

Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2015

Brewer Auditorium

Name	Representing
Rob Kenerson	BACTS
Dianne Rice	BACTS
Don Cooper	BACTS
Frank Higgins	City of Brewer
Belle Ryder	Town of Orono
Gerry Audibert	Maine DOT
Randall Barrows	Maine DOT
Scott Perkins	Town of Hermon
Dana Wardwell	City of Bangor
Rob Yerxa	Town of Orono
John Theriault	City of Bangor
David Gould	City of Bangor
Ted Trembley	City of Bangor
Barbara Veilleux	Penobscot County
Carlos Pena	FHWA

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Topic	Discussion	Action
Minutes	Frank Higgins called the November 17, 2015 meeting of the Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System Policy Committee to order at 9:37 am, at the Brewer Auditorium.	<i>John Theriault made the motion to accept the minutes of October 20, 2015 Policy Committee meeting. Rob Yerxa seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i>

2014-2015 BACTS UPWP Adjustments

Topic	Discussion	Action
	Rob Kenerson explained to the committee that is not unusual to adjust between tasks on the UPWP contract as the contract gets close to ending. He presented a spreadsheet and explained what each column meant and where there were shortfalls and overages. He said if the committee approves his adjusting these numbers he will do so and submit them to the State for approval.	<i>Belle Ryder made a motion to approve the adjustments. John Theriault seconded the motion Unanimously approved.</i>

Dashboard – Public Transparency Tool

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>Don explained that he completed a survey about sharing public data and was then contacted by a company named Socrata which has this software. The purpose of the software is to make data more transparent and available to the public. It can contain many types of data including data from the municipal level as well. Although the software is impressive, he did have reservations on the cost of the use of the software which is billed on a monthly basis between \$2000 and \$2500 depending on the complexity of the data.</p> <p>Carlos Pena asked if the State already did a similar thing and if this would be duplicating data that is already available. Dana Wardwell mentioned that the City also publicizes information on their website and other municipalities agreed that it is also already done in their towns through their websites. Belle felt that for a cost of \$30,000 a year you could hire a student to input data into a current website and make data available to the public that way.</p> <p>Don further explained that the uniqueness of the software is that anyone can go in and query the data in many different ways to get reports.</p> <p>Frank said he too felt that the cost of the software was very high and that it does seem like there would be duplication of data sharing that is already going on.</p> <p>Don will share a link with the committee so they can take a look at what the software is capable of doing and we will look in house at what other options we may have to make our data more public.</p>	

Technical Issues

Topic	Discussion	Action
<p>Construction progress reports</p>	<p>Frank reported that all of Brewers projects are complete and that MDOT is now focusing on next year's projects which include Parkway South and two intersection projects – Main and Wilson and Betton and North Main. He also noted that there was a culvert issue with the Parkway South Project and if the budget allows the fix it will be fixed within the contract if not it will have to be take care of at the municipal level.</p> <p>Ted reported that the Bangor projects including the Penobscot Corridor detection are done and that the Battery Back Ups are being installed on Main Street. Union St will finish up next spring and Union and Hogan sidewalks will be done next construction year.</p> <p>Hermon reported that the signal project at Billings Road and Rt. 2 is up however they are waiting for mast arms to arriving so if you go through the intersection the lights currently do not line up correctly with the roadway but will once the Mast Arms are installed. Other than that the signals are working correctly.</p>	

Transit Report

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>Don noted that there were no adverse comments on the TIP amendment which was approved pending no comments at the last meeting. The TIP amendment will allow the community connector to get one rehabbed bus.</p> <p>Belle asked when the new Black Bear Shuttle route will start. Don said they are still waiting for finalization on who will pay for the additional services</p> <p>Frank asked about the new bus stop on State Street which will service the new Senior housing. He wants to find out if a tip down needs to be put in. Don said that one should be since the route is</p>	

	not always serviced by the same bus and depending on the vehicle the handicap ramps are either in the back or front.	
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Maine DOT

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<p>Gerry reported that the work plan was just finished up at MDOT and it should be finalized shortly. Tammy Chase who used to do the book keeping and budgets has left her position to go work for the office of the Controller. Gerry also said that he will be working on the three party agreements for Orono and Hampden. There is a public hearing on December 3 for the Orono Roundabout.</p>	

Other Business

Topic	Discussion	Action
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rob reported that the Maine Transportation Conference is December 2 and information about the conference can be found on the MDOT website. 2. He has not heard any further updates on the Rural Contracts. 3. Rob said the State Transportation Innovation Committee (STIC) grant that the four Maine MPOs received is near completion. The draft report is being reviewed and should be complete by the end of the week. The findings of this research grant are that there are several different possibilities for integrating CAD systems with the Maine DOT 511 system. One issue that was identified is the fact that there are many different CAD programs for the 26 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPS) in Maine. It was decided that an initial approach could be a focus on integrating the Maine Department of Public Safety CAD system with the Maine DOT 511/ATMS. Each agency vendor was tasked with developing a concept and parameters by which data on traffic 	

incidents could be “pushed” from the DPS CAD system to the Maine DOT 511/ATMS system.

4. There will be about \$40,000 left in the Signal Improvement category of the UPWP. We can use these funds for equipment such as detection. Dianne has already talked to John Cyr about putting a list of need together and Rob wanted to extend the same to the other municipalities.
5. BACTS decided to hire the Audit firm MacConel & Dodd from Florida and they will be in our offices on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. We should be able to report back at the December meeting on the results.
1. Dana mentioned that there would be a public meeting at Bangor Council chambers on December 8, 2015. MDOT will be presenting information on the Diverging Diamond Interchange concept which they are looking at doing at the North Bound I95 off ramps and Hogan Road.

Topic	Discussion	Action
Adjournment		<i>The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.</i>