

BAY COUNTY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

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Community Initiatives
Geographic Information Systems
Gypsy Moth Suppression Program
Mosquito Control
Transportation Planning

BCATS 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING FROM MAP-21 TO THE FAST ACT

On December 4, 2015, President Obama signed into law PL 114-94, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act. This new transportation bill authorizes and funds federal surface transportation programs authorizes \$305 billion over fiscal years 2016 through 2020 for highway, highway and motor vehicle safety, public transportation, motor carrier safety, hazardous materials safety, rail, and research, technology, and statistics programs. The FAST Act took effect on October 1, 2016 and expires on September 30, 2020. The FAST Act succeeds the expired transportation bill, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21).

It is also important to note that the emergence of the FAST Act does not represent an abandonment of the programs and planning requirements established under MAP-21. The FAST Act establishes a cooperative, continuous, and comprehensive framework for making transportation investment decisions in metropolitan areas. In fact, many of the same programs and metropolitan planning requirements are continued under the FAST Act. However, the FAST Act establishes new requirements for transportation planning.

It is apparent that **performance measures and targets** are major new items that will need to be addressed in the transportation planning process. Performance measures are noted in the BCATS 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) (see Chapter 2). However, these measures may not be the same as the ones that are eventually approved through the USDOT rulemaking process, and the MTP does not specify performance targets.

The FAST Act language appears to require a collaborative process to establish the performance targets that involves the state, the MPO's, and the transit operators after the final rule to establish the performance measures is put in place by USDOT. Therefore, BCATS intends to fully participate in this process with MDOT, the other Michigan MPO's, and the transit operators to establish appropriate performance targets. If this process results in changes that are required in the 2045 MTP, the appropriate additions and changes will be incorporated as a plan amendment in the future.

Currently, the Bay City Area Transportation Study (BCATS) area includes the cities of Bay City and Essexville and the townships of Bangor, Kawkawlin, Monitor, Frankenlust, Portsmouth, and Hampton. This is known as the urban transportation planning area.

BCATS COMMITTEES

BCATS is comprised of two committees: the Policy Committee and the Technical Committee. The Policy Committee is made up of mostly elected officials from township, city, and county government. The Technical Committee is made up of transportation planning and engineering professionals from the community. Both committees also have representatives from the Michigan and U.S. Departments of Transportation. The Technical Committee provides valuable expert advice to the Policy Committee on various matters which it must address. The Policy Committee must give final local approval to all plans and projects in the Bay City urbanized area which use federal funding.

The Policy Committee usually meets on the third Wednesday of every other month at the Bay County Building, 515 Center Avenue, Bay City, Michigan. The Technical Committee meets at the same location, usually on the second Tuesday in the same months as the Policy Committee. The schedule for the meetings can be found on the Bay County website <http://www.baycounty-mi.gov/Transportation/Default.aspx>

Interested persons are always welcome to attend the meetings or call one of the following Technical Committee members to discuss transportation issues of interest:

Jay Anderson, BCATS Director (989) 895-4064
Bay County Transportation Planning Division
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Eric Sprague, Manager (989) 894-2900
Bay Metro Transportation Authority
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Jack Hofweber (989) 671-1555
Michigan Department of Transportation
Bay City TSC Manager
Hofweberj@michigan.gov

Jim Lillo, Engineer – Manager (989) 686-4610
Bay County Road Commission
2600 East Beaver Road
Kawkawlin, MI 48631
jillo@baycoroad.org

Daniel Hansford, Director (989) 893-6101
City of Essexville Department of Public Works
1500 Pine Street
Essexville, MI 48732
cmanager@essexville.org

Rachel Phillips, Engineering Manager (989) 894-8183
City of Bay City Construction Engineering Services
301 Washington Avenue
Bay City, MI 48708
rphillips@baycitymi.org

The County of Bay will provide necessary and reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing upon ten (10) days notice to the County of Bay. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aides or services should contact the County of Bay by writing or calling:

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BCATS 4 YEAR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

