

# 2010 Annual Report of the Bay City Area Transportation Study (BCATS)

## BCATS COMMITTEES

The Bay City Area Transportation Study (BCATS) is composed of two committees: the Policy Committee and the Technical Committee. The Policy Committee is made up of mostly elected officials from township, city, and county government. The Technical Committee is comprised of transportation planning and engineering professionals from the community. Both committees also have representatives from the Michigan and U.S. Departments of Transportation. The Technical Committee provides valuable expert advice to the Policy Committee on various matters which it must address. The Policy Committee must give final local approval to all plans and projects in the Bay City urbanized area which use federal funding.

The Policy Committee usually meets on the third Wednesday of every other month at the Bay County Building, 515 Center Ave, Bay City, Michigan. The Technical Committee meets at the same location, usually on the second Tuesday in the same months as the Policy Committee.

Interested persons are always welcome to attend the meetings or call one of the following Technical Committee members to discuss transportation issues of interest:

**David Engelhardt**, BCATS Director  
(989) 895-4064  
Bay County Transportation Planning Division  
engelhardt@baycounty.net

**Michael Stoner**, General Manager  
(989) 894-2900  
Bay Metro Transit  
mstoner@baymetro.com

**Gregg Brunner**, TSC Manager  
(989) 671-1555  
Michigan Department of Transportation  
brunner@michigan.gov

The County of Bay will provide necessary and reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting/hearing upon ten (10) days notice to the County of Bay. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aides or services should contact the County of Bay by writing or calling:

**Michael Gray**, Executive Assistant  
Office of the Bay County Executive  
515 Center Avenue - Suite 403  
Bay City, MI 48708  
(989) 895-4130  
(989) 895-4049 TDD  
graym@baycounty.net

## TRANSPORTATION PLANNING & SAFETEA-LU

On August 10, 2005, President Bush signed the \$244.1 billion, five-year federal transportation funding bill as passed by Congress which is known as SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users). SAFETEA-LU succeeds the expired Transportation Efficiency Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21).

SAFETEA-LU re-authorizes the federal highway, public transportation, highway safety, and motor carrier safety programs through Fiscal Year 2009, which ended on September 30th, 2009. To continue funding transportation projects, Congress has passed an extension of SAFETEA-LU. However, a new Transportation Funding Bill needs to be passed in 2011. The Bay City Area Transportation Study (BCATS) was designated to carry out the transportation planning process required by TEA-21 and now SAFETEA-LU. Establishment of this process enables BCATS and other transportation agencies in the BCATS area to receive federal funding for a variety of transportation projects including reconstruction and resurfacing of roads & bridges, purchase of transit vehicles, highway & transit safety improvements and non-motorized projects that will efficiently maximize the mobility of people and goods within and through the Bay City urbanized area.

Currently, the BCATS area includes the cities of Bay City and Essexville and the townships of Bangor, Kawkawlin, Monitor, Frankenlust, Portsmouth, Hampton and Fraser. This is known as the urban transportation planning area.

## BCATS 4-YEAR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

This last year marked the third year of the BCATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the fiscal years of 2008/09/10/11. The program includes approximately \$159 million in transportation and transit projects that will be completed over the four year period. It lists all of the federally funded transportation projects within the Bay City Area that will enhance the safety and efficiency of the transportation system, from I-75 reconstruction to Bay Metro Transit bus replacement to transportation enhancement projects. The 2008/11 TIP was initially prepared by BCATS staff during 2007 with input from the local implementing agencies (Bay City, Bay County Road Commission, Bay Metro Transit Authority and Essexville), MDOT, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the public and has been amended since for the addition or adjustment to various projects. The TIP is available for viewing on the Bay County Transportation Planning website or at the BCATS office. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2011, BCATS will be operating under the new 2011/12/13/14 TIP. The new 2011/14 TIP was prepared during 2010 and lists the planned projects for the 2011 through 2014 totaling approximately \$97 million in transportation and transit projects.

Projects that were constructed in 2010 utilizing federal funds excluding American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funded projects (listed later):

## Michigan Department of Transportation

- I-75 Reconstruction from Crane Rd to Squaconning Creek
- I-75 Bridge at Linwood Rd rehabilitation
- M-13 Bridge replacement over Cheboyganing Creek

## Bay County Road Commission

- Single chip seal preventive maintenance treatment on portions of Mackinaw Rd, 2 Mile Rd, Bangor Rd, Hampton Rd, Knight Rd, and Hotchkiss Rd

## UPCOMING 2011 PROJECTS:

## Michigan Department of Transportation

- Southbound lanes of I-75
- Reconstruction from Crane Rd (in Saginaw Co.) to south of M-84
- I-75 Rehabilitation and resurfacing from Linwood Rd to Pinconning Rd.
- M-84 Reconstruction from Hotchkiss Rd to Euclid Ave.
- Acquisition of the Bay-Zilwaukee Trail

## City of Bay City

- Concrete Rehabilitation and preventative maintenance on the Liberty Bridge and Independence Bridges

## Bay County Road Commission

- Midland Road Reconstruction from 2 Mile Rd to 3 Mile Rd.

A complete listing of FY 2010 obligated projects and the newly approved 2011/14 TIP can be viewed on the BCATS website.



