



Policy Committee Meeting

August 13th, 2026 at 3:00PM*

****Note - Following this meeting is the BACTS Summer Outing at Orono Brewing Company in Orono!***

Orono Council Chambers

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 July 21st, 2026 BACTS Policy Committee Meeting Minutes (Attachment A)

4) BACTS Monthly Report (Attachment B)

5) Cooperative Work Plan Development

Representatives should come to the meeting prepared to discuss potential submissions for the Work Plan. The MaineDOT Project Readiness Handout can be found [here](#).

Proposed Action: For discussion only.

6) Transit Updates

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

Proposed Action: For discussion only.

7) Project Updates

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

Proposed Action: For discussion only.

8) MaineDOT Report

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

Proposed Action: For discussion only.

9) Other Business

Discussion of other items not on today's agenda.

10) Upcoming Meetings

Policy Committee - September 15th, 2026 at 1PM via Zoom



Attachment A
Policy Committee Meeting

July 21st, 2026 estimated to start at 1:15PM*

***Note - Meeting will begin immediately following the BACTS Non-Profit Board Meeting**

Zoom
Minutes

Committee Members	Affiliation
Jeff Davis Anne Krieg Laurie Linscott Dave Teelon	Bangor
Jeremy Caron Linda Johns	Brewer
Amy Ryder Victor Smith	Hampden
Megan Hess EJ Roach	Orono
Mark Leonard	Veazie
MaineDOT / FHWA	
Claire Winter, Jarod Farn-Guillette, John Theriault, Jay Baines	

1) Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Jeremy Caron at 1:20PM.

2) Public Comment

No public comments at this time.

3) Approval of May 19th, 2026 BACTS Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

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

4) BACTS Monthly Report

Belle Ryder provided an overview of the report. MaineDOT workplan, BACTS is submitting HCP 3&4's (discussion later this meeting), typically would present other projects for the workplan, discussion on funding availability for the upcoming workplan and types of projects most likely to be considered as candidates. Belle Ryder also provided an update on the traffic signal maintenance contract, recently finalized and in works for subcontractor agreement underway for non Bangor signals. GIS based app is nearly finalized for reporting requirements for this agreement.

5) SS4A Demonstration Project Update

Maddie Jensen provided updates about how the demonstration project installation went and next steps. Members discussed any public feedback received thus far.

6) HCP 3 & 4 Candidates

The final draft of the HCP 3 & 4 Candidate list is attached to this agenda.

Proposed Action: Approve the HCP 3 & 4 Candidate list as finalized during the meeting for submission to MaineDOT by August 1, 2026.

Belle Ryder led the discussion with a review of the candidate list. Members discussed potential need to update the criteria for scoring candidates going forward and reconvening the ad hoc committee for prioritization criteria review for future years. Belle Ryder did further clarify that this program requires a 20% local match and that these are the 2028 candidates.

Belle will reach out to Hermon to confirm they are comfortable with their project included as a candidate. MaineDOT Staff also clarified that they will work with communities on timing and that projects included will be confirmed with communities prior to, they are not locked in to the project at this point in time, if included in the candidates list.

Amy Ryder made a motion to approve the motion as written, Jeff Davis seconded, roll call vote taken, all in favor.

7) MaineDOT Project Readiness

Belle Ryder led a discussion on how MaineDOT determines if a project is “ready” to be added to the Work Plan. Additional information will be shared with the group after the meeting.

8) Transit Updates

Laurie Linscott provided a brief update for the Community Connector. They are still working on hiring drivers, triannual review is starting soon, and the cold bus barn project is also underway.

9) Project Updates

Members provided updates on projects across the region.

10) MaineDOT Report

John Theriault provided a brief update on the Chamberlain bridge project, on schedule. Members of the group also discussed another bridge project, MaineDOT staff will send out additional information, once available.

11) Other Business

Nothing to discuss.

