

Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

June 19, 2018

Machias Savings Bank

Members

Name	Representing
Rob Yerxa	Town of Orono
Dana Wardwell	City of Bangor
Frank Higgins	City of Brewer
Jeremy Caron	City of Brewer
Belle Ryder	Town of Orono
Kyle Drexler	Town of Orono
John Theriault	City of Bangor
Jim Chandler	Town of Hampden
Sean Currier	Town of Hampden
Laurie Linscott	City of Bangor
Linda Johns	City of Brewer
Catherine Conlow	City of Bangor
Ted Trembley	City of Bangor

Maine DOT

Name	Representing
Randall Barrows	Maine DOT
Darryl Belz	Maine DOT

Staff

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

Public

Name	Representing
Jack McKay	Transportation for All
Karen Marysdaughter	Transportation for All
Lev Sherman	Transportation for All
Shane Walsh	Transportation for All

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Topic	Discussion	Action
Minutes	Rob Yerxa called the June 19 meeting of the Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System Policy Committee to order at 9:30 a.m. at Machias Savings Bank.	<i>Laurie Linscott made the motion to accept the minutes of May 15, 2018 Policy Committee meeting. Sean Currier seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i>

TIP Amendment

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>The 2018 TIP Transit Element Changes and Amendments was posted for public comment on June 8. The comment period ended Monday, June 18 at 4:00 p.m. Thirteen comments were received. Connie summarized the comments in a memo, including suggested responses to comments. The memo was distributed to members at the meeting.</p> <p>The comments did not raise any issues requiring an additional comment period. However, a response from the Policy Committee needs to be sent to each of the respondents.</p> <p>Frank Higgins asked if the Municipal Partners Transit Committee had seen the comments. Belle Ryder sits on the committee and indicated that they had not seen the individual comments received, but committee members have heard the concerns from attendees.</p> <p>Rob Yerxa gave the public attendees an opportunity to speak.</p> <p>Karen Marysdaughter told the Committee that members of Transportation for All have had many conversations with the City in regards to the scope of the proposed study. The group opposes the money being spent on a new transit hub study as a transit hub study was done four years ago. However, in conversations with the City, the scope of the study has been clarified as a holistic review of the transit system and route design, not a hub relocation study. Transportation for All would like the study to specifically address the issues of</p>	<p><i>Belle Ryder made the motion to approve and submit the responses to written comments received on the proposed TIP amendment as presented to the Committee. John Theriault seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p> <p><i>John Theriault made a motion to approve the TIP revisions and amendment to the 2018 transit element as presented. Belle Ryder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p>

	<p>extending bus service hours, developing a robust public participation component, and addressing public transit service as a livability issue so priorities are not developed solely based on cost-efficiency.</p> <p>Jack McKay told the Committee that he was initially concerned the proposed study intention was to remove the bus hub from its current location as part of the Pickering Square redevelopment plan, without regard to what is best for the bus system. After meeting with the City of Bangor to discuss concerns and provide input on refining the scope of the proposed study, Jack expressed his satisfaction that the scope clarifications show intent to focus on improving and making changes that are in the best interest of the bus system.</p>	
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Hampden 1A Project

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>The Route 1A project in Hampden begins at Mt View Road and extends 1.73 miles to Route 9/Western Avenue.</p> <p>At the last meeting, Steve Bodge informed the Committee that the project estimate has changed from \$4.86 million to \$5.86 million.</p> <p>The Committee had requested additional information to consider the feasibility of three different options for funding the increase. Darryl Belz discussed the issue with the Commissioner, and the Commissioner agreed to allow BACTS to extend the yearly \$620,000 allocation payments for the project out one more year to 2023.</p> <p>Rob Kenerson explained that there are two current projects in Bangor that need additional funding as well, and asked the Committee to keep this in mind when discussing solutions to the Hampden project.</p>	<p><i>Item was tabled until more information is available to the Committee, including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>DOT providing scope reduction/change options and the corresponding estimated cost savings.</i> • <i>Town of Hampden look at local funding availability and options; including potential to undertake an MPI project to complete the project if the scope of the BACTS project is shortened.</i>

