



## ***Policy Committee Meeting***

**January 20th, 2026 at 1:00PM**

**Bangor City Hall - Paul Bunyan Room and via Zoom**

### **Agenda**

**1) Call to Order**

**2) Public Comment**

Members of the public in attendance of today's meeting have an opportunity to provide public comment on today's agenda items.

**3) Approval of November 18th, 2025 BACTS Policy Committee Meeting Minutes (Attachment A)**

**4) 2026 Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund (MIAF) - Upcoming Funding Opportunity - MaineDOT Presentation (Attachment B)**

MaineDOT Staff will have a presentation discussing the MIAF grant opportunity. Please see Attachment B for the announcement flyer.

***Proposed Action: For discussion only.***

**5) BACTS Monthly Report (Attachment C)**

**6) Safe Streets and Roads For All (SS4A)**

BACTS staff will provide a presentation on the status of the SS4A plan, demonstration projects for 2026, and two options for municipal safety resolutions.

***Proposed Action: For discussion only.***



## 7) Urban Partnership Initiative (UPI) Projects

MaineDOT provided confirmation that the following BACTS-submitted projects for UPI funding were approved:

Project Name	Sponsor	Miles	Total Cost	State Cost	Local Cost	Scope
Odlin Road - New Sidewalk	Bangor	0.49 miles	\$335,000	\$167,500	\$167,500	Adding 0.48 miles (2,550 lf) of new 6 foot wide ADA accessible paved sidewalks with detectable warning fields at all road crossings. Project will also include adding approximately 700 lf of new concrete slipform curb and installing 2 new catch basins to allow for proper drainage.
Route 2/Chase St/School St Intersection Safety Improvement	Veazie	NA	\$64,000	\$32,000	\$32,000	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Replace 3 wooden poles (one on the northeast corner is structurally failing; one is Versant-owned).</li> <li>2. Replace 8 signal heads and hangers, including backplates with retroreflective tape.</li> <li>3. Add intersection lighting at all three corners of the intersection.</li> <li>4. Replace pedestrian tip downs and regrade to meet ADA standards.</li> <li>5. Replace the signal controller to add Leading Pedestrian Interval (LPI) functionality and separate pedestrian signal phases.</li> <li>6. Increase span wire height to meet minimum vertical clearance (currently below 17' standard). included in price</li> <li>7. Engineer Project.</li> </ol>
South Main St/ Cianbro Square Intersection Safety Improvement	Brewer	NA	\$200,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	Install new crosswalk with ped buttons and detectable warning fields. install new ped heads in signalized intersection and program new timing for crossing into the existing programming. Paint new crosswalk.
Ohio Street - New Sidewalk	Bangor	0.47 miles	\$565,000	\$282,500	\$282,500	Adding 0.47 miles (2,500 lf) of new 6 foot wide ADA accessible paved sidewalks with detectable warning fields at all road crossings. Project will also include adding approximately 2000 lf of new concrete slipform curb and installing 8 new catch basins to allow for proper drainage.

**Proposed Action:** For discussion only.



## **8) MaineDOT Demonstration Projects Video**

MaineDOT produced a new video highlighting the opportunities and benefits of temporary pilot/demonstration projects:

NEW Demonstration Projects Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r\\_1Fqwz6vJ0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_1Fqwz6vJ0)

Other Relevant MaineDOT Videos:

- Speed tables: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r2ZX5x2fcRs>
- Setting Speed Limits: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ScnlkvrcCK4&t=1s>
- 2023 Demonstration Projects: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=te8n3\\_NVMf0&t=208s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=te8n3_NVMf0&t=208s)

MaineDOT has programs, materials, and technical assistance that may be available. Reach out to BACTS or Dakota Hewlett (MaineDOT Active Transportation Planner) or Claire Winter (MaineDOT Urban Planner) for more information and assistance.

***Proposed Action:*** *For discussion only.*

## **9) Transit Updates**

Staff and the Community Connector will provide updates on transit studies, operations, or other transit related items.

***Proposed Action:*** *For discussion only.*

## **10) Project Updates**

Members will provide updates on BACTS funded construction projects in the region.

