

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Policy Committee Minutes - June 16, 2010

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Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:31 p.m.

Those present were: Dave Engelhardt, BCATS staff; Dale Majerczyk, City of Essexville; John Gaydos, City of Bay City; Jim Lillo, Bay County Road Commission; Vaughn Begick, Bay County; Mike Niederquell, Wade Trim; Gary Brandt, Monitor Township Supervisor; George Augustyniak, Fraser Township Supervisor; Dennis Bragiel, Kawkawlin Township Supervisor; Jay Reithel, MDOT-Bay Region; Dirk Westbury, BCATS staff, and; Cyndi Gaul, EA&CD.

Approval of Minutes:

It was moved by Gaydos, seconded by Begick, to approve the minutes from the April 21, 2010 meeting. Motion Passed.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment brought before the committee.

Update From Bay Metro Transit:

Stoner was not present and no update was given.

Public Hearing - BCATS 2008-11 TIP Amendments for MDOT Projects

The Public Hearing was called to order at 1:34 p.m. by Dale Majerczyk, Chairman of BCATS. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to discuss the BCATS 2008-11 TIP Amendments for various MDOT projects including: a cost increase on the M-13 Bridge over Cheboyganing Creek; moving the M-13/M-84 ROW phase to FY 2010 from FY 2009; the addition of a Bridge Scoping GPA in FY 2011; and the addition of installing the I-75 Weigh in Motion in FY 2011. There was an additional amendment to the TIP which include Bay Metro not getting enough funding for a van in FY 2009. Instead of the 15 passenger van, Bay Metro was able to get a lift van, so \$5,920 has to be added to the TIP for this project in FY 2010. Discussion ensued.

The Public Hearing on the BCATS 2008-11 TIP Amendments for various MDOT projects was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

The regular BCATS Policy Committee Meeting was reconvened at 1:36 p.m.

TIP Amendment Approval:

A motion was made by Gaydos, seconded by Augustyniak, to approve the various BCATS 2008-11 TIP Amendments for the various MDOT and Bay Metro projects as listed. Motion passed.

TIP Amendment - Road Commission:

This item was not on the agenda, however was added here in keeping with the Public Hearing process. Lillo discussed that there needed to be a TIP Amendment for the single chip seal project for Hampton Rd and Knight Rd. Hotchkiss Road should have been included in the project description for FY 2010. The costs for the project reflected the full project on the three roads, but the description omitted Hotchkiss Rd.

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Public Hearing - BCATS 2010 TIP Amendment for Road Commission Project:

The Public Hearing was called to order at 1:41 p.m. by Dale Majerczyk, Chairman of BCATS. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to discuss the additional road to the scope of work for the Bay County Road Commission (BCRC) Hampton Rd; Knight Rd; & Hotchkiss Road Chip Seal Project in the FY 2010. Discussion ensued.

The Public Hearing on the BCATS 2010 TIP Amendment for the Road Commission Project was adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

The regular BCATS Policy Committee Meeting was reconvened at 1:42 p.m.

TIP Amendment Approval:

A motion was made by Gaydos, seconded by Begick, to approve the BCRC Hampton Rd; Knight Rd; & Hotchkiss Road Chip Seal Project TIP Amendment as listed. Motion passed.

Public Hearing - 2011-14 BCATS TIP Adoption:

The Public Hearing was called to order at 1:43 p.m. by Dale Majerczyk, Chairman of BCATS. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to discuss the adoption of the BCATS 2011-14 TIP. Engelhardt explained that the TIP Open House was held May 25th and a few comments were received. The Region VII Area Agency on Aging and the Chamber of Commerce Sub-Committee commented, along with some email comments. Project corrections were also received from MDOT during the open public comment period. Majerczyk noted that all the comments received will be incorporated into the TIP, including those from MDOT regarding project corrections. Engelhardt said that, as always, the group should try to take the comments and issues brought up at the TIP Open House in mind as projects come before the BCATS Policy Committee.

Due to the State not currently able to identify the full matching funds required for the previously identified projects in their 5 year plan, the TIP is showing their reduced program plus an illustrative list if the full matching funds become available. The illustrative list projects are the projects that cannot be completed under the reduced program, but identified and planned should the funding becomes available. Should funding become available, the BCATS Policy Committee has given Engelhardt the ability to move projects administratively from this illustrative list into the TIP project list. Gaydos discussed that there may be an upcoming rail road project for the installation of crossing gates on North Henry St. If this project goes through, it will need to be reflected in the TIP. Engelhardt explained that once the TIP is approved by BCATS, it is moved forward for MDOT approval and FHWA approval and then becomes part of the State TIP (STIP). The TIP should be approved by October, 2010. MDOT along with the other MPO/MTA agencies have agreed to move to a specific fixed TIP amendment schedule that will allow amendments only 6 times a year. A final calendar will be disseminated and future TIP amendments will only be allowed if they conform to the fixed 6 amendments allowed per year.

