

Midland Area Transportation Study (MATS)

Technical Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, October 20, 2021

This meeting was held at the Midland County Services Building 4th floor Conference Room.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 AM. All members participated in person or by phone.

Those who participated were: Jon Myers (Midland County Road Commission), Amy Bidwell (DART), Matt Lemon (City of Midland), Jim Lillo (Bay County Road Commission), Mike Wood (Jerome Township), Terrance Hall (Edenville Township), Steven VanTol (Williams Charter Township), Cody Bodrie (EMCOG), Dennis Borchard (Saginaw County Road Commission, Anita Boughner (MDOT Statewide Planning), Katie Beck (MDOT SUTA – via phone), Brian Stark (MDOT Bay Region – via phone), Gary Rogers (County Connection of Midland – via phone), Bryan Gillett (MATS), Maja Bolanowska (MATS).

2. Changes to the Agenda

There were two changes to the agenda. Item 2A was added, selection of Chairperson for today's meeting and Technical Committee Vice-Chair for the remainder of the term.

2A. Selection of Meeting Chair and Election of Technical Committee Vice-Chair

Mike Wood, seconded by Terry Hall, nominated Jon Myers to chair this meeting in the absence of Chair Russ Inman and an elected Vice-Chair. Nomination carried. A motion was made by Terry Hall, seconded by Mike Wood, to nominate Matt Lemon for the position of Vice-Chair for the remainder of the term (till end of CY 2022). Motion carried.

3. Approval of September 15, 2021, Minutes

A motion was made by Terry Hall and seconded by Matt Lemon to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

4. Reports of officers

Matt Lemon reported:

The City of Midland is currently wrapping up all 2021 projects, most significantly the Wheeler Road and St. Andrews Street projects.

Design for the Sugnet Road project is being finalized in preparation for next summer's construction.

Next summer will also include a paving and water/sewer project for Soccer Drive.

Discussions are getting underway regarding action plans for the Concept 5 sewer study recently completed.

Some project delays have been caused by the City having difficulty getting concrete.

Anita Boughner reported:

There will be a new Cost and Scheduling Engineer for the Mt. Pleasant TSC on November 1. Design work has commenced for the one-ways in Midland, i.e. Indian and Buttles Streets, as well as the Wackerly at Eastman intersection and the upcoming M-20 project.

Bills are currently proposed that would allow buy-outs of local unit Federal Aid at 90 cents on the dollar, Maja elaborated on some of the pros and cons of these.

Jon Myers reported:

All 2021 projects are currently in the wrap-up phase, particularly the Poseyville Road project which will be done by the end of the week.

The Coleman Road Bridge is 90% complete but has been delayed by concrete availability.

All rural paving projects are complete, but some local projects are underway yet at this time.

Dennis Borchard reported:

The Saginaw County Road Commission is currently considering a possible sale of an excess garage facility to a local marijuana dispensary.

Other projects are successfully wrapping up for the year.

5. Agency Reports

Maja reported on the status of various MATS work tasks:

Update of the 2045 MATS Long Range Plan is underway and proceeding on schedule.

TIP changes are being processed and brought to the committees where warranted.

PASER ratings for the City of Midland were completed in August, and ratings for the Midland County Road Commission have been completed in late September. Local PASER ratings for Edenville Township were requested, and will be performed tomorrow with MATS and MCRC staff.

Required Performance Measures in various categories are being monitored by staff and will be discussed on today's agenda.

6. Unfinished and New Business

A. Performance Measures

Maja summarized local traffic crash data recently collected by MATS staff via RoadSoft and the data archived at Michigan Traffic Crash Facts. This data, when compared to both recent MDOT data and the state safety targets presented for review and support today, show that traffic crashes in the MATS area are either flat or declining over the previous decade.

Due to the recent statewide accelerated upward trends for all safety performance measures, including both fatalities and fatality rate per 100 million vehicle miles, MDOT has increased the targets for all measures to better correspond with modelled predictions.

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mike Wood and seconded by Dennis Borchard to support the CY 2022 State Safety Performance Measure Targets and recommend same to the Policy Committee. Motion carried.

B. Long Range Planning

Maja provided a summary of work done within last couple of months related to the update to the MATS Long Range Transportation Plan. To that end, maps have been prepared for presentation today showing the 2045 “Build” scenario that models completion of the various projects presented to SUTA on the Modeled Capacity Expansion Project list.

Maja briefly reviewed the modeling done to date by MDOT SUTA division for the LRP. Several maps were presented, showing traffic volumes, and volume to capacity ratios. The 2045 Build Scenario Traffic Conditions were presented, showing majority of the network operating during peak travel times at less than 50% capacity, with some road segments at 50 to 75% capacity and only few at above 75% capacity. This Future Year scenario is the end product of 2017 traffic volumes plus 28 intervening years of growth and some projected capacity projects. Maja discussed the impact of those projects, indicating that the only project with substantial influence on the travel patterns is construction of the full interchange at US10/Waldo Road (4 ramps versus 2 existing presently).

Furthermore, Maja reported on meetings held with the Midland County Road Commission and the City of Midland regarding the list of prioritized projects and list of projects exceeding available funding, for the Long Range Transportation Plan.

7. Public Comment

No public comments were received and no members of the public were present.

8. Adjournment

There being no further items for discussion, the October 20, 2021 MATS Technical Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:54 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Maja Bolanowska
Director
Midland Area Transportation Study
220 West Ellsworth Street, Suite 326
Phone: 989-832-6813
E-mail: majab@midlandmpo.org