

Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System
Policy/Technical Committee Meeting Minutes
June 17, 2008

PRESENT:	Mike Laberge, MDOT	Rob Kenerson, BACTS
	Charles Heinonen, Old Town	Dianne Rice, BACTS
	Linda Johns, Brewer	Jason Bird, EMDC
	Frank Higgins, Brewer	Glenn Correll, JW Sewall
	Bob Osborne, Hampden	Maria Weinberger, Orono
	David Pardilla, Penobscot Nation	Jim Ring, Bangor
	Ted Trembley, Bangor	Don Cooper, BACTS
	Ed Hanscom, MDOT	Darryl, Belz, MDOT
	Bill Reed, Veazie	Victoria Burpee, EMDC
	Barbara Cox	Cal Smith, Orono
	Denis Lovely, MDOT	Terry Hannan, MDOT

1. Call to Order

The Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System Policy/ Technical Committee met on Tuesday, June 17, 2008 in the Penobscot Board Room of Eastern Maine Development Corporation, 40 Harlow St., Bangor Maine. Bill Reed called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Those present introduced themselves.

2. Approval of May 20th, 2008 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously voted to approve the May 20, 2008 Policy/ Technical Committee Meeting minutes as presented.

3. EMDC/BACTS Update

EMDC's Executive Committee met last week and appointed Victoria Burpee as the Executive V.P. Bill and Rob discussed some of the staff changes that occurred at EMDC in the past few weeks. Both Rob and Bill drafted a letter that addressed the BACTS Executive Committee's concerns with the staff changes and financial stability. Rob wrote a memo as BACTS Director listing concerns as requested by the EMDC Executive Committee. EMDC is in the process of interviewing and hiring a consultant to fill the position of CFO, until a permanent one can be found. Vicky stated that EMDC's Executive Committee requested a meeting with the various organizations that make up EMDC. The purpose of the meeting is to have an open conversation regarding EMDC.

4. I-95 Corridor Study Update

Ed Hanscom of MDOT gave an update on the I-95 corridor study. The idea for the study came with the aging of the interstate system. The purpose is to look at needs of the future (20-30 years) in order to have the highway meet those needs. He handed out a project schedule. The MDOT will be seeking public input into the planning process. So far the study has been looking at all the available data to help it project future use. The study will also include an existing condition study. BACTS needs to give Ed a list of possible candidates for participation on the Public Advisory Committee for the project.

5. PIN 13079.00 – Bennoch Road update

FHWA will participate in the replacement in the culvert, but not the maintenance of the road from Godfrey Drive to the Old Town Line. There was some discussion regarding the overall project and what would be best in terms of long range costs and work needed. Putting the project into Preliminary Engineering was also discussed. Maria from the town of Orono will do some work to determine what PE work has already been done. Mike Labarge stated that there is approximately \$320,000 of funds for the project. He will let the town of Orono know what that amount was. MDOT designers recommend replacing the culvert and bringing the road up to standard. In the immediate area a new scope and estimate will be developed. In the possibility of getting the work done this year, Rob will put it out to an email vote to get the process started. The TIP Amendment will need to be done; and it could take one to four weeks. A discussion also occurred as to what method would be best to replace the culvert, either open cut or the pipe ramming method.

6. Other Business

Dianne reported that she is currently working on a project that resulted from a grant submitted for BACTS by John Noll. She will be evaluating the Capehart areas in Bangor for walkability issues. This goes along with the ongoing sidewalk inventory that she has been conducting throughout the BACTS area. She is now completing the final sections in Bangor. We are also working closely with the City of Bangor on a grant project to put in sidewalks in the Old Capehart section of town in conjunction with the Safe Routes to School Program. The City has recently submitting a second grant for this work.

Dianne passed out a form sent to her by the Maine Bureau of Public Safety (MBPS). They are asking for input in the areas of highway safety including but not limited to impaired driving, teens and alcohol, teens and driving, seatbelts, motorcycles, speed and child passenger safety. They are interested in public comment on which area should be addressed and included for funding in their planning document. MBPS asked that this should NOT included highway maintenance as that is a separate area handled by MDOT. If you are interested, please complete your form or forms and return them to Dianne so she can submit the forms to MBPS by July 15.

Don Cooper requested that the Policy Committee amend the Transit element of the 2008-2011 BACTS TIP. The earlier version of the TIP was based on estimates of available Federal funds and projected costs. Projected costs have been severely impacted by fuel costs. The allocations of the federal funds in the amended TIP represent final availability of FY 08 Federal funds, and the most advantageous allocations between projects.

The Committee unanimously approved the amendment.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.