

Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2019
Orono Council Chambers

Members

Name	Representing
Rob Yerxa	Town of Orono
Eric Willett	City of Bangor
Frank Higgins	City of Brewer
Linda Johns	City of Brewer
Ted Trembley	City of Bangor
Kyle Drexler	Town of Orono
John Theriault	City of Bangor
Jeremy Caron	City of Brewer
Laurie Linscott	City of Bangor

Maine DOT/FHWA

Name	Representing
Chris Mann	Maine DOT
Randall Barrows	Maine DOT
John Devin	Maine DOT

Staff

Name	Representing
Rob Kenerson	BACTS
Cindy Meservey	BACTS
Connie Reed	BACTS

Public

Name	Representing
Erik DaSilva	Bicycle Coalition of Maine

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Topic	Discussion	Action
Minutes	Rob Yerxa called the February 19 meeting of the Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System Policy Committee to order at 9:35 a.m. at the Town of Orono Council Chambers.	<i>John Theriault made the motion to accept the minutes of January 15, 2019 Policy Committee meeting. Eric Willett seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i>

Extend Bangor Hogan Road Project WIN 023517.00

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>The Hogan Road project WIN #023517.00 is a mill and fill project beginning at Mount Hope Avenue and extending to Sylvan Road. The proposed Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) project that was originally scheduled to be constructed next year has been delayed until the overpass bridge is replaced - likely 6 to 10 years. The Hogan Road project was originally scoped to tie into the DDI project, which would continue the pavement from Sylvan Road to the overpass bridge. That section of road will not be able to withstand the time delay for the DDI project, so the City of Bangor is asking to extend the scope of the Hogan Road mill and fill project (WIN 023517.00) about 1,000 feet from Sylvan Road to the overpass bridge. It is estimated that it will cost an additional \$162,000 to extend the scope of the project. This is a LAP project. The environmental work is complete and is ready to go out to bid as soon as possible.</p>	<p><i>Frank Higgins made the motion to make an administrative modification to the TIP to extend the scope of the Hogan Road project (WIN 023517.00) and transfer \$162,000 from the Holding WIN #14272.40 to WIN #023517.00 for a total project cost of \$744,705. Eric Willett seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p>

Bangor State Street WIN 23521.00 Administrative Modification

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>This is for information only as it has already been an approved project in the TIP by the Policy Committee. PE of \$69,117 has already been included in the TIP, and Maine DOT has added \$912,831 in funds through the Construction phase in 2021 to WIN 23521.00 for a mill and fill on State Street beginning at Hancock Street extending northeast 0.96 of a mile.</p>	

Draft BACTS Regional Long-Range Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>The BACTS Long-Range Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan draft is complete and has been reviewed by the Advisory Committee. Once final, this Plan will be incorporated by reference and become part of the BACTS Metropolitan Transportation Plan. If approved by the Policy Committee, the draft Plan will be posted for public comment for 30-days. A public meeting has been</p>	<p><i>John Theriault made the motion to post the draft BACTS Long-Range Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan for the 30-day public comment period after receiving the Executive Summary from TYLIN. Linda Johns seconded</i></p>

	<p>scheduled for Wednesday, March 13, 2019 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Richard E. Dyke Center for Family Business at Husson University. As is the case with the MTP, all public comments will be collected and brought to the Policy Committee for consideration and response. If comments received raise new material which alter the content of the Plan, it would require an additional public comment period. Assuming there are no comments that would result in material alterations of the content of the Plan, it is anticipated that approval of the final BACTS Long-Range Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan will be on the April Policy Committee meeting agenda.</p> <p>It was mentioned that TYLIN was to include an Executive Summary with the draft Plan that was not included with the draft that was provided to the Policy Committee. Connie will follow up with the Consultant to get the Executive Summary prior to posting the document on the website for public comment.</p> <p>There was some discussion about whether or not Husson University is an appropriate location to have a public meeting for this Plan. When the Advisory Committee first convened, the general consensus was to maintain the regional identity by having public meetings in locations that were not specifically tied to any particular City or Town Office.. BACTS Public Participation Plan makes every effort to hold public meetings at times and locations that are accessible by transit. Husson University is serviced by the bus. The meeting has been structured in a manner to take into account those with different transportation and scheduling needs. The meeting begins at 4:30 with an open house, a formal presentation at 5:00 and will have an open comment period at 5:30. .</p>	<p><i>the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p>
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Transit Report