***Proposed Action:*** *For discussion only.*

## **11) MaineDOT Report**

MaineDOT staff will provide an update on any MaineDOT projects, policies, or plans.

***Proposed Action:*** *For discussion only.*

## **12) Other Business**

Discussion of other items not on today's agenda.

## **13) Upcoming Meetings**

Penobscot Climate Action Committee - April 14th, 2026 at 2PM via Zoom  
Policy Committee - February 17th, 2026 at 1PM - Milford Council Chambers or virtually via Zoom



**Attachment A**

**Policy Committee Meeting**

**November 18th, 2025**

**1:00PM**

**Conference Room at Penobscot Nation and via Zoom**  
**Minutes**

Committee Members	Affiliation
Jeff Davis Anne Kreig	Bangor
Melissa Doane	Bradley
Jeremy Caron Linda Johns	Brewer
Amy Ryder-Johnson	Hampden
Stephen Fields	Hermon
EJ Roach	Old Town
Earl Labonte	Orono
David Pardilla	Penobscot Nation
Mark Leonard	Veazie
<b>MaineDOT / FHWA</b>	
John Theriault, Claire Winter	

**1) Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order by Jeremy Caron at 1:05PM.

**2) Public Comment**

No public comments at this time.

**3) Approval of October 21st, 2025 BACTS Policy Committee Meeting Minutes**

No comments on the minutes, Linda Johns made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Jeff Davis seconded, roll call vote taken, one abstain, remainder all in favor.

**4) BACTS Monthly Report**

Belle Ryder provided an overview and an update on a few items. Belle Ryder referenced the email sent out to members regarding our Complete Streets project and that BACTS Staff will be in touch soon to schedule a time to discuss.

**5) Fare Structure Analysis Update**

BACTS staff will give a progress update on the Fare Structure Analysis, a UPWP study using FTA funding, including existing deliverables, previous and upcoming outreach, and plans for implementation. A one page summary can be found [here](#).

Maddie Jensen gave a brief overview of the project and the one page summary.

## 6) BACTS UPWP Budget

Staff will provide budgetary information regarding the 2024-2025 UPWP budget.

BACTS 2024-2025 UPWP 10/31/2025											23	Total	
Task	Project	Contract to Date Trend					Forecasted Trend (Projected Figures)					21 Months into contract	2 Months left in contract
		Total Allotted	Total Spent	In-Kind	Total Remaining	Actual % Usage	Amount Should be as of 10/31	Variance	Total Remaining (Less In Kind)	Salary	Consultant	Direct Expenses	Estimated Remaining
	FHWA												
1	Operation and Coordination	\$358,806	\$346,483	\$0	\$12,323	96.6%	\$327,605	-\$18,878	\$12,323	\$28,126	\$0	\$776	-\$16,579
2	Programming	\$31,800	\$31,766	\$0	\$34	99.9%	\$29,035	-\$2,731	\$34	\$669	\$0	\$14	-\$649
3	Data and Studies	\$396,300	\$337,982	\$0	\$58,318	85.3%	\$361,839	\$23,857	\$58,318	\$10,377	\$10,640	\$2,273	\$35,027
4	Planning	\$363,212	\$203,607	\$0	\$159,605	56.1%	\$331,628	\$128,022	\$159,605	\$2,025	\$170,017	\$65	-\$12,502
Total FHWA		\$1,150,118	\$919,838	\$0	\$230,280	79.98%	\$1,050,108	\$130,270	\$230,280	\$41,197	\$180,657	\$3,128	\$5,298
	FTA												
1	Operation and Coordination	\$88,334	\$59,391	\$11,878	\$17,065	67.2%	\$80,653	\$21,262	\$13,652	\$9,283	\$0	\$161	\$4,208
2	Programming	\$12,250	\$4,321	\$864	\$7,065	35.3%	\$11,185	\$6,864	\$5,652	\$1,550	\$0	\$1	\$4,101
3	Data and Studies	\$16,750	\$13,433	\$2,687	\$631	80.2%	\$15,293	\$1,861	\$504	\$1,645	\$0	\$4	-\$1,145
4	Planning	\$289,040	\$138,752	\$27,750	\$122,538	48.0%	\$263,906	\$125,154	\$98,030	\$15,522	\$97,779	-\$66	-\$15,205
Total FTA		\$406,374	\$215,896	\$43,179	\$147,299	53.13%	\$371,037	\$155,141	\$117,839	\$28,001	\$97,779	\$99	-\$8,040
Total		\$1,556,492	\$1,135,734	\$43,179	\$377,579	72.97%	\$1,421,145	\$285,411	\$348,119	\$69,198	\$278,436	\$3,228	-\$2,743

