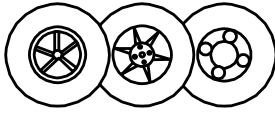


Public Involvement  
and Outreach



# Public Involvement

601 Avenue A, Springfield, MI 49037 (269) 963-1158 fax: (269) 963-4951  
e-mail: [bcats@bcatsmpo.org](mailto:bcats@bcatsmpo.org) web: <https://www.bcatsmpo.org>

## *BCATS Updates Participation Plan*

The Battle Creek Area Transportation Study (BCATS), the area-wide transportation planning organization for the greater Battle Creek, Michigan area, is in the process of updating its Participation Plan (PP) for public involvement. The Plan is an outline of what opportunities are available to the public for participating in and impacting the transportation decision-making process carried out under the BCATS program. One of the components of the update process involves BCATS' requesting input from the public about its plans for public involvement. The PP was originally adopted by the BCATS Policy Committee in December, 2006, and subsequently updated in July, 2014. Currently, options for involvement include many different types of activities:



*BCATS is updating its Participation Plan, which was last updated by the BCATS Policy Committee in July, 2014.*

### **Website**

BCATS has a website at <https://www.bcatsmpo.org> where a variety of information can be accessed. Public notices, documents, and newsletters are posted, as well as agendas and minutes for current and past meetings of the BCATS Committees.

### **Newsletters**

Periodically, BCATS publishes a newsletter entitled "The Signal". Over 600 copies of the newsletter are distributed in the BCATS area.

### **Public Notices/Inserts in General Circulation Newspapers**

BCATS publishes notices of public comment periods, public hearings, program status reports, and more in the area newspaper.

### **Committee Forum**

BCATS maintains two standing committees to conduct study business. The Technical Committee and the Policy Committee review and act on the plans and policies of the organization at meetings which are open to the public (virtual or in-person). Public comment time is a component of each Committee's meeting agenda. The Policy Committee has final approval status.

### **Public Informational Meetings**

BCATS hosts informational meetings for various program activities, as needed.

What comments would you like to provide about the Participation Plan?

- What kinds of information are of interest to you on BCATS' website?
- Do you belong to a neighborhood planning council or other group currently?
- Would meetings or forums about specific projects be of interest to you.
- Let us know (269) 963-1158, fax (269) 963-4951 or e-mail: [bcats@bcatsmpo.org](mailto:bcats@bcatsmpo.org)

**SEE BACK FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT PROVIDING COMMENTS**

## *Participation Plan* *Draft Available for Review*

The Battle Creek Area Transportation Study (BCATS) is seeking public comment on an update to its Participation Plan (PP), which is a federally required planning document. In accordance with the regulations governing that document, BCATS is providing a minimum of a 45-day comment period on the draft update of the PP.

**A link to the Participation Plan is available on the BCATS website home-page at <https://www.bcatsmpo.org>.** Copies of the draft update of the PP can also be obtained by contacting the BCATS staff office at 601 Avenue A, Springfield City Hall, Springfield, Michigan 49037, voice: (269)963-1158, fax: (269) 963-4951, **e-mail: [bcats@bcatsmpo.org](mailto:bcats@bcatsmpo.org).** **However, due to the current pandemic situation, e-mail is the best contact option for reaching BCATS staff at the present time.**

**Please provide all comments on the update to the Participation Plan to BCATS by Tuesday, January 26, 2021 via any of the contact options noted in this newsletter.**

Due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic and issues associated with staff availability, BCATS staff may not regularly be at the office location to address requests. Therefore, as indicated above, please use the BCATS e-mail address to contact staff whenever possible. BCATS will take all comments into consideration in preparing the final update to the PP. It is anticipated that the BCATS Policy Committee will act on the Plan update at its meeting on January 27, 2021, 1:30 pm. That meeting will likely be held virtually rather than in the Council Chambers of Springfield City Hall, 601 Avenue A, Springfield, MI 49037. Check the BCATS website for meeting format information closer to the meeting date.

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with disabilities may request aids/services within a reasonable time period to facilitate their review of this material. To request aids/services please contact: Patricia Karr, Executive Director, BCATS, 601 Avenue A, Springfield, MI 49037. E-mail: [bcats@bcatsmpo.org](mailto:bcats@bcatsmpo.org), phone: (269)963-1158 (voicemail available), or fax (269) 963-4951.

Battle Creek Area Transportation Study (BCATS)

