amendment material has been submitted to MDOT for processing.
- Karr attended the Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) conference in Grand Rapids on September 27th. There were a lot of good presentations about the work of TAMC, and about how the field of asset management is expanding.
- With the short-term federal funding extension, it is important to have project packets submitted to LAP as soon as possible since there will be only small amounts of obligation authority released during the first 45-day period and again during any other short-term extensions that may follow.
- Due to the penalty that the State of Michigan received for drunk driving conviction rate levels, a percentage of the state's overall federal funding is being required to be directed specifically to safety efforts. The state police were able to access these funds, but only requested a small amount. Therefore, a large amount has been provided to MDOT's safety programs, including the local safety program. Applications for future years that have already been awarded are being moved up now due to this influx of funding. So, please review the possibility of safety project applications for each road agency and be prepared to submit as many applications as are warranted when the MDOT call comes out.
- Franklin asked Tilma to talk about Model Inventory of Roadway Elements – Fundamental Data Elements (MIRE-FDE) data collection. Tilma distributed information on MIRE-FDE. Tilma may be contacting local agency road owner members regarding the six FDE requirements after verifying with MDOT the expectations of collection and review of the MIRE-FDE data items.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. FY 2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment Schedule

Tilma reviewed the TIP Amendment Schedule for FY 2024 which was provided to the members. He noted the dates outlined in red which are the dates for having amendment information to BCATS for each amendment cycle.

It was moved by Avis, supported by Grab, to recommend approval of the Amendment Schedule for FY 2024 by the BCATS Policy Committee, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
23-25**

NEW BUSINESS

A. FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) - Projects Status Reports

Tilma provided a spreadsheet to the members with information about scheduled projects for the remainder of the current TIP. Parsons led the member agencies in providing updates about their respective projects. Discussion followed.

This was a discussion item, not requiring action.

COMMENTS

A. Next Meeting

Chair Parsons announced that the next meeting of the BCATS Technical Committee is scheduled for November 1, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

B. Committee Member Comments

There were no committee member comments.

C. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

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