

# Midland Area Transportation Study (MATS)

## Technical Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, June 20, 2018

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Josh Fredrickson.

Those present were: Josh Fredrickson (City of Midland), Russ Inman (Midland County Road Commission), Jan Yuergens (Midland Dial a Ride Transportation), Maria Sandow (Larkin Township), Kevin Wray (Lincoln Township) – via phone, Dave Waite (Non-Motorized Representative), Mike Wood (Jerome Township), Craig Gosen (Edenville Township) – via phone, Gary Rogers (County Connection of Midland), Dennis Borchard (Saginaw County Road Commission), Jonathan Myers (MDOT Mt. Pleasant TSC), Matt Pitlock (MDOT Statewide Planning) – via phone, Jay Reithel (MDOT Bay Region), Maja Bolanowska (MATS) and Bryan Gillett (MATS).

### 2. Changes to the Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

### 3. Approval of April 18, 2018, Minutes

Motion by Mike Wood, seconded by Maria Sandow to approve the minutes of the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meeting. Motion carried.

### 4. Public Comment

There were no public comments brought before the Committee.

### 5. Reports of officers

#### A. Project Updates

Russ Inman reported that the Airport Road project is completed, and looks very nice. In addition, the Gordonville Road safety project is currently underway. Jonathan Myers indicated that the M-20 Bridge project over the Tittabawassee River is underway and has made good progress so far. In addition, Jonathan reported on the M-20 resurfacing project scheduled for this summer, this project is still on track. Josh Fredrickson updated the committee on the two Waldo Road projects, one underway and one beginning shortly. Both have posted detours, and are expected to be complete in the fall. In addition, the Carpenter Street project is in full swing. Finally, the portion of Saginaw Road being vacated is expected to be closed in September, after the Waldo Road project is complete.

Dave Waite announced that legislation has passed the state Senate mandating that Michigan drivers would have to allow 5 feet of clearance or a "safe distance" while passing a bicyclist on the road. This is expected to be signed by Governor Snyder shortly.

## 6. Agency Reports

### A. MATS Work Tasks Update

Bryan reported on the current state of the various MATS work efforts, noting that today's agenda reflects many of the projects either underway or nearing completion. Much of the most recent effort has been devoted to preparing the draft revised Public Participation Plan being released for public comment shortly, as well as finalizing any discrepancies between the MATS TIP and JobNet. This last is in preparation for the release of JobNet Phase 2 on July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

## 7. Unfinished and New Business

### A. MATS TIP – Call for Project Changes

Bryan announced that today coincides with the MATS staff call for project changes for the MATS TIP, as is done approximately 6 times per year according to the previously released schedule. Thus, any new projects, or changes to current projects, should have supporting materials delivered to MATS by July 4<sup>th</sup>, in preparation for the July 18<sup>th</sup> Technical Committee meeting and the August 7<sup>th</sup> Policy Committee meeting.

### B. MATS TIP – Recent Administrative Modifications

Bryan reviewed the list of recent TIP administrative modifications performed by MATS staff for everyone's information. These consist almost entirely of adjustments to transit entries, due to final funding numbers having been received for FY 2018. In addition, the Midland County Road Commission requested a change in the local match amount for the Poseyville Road project, amounting to less than 25% of the total project cost. These are summarized herein:

#### FY 2017-2020 TIP (Main Project List)

- FY 2018 – CCoM: 4 Bus Replacements, 5339 funds; **ADD** (Administrative Modification)
- FY 2018 – DART: Transit Operating Assistance, 5307 funds; **COST** (Administrative Modification)
- FY 2018 – DART: up to 2 Bus Replacements, 5339 funds; **COST** (Administrative Modification)
- FY 2018 – DART: Preventative Maintenance, 5307 funds; **COST** (Administrative Modification)
- FY 2019 – DART: up to 2 Bus Replacements, 5339 funds; **COST** (Administrative Modification)
- FY 2018 - MCRC: Poseyville Road, Brooks Rd. to Gordonville Rd, CON phase, HRRR funds, **COST** (Administrative Modification)

### C. JobNet Implementation

Bryan brought the committee up to speed on the pending release of JobNet Phase 2, which entails certain efforts by MATS in the near term. Specifically, MATS staff is currently working with MDOT Statewide Planning and other offices to ensure that all project information from the MATS TIP is correctly reflected in JobNet. This deadline is June 22, after which MDOT

staff will correct and clarify any entries that need to be changed. This means that until July 16<sup>th</sup> JobNet is essentially closed for new projects, and therefore no changes can be made to projects.

