

Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2019
Machias Savings Bank

Members

| Name | Representing |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Rob Yerxa | Town of Orono |
| John Theriault | City of Bangor |
| Sean Currier | Town of Hampden |
| Kyle Drexler | Town of Orono |
| Jeremy Caron | City of Brewer |
| Laurie Linscott | City of Bangor |
| Frank Higgins | City of Brewer |
| Belle Ryder | Town of Orono |
| Brian Stoyell | Town of Orrington |

Maine DOT/FHWA

| Name | Representing |
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| Darryl Belz | Maine DOT |
| John Devin | Maine DOT |
| Carlos Pena | FHWA |
| Randall Barrows | Maine DOT |

Public

| Name | Representing |
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| Erik DaSilva | Bicycle Coalition of Maine |

Staff

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

Approval of Meeting Minutes

| Topic | Discussion | Action |
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| Minutes | Rob Yerxa called the September 17 meeting of the Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System Policy Committee to order at 9:35 a.m. at the Machias Savings Bank. | <i>Belle Ryder made the motion to accept the minutes of July 16, 2019 Policy Committee with the changes discussed. John Theriault</i> |

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| | <p>John Devin asked that the wording under Technical Issues regarding the MPI be changed to “looking at revamping cost shares to encourage small communities to apply.”</p> <p>Jeremy Caron noted that under Technical Issues for Brewer the RRFB for the crosswalk is on North Main Street, not South.</p> | <p><i>seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p> |
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2020-2021 UPWP

| Topic | Discussion | Action |
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| | <p>Staff made a few modifications to the UPWP that was sent out last week. The changes were mainly minor budget changes.</p> <p>The UPWP is a two year program to do planning in 2020 and 2021. Rob is looking for approval from the Committee. Once approved, the document will be sent to the State for approval and then to Federal Highway and Federal Transit.</p> <p>The last page is a matrix listing all the tasks showing the relation to the FAST ACT Planning Factors and Planning Emphasis Areas.</p> <p>Rob went through the tasks explaining each and noting where changes were made to the budget. He explained that BACTS is flat funded, so the bottom line doesn’t change, just the tasks. The local share from municipalities is used as match for the planning funds.</p> <p>Going forward the document can be amended. The current one will be amended and brought to the Committee at the October meeting.</p> | <p><i>Belle Ryder made the motion to approve the 2020-2021 UPWP as presented. Kyle Drexler seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p> |

Long Range Pedestrian Bicycle Transportation Plan

| Topic | Discussion | Action |
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| | <p>The plan is now finished. Staff is looking for approval to accept the document as final, which will be incorporated by reference as part of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The process took longer than was anticipated and did not produce the quality product expected from the consultant. Map data was not provided in GIS</p> | <p><i>Belle Ryder made the motion to adopt the BACTS Long-Range Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan, with edits to Hampden’s maps showing additional places of interest and the inclusion of the public</i></p> |

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| | <p>format. The maps were created in static pdf format.</p> <p>There was an additional 10-day public review and comment period provided prior to approval of the final plan. During the public comment process, one comment was received. The commenter indicated that the Elementary School, Middle School, and Dorthea Dix Park on Main Road should be listed as places of interest, as well as the Lura Hoit Pool and Rec fields on Western Avenue in Hampden. With approval from the Committee, Connie will make manual edits to the Hampden maps to indicate these places of interest. As with the other public comments received with the draft, this public comment will be included as part of the final plan. Connie will send a response to the commenter indicating this.</p> <p>Rob Kenerson noted that he included staff time in the 2020-2021 UPWP GIS task for developing pedestrian and bicycle transportation facilities data .</p> | <p><i>comment received. Sean Currier seconded the motion.</i></p> |
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Transit Report

| Topic | Discussion | Action |
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| | <p>The consultants will be here on October 8, 9, and 10 for the triennial review. The NTD report is due at the end of October.</p> <p>Stantec will be in Bangor on September 23 to present the Transit Study final report to Bangor City Council. The presentation will be part of a Council Workshop scheduled for 5:15. Municipal partners are encouraged to attend. Rich Cromwell took comments and questions from the Municipal Partners Transit Committee members and others at the September 11 meeting and gave them to the consultant.</p> <p>November 8, 9 and 10, Laurie is going to California to inspect the five buses ordered with the FY17 discretionary grant and VW funds, which will be delivered and in service by Thanksgiving.</p> | |

