

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Technical Committee Minutes - June 11, 2013

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Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

Those Present Were:

Dave Engelhardt, BCATS staff; Dave Harran, City of Bay City; Jim Lillo, Bay County Road Commission; Jim Koenig, MDOT Lansing; Dan Hansford, Essexville; Jay Reithel, MDOT Bay Region; Terry Moulthane, Bay City Planning; Eric Sprague, Bay Metro; Adam Rivard, Bay City TSC MDOT; Dirk Westbury, BCATS staff, and; Cyndi Gaul, Secretary, BCATS Staff.

Minutes from March 13, 2013 BCATS Tech Meeting:

It was moved by Hansford, seconded by Reithel, to approve the minutes from the April 9, 2013 meeting. Motion passed.

Legislative Update:

Engelhardt said that there was nothing new that he was aware of to report.

2014-2017 Draft TIP Approval:

Engelhardt discussed the Public Open House that took place at the Wirt Library to review the proposed 2014-2017 TIP. A few comments were received, mostly on the non-motorized portion of the TIP. The 2014 BMTA TIP amendment will be reflected in the 2014-17 TIP. There was some brief discussion about the Saginaw Street Project.

A motion was made by Sprague, seconded by Koenig, to favorably recommend to the BCATS Policy Committee to approve the 2014-2017 TIP. Motion Passed.

FY2014 UWP Approval:

Engelhardt discussed the FY2014 UWP and said that the draft text was set. We're still waiting on resolution and a few numbers. \$20k has been allocated for Access Management in the draft UWP. The UWP is basically a "business as usual" document with the exception of the Access Management Project on Euclid Avenue and Wilder Road. We are currently looking at ways to fund the Wilder Road signal synchronization.

A motion was made by Reithel, seconded by Moulthane, to favorably recommend to the BCATS Policy Committee to approve the FY 2014 UWP. Motion Passed.

2040 MTP Amendments:

Engelhardt discussed the need to remove Fraser Township from the 2040 MTP and that he would entertain a motion. Koenig recommended that an addendum to amend the LRP for removal of Fraser Township.

A motion was made by Lillo, seconded by Harran, to favorably recommend to the BCATS Policy Committee to approve the amendment of the 2040 MTP to reflect the change of Fraser Township's status and to amend the LRP for removal of Fraser Township. Motion Passed.

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2011-14 TIP Amendments:

Engelhardt discussed the Bay Metro Projects and provided everyone with a handout which included dates of notices. Engelhardt will get with Wheatley to mirror what's on the program application for the Saginaw Street Project and to coordinate the funding totals.

A motion was made by Moulthane, seconded by Harran, to favorably recommend to the BCATS Policy Committee to include the recommended 2011-14 TIP Amendments to include the listed BMTA Projects and the Saginaw Street Project. Motion Passed.

Inactive Projects - Time Line Change:

Engelhardt discussed the time line changes because it came up at the last MTP Meeting as a notice to everyone. We don't have any inactive projects in Bay County right now. However, if we did the projects that were inactive would need to be placed on a list for projects with no activity in terms of billing and could lose the funding for that project.

MDOT Freight Plan Public Review:

Engelhardt discussed the statewide MDOT Freight Plan that should be out for public review soon. This plan will fall under MAP 21 if a State Freight Plan is approved and there will be options for increased funding. Everyone should look at the plan and review it when it's released. BCATS should have a list of shovel ready projects that would fall under the criteria of this plan. The Statewide Freight Plan falls under the economic development program.

Traffic Counts - Letter from Melissa Carswell:

Engelhardt provided everyone with a copy of the letter he received from Melissa Carswell regarding Traffic Counts. According to the letter, the State is looking to collect HPMS traffic counts and Non-Trunkline Federal Aid roads. We are currently fulfilling the requirements of this program. Right now this is just information for the group.

