

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2026

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Those Present Were:

Joshua VanderLaan, BCATS; Kailey Mize, BCATS; Jim Lillo, BCRC; Larry Beson, 4th District Commissioner; Terry Moulthane, City of Bay City; Eric Sprague, BMTA; Glenn Rowley, Bangor Twp; Richard Bayus, MDOT SPS; Terri Close, Hampton Twp; and Cody Bodrie, EMCOG.

1. Call to Order:

The BCATS Policy Committee Meeting was called to order by Jim Lillo at 1:33 p.m.

2. Changes to the Agenda

No changes to the agenda were requested.

3. Minutes from December 17th, 2025, BCATS Policy Committee Meeting:

A motion was made by Glenn Rowley, seconded by Larry Beson to approve the minutes from the BCATS Policy Committee Meeting held on December 17th, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Comment Period:

There was no public comment brought before the committee.

5. Legislative or MDOT Updates:

MDOT:

Richard Bayus announces that the Federal Aid Buyout program for 2027 has closed and reminds the committee of the pre-UWP meeting coming up on March 5th, 2026.

BCRC:

Jim Lillo explained that he received a call from Representative McDonald Rivet today to announce that an extra 850,000 is being allocated to State Park Dr. This new federal funding is in addition to the 10 million allocated previously, the project is estimated to need 15-20 million.

6. BCATS Public Hearing on 2026-2029 TIP Amendment/Administrative Modification:

The Public Hearing was called to order at 1:37 p.m. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to discuss proposed changes to the 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program. A handout of the TIP Amendment/Administrative Modifications was passed out at the meeting for review and discussion.

- 1. Job #216421** – BMTA: Transit Operating Assistance, Areawide, NI Phase
- 2. Job #226406** – Region Wide: STP – Small Urban, Bridge Ratings in the BCATS Area, OPS Phase
- 3. Job #226394** – MDOT: Traffic and Safety – Pavement Markings on all trunkline routes in the BCATS MPO, PE/CON Phase

Richard Bayus explains that the Local Bridge Inspection Project (LBIP), job #226406, will appear differently depending on whether it is categorized as either General Program Accounts (GPA) or Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). He also explains the MPO carry forward and Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) are combined to cover the costs and then broken out. Additional studies to look at bridge closures, condition, etc. are also taking place. Jim Lillo asks if this includes the rural task force (RTF), and Richard says yes, it is a state assured bridge inspection.

The Public Hearing on the TIP Amendments and Administrative Modifications to the BCATS 2026-2029 TIP was adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

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7. Fiscal Year 2026-2029 TIP Amendments & Administrative Modifications

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

A motion was made by Terry Moulthane and seconded by Larry Beson to approve the FY 2026-2029 TIP Amendments as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Agency Reports and Project Updates:

BMTA:

Eric Sprague announced BMTA plans on wrapping up ARPA funding sources this year by fixing their parking lot, getting new vans, adding fuel pumps in their main facility grounds and the Demand Response Software system they are incorporating soon.

BCRC:

Jim Lillo announced Midland Road construction from Carter to 11 Mile will resume once the weather breaks and 11 Mile to Garfield is planned to start in May/June. Jim also announced that the project BCRC had planned for Shady Shore is going to be cancelled and they will be doing a different project(s) due to them discovering the road is not in our right of way after a recent survey. The road was previously owned by DOW, but Glenn Rowley explains it was sold to Saginaw Bay Land Conservation Authority. Glenn Rowley states that something needs to be done with Shady Shore now, as residents are upset that reconstruction keeps getting delayed. Jim says he will investigate finding a temporary fix.

MDOT:

Richard Bayus warns committee members of NEPA hold-ups due to non-inclusion in LRP/MTP and explains that they want more projects to be included. Richard also announces a significant PL carryover, and states that any special planning/studies can request up to 100K. Terry Moulthane asks if rail or port studies would be covered by this, and Richard confirms it would. Richard ends the discussion by saying BCATS planners could even piggyback onto other projects or drive further interest in other projects as part of this program.

9. Other/New Business

No new business was shared.

10. Motion for Adjournment

As there was no further business, a motion was made by Glenn Rowley and seconded by Cody Bodrie to adjourn the February 18th, 2026, BCATS Policy Committee meeting at 1:57 p.m. Motion carried.

The next BCATS Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for **March 18th, 2026, 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,

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