

**BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY**

**Technical Committee**

**Minutes of November 14, 2018 Meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Voting: Terry Blaniar, Carl Fedders (for Chris Dopp), Jeff Franklin, Amy Lipset, Kristine Parsons, and Rich Werner  
Non-voting: None

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Brian Kernstock, Kenton McAndrew, Pat Karr and Andrew Tilma

Vice-Chair Werner called the meeting to order at 1:42 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 made for the benefit of all in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

**Res.**  
**18-26**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

It was moved by Parsons, supported by Franklin, to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2018 meeting, as presented. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Res.**  
**18-27**

## COMMUNICATIONS

Karr shared the following communications:

- The BCATS September TIP Amendment was approved on October 11, 2018, the day after the last Technical Committee meeting.
- Dave Wresinski, Director of the MDOT Bureau of Transportation Planning, is retiring at the end of the calendar year. Kirk Steudle has already retired as MDOT's Director.
- BCATS staff and others at today's meeting attended an Interagency Work Group meeting for air quality on October 25, 2018. The meeting was introductory, but there will be requirements for project review by this group for the long range transportation plan, the TIP and for any amendments to these documents.
- Road and bridge projects are mostly completed in the BCATS area for this construction season.
- Jen Bomba, Calhoun County Planner, has reported that the contract the countywide transit study has finally been approved and the effort will be moving forward with Foursquare ITP, the same consultant used by the City of Battle Creek for its Transit Master Plan update.
- It was on the City of Battle Creek City Commission agenda last night to approve a contract for the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funded propane conversion projects for City vehicles.
- The federally required "Obligated Projects" report for FY 2018 has been completed and distribution of the report has begun, including copies distributed to the Committee members today. The e-mailed version has been sent out to the large e-mailing list and copies are being provided to the City of Battle Creek's neighborhood planning councils and to each of the township offices.
- The required submittal was made to MDOT regarding BCATS' action on all of the performance measure targets after Policy Committee action last month. BCATS received word from MDOT that BCATS has met the submittal requirements for this effort.
- MDOT and the MSP have partnered on a new winter driving video to remind drivers of actions to take to successfully navigate winter driving and to let the public know about new winter maintenance technologies employed by those clearing the roads. The video can be viewed on YouTube using the key words "winter driving safety" and looking for the Michigan DOT/MSP video.
- The City of Battle Creek's Recreation Department is working with a consultant to develop a recreation master plan for Battle Creek. As part of the process, there is currently an on-line survey seeking input for the plan development process. The survey can be accessed from the City's website, [www.battlecreekmi.gov](http://www.battlecreekmi.gov) under the "City Spotlight" section at the bottom of the homepage. A draft plan is expected to be released this winter.

## 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 #B13/J4**

Tilma stated that a public notice for the amendment was published. Tilma reviewed the items included in the amendment notice and on the amendment sheet. He indicated that it is very important to have all changes submitted to BCATS as soon as they are known for each amendment cycle so they don't miss getting in the appropriate public notice. Tilma also noted the "adjustment" items that don't require inclusion in the formal amendment.

**It was moved by Lipset, supported by Fedders, to recommend that the BCATS Policy Committee approve Amendment #B13/J4 to the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program, as presented.**

**Res.  
18-28**

### B. **Transportation Projects for New FY 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program**

Tilma reviewed the process currently underway for soliciting projects for consideration within the new FY 2020-2023 TIP. He noted a distributed list of projects that currently show up in JobNet for the subject years of the new TIP. This includes the construction phases of some of the MDOT projects listed for preliminary engineering in the current TIP. Tilma noted the funding levels for consideration in the new TIP for the two funding sources for local projects that will be discussed. There were some questions from the members about the process for submitting new projects for review by the TIP Subcommittee. Tilma noted that information for the next amendment to the current TIP will be due to BCATS by the end of November. Karr asked the TIP Subcommittee members to provide their availability for a project review meeting during the weeks of November 26<sup>th</sup> and December 3<sup>rd</sup>. It was noted that BCATS will contact the cities of Marshall and Albion relative to the CMAQ funding category.

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

### C. **Appointment of Nominating Committee for 2019 Technical Committee Officers**

Vice-Chair Werner volunteered to serve again on the nominating committee and asked for one other volunteer. Parsons also volunteered to serve on the committee. The Nominating Committee is charged with recommending officers for the BCATS Technical Committee for 2019. The Nominating Committee is to have a recommendation to present at the December 2018 Technical Committee meeting for action.

## COMMENTS

### A. Next Meeting

Vice-Chair Werner announced that the next meeting of the BCATS Technical Committee is scheduled for December 5, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. at the same location. He noted that the BCATS' Committee meetings are earlier, per the adopted schedule, in order to avoid the holiday period at the end of December.

### B. Committee Member Comments

Fedders indicated that the City of Battle Creek has completed its road projects for 2018. He indicated that a road safety audit is being conducted for the North Avenue/Emmett Street intersection and the results of the audit are expected this Friday. Depending upon the audit, a safety project application may be developed for this location for the future.

Werner announced that transit had received the final draft of the Transit Master Plan recommendations from the consultant and now transit staff need to review what details will be involved in implementing the recommendations of the consultant. He wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving and noted that transit will have a bus in the Battle Creek Christmas parade.

Parsons reported that the County is not completed with all road projects as there are still two bridges, outside of the BCATS area, that are still under construction. If the weather breaks, a portion of 11 Mile Road may still have some skip-paving done this year. The Calhoun County Road Department is getting a new managing director who hopefully will be starting his new duties soon.

Lipset announced that the Region Engineer, Dee Parker, has accepted the Region Engineer position for the University Region and the Southwest Region will have that position open until a replacement is selected.

### C. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.