This year marked the first year of the BCATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the fiscal years of 2017-18-19-20. The program includes approximately \$142 million in transportation and transit projects that will be completed over the four year period. It lists all of the federally funded transportation projects within the Bay City Urbanized Area that will enhance the safety and efficiency of the transportation system, from I-75 reconstruction to Bay Metro Transit Authority bus replacement to transportation alternative projects. The 2017-2020 TIP was initially prepared by BCATS staff during 2016 with input from the local implementing agencies (Bay City, Bay County Road Commission, Bay Metro Transportation Authority, and Essexville), MDOT, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the public and has been amended since for the addition or adjustment to various projects. The proposed program of projects will become the final program of projects unless modified and a final notice is published. The TIP is available for viewing on the Bay County Transportation Planning website or at the BCATS office. The 2017-20 TIP document can be found on the BCATS site on the Bay County webpage.

Projects that were Constructed in 2017 Utilizing Federal Funds (but not limited to)

Michigan Department of Transportation

- I-75 Restore and rehabilitate from Cottage Grove Road to half mile north of Linwood Road
- Preliminary Engineering M-25 Westbound Pavement Grooving for High Friction Surface
- Preliminary Engineering US-10 Median Guardrail Installation from Flajole Road to I-75
- Preliminary Engineering M-247 resurfacing from M-13 to Bay City State Recreation Area
- Preliminary Engineering M-13 resurfacing from Chippewa Street to Linwood Road

City of Bay City

- Patterson Avenue reconstruction from Smith Street to Marquette Avenue
- Midland Street/Vermont Street rehabilitation from Wenona Avenue to Dean Street

Bay County Road Commission

- Three Mile Road rehabilitation Project from M-84 to Amelith Road
- Cass Road resurfacing from Jones Road to Farley Road
- Farley Road resurfacing from M-25 to M-138

Bay Metro Transit Authority

- Continue bus and vehicle replacement program
- Purchase of security cameras and concrete drive replacement

Safety Projects

- Added half-roadway gates at Lake State Railway and Wilder Road
- County-wide Non-freeway signing upgrades

Upcoming 2018 Projects

Michigan Department of Transportation

- M-25 (Veteran's Memorial Bridge) bridge rehabilitation over CM Railroad in Bay City
- M-25 (Veteran's Memorial Bridge) structural, mechanical, and electrical repairs over the Saginaw River
- M-13 resurfacing from Chippewa Street to Linwood Road
- M-247 resurfacing from M-13 to Bay City State Recreation Area
- M-13 Connector resurfacing from I-75 to M-13

City of Bay City

- Harry S Truman Parkway Bridge (Independence Bridge) preventative maintenance
- Trumbull Street reconstruction from M-25 to Woodside Avenue

Bay County Road Commission

- Pine Road rehabilitation project from Munger Road to German Road
- Mackinaw Road rehabilitation project from Freeland Road to Delta Road
- Mackinaw Road from US-10 to Midland Road
- Midland Road from Four Mile Road to Mackinaw Road

Bay Metro Transit Authority

- Continue bus and vehicle replacement program
- Purchase of security cameras and concrete drive replacement

A complete listing of FY 2017 obligated projects and the full version of the approved 2017-20 TIP can be viewed on the BCATS website (<http://www.baycounty-mi.gov/Transportation/Default.aspx>).

MIDLAND ROAD BRIDGE OVER CULVER CREEK REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Three Mile Road received a much needed upgrade during the 2017 construction season. This project included rehabilitation Three Mile Road, M-84 (Westside Saginaw Road) to Amelith Road in Frankenlust Township. The scope of the project included new driveway and road cross-culverts, sections of enclosed storm sewer, intersection upgrades at Amelith Road and Schwab Road, a new asphalt

pavement with three-foot paved shoulders, safety improvements, new signing and pavement markings. Carrying approximately 2,000 vehicles per day, this roadway provides a direct route for students attending Saginaw Valley State University. The road receives a significant amount of traffic during the early morning, afternoon and evening hours, as classes are either beginning or ending. Further, Three Mile Road is a route used by agricultural traffic and commercial business vehicles moving between Bay and Saginaw Counties. BCATS provided \$560,000 for this project with the Bay County Road Commission contributing a local match of \$310,000. The project was completed on time and within budget.



