

BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
Policy Committee
Minutes of December 16, 2020 Meeting
Zoom Meeting Format

VOTING MEMBERS PARTICIPATING: Mallory Avis, Deb Belles, Harry Burdett, Annjanette Kremer, Kevin Leiter, Don Mayle, John Midgley, Greg Rickmar, and Sally Shaw (for Bill Scutt)

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PARTICIPATING: None

VOTING MEMBERS NOT PARTICIPATING: Derek King and Laveta Hardish

NON-VOTING MEMBERS NOT PARTICIPATING: Andy Pickard and Southcentral Michigan Planning Council

OTHERS PARTICIPATING: Jeff Franklin (MDOT), Pat Karr and Andrew Tilma

Chair Burdett called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. via a Zoom conference meeting. The meeting was held virtually due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

ROLL CALL

Karr conducted a roll call of members and any guests. Members indicated their presence for the purpose of establishing a quorum. It was noted that all members are participating virtually and, per the Open Meetings Act Amendment, each member participating virtually needed to indicate their physical location, which is to be included in the minutes.

Members participating remotely and location: Avis (City of Battle Creek, MI), Belles (Emmett Charter Township, MI), Burdett (City of Springfield, MI), Kremer (Pottersville, MI), Leiter (Pennfield Charter Township, MI), Mayle (Fowlerville, MI), Midgley (Jackson, MI), Rickmar (City of Battle Creek, MI), and Shaw (Bedford Charter Township, MI)

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

Res.
20-46

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Rickmar, supported by Kremer, to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2020 meeting, as presented, subject to any additions, corrections or changes. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
20-47**

COMMUNICATIONS

Karr reported the following items of communication:

- Karr has finished work with the Rehmann auditor and is now awaiting a draft of the audit for review.
- The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #9, approved by the BCATS Policy Committee on November 18th, was approved federally on November 30th.
- A public notice was published last Thursday for the Participation Plan update that will be on the Policy Committee agenda in January. There is a 45-day notice requirement for this Plan update process.
- Along with the public notice, a special edition of BCATS' newsletter was developed to promote the Participation Plan update. The newsletter was e-mailed to BCATS' large newsletter distribution list and was posted, along with the draft Plan, on the BCATS website.
- There will be updated state bridge targets on the January Policy Committee agenda.
- BCATS received an e-mail this morning regarding the City of Battle Creek Commission action on Tuesday night to appoint Vice-Mayor Faris as the second City representative to the BCATS Policy Committee. At this time, she has chosen to have Greg Rickmar continue as a permanent alternate for this representative position.
- BCATS has been informed that the southwest Michigan regional non-motorized plan has been updated and material about it is available on-line. Hard copy maps will be distributed when the current health situation allows.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Policy Committee Meeting Schedule for 2021

Karr reviewed the schedule, as provided in the advance materials and noted the exception dates to the normal schedule. She also indicated that language has been added at the top of the notice to reflect the fluid nature of meeting format for both of the BCATS Committees.

It was moved by Rickmar, supported by Avis, to approve the Policy Committee Meeting schedule for 2021, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
20-48**

B. Performance Measures

1.) Safety Targets for 2021

Karr referenced the advance material on this topic, which is addressed annually by BCATS in response to target setting by the state. She indicated it is recommended by Technical Committee and staff that BCATS support the state safety targets for 2021.

It was moved by Rickmar, supported by Leiter, to adopt the Resolution to Support Michigan Department of Transportation State Safety Targets for Safety Performance Measures, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
20-49**

2.) Transit State of Good Repair Targets for 2021

Karr stated that this set of targets is also an annual process. The State of Good Repair targets are set by Battle Creek Transit (BCT). Avis discussed the status of the BCT vehicle fleet as the basis for setting the targets. The recently awarded federal grant that will help to improve the percent of vehicles that are below their Useful Life Benchmark.

It was moved by Rickmar, supported by Midgley, to adopt the Resolution to Support Battle Creek Transit "State of Good Repair" Targets for 2021, as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
20-50**

C. Election of 2021 officers for Policy Committee

Avis reported for the Nominating Committee that the current Policy Committee officers have agreed to serve another term for 2021.

It was moved by Avis, supported by Kremer, to accept the Nominating Committee's recommendation and re-elect the current slate of Policy Committee officers. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Res.
20-51**

COMMENTS

A. Next Meeting

Chair Burdett announced that the next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 27, 2021, 1:30 p.m. It was noted that this meeting will likely still be held in a virtual format.

B. Committee Member Comments

Several members took the opportunity to wish everyone a happy holiday season.

Avis let BCATS staff know that Battle Creek Transit has several Transportation Improvement Program changes requiring amendment that will be forwarded to BCATS staff.

Kremer reported that State of Michigan employees are currently required to work from home until at least March 1, 2021. She also announced that there will be some public meetings coming up for the large I-94 design/build project, particularly the Capital Avenue/I-94 interchange area.

C. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Burdett adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m.