Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2018
Machias Savings Bank

Members

Name	Representing
Rob Yerxa	Town of Orono
John Theriault	City of Bangor
Dana Wardwell	City of Bangor
Frank Higgins	City of Brewer
Jeremy Caron	City of Brewer
Darryl Belz	Maine DOT
John Rouleau	City of Old Town
Jeremy Clay	City of Bangor, Community Connector
Sean Currier	Town of Hampden

Staff

Name	Representing
Rob Kenerson	BACTS
Cindy Meservey	BACTS
Connie Reed	BACTS
Dianne Rice	BACTS

Public

Name	Representing
Stanley Karlin	StreetScan
Erik daSilva	Maine Bicycle Coalition
Kierie Piccininni	Maine Bicycle Coalition/Walk-n-Roll

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Topic	Discussion	Action
Minutes	Rob Yerxa called the February 20 meeting of the Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System Policy Committee to order at 9:40 am, at Machias Savings Bank. Erik daSilva had suggested an addition to the response to a comment on the MTP that was left	

out of the January minutes. BACTS staff will add it to the minutes. Rob Yerxa noted that the Orono Roundabout project is a Maine DOT sponsored project so the minutes should reflect that the State received the bids. This will be changed in the minutes prior to posting.	*Frank Higgins made the motion to accept the minutes of January 16, 2018 Policy Committee meeting with corrections. Dana Wardwell seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.*

Brewer Waterfront Trail and Orrington Route 15 TIP Amendment

Topic	Discussion	Action
	BACTS' TIP needed an administrative modification and an amendment for two Maine DOT projects in order to mirror the STIP. He noted that the amount for construction should read $1,129,000 rather than $129,000. He asked for approval from the Committee to accept the two changes.	*Frank Higgins made the motion to approve the modifications to the BACTS TIP with the change as noted. John Theriault seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.*

TIP Approval

Topic	Discussion	Action
	The Draft TIP was posted on the BACTS website for public comment. No comments were received. Approval is needed to send BACTS' TIP to the State for review and inclusion in the STIP.	*John Theriault made the motion to approve the TIP as final and forward to Maine DOT for review and inclusion in STIP. Jeremy Caron seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.*

Report from Pavement Management Committee

Topic	Discussion	Action
	The Pavement Management Committee met on February 14. During the meeting they discussed the StreetScan process and proposals. They had a number of questions, so Stanley Karlin from StreetScan attended the Policy Committee meeting to give an overview. Stanley indicated that 65% of U.S. roads are in poor condition. The problem nationwide is the infrastructure spending needs outweigh the municipal budgets. StreetScan provides the data that will drive the decision-making process.	

	StreetScan is an End to End solution. Other solutions provide either a field surveyor providing a somewhat subjective view or a van based analysis, but not both.	
	StreetScan uses the technology necessary to get all the data needed to make the analysis more objective.	
	The data collected is put in the cloud where the municipalities can retrieve the data and use with GIS. Data can be collected on signs, signals and sidewalks as well as roads. The software included is web based and provides advanced analytics. There is an unlimited number of users allowed and it has a user friendly dashboard.	
	The cloud hosted data is actually on one of the servers at Northeastern University. The price of hosting includes support and updates.	
	The Committee decided to hold another Pavement Management Committee meeting with Stan in attendance with his technical co-worker to answer questions.	
	BACTS staff will set up a meeting for March.	

Transit Report

Topic	Discussion	Action
	Jeremy Clay explained that with the new office, there have been changes in responsibilities for staff. The prior office had all staff in one area making it difficult at times. The new office is split into two sections, one end of the building is dedicated to the administrative function, which Laurie and Jeremy are responsible for, and the other end of the building is dedicated to operations, which Sherry is responsible for.	
	Connie and Jeremy have been working on ridership data for July through December. Ridership is down at this point, but the buses seem full and busy.	
	The City is finalizing the RFP for GPS technology and scheduling software and a revised ADA	

Technical Issues

Topic	Discussion	Action
Construction Updates	Bangor • French Street sewer and water work is starting up again. Brewer • Mill Street project has gone out for bid. This project is funded by the Municipal Partnership Initiative (MPI). The City is hoping to start the project this summer. • An application for MPI was approved for the Eastern Avenue project for 2019. This project has been repeatedly submitted as a project for BACTS funding consideration, but has not scored high enough to be included on the list of projects for the TIP. It will now be taken off. • There are three signal projects scheduled to start in March. Old Town • The City finished their first MPI project this past summer. Everything went well. • The downtown signal problem from the windstorm has been temporarily fixed. All signals are secured with temporary cables and barriers. Orono • The Roundabout project was awarded to Gardner. Rangeley Road will close after graduation until school begins in the Fall. Completion date of the project is the first week of December. The traffic control plan is being developed and will be shared with the Community Connector once finished. Hampden • The water line replacement project will be going out to bid.	

MDOT Report

Topic	Discussion	Action
	Darryl is working on the three-party agreements this week. The agreements are longer than they have been previously because of added legal verbiage, but the substance of the agreements remain the same.	

Other Business

Topic	Discussion	Action
Talking Ped Buttons	The City of Brewer has been having problems with the Audible Talking Pedestrian buttons. They have had several complaints from pedestrians that they are not working. Jeremy talked with the manufacturer who told him the buttons were only under warrantee for a couple years. Each button costs approximately $800 to replace. Because of software that is outdated, the current buttons can't be fixed and it's expensive to replace every couple years. Frank wanted to know if other towns were experiencing difficulty as well. Rob indicated Orono is having an issue as well, but the ADA is very specific with what must be used. Connie had done some research and found that verbal indication of street names is required at intersections unless the buttons are at least 10 feet apart. She will send out the information to everyone and get in touch with Patrick Adams at MaineDOT to see if he has heard of others experiencing the same issues with the audible buttons. This discussion led to whether the cost of maintaining the software, or ultimately having to replace these pedestrian buttons because software becomes obsolete, is actually a maintenance cost or a capital one. This is a good discussion to have going forward.	
Penobscot Corridor Project	The Penobscot Corridor project is looking at other funding. Dianne talked with Steve Landry about the AID funding. Steve asked a few questions, Dianne answered, but hasn't heard anything back yet. Rob checked the website for this funding and	

Topic	Discussion	Action
	saw that 95% of what was obligated has already been awarded.	
Bike/Ped RFP	The RFP for the Bike/Ped study will be brought to the next meeting for Committee approval.	

Topic	Discussion	Action
Adjournment		*The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.*