

# Midland Area Transportation Study (MATS)

## Technical Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

### 1. Call to Order

May 17, 2017: The meeting was called to order promptly at 10:00 AM by Kevin Wray.

Those present were: Brian McManus (City of Midland), Russ Inman (Midland County Road Commission), Jay Reithel (MDOT-Bay Region), Matt Pitlock (MDOT-Statewide Planning), Gary Rogers (County Connection of Midland), Kevin Wray (Lincoln Township), Maria Sandow (Larkin Township), Maja Bolanowska (MATS), Dave Waite (Non-motorized representative), Dennis Borchard (Saginaw County Road Commission), and Bryan Gillett (MATS).

### 2. Changes to the Agenda

Maja asked to add 2 additional items under Unfinished and New Business category as follows:

- F. PASER Ratings

- G. EMCOG Mini-Grant Program

A motion was made by Brian McManus and second by Dave Waite to approve changes to the agenda. Motion carried.

### 3. Approval of April 19th, 2017 Minutes

Motion made by Brian McManus and seconded by Russ Inman 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

Russ Inman reported that drawings for the Airport Road project have been submitted to MDOT, and that MCRC is awaiting grade inspection meeting. Maja Bolanowska added that the TIP amendment for that project has been submitted and should be approved soon, which will allow LAP to continue work on that project.

Dave Waite noted that there is no longer a Midland Non-Motorized Transportation Committee, and was, therefore, unclear as to his status on the MATS Technical Committee. Maja Bolanowska clarified that MATS bylaws have been modified to state that the MATS' Technical Committee has a Non-motorized representative. Subsequently, Policy Committee has elected Dave as the Non-motorized representative. Dave further reported that several bike lane signs have been erected in the area, notably on W. Wackerly and

Dublin Roads. Finally, Dave participates in the Midland Community Bike Tour, which occurs on Tuesday evenings. This presents an opportunity to interact with the broader public as well.

Dennis Borchard mentioned that trail work has begun along M-47 in Saginaw County. This will eventually connect to the Midland NMT system.

Brian McManus noted that the Airport Road project is a good example of the benefits of getting projects out to bid, early in the season, in terms of cost and other aspects. The Committee thanked Matt Pitlock for facilitating the quick approval of previous TIP amendment. Brian further reported that the Wackerly Road project is underway with no complaints heard to date and that the St. Andrews Road project will begin after school lets out for the year. Lastly, the streetscape bids came back exactly at the engineering estimate and was awarded to Fisher Contracting for \$6.3 million.

## **6. Agency Reports**

### **A. MATS Work Task Update**

Maja Bolanowska stated the Long Range Plan continues to move forward. The Midland County Public Transportation Study has made progress as well, consultant is expected to have a draft final report ready soon; MCPTS meeting scheduled for the second Tuesday in June. TIP Amendments are ongoing, with today's being the third round. Other work items included finalizing the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter billings, preparing the 2018 Unified Work Program draft report, biannual DBE reporting, and participation in various meetings (performance measures, Jobnet). Maja also introduced Bryan Gillett as the new Transportation Planner to those who were not at the last Policy Committee meeting.

## **7. Unfinished and New Business**

### **A. 2017-2020 TIP Changes**

Maja Bolanowska described the proposed TIP changes. The changes consist of an increase in the cost of the M-20 bridge project, for the utility phase as well as for the construction phase, and updating the total project cost for ROW, UTL and CON phases. Jay Reithel explained that work needed on approaches to the bridge has not been factored in before and has now been added, this accounts for much of the cost increase.

A motion was made by Brian McManus and seconded by Maria Sandow to approve the TIP changes as presented and recommend same to Policy Committee. Motion carried.

### **B. FY 2018 Unified Work Program**

Maja Bolanowska presented the draft of the FY 2018 Unified Work Program for the committee's approval. No comments or changes were received either prior to or during the meeting. Kevin Wray commented that the draft report looks more than satisfactory.

Jay Reithel moved and Matt Whitlock seconded the motion to approve the FY 2018 Unified Work Program and recommend same to the Policy Committee. The motion carried.

#### **C. FY 2019 Federal Local Safety Program Call for Projects**

Maja explained the communication received from MDOT regarding this Federal program, and briefly went over the eligibility requirements. Russ stated that Midland County has had a high success rate with this program, and distributed a handout denoting the extensive listing of projects the Road Commission has been able to fund over the past decade and a half. He also mentioned that he will be giving a presentation on this program at a Safety Conference, with MDOT, in Mount Pleasant tomorrow morning.

#### **D. FY 2019 High-Risk Rural Road Program Call for Projects**

Maja briefly explained this communication from MDOT and listed the various eligibility factors and requirements for the program, noting the MDOT preference for projects that address systemic issues, which they have dedicated a greater share of the program budget to. Discussion ensued regarding this, and the safety program.

#### **E. Call for Nominations (Chair and Vice-Chair of Technical Committee)**

At the April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting, Jan Yuergens nominated Kevin Wray for Chair. Russ Inman nominated Brian McManus for Vice-Chair. These positions are a one year term. With no other nominations being received, the committee voted by acclamation to elect Kevin Wray and Brian McManus as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively.

#### **F. PASER Ratings**

Maja reported that the annual PASER ratings will be conducted late summer-early fall, and reminded everyone that the entire Midland County will be done as usual. Further, there is a change to the PASER log form that now requires a notation of the training dates for all raters. This is meant to ensure better compliance with required training. Kevin noted that the road condition ratings are highly valued by the local units of government. Maja further added that in 2018 there will be additional requirements, such as the need to rate unpaved primary gravel roads. Finally, MDOT is encouraging the use of the RoadSoft package for additional data entry, that may pertain to the various performance measures that will be implemented in the future.

#### **G. EMCOG Mini-Grant Program**

Maja Bolanowska provided a brief summary of the EMCOG Mini-Grant program. This grant is open to all agencies in the 8 counties of Regional Prosperity Initiative Region 5. The grants will be awarded to projects that address the 5 Centers of Excellence, as laid out in the Region 5 RPI Plan, thus program includes not just transportation but also economic development and other categories. A total of \$100,000 is available, with the maximum individual grant of \$20,000. Further, additional information is now available including scoring criteria, the application, and application instructions.

### **8. Adjournment**

The May 17<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:info@midlandmpo.com)