

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Technical Committee Minutes - December 10, 2013

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Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 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; Rachel Phillips, MDOT Bay City TSC; Jay Anderson, BCATS staff, and; Cyndi Gaul, Secretary, BCATS Staff.

Minutes from October 8, 2013 BCATS Tech Meeting:

It was moved by Koenig, seconded by Lillo, to approve the minutes from the October 8, 2013 meeting. Motion passed.

Legislative Update:

Engelhardt said that there was nothing new to report.

Governor's Regional Prosperity Initiative:

Engelhardt discussed the changes that are taking place under the Governor's Regional Prosperity Initiative. Koenig gave an overview from the conference call he participated in on December 4, 2013. Many regions submitted applications for funding. East Michigan COG applied in our region. The winning applicants will be announced after January 1, 2014. Engelhardt expressed his concerns over the lack of structure and guidance with this process. Koenig said that there will be another meeting the end of January 2014 for the regional team.

2014-17 TIP Amendments:

Engelhardt provided everyone with a handout of the TIP Amendments being requested. Bay County Road Commission would like the Salzburg Road Project removed from 2014 and moved to 2015. Bay County Road Commission increased the cost for the Bridge Project and needs to change the description from Chip Road to Old Beaver Road. The estimate was done three years ago for this project and it is anticipated the cost will increase. MDOT would like to add the M-25 Bridge Project (emergency electrical work) into the TIP for 2014. MDOT would also like to add the M-25 (M-13/M-84) Bridge electrical replacement Projects into the TIP for 2014. The GPA Project for the new carpool lot should be removed, however the shoulder widening on M-25 will be done. This project is running late and needs to be included in the TIP. The GPA Subcommittee will be meeting in two weeks to review grouping and to create a user guide for project grouping. Koenig said that the STIP was approved before Thanksgiving (November 28, 2013) and that he sent out our previous administrative modification through e-file. Bay Metro Transit will be adding the Bike Rack Project into the TIP for 2014.

A motion was made by Lillo, seconded by Harran, to favorably recommend the approval of the various MDOT and Bay County Road Commission 2014-17 TIP Amendments and the Bay Metro Transit project to the BCATS Policy Committee. Motion passed.

2013 Adjusted Census Urban Boundary Approval:

Engelhardt said a letter will soon be sent along with maps to review and to reaffirm or

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make changes as needed based on the limitation of the lane miles per category. Koenig said that there is a new formula out for NFC/NHS review and he will pass that along to Engelhardt.

Oversize/Overlimit Permits on I-75 Update:

Engelhardt discussed the I-75 Oversize/Overlimit Permits. BCATS wants to initiate this conversation in order to move forward with having changes made to old rules. The current rules, especially time curfews, are creating problems for some of the larger movers in Bay County, such as Northern Concrete. The current rules waste time and money for these businesses and add cost. Everyone seems open to discussing what can be done and what changes may be implemented to help facilitate a solution. MDOT has offered to facilitate a meeting to see how we can all work together to come up with a solution to our freight issues.

Euclid Avenue/Wilder Road Access Management Update:

Reithel and Lillo are working on meeting with Bangor Township to discuss this project. Once Reithel knows each affected jurisdiction is on board with the project he will be working on getting a consultant on board to conduct the study. Bangor Township has an Access Management Plan in place so this should be a smooth process, as far as Bangor is concerned.

BCATS Annual Report:

Engelhardt said that this will be done by the BCATS Policy Meeting and explained that this report is done every year and promotes what BCATS "is", what agencies are involved with BCATS, and highlights major projects done for the year. The report also refers to the Bay County website for additional information. The Annual List of Projects will also be posted to the Bay County website.

Project Updates:

The ***Uptown Bay City Redevelopment Project*** sewer is complete and the roads are basically complete. The Saginaw Street design is complete with the installation of a turn lane that will sacrifice some of the parking lot. The Saginaw Street portion is closed from 6th Street to 10th Street in order to install the electrical portion of the project. The MDOT ***I-75 Project*** (I-75 to County Line Road) will be let in January 2014. This project is north of the BCATS area, however still warrants mentioning to the group. The ***M-25 Project*** will have the shoulder paved in the summer of 2014. The ***Salzburg Road Project*** is complete. Some tenants in the area are upset about the parking and would like to see more put in by the rail road tracks. Building owners don't want the ally ways closed so there is a limitation on where parking can take place. There is no longer parking in front of some of the businesses, which is creating some problems. Engelhardt expressed the concerns of Tom Hickner/County Executive about why this project was moving so slowly, he wondered if there was any way to have workers work into later hours in order to have the project completed quickly so that there isn't such a disruption for businesses or people who live in the area. Phillips said that working 24/7 on this project wasn't possible due to safety concerns with noise and light. There are

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safety concerns when workers use artificial light this time of year. Phillips wanted everyone to know that this would be her last BCATS meeting as she was going to be moved to the Mt. Pleasant region, and will therefore be attending the Midland Area meetings. Jason Garza will take Phillips place attending meetings from MDOT for BCATS. The **North Union Project** ADA pedestrian signals for compliance have been sent. The **Midland Road Project** is basically done and will need some minor cleanup in spring 2014. The **Old Kawkawlin Road Project** (Old Kawkawlin & Patterson Road) has been designed. The **Local Bridge Projects** scheduled for 2016 for Midland Road (west of Fraser Road) for replacement and Mackinaw Road (over the Kawkawlin River) for preventative maintenance have received their local bridge funds. The **Bay Metro Transit Bike Rack Project** is funded and will be moving forward in 2014.

Other/New Business:

City of Bay City - City Hall:

The City of Bay City will be moving back into City Hall this week.

TIP Approval:

The BCATS 2014-17 TIP was approved last month (November 2013).

Expense Invoices:

Engelhardt discussed the importance of submitting expense invoices to him in a timely manner. We are currently behind on payments and we need to have all billing requests in within 30 days of the end of each quarter.

Legislative Update:

Notices are going out to MTPA regarding the new rules coming that will be implemented. Starting to see solidifying of the MAP21 as information is trickling out. Engelhardt mentioned that in the Draft Highway Primary/ Freight Network "freight" on the map seems to end in Flint, Michigan and that we are not included in any primary freight area. It was explained that there was a national cap and not every road that should be on the list was listed.

As there was no other business, the December 10, 2013 meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Engelhardt
BCATS Director