

# Midland Area Transportation Study (MATS)

## Technical Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

*Pursuant to the Michigan Open Meetings Act, as amended, this meeting was held virtually via Zoom and, for the purposes of public involvement, Facebook Live video feed.*

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 AM by Jan Yuergens.

Those who participated were: Russ Inman (Midland County Road Commission), Jan Yuergens (City of Midland), Gary Rogers (County Connection of Midland), Jay Reithel (MDOT Bay Region), Shane Bjorge (City of Midland), Dan Armentrout (Saginaw County Road Commission), Thor Brecht (NMT Representative), Dave Haag (City of Auburn), Mike Wood (Jerome Township), Brian Stark (MDOT Bay Region), Tina Makarewicz (MDOT – OPT), Mitch Huber (MDOT–Statewide Planning), Kim Hill (MDOT Mt. Pleasant TSC), Bryan Gillett (MATS), Maja Bolanowska (MATS). All Members participated via Zoom link.

### 2. Changes to the Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

### 3. Approval of November 18, 2020, Minutes

A motion was made by Russ Inman and seconded by Jay Reithel to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

### 4. Reports of officers

Russ Inman reported that the major project for 2021 will be Poseyville Road, and that this project will require an Open House for public input due to NEPA requirements. This will be a virtual meeting with details to be released soon. In addition, a TAP Grant was awarded for the Smiths Crossing bridge NMT project, to be completed in 2023. Also, two bridge projects are scheduled for next year, both utilizing Critical Bridge funding. Lastly, the Freeland Road/Sasse Road roundabout is currently in review and should be constructed this summer.

Shane Bjorge stated that the City of Midland's Saginaw Road project is expected to be obligated soon with the project construction beginning in the spring of 2021, and that the Sugnet Road project is progressing well in the design phase, expected to be in construction in 2022.

Jan Yuergens reported that Midland Dial a Ride is operating under regular hours, and that ridership is still down, averaging around 250/day versus 400/day normally at this time.

Gary Rogers echoed that situation for Midland County Connection, with about 150 riders per day at the present time, versus 375/day typically.

Dan Armentrout noted that there are no urban projects pending, but that there will be a 2023 project which is currently in the design phase.

Kim Hill reported that the contractors for the M-30 Causeway reconstruction project had, up until recently, been working 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and are still projecting a mid-February opening date for the project.

Maja added that an extensive MDOT project on M-20 for road rehabilitation has been moved forward from 2023 to 2022 due to emergency funding being made available to replace the bridge over Prairie Creek, and MDOT coordinating both projects.

## **5. Agency Reports**

Maja began her report by noting that the current virtual meeting format would continue until at least March 31, 2021 as the Michigan Open Meetings Act has again been amended. Furthermore, if no longer mandatory after that date MATS will hold physical meetings but still set up the infrastructure and process for a virtual meeting should any committee members wish to participate in that manner, subject to the requirements of the Act.

Maja announced that the Policy Committee had, as per recent bylaw changes standardizing elections to January and terms to two years, reappointed the representatives from Lincoln, Larkin, and Jerome Townships as the 3 Small Municipality Representatives for the Technical Committee. In addition, Thor Brecht was reappointed as NMT Representative, again with a standardized term of 2021-2023.

Recent MATS staff efforts include continuing initial efforts on the long range transportation plan via collaboration with MDOT SUTA staff on the Great Lakes Bay Regional Model, as well as addressing changes to the TIP via both amendments and administrative modifications (where allowed and warranted). In addition, staff is continuing work finalizing the new Non-Motorized Transportation Plan.

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

### **A. MATS TIP Amendment (FY 2020-2023)**

Maja explained the proposed changes for the FY 2020-2023 MATS TIP, consisting of the addition of three projects (one of them consisting of both PE and CON phases). The attached table shows a summary of the proposed project amendments.

A motion was made by Dan Armentrout and seconded by Mitch Huber to approve the TIP changes and recommend same to the Policy Committee. Motion carried.

#### **B. January 2021 Elections of Officers for Technical Committee**

Maja explained that per the recent bylaw changes January was the month for elections to two year terms for the offices of Chair and Vice-Chair for the Committee. No nominations were received prior to the meeting, so the floor was opened for nominations. Jan Yuergens was initially nominated for Chair, but declined due to her impending retirement in March. Thereafter, Russ Inman was nominated for Chair, and Dan Armentrout was nominated for Vice-Chair. Russ Inman and Dan Armentrout were elected Chair and Vice-Chair of MATS Technical Committee for next 2 years.

#### **C. MATS NMT Plan Update**

Bryan Gillett updated the Committee on the overall progress of development of the MATS NMT Plan. Bryan indicated that the Non-motorized Committee will be meeting today to review and revise the newly prepared NMT project list and the accompanying maps for subsequent inclusion into the plan. Bryan indicated that local implementing agencies and stakeholders had been contacted and had responded with a number of suggestions and comments.

#### **D. Asset Management**

Maja presented the most recent communications from the Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC), regarding 2021 PASER data collection, as well as reporting on a ruling from the Michigan Attorney General's office regarding Local Agency FY 2020 Asset Management Plan deadlines.

With regard to 2021 PASER data collection, several items were noted. First, the newly adopted TAMC data collection policy (in effect from January 1, 2021 through the end of the data collection season, which is November 26, 2021) allows for 2 person teams instead of 3, for Federal Aid data collection, with the requirement that the 2 not be from the same agency. Secondly, it was noted that data collection should begin much earlier this year, due to the availability of FY 2020 funding and the need to expend that funding prior to June 30, 2021.

