

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Policy Committee Minutes - December 15, 2010

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Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m.

Those present were: Dave Engelhardt, BCATS staff; George Augustyniak, Fraser Township Supervisor; Dennis Bragiel, Kawkawlin Township Supervisor; Brandon Wilcox, MDOT; Jay Reithel, MDOT-Bay City; Pamela Boyd, MDOT Planner; Jim Lillo, Bay County Road Commission; Mike Niederquell, Wade Trim; Dirk Westbury, BCATS staff, and; Cyndi Gaul, EA&CD.

Introductions:

Lillo introduced Pamela Boyd/MDOT Planner and had everyone go around the table and introduce themselves. Welcome Pamela!

Approval of Minutes:

It was moved by Engelhardt, seconded by Augustyniak, to approve the minutes from the October 20, 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. Engelhardt mentioned that Mike Stoner would be retiring sometime in the future and Eric Sprague would be groomed to take over his position.

BCATS 2011-14 TIP Amendments:

Engelhardt provided everyone with a handout list of the BCATS 2011-14 TIP Amendments which includes: A scope change on the I-75 rehabilitation project, a cost correction on the I-75 reconstruction project and the addition of a Solar Lighting project at I-75 and Linwood Rd. In addition to these amendments, the full limits of the I-75 rehabilitation project will be added to the illustrative list so that when and if the funds do become available, Engelhardt has been given the authority to do an administrative modification to the TIP to expand the limits and dollar amount of the project.

A motion was made by Boyd, seconded by Engelhardt, to accept the MDOT project amendments to the BCATS 2011-14 TIP as listed, along with allowing Engelhardt to make an administrative modification when and if funds become available for the MDOT project which includes one additional mile to the I-75 rehabilitation project. Motion passed.

BCATS Annual Report/Annual Ad:

Engelhardt discussed the BCATS Annual Report/Ad and explained that due to missing the county PO request deadline, the report won't be run until the first or second week of January 2011.

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BCATS 2012 Flexible Match:

Engelhardt explained the need to switch to a cash match versus flexible match in FY 2012. Engelhardt has discussed same with Jack Wheatley, stand in for the City Engineer for Bay City, and Jack has indicated he will coordinate a meeting with Steve Black at the City of Bay City to discuss the issue.

2040 Metropolitan Plan:

Engelhardt discussed that MPO's are required to have a valid Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and in air quality attainment areas update it every five year. The plans cover a 20 year planning period. We are due to update our MTP this year for approval by next FY. Engelhardt would like to complete the new plan prior to the introduction of any new Federal Highway Bills. However, we are waiting on getting the results from the Travel Demand Model in order to move forward on the 2040 Metropolitan Plan. Engelhardt also discussed the importance of documentation of the Consultation process in order to get a better picture of who we contact and any responses from the public that we receive.

BCATS Non-Motorized Plan Update:

Westbury discussed a spring 2011 non-motorized project to resurface a portion of the rail trail. Westbury told the group that Jack Wheatley, on behalf of the City of Bay City, plans to speak with Steve Black to encourage the city to adopt the BCATS Non-Motorized Plan. Jack Wheatley sees the benefits to the plan and will advocate approval from the city board. Engelhardt explained that the Road Commission is already taking into account the BCATS Non-Motorized Plan when dealing with new projects. Currently the BCATS Non-Motorized Plan is waiting for formal adoption from the implementing agencies in order to move forward and adopt the plan formally by and through BCATS. Engelhardt will send Boyd a copy of the draft plan and map for review.

Engelhardt explained that the University Center Trail which will connect Delta College and SVSU are proceeding again and that Delta has re-opened discussions with the landowners for a required easement.

Engelhardt informed Boyd of the history of the non-motorized plans, projects, and history within the Bay City Area.

Projects Update:

The **Bay-Arenac Dr Project** is finished. The **Wilder Road Project** is completed, including the **Rail Road Crossing Project**. The first phase of the **M-84 Project** is completed. The **7 Mile Road Project** is complete. The **M-13 Bridge Project** has begun and is expected to be completed in March, 2011 with winter construction which will close the bridge over the Cheboyganing Creek. The **Beaver Road Project** has been moved to 2011.

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Other/New Business:

MDOT Memorandum for BCATS Signature:

Engelhardt discussed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between MDOT, BCATS and Bay Metro Transit Authority is up for renewal. The MOU outlines the planning process requirements of MDOT, BCATS and Bay Metro Transit. The document is currently being reviewed by the Bay County Corporation Counsel. Engelhardt explained that the document would most likely not be signed until January 2011.

A motion was made by Augustyniak, seconded by Bragiel, to approve the signing of the MDOT Memorandum of Understanding subject to Corporation Counsel review and approval and incorporate any changes required.

Air Quality:

Engelhardt discussed that BCATS is in attainment right now. However, this status could change as EPA is reviewing and likely to change the conformity thresholds for attainment.

Luncheon for Dale Majerczyk:

A farewell luncheon for Dale Majerczyk will be taking place on Wednesday, December 22, 2010 at 12:00 p.m. at the Silver Palace, 1500 Woodside Avenue, Essexville, MI 48732.

As there was no further business, the December 15, 2010 BCATS Policy Committee meeting was adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Engelhardt
BCATS Director

Transcribed by C. Gaul