

Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System
Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2009 –Draft-

PRESENT:	Rod McKay, Bangor	Don Cooper, BACTS
	Charles Heinonen, Old Town	Bob Osborne, Hampden
	David Pardilla, Penobscot Nation	Jim Ring, Bangor
	Frank Higgins, Brewer	Bill Reed, Veazie
	Dianne Rice, BACTS	Rob Kenerson, BACTS
	Terry Hannan, MDOT	Jane Black, EMDC
	Rob Yerxa, Orono	Mike Laberge, MDOT
	Peggy Duval, MDOT	Anna Price, FHWA
	Denis Lovely, MDOT	Olivia Hastings, Veazie
	Linda Johns, Brewer	

1. Call to Order

The Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System Policy Committee met on Tuesday, May 19, 2009 in the City Council Chambers at Bangor City Hall.

Bill Reed, Chair of the Policy Committee, called the meeting to order at 9:45AM.

Introductions were made and a few housekeeping items shared. Rob Kenerson explained that Jane Black was present today as Becky was covering the PVCOC all day meeting which was being held at EMDC. Rob also informed the Committee that Becky had given her notice and her last day at EMDC will be May 29, 2009. Dylan Trainor has been hired as her replacement.

Andrew George is working at EMDC and has been asked by Rob Kenerson to work on the Access Management Study. Andrew will attend the Policy Meeting later in the meeting.

2. Approval of the March 24, 2009 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

The Policy Committee moved (Jim Ring), seconded (Charles Heinonen), and unanimously ***Voted: to approve the April 21, 2009 Policy Committee Meeting Minutes as presented.***

3. Transit TIP Amendment – Don Cooper

Previous numbers were based on estimates and needed to be adjusted. It is necessary to amend FY-09, 10, and 11 as there is a new project beginning in September of this year in Orono which will be a shuttle project from downtown Orono to campus. DOT found \$90,797 in Section 5307 money to cover part of the

cost of this project. Each year has to be a separate motion. The application for these funds needs to be submitted by the end of May. The Policy Committee moved (Jim Ring); second (Linda Johns) and unanimously ***Voted: to approve the amendment to transit elements contingent on any comments received during the specified comment period: FY09(3) which adds \$30,000 §5307 funds for operating assistance on Orono-UMaine project.***

The Policy Committee moved (Jim Ring); second (Linda Johns) and unanimously ***Voted: to approve the amendment to transit elements contingent on any comments received during the specified comment period: FY10(1) which adds \$30,000 §5307 funds for operating assistance on Orono-UMaine project.***

The Policy Committee moved (Jim Ring); second (Linda Johns) and unanimously ***Voted: to approve the amendment to transit elements contingent on any comments received during the specified comment period: FY11(1) which adds \$30,797 §5307 funds for operating assistance on Orono-UMaine project.***

The Policy Committee moved (Jim Ring); second (Linda Johns) and unanimously ***Voted: to approve the amendment to transit elements contingent on any comments received during the specified comment period: FY09(2): These allocations represent final availability of FY09 Federal funds, FY09 State funds, and the most advantageous allocations between projects. The previous version of the TIP was based on estimates of available Federal and State funds and projected costs.***

4. FY 2010-2011 Final UPWP

The BACTS FY 2010-2011 UPWP was approved at the last meeting with grammatical and financial changes that Rob was going to make before the document was sent to the DOT. Rob reference four (4) pages that contained the revisions.

5. FY 2008-2009 UPWP Revision

Rob mentioned that the revisions made to the FY 2008-2009 UPWP budget at last month's meeting resulted in an inequitable local/state share of the costs. In order to fix this issue Rob recommended transferring \$10,000 from Task 5 - Public Outreach and Education to Task 6 – Modeling Activities.

The Policy Committee moved (Frank Higgins); second (Jim Ring) and unanimously ***Voted: to accept Rob's recommendation of transferring \$10,000 from Task 5 - Public Outreach and Education to Task 6 – Modeling Activities.***

Rob introduced Andrew George of EMDC who had just joined the meeting.. Andrew is working on the access management ordinances for BACTS. It was mentioned that Joan Walton of AVCOG has done Access Management Ordinance preparation and has shared information on what she has done on this topic.

BACTS

Andrew has the RFP and understands that the committee is looking at a range of options for ordinances relating to Access Management.

It was recommended that Andrew contact Steve Landry who may have some sample ordinances. Dianne has his contact information and will provide this to Andrew. Linda Johns suggested that the Maine DOT municipal handbook might have information which could be helpful as well. Jim Ring invited Andrew to talk to Bangor Planner David Gould and himself.