The following are provided are DRAFT figures at this time for budgetary consideration only.

**Proposed Action:** For discussion only.

Belle Ryder, this is a standing agenda item, no questions or comments at this time from members of the group.

## 7) General Consultant Agreement Task Order

Staff will provide a monthly report on task order assignments and status. All firms were selected through the GCA process, unless otherwise noted.

Project	Consultant	Estimated Time Frame
Fare Structure	Foursquare	December 2024 - December 2025
Culvert Inventory - Phase 2	Stillwater Environmental Engineering*	June 2025 - December 2025
Better Roads - Local Roads Expansion	Sewall	July 2025 - December 2025
GIS Mentorship	TBA	November 2025 - November 2026
Active Transportation Advisor	James Tassé Consulting*	November 2025 - December 2025

\*This firm was selected using an RFP process.

Belle Ryder provided an overview and brief update on contract statuses above.

## 8) Transit Updates

Maddie Jensen reminded members that Community Connector has had a few route changes due to staffing.

## 9) Project Updates

Members provided updates on projects across the region.

## 10) MaineDOT Report

John Theriault provided an update on MaineDOT projects across the region.

Members of the group discussed various methods to continue working on coordination for communication on project statuses.

**11) Other Business**

BACTS Staff lead a discussion with members regarding scheduling preferences for 2026 meetings.

BACTS Staff informed the group that we are pleased to host our annual pet supply drive again this year. All members are encouraged to bring any pet supply donations (food, toys, blankets, cleaning supplies, etc.) to the December Policy Committee Meeting. These donations will directly support the wonderful work of the Old Town Animal Orphanage. Thank you for helping the animals!

Belle Ryder also informed the group that Jack Bosies is not in attendance because he is leading a press conference for Crash Responder Safety Week in Portland.

Jeremy Caron then asked the group if there were any other items of mention in the regular meeting before entering Executive Session. No items brought forward, the group entered into Executive Session.

**12) Enter Executive Session - Discussion on Draft MaineDOT Workplan**

BACTS Staff provided an update on the current draft MaineDOT Workplan.

**End of Executive Session**

**13) Upcoming Meetings**

Transit Committee - November 19th, 2025 at 2PM - via Zoom

Penobscot Climate Action Committee - 2026 Schedule TBD

BACTS Holiday Luncheon / Policy Committee - December 9th, 2025 at 11AM (Hybrid meeting will start at 11:30) **Please RSVP to Paige by 12/1** - Brewer Council Chambers or virtually via Zoom

The meeting was called to adjourn by Linda Johns, seconded by David Pardilla. Unanimous approval. Meeting ended at 2:35PM.

# 2026 Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund

The Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) will be seeking applications for the 2026 Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund.

**The purpose of this fund is to provide one-time funding to municipal, tribal, and infrastructure districts to adapt their critical infrastructure to reduce vulnerability to climate change.** The goal of this program is to reduce the existing infrastructure risk to climate change impacts, such as sea level rise, increased precipitation, and other related climate risks, and provide increased resilience. All projects are encouraged to utilize nature-based solutions (NbS) and/or a combination of green (natural) and gray (structural) solutions (hybrid) where applicable; however, NbS is not a requirement for this program.

**Eligible properties include publicly owned infrastructure in municipalities, tribal communities, and infrastructure districts.**

This grant is federally funded, and therefore, privately or state-owned infrastructure are not eligible to apply.