	<p>Darryl Belz indicated that the Commissioner is also in favor of using funds from the Holding PIN to cover the overages. BACTS' Holding WIN currently has \$627,000. After taking 10% out for reserve, \$405,000 is available for obligation.</p> <p>Dianne explained that the two signal projects in Bangor (Union and 14th Streets and Ohio and 14th Streets) are approximately \$60,000 short for both.</p> <p>Further discussion revealed that 3 other projects that have been awarded came in under projected estimates; therefore, the additional funds left over would be returning to the Holding WIN.</p> <p>Options discussed to cover the \$1 million gap in funding for the project at this point include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BACTS extend the yearly allocation payments for the project one year through 2023 – for an additional \$621,000, plus take \$400,000 from the Holding WIN to cover the entire cost overage; • The Town of Hampden contribute 1/3, and BACTS contribute 2/3 of the cost overage. Sean is confident this is possible for Hampden. <p>Frank raised concerns that there was no data provided on the effect of a scope change for the project; and no answer was given on the feasibility of a 50/50 split between BACTS and the Town of Hampden option which were both discussed as options at last month's meeting.</p> <p>Rob Yerxa suggested the Committee table the discussion until next month to allow Steve Bodge to provide information on potential cost savings of terminating the project at the bridge; as well as, allow Hampden to determine the feasibility of the Town's ability to cover 50% of the cost overage, with BACTS covering the other 50%.</p>	
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Pavement Asset Management Update

Topic	Discussion	Action
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	<p>Rob Kenerson has been talking with Street Scan. They are not prequalified with the state, so he doesn't think BACTS will be able to hire them for the pavement asset management.</p> <p>Rob is also looking at the DOT option. Priority Corridors 1 and 2 are done yearly. They use a separate computer program that is similar to the one used by Street Scan. He needs to contact the company MDOT uses to see if BACTS can use the software to get access to the data. He indicated he may need Darryl's help in identifying the right people to talk to.</p>	
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Transit Report

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>The Municipal Partners Transit Committee tabled the discussion on allocation of the local share of transit costs at the last meeting, in hopes of getting more municipalities at the table for the discussion. Connie will be scheduling a meeting of the Municipal Partners Transit Committee this summer to discuss and finalize the methodology, which will be applied beginning July 1 for the 2019 fiscal year costs.</p>	

Technical Issues

Topic	Discussion	Action
<p>Construction Updates</p>	<p>Orono</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The round about project is well underway. Rangeley Road is now closed. One-third of the earthwork is completed. <p>Bangor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The waterfront walkway is just about done. • Maine Avenue is due to begin in July. <p>Brewer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The contract for the Trail project has been awarded to RF Jordan. This project should be completed by October. • Mill Street is due to start in July. This is an MPI project. • AD Electric won the bid for four intersections. There is no answer on start date at this time. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The street light change-over has gone well. There are 3 or 4 left to do. <p>Hampden</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The water line on Route 1A is progressing well. There is also a storm water project on Coldbrook Road. 	
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MDOT Report

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>Cyclical paving is continuing in Hampden, Bangor and Hermon. Night work will begin on Coldbrook Road the week after July 4th.</p> <p>Gilman Falls has been shimmed. Randy is not sure if pavement has begun. This project should be completed by the end of September.</p>	

Other Business

Topic	Discussion	Action
Study	Dana asked about doing a study on the I-395/Odlin Road intersection. Rob Kenerson indicated the study has been added to the UPWP. Once the Bicycle/Pedestrian Study is complete, the process will begin for I-395/Odlin.	
Bangor Signal Project Funding	Dianne discussed the funding needed for the two signal projects in Bangor. As discussed earlier, there is enough in the Holding WIN to cover the amount needed for both projects.	<p><i>Belle Ryder made the motion to approve transfer a total of \$62,568 from Holding WIN #14272.40 and disperse as follows: \$27,034 to WIN #20895 and \$35,534 to WIN# 20896 to cover deficit for signal projects in Bangor. Frank Higgins seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p>
Bicycle/Pedestrian Study	The Advisory Committee met on June 4 for the initial meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for July 26. The study is expected to be completed by the end of December. Connie reminded everyone to send copies of, or links to, any local pedestrian and bicycle plans and policies by the end of June.	
I-395 Expansion	A Public meeting for the I-395/Route 9 Expansion project is scheduled for June 27 at 6:00 p.m. at the Eddington Elementary School.	
Maine DOT Commissioner	Rob Kenerson spoke with the Commissioner regarding attending a BACTS Policy Committee	

	meeting. He will be checking with the Commissioner's administration to see if it's possible for him to attend the September meeting.	
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Topic	Discussion	Action
Adjournment		<i>The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 a.m.</i>