Figure 1: Before Construction (at Schwab Road Looking South)



Figure 2: After Construction (at Schwab Road Looking South)

VERMONT STREET/MIDLAND STREET S CURVE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

The City of Bay City, utilizing BCATS Surface Transportation funding, completed improvements to Vermont and Midland Streets between Wenona Avenue and Dean Street. The work included milling and resurfacing the pavement, including joint repairs. New curb and gutter was installed and water main was replaced. New ADA-compliant sidewalk ramps were added at the intersections. Traffic was detoured throughout the project, but businesses and residences remained accessible from side streets. Work began May 1st and was complete ahead of schedule prior to June 9th. The federal funds utilized on the project were programmed at \$76,000.00. Shaw Contracting from Bay City was the prime contractor on the project.

PATTERSON AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

The City of Bay City, utilizing BCATS Surface Transportation funding, is working on improvements to Patterson Avenue between Marquette Avenue and Smith Street. The work includes removing the existing pavement and failed storm sewer below the pavement. New storm sewer has been installed along with curb and gutter and portions of sidewalk. Traffic is detoured throughout the project, but residents can access their homes from side streets. Work began August 28th, and is scheduled for completion November 11th. The federal funds utilized on the project were programmed at \$371,000.00. Rohde Brothers Contracting from Saginaw is the prime contractor on the project.

BCATS ASSET MANAGEMENT

The Michigan Asset Management Council was created by Public Act 499 of 2002. To meet the requirements of the Act the eleventh year of a statewide review of paved federal-aid roadways was conducted using resources of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and other local agencies. This year the state elected to collect data on the remaining half of the federal aid system after collecting half in 2016. In Bay County, BCATS teamed with the City of Bay City, MDOT and the Bay County Road Commission to inventory the surface condition of 240 miles of streets and highways. Of the roads rated this year, the data indicates that 18% of the federal-aid roadways in Bay County were rated in good condition, 27% in fair condition, and 54% were rated in poor condition.

BAY METRO TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

In 2017, fixed route bus service was provided to 75,000 seniors, 252,000 passengers with disabilities, and over 200,000 full and student fare passengers for an overall ridership of 529,000. Ridership for the Dial-A-Ride Transportation (DART), a demand-response service for seniors and disabled, was 49,000 in 2017. Bay Metro operated over 1.4 million service miles during the year. Since service began in 1974, Bay Metro has transported over 30 million passengers.

BMTA also subcontracted over 16,000 additional rides to local and private carriers. Local and private carriers assist BMTA DART service in daytime "overflow" situations, as well as providing transportation to area agencies representing senior and disabled passengers. BMTA receives funding from the State under the Specialized Services Program to offset a portion of the expense of reimbursing the local carriers for their service. Since the end of 2007, BMTA has supplemented funding and expanded service to individuals in need of transportation to work before and after BMTA service hours under the State's Job Access/Reverse Commute (JARC) Program. In 2017, the local carrier provided over 8,000 JARC rides.

BCATS WEBSITE UPDATES

BCATS has recently updated their website. Available for download on the website are the most recent 2017-20 Transportation Improvement Program and 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the Public Participation Plan, the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan, Title VI Non-Discrimination Plan and complaint form, Technical and Policy Committee meeting minutes & agendas, traffic counts, various maps, and assorted transportation related links.

The direct web page is available at: <http://www.baycounty-mi.gov/transportation>.

2045 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN COMPLETED

In 2017, BCATS completed the update to the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan. This plan uses a peak period travel demand model that is able to provide BCATS with more precise traffic forecasts that allow for better traffic data analysis and project planning. This model requires accurate employment totals, number of households, population, and traffic volumes. The plan identifies projects that will be needed over the next 28 years and includes all transportation related projects. Please visit the BCATS website for access to the Executive Summary or the full document.