

## **BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)**

Policy Committee Minutes – August 20, 2014

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**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 1:59 p.m.

### **Those Present Were:**

Jay Anderson, BCATS Staff; Jim Lillo, Bay County Road Commission; Pamela Boyd, MDOT Planning; Vaughn Begick, Bay County Commissioner; Dave Engelhardt, EMCOG; Jack Hofweber, City of Bay City; Dan Hansford, City of Essexville (via phone); Eric Sprague, BMTA, and; Cyndi Gaul, Secretary/BCATS Staff.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

It was moved by Boyd, seconded by Hansford, to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2014 meeting. Motion Passed.

### **Public Comment:**

There was no public comment brought before the committee.

### **Bay Metro Update:**

There was no update for Bay Metro brought before the committee.

### **Legislative Update:**

Boyd discussed the Highway Trust Fund and that it is scheduled to be bankrupt by the end of the month. However, a bill has been signed by President Obama to extend the funding through May of 2015 for \$10.8 billion. The federal government is also working on a new transportation bill that will be part of the GROW AMERICA Bill. The state legislature is also working on a new transportation bill after efforts to pass a bill earlier this year failed. There is talk about changing the gas tax to a wholesale tax. As a reminder, all State Earmarks must be obligated, funded, and built by December 2015. The City of Bay City has a project that falls under the State Earmark funds which is the water main on Euclid Avenue between Salzburg and Wilder.

### **Regional Prosperity Initiative:**

Anderson went to the August 19<sup>th</sup> MTPA Meeting where there was discussion on the Regional Prosperity Initiative. Anderson will forward the information he received from the meeting on to BCATS Policy Committee Members. There is a strong focus on Veterans having access to public transit under the Regional Mobility Initiative under Governor Snyder. This is a State-wide movement to fill in the gaps for regional mobility. Anderson will be working with the different MPOs in our area along with MDOT and BMTA to see where gaps exist and prioritize them.

Engelhardt discussed that EMCOG's Project is going well and moving along. EMCOG has hired a consultant out of Texas and they have already held meetings at SVSU. It is important to have a MPO/transportation liaison person in place that can attend the meeting and present the information to the MPOs. The goal is to have another MPO Director as the liaison person. Engelhardt believed that Doug Bell from Saginaw Metropolitan Area Transportation Study would be the liaison. MDOT will be involved with this project as well. EMCOG would like to see a broader based involvement. The plan needs to be completed by December 31, 2014.

### **MDOT Access Management Plan:**

Anderson informed everyone that a draft copy of the MDOT Access Management Plan Contract has been sent to Bay County Corporation Counsel for review. Lillo stated that the Road

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Commission has their invoice for the MDOT Access Management Plan.

**2015 Unified Work Program (UWP) Approval:**

The Unified Work Program (UWP) has been approved through both the Ways & Means Committee and the Bay County Board of Commissioners. The Project Authorization documents are waiting for the Board Chairman’s signature.

**BCATS Public Hearing on 2014-17 TIP Amendments:**

The Public Hearing was called to order at 2:17 p.m. by Lillo, Chairman of BCATS. Anderson provided everyone with a handout of the proposed TIP Amendments. The first amendment is the addition of the Bay City Riverwalk Roadside Facility Project non-motorized path in the 2014 TIP. The second amendment is the moving of the 2015 Road Commission Project for East Salzburg Road (4 Mile Road to Mackinaw Road) for coldmill, drainage improvement and placement of a new HMA from the projects list to the local GPA list. A brief discussion ensued.

The Public Hearing on the TIP Amendments to the BCATS 2014-17 TIP was adjourned at 2:19 p.m.

The regular BCATS Policy Committee Meeting was reconvened at 2:19 p.m.

**Approval of the BCATS 2014-17 TIP Amendments:**

A motion was made by Engelhardt, seconded by Sprague, to approve the 2014-17 TIP Amendments for the addition of the Bay City Riverwalk Roadside Facility Project non-motorized path in the 2014 TIP, and the addition of the Road Commission GPA Project for East Salzburg Road (4 Mile Road to Mackinaw Road) for coldmill, drainage improvement and placement of a new HMA with the approval for any administrative correction or modification that may be required to be made as needed. Motion Passed.

Fiscal Year	County	Respon-sible Agency	Project Name	Limits	Length	Primary Work Type	Project Description	Phase	Advance Construct	Federal Cost (\$1000s)	Federal Fund Source	State Cost (\$1000s)	State Fund Source	Local Cost (\$1000s)	Local Fund Source	Total Phase Cost (\$1000s)	MDOT Job No.	Local ID No.	MPO/ Rural Action Date	Amend-ment Type	Air Quality	Comments	Total Project Cost (\$1000s)	Local Priority	Federal Approval Date	Capped Federal Cost (\$1000s)	Date Obligated	Amount Obligated (\$1000s)	Let Date
2015	Bay	BCRC	Local Highway Rehab and Reconstruct GPA	Regionwide		GPA	Local Highway Rehab and Reconstruct	CCN		584	ST			146	OLF	730					NA		730						
2014	BAY	Bay City	Bay City Riverwalk	Bay City Riverwalk	0.10	Roadside facility	Nonmotorized path	CCN		202	TAIL	0		70	CITY	272	125078						272						

**TIP Amendment/Administrative Modification Alignment to GPA Document:**

Anderson provided a handout discussed the reason for the requested modification in the Bylaws explaining that the difference in the General Program Accounting (GPA) threshold for Administrative Changes (25%) and the threshold listed in the BCATS Bylaws (10%). Anderson also suggested adding the following language to the list of Administrative Changes: “Moving a project from the Illustrative List to the TIP should a cost savings occur.” Engelhardt suggested adding to that language “...or extra funding become available.”

