

**Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System**  
**Technical Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**September 21, 2006 – APPROVED**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Frank Higgins, Brewer	Ernie Martin, Me DOT
	Bob Osborne, Hampden	Janis Piper, Me DOT
	Dana Wardwell, Bangor	Mike Laberge, Me DOT
	David Struck, Orono	Dianne Currie, BACTS
	Charles Heinonen, Old Town	Rob Kenerson, BACTS
	Ted Trembley, Bangor	Don Cooper, BACTS
	John Theriault, AMES A/E	Jaci Hancock, EMDC

The Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System Technical Committees met on Thursday, September 21, 2006 in the Penobscot Boardroom at EMDC, 40 Harlow Street, Bangor, Maine. Frank Higgins called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m., after which those present introduced themselves.

**APPROVAL OF AUGUST 8<sup>TH</sup> MEETING MINUTES**

It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to approve the August 8, 2006 Technical Committee meeting minutes as presented.

**“OTHER BUSINESS”**

In order to accommodate the schedule of Ernie Martin, Me DOT, it was agreed to move the discussion of certain “Other Business” issues forward. Specifically, Mr. Martin wanted to discuss aspects of the following projects: PIN #13073 (Bangor, Stillwater/Hogan), PIN #13077 (Brewer, Wilson), and PIN #11577 (Hampden, 1A). With respect to PIN #13073, Mr. Martin indicated that Me DOT needed to meet with representatives of the City of Bangor (and BACTS, if they desired) to discuss the scope of the project and to get a better idea of potential development plans, and their likely impact, along that corridor. It was agreed that Ted Trembley and Jim Ring would meet with Me DOT to discuss this further.

Rob Kenerson noted that there is a need for increased communication between Me DOT staff and BACTS and its member communities. He remarked that this used to be accomplished during Me DOT team meetings that included the communities and BACTS. Since those inclusive meetings ceased some time ago, there are no longer ready opportunities to communicate on projects as they progress. It was agreed by all present, from communities and Me DOT, that it was important to have increased opportunities for communication and that MEDOT would work towards achieving this goal.

Mr. Martin reported that ME DOT intended to take PIN #13077 “in-house” and would meet with representatives of the City of Brewer to further discuss the project. He added that because of the planning work required, he did not expect the project to go out to bid until after this winter.

Mr. Martin then inquired whether BACTS had made a determination as to what, if any, portion(s) of the Hampden/Route 1A project to proceed with. Rob Kenerson responded that this project will be part of the BTIP discussion scheduled for this meeting. He indicated that the Technical Committee’s aim was to present recommendations for the ‘08-’10 BTIP to the Policy Committee at their September 26th meeting. The Policy Committee would act on the recommendations as early as that meeting. However, the final deadline for presenting the BTIP to Me DOT is in mid-October. Rob expressed confidence that BACTS should have at least a preliminary response to Mr. Martin’s question next week.

## **FY 2008-2010 CAPITAL WORK PLAN (BTIP) SHORT-LIST**

It was agreed to proceed with discussion of the BTIP at this time. Rob Kenerson presented the committee with the most recent iteration of the BTIP "Short-List," with all potential projects weighted, rated and placed in one of the following categories: Resurface, Reconstruction, Reclamation/Rehabilitation and Intersection/Signal. In order to assist in framing the discussion and put things into perspective, Rob noted that the available funding for the BTIP is estimated to be \$4,840,676. The total estimated cost for all projects (except Route 1A in Hampden from the end of PIN #11577 to Old County Road) is \$6,836,800. Therefore, there are not adequate funds available to fully fund all projects on the list.

There followed discussion of the best way to approach the selection of projects for the final BTIP and several attempts were made to determine the best way to proceed in making project selections and/or deletions. Among the issues raised and discussed by the committee were: the intent and appropriate scope of the Stillwater Avenue Project, including which (if either) portion of the project should be given priority, and whether it was most appropriate in the current BTIP to focus on PE for this project, particularly with the likely development projects in the foreseeable future; the ranking of the Bennoch Road project and balancing its bad condition and relatively low volume of traffic in the overall selection of projects for the BTIP; and the need to include Ohio Street from Griffin to Blue Hill in the BTIP because of the Policy Committee's commitment to do so during the last BTIP process. It was noted that both the Stillwater Avenue and Ohio Street projects might need to be recategorized, which could affect their respective ranking.

