



Policy Committee Meeting

September 15th, 2026 at 1:00PM 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 August 13th, 2026 BACTS Policy Committee Meeting Minutes (Attachment A)

4) BACTS Monthly Report (Attachment B)

5) Fly Over Imagery Discussion

Bangor City Staff will provide information on high-resolution aerial orthoimagery.

Proposed Action: *For discussion only.*

6) Synergy Meeting Update

Staff will be meeting with MaineDOT about Work Plan candidates on September 14, 2026 and will provide an update at the Policy Committee meeting regarding that discussion.

Proposed Action: *For discussion only.*

7) Prioritization Policy Updates

The prioritization policy has been updated for 2026 to reflect the Memorandum of Understanding with MaineDOT. Staff will provide a brief presentation of the new policy and how it works during the meeting. A copy of the policy can be found [here](#).

Proposed Action: *Authorize BACTS Staff to post the updated prioritization policy for a ten day public comment period, following this period, pending any substantive comments received, authorize staff to adopt the new prioritization policy.*

8) UPI Project Submission

Discussion regarding the upcoming UPI submission window, which will be open from September 15 through October 15, 2026. Staff will outline the submission process and discuss criteria for subsequent project prioritization prior to the final BACTS submission to MaineDOT on November 1, 2026.

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.*

***A list of common BACTS Acronyms can be found [here](#).**

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

Policy Committee - October 20th, 2026 at 1PM via Zoom.



Attachment A
Policy Committee Meeting
August 13th, 2026 at 3PM at Orono Council Chambers
Minutes

Committee Members	Affiliation
Jeremy Caron Linda Johns	Brewer
Jon Clements Amy Ryder Victor Smith	Hampden
Megan Hess EJ Roach Adam Smart	Orono
MaineDOT / FHWA	
Claire Winter, Jarod Farn-Guillette, Jay Baines, Patrick Adams, Stephen Landry, Jeff Pulver	

- 1) **Call to Order**
Meeting was called to order by Jeremy Caron at 3:00PM.
- 2) **Public Comment**
No public comments at this time.
- 3) **Approval of July 21st, 2026 BACTS Policy Committee Meeting Minutes**
No comments on the minutes, Amy Ryder made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Adam Smart seconded, vote taken, all in favor.
- 4) **BACTS Monthly Report**
BACTS Staff provided a brief overview of the submitted report.
- 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](#).

Members of the group discussed a few projects around the region including a Route 2 project in Orono and a few projects in Brewer.
- 6) **Transit Updates**
No updates at this time.
- 7) **Project Updates**
Members provided updates on projects across the region.
- 8) **MaineDOT Report**
No updates at this time.

9) Other Business

BACTS Staff asked members to let them know if interested in road data collection.

10) Upcoming Meetings

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

The meeting was called to adjourn by Amy Ryder. Unanimous approval. Meeting ended at 3:20PM.



Attachment B
BACTS Monthly Report
September 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: Staff will meet with MaineDOT on September 14th to discuss current Work Plan candidates. It is our understanding that no region-wide synergy meetings have been scheduled this year, suggesting that new projects are not widely under consideration.

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: Work is underway to assess the current TIM program and identify opportunities to strengthen it and better serve responders and the public. We have developed a stakeholder survey to gather feedback and identify areas for improvement. We also plan to meet with the existing TIM committees to hear directly from those involved in the program. Outreach to county emergency management partners is also underway to help identify stakeholders in their areas that might otherwise be missed.

At the same time, we are exploring the option of establishing TIM as an executive-directed program through the Governor's Office. This approach could provide stronger statewide coordination, clearer accountability, and greater executive-level support for TIM priorities and initiatives.

Finally, we have been comparing Maine's TIM system with programs in Vermont, Montana, and Washington State. Each of these states has significant rural areas, strong executive support, and geographic and weather conditions similar to Maine's. These programs may offer useful models for strengthening Maine's approach, particularly through stronger statewide coordination, clearly defined agency roles, measurable performance goals, and greater accountability for responder safety and incident clearance.

I will be reaching out to the TIM coordinators in each state to learn more about their programs, identify successful practices, and gather information that could help inform improvements to Maine's TIM program while maintaining the important role of our existing regional TIM committees.

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 has begun writing a two-year work plan for the rural contract. In addition to explaining the tasks outlined in the contract between BACTS and MEDOT, the work plan will be an opportunity to plan long term rural priorities and projects.