12) Upcoming Meetings

Policy Committee - August 13th, 2026 at 3PM - Orono Town Council Chambers

Our Summer Outing this year will take place at Orono Brewing Company in Orono on Thursday August 13th from 4PM-6PM. We will have appetizers available and drinks will be available for you to purchase on your own, if you are interested!

Please extend the invite to any municipal staff or others that may be interested.

RSVP no later than July 24th to Paige please!

The meeting was called to adjourn by Amy Ryder, seconded by Linda Johns. Unanimous approval. Meeting ended at 2:15PM.



Attachment B
BACTS Monthly Report
August 2026

Financial Year Close and Audit Process

BACTS is continuing coordination with external auditors to complete the annual financial statement review and overhead audit.

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. The final draft of the MaineDOT Work Plan has been published and is available as a layer on the MapViewer here: <https://www.maine.gov/mdot/mapviewer/> or as a PDF or Excel file here: <https://www.maine.gov/dot/major-projects/work-plan>.*

Update: On July 28, 2026, MaineDOT released the following press release:
The Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) today announced it will advance transportation projects that were considered for temporary delay earlier due to funding concerns following Governor Janet Mills' commitment of \$136 million to support Maine's transportation program.

Last week, Governor Mills announced \$136 million in funding to address an anticipated shortfall in MaineDOT's capital program, ensuring the Department can continue delivering critical transportation investments across the state. MaineDOT is grateful for Governor Mills' continued commitment to Maine's transportation system and her leadership in addressing annual funding challenges. During her administration, Governor Mills and the Legislature have secured approximately \$1.4 billion through a variety of funding mechanisms to address recurring transportation funding shortfalls, helping MaineDOT continue investing in safer roads, bridges, ferries, transit, aviation, rail, and active transportation infrastructure that Maine people rely upon every day.

Additional information is available in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services' press release here:
<https://www.maine.gov/dafs/news/state-maine-ends-2026-fiscal-year-148-million-surplus>

As a result of this infusion of new funding, MaineDOT will begin advancing the transportation projects that were considered for temporary delay while the Department evaluated the impacts of the projected funding gap. The Department has reestablished schedules for these projects, a complete list of which is available under the Funding Update heading here:
<https://www.maine.gov/dot/major-projects>

While this funding addresses the Department's immediate needs, it does not resolve the long-term structural challenges facing Maine's transportation program. Inflation, increasing construction costs, aging infrastructure, and transportation revenues that have not kept pace with those costs continue to create significant funding pressures. The \$1.4 billion added to the highway fund over the past 8-years demonstrates the scale of Maine's transportation funding needs and the lack of a sustainable, long-term funding solution. Maintaining Maine's integrated transportation network in a safe and serviceable condition requires substantial ongoing investment. Even to preserve current conditions and make only limited programmatic improvements, MaineDOT estimates an additional \$195 million in state resources are needed in

State Fiscal Year 2029 (beginning July 1, 2028) with that funding gap expected to continue growing as inflation drives costs higher.

MaineDOT will work with Governor Mills, the incoming 133rd Maine Legislature, transportation stakeholders, local communities, industry partners, and the public to develop sustainable, long-term transportation funding solutions that preserves Maine's ability to maintain and improve the infrastructure residents, visitors, and businesses depend on every day.

Bridge Updates from Travis Hamel:

Old Town Stillwater: This project is utilizing an alternate delivery method called CMGC. This process allows us to actively construct the project while we work out design details. It may appear slower than normal, however, it is because the background design work is being done simultaneously as the construction work. This was necessary as the existing bridge was load rated to 30Ton and needed to be replaced, at least temporarily. We are currently negotiating the last portion of work on this contract, which will also contain the project completion date. We are currently projecting traffic on the new bridges by the fall of 2027 with a project completion in summer of 2028. The long duration is due to the fact that we can only construct one bridge at a time. **We have completed negotiation on the final portion of this project and we are now moving forward with constructing the superstructure and deck for the eastern bridge on this site. As we are working on a small island, the two bridges will need to be completed in sequence one after the other so that we can maintain construction access to both ends of each bridge.**