A motion was made by Sprague, seconded by Engelhardt, to modify the BCATS Bylaws so that the General Program Accounting (GPA) threshold for Administrative Changes is changed from 10% to 25%, with administrative correction or modification by the BCATS Director should a cost savings occur or if additional funding becomes available. Motion Passed.

**Public Participation Plan - BCATS/BMTA MOU:**

Sprague discussed the recent Federal Transit Review audit of Bay Metro Transit Authority’s

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procedures. They looked at the BMTA Public Participation Plan. There is some language that needs to be added to the BCATS Public Participation Plan in order for BMTA to be a part of the plan. BCATS will need to agree to have Bay Metro Transit Authority participate in their Public Participation Plan. It was recommended that the BCATS Public Participation Plan be a stand-alone plan.

A motion was made by Engelhardt, seconded by Sprague, to have Bay Metro Transit Authority participate in the BCATS Public Participation Plan and to incorporate any language needed to fulfill the requirements of BMTA participation. Motion Passed.

### **PASER Update:**

Lillo said that the Road Commission is done with their PASER Updates. Bay County is done with the updates they are required to do. It is anticipated that all local road ratings will be completed by the end of the year. Anderson said that we received \$20,000 in Asset Management Funding.

### **Project Updates:**

The ***BMTA Bus Replacement Project*** is moving forward for the replacement of nine (9) medium older buses. These buses are over 20 years old and replacement is expected to take a year to complete to incorporate to the fleet. The ***BMTA Van Replacement Project*** will be going before the BMTA Board later today for approval to replace eight (8) vans. This project is to replace older vans that are used for the DIAL-A-RIDE Program and will take about three months to get replaced. The ***MDOT US-23 Project*** (outside of the BCATS area) that goes over the Rifle River will be completed in Fall 2014. The ***US-10/M-47 Interchange Project*** (outside of the BCATS area) is about two weeks behind but will still be completed by this fall. The shoulders on ***US-10*** will also be replaced in September 2014 with leftover MDOT maintenance money. The ***Road Commission North Union Street Project*** had the final course of asphalt on it and the intersection and driveways will be done later today. The ***Road Commission 11 Mile Road Project*** (to Salzburg out by Dow Chemical) to make it an all season road is underway (outside of the BCATS area). The ***Road Commission Bridge Projects on Mackinaw Rd & Wheeler Rd*** will be let in September 2014 and the project will start October 2014.

### **Other/New Business:**

#### ***RFP for Aerial Photography:***

Anderson said that the RFP for the Aerial Photography project went out on Monday, August 18, 2014. The deadline for proposals is September 2, 2014. There should be a consultant on board for the project by October, 2014.

#### ***National Functional Classification Update:***

Boyd discussed the National Functional Classification Update and explained that it will be done over the next 10-12 months to see which roads are in need of upgrades. Boyd mentioned that more detailed information about this program should be out to BCATS Policy Members by August 29, 2014. The deadline for recommendations for classification changes to roads is June 2015. There is an April 2015 deadline for actual upgrades to principal arterial roads. MDOT will work through the regional planning agencies on this project.

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### ***MDOT Re-Alignment – Bay Region:***

Boyd discussed the MDOT re-alignment taking place in the Bay Region which is part of Governor Snyder's Regional Prosperity Initiative. The Bay Region will be adding Shiawassee County and St. Clair County in October 2015. MDOT will be making "teams" to take recommendations for re-alignments.

### ***Obligation Authority Funding:***

Boyd discussed the Obligation Authority for Funding Federal Aid to the State was halted in July due to a lack of funds and explained that money is being spent a lot faster, so it's important to obligate projects early. These funds will be distributed on a first come-first serve basis. Official notification about funding should be out soon.

### ***HPMS Traffic Counts:***

Engelhardt discussed the HPMS surveys and wondered if the sample segments could be reviewed by the local agencies for each segment outside of the MPO areas. He felt that the local agencies would have a better idea on the updates for the road segments and would provide more accurate road data.

### ***BCRC – Gravel Roads:***

Lillo discussed that the Road Commission will be turning 11 miles of local road from pavement to gravel as the roads in their current condition are a travel hazard. A meeting was held to discuss the changes and it went well. Lillo believes that with the lack of funding we will be seeing that more roads will be converted back to gravel over the next few years.

As there were no further business, a motion was made by Begick, seconded by Engelhardt, to adjourn the August 20, 2014 BCATS Policy Committee meeting at 3:00 p.m. Motion Passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Anderson  
BCATS Staff