

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes – May 21st, 2025

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Those Present Were:

Jim Lillo, Bay County Road Commission; Joshua VanderLaan, BCATS; Mike Losey, EA&CD; Jay Reithel, MDOT; Kathrine Shelton, MDOT; Larry Beson, 4th District Commissioner; Cody Bodrie, EMCOG; Eric Sprague, BMTA; Craig Goulet, Essexville Twp; Glenn Rowley, Bangor Twp; Terry Moulthane, Bay City.

1. Call to Order:

The BCATS Policy Committee Meeting was called to order by Jim Lillo at 1:30 p.m.

2. Changes to the Agenda:

The agenda erroneously listed the meeting minutes for approval from March 19th, instead of April 23rd. Motion made by Glenn Rowley, seconded by Mike Losey to approve the agenda with the correction. Motion carried.

3. Minutes from April 23rd, 2025, BCATS Policy Committee Meeting:

Motion made by Glenn Rowley, seconded by Eric Sprague to approve the minutes from the BCATS Policy Committee Meeting held on April 23rd, 2025. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment Period:

There was no public comment brought before the committee.

5. Legislative or MDOT Updates:

No legislative updates were brought before the committee.

6. Agency Reports and Project Updates:

MDOT:

Jay Reithel provided an update to the construction on the Vet's Memorial Bridge: the driveshaft/bearing replacement phase, totaling approximately \$2 million dollars in cost, has been shifted to 2027. Repairs will take place during the winter season, at night, and will only require a single lane closure to remove any impact on the shipping and reduce road traffic which may occur.

BCRC:

Jim Lillo provided a brief update to the Wilder construction, which started on Tiernan this month. The train tracks impeding construction have been removed.

Additional updates were provided regarding the 2nd Phase construction bid on Midland Rd., which has been awarded to Shaw Contracting. Also, repaving has recently been completed on half of Nebobish Road, along the boundary of Essexville and Hampton Township.

Bay City:

Terry Moulthane began a brief update to the construction on McKinley, which has seen asphalt laid, but no additional progress. More information is expected to be provided at the upcoming June 10th, 2025, Technical Committee meeting.

7. Approval of Review Draft of the 2026 BCATS Unified Work Program:

Joshua VanderLaan provided a copy of the Draft 2026 BCATS Unified Work Program, which outlines the work categories and funding allocations for the Bay City Area Transportation Study and it's partnering agencies, including BMTA, the city of Essexville, the city of Bay City, and the BCRC. Before final submission to FHWA, the draft document will be reviewed by MDOT.

A motion was made by Glenn Rowley and seconded by Craig Goulet to receive the 2026 BCATS Unified Work Program for MDOT review. Motion carried unanimously.

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8. BCATS Public Hearing on Draft 2025 Public Participation Plan for Public Comment:

The Public Hearing was called to order at 1:42 p.m. The purpose of the public hearing was to review the 2025 Draft BCATS Public Participation Plan for release to public comment. The document opportunities for public engagement and participatory planning methodology. Also provided was a copy of the Draft Public Notice for the upcoming 45-day public comment period, which is to occur from May 28th, 2025, to July 12th, 2025.

The Public Hearing on the 2025 Draft BCATS Public Participation Plan was adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

9. Draft 2025 Public Participation Plan for Public Comment:

The regular BCATS Policy Committee Meeting was reconvened at 1:43 p.m.

A motion was made by Larry Beson and seconded by Terry Moulthane to approve the 2025 Draft BCATS Public Participation Plan for public comment. Motion carried unanimously.

10. BCATS Public Hearing on FY2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program:

The Public Hearing was called to order at 1:44 p.m. The purpose of the public hearing was to approve the FY2026-2029 BCATS Transportation Improvement Program, following the conclusion of its 30-day public comment period on May 28th, as well as revisions and a Public Open House on the 15th of May. The document outlines planned road jobs and funding for the upcoming TIP cycle.

The document also contains the final project and job list for the 2026-2029 TIP cycle. As such, approval of the final TIP document also constitutes the approval of the provided Job List.

The Public Hearing on the FY2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program was adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

11. Fiscal Year 2026-2029 BCATS Transportation Improvement Program:

The regular BCATS Policy Committee Meeting was reconvened at 1:46 p.m.

A motion was made by Glenn Rowley and seconded by Larry Beson to approve the FY2026-2029 BCATS Transportation Improvement Program. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Other/New Business:

MDOT is hosting a public open house and online survey for the M-13 & M-81 corridor studies occurring in Saginaw County in 2025. Richard Bayus, not in attendance, shared a pamphlet detailing the opportunity.

The open house will be held from 4-6 p.m. at the SVRC Marketplace 2nd Floor Ballroom, 203 Washington Ave., Saginaw, MI 48607.

13. Motion for Adjournment:

As there was no further business, a motion was made by Jim Lillo and seconded by Mike Losey to adjourn the April 23rd, 2025, BCATS Policy Committee meeting at 2:47 p.m. Motion carried.

The next BCATS Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for June 18th, 2025, at 1:30 pm, and will be held in the 1st Floor Veteran Affairs Conference Room, 515 Center Ave., Bay City Michigan 48708.

Respectfully submitted,

Joshua VanderLaan, BCATS Transportation Planner
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