

Midland Area Transportation Study (MATS)

Technical Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 16, 2017

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM by Brian McManus.

Those present were: Jay Reithel (MDOT-Bay Region), Matt Pitlock (MDOT-Statewide Planning), Jonathan Myers (MDOT – Mt. Pleasant TSC), Karen Murphy (Midland Dial a Ride Transit), Aaron Dawson (FHWA), Brian McManus (City of Midland), Joshua Fredrickson (City of Midland), Gary Rogers (County Connection of Midland), Kevin Wray – via phone (Lincoln Township), Maria Sandow (Larkin Township), Dennis Borchard (Saginaw County Road Commission), and Bryan Gillett (MATS).

2. Changes to the Agenda

There being no changes to the agenda, a motion was made by Jay Reithel and seconded by Matt Pitlock to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

3. Approval of June 21, 2017 Minutes

Motion made by Jay Reithel and seconded by Matt Pitlock to approve the previous meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment

There were no public comments brought before the Committee at the meeting.

5. Reports of officers

A. Project Updates

Jonathan Myers reported that concrete patch work for the ramps on US-10 at Eastman Avenue and Wackerly Road would be starting soon, and would continue until the end of October. Also, the area-wide trunkline project to upgrade delineators to the larger panels would be starting in September. Further, the M-20 mill and resurface project is nearly done. Lastly, the M-20 Bridge project is moving along, with recent meetings being held with the City of Midland attorney regarding right of way area. It is anticipated that Consumers Energy will begin moving power lines this fall. The bridge project is on track for a January letting and construction starting in March of 2018. Budget for the construction portion is now up to \$31 million.

Brian McManus reported that the Jerome Street mill and resurface project will be completed by the City of Midland via the 426 process, and will be complete by the end of September. This is essentially a “band-aid” from Main Street to Buttles in preparation for the M-20 project, and is expected to last 5-8 years. In addition, Brian discussed the near completion of both the Wackerly Road project and the St. Andrews project. Lastly, Brian

commended the Midland County Road Commission on the immense amount of work done relating to the flood damage, working 24/7 to contain the damage and process the paperwork required to document it, totaling roughly 10 to 15 million dollars worth. Brian noted that those roads that are Federal aid eligible would receive some Federal funding but that otherwise local roads are without a dedicated source of emergency repair funding other than FEMA grants, which are being applied for. After a brief discussion, Aaron Dawson added that Emergency Relief funds are exempt from the TIP requirement.

6. Agency Reports

A. MATS Work Tasks Update

Bryan Gillett presented a brief update on the many MATS work efforts over the summer. Work on the final draft LRTP is complete, with Technical Committee approval being sought today and recommendation to Policy Committee of same; the Midland County Public Transportation study is currently being finalized; the 4th TIP amendment has been submitted to MDOT/FHWA/FTA with 2 additional administrative changes and has been approved; 2017 PASER ratings will be done August 22nd through the 24th, and September 11th and 12th. Bryan Gillett also reported that work on Performance Measures is ongoing, including training and collaboration with MDOT on the process and time tables. In addition, work on JobNet Phase 2 is continuing, with Maja attending meetings in Lansing, focusing on serious efforts to integrate functionality and features with the MPO TIP process. Lastly, Bryan reported on the MTPA conference, held in Grand Rapids last month. Attendance was good, and many sessions included good dialog on things like performance measures, targets, and the MPO planning process. Brian McManus asked for a quick recap of what JobNet was, which was provided by Bryan, Jay and Matt.

7. Unfinished and New Business

A. MATS Long Range Plan

Bryan Gillett provided a summary of the Long Range Plan work effort, noting that the recent open house did have some attendance, and thanked the Midland County GIS department for their assistance during the development of the Plan. Bryan further explained that the public comment period runs July 22 to August 28, 2017 and that although comments are still being taken the document was essentially complete. Pursuant to that, staff's intent today was to ask for a Technical Committee approval of final LRP and recommendation to Policy Committee of same. Brian McManus inquired about attendance levels at the various public outreach events. Bryan responded that although they did vary over time, there was a consistent level of input from the public at the events. Further discussion ensued regarding specific comments received at the most recent open house regarding LRP, and discussion of MATS' public outreach efforts at the Midland County Fair.

A motion was made by Maria Sandow and seconded by Matt Pitlock to recommend approval to the Policy Committee of the MATS 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. Motion carried.

B. MATS' Safety Performance Measure Targets

Bryan passed out a handout received at the recent MTPA meeting regarding MPO Performance Target Deadlines and briefly explained the various areas of performance measures. This segued into a discussion of the basic choice that will need to be made by February 2018 regarding the development of our own safety performance measure targets, requiring a great deal of data gathering and analysis, or support of the MDOT targets. Jay Reithel and Aaron Dawson further discussed the specific safety targets that MDOT has already developed. Bryan Gillett further mentioned that a great deal of information was available in the MDOT slide presentations that could be found at the link sent in the meeting notice email. He also indicated that in the future MATS would be transitioning to only sending a link to the material for each meeting via the cloud hosting service rather than sending large attachments and risk having some committee members not getting the emails.

C. Complete Street Forms

Bryan Gillett, assisted by Brian McManus explained the origination of, and the process for evaluation of upcoming projects relative to provision of potential NMT facilities, i.e. the Complete Streets Policy adopted by MATS. He also mentioned that he had met recently with Dave Waite regarding the importance of following the process. Discussion ensued. Brian McManus indicated that forms for City of Midland projects would be submitted to MATS within the week.

At the end of the meeting, Brian McManus shared news of his retirement from City of Midland as of September 15, 2017. It was decided by unanimous consent that Josh Fredrickson, City of Midland Assistant City Engineer, be the new Vice-Chair of the Technical Committee.

8. Adjournment

The August 16th, 2017 MATS Technical Committee meeting was adjourned at 10:43 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Maja Bolanowska
Director

Midland Area Transportation Study
220 West Ellsworth Street, Suite 326
Midland, MI 48640
Phone: 989-832-6333
E-mail: info@midlandmpo.com