

Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2019

Council Chambers, Orono

Members

Name	Representing
Rob Yerxa	Town of Orono
John Theriault	City of Bangor
Eric Willett	City of Bangor
Ted Trembley	City of Bangor
John Rouleau	City of Old Town
Jim Chandler	Town of Hampden
Kyle Drexler	Town of Orono
Jeremy Caron	City of Brewer
Linda Johns	City of Brewer
Laurie Linscott	City of Bangor
Frank Higgins	City of Brewer
Belle Ryder	Town of Orono
Joan Gibson	Town of Orrington

Maine DOT/FHwA

Name	Representing
Darryl Belz	Maine DOT
Randall Barrows	Maine DOT

Staff

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

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Topic	Discussion	Action
Minutes	Rob Yerxa called the May 21 meeting of the Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System Policy Committee to order at 9:35 a.m. at Orono Council Chambers.	<i>John Theriault requested that the third paragraph on page 3 of the minutes reflect his statement that because the City of Bangor projects will be done as LAPs, the City is not in favor of grouping any</i>

	<p>John Theriault asked that a sentence be added on Page 3 of the May 7 minutes that Bangor signal project is an LAP, so it cannot be added to other projects for bidding.</p>	<p><i>of the City's signal projects with other projects. Belle Ryder made the motion to accept the minutes of May 7, 2019 Policy Committee with the change requested. Frank Higgins seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p>
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BACTS Sponsored Project Funding & Revised Schedules Discussion

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>Orono and Old Town agreed to postpone the Route 2 culvert and Stillwater projects to 2021 with the agreement that these projects would be funded prior to any other project.</p> <p>Based on revised estimates, the 2019 projects for Orrington WIN 22446.00 needs an additional \$333,781, Brewer WIN 22410.00 needs an additional \$301,000, and Hermon WIN 22877.00 needs an additional \$122,800 in order to put the projects out to bid.</p> <p>The signal at Main and Union Streets in Bangor WIN 22827.00 was funded at the last meeting. Bangor is waiting on final paperwork from Maine DOT.</p> <p>The current Holding WIN balance is \$605,233 (including the local share amount). This amount does not include the 10% of the annual allocation that is required to be held in reserve. The reserve portion of the Holding WIN is currently \$222,314 (10% of BACTS Federal, State and Local annual allocation). Rob Kenerson reached out to Darryl regarding the process for obtaining permission to use some of the funds held in reserve. Darryl checked with the MaineDOT Acting Director of Planning who approved the use of funds held in reserve with the understanding that BACTS would replenish them as soon as possible.</p> <p>Rob Kenerson proposed transferring a total of \$681,822.90 (\$606,064.80 federal share and \$75,758.10 state), from the BACTS Holding WIN for the Orrington, Brewer and Hermon projects. This would reduce the BACTS Holding WIN to</p>	

	<p>\$124,273.41. This is \$98,040.09 below the reserve limit and would be replenished out of the next BACTS annual allocation.</p> <p>The projects currently programmed for 2020 will need \$1.8 million (without new estimates). The estimated allocation is \$2.47 million, so if bids come in around the estimated amounts, there will be enough to fund the projects and replenish the amount borrowed from reserve in 2019 and provide a balance in the Holding WIN.</p> <p>Based on the current information, in 2021, there will be a budget shortfall of \$38,296.70 for the Orono Route 2 project, the Old Town Stillwater project, the Bangor State Street project and the Old Town Signal project. The Old Town signal project is in the TIP funded for PE only. As it stands now, Rob Kenerson would recommend requesting to borrow from the reserve fund to cover the shortfall again in 2021.</p> <p>The Bangor and Brewer Penobscot Corridor signal projects WINs 23114.00 and 23112.00 would be moved from 2021 to 2022. This would allow the Committee to fund all the projects currently on the books but not allocate anything new in 2022. The amount used in the Holding Win below the reserve in 2021 will need to be replenished in 2022. The Committee will have to revisit the projects lists each year and possibly restructure what was decided to fund.</p> <p>Rob cautioned the Committee that the current state of the construction industry makes it difficult to estimate projects costs beyond this year. It is possible that when projects are ready to go out to bid, revised estimates may come in higher than what is budgeted.</p>	<p><i>Frank Higgins made the motion to request a transfer of \$681,822.90 from the BACTS Holding WIN 14272.40; transferring \$270,900 to WIN 22410.00 (Brewer, South Main Street); \$300,402.90 to WIN 22446.00 (Orrington, Route 15); and \$110,520.00 to WIN 22877.00 (Hermon, Coldbrook Road signal). This reduces the BACTS Holding WIN to \$124,273.41. This is \$98,040.09 below the reserve limit and would be replenished out of the next BACTS annual allocation. Joan Gibson seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p>
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2020-2021 BACTS UPWP Possible Studies