M-84 Reconstruction

## AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to spur the nation's economic recovery. Included in the Act was approximately \$30 billion in funding for the country's transportation infrastructure. BCATS received \$1.9 million for construction on local roads eligible for federal funds. MDOT also invested ARRA funds within the Bay City Area. The list of local ARRA projects with the year constructed includes:

## Michigan Department of Transportation

- I-75 Reconstruction from Squaconning Creek to Hotchkiss Road and the I-75/M-84 interchange (2009)
- M-84 Reconstruction from South of Delta Road to Euclid (2009)
- US-10 Bridges rehabilitation (2009)
- M-13 Paved Shoulders from M-247 to Township 16 Rd (2009)

## City of Bay City

- Marquette Avenue Connector

- Reconstruction from Indiana St to Vermont St (2009)
- Truman Pkwy/Woodside Ave/Marquette Ave concrete joint repairs (2010)

## Bay County Road Commission

- Bay-Arenac Dr Resurfacing (2010)
- Wilder Rd concrete joint repairs (2010)

## Essexville

- Borton Ave Resurfacing (2010)

## Bay Metro Transit Authority

- Concrete Drive Replacement (2009)
- Install Back-up Power System (2009)
- Surveillance/Security Equipment (2009 & 2010)
- Replace Communications Equipment (2009)
- Replace four Lift Vans (2009)
- Replace two buses (2009)
- Upgrade to computer hardware and software (2009)
- Hybrid Conversion Kits (2009)
- Replace one bus (2010)

## BCATS ASSET MANAGEMENT

The Michigan Asset Management Council was created by Public Act 499 of 2002. To meet the requirements of the Act, the eighth year of a statewide review of paved federal-aid roadways was conducted using resources of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and other local agencies. This year, the state elected to collect data on the remaining half of the federal aid system after collecting half in 2009. In Bay County, BCATS teamed with the City of Bay City, MDOT and the Bay County Road Commission to inventory the surface condition of 313 miles of streets and highways. Of the roads rated in the eighth year, the data indicates that 5% of the federal-aid roadways in Bay County were rated in excellent condition, 47% in good condition, 33% in fair condition, and 15% were rated in poor condition.

## BAY METRO TRANSIT

Bay Metro Transit Authority (BMTA) has transported about 25 million passengers since 1974. In 2010, service was provided to 72,000 seniors and 292,000 passengers with disabilities with an overall ridership of 609,000. Ridership for Dial-A-Ride Transportation (DART), demand-response service for seniors and disabled was 51,000 in 2010. Bay Metro Transit operated over 1.5 million service miles during the year.

BMTA also subcontracted 23,000 additional rides to local, private carriers. Local, private carriers assist BMTA DART service in daytime "overflow" situations, as well as providing transportation to area agencies representing senior and disabled passengers. BMTA receives funding from the State under the Specialized Services Program to offset a portion of the expense of reimbursing the local carriers for their service. Since the end of 2007, BMTA has supplemented funding and expanded service to individuals in need of transportation to work before and after BMTA service hours under the State's Job Access/Reverse Commute (JARC) Program. In 2010, the local carrier provided over 10,000 JARC rides. Because of the high

demand, BMTA applied for and received an increase in the funding for the continued operation of this program.

In 2010, Bay Metro continued capital projects funded in 2009 and 2010 by federal ARRA grants. Also, in September 2010 Bay Metro, in cooperation with Saginaw Valley State University, Delta College, and Meijer, Inc. rolled into service the "Green Line." Bay Metro has established a park-n-ride lot at Meijer for the purpose of transporting students and faculty to the SVSU and Delta campuses.

## WEBSITE UPDATES

BCATS has recently updated our website. Available for download on the website are the most recent 2011-12-13-14 TIP and 2035 MTP, Technical and Policy Committee meeting minutes & agendas, traffic counts, various maps, and assorted transportation related links.

The direct web page is available at <http://www.baycounty-mi.gov/transportation>.



Borton Ave. Resurfacing

## I-75 RECONSTRUCTION

The second phase of I-75 reconstruction in Bay County was started in 2010. In 2010, the northbound lanes from Crane Rd (in Saginaw Co.) to Hotchkiss Rd were reconstructed and a fourth travel lane was added. In 2011, the southbound lanes will be reconstructed. This project, coupled with work on I-75 at the M-84, interchange will complete the reconstruction of I-75 south of US-10 in Bay County. The result of the project will reduce the congestion on I-75 during the peak travel times of vacationers heading north.

## LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN TO BE UPDATED

In 2010, BCATS began updating our long range transportation plan which will be known as the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The plan will use a new peak period travel demand model that will be able to provide BCATS with more precise traffic forecasts that will allow for better traffic data analysis and project planning. This model requires accurate employment totals, number of households, population, and traffic volumes. The plan will identify projects that will be needed over the next 30 years which will include more than just roadwork. It will also address needs in non-motorized transportation, transit options, air and water travel, railroad, as well as the movement of freight. The BCATS 2040 MTP will be completed during FY 2011 which ends Sept. 30, 2011. Please visit the BCATS website for open public participation meetings that will be held during the plan development process.