

BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Technical Committee

Minutes of December 6, 2017 Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Voting: Terry Blaniar, Chris Dopp, Rick Fowler, Angela Kline, Jason Latham, Glenn Perian (for Christine Zuzga), and Rich Werner
Non-voting: Andrea Dewey

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Franklin, Brian Sanada, Alissa Hubbell, Pat Karr and Andrew Tilma

Chair Dopp called the meeting to order at 1:34 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 conducted for the benefit of all in attendance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Kline, supported by Werner, to approve the agenda as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Res.
17-22

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Perian, supported by Fowler, to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2017 meeting, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Res.
17-23

COMMUNICATIONS

Karr shared the following communications:

- The Transit Master Plan project is making good progress with the consultant in town earlier this week to conduct stakeholder and public input meetings. Werner updated the Committee

as to the specifics of the work being done by the consultant. Fowler asked about the status of billings for the project again since the way the contract is structured does not have a billing until January, 2018. Dewey indicated that FHWA financial staff are aware of the way the contract is structured.

- Calhoun County is close to issuing a RFP for a county-wide transit study. There was discussion about the prospects for coordination of the two projects, urban and rural.
- Tilma attended a 2-day data training in Lansing on Monday and Tuesday of this week.
- BCATS staff have been participating in webinars and other activities related to performance measures. Karr indicated that Technical Committee can expect to officially address the safety target issue in January.
- A meeting of the TIP Subcommittee for BCATS was held at the BCATS' offices on November 27th to discuss the CMAQ and STUL programs. The results of that meeting will be discussed by Tilma later on the agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

NEW BUSINESS

A. Technical Committee Meeting Schedule for 2018

Karr indicated that the proposed meeting schedule for the Technical Committee was provided in the advance material. She stated that the standard meeting date of the second Wednesday of the month will be followed except for December.

It was moved by Blaniar, supported by Perian, to approve the Technical Committee meeting schedule for 2018, as presented.

**Res.
17-24**

B. Report from the Nominating Committee & Election of Officers for 2018

Kline reported on the efforts of the Nominating Committee to prepare a slate of officers for the 2018 calendar year. A memo with the Committee's recommendations was distributed to the members. The recommended officers for 2018 are Chris Dopp as Chair and Rich Werner as Vice Chair. Dopp asked if there were any further nominations for the slate of officers. There were none.

It was moved by Perian, supported by Latham, to accept the Nominating Committee's recommendations for a slate of officers for Technical Committee for 2018 (Dopp - Chair, Werner - Vice Chair) and to cast a unanimous ballot for the same.

**Res.
17-25**

C. FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #7

Tilma distributed copies of the public notice and project table for the Amendment #7. He reviewed the projects in the proposed amendment and the reason for adding this additional amendment to the schedule. This information was publicized in the *Battle Creek Enquirer*. He summarized the project changes coming out of the November 27th meeting that Karr referenced under "Communications" and how these translated to the current proposed amendment. This included changes to the 2018 and 2019 years of the program. Tilma noted that there will still be a scheduled amendment opportunity in January, 2018 and that information about projects needing to be included in that amendment should be provided to BCATS by the end of December.

There was discussion about a MDOT regional signal project that includes two locations in the BCATS area that BCATS staff recently became aware was proceeding. Tilma asked for additional detail about the work in the BCATS area for this project. Hubbell indicated that the project known as "M-96 signals" also has information for the BCATS area by each intersection. She will get back to Tilma on this topic. BCATS is interested in having this information available to provide for the public.

Dewey indicated that the treatment for the TIP/STIP of MDOT projects that are only partially in MPO areas is an issue in areas other than BCATS as well.

It was moved by Kline, supported by Blaniar, to recommend approval of Amendment #7 to the FY 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program by the Policy Committee at its December 20th meeting.

**Res.
17-26**

D. FY 2017 Obligated Federal-Aid Projects Report

Karr distributed copies of the FY 2017 Obligated Projects Report that has just been completed. It is a requirement of the federal legislation that Metropolitan Planning Organizations report the federal-aid obligated within their areas each year. BCATS uses the distributed format to report this information. The document is in the process of being distributed both electronically and hard-copy. Copies are provided to the local units of government for citizen access at their government offices. Karr thanked Fowler for the obligated information he provides for the road and planning grant projects. She stated that she has spoken to Fred Featherly in the MDOT

Passenger Transport area about ways to get an accurate listing of transit projects for this annual report.

Karr stated that the report will be posted to the BCATS website. She noted the distribution of the report to the City of Battle Creek's neighborhood planning councils has been completed.

This was an information item not requiring action.

COMMENTS

A. Next Meeting

Chair Dopp announced that, per the adopted meeting schedule, the next regular Technical Committee meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. at the same location.

B. Committee Member Comments

There were no Committee member comments.

C. Public Comments

Hubbell reported that the Albion M-99 project has had to be halted due to the weather and will be finished in the spring. There will be a temporary surface installed so that traffic can use the roadway during the winter. The brick surface will be finished in the spring. She also stated that the Marshall Traffic Service Center's (TSC) Traffic Safety and Operations Engineer has accepted a position in the ITS division in Lansing. Until the position can be filled, concerns in this area within the TSC can be addressed to Hubbell.

Hubbell also announced that the TSC is looking to host a transportation summit, similar to what is done in the Jackson area. The date being discussed is sometime at the end of February. The summit would look at upcoming construction season work and other issues facing MDOT, local agencies, and transportation stakeholders.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Dopp at 2:14 p.m.