

Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System
Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
August 15, 2006

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|-----------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Present: | Bob Osborne | David Struck, Orono |
| | Mike Laberge, MDOT | Rob Kenerson, BACTS |
| | Linda Johns, Brewer | Don Cooper, BACTS |
| | Frank Higgins, Brewer | Dianne Currie, BACTS |
| | Jim Ring, Bangor | John Noll, EMDC |
| | Peggy Daigle, Old Town | Suz Norton, EMDC |
| | Stan Moses, Bangor | |

1. Call to Order

The Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System Policy Committee met on Tuesday, August 15, 2006 in the Penobscot Board Room at EMDC, 40 Harlow Street, Bangor, Maine. The meeting was called to order at 9:45am by Jim Ring, Vice Chair. (Bill Reed, Chair, was unable to attend this meeting.)

2. Approval of July 18, 2006 Minutes

David Struck made a motion to approve the July 18, 2006 Policy Committee meeting minutes as amended. Towards the end of the minutes the date of August 25th must be changed to August 15th. Frank Higgins seconded the motion and the minutes were passed unanimously with revision.

3. Old Town Project Fund Transfer

Rob Kenerson presented a handout detailing funds transfer between projects. There is a deficit of \$1042 on PIN 8825.00 (Stillwater Avenue in Old Town) that would be covered by surplus funds from PIN 10034.00 (Center Street in Old Town.) A motion to accept was made by Frank Higgins and seconded by David Struck. Motion to accept passed unanimously.

4. FY 2008-2010 BTIP Short List

Rob Kenerson presented the group with a newly revised BTIP Short List. The list was composed using the most recently available data and statistics, as well as rough cost estimates made on a "per-mile" basis. The projects that get approved on the list will then go through further data collection to obtain the most up to date figures. Rob presented the proposed list with highlighted projects that would be priorities and non-highlighted projects that would be eliminated. Projects were first sorted into categories (resurface, reconstruction, reclaim/rehab, and intersection-signal) and then sorted a second time by weighted totals. The total cost of the highlighted projects is an estimated \$7,106,000. Along the bottom of the chart are four special projects- the first two being recommended to Maine DOT for pavement preservation. The third, (Stillwater/College) for signage, was not an appropriate project for this process and is suggested to be done with intersection redesign. The fourth project in Eddington should be submitted to the state as a safety project.

Rob proposed that since there are several significant reconstruction projects that will just receive preliminary engineering in this T.I.P, the committee should then come up with a listing of high priority projects- sort of a 6-10 year plan. The shaded locations will also be looked at to develop the scope. Discussion was made as to whether this list would be final or if there is room to add new projects as they may arise. It was decided that the scope of the project can change, however no new projects will be added. This list should already comprise the top projects in the area. Mike Laberge of MDOT noted that the approved finalized list must be in to MDOT by September 30th in order to get into the book. The Policy Committee will arrange a “van tour” of the approved sites to get a feel for scope of projects.

A motion to approve focusing on the highlighted projects was made by David Struck and seconded by Frank Higgins. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried. Rob Kenerson will contact committee members and set the date for the bus tour. Additionally he mentioned that the signal detection projects will not be visited as they need to be further justified as to where the \$50,000 will go.

5. Truck Route RFP

Rob Kenerson presented a handout on the Truck Route RFP, which was basically the same as presented at last meeting with a few changes in language. Within the handout was outline the objectives of the RFP- safety, current and future needs, deficiencies, and plans to address identified needs. It was suggested that any consultants working on the projects should contact the towns, as many have statistical data on truck usage within that particular town. Peggy Daigle suggested that in Old Town they need to look at possible interstate use, more onramps, and a possible Impact Fee set up to assist with beat up roads. It was proposed that she bring this idea to the Study Public Advisory Committee to look at and discuss. Bob Osborne’s concerns were with the Rail road crossings and issues with trucks having adequate warning when needing to stop (signage, flashers, etc.) Also a concern was the use of compression/Jake brakes within towns.

The committee then reviewed the selection criteria of the RFP and noted that a possible change may be necessary. Since the firm is ultimately responsible, it may be beneficial to change the points scale to 20 points each for the firm and personnel. Frank Higgins made a motion to accept the RFP as written and that was seconded by Peggy Daigle. There was a discussion period and it was then motioned by Frank Higgins to accept the RFP as written with an amendment to the points scale- changing both the firm and personnel to 20 points each. Motion seconded by Mike Laberge. Motion passed unanimously. Rob Kenerson will send the RFP to the Maine DOT.

6. FY 2007 Budget/UPWP Amendment

Rob Kenerson presented the budget for FY 2007. He reported that there was a balance of \$148,126.71 left over from last year due to staff changes, etc. The proposed FY07 budget as well as the carryover of \$148,126.71 has been combined to create the new FY07 budget of \$582,791.71. Rob proposed changes he would like to

see in the new budget. \$4,551 from Task #17 and \$20,000 from Task #1A should be moved into Task #11, ITS planning. The remaining \$30,000 from Task 1A would be used to expand Task #19, corridor traffic route studies. If approved, Rob will send the budget to the state and FHWA for approval. Motion was made by Frank Higgins to approve the proposed budgets with changes, which was seconded by David Struck. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Maine MPO Policy Committee Chair's Discussion/Action

Rob Kenerson then presented a draft memo from the Chairs of the MPO Policy Committees. This was strictly for informational purposes and did not need approval from the committee. Bill Reed and Rob met with the MPO's in Freeport. The meeting was initiated by Rick Michaud, Chairman of the PACTS Policy Committee. They discussed what the current issues are and came up with four, listed on the memo: improved communication in the final management of projects; efficiency improvements in the design and development of projects; increasing Maine's transportation and capital resources; and increasing the MPO regions' transportation capital resources.

8. Other Business

Rob Kenerson took a moment to review the notes from the last Technical Committee meeting. There were 3 earmarks sent to Senators Snowe and Collins and out of those 1 was awarded for \$100,000 for the Stillwater Avenue project.

Secondly, there was a meeting with the feds and the DOT in regards to civil rights (Title VI). BACTS has been interviewed and is waiting to see if more process documentation is needed.

The group then took a moment to set the next Policy Committee meeting for September 26, 2006 at 9:30am at EMDC. It has been proposed that the technical committee meet on September 21, 2006. Rob will suggest meeting times to the committee to see if that date/time works for them.

Frank Higgins moved that the meeting be adjourned, which was seconded by David Struck. Meeting adjourned at 11:11am.

Respectfully submitted,

Suz Norton
Administrative Assistant
EMDC