

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes – May 17, 2023

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Call to Order:

The May 17, 2023 BCATS Policy Committee Meeting was called to order at 1:31 p.m.

Those Present Were:

Dominic Pavone, BCATS Staff; James Deweerdt, BCATS Staff; Colleen Maillette, Bay County Commissioner; Jim Lillo, BCRC; Eric Sprague, BMTA; Richard Bayus, MDOT-SPS; Rachel Phillips, City of Bay City; Glenn Rowley, Bangor Township Supervisor; Craig Goulet, City of Essexville; Cody Bodrie, EMCOG, and; Cyndi Gaul, Environmental Affairs and Community Development Department.

Minutes from April 19, 2023 BCATS Policy Committee Meeting:

There was one correction to page 2 under the Bay County Road Commission Projects. Hilton Road needs to be changed to Kelton Street. It was moved by Rowley, seconded by Mallette, to approve the minutes from the April 19, 2023 BCATS Policy Committee Meeting. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment brought before the committee.

Legislative Update:

The Michigan Infrastructure Office (MIO) Technical Assistance (TA) program allows eligible recipients to directly contract with pre-qualified consultants through their Metropolitan Planning Organizations, Regional Planning Agencies, or Economic Development Districts (MPO/RPA) to first receive consulting services on a fast-track, as-needed basis, and then get reimbursed from the MIO for those approved services. The available funding for the Bay Area, Saginaw, Midland is approximately \$320,000. The MIO-TA funding will expire in 2026. EMCOG would like to see one or two projects that could be bundled together involving multiple local MPOs (BCATS, SATA, and MATS) with a meeting being held to discuss possible combined projects.

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is moving forward with a waiver for local funding match for Complete Streets Projects through 2026. Small MPOs can submit a request for waiver of the local project match when using 5303 funds. The final details for the waiver process and form are still being worked out. BCATS incorporates 2.5% for Complete Streets Planning. There will be no changes to the tracking process of Complete Street Projects for BCATS.

BCATS Public Hearing on 2023-2026 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 2023-2026 TIP. A handout of the TIP Amendment/Administrative Modification was passed out at the meeting for review and discussion.

FY2023:

1. **Job #207357** – Administrative Modification for MDOT construction abandonment traffic safety special pavement markings project.
2. **Job #207374** - Budget Adjust for MDOT region-wide pavement marking retro-effectivity trunkline readings.
3. **Job #218985** – Phase Adjustment for Areawide Road Capital Preventative Maintenance Project along M-13.
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FY2026:

1. **Job #211183** – Administrative Modification for MDOT US-10 W project to move to a later TIP Cycle.

The Public Hearing on the TIP Amendments and Administrative Modifications to the BCATS 2023-2026 TIP was adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

Approval of the FY 2023-2026 TIP Amendments & Administrative Modifications

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

A motion was made by Sprague, seconded by Phillips, to approve the FY 2023-2026 TIP Amendments as listed above. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Approval of the FY2024 Unified Work Program (UWP)

A handout of the draft UWP was provided for review and there was a brief discussion that ensued.

A motion was made by Phillips, seconded by Goulet, to approve the FY2024 Unified Work Program (UWP). Motion Passed Unanimously.

Project Updates:

Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)

There were no updates brought before the committee.

East Michigan Council of Governments (EMCOG)

There were no updates brought before the committee.

Bay Metro Transit Authority (BMTA)

There were no updates brought before the committee.

City of Essexville

There were no updates brought before the committee.

City of Bay City

The Saginaw Street project is completed and is open to traffic. The Grant Street project is underway. The Wenonah Street project is underway. The MDOT contract for the Kosciusko Street project will start in July 2023. Tolling on Independence and Liberty bridges is scheduled to begin June 1, 2023. Bay City Bridge Partners has been working on signage to let the public know the bridges are toll bridges. Parking on both sides of Midland Street between Euclid Avenue and Wenona Avenue will be eliminated to make room for bike lanes to bring more people into the area.

Bay County Road Commission (BCRC)

Kelton Street is finished and is open to traffic. Salzburg (Mackinaw to Garfield) has been completed. 3-Mile Road overpass is closed. The demolition bid will be going out soon for the removal of Bob's Bar.

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Other/New Business:

Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) Funding Presentation

At the April 11th, 2023 BCATS Technical Committee meeting Lindsay Ross, Grant Coordinator for MDOT, gave a presentation and provided an informational handout regarding TAP Funding and discussed some other funding programs. The program focus for the TAP funding program is available to help provide regional trail development, pedestrian safety facilities, and historic preservation of transportation facilities. Eligible funding for TAP funding includes county road agencies, all cities, and villages eligible for Act 51 fundings, transit agencies, state and federal natural resource or public land agencies, and tribal governments. There is \$20M available for TAP funding and there is no max grant limit for this funding, however it's recommended that applicants request a minimum of \$1M when making a request.

EV Charging Station Funding Letter of Support

The DDA is requesting a letter of support of the receipt of the EV Grant funding from the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Program through USDOT and request that the DDA project be included in the FY2023-2026 BCATS TIP.

A motion was made by Lillo, seconded by Goulet, to write a letter of support for the BCATS Chair's signature in support of the receipt that the charging station placement efforts after the study's conclusion will be federally obligated and included in the FY 2023-2026 BCATS TIP. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Public Participation Plan

BCATS staff are continuing to work on the Public Participation Plan, specifically the re-wording of the public notification portion of the document. It was mentioned that most local legal documents are published in the Pinconning Journal for a significantly lower cost than the Bay City Times/MLive. Staff will check out using the Pinconning Journal. A draft of the Public Participation Plan should be ready for review by BCATS soon.

BCATS June 2023 Meetings

The Finance Department conference room will not be available for the May and June BCATS Technical and Policy Committee meetings. BCATS has reserved the Personnel conference room for the next year. It is unclear whether there will be a June meeting or if the next one will be pushed to July.

Next BCATS Policy Committee Meeting:

The next BCATS Policy Committee Meeting will be held on either Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. or Wednesday, July 19th, 2023 at the Personnel Conference Room of the Bay County Building. As there was no further business, a motion was made by Lillo, seconded by Maillette, to adjourn the May 17, 2023 BCATS Policy Committee meeting at 2:17 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dominic Pavone

Dominic Pavone
BCATS Staff

Transcribed by C. Gaul