Hampden 202: This project had a major unexpected delay at the beginning, however, this delay has now been resolved. The work on this project is approximately 25% complete, and we expect that both bridges should be open to traffic by this time next year. **The Contractor has completed the first of 2 bridges and has swapped traffic onto the new structure. We are on schedule to complete this project by the end of summer of 2027.**

Broadway: As you are aware, I-95 NB has just been opened to traffic and the I-95 SB portion of the bridge has been removed. The contractor is currently on target to get the remainder of I-95 traffic back onto alignment by October of next year and they are currently 50% complete. **The I-95 SB bridge abutments and deck have been constructed. The Contractor is currently working on the approach work prior to paving and finishing the connection between the NB and SB bridge sections. There is also work on Broadway that is ongoing, including traffic signal updates, ramp alignments, and intersection improvements. This project is on target to have SB traffic on final alignment by this fall with ongoing work removing the temporary detour this winter and into next spring.**

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: Geoff Low officially joined the BACTS team and hit the ground running with a meeting at MaineDOT on his first day. After Day 1, he offers the following thoughts:

Throughout my career, I have spent considerable time working on and around Maine's roadways, often in challenging conditions. These experiences have given me firsthand knowledge of the risks faced by emergency responders across all disciplines and a strong understanding of the priorities each agency brings to a roadway incident.

I am excited about the opportunity to work with BACTS as we evaluate the Traffic Incident Management (TIM) program and identify opportunities to strengthen it. Improving responder safety has always been a passion of mine, and I look forward to contributing to a program that enhances coordination, efficiency, and, most importantly, the safety of everyone who responds to roadway incidents.

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: BACTS staff visited Stetson and Etna to offer Rural Contract services to the communities there. Stetson needs an updated transportation chapter for its comprehensive plan, and BACTS staff will reach out to offer assistance. Etna forwarded a complaint made by Connant's Orchard about speeding during busy pedestrian traffic at their business. BACTS staff will further investigate for potential future demonstration projects.

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: BACTS signed a contract with the consultant Stillwater Environmental Engineering for work on Phase III of the Culvert Inventory. Kickoff will be planned to start this August.

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: Staff has secured pricing for a maintenance contract but is waiting until MaineDOT sends the funding prior to signing a contract.

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: A final candidate list for HCP 3 & 4 paving has been submitted to MaineDOT. BACTS staff have the capacity to collect road conditions for local roads if any member is interested.

Complete Streets - *The Complete Streets Regional Plan provides a shared vision and coordinated strategy for creating a safer, more accessible, and more connected multimodal transportation network across the region. BACTS is preparing a regional plan which can be adopted outright or used by individual communities to create their own plan/policy.*

Update: Staff are nearing completion with the first full draft of the plan. Based on feedback from the Complete Streets Steering Committee, staff are adjusting the readability of the plan and some other accessibility features. Staff are also working on another update to the Complete Streets viewer app which will provide more context to our recommendations. Once complete, BACTS staff will assist communities with adoption or personalization, if requested.

Safe Streets and Roads for All - *Using the SS4A grant, BACTS is developing 11 Safety Action Plans for member communities. These plans analyze crash data, review existing safety related policies, and make recommendations for improving safety on our roadways. The grant also funds demonstration projects for interested communities which test safety features on our roads to determine their effectiveness before permanent installation.*

Update: All summer 2026 demonstration projects have been installed. Locations are being adjusted as needed to respond to local needs. Draft safety plans have been shared with every community. Plans will be finalized as feedback is received and incorporated. Staff are working with FHWA to approve a grant amendment to release funds for the next phase of work.

GIS Mentorship - *In order to build internal GIS capabilities in technical skills and practical experience, select staff members are receiving formal training and one-on-one mentorship support to complete ongoing projects.*

Update: Formal training is in process and expected to continue through to the end of August. Staff members undergoing training have received education in the use of ArcGIS Online and ArcGIS Pro, and will soon begin learning the use of ESRI applications such as Field Maps and StoryMaps. Sebago staff have provided mentorship to BACTS staff in the development of ongoing GIS tasks including the Culvert Experience Viewer, Complete Streets Experience Viewer, and detour maps for TIMs.