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>Laurie Linscott distributed brochures and posters advertising the survey for riders and non-riders as part of the Bangor Transit Study being developed by Stantec. Laurie told the group it is as important</p>	

	<p>for non-riders to complete the survey as those who regularly ride the bus. The City has received over 700 responses as of Friday. The survey is available until February 27, 2019.</p> <p>An electronic newsletter will be sent to the members of the Greater Bangor Chamber of Commerce next week with an Employment-needs survey for both employers and employees.</p> <p>Stantec has also requested information on any current or future development projects any municipalities have planned that should be taken into consideration when reviewing routes and services. If there is any information that may be pertinent, please forward that information to Rich Cromwell or Laurie Linscott.</p> <p>Laurie ordered five new buses on February 1. These buses should arrive in October or November of this year. Laurie will be going to California on April 8 to inspect the previously ordered bus which should be delivered April 15 and on the road very soon after that. Two more buses will be arriving in early August. The City received the agreement from MaineDOT for the VW Settlement funds which will be used for the local match to the federal grant used to purchase the five buses ordered on February 1.</p> <p>Connie told the Committee that Evan Richert will be a guest speaker at the Municipal Partners Transit Committee meeting on May 1 to talk about developing Transit TIF Districts. Connie extended an invitation to municipal finance, planning, and economic development staff who may also be interested in attending the meeting.</p>	
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Technical Issues

Topic	Discussion	Action
Construction Updates	<p>Orono</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A public meeting was held regarding the Kelley Road overpass. Construction is due to begin next year. Nothing is being done to the ramps or approaches, so the ramps will 	

	<p>remain open during construction. There was talk about delaying the culvert project because of the need for a detour for the overpass work as the culvert is stable for now. The bridge is scheduled for 2020 and the culvert work has been pushed back to 2021.</p> <p>Bangor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sewer project on Railroad Street will take most of the summer to complete. • Easements for Trail V need right-of-way done. The state has asked Bangor to do it. <p>Brewer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brewer has an MPI to repave Eastern Avenue. The project is due to go out to bid this week. • There is a punch list of items to complete for the trail project. • A Rapid Flashing Beacon will be installed in front of City Hall at the crosswalk. 	
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MDOT Report

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>DOT is waiting for signatures on the three-party agreements from Orrington and Old Town.</p> <p>John Devin gave an update on MPI program. The 2020 candidates have not been approved yet. There may be a little money left for additional 2020 projects.</p>	

Other Business

Topic	Discussion	Action
STIP	The list of projects from the State to be added to BACTS TIP is later than usual. Rob indicated he will bring the list to the Committee next month for approval.	
TIM	BACTS will be working with KACTS to extend Traffic Incident Management training to rural areas. BACTS is responsible for Route 27 north of Belgrade; Route 3 between Ellsworth and Bar Harbor, and Route 9 between Brewer and Calais.	

AID Grant	Rob has decided to put the AID grant on hold for the Penobscot Corridor. He is concerned with the lack of companies to do the work and the scope of the project.	
Old Town Center Street Signal LPA	Rob received a proposal from Sebago Technics and has sent it to Old Town.	
Road Posting	<p>Frank Higgins told the Committee that there is legislation proposed, LD 261, to negate the municipalities' authority to post roads. This legislation would allow any business truck to travel any road.</p> <p>Rob indicated he can provide information/ education before the legislature but cannot support or oppose the bill.</p>	
State Workplan	Because bids have been coming in about 10% higher than estimate, Maine DOT will be removing some projects from its proposed Work Plan for calendar years 2019-2020-2021 due to anticipated construction costs. This is the cause for the delay in release of the Work Plan.	

Topic	Discussion	Action
Adjournment		<i>The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 a.m.</i>