#### **D. MATS/SMATS Boundary Update**

Bryan explained that the MATS/SMAT boundary question has been resolved, now that Governor Snyder has signed the official re-designation letter clarifying the MATS and SMATS planning areas. Therefore, MATS planning area now covers the entirety of Tittabawassee Township in Saginaw County, as well as all of Midland County and Williams Township in Bay County.

#### **E. MATS Public Participation Plan Amendment**

Bryan presented the draft of the revised MATS Public Participation Plan, which is being released for public comment today. This revision to the document, which is significant enough to require a new public comment period, comes about as a result of DART utilizing our Public Participation Plan as theirs. During the FTA triennial review, certain changes were suggested by FTA to add more specific information about how MATS will post things like meeting notices and documents, as well as how we will gauge the effectiveness of reaching the public through efforts such as our social media pages.

#### **F. Performance Measures Update**

Bryan presented a great deal of information regarding targets recently released by MDOT for the performance measures on Pavement Condition, Bridge Condition, and System Performance, i.e. trip reliability. These targets were released around May 20, 2018, therefore giving the MPO until November 16, 2018 to either support these targets, support with modifications, or create their own targets. A handout was passed around that went into much greater detail regarding the MDOT process and rationale for determining the targets.

#### **G. Asset Management**

Bryan explained that the dates for this year's PASER ratings have been confirmed for both Federal Aid and local roads. Local roads for the Midland County Road Commission will be rated first, in mid-July, with Federal Aid roads being done in late July and early August. Saginaw County has completed Tittabawassee Township, and the schedule for Bay County to complete Williams Township is not known at this time.

Russ reported that the Midland County Road Commission, Bay County Road Commission, and the Saginaw County Road Commission are all participating in this year's Culvert Inventory Pilot Project for TAMC. This project is being administered through the Eastern Michigan Council of Governments. Midland has collected significant amounts of data thus far, due to having started nearly a year and a half ago. This data was extremely helpful after the 2017 flood event in finding where failures were likely to have occurred. Maja added that having EMCOG administer this project, versus the three MPO's, is greatly simplifying the implementation of the project and reimbursements as well.

#### **H. Federal Eligibility Guidelines from MDOT LAP**

Bryan presented a draft set of examples of project elements that are eligible for federal standard transportation program (STP) funding, as well as state transportation funds as prepared by MDOT's LAP division. Maja further elaborated that although this deals more with the construction portion of a project, it may affect early project planning as well, and requested that everyone (especially implementing agencies) carefully review it. The deadline for comments is June 26<sup>th</sup>, and can be submitted directly to LAP staff or to MATS staff.

#### **I. Use of Rural and RTF Funds on Adjusted Census Urban Boundary (ACUB) Roads**

Bryan summarized a recent memo from Dave Wresinski, Director of the Bureau of Transportation Planning at MDOT. This memo restates the history of past policy regarding the definition and implications of roads that follow the border or boundary of an Adjusted Census Urban Boundary. Previously, these roads had been classified as Urban, and thus Rural funds could not be utilized for projects along these roads. However, MDOT has recently received guidance from the FHWA that defines these ACUB boundary roads as a special case, for which the use of STP Rural funding is allowed. MDOT now concurs with this, and will allow rural funds to be used there going forward.

#### **J. MATS/SMATS/BCATS Meeting**

Bryan alerted the committee about the MATS/SMATS/BCATS meeting, currently scheduled for August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018, at 9:00 a.m at the MBS Airport. Although the meeting will feature a presentation from the FHWA on freight in the Great Lakes Bay area, the primary purpose of the meeting is to discuss topics important to regional collaboration and other issues relating to the three MPOs. Maja added further that all Technical and Policy Committee members are invited to attend.

#### **K. Other Events**

Bryan announced to the committee MATS' participation in the 2018 Midland County Fair. As was done last year, MATS has rented space for a booth at the fair to display various aspects of the work MATS does, to further reach out to the general public, and to create opportunities for interaction with Midland county citizens.

In addition, staff has recently spent some amount of time doing basic foundational work in organizing the 2020 MTPA conference that MATS will be hosting. This has involved making sure that sites are available for the conference, lodging, and training sessions, as well as evaluating preliminary costs for the various venues.

### **8. Adjournment**

There being no further items for discussion, the June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 MATS Technical Committee meeting was adjourned at 11:01 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maja Bolanowska  
Director

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