**Eligible projects include stormwater systems upgrades, water system upgrades, and other interventions that support public infrastructure repair to reduce or eliminate climate impacts.**

**Additional eligible projects may include, but are not limited to:**

- Stabilizing coastal or inland shoreland through the use of vegetation and biodegradable materials (the construction of hard shoreline stabilization structures are not eligible for funding unless they are part of a hybrid green and gray adaptation action);
- Replacing existing stream crossings with structures that comply with MaineDOT's 100-year flood standards and ensure habitat connectivity;



- Adapting stormwater infrastructure to accommodate the increase in extreme precipitation events;
- Scoping and design, and/or construction of wastewater treatment plants upgrades for increased resilience to climate change stressors;
- Transportation resilience projects;
- Upgrading, retrofitting, or relocating existing infrastructure to reduce risk from weather and climate impacts (construction of new facilities is not an eligible activity under this grant opportunity).

All projects are subject to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) environmental compliance review prior to the release of funds. **Projects must be completed by September 30, 2029.** The State anticipates awarding up to \$13.8 million to eligible proposals through Maine's NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge award.

The Request for Applications (RFA) will open in late March 2026 and is expected to remain open for approximately six weeks. **The RFA will be posted here: <https://www.maine.gov/dot/programs-services/environmental-efforts/climate-initiative/adaptation> in late March 2026.**

Please note that the requirements for the grant application are subject to potential modifications. In the event of any discrepancies between this document and the RFA, the RFA will be considered the final document.

**The State anticipates awarding up to \$13.8 Million**  
**Eligible Activities Include:**

**Scoping and Design**

Applicants may request up to \$75,000

**Construction Projects**

Applicants may request up to \$3,000,000

**A Combination of Scoping, Design, and Construction**

Applicants not to exceed \$3,000,000

Applicants are required to provide a minimum of 5% local match (cash or in-kind) of the total project costs.

All local match must be raised or appropriated by the entity applying. All local match amounts must be directly related to the proposed project and tasks. Costs incurred prior to the effective date of the grant agreement, including application preparation costs, will not be considered as part of the match requirements.

**This grant program is reimbursement only.**

**Contact Information:**

**Lirella Jaen**, Transportation Planning Specialist  
 Maine Department of Transportation  
**Adaptation.DOT@maine.gov**



**MaineDOT**



**Attachment C**  
BACTS Monthly Report  
January 2026

**MaineDOT Work Plan** - *The MaineDOT Work Plan outlines the work that the department plans to perform over the next three years. The Work Plan is calendar year-based and includes all MaineDOT work activities.*

**Update:** MaineDOT has published two drafts of the 2026-2029 Work Plan. The second draft of the plan did not substantially change any regional project that was included in the first draft. MaineDOT staff report that the Work Plan is in the process of being finalized and should be published soon.

**Traffic Incident Management (TIM)** - *Traffic Incident Management (TIM) consists of a planned and coordinated multi-disciplinary process to detect, respond to, and clear traffic incidents so that traffic flow may be restored as safely and quickly as possible. Effective TIM reduces the duration and impacts of traffic incidents; improves the safety of motorists, crash victims, and emergency responders; and reduces the frequency of secondary crashes. This contract focuses on the implementation of the Statewide TIM Strategic Plan recommendations, maintaining the Maine State TIM website, updating training materials, convening and facilitating TIM groups/committees, outreach to disciplines in rural areas of the state who are currently not involved with TIM groups, managing sub-consultants, and other tasks assigned and approved by MaineDOT.*

**Update:** Staff worked with the Maine Municipal Association to develop a TIM training to be held at the MMA office in Augusta. Staff also took part in online training for national certification as well as advanced TIM topics.

**Rural Contract** - *BACTS receives funding annually from the MaineDOT to work with rural Penobscot County municipalities on transportation related issues and activities. BACTS staff provides transportation related technical assistance on various projects and plans such as: writing Transportation Inventory chapters for Comprehensive Plans; facilitating or aiding in grant writing and funding opportunities for trails, sidewalks, road work, or transit; providing assistance with safety audits, data collection, planning activities, or local project management; and coordinating between MaineDOT and municipalities.*

**Update:** Staff worked on the town of Corinth's transportation chapter of their upcoming comprehensive plan. Staff continued reading through other local Amish studies in preparation for a Penobscot County Amish study in 2026.