6. FY 2009 Audit – Rob Kenerson

The audit has yet to be presented to DOT. It has taken longer to get the figures than anticipated. We have the same two (2) findings as last year. Those findings are outlined under FY08-1 Fixed Assets & Depreciation and FY08-2 Trial Balance and Financial Statement Preparation. Recommendations and Management Responses can be reviewed on pages 16 and 17 of the June 30, 2008 Financial Statements prepared by Foster Carpenter Black & Co. LLP and distributed at the May meeting. Rob will research and confirm to see if BACTS receives less than \$500,000 a year in Federal funds, it may not be necessary to have a CPA do the audit. EMDC would be able to provide the audit, therefore, reducing costs by \$5,000-\$6,000 which is currently being paid out to a CPA. The Policy Committee moved (Charles Heinonen); second (Jim Ring) and unanimously ***Voted: to accept and approve the audit report as presented.***

7. Maine Tomorrow Study Update – Rob Kenerson

John Melrose has been working on this project. There will be a meeting on June 2, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at EMDC. Invitations were sent out to the policy makers, city managers, town managers and MPO chairs. John Duncan and a couple of his policy committee members will be making the trip from Portland to attend. Another meeting will be scheduled near the end of June.

One of the tasks in the study is to look for inter-model and multi-model connections. How we might do that more efficiently. The idea of a forum was suggested to include Concord Trailways, Greyhound, Cyr Bus, someone representing the cruise ship line coming into the area, and the BAT, etc.

8. Bicycle/Pedestrian Study Update – Rob Kenerson

A Public meeting is scheduled for Wednesday (May 20) night at Brewer City Hall – bike study presented at 6:30 p.m. and pedestrian study presented at 8:00 p.m. There will be three (3) public hearings, the first is scheduled for May 20, the second for June 16 and the third for June 25 at which time the final draft will be presented. All will be held at Brewer City Hall.

9. I-95 Corridor Study Update – Rob Kenerson

There is a Public meeting schedule for Wednesday, May 27, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bangor Conference Center (Hogan Road) for the purpose of presenting information that has been collected regarding the I-95 Corridor Study. The study is basically looking in Bangor from city line to city line.

Rob attended an Institute of Transportation Engineers conference in Saratoga, New York last week. The ITE district meeting included all of New England, and all of New York state including Metro New York. Part of the reason that Rob attended was that beginning in June, Rob will be the President of the Maine section of ITE and Maine will be hosting the district meeting next year. The conference is attended by approximately 200 people and has a budget of \$60,000.

Rob attended a “roundabout” tour at the conference. The town of Malta, NY will have 14 roundabouts in the next two years. Rob brought a map to share. Many of the roundabouts are two (2) lanes.

10. Commute Another Way Week Recap – Dianne Rice

Dianne reported that even though less funding was available making it more difficult, the CAWW was great! Statewide numbers were not available from GoMaine at the time of this meeting. The breakfast had the best attendance since they began offering this as outreach. BACTS has a page on Facebook which provides easy access to many. The media coverage was “awesome!”

GoMaine which is run by GPCOG out of Portland has new vans and are looking for places to put these vans. It is necessary to have at least 5 people to start a van service. Dianne would like to have VMS signs out to run a message promoting the van pools and making the public aware that this is an option as a transportation alternative.

11. Other Business

- Peggy Duval stated that the State Legislative Appropriations Committee voted on the budget, but has not gone through the final process
 - o There will be 20 State shutdown days over the next two (2) years; most will be adjacent to holidays
 - o Looking at insurance premium adjustments
 - o June 5, all 43 layoff take effect; some have left, new positions have been offered within DOT, about 10 will be going out the door. Still discussion regarding the rest areas continuing
 - o Planning unit – lost 14 positions out of 70-75; nine positions were layoff notices, some were vacant positions
 - o Transit position is open and has been posted

Peggy will send an updated organizational chart of Planning.

- Rob and Dianne successfully completed the Local Administered Project (LAP) certification class.
- BACTS project status report presented, please read and comment
- Don met with Comp Plan Committee in Bangor
- Thursday there will be a webinar on “Climate Change Impacts”
- On June 12, there will be a webinar on “Urban Boundries”
- Dianne will begin traffic counts; currently setting up a schedule. If you have any

- requests, please contact Dianne
- Consideration is being given and the budget being review to allow the purchase of “Miovision” which is a digital camera that has the ability to do a turning count. This information helps improve signal turning and timing coordination on corridors.

12. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:07AM.

Respectfully Submitted by: *Jane C. Black*