

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

Policy Committee Minutes – October 21, 2020

Page 1

---

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

### **Those Present Were**

Jay Anderson, BCATS Staff; Jim Lillo, BCRC; Jay Reithel, MDOT; Anita Boughner, MDOT; Dave Engelhardt, EMCOG; Jane Fitzpatrick, EMCOG; Terry Moulthane, City of Bay City Planning; Rachel Phillips, City of Bay City Engineering; Vaughn Begick, Bay County Commissioner; Glenn Rowley, Bangor Township; Terri Close, Hampton Township; George Augustyniak, Fraser Township Trustee; Ryan Smith, BCATS Staff, and; Cyndi Gaul, Environmental Affairs & Community Development Department.

### **Minutes from August 19, 2020 BCATS Policy Meeting**

It was moved by Rowley, seconded by Lillo, to approve the minutes from the August 19, 2020 BCATS Policy Committee Meeting. Motion passed.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment brought before the committee.

### **Legislative Update**

The FAST Act Bill Obligation Authority has been extended and will be available until December 11, 2021. There will be a decrease in State Funding so we should expect a slight decrease for FY2021 Transportation funding. Executive Directive 2020-10 formally sets the goal of economic de-carbonization in Michigan by 2050. Governor Whitmer signed Senate Bill 1108 on Friday, October 16, 2020, which amends the Open Meetings Act (the "OMA") with immediate effect. Senate Bill 1108 (now Public Act 228 of 2020) amends the OMA to allow public bodies to conduct electronic "virtual" meetings with remote participation for any reason through the end of 2021.

Importantly, the amendments apply retroactively to March 18, 2020—which means that actions taken at electronic meetings held on or after March 18 will be considered valid if those meetings complied with the general requirements for electronic meetings prescribed by the act. From March 18, 2020, through December 31, 2020, public bodies may conduct electronic meetings virtually for any reason. After December 31, 2020, public bodies may only meet remotely under certain statutorily prescribed circumstances. From January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021, public bodies may only meet remotely under the specific circumstances requiring accommodation of absent members.

### **EMCOG Update**

The Michigan Rural Task Force (RTF) will be requesting MPO engagement at the upcoming fall meetings. There will be a local RTF meeting held on October 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. at the Road Commission Office. The regional RTF meeting will be held on November 2, 2020. Call in numbers will be provided for both meetings. There may be some changes to the TIP coming after these RTF Meetings. The Saginaw MPO known as SMATS has been replaced with a new stand-alone agency known as the Saginaw Area Transportation Agency (SATA) which is not part of the County of Saginaw. EMCOG has a new Program Analyst/IT Coordinator Position available. There have been some changes to the CARES Act as things shift to the new norm. The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy will be finalized January 2021 and there will be a workshop for the implementation of the plan held in January too. A request for public comment will take place after November 15, 2020.

### **BCATS Public Hearing on 2020-2023 TIP Amendment/Administrative Modification:**

The Public Hearing was called to order at 1:47 p.m. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to discuss changes to the 2020-2023 TIP. A handout of the TIP Amendment/Administrative Modification was

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

Policy Committee Minutes – October 21, 2020

Page 2

---

provided before the meeting and was available online for review and discussion. 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.

The Public Hearing on the TIP Amendments and Administrative Modifications to the BCATS 2020-2023 TIP was adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

The regular BCATS Policy Committee Meeting was reconvened at 1:48 p.m.

A motion was made by Engelhardt, seconded by Rowley, to approve the FY 2020-2023 TIP Amendments as listed above. Motion Passed.

### **SATA-BCATS MOA Approval (pending MDOT review):**

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 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between BCATS and SATA that will need to be signed by the BCATS Chair, Jim Lillo. We are looking for approval of the SATA MOA, pending MDOT review, and approval for the BCATS Chair to sign the updated MOA.

A motion was made by Engelhardt, seconded by Phillips, approve and also grant approval for the BCATS Chair to sign the updated SATA MOA, pending MDOT Review. Motion Passed.

### **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, including water trails. Ryan will send out a link to the online Non-Motorized Plan StoryMap and Survey for review and comments. Members were asked to complete the survey if they had applicable projects. The Non-Motorized Plan StoryMap has various questions about projects in order to gain better insight on non-motorized projects taking place in our area. There's a section asking for demographic information at the end of the survey. It's not required that the demographic information be completed in order to submit the survey. 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. Everyone will get a link to the survey. It was important that our BCATS Non-Motorized Plan matched regional partner's plans, like the City of Bay City Bike Plan. It's important that we identify all the feedback we receive from the survey, even if the projects and ideas aren't in our current plan as it may fit into future plans. It should be noted that the only projects on the StoryMap are the ones we currently have on our list. We should reach out to MATS since they will be working on their Non-Motorized Plan soon and may find these surveys helpful.

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

Policy Committee Minutes – October 21, 2020

Page 3

---

### **BCATS 2021 Meeting Schedule**

A draft of the 2021 meeting schedule was given out 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 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 Moulthane, seconded by Rowley, to approve the 2021 BCATS Committee Meeting Schedule. Motion Passed

### **Project Updates:**

There were no project updates from **MDOT**.

The **Bay City Wenona Street Project** is in design and is scheduled for a January 2021 let. The **Bay City Trumbull Street Project** is scheduled for the final walk thru October 22, 2020 (tomorrow). The **Bay City 1<sup>st</sup> Street Project** will be completed soon and will be open next week.

The **BCRC Old Kawkawlin Road Project** is finished and the shoulders have been repainted to 6' instead of the 3' they painted initially. The **BCRC BCATS Projects** are completed for the year.

### **Other/New Business**

#### ***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.

As there were no further business, a motion was made by Phillips, seconded by Lillo, to adjourn the October 21, 2020 BCATS Policy Committee meeting at 2:11 p.m. Motion Passed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jay Anderson*

Jay Anderson  
BCATS Director

*Transcribed by C. Gaul*