**Culvert Inventory** - *This UPWP project will provide BACTS members with current condition assessments of culverts in the Greater Bangor Urbanized Area. This inventory will offer a comprehensive evaluation of all identified road-crossing, non-box culverts and collect additional data to analyze climate projections and their impact on stormwater hazards. The inventory currently includes 500+ known culverts and will serve as the foundation for future project phases.*

**Update:** Staff reviewed project expense reports and began reviewing the final deliverables. A presentation on Phase II of the Culvert Inventory project will be provided at the February 2026 meeting.

**Traffic Signal Master Plan Support** - *MaineDOT has proposed a pilot program that will augment resources of the BACTS region to advance the goals of the 2018 Mobility Report. The Mobility Report found the following: properly working signals increase mobility, reduce congestion, save time, money, and fuel, and enhance economic opportunity; properly timed signals can reduce crashes by up to 30%; and, MaineDOT*

*should partner with all communities across Maine to maintain traffic signal controllers and traffic signal detection systems.*

**Update:** This project was initially removed from the 2026-2029 draft Work Plan but funding has since been identified and MaineDOT provided a draft contract on January 12, 2026 for review by BACTS and the affected municipalities.

**Road Condition Inventory** - *Annually, by August 1st the MPO will return up to 10% of the HCP 3 & 4 mileage in their network as prioritized candidates for the year after next (i.e. August 2026 provides candidates for paving in 2028). Eligible mileage will not include Light Capital Paving (LCP) program roadways.*

**Update:** BACTS staff is working with the Vialytics platform to customize it for HCP 3 & 4 collection. BACTS staff will do some testing of the platform during the winter months but collection of data for the HCP 3 & 4 paving program will not begin until April 2026.

### **Meetings and Conferences**

- MaineDOT Rural Contract Coordination Meetings
- Talking TIMs Webinar Series
- CC Fare Structure Analysis Monthly Meeting
- Bangor Gov Ops - Fare Structure Presentation
- PTAC meeting
- SS4A Demonstration Project NEPA review
- SS4A Monthly Meeting
- MTA Meeting
- PCA Working Group Meetings
- MAINECAN Meetings
- Complete Streets Muni Meetings
- GBRERC meeting
- MPO Directors Meeting

## 2026-2027 UPWP Budget and Project Updates

No budget update at this time as the contract period has just begun.

Staff will provide a monthly report on task order assignments and status. All firms were selected through the GCA process, unless noted.

<u>Project</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Consultant</u>	<u>Estimated Time Frame</u>
Fare Structure	Analyzed Community Connector fare structure and offered recommendations for potential updates. Produced a report that provided an overview of current and alternative fare structures, service value, comparisons to similar transit agencies, and other considerations.	Foursquare	Completed
Culvert Inventory - Phase 2	Produced a document denoting the location of existing and planned culverts in the Greater Bangor urbanized area on collector roads and gaps that should be addressed as flooding risks grow in terms of regional importance.	Stillwater Environmental Engineering*	Completed
Better Roads - Local Roads Expansion	Monitored the status and condition of select local roads within the MPO purview and reported them to the ongoing Better Road Program with Sewall.	Sewall	Completed
GIS Mentorship	This contract provides GIS mentorship services that combine formal training on GIS fundamentals, one-on-one mentorship, and hands-on support for project completion. The goal is to build internal GIS capacity by equipping staff with both technical skills and practical experience through guided project work. Anticipated projects include, but are not limited to, Esri Story Maps, ArcGIS Dashboards, and GIS-based inventory maps.	Sebago Technics	November 2025 - November 2026
Active Transportation Advisor	This contract provides an expert, third-party review of the draft active transportation network and facility recommendations, ensuring they are technically sound, achievable within local and regional constraints, and consistent with national design guidance and MaineDOT standards.	James Tassé Consulting*	November 2025 - June 2026

\*This firm was selected using an RFP process.