

# Midland Area Transportation Study (MATS)

## Technical Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 17, 2022

*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), Amy Bidwell (DART), Dan Armentrout (Saginaw County Road Commission), Steve Van Toll (Williams Charter Township), Dave Haag (City of Auburn), Gary Rogers (County Connection of Midland), Terrance Hall (Edenville Township), Gil Bernier (Jerome Township), Thoralf Brecht (Non-Motorized Representative), Matt Lemon (City of Midland), Cody Bodrie (EMCOG), Jack Hofweber (MDOT Mt. Pleasant TSC), Jay Reithel (MDOT Bay Region), Lindsey Dowsell (MDOT Statewide Planning) – via phone, Maja Bolanowska (MATS), Bryan Gillett (MATS).

### 2. Changes to the Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

### 3. Approval of May 18, 2022 Minutes

A motion was made by Dan Armentrout and seconded by Gary Rogers to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2022 meeting. Motion carried.

### 4. Reports of officers

Russ Inman reported: Presently 70% complete on county-wide paving projects, RTF projects will be obligated soon for construction next year, Monroe/Waldo roundabout may be pushed to FY 2023 due to ongoing issues with right of way.

Dan Armentrout reported: The Freeland Road project is complete, all FY 2022 SCRC projects in the MATS area have been successful.

Amy Bidwell reported: DART has been awarded one of only 150 grants nationwide and only two in Michigan for the Low or No Emissions Vehicle Program. This will allow the purchase of both vehicles and the related charging infrastructure. DART is also currently investigating the installation and use of bicycle racks for buses. Lastly, DART is keeping abreast of all current Notices of Funding Opportunities for relevant project possibilities. Amy also noted that the prices of new vehicles continues to rise tremendously, with possible impacts on time of delivery.

Matt Lemon reported: The City of Midland has hired a Grant Coordinator, which is expected to increase the potential for additional types of projects. Many projects this year have been delayed to late summer due to material shortages.

Gary Rogers reported: Orders for new vehicles continue to be delayed due to shortages, however ridership is trending up again. Hiring is still slow and it is difficult to get qualified applicants.

Cody Bodrie reported: EMCOG is participating in PASER ratings, currently taking place in Tuscola, Gratiot, and Clare counties.

Jack Weberhof introduced himself as the new Mount Pleasant TSC Manager, and reported: The M-30 at US-10 overpass project is complete, and a significant number of projects are scheduled for next year, including the Wackerly at US-10 BR (Eastman Road) project that has been delayed from this year.

## **5. Agency Reports**

Bryan reported on the status of various MATS work tasks:

Staff has been monitoring JobNet for TIP amendments, resulting in the agenda item for today. The FY 2023-2026 TIP Report was completed and submitted to MDOT, as well as all JobNet processing required to enable submission to FHWA and FTA. Staff also has created a brief booklet designed to inform committee members both new and old of basic information regarding MATS, its functions, benefits, and responsibilities committee members have. In addition, PASER ratings for the City of Midland have been complete, and Midland County ratings will be rescheduled for early September. Lastly, staff has completed both the FY 2023 Unified Work Program and an amendment to the FY 2022 UWP, both submitted to MDOT as well. Bryan also reported on a number of new items and alerts regarding funding opportunities and various legislative updates.

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

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

Bryan explained the proposed changes to the MATS TIP (details shown in attached table).

JN 209801: FY 2023 - CON Phase – MCRC – Project Addition – Bridge Rehabilitation – Str #6951 N. Meridian Rd over Chippewa River

JN 206083: FY 2023 - CON Phase – MCRC – Project Addition – Bridge Rehabilitation – Str #6950 N. Meridian Rd over Chippewa River

JN 208883: FY 2023 - CON Phase – MDOT – Project Addition – Bridge Replacement – M-20 over Prairie Creek

JN 204408: FY 2023 - CON Phase – MDOT – Project Addition – Road Rehabilitation – M-20 (M-30 to Currie Pkwy)

These projects are all being moved from FY 2022 to FY 2023, and due to FY 2023 being a TIP overlap year these changes are TIP amendments versus administrative modifications. In addition, there are various smaller changes in dollar amounts for these projects.

A motion was made by Dan Armentrout and seconded by Thoralf Brecht to approve the proposed changes to the MATS TIP and recommend same to the Policy Committee. Motion carried.

## **B. MI Federal Aid Buyout Program**

Bryan briefly described the nature of the new MDOT program where federal dollars are replaced, for eligible projects, with state dollars at a rate of 90 cents on the dollar. A Midland County Road Commission project, JN 206357 (Tittabawassee Road from Sasse Rd. to Orr Rd.) has qualified for the exchange, requiring determination of whether to in the near future 1) designate this project as regionally significant and leave it on the TIP, or 2) to abandon it and thus not be part of TIP.

Staff is recommending that the project in question be designated as a Regionally Significant Project (JN 206357 meets all 3 criteria per MATS policy). The advantage of this approach would be that the project would stay on the MATS TIP, and therefore would still be visible to the general public (showing that is still being done albeit using state funds), as opposed to simply vanishing off the list as would otherwise be the case. Also, regionally significant designation is an administrative modification, i.e. takes less time to process than the project abandonment which is an amendment, requiring submittal process and federal approval.

Russ Inman indicated that Road Commission staff preference would be to not designate the project as Regionally Significant, and therefore to go with the other option, i.e. abandonment. Short discussion ensued.

Subsequently, a motion was made by Dan Armentrout and seconded by Jay Reithel to abandon JN 206357 once funding is exchanged, and recommend same to the Policy Committee. Motion carried.

## **C. Obligation Update re: FY 2022 TIP Projects and cutoff dates for processing projects.**

Bryan presented a report on the impending cutoff dates for both MDOT LAP processing of projects as well as the respective deadline for submittal to FHWA. Bryan noted that the email from MDOT emphasized that local agencies have an August 22 deadline for final packages being submitted to LAP. Maja then reported on the overall status of MATS projects being obligated this year, noting that majority of projects have been obligated.

## **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 August 17, 2022 MATS Technical Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Maja Bolanowska  
Director  
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**MATS FY 2023-2026 TIP Amendment for September 2022**

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
2023	204408	11	CON	Midland	MDOT	M-20	M-30 to east of Currie Parkway	5.674	Road Rehabilitation	Milling and two course HMA overlay	\$15,253,117	NH	\$3,207,299	\$175,035	\$18,635,451	Not Applicable	PHASADD	\$20,835,451.00	Trunkline
2023	208883	13	CON	Midland	MDOT	M-20	over Prairie Creek	0	Bridge Replacement	Bridge Replacement	\$1,934,459	ER,ST	\$428,961	\$0	\$2,363,420	Not Applicable	PHASADD	\$2,647,981.00	Trunkline
2023	209801	4	CON	Midland	Midland County	N Meridian Rd	Meridian Road over Chippewa River, Str# 6951 - Midland County	0	Bridge Rehabilitation	Bridge Rehabilitation	\$0	MCS	\$1,204,000	\$301,000	\$1,505,000	Local Bridge	PHASADDGPA	\$1,881,250.00	Local
2023	206083	5	CON	Midland	Midland County	N Meridian Rd	Meridian Road over Pine River, Str# 6950, Midland County	0	Bridge Rehabilitation	Miscellaneous Rehabilitation	\$0	MCS	\$1,658,700	\$87,300	\$1,746,000	Local Bridge	PHASADDGPA	\$2,182,500.00	Local