Following substantial discussion of several suggestions and various combinations of projects, it was moved by Charlie Heinonen and seconded by Frank Higgins that the following projects be recommended to the Policy Committee for inclusion in the '08 - '10 BTIP: RES-3 (Bangor, Griffin Road, Union to Maine), RES-4 (Bangor, Cumberland) and REH-2 (Bangor, Ohio Street, Griffin to Blue Hill) which should be redesignated as a Resurfacing (RES) project. The motion was unanimously approved.

It was further moved by Charlie Heinonen and seconded by Mike Laberge that the following projects be recommended to the Policy Committee for inclusion in the '08 - '10 BTIP: A total of \$451,720 in funding for the Intersection-Signal category to be comprised of INT-3 (Old Town, Center at Jefferson) and the remaining \$350,000 to be allocated by the City of Bangor among their submitted Intersection projects. The motion was unanimously approved.

It was further moved by Charlie Heinonen and seconded by Mike Laberge that the following projects be recommended to the Policy Committee for inclusion in the '08 - '10 BTIP: REH-1 (Brewer, Parkway South, I-395 to Wilson) and REH-5 (Bangor, Mt. Hope, Saratoga to Hogan). The motion was unanimously approved. Following this vote, it was calculated that just under \$2 million had been allocated to the projects recommended by the committee.

In response to a proposal made by Mike Laberge, ME DOT, the issue of whether it was appropriate to maintain a reserve/contingency fund for BTIP projects as a protection against inflation was discussed at some length. A motion was made by Frank Higgins and seconded by Charlie Heinonen that \$240,000 (approximately 5% of available BTIP funds) be placed in reserve to be allocated among projects on an as-needed basis at the discretion of the Policy Committee. Following discussion, the motion was unanimously defeated as it emerged as the consensus of the committee that current cost estimates already take inflationary concerns into account and that communities should be willing to continue to take responsibility for potential shortfalls.

It was next moved by Charlie Heinonen and seconded by David Struck that the following projects be recommended to the Policy Committee for inclusion in the '08 – '10 BTIP: REC-3, PE for reconstruction project (Brewer, Wilson/Rte. 1A), REC-1, PE for reconstruction project, (Old Town, Stillwater Avenue, College to Elementary School) and REC-6A (Hampden, Rte. 1A to Hillside). The motion was unanimously approved.

It was next moved by Ted Trembley and seconded by Charlie Heinonen that the following projects be recommended to the Policy Committee for inclusion in the '08 – '10 BTIP: REC-4 (Orono, Bennoch Road, Town Line to Godfrey) and REC-5 (Old Town, Bennoch Road, Stillwater to Town Line), in an amount not to exceed the remaining available funds of approximately \$1.345 million. Following a discussion of the needs of other projects and the current scope of the Bennoch Road Project and whether it was appropriate to re-evaluate the scope, a motion was made by David Struck, and seconded by Charlie Heinonen to amend the pending motion, to recommend to the Policy Committee that the following projects be included in the '08 – '10 BTIP: REC-2, PE for reconstruction project (Brewer, Rte. 9/North Main) at a cost of \$55,000 and REC-4 and REC-5 (combined) at a reduced scope to enable completion of the Bennoch Road Project for no more than the remaining available funds in the estimated amount of \$1,290,636. Janis Piper, ME DOT indicated that she would provide a revised cost estimate for the Bennoch Road projects in time for the Policy Committee meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup>. The revised estimate will reflect the potential savings from exclusion of sidewalks and closed drainage and the insertion of a slip line in the culvert instead of culvert replacement. Ms. Piper was confident that these revisions in scope will enable the Bennoch Road project to be completed in the '08 – '10 BTIP. Following discussion, the motion, as amended was unanimously approved.

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

It was moved by Frank Higgins and seconded by Charlie Heinonen that the Election of Officers be postponed until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Technical Committee and that until such time, the current officers shall continue to serve. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business at this time.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, it was moved by Mike Laberge and seconded by Charlie Heinonen to adjourn. Motion to adjourn was unanimously approved; meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jaci S. Hancock