

Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System
Technical Committee Meeting Minutes
June 20, 2006

PRESENT:	Jim Ring, Bangor	Frank Higgins, Brewer
	Ted Trembley, Bangor	Bob Osborne, Hampden
	Dana Wardwell, Bangor	Linda Johns, Brewer
	David Struck, Orono	Dianne Currie, BACTS
	Charles Heinonen, Old Town	Rob Kenerson, BACTS
	John Robichaud, Orono	Don Cooper, BACTS
	Mike Laberge, MDOT	Jaci Hancock, EMDC

The Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System Technical Committee met on Tuesday, June 20, 2006 in the Penobscot Boardroom at EMDC, 40 Harlow Street, Bangor, Maine. Jim Ring called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 18TH MEETING MINUTES

Frank Higgins' motion to approve the April 18, 2006 Technical Committee meeting minutes was seconded by John Robichaud, and unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION OF FY 2008-2010 CAPITAL WORK PLAN (BTIP)

Prior to beginning the discussion on the '08 - '10 BTIP, Mike Laberge, ME DOT, provided an update on the level of available state transportation funding. Prior to adjourning, the legislature allocated an additional \$30 million in funds for transportation infrastructure needs. Under a formula devised and applied by ME DOT, BACTS was allocated \$500,000 of the \$20 million remaining after allocation of \$10 million to maintenance projects and disaster relief for York County. Mike informed the committee that these funds must be utilized for projects: (1) that go out to bid no later than July 1, 2007; and (2) for which the ratio of federal, state and local funding will not be changed as a result of receipt of additional state funding - i.e., projects that have not reached the stage for which the federal and state contribution percentage ratios have been set. Mike noted that several projects on the BACTS deferral list could be good candidates for funding. He also advised the committee that BACTS should determine which projects these funds should be allocated to as soon as practicable to assure that the allocated funds are actually dedicated to BACTS projects and available to BACTS when needed.

A discussion followed as to the best way to determine which projects should be selected for allocation of these newly available funds and the possibility that currently approved projects might need additional funds due to continuing increases in underlying costs. It was the consensus of the committee that projects for funding be selected from the current BTIP. Following discussion it was moved (Charlie Heinonen), seconded (David Struck) and unanimously approved that:

1. Mike Laberge and Rob Kenerson will work together to review projects in the current BTIP to determine which of those projects would qualify for the additional available funding and report back to the committee;
2. Rob will work with the communities so that they can provide revised cost estimates on projects subject to review per (1) above;
3. A special meeting of the Technical Committee will be held, tentatively scheduled for 9:30 a.m. on July 11th, to make recommendations on allocation of the \$500,000 in additional funding among BACTS projects so that the Policy Committee can act on the recommendation at its July 18th meeting; and

4. Mike Laberge will obtain clarification of the stage at which a project is at when the federal/state percentage share ratio is deemed to be firmly allocated.

Mike Laberge shared a "MPO Quarterly Report" with the committee. ME DOT intends to issue such reports in the future and Mike indicated that he would appreciate input on the accurateness of information contained in the first Quarterly Report as it will serve as the basis for subsequent reports.

Rob Kenerson drew the committee's attention to a table of proposed '08 - '10 BTIP projects submitted by BACTS communities. He noted that a short list has not been prepared as additional information is required to score the proposals. Dianne Currie requested that those communities with incomplete project information furnish additional information as soon as possible so that she can begin scoring the proposed projects.

HAMPDEN ROUTE 1A PROJECT SCOPING DISCUSSION

The committee reviewed a document provided by ME DOT entitled, "Hampden Preliminary Scoping Estimate," that provided cost estimates for nine potential project scope options for completion of the remaining 2.446 mile of the Hampden Route 1A Project. After discussion, it was the consensus of the committee that, under the circumstances, the most appropriate scope option is that set out at, option C - 1 (rehabilitation, 12'-6', with bituminous curbing). In response to Mike Laberge's inquiry on behalf of Project Manager Joel Kittredge, the committee reconfirmed their commitment to this project at an unspecified level. The committee agreed with Charlie Heinonen's suggestion that in order to determine the way forward, Me DOT needs to provide guidance to the committee on the logical segmentation of the uncompleted portion of the project.

OTHER BUSINESS

Rob Kenerson solicited input from the committee on the upcoming Truck Route Study RFP. A handout of the 1997 BACTS Truck Route Study RFP was provided for reference. The committee suggested that the following be included in the scope of the study: the impact of trash trucks on existing roads, neighborhoods and intersections; the impact of trucks on local roads now that the 80,000 pound federal highway threshold is being enforced; the safety impact of truck routes on railroad crossings, bridges, school zones and crosswalks; and an inventory of what materials are being hauled and whether there are any hazardous materials and or emergency response implications. Rob advised the committee that a revised RFP will be available for the committee's review by the July 11th meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was moved (David Struck) and seconded (Frank Higgins) to adjourn. Motion to adjourn was unanimously approved; meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jaci S. Hancock