

## **BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)**

Technical Committee Minutes – October 13, 2020

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*Meeting Via Microsoft Teams Meeting – Meeting was recorded*

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

**Those Present Were:**

Jay Anderson, BCATS Staff; Jay Reithel, MDOT; Jack Hofweber, MDOT BCTSC; Jon Roberts, MDOT Planning; Robert “Mitch” Huber, MDOT SPS; Jim Lillo, BCRC; Dave Engelhardt, EMCOG; Terry Moulthane, City of Bay City; Rachel Philips, City of Bay City; Ryan Smith, BCATS Staff, and; Cyndi Gaul, Environmental Affairs & Community Development.

**Minutes from August 11, 2020 BCATS Technical Meeting:**

It was moved by Moulthane, seconded by Reithel, to approve the minutes from the August 11, 2020 BCATS Technical Committee Meeting. Motion passed.

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment brought before the committee.

**Legislative Update:** There was nothing new to report at this time.

Huber did note that with the Governor’s Executive Orders being struck down by the Supreme Court it was unclear if meetings at the State level would remain virtual or would revert back to in-person meetings. Reithel said that MDOT Staff won’t be returning to their offices no earlier than January 2, 2021. Phillips mentioned that the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) issued Epidemic Orders on October 9<sup>th</sup> that limits the number of people that can gather and prohibits non-essential workplace gatherings.

**FY2020-2023 TIP Amendments, Administrative Modifications:**

Anderson provided a handout of the FY 2020-2023 TIP Amendment/Administrative Modification for review and recommendation to the Policy Committee for approval. The following is the TIP Amendment/Administrative Modification requested:

**FY 2021 Amendments:**

1. Addition of Preliminary Engineering (PE) phase for the region-wide/Bay region MDOT Traffic Safety Durable Pavement Marking Placement Project.
2. Addition of Construction phase of the region-wide/Bay region MDOT Traffic Safety Durable Pavement Marking Placement Project.
3. Addition to the Trunkline Bridge GPA for the MDOT M-13 Bridge CPM Project (M-13 and M-84 over west channel of the Saginaw River) for scour protection.

A motion was made by Philips, seconded by Huber, to favorably recommend the FY 2020-2023 TIP amendment be moved forward to BCATS Policy Committee for approval. Motion Passed.

**Great Lakes Bay Region Travel Demand Model Update:**

Jon Roberts from MDOT Planning provided an update on the Great Lakes Bay Region Travel Demand Model. He has been working with Katy to finalize the input runs for Bay County. Right now they are working on the calibrations. Roberts will be meeting with the other MPOs in our area to talk about socio-economic data and forecasts on Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. Please think about projects you would like to see included for the model runs, specifically ones that have a change in capacity, and send them to Jon Roberts so he can incorporate them. Reithel wanted

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to know if Roberts could run travel demand model scenario for the two Bay City toll bridges. Roberts will look into how the toll bridges could best be handled in the Travel Demand Model since it will definitely affect the flow of traffic. Toll roads and bridges are not currently included in the Travel Demand Model. However, there is a need to include toll roads and bridges.

### **Non-Motorized Plan Update**

Ryan Smith provided an update on the BCATS Non-Motorized Transportation Plan update and provided an online draft StoryMap for the plan to review during the meeting. The format changes have been completed and surveys have been included into the online StoryMap to be completed by local stakeholders and the public. The maps show all the existing, recommended, and recent non-motorized projects in our area. Water trails have also been included on the map. A link will be sent out for the online Non-Motorized Plan StoryMap Survey after the next BCATS Policy Committee Meeting next week. There is a section asking for demographic information at the end of the survey. You don't need to answer all the questions for the survey to be submitted. If anyone has projects they would like added to the Non-Motorized Plan (recently completed, upcoming, or recommended) they can be directly added through the survey. If there is any additional information to submit with these projects, please send the details to Ryan Smith or Jay Anderson.

There was discussion about the new bridges and if there were any non-motorized components for either bridge. The City of Bay City has not been made aware of any plans to date and have not been included in any of the bridge design conversations.

There was discussion about the proposal made a few years back for a connection trail that would link Delta College and SVSU. This project is no longer being pursued by the colleges at this time.

