

**Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System**  
**Policy Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**October 17, 2006 (APPROVED)**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	William Reed, Veazie	John Perry, FHWA
	David Struck, Orono	Duane Scott, MDOT
	Bob Osborne, Hampden	Fred Michaud, MDOT
	Jim Ring, Bangor	Rob Kenerson, BACTS
	Frank Higgins, Brewer	Don Cooper, BACTS
	Stan Moses, Bangor	Dianne Currie, BACTS
	Charles Heinonen, Old Town	John Noll, EMDC/BACTS
	Linda Johns, Brewer	Jaci Hancock, EMDC/BACTS

**1. Call to Order**

The Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System Policy Committee met on Tuesday, October 17, 2006 in the Penobscot Boardroom at EMDC, 40 Harlow St, Bangor, Maine. The meeting was called to order at 9:40 a.m. by Bill Reed, Chair.

**2. Approval of September 26, 2006 Meeting Minutes**

It was moved and seconded to approve the September 26, 2006 Policy Committee meeting minutes as presented. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved without revision.

**3. Truck Route Study RFP**

Rob Kenerson informed the committee that Gorrill-Palmer Consulting Engineers of Gray, Maine, in association with Maine Tomorrow and Civil Engineering Services, submitted the only response to the Truck Route Study RFP. Copies of the proposal were previously sent to the Committee for their review. Rob noted that \$20,000 was budgeted for this study and that the Gorrill-Palmer proposal is priced at \$20,972.22. He indicated that funds are available to cover the amount in excess of \$20,000. Rob inquired as to whether the committee had any questions concerning the scope, person hours and/or budget set forth in the proposal. In response to a question raised by Jim Ring, Rob agreed that he will make certain that Gorrill-Palmer is aware that the study covers all BACTS roads that receive federal funds. In addition, in response to a request by David Struck, Rob will communicate that the study is to include the Stillwater Avenue corridor in Orono from the Bangor line to Interstate 95, which is technically outside the BACTS area, but experiencing significant truck traffic to and from the Old Town (Juniper Ridge) landfill.

It was moved by Jim Ring and seconded by David Struck to accept the Gorrill-Palmer proposal and to authorize BACTS staff to enter into a contract using the scope proposed by Gorrill-Palmer with the above-mentioned clarifications. The motion was unanimously approved.

In order to begin work on the study, Rob noted that a "Study Advisory Committee" needs to be formed. It was agreed that the advisory committee would be comprised of any interested members of the BACTS Policy and Technical Committees as well as appropriate outside participants. Rob asked those present to provide him with

suggested names and contact information of prospective outside participants. He advised the committee that he will send out a reminder about this and requested that all input be provided to him by the end of the month.

#### 4. **Public Transit Study RFP**

Don Cooper reported that Tom Crikelair Associates of Bar Harbor submitted the only response to the Public Transit Study RFP. Copies of the proposal were previously sent to the Committee for their review. Don noted that \$20,000 was budgeted for this study and that the Crikelair proposal is priced at \$19,974. Don pointed out that Crikelair proposes extending the study deadline to early March (to take the holiday season slowdown into account). There was consensus that this was a reasonable revision. It was moved by Charlie Heinonen and seconded by Frank Higgins to accept the Crikelair proposal and to authorize BACTS staff to enter into a contract using the scope proposed by Crikelair. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### 5. **Proposed By-Law Revision**

Rob Kenerson presented a proposed revision to the BACTS by-laws to permit the Policy and/or Technical Committee(s) to vote on emergent matters via electronic mail in situations where a time deadline will expire prior to the next committee meeting. Following discussion of the proposed revision, the committee reached consensus that no public notice and/or public hearing requirements will be compromised by adoption and implementation of the proposed revision. It was moved by Charlie Heinonen and seconded by David Struck to approve the proposed revision. The motion passed unanimously. Rob reminded the committee that in order to be adopted, any proposed by-law revision must be approved at two consecutive Policy Committee meetings. He noted that, in order to meet this requirement, the proposed revision will be on the agenda for the next Policy Committee meeting.

#### 6. **Other Business**

Don Cooper gave a "heads up" on a meeting scheduled on Indian Island for October 30<sup>th</sup> that will include the Penobscot Indian Nation, the BIA (Bureau of Indian Affairs) and others, including BACTS representatives, to discuss the availability of BIA funds for highways that "serve" reservations although they are not technically on reservation. Don anticipates having more information to report after the meeting.

John Noll presented the results of recent work by the MDOT on their long-range (20 year) plan. This included a spreadsheet that provided a formula for ranking 15 proposed long term projects and a brief description of each of those projects. John solicited the committee's input as to whether this list of projects and the prioritization allocated among these projects made sense to the members of the BACTS Policy Committee. Fred Michaud, MDOT, noted that the plan constitutes a first-time attempt by MDOT to link economic development priorities to related transportation/infrastructure projects/needs. After discussion of a number of concerns related to both the projects selected and omitted and the scoring methodology utilized, it was decided that members of the committee needed additional time to review the information and would provide specific feedback to John to pass on to the MDOT.

Rob Kenerson presented a request submitted by John Perry, FHWA, to transfer \$80,000 from PIN 13072.00 to PIN 13071.00, two projects on Ohio Street in Bangor. This will

provide funds for a ¾ inch overlay beginning at Griffin Road and extending 1.08 mile to Blue Hill. The Policy Committee can take action to approve this transfer of funds without additional public notice/comment because the projects are in the current STIP and there is no change in scope. Following a brief discussion, it was moved by Charlie Heinonen and seconded by David Struck to approve the transfer of \$80,000 from PIN 13072.00 to PIN 13071.00 to complete the work outlined by the FHWA and to amend the STIP accordingly. The motion was unanimously approved.

Rob Kenerson advised committee members that he will inform them of the meeting schedule for the coming months once it has been set. He and David Struck will be attending the upcoming AMPO Convention in Ft. Lauderdale and Dianne Currie is giving a presentation at the upcoming NHIS conference in North Carolina.

Jim Ring advised those present that the traffic counts that were taken in the City during (and immediately before and after) the Stillwater Bridge construction will need to be redone as traffic patterns were significantly disrupted throughout the area resulting in inherently inaccurate counts.

#### 7. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, upon motion by Charlie Heinonen and second by Jim Ring, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jaci S. Hancock