

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

Technical Committee Minutes – December 8, 2020

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*Meeting Via Microsoft Teams Meeting – Meeting was recorded*

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

### **Those Present Were:**

Jay Anderson, BCATS Staff; Jay Reithel, MDOT; Jack Hofweber, MDOT BCTSC; Jon Roberts, MDOT SUTA; Mitch Huber, MDOT Statewide Planning; Donald Matula, MDOT BCTSC; Jim Lillo, BCRC; Dave Engelhardt, EMCOG; Terry Moulthane, City of Bay City; Rachel Philips, City of Bay City; Eric Sprague, BMTA, and; Cyndi Gaul, Environmental Affairs & Community Development.

### **Minutes from October 13, 2020 BCATS Technical Meeting:**

It was moved by Lillo, seconded by Sprague, to approve the minutes from the October 13, 2020 BCATS Technical Committee Meeting. Motion passed.

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment brought before the committee.

**Legislative Update:** There was nothing new to report at this time.

MDOT staff continues to work from home due to COVID-19 through March and they are anticipating an extended stay at home order.

### **FY2020-2023 TIP Amendments, Administrative Modifications:**

Anderson provided a handout of the FY 2020-2023 TIP Amendment/Administrative Modification for review and recommendation to the Policy Committee for approval. The following is the TIP Amendment/Administrative Modification requested:

#### **FY 2021 Amendments:**

1. Addition of **MDOT East Linwood Road Project** (7 Mile to M-13/Huron Road) for preventative maintenance mill and fill.
2. Cost Change of **MDOT Traffic Safety M-13/Huron Road at Beaver Road Project** for signal maintenance and geometric improvements.

#### **FY 2022 Amendments:**

1. Addition of **MDOT West US-10 Project** for reconstruction in BCATS area.

Lillo asked Hofweber to provide a brief overview of the MDOT US-10 projects so the Road Commission can be ready for possible detours created by this project. Hofweber will provide this information to Lillo.

A motion was made by Reithel, seconded by Lillo, to favorably recommend the FY 2020-2023 TIP amendment be moved forward to BCATS Policy Committee for approval. Motion Passed.

### **Great Lakes Bay Region Travel Demand Model Update:**

Jon Roberts from MDOT Planning – Urban Travel Analysis unit provided an update on the Great Lakes Bay Region Travel Demand Model. The Socio-Economic data input has been completed, with the help of BCATS. A handout of the BCATS Forecasted Socio-Economic Data for use in the update of the Travel Demand Model was provided for review. Roberts is confident about the data and recommends the use of the updated data for the Travel Demand Model. The timeline for the Travel Demand Model updates was provided and BCATS will need to provide a compiled list of capacity changing projects, both committed projects as in the TIP and Long Range Projects, to incorporate into the model. It is anticipated that the

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model will be running by next spring/early summer of 2021. The Great Lakes Bay Region Travel Demand Model Update should be completed by the end of summer 2021 for review and wrap up.

Any transportation projects that BCATS would like to see tested with the updated Travel Demand Model can be submitted to Jon Roberts. While a few of the bridge scenarios have been run through the current model, we can test the bridge issue using the new data. Roberts would be glad to provide a presentation to BCATS.

A motion was made by Moulane, seconded by Lillo, moved to favorably recommend that the updated forecasted Socio-Economic data be used to update the Travel Demand Model to the BCATS Policy Committee for approval. Motion Passed.

### **2021 MDOT Safety Targets:**

A handout of the draft 2021 MDOT Safety Targets resolution for recommendation of approval by the BCATS Policy Committee and signature of the BCATS Chair was provided. Once the document has been approved by the BCATS Policy Committee and signed by the BCATS Chair it will be forwarded to MDOT.

A motion was made by Lillo, seconded by Philips, to favorably recommend the 2021 MDOT Safety Targets be moved forward to BCATS Policy Committee for approval. Motion Passed.

### **Asset Management Updates:**

TAMC has approved that the unused funds for FY 2020 Asset Management data collection be rolled over into the next year and be good through June 2021. What we do know is that data collection in 2021 will be done without MDOT participation. While there are a few scenarios being discussed for how MPOs can safely collect Asset Management data, the most likely will be two-person teams from two agencies. The Bay County Road Commission has collected PASER data with independent review being done. The Road Commission will share that data with BCATS once review is completed. The City of Bay City will try to collect Asset Management data for all their roads since it's been two years since the last collection.

The Bay Metro Transportation Authority Board will be approving their Asset Management and Safety Targets at their meeting on December 16, 2020.

### **Project Updates:**

Jack Hofweber of MDOT introduced Donald Matula, who has taken over the position that was vacated by Ryan McDonnell as the TSC Cost and Scheduling Engineer. Welcome Don! The **MDOT I-75 Project** (Beaver Road to Cottage Grove Road) has been submitted and will be let January 2021. The **MDOT M-247 Rail Road Crossing Project** will be let in February 2021 and constructed in 2021. The MDOT **M-61 Signage Project** (Standish west to the county line) for sign replacement is ready for 2021. The **MDOT Lafayette Bridge Project** is securing a consultant to see what can be done with the existing foundation and what designs are possible while staying within the budget. No work on the Lafayette Bridge will be taking place until after FY2022. Moulane suggested that MDOT do a public press release to let people know about the status of the Lafayette Bridge since the City of Bay City is still getting questions about the project and when it will be started.

The **BCRC 2020 Projects** have been completed under budget. The **BCRC Garfield Project** (Linwood to Erickson) to mill and fill has been submitted. The **BCRC Linwood Road Project** (7 Mile to M-13) to mill and fill has been submitted. The **BCRC M-15 Project** (intersection of Youngs Ditch Road/22<sup>nd</sup> Street) is working with the owner of Bob's Bar to secure the property and right-of-way to straighten out the lane and making some other much needed improvements and updates to this intersection. The BCRC forwarded a

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proposed purchase agreement to the property owner and have not heard back yet.

The **Bay City Wenona Street Project** will be let February 2021. The **Bay City Johnson Street Project** (North of Woodside to Water Street) for reconstruction will be let February 2021. The **Bay City 1<sup>st</sup> Street Project** issues and concerns have been fixed and the road is now open to traffic. The **Bay City Trumbull Street Project** is finally completed. The **Bay City Signal Removal Project** is underway to remove signals in the downtown Bay City area and replace them with 4-way and 2-way stops at the intersections. The city is planning to do some work on pedestrian crossings at these intersections.

The **BMTA** fixed rate service has been suspended through the holidays due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The **BMTA** is still running their demand services and people need to call a day ahead to schedule. BMTA has 17 new propane buses that will allow the transport of multiple people. There is a propane refill station on site and the busses have 50 gallon tanks and can travel long distances, so there's no concern regarding fuel capacity. The CARES Act has been covering operating expenses. BMTA has used 5307 funding for capital expenses in order to upgrade the bus wash and the air makeup units.

Moultane mentioned that the Non-Motorized Plan update article on WNEM and said it sound like it's the City of Bay City's plan and not the BCATS plan. Moultane would like to see some clarification given to WNEM so that the city isn't fielding questions about the plan.

Reithel asked about the Delta College Connectivity Project that needed easement access from a property owner. This project is in the long range plan, however there is nothing being done at this time since Delta closed off any possible connectors.

**Other/New Business:** There was no Other/New Business brought before the committee.

As there were no further business, a motion was made by Reithel, seconded by Moultane, to adjourn the December 8, 2020 BCATS Technical Committee meeting at 11:07 a.m. Motion Passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Jay Anderson*  
*BCATS Director*

*Transcribed by C. Gaul*