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>Every two years, BACTS produces the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to describe planning priorities and document how federal, state and local planning funds are going to be spent. Maine DOT has requested that MPOs provide a summary of studies that will be included in the 2020-2021 UPWP by July. Rob asked the Committee for input on any possible studies they would like to include. A notice has been sent out for public input. BACTS usually doesn't receive comments. Because the list needs to be sent to Maine DOT by July, any requests or suggestions need to be provided to Rob before the next meeting in order for the list to be compiled and reviewed by the Committee for approval at the next meeting.</p> <p>Rob Yerxa suggested a study for handling traffic through Orono and the University during special events. He would like the study to included how to coordinate the signals to move traffic out of the town and University as smoothly as possible. The plan could also be used for an emergency evacuation for the University campus.</p> <p>Rob Yerxa also suggested building off the work on the BACTS Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan to develop a regional Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Design Guide.</p> <p>Linda Johns suggested a study to address the multi-modal issues on the Penobscot Bridge and solutions for both the Bangor and Brewer connections for bicyclists and pedestrians.</p> <p>Jeremy Caron suggested a study to evaluate Wilson Street/State Street to Wilson Street/Parkway South pedestrian crossings and signals.</p> <p>If anyone has any other ideas, please email them to Rob Kenerson. The list will be brought back to the Committee at the next meeting.</p>	

Transit Report

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>Laurie emailed the Triennial Review Report information to the Consultant conducting the review on May 10. They will be on site October 8, 9, and 10.</p> <p>Two new buses will be arriving in August.</p> <p>Laurie is working on a new safety plan. She received notice that \$429 million in discretionary grant funding is available for buses or bus facilities due June 21. She is meeting with Catherine today to ask to submit an application.</p> <p>The final draft of the Transit Study recommendations will be out mid-June.</p> <p>State Hospital Drive has been upgraded so buses are able to make stops at the clinic and the Veterans Home. Starting in July the bus will go to the clinic through the Veterans Home and out to Hogan Road. This will add 7 minutes to the route.</p> <p>New bus shelters are going up in Bangor. One has been added at the play park off Davis Road, at Northeast Drive at DHHS' new location, and Wayfair is putting a bus shelter up for their employees.</p>	

Technical Issues

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>Bangor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pickering Square is under construction. • Still working on the sewer project on Railroad Street. Work will stop for the concert season. • The sidewalk on Union Street from Vermont to Griffin is being built. <p>Brewer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frank contacted the bonding company for the intersection project that was supposed to be done by AD Electric. The bonding company is taking care of it and has contracted with AD Electric. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finishing touches are being done on the walking trail. The ribbon cutting will be on June 8. Local businesses are getting in on the celebration. The trolley will be there. 	
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Maine DOT Report

Topic	Discussion	Action
	Modification 2 for Hampden is being reviewed and should go out this week.	

Other Business

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>If anyone needs traffic counts, please contact Dianne to schedule.</p> <p>Dianne is working on the ADA sidewalk inventory. Her plan is to go through Bangor, Brewer and Hampden this year.</p> <p>Jim Chandler told the group that Hampden Council wanted to thank the Committee, especially Orono and Old Town. They appreciate the sacrifices made for the Hampden project to move forward.</p>	

Topic	Discussion	Action
Adjournment		<i>The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.</i>