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| | Applications for the second round of Competitive Volkswagen Settlement funding are being accepted starting September 16 through November 15. | |
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Technical Issues

| Topic | Discussion | Action |
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| | <p>Orono</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warrantee and punch list items are being done on the Rangley Road/ Park Street roundabout. <p>Bangor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hogan Road is being paved from Mount Hope to the Interstate ramps. • MPI on Union Street – the water work will be done in the next two weeks. Northeast Paving came in with the lowest bid. The road will be milled and shimmed this year, with final binder going down next year. <p>Hampden</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town is doing storm drain work on 1A. • Paving is being done on Mayo and lower Coldbrook Road. • Route 202 paving next week, or the following week, once water line work is finished up <p>Brewer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eastern Avenue paving is pretty well done. • The bid has gone out for the new RRFB crosswalk in front of City Hall. • South Main Street mill and fill project will be advertised on October 30. The Orrington project is also anticipated to be advertised on October 30. | |

Maine DOT Report

| Topic | Discussion | Action |
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| | The synergy meeting was held last Thursday. This meeting entails looking at all the projects DOT has in the region. | |

Other Business

| Topic | Discussion | Action |
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| <p>Maine DOT Planning</p> | <p>There has been a reorganization of Planning staff at Maine DOT. The Planning Director search is now closed. The decision should be made in the next couple weeks.</p> | |
| <p>Rob Kenerson</p> | <p>Rob announced that he will be leaving his position at the end of March 2020. He has been with BACTS for 25 years and now wants to do something to help people more directly. The Executive Committee has met a couple times. Rob has agreed that an overlap with the new person is a good idea.</p> | |
| | <p>The Executive Committee is establishing a Search Committee to work with Bangor. A national search will begin after the October Policy Committee meeting. Applications will be due by the end of November with a start date of February.</p> | |
| | <p>The Search Committee currently is comprised of Rob Yerxa, John Theriault, Belle Ryder, Karen Fussell, and Linda Johns. They will be meeting in the next two weeks.</p> | |
| <p>Old Town Signals</p> | <p>Sebago Technics is currently working on the design and should have plans later this week. They are looking to get rid of the slip lane on Center Street as nothing on the island meets ADA requirements.</p> | |
| <p>Street Light Data</p> | <p>StreetLight Data is an on-demand platform which provides traffic data and analysis tools. Currently, the Maine Turnpike Authority, The City of Portland, PACTS, and MaineDOT are under a one-year trial contract with StreetLight Data, which also provides access to the three MPOs in the southern part of the State. Because BACTS is more than 30 miles beyond the turnpike, access was not able to be provided as part of the original agreement. However, Rob spoke with Peter Mills at MTA and StreetLight Data has offered to extend the service area to the BACTS region for the remaining six months of the contract, as an add-on to MTA’s contract. The data will be used by the staff for projects. This data would replace traffic counts currently done by staff, but there would still need to be some calibration done to the data to ensure the date is correct. Southern Maine has been</p> | <p><i>Frank Higgins made the motion to approve spending \$20,000 on a trial period. Belle Ryder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i></p> |

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| <p>Composite Girders for Hampden Project</p> | <p>using the system and is very pleased with the information.</p> <p>Rob talked with a representative of the company. They are offering a 6-month trial period for \$20,000. The trial will begin October 1 and run until March 31.</p> <p>There will be training at the Turnpike office on October 8. BACTS staff will be attending.</p> <p>The BACTS Policy Committee has been invited to tour the facility making the girders for the bridge in Hampden. Tentatively, the date of the October Policy Committee meeting is a good day. The Committee would meet for any business then tour the facility, which is located in the Brewer Industrial Park.</p> | |
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| Topic | Discussion | Action |
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| Adjournment | | <i>The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.</i> |