

Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2014 9:30 am

Brewer Auditorium

Name	Representing
Dianne Rice	BACTS
Barbara Veilleau	Penobscot County
Dana Wardwell	City of Bangor
John Rouleau	City of Old Town
Mike Gladu	Town of Milford
John Devin	MDOT
David Pardilla	Penobscot Nation
Bob Osborne	Town of Hampden
John Theriault	City of Bangor
Rob Yerxa	City of Orono
Belle Ryder	City of Orono
Linda Johns	City of Brewer
Frank Higgins	City of Brewer
Rob Kenerson	BACTS
Gerry Audibert	MDOT

Call to Order and Minutes Approval

Topic	Discussion	Action
Minutes	Frank Higgins called the October 21, 2014 meeting of the Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System Policy Committee to order at 9:38 am, at the Brewer Auditorium.	<i>Linda Johns made the motion to accept the minutes of August 19, 2014 Policy Committee meeting. Bob Osborne seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.</i>

Milford Old Town Study

Topic	Discussion	Action
Milford / Old Town Study	<p>John Theriault formally of J.W. Sewall Co. gave an overview of the Rt. 2 Old Town Milford corridor Study. The study area included the intersections of Center and Water streets, Center and Main streets in Old Town, Route 2 and Bradley Road, and Route 2 and the County Road in Milford.</p> <p>John Rouleau said that the City has recently hired Wright-Pierce to conduct a Downtown</p>	<i>Mike Gladu made the motion to accept the Study as final, Belle Ryder seconded the motion. Unanimous.</i>

	<p>Revitalization study and this study would be helpful.</p> <p>John T stated at the intersection of Brunswick and Center St. which was not part of this study was a High Crash Location. Rob K suggested the City contact the MDOT Safety Division to discuss this intersection and see if they had suggestions on how to improve it.</p> <p>The Milford Intersection of Route 2 and County Road was analyzed for a traffic signal. The intersection did not meet the necessary warrants. Mike Gladu pointed out there was a pedestrian crossing issue at this intersection. They have added a new cross walk which is helping. A suggestion was made to see if a Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon would work at this location. Dianne said she would discuss this with Steve Landry and get back to Mike.</p>	
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Broadway Study Update

Topic	Discussion	Action
Broadway Study Update	<p>Rob K updated the Committee on the process of the Broadway Corridor Study. The counts have been collected and turned over to the consultant. An Advisory Committee has been formed. The committee includes several business owners, representatives from Husson College and advocates for bicycles, pedestrians and ADA mobility.</p> <p>The first meeting is November 20 from 3 – 4:30</p>	

MDOT Planning

Topic	Discussion	Action
Staff Changes	<p>Rob K informed the committee of recent changes at the Bureau of Transportation Systems Planning in MDOT.</p> <p>There is a newly created outreach office and new direction for statewide planning.</p>	

<p>MPO/RPO Outreach</p>	<p>Duane Scott is now only responsible for the statewide Long Range Plan update and as a planner for Region 3.</p> <p>Dan Stewart is no longer the Bike/Pedestrian Coordinator, he is the planner for Region 1.</p> <p>There are interviews currently ongoing for a new Bike/Pedestrian coordinator and planner for Region 3.</p> <p>Fred Michaud is now a Regional Planner for Regions 4 and 5.</p> <p>Penny Vaillancourt has left MDOT and moved to another State job.</p> <p>Chris Mann will now be the new MPO and RPO Coordinator</p> <p>Gerry Audibert remains the MPO Engineer.</p> <p>Rob explained that the State is looking to use the RPO and MPOs to help with outreach. BACTS may have an expanded role in this.</p> <p>The State may be putting out an RFP for the RPO contract for this area. This may be something BACTS should consider. This would require BACTS to hire another staff member.</p>	
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Technical

Topic	Discussion	Action
<p>Construction Progress Reports Old Town</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a recent set back with the Stillwater signals recently approved to be funded with left over funds from the Stillwater Avenue project. The State has decided the detection cameras were too costly and told the City they would have to cover that cost. Rob asked for a copy of the letter from MDOT so he can look into this further. 	

<p>Bangor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The West Market Square project is nearly complete. There was an electrical issue discovered which should be resolved within a month. • The old Police Department demolition is complete. • Main Street Sewer project is complete. • Ted Trembley is working on the Main Street center islands and west side sidewalks and the easterly sidewalks will be done next year. • The Broadway widening project at the St. Joe's Healthcare facilities ended up costing less than the funds received therefore there are additional funds the city can use on the Broadway corridor. • The Stillwater and Bangor Mall Boulevard turning lanes are nearly complete. • A study is now underway to look at allowing left hand turns off of the I-95 off ramps on Stillwater Ave. • The city is looking at putting a slip lane from the Bass Park parking lot onto Bass Park Blvd (formally Dutton Street) to help break up the vehicle congestion and allow a safer crossing for pedestrian traffic exiting the Cross Center during events. 	
<p>Brewer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The city is currently having a battery backup installed at the Main and Wilson Street signals. The city approved to fund four battery backups at critical intersections. This is the first to see how it goes before proceeding with others. • The City has hired a new Assistant Engineer to replace Jeff. His name is Jeremy Caron and he comes from J. W. Sewall Co. 	

Other Business

Topic	Discussion	Action
<p>Hampden</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rob informed the committee that Rob Osborne's position is being cut to 28 hours starting in January so if anyone knows of any planning work, let Bob know. 	

BACTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rob updated everyone on Don. He will be returning to work on a part time basis as of 10/16 	
Bangor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dana informed the committee that Reggie Burke who has been with the City's Electrical Department has retired after 40+ years. The city is in the process of hiring someone to replace Reggie. 	
Penobscot Nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State of Maine has chosen the Penobscot Nation as one of the tribal governments to review. 	
TIM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rob noted that the TIM group has three upcoming dates for the First Responder classes in November. 	

Topic	Discussion	Action
Adjournment		<i>The meeting was adjourned at 11:09 a.m.</i>