There was discussion about counters that could be loaned out for non-motorized trail counts. Since the Covid-19 pandemic began, we have seen an increase in trail traffic. There are no trail counters available to borrow at this time. Most members were open to doing a cost sharing to purchase counters. MDOT indicated that the purchase of counters would be worthwhile and might qualify for transportation funds. A mobile counter is in the \$3,000 - \$4,000 range. It should be noted that it's important to lock down and really secure trail counters to prevent them from "walking off".

### **Review & Recommend 2020 MOA between SATA and BCATS**

Due to the Saginaw MPO's separation from Saginaw County, SMATS was renamed the Saginaw Area Transportation Agency (SATA) and that requires an update of the existing MOA between BCATS and SATA. A couple of minor changes were recommended for name changes in the MOA. It was motioned by Reithel and seconded by Lillo to recommend approval of the MOA to the BCATS Policy Committee with the noted changes. Motion passed.

### **BCATS 2021 Meeting Schedule**

Anderson provided a draft of the 2021 meeting schedule for review by the committee. The BCATS Technical Committee is scheduled to meet the week prior to the BCATS Policy Committee Meeting on the second Tuesday of every other month. The BCATS Policy Committee Meeting is scheduled to meet on the third Wednesday of every other month. The times are the same as last year. A May meeting has been added to the

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schedule for both Policy and Tech groups in order to accommodate any TIP Amendments that come through during that time.

A motion was made by Lillo, seconded by Reithel, to favorably recommend the 2021 BCATS Committee Meeting Schedule to the BCATS Policy Committee for approval.  
Motion Passed

### **Project Updates:**

The **MDOT M-13/Beaver Road Safety Project** has been submitted with a December letting. The **MDOT US-10 Westbound Lane Project** is in the design phase and will be constructed in 2023. The **MDOT M-25 Reconstruct Project** is getting community input for the beautification design and will be constructed in 2023. The **MDOT Signal Modification Projects** for the City of Bay City will include five signal modification locations for construction in 2023. The **MDOT Center Avenue/Madison Avenue Project** has been completed. The **MDOT Lafayette Bridge Project** is still in the process of reviewing project options and costs.

The **Bay City Trumbull Street Project** is scheduled for the final walk thru and will hopefully be complete. The **Bay City Wenona Street Project** will be submitting the design this month and is scheduled for a January 2021 let with construction beginning in March 2021. The **Bay City Johnson Street Project** (North of Woodside to Water Street) reconstruction project is slated to begin construction in 2021. The **Bay City 1<sup>st</sup> Street Project** is still underway and closed due to sink holes. Bay City is working to fix the issues on 1<sup>st</sup> Street.

The **BCRC Old Kawkawlin Road Project** is finished. The BCRC Bridges Projects on 7 Mile and Erickson Road are almost done. The **BCRC M-15 Project** (intersection of Youngs Ditch Road and 22<sup>nd</sup> Street) is working with the owner of Bob's Bar to secure the property and right-of-way to straighten out the lane and making some other much needed improvements and updates to this intersection. The BCRC has a draft purchase agreement and would like to trade the demolition of the building cost for the extra right-of-way.

### **Other/New Business:**

#### ***TAMC Fall Asset Management Conference***

The Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) Fall Asset Management Conference will be held virtually this year on October 28-29, 2020. Jay Anderson will send out the flyer for the fall virtual conference which includes the registration information. The TAMC Conference in Spring 2021 will also be a virtual conference.

#### ***Where Do I Vote Bay County Web Link***

With elections coming up, Bay County GIS has added a link at the top of the Bay County website homepage called "Where Do I Vote". This web app allows users to type in their address and find out where they should vote, even if they don't know their precinct.

#### ***MTPA Meetings Best Practices***

There was discussion about the MTPA Meetings and if there are any Best Practices in place of the virtual meetings.

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### ***Performance Measures Story Map***

The Performance Measures story map was sent out last month. We didn't receive very many comments about the map, however the ones we did receive were positive and there were no real concerns. The Performance Measures Story Map will be put out on the website soon.

As there were no further business, a motion was made by Lillo, seconded by Phillips, to adjourn the October 13, 2020 BCATS Technical Committee meeting at 11:01 a.m. Motion Passed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jay Anderson*

*BCATS Director*

*Transcribed by C. Gaul*