Meetings and Conferences

- MPO Directors Meeting
- Prioritization Committee
- Portland TIM Meeting
- MaineDOT TIM Meeting
- Brewer SS4A Council Meeting
- SS4A Monthly Coordination Meeting
- Greenfield Transit Study Biweekly Check In Meeting
- MaineCan Community Coordinators Meeting
- Vialytics Check In
- PTAC Meeting

2026-2027 UPWP Budget and Project Updates

BACTS 2026-2027 UPWP														24	Total
As of 07/31/2026														7	Months into contract
														17	Months left in contract
						Contract to Date Trend			Forecasted Trend (Projected Figures)						
Task	Project	Total Allotted	Total Spent	In-Kind	Total Remaining	Actual % Usage	Amount Should be as of 7/31	Variance	Total Remaining (Less In Kind)	Salary	Consultant	Direct Expenses	Estimated Remaining		
FHWA						29.2%									
	1 Operation and Coordination	\$364,056	\$86,413	\$0	\$277,643	23.7%	\$106,183	\$19,770	\$277,643	\$272,541	\$0	\$19,965	-\$14,864		
	2 Programming	\$40,850	\$2,672	\$0	\$38,178	6.5%	\$11,915	\$9,243	\$38,178	\$42,479	\$0	\$132	-\$4,433		
	3 Data and Studies	\$442,700	\$76,181	\$0	\$366,519	17.2%	\$129,121	\$52,940	\$366,519	\$171,479	\$64,265	\$16,140	\$114,637		
	4 Planning	\$332,880	\$15,946	\$0	\$316,934	4.8%	\$97,090	\$81,144	\$316,934	\$65,774	\$230,330	\$1,991	\$18,839		
Total FHWA		\$1,180,486	\$181,211	\$0	\$999,275	15.35%	\$344,308	\$163,097	\$999,275	\$552,273	\$294,595	\$38,228	\$114,179		
FTA															
	1 Operation and Coordination	\$57,746	\$32,757	\$6,551	\$18,437	56.7%	\$16,843	-\$15,915	\$14,749	\$21,042	\$0	-\$492	-\$5,801		
	2 Programming	\$7,531	\$1,220	\$244	\$6,067	16.2%	\$2,197	\$977	\$4,854	\$4,118	\$0	\$22	\$714		
	3 Data and Studies	\$149,844	\$26,111	\$5,222	\$118,511	17.4%	\$43,704	\$17,594	\$94,809	\$25,010	\$103,208	\$275	-\$33,684		
	4 Planning	\$42,289	\$33,544	\$6,709	\$2,037	79.3%	\$12,334	-\$21,210	\$1,629	\$33,733	\$0	-\$182	-\$31,921		
Total FTA		\$257,410	\$93,632	\$18,726	\$145,052	36.37%	\$75,078	-\$18,554	\$116,041	\$83,903	\$103,207	-\$377	-\$70,692		
Total		\$1,437,896	\$274,843	\$18,726	\$1,144,327	19.11%	\$419,386	\$144,543	\$1,115,316	\$636,176	\$397,802	\$37,851	\$43,487		

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

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

Project	Description	Consultant	Estimated Time Frame
Culvert Inventory Phase III	Develop a Capital Improvement and Asset Management Program using data from the 2025 BACTS Regional Culvert Inventory Summary Report and Geodatabase. This phase will develop a prioritized framework for repairs, maintenance, and long-term asset management based on field data from the 386 culverts.	Stillwater Environmental Engineering*	August 2026 - December 2026
Greenfield Study	This contract will conduct a study of their region that looks beyond what current Community Connector service provides, exploring what type and level of transit service would be optimal for the region without the constraints of existing infrastructure and historic expectations.	Foursquare Integrated Transportation	May 2026 - June 2027
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 - December 2026

*This firm was selected using an RFP process.