

**Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System**  
**Policy/Technical Committee Meeting Minutes**  
*February 17, 2009 –Draft-*

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Mike Laberge, MDOT	Dianne Rice, BACTS
	Linda Johns, Brewer	Frank Higgins, Brewer
	Don Cooper, BACTS	Barbara Cox, Milford
	Bob Osborne, Hampden	Charles Heinonen, Old Town
	Anna Price, FHWA	Terry Hannan, MDOT
	Rob Kenerson, BACTS	Jim Ring, Bangor
	Becky Grzesik, EMDC	Darryl Belz, MDOT

**Call to Order**

The Bangor Area comprehensive Transportation System Policy Committee met on Tuesday, February 17, 2009 in the Penobscot Board Room of EMDC, 40 Harlow Street, Bangor, Maine.

Jim Ring, Vice Chair of the Policy Committee, called the meeting to order at 9:45AM.

**Approval of the January 20, 2009 Policy/Technical Committee Meeting Minutes**

The Policy Committee moved (Frank), seconded (Mike), and unanimously ***Voted: to approve the January 20, 2009 Policy/Technical Committee Meeting Minutes as presented.***

**Confirm Signal Study Contract Modification Email Vote**

Rob supplied a copy of the email vote that took place this month regarding the extension of the BACTS and J.W. Sewall contract. As the email vote passed unanimously for the contract extension to move forward, the committee moved (Charlie), seconded (Frank), and unanimously ***Voted: to take the next contractual steps with J.W. Seawall in a BACTS wide signal study, and extend the contract to include further study.***

Michael Waugh and Aron Larson are preparing prices for the continuation of the study, and will want comment as soon as possible.

**Signal Study Final Approval**

Rob supplied the committee with copies of the final draft of the Signal Study complete by J.W. Sewall, for final review. The only change since the last meeting was the inclusion of the future study work, adding to the title ***Phase I***. After final review of the report the committee moved (Frank), seconded (Linda), and unanimously ***Voted: to accept the final Signal Study from J.W. Sewall as presented in the report.***

Dianne and Don completed signal timing runs in the signal study corridors finding that, besides a fifteen minute, peak morning congestion, the traffic in the corridors run “significantly smoother” than before.

In addition to this conversation, Rob passed out the latest version of the Stimulus Package Project List. The projected proposal list is out for administrative requirements and public comment. Two of the submitted BACTS region projects are the Old Town Airport and side walk projects (Cape Hart in Bangor). Since this list is not final, Mike will notify Rob if any TIP adjustments need to be made once the “ball starts rolling”.

## **RFP's**

### ***Bicycle/ Pedestrian Study Update***

The RFP is now complete with final edits from Rob and Peggy Duvall. The RFP for both studies are ready for public notice this week. The RFP outlines the time frame for the project, including the March 13, 2009 response deadline. It was agreed by the committee to accept the Bicycle/ Pedestrian Study Update RFP as presented and to send it out to bid at the earliest convenience this week.

### ***Access Management***

Estimates for the study are complete, estimating a budget cost of \$5,000. Because of this budget cost the study can be sole-sourced, or as Rob suggested prepared in-house.

Joan Walton, planner from ATRC in the Lewiston/ Auburn area, has offered the Access Management Study she recently completed for Route 196, for BACTS to review as an example. This report was also done in-house.

The committee agreed that BACTS/EMDC has the resources to complete this study in house and to move forward in this direction allowing the project to begin sooner.

## **FY 2010- 2011 TIP Project Discussion**

Rob passed out the cost estimate and scope sheets prepared by Maine DOT for several FY 2010-2011 TIP projects. Denis Lovely and Terry Hannan had reviewed the BACTS projects and had concerns on the scope and/or estimates for five projects. The project that the committee discussed at length was the Brewer Wilson Street widening project. The preliminary engineering was already funded and was included in the estimate and some believe the right of estimate was low. The committee tabled the discussion on making any changes to five projects until the next meeting and asked if the concerns on the Wilson Street project could be addressed and brought back to the March meeting.

## **FY 2010- 2011 UPWP Funding & Process**

Rob passed out the preliminary funding information for the FY 2010-2011 Unified Planning Work Program. The funding for BACTS for FY 2008-2009 was \$888,425 and the estimated amount for FY 2010-2011 will be \$807,857 or a 10% cut. The sheet also presented the municipal local match history and an local share estimate for this two year budget.

## **Other Business**

Rob passed out an email document “Senate Passes Recovery Package” detailing the highlights of the bill.

The EMDC/BACTS contract and Rob's contract will be on the agenda for the March meeting. Rob will schedule a meeting for Michael Aube, Bill Reed, and Jim Ring prior to that meeting.

John Noll and Dianne Rice are nearing completion of the Capehart Sidewalk Accessibility Study. Last week's public meeting was interactive and informative.

Don Cooper updated the committee on the BAT Connection between Old Town and Orono. To date the project has been federally funded for the next three years at \$30,000.

Rob mentioned that Michael Aube said he was sorry he had not been able to attend and looks forward to meeting with committee for the first time next month.

### **Adjournment**

The next Policy/ Technical Committee was been changed to **March 24, 2009** to allow time for the Bicycle/ Pedestrian Study Update RFP responses to be reviewed.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:40AM.