Outreach this month included discussions with the owner of Conant Apple Orchard in Etna which helped identify several safety concerns ahead of the 2026 apple picking season. BACTS staff are seeking temporary interventions however the speed limit and jurisdictions of the roadway involved is limiting the options for immediate implementation.

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: Phase III work is underway with BACTS and SEE holding the kickoff meeting at the beginning of August. SEE will be present at the October PC Meeting to conduct their first stakeholder meeting.

The experience builder update being done by BACTS staff will be finished in the coming weeks adding new filter systems to allow for more customizable data samples.

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: A maintenance contract has been signed with Frazier Signal to address the 36 non-Bangor signals in the region. Frazier is currently reviewing their schedule and let us know when they intend to begin the maintenance.

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 have completed a draft of the plan. The Complete Streets Steering Committee is reviewing the draft and providing feedback. Once this is complete, BACTS will share the plan (and its resources) with the Policy Committee and support communities with adoption, 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. Staff are collecting a second round of data at each location to compare with the pre-project speed counts. Staff are working with FHWA to approve a grant amendment to release funds for the next phase of work.

Bangor Region Greenfield Transit Study - BACTS has hired Foursquare ITP to assess the region's transit propensity and existing conditions. A greenfield assessment allows for an unbiased exploration of what type and level of transit service would be optimal for the region without the constraints of existing infrastructure and historic expectations.

Update: Foursquare has drafted Task 2: Transit Propensity and Task 3: Existing Conditions and System Performance. Staff and other regional stakeholders are reviewing these reports and providing feedback. Next, the study will identify transit scenarios which meet the needs of the region. BACTS and Foursquare will present to the Policy Committee this Fall.

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 early October. 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. Current Focus in learning is Esri Dashboards and Esri Storymaps.

Meetings and Conferences

- MPO Directors Meeting
- Prioritization Committee
- MaineDOT TIM Meeting
- Greenfield Transit Study Biweekly Meeting

2026-2027 UPWP Budget and Project Updates

BACTS 2026-2027 UPWP

As of 08/31/2026

						Contract to Date Trend			Forecasted Trend (Projected Figures)					16 Months left in contract		
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						33.3%									
	1 Operation and Coordination	\$364,056	\$97,432	\$0	\$266,624	26.8%	\$121,352	\$23,920	\$266,624	\$261,692	\$0	\$19,796	-\$14,864			
	2 Programming	\$40,850	\$5,372	\$0	\$35,478	13.1%	\$13,617	\$8,245	\$35,478	\$39,779	\$0	\$132	-\$4,433			
	3 Data and Studies	\$442,700	\$93,683	\$0	\$349,017	21.2%	\$147,567	\$53,883	\$349,017	\$156,966	\$61,296	\$16,118	\$114,637			
	4 Planning	\$332,880	\$29,753	\$0	\$303,127	8.9%	\$110,960	\$81,207	\$303,127	\$62,712	\$219,585	\$1,991	\$18,839			
Total FHWA		\$1,180,486	\$226,240	\$0	\$954,246	19.16%	\$393,495	\$167,255	\$954,246	\$521,149	\$280,881	\$38,037	\$114,179			
	FTA															
	1 Operation and Coordination	\$57,746	\$37,009	\$7,402	\$13,335	64.1%	\$19,249	-\$17,760	\$10,668	\$16,791	\$0	-\$492	-\$5,630			
	2 Programming	\$7,531	\$1,342	\$268	\$5,921	17.8%	\$2,510	\$1,169	\$4,737	\$3,997	\$0	\$22	\$719			
	3 Data and Studies	\$149,844	\$50,073	\$10,015	\$89,756	33.4%	\$49,948	-\$125	\$71,805	\$23,776	\$80,480	\$275	-\$32,726			
	4 Planning	\$42,289	\$33,544	\$6,709	\$2,037	79.3%	\$14,096	-\$19,447	\$1,629	\$33,733	\$0	-\$182	-\$31,921			
Total FTA		\$257,410	\$121,967	\$24,393	\$111,049	47.38%	\$85,803	-\$36,164	\$88,839	\$78,296	\$80,480	-\$377	-\$69,559			
	Total	\$1,437,896	\$348,207	\$24,393	\$1,065,295	24.22%	\$479,299	\$131,091	\$1,043,085	\$599,444	\$361,361	\$37,660	\$44,620			

*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.