Non-Motorized Concept:

Engelhardt discussed the Midland Road, Vermont Street, Liberty Bridge and Woodside Avenue non-motorized concept. Engelhardt provided everyone with a reference table to show how the plan could come to fruition. Right now we're looking at ways that these different areas that are up for various projects can be enhanced with non-motorized lanes in order to better connect people getting into Bay City. The Midland Road/Vermont Street Project will be a resurfacing project in 2016. The options and ideas are doable. There was discussion about doing the whole corridor at the same time in order to save on re-striping costs. Some of the roads would be going from a five-lane to three-lane road or removing on-street parking in order to incorporate the non-motorized concept. There was discussion about weekend traffic and how that would affect the plan. There was discussion about using Two Mile road instead of Monitor Road to connect with North Union since North Union will be getting a bike lane.

Trail Connection into Bay City:

Engelhardt discussed the Zilwaukee Trail connection into Bay City. Westbury provided everyone with a map to review. The bridges in Frankenlust Twp are getting fixed and there are plans to pave a route in Saginaw County. Once the bridges get fixed, the trail will be

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passable. There are different easements being discussed to accommodate this connection. Steve Black made the recommendation that Evergreen be used. Engelhardt would like Westbury to add the existing easements to the informational map so that there is a better idea where the connections for the trail will be taking place. There is a Transportation Alternate Program (TAP) Fund that may be able to be used to fund this regional trail project as there are still 2013 funds available through this program. There would need to be a conditional commitment with the Transportation Alternate Program Fund. We should contact Amber from MDOT who is the TAP Guru. She would have more information.

MTPA Conference:

The MTPA Conference will be taking place on July 17 - 19, 2013 in Muskegon, Michigan. Please check out the MTPA website online for more information, to sign up for the conference and to view the agenda.

Project Updates:

Engelhardt reminded everyone that the PE for 2013 needs to get submitted as soon as possible. The **Bay County ISD High School** moved to Hughes School. The **City of Essexville** has acquired some of the Hughes School property to create an intercity park to be called Hughes Park adjacent to the school. They would like to see a bicycle trail/walking trail tie in to this new park. The **MDOT Salzburg Project** is on schedule. The **Wenona Street** portion of this project is now open. The area will be open during the Tall Ships Festival to help with traffic flow. The **Zilwaukee Bridge Project** is being done in traffic shifts, Tuesday and Saturday nights starting at 11:00 p.m. This project is still on schedule. **Bay Metro** has submitted a proposal to re-route the buses as well as have the buses depart from the main terminal every hour to provide 45-55 minute headways. Bay Metro is also planning to eliminate two routes. The Green Line route didn't measure up so it will be merged into Route 4. The changes are being proposed to save money and it is estimated that these changes will save \$100,000 - \$200,000 per year. There will be a public meeting to discuss the proposed changes. The **Quanicassee Project** is still underway and the bridge portion of the project will be completed June 21, 2013. The road portion of this project will take a little longer. The **Midland Road Project** had a rainy start, but is now back on track. The **Beaver Road Project** has been awarded to Shaw Contracting and will start in mid-July, 2013. The **North Union Project** GI is set to go next week. There are some storm sewer issues with this project. The Road Commission called Senator Green to discuss funding for the **Cody-Estey Project** that is shovel ready. The PE for the **Patterson Road/Old Kawkawlin Road Project** has been submitted. The **Mill-End Project** is underway in the City of Bay City and is currently working on the gas and utilities. The **Euclid Avenue Waterline Project** has been submitted for review and the unofficial word is that this project is not approved. There should be some news about this project by July 8, 2013.

Other/New Business:

Jim Bedell:

Jim Bedell has left his employment with the City of Bay City.

Asset Management:

Engelhardt mentioned that BCATS is approved to do asset management for the City of Essexville local roads.

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State of Michigan Map:

Engelhardt had copies of the new 2013 State of Michigan Map and handed them out to those present.

As there was no other business, the June 11, 2013 meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Engelhardt
BCATS Director