

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Policy Committee Minutes - June 19, 2013

Page 1

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:32 P.M.

Those Present Were:

Dave Engelhardt, BCATS Director; Jay Reithel, MDOT; Eric Sprague, Bay Metro; Dave Harran, Bay City; Dan Hansford, Essexville; Tom Foret, Hampton Township; Gary Brandt, Monitor Township; Mike Niederquell, Wade Trim; Jack Wheatley, Rowe/Bay City; Jim Lillo, Bay County Road Commission; Sue Fortune, EMCOG; George Augustyniak, Fraser Township; Terry Moulthane, Bay City; Vaughn Begick, Bay County Commissioner; Maja Bolanowska, MATS; Dirk Westbury, BCATS Staff, and Cyndi Gaul, Secretary, BCATS Staff.

Introductions:

Introductions were made as there were some new faces around the meeting table.

Approval of Minutes:

It was moved by Sprague, seconded by Brandt, to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2013 as amended. Motion Passed.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment brought before the committee.

Bay Metro Update:

Sprague mentioned that starting September 3, 2013 Bay Metro will be proposing a new service fixed route that will have a 1-hour routes (45 minute time schedule). Bay Metro projects they will have a \$170,000 savings over the next year with the implementation of the new schedule. A public meeting was held on June 18th to discuss the proposed changes. From the meeting, issues that still need to be looked at include over crowding of some routes, additional time spent on the bus, and wheelchair capacity. Bay Metro is looking at the possibility of adding some weekly "shopping" runs to the schedule in order to better accommodate the community. The Green Route that ran from Meijer's (where people would park their cars) to SVSU and Delta has been discontinued. The Green Route program didn't work out as well as it was expected. The JARC program that provides after hour transportation for people that work late hour jobs when Bay Metro buses aren't running, is paid for with State funds. The JARC program is still taking place, even though the Federal Program was cut under MAP-21 and rolled into the 5307 funding category. BMTA plans to continue the JARC program, but it is likely that it won't last more than a couple of years.

Public Hearing for BCATS 2011-14 TIP Amendments:

The Public Hearing was called to order at 1:43 p.m. by Jim Lillo, BCATS Policy Committee President, to discuss the various 2011-14 TIP Amendments. Engelhardt provided everyone present with a handout of the requested TIP Amendments which included Bay Metro Transportation Authority (BMTA) Amendments and the City of Bay City Saginaw St Project.

The BMTA amendment includes a project adjustment regarding the van replacement, with a cost change requiring an additional cost in 2013 and a decreased cost in 2014. The Saginaw St Project is being funded with \$880,000 in STUL funds, the remainder \$220,000 will be paid in TEDF funds, with the city paying the \$1,342 (which is not available in STUL funds).

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Policy Committee Minutes - June 19, 2013

Page 2

The Public Hearing on the BMTA and Bay City 2011-14 TIP Amendments, was adjourned at 1:47 p.m. The regular BCATS Policy Committee Meeting was reconvened at 1:48 p.m.

Approval of 2011-14 TIP Amendments:

A motion was made by Sprague, seconded by Moulthane, to approve the BCATS 2011-14 TIP Amendments for the project adjustment for Bay Metro Transportation Authority and the City of Bay City Saginaw St project. Motion Passed.

Public Hearing for Adoption of BCATS 2014-2017 TIP:

The Public Hearing was called to order at 1:48 p.m. by Jim Lillo, BCATS Policy Committee President, to discuss the adoption of the BCATS 2014-2017 TIP. Engelhardt provided everyone present with a copy of the BCATS 2014-2017 TIP.

Engelhardt said that a Public Open House was held at the Wirt Library. There wasn't a lot of response at the public meeting. The BCATS 2014-2017 TIP that was put out for public review has since the review had a few cost changes. The changes were amendments to the 2014 year and have gone through the required TIP amendment public review process.

The Public Hearing on the adoption of the BCATS 2014-2017 TIP was adjourned at 1:49 p.m. The regular BCATS Policy Committee Meeting was reconvened at 1:49 p.m.

Approval of 2014-2017 TIP:

A motion was made by Begick, seconded by Fortune, to approve the BCATS 2014-2017 TIP, subject to FHWA and MDOT comments/corrections/additions. Motion Passed.

Public Hearing for Amendment to BCATS 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan:

The Public Hearing was called to order at 1:50 p.m. by Jim Lillo, BCATS Policy Committee President, to discuss the amendment to the BCATS 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The amendment confirms Fraser Township as being removed from our study area as per the notification required by FHWA. Fraser Township agreed to be removed from BCATS since there would be a better chance to get funding from the rural sources, and the 2010 Census urbanized area did not include portions of Fraser. Transparent meetings were held to discuss this matter. Kawkawlin Township is still in the study area.

The Public Hearing on the amendment to the BCATS 2040 MTP was adjourned at 1:53 p.m. The regular BCATS Policy Committee Meeting was reconvened at 1:54 p.m.

Approval of 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan:

A motion was made by Brandt, seconded by Sprague, to approve the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan amendment, subject to FHWA and MDOT comments/corrections/additions. Motion Passed.

Approval of the BCATS FY2014 Unified Work Program (UWP):

Engelhardt sent out copies of the BCATS FY2014 Unified Work Program (UWP) for everyone to review prior to the meeting. There are a few expense items that are missing and need to be added before the UWP is complete. These are basically financial verification items. The \$20,000 Access Management Plan is subject to financial verification. Other than that, the UWP is basically standard business. Nothing major is coming in FY 2014.

