

# Midland Area Transportation Study (MATS)

## Technical Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

*This meeting was held at the Midland County Services Building 4<sup>th</sup> floor Conference Room.*

### 1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM by Russ Inman.

Those who participated were: Russ Inman (Midland County Road Commission), Nick Hornuk (Saginaw County Road Commission), Amy Bidwell (Midland DART), Gary Rogers (County Connection of Midland) – via phone, Terrance Hall (Edenville Township), Max Gierman (MDOT Statewide Planning), Mike Wood (Jerome Township), Thor Brecht (Non-Motorized Representative), Dave Haag (City of Auburn), Jack Hofweber (MDOT Mt. Pleasant TSC), Maja Bolanowska (MATS), Bryan Gillett (MATS).

### 2. Changes to the Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

### 3. Approval of August 16, 2023 Minutes

A motion was made by Terry Hall and seconded by Dan Armentrout to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2023 meeting. Motion carried.

### 4. Reports of officers

Jack Hofweber reported that, due to a decision the City of Midland made to bury the power lines, which in turn necessitated a design change by Consumers, which in turn required a design change by MDOT, the public input meeting for the US-10BR Indian and Buttes project has been delayed until approximately March of 2024. However, there will be no delay to the project delivery.

Amy Bidwell reported that the new electric vans and their associated charging stations are now available and staff are getting familiar with them. In addition, a ribbon cutting will be held on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 pm to celebrate the arrival and implementation of the vans. In conjunction with this project, Consumers Energy will have a further announcement on October 20th with additional details. In addition, the bus bike rack project is currently out to bid, and is expected to be awarded soon. Finally, the transit coordination study is moving along well, with on-site visits by the consultant having recently occurred.

Russ Inman reported that their 2024 RTF project is currently in design, their FY 2023 urban project has been moved to FY 2024, and that both the Saginaw Road and Eastman Road projects are in design review at this time.

Maja announced that the FY 2024 urban allocations for the various funding sources are expected to be released by the end of October. Those \$ amounts will be lower per 2020 Census adjustments, but not by as much as had been previously thought. This will, however, affect the one urban project scheduled for FY 2024, by the Bay County Road Commission. Maja also reported that the FY 2025 Federal Aid Buyout Program is on hold for now, however the FY 2024 Program is proceeding with no changes.

## **5. Agency Reports**

Bryan and Maja reported on the status of various MATS work tasks:

Staff has been quite busy with both the MIO Technical Assistance project, as well as being engaged in developing a Request for Proposals for the now-authorized TAP Pilot project. In addition, in a public information effort, a table is being developed that will display key information about all transportation projects in the MATS area for calendar year 2023. Next month staff will begin work on the two year-end documents routinely produced, i.e. the Annual Obligation Report and the Final Acceptance Report. Maja explained that 4<sup>th</sup> quarter billings for FY 2023 were being prepared, with invoices having been received from DART but are still needed from the Midland County Road Commission and City of Midland.

In addition, Bryan reported regarding MIRE (Model Inventory of Roadway Elements), a federally required data collection endeavor, with MDOT playing a key role in facilitating that data collection and review utilizing Roadsoft software. This year is the first year of involvement by local agencies. Bryan indicated that the deadline for this year's MIRE data evaluation and submittal to MDOT is November 1st, and that the process was relatively straightforward for local agencies to follow. Of the 38 so-called "functional data elements", only 6 need to be reviewed and edited this year, though all would need to be complete by 2026. MATS staff would be available to assist local agencies in any way if requested.

## **6. Unfinished and New Business**

### **A. MATS FY 2023-2026 TIP Amendment**

Bryan explained the proposed changes to the MATS TIP (details provided in the attached table):

JN 219502: FY 2024– MDOT – PE Phase – Non-freeway signage on trunklines in Bay Region – Phase Addition

JN 219502: FY 2025– MDOT – CON Phase – Non-freeway signage on trunklines in Bay Region – Phase Addition

After a brief discussion a motion was made by Thoralf Brecht and seconded by Dave Haag to approve the TIP changes and recommend same to the Policy Committee. Motion carried.

### **B. MIO Technical Assistance Program**

Bryan introduced the documentation related to the Michigan Infrastructure Office Technical Assistance Program which MATS staff had been participating in for several months. A brief

history of the project was related, along with the current status. At the conclusion of the RFP process, 2 firms had submitted proposals for the project, which were presented to the committee. Copies of the RFP as released by MATS on August 18th, 2023; the addenda to that RFP; the proposals as submitted by Wade-Trim, Inc., and Guardian Grant Advisors, LLC; a series of questions submitted to the proposers by MATS staff and the answers the firms replied with were distributed to the Committee.

After significant discussion it was determined that further evaluation of the proposals and the process would be necessary at this point, and that a subcommittee would be more able to properly assess the proposals submitted and the potential options for moving forward instead of entire Technical Committee. It was agreed to by consensus that a cross-section of members that were interested and/or had been a part of the process previously, should be represented on this Selection Subcommittee.

## **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 18, 2023 MATS Technical Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:02 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Maja Bolanowska  
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MATS FY 2023-2026 TIP Amendment for September 2023

Fiscal Year	Job no.	Amendment # (CR #)	Phase	County	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Limits	Length	Primary work Type	Project Description	Federal Budget	Federal Fund Source	State Budget	Local Budget	Total Phase Cost	GPA	Comments	Total Job Cost	Job Type
2025	219502		0 CON	Midland,Gladwin,Saginaw	MDOT	TSCWide	M-30 Signing	57.279	Traffic Safety	Non-freeway Signing	\$30,709	STG	\$204,791	0	\$977,500	Not Applicable	PHASADD	\$1,105,000	Trunkline
2024	219502		0 PE	Midland,Gladwin,Saginaw	MDOT	TSCWide	M-30 Signing	57.279	Traffic Safety	Non-freeway Signing	\$30,500	STG	\$0	0	\$127,500	Not Applicable	PHASADD	\$1,105,000	Trunkline