

Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System
Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2008

PRESENT:	Dianne Rice, BACTS	Charles Heinonen, Old Town
	Donald Cooper, BACTS	Bob Osborne, Hampden
	David Pardilla, Penobscot Nation	Darryl Belz, MaineDOT
	Peggy Duval, MaineDOT	Frank Higgins, Brewer
	Linda Johns, Brewer	Rob Kenerson, BACTS
	John Melrose, Maine Tomorrow	Jim Ring, Bangor
	Becky Grzesik, EMDC	Bill Reed, Veazie
	Cathy Conlow, Orono	Terry Hannan, MaineDOT

1. Call to Order

The Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System Policy Committee met on Tuesday, November 18, 2008 in the Penobscot Boardroom at EMDC, 40 Harlow Street, Bangor, Maine. Jim Ring called the meeting to order at 9:45 AM.

2. Approval of the October 28, 2008 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

The Policy Committee moved (by Frank Higgins), seconded (by Linda Johns), and unanimously ***Voted: to approve the October 28, 2008 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes as presented.***

3. EMDC Update: Victoria Burpee

Victoria was unable to attend today’s meeting, but Rob gave a brief update on the process of a new EMDC CEO. The Board is down to one candidate, and is nearing the end of the negotiation process with this person. The hope is to have an announcement by the end of the year.

EMDC is currently going through the yearly auditing process. Rachel Grivois has until Monday to close out all of last year’s programs.

4. Alternative Funding Discussion- John Melrose

John Melrose from Maine Tomorrow presented the Policy/Technical Committee with alternative funding options for *today’s* transportation planning. With all the changes in not only the Bangor region, but in the nation as a whole, MPO’s need to be creative in how to make projects “happen”. Maine Tomorrow and Planning Decisions were hired by PACTS to study funding options. John handed out a copy of the report “Leveraging Increased Funding Through Transportation Investment Partnerships”, which was a product of the study. He also handed out a proposal written by South Portland’s Planning Director, Tex Haeuser entitled, “ A Proposal for the Creation of a Municipal Funding Tool to Support Transit and Alternative Modes of Transportation: Transit TIF’s”.

John discussed the need to invent a different approach to transportation fund by possibly enabling a regional entity like BACTS to have revenue raising capability. This could allow leveraging private and public money.

John then opened the room up for questions. There were two areas that the committee wanted staff to explore further. One area was the study of what is needed to implement a regional transportation impact fee system. The second area is to gather the other Maine MPO's and possibly service center communities to investigate options for transportation investment opportunities that leverage funds and take advantage of the unique position Maine urban areas and service center areas find themselves.

5. Other Business

Before the end of the year, Rob will put multiple RFP's out to bid, including: a Bicycle Study Update, a Pedestrian Study Update, and an Access Management Study.

Don has been working with a modeling group tracking projected census data & assumptions in the Bangor Region; this projection extends over a span of thirty years.

Diane is working on the final reports for the traffic counts she did earlier this year.

6. Adjournment:

There being no further business, Charlie Heinonen moved, Cathy Conlow seconded, and was it unanimously ***Voted: to adjourn the meeting at 11:45AM.***

*Respectfully Submitted by,
Rebecca Grzesik*