Maja then elaborated on the issue of deadlines for the FY 2020 Asset Management Plan. Two area agencies had deadlines of September 30, 2020 for these plans, and due to extenuating circumstances were unable to achieve these dates. Although the TAMC cannot unilaterally extend the deadlines due to them being established through legislation (as confirmed by the Attorney General's ruling), these agencies are not in any danger of punitive action at the present time, and are encouraged to complete the plans as soon as possible, however they are deemed to be in non-compliance.

#### **E. MATS STUL Program**

Maja reported that the City of Midland has requested to move the FY 2023 Jefferson Rd. project out to FY 2024. This is beyond the timeframe of the current FY 2020-2023 TIP and thus is not a straightforward substitution. There are two fundamental issues involved. First, since the City of Midland is removing the project from the FY 2023 schedule, this frees up \$332,000 of STUL funds for 2023 that can be reprogrammed, either by giving that funding to

existing FY 2023 projects in the TIP or programming a new FY 2023 project. The second issue is the commitment to place the project into the forthcoming FY 2023-2026 TIP prior to the normal TIP project submittal process.

Following the discussion that ensued regarding above noted issues, Russ Inman made a motion which Mike Wood seconded to schedule a meeting of the MATS Project Selection Committee, which would review the matter in-depth and provide recommendations to the Technical Committee. This motion carried. Maja will send out a Doodle poll to schedule this meeting soon.

#### **7. Public Comment**

No public comments were received via the Facebook Live video and comment feed.

#### **8. Adjournment**

There being no further items for discussion, the January 20, 2021 MATS Technical Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:52 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Maja Bolanowska  
Director  
Midland Area Transportation Study  
220 West Ellsworth Street, Suite 326  
Phone: 989-832-6813  
E-mail: [majab@midlandmpo.org](mailto:majab@midlandmpo.org)



## ALL PROJECT SEARCH - STANDARD REPORT

Fiscal Year(s) : 2021, 2022, 2023

Date: 01/13/2021

Page: 1 of 2

Fiscal Year	Job Type	Job #	MPO	County	Responsible Agency	Project Name	Limits	Length	Primary Work Type	Project Description	ACC	ACC Year(s)	Phase Status	S/TIP Cycle	Fed Estimated Amount	State Estimated Amount	Local Estimated Amount	Total Estimated Amount	Fund Source	Total Job Cost Incl Non LAP	Action Type	Action Approval Date	Local Fed Approval Date	FHWA Approval Date	FTA Approval Date	Schedule Obligation Date	Actual Obligation Date	Schedule Let Date	Actual Lot Date	Federal Amendment Type	S/TIP Exempt	Comments	S/TIP Status	
Local Livability and Sustainability																																		
2023	Local	212097	Midland Area Transportation Study (MATS)	Midland	Midland County	Smiths Crossing Rd Bridge	Smiths Crossing Road and bridge, Midland County	0.569	Roadside Facilities - Improve	Historic bridge restoration and nonmotorized path connectors			CON	Programmed	20-23	\$1,912,302	\$0	\$1,912,302	\$3,824,604	TAUL	\$4,797,914.00	Adjustment				N/A	04/07/2023		05/02/2023			GPA over or over 25%	Pending	
GPA Type Subtotals:			Local Livability and Sustainability															\$1,912,302	\$0	\$1,912,302	\$3,824,604													
Local Traffic Operations And Safety																																		
2021	Local	211998	Midland Area Transportation Study (MATS)	Saginaw	Lake State Railway Company	Carter Rd	At Lake State Railway in Titabawassee Township, Saginaw County	0.000	Railroad	install flashing-light signals and half-roadway gates			CON	Programmed	20-23	\$161,726	\$17,970	\$0	\$179,696	STRP	\$179,696.00	Adjustment				N/A	01/04/2021				GPA over or over 25%	Pending		
GPA Type Subtotals:			Local Traffic Operations And Safety															\$161,726	\$17,970	\$0	\$179,696													
S/TIP Line Items																																		
2021	Trunkline	212189	Midland Area Transportation Study (MATS)	Midland	MDOT	M-30	Midland County	1.591	Road Capital Preventive Maintenance	Mill and one course HMA overlay			PE	Programmed	20-23	\$10,379	\$2,301	\$0	\$12,680	ST	\$479,325.00				N/A	01/13/2021		05/07/2021			Phase Added	Pending		
2021	Trunkline	212189	Midland Area Transportation Study (MATS)	Midland	MDOT	M-30	Midland County	1.591	Road Capital Preventive Maintenance	Mill and one course HMA overlay			CON	Programmed	20-23	\$332,123	\$73,947	\$0	\$405,770	ST	\$479,325.00				N/A	03/12/2021		05/07/2021			Phase Added	Pending		
GPA Type Subtotals:			S/TIP Line Items															\$342,502	\$75,948	\$0	\$418,450													
Grand Total:																	\$2,416,533	\$93,918	\$1,912,302	\$4,422,753														

Total Job Phases Reported: 4

### Preferences:

Report Format: Standard

FISCAL Year(s): 2021, 2022, 2023

MPO/Non-MPO: Midland Area Transportation Study (MIDLAND)

County: ALL

Prosperity Region: ALL

MDOT Region: ALL

STIP Cycle: ALL

STIP Status: Pending

(A - Approved, P - Pending)

Job Type: Trunkline, Local, Multi-Modal