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Policy Committee Minutes - June 19, 2013

Page 3

A motion was made by Moulthane, seconded Foret, to approve the BCATS FY2014 UWP, subject to FHWA and MDOT changes/corrections/comments from their review. Motion Passed.

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 if you are interested.

Project Updates:

The MDOT **M-25 Bridge Project** is open to traffic. The MDOT **Salzburg Project** is on track. The MDOT **I-75 Project**, cross over detour, is open. The Bay City **Harrison St Project** is going fine and will wrap up next week. The City of Essexville **Woodside Ave Project** has PE Funding and program funding. Better estimates will be coming soon for this project. The BCRC **Midland Rd Project** is going well. This project had a slow start with the rain. The detour for this project is working out. The Bay County Road Commission **Beaver Rd Project**, a two mile stretch of road between Fraser Rd and Four Mile Rd was awarded to Shaw Contracting and will start the week of July 8, 2013. There will be a public meeting for this project on June 25, 2013 at the Kawkawlin Township Hall. The PE for **Old Kawkawlin Rd** and **Patterson Ro** has been submitted. The TEDF funding for the **Salzburg Rd Project** and the **11 Mile Rd Project** have been approved by MDOT to be repaired to All Season Standard. The **North Union Project** has a GI scheduled on July 10, 2013 and should begin later this year or in the early spring of 2014. This project will be obligated in 2013. There are three **Bridge Projects** scheduled for rehabilitation next year outside the BCATS urban area. The Bay County Road Commission has been involved with the public meetings for the conversion of **four miles of hard surface local roads to gravel**. It was a tough meeting and the roads are in bad shape. There were some good comments that came out of the public meeting. The Road Commission Board will make the final decision on how to best handle this situation. There was some discussion about how townships with road mileages have roads that are in better shape. The **New Water Pipeline** will be built under Lauria Road (Euclid to Old Kawkawlin) and is scheduled to begin in 2014. The bonds were approved by Bay County who is the bond holder for this project. There was discussion regarding the M-84 center turn being used as a passing lane. It is possible that the lane width may be reduced and that there will be hatching of the center lane to prevent this from happening. The **Tall Ships Festival** is on track and routing and parking have been planned. There will be barriers on 4th Street and Water Street, along with other location.

Other/New Business:

Michigan Strategic Highway Safety Plan:

Engelhardt discussed the Michigan Strategic Highway Safety Plan and told everyone that the State is looking for input from MPO's for the Traffic Safety Highway Commission. Engelhardt will get more information.

Regional Prosperity Initiative:

Engelhardt talked about the Regional Prosperity Initiative and how the Governor would like to see everything line up between the various geographic regions (DNR, DEQ, MDOT, Division on Aging, etc.). They are looking at having 10-12 regions. There is a deadline to have this in motion by July 8, 2013.

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Policy Committee Minutes - June 19, 2013

Page 4

Pam Boyd - MDOT Obligation Chart:

Engelhardt gave everyone a handout of the obligation chart that was provided by Pam Boyd of MDOT that shows where project obligations for FY 2013 are currently for STP funding state wide. Pam requested that each MPO provide status information on their projects for FY 2013 obligations. The BCRC projects for the \$936K are in; Essexville will soon have their project ready. Bay City has no timetable on the Madison Avenue PE or Patterson Avenue PE, but should have them submitted next week.

\$351 Million of State Surplus Funds:

Engelhardt discussed the \$351 Million of State Surplus Funds from HB 4328 going towards roads. There is \$121 Million to match Federal funds, \$115 million to road reserve, and \$115 million for priority trunkline and local roads. There is no list or description of where the money will be distributed, though it is looking like the funds will be earmarks. Engelhardt encouraged road agencies to contact their legislators. Lillo contacted State Representative Charles Brunner and State Senator Mike Green. Lillo is still waiting to hear back from Senator Green to discuss the earmarks. It's not sure if the locals will get any of the surplus funds.

BCATS Policy Committee Vice-Chair Nominations:

Engelhardt is taking recommendations to replace Jim Bedell as the BCATS Policy Committee Vice-Chair. Bedell has left his employment with the City of Bay City, leaving the position vacant. Please email your suggestions to Engelhardt and he will bring the nominations to the next BCATS Policy Committee meeting.

Midland MPO Update:

Bolanowska provided an update on the Midland MPO. They have signed the master agreement with MDOT and FHWA. The Midland MPO is also working on getting their 2014-17 project list together which will be going in the STIP. The Midland MPO has a large group with 20 voting Policy Committee members. The project that is part of Garfield Road (North Union to Midland) will be done in 2015.

M-47 Project Open House:

There will be an Open House on June 19, 2013 for the M-47 Project.

Senator Mike Green Office hours:

Begick mentioned that Senator Green has open office hours at the Depot from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Friday, June 21, 2013.

As there was no further business, the June 19, 2013 BCATS Policy Committee meeting was adjourned at 2:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Engelhardt
BCATS Director

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Policy Committee Minutes - June 19, 2013

Page 5

*Transcribed by C. Gaul
G:\Transportation Planning\01-BCATS\01-Policy Committee\FY 2013\Minutes\2013-06-19 BCATS Policy mtg min.wpd*