Majerczyk feels that BCATS has done a great job at getting more funds and utilizing the funds they do receive really well. He felt that BCATS has been effective and efficient at

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bringing in additional funds. The group has worked well with multiple funding sources and the group as a whole coordinates and cooperates really well. Discussion ensued.

The Public Hearing on the adoption of the BCATS 2011-14 TIP was adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

The regular BCATS Policy Committee Meeting was reconvened at 2:03 p.m.

TIP Amendment Approval:

A motion was made by Lillo, seconded by Gaydos, to approve the BCATS 2011-14 TIP, subject to any additional corrections or modification suggested by MDOT and FHWA. Motion passed.

BCATS Self-Certification:

Engelhardt discussed the annual BCATS Self-Certification process. This certifies that BCATS is following the proper transportation planning procedures, it's a way to "self-check". Engelhardt asked for a motion to approve and authorization for the BCATS Chairman sign the BCATS Self-Certification.

A motion was made by Augustyniak, seconded by Brandt, to approve and authorization for the BCATS Chairman sign the BCATS Self-Certification. Motion passed.

BCATS FY 2011 UWP Approval:

Engelhardt provided everyone with a handout of the BCATS Unified Work Program (UWP). He explained that the UWP must be approved in order to continue to receive planning dollars. There may be minor funding adjustments to the UWP once MDOT planning reviews their planning efforts relative to the individual work items. The total dollar amount will not change, just the allocation amounts. This UWP has a focus on the Long Range Plan as that is due for an update in 2011. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Lillo, seconded by Brandt, to approve the BCATS Unified Work Program as prepared, subject to Federal Highway and MDOT changes. Motion passed.

Election of New BCATS Chairman:

Majerczyk discussed the fact that he would be retiring at the end of 2010. For a smooth transition, it was agreed that now would be a good time to elect a new BCATS chairman.

A motion was made by Gaydos, seconded by Augustyniak, to nominate Jim Lillo as the new BCATS Chairman. There were no other nominations. Motion passed.

Non-Motorized Update:

Westbury discussed that there is a current bill to adopt a "Complete Streets" process in the state transportation planning process being reviewed at the state level and provided members with a handout. The purpose of the bill is to provide transportation access for all ways of life on all roads.

On May 11, 2010, Bay County hosted "Training Wheels: On Road Bicycle Training".

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Westbury provided everyone with a handout of the route taken and told member that he has the power point presentation from the session and if anyone would like a copy just let him know. Engelhardt said that the State wants MPOs to look at and consider non-motorized elements whenever possible for new projects. Lillo mentioned that Bangor Township and the Road Commission have approved support for the US BR 20 that will travel through their jurisdiction. Discussion ensued.

Projects Update:

The ***Safe Routes to School Project*** has been pushed back another week as there's another project coming through that will address some of the items for this project. The ***Seven Mile Road Project*** is having ditch work done this week. The ***Hotchkiss Road Project*** is a chip and seal that will be placed into regular rotation for maintenance. The ***Wilder Road/Truman Road Joint Project*** has began. The Fire Department felt their response time would be hampered with the plan of a complete two week closure of the Woodside/Truman Intersection during the project, so the intersection work will be staged and take 4 to 5 weeks. As a result, the Wilder Rd section of the project won't start until September 1, 2010. The ***Bay Arenac Drive Project*** will have an August let date. Lillo felt that this project had a fast turn around time due to his staff dedication. The ***Borton Avenue Project*** started on Monday, as it was the plan to wait until school was done for the summer. Essexville has a sewer project taking place simultaneously so there will be some interesting detour routes. The corner of Scheurmann Street and Borton Avenue will be closed for two week for the completion of this project. This is an ARRA project. Nebobish and Borton Avenue will both be closed at the same time due to this project and the Essexville Hampton sewer project.

Other/New Business:

Bay City Engineering/John Gaydos:

Gaydos explained that the position of Bay City Engineer is expected to be eliminated in order for the City of Bay City to balance their budget. A representative for the Mayor's office of the City of Bay City hasn't yet been appointed to attend the BCATS meetings on the city's behalf, if Gaydos is no longer with the City. Gaydos expressed what a joy it has been working with this group and that he feels the group was able to accomplish good things for the community. Engelhardt said that it has been a pleasure to work with Gaydos. Majerczyk said that Gaydos was easy to work with and that he valued his expertise.

Richardson Retirement:

Engelhardt informed the group that Susan Richardson is retiring at the end of the month. Richardson was not present at the meeting. However, she did ask Engelhardt to convey her good-bye and to let the group know it's been a pleasure working with them.

PASER Data Collection:

Westbury informed the group that PASER Data Collection would be taking place next week with the rating of roads. Westbury will contact people to get the set dates and times for his data collecting ride-alongs.

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As there was no further business, the June 16, 2010 BCATS Policy Committee meeting was adjourned at 2:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Engelhardt
BCATS Director

Transcribed by C. Gaul

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