

BINGHAMTON METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION STUDY
POLICY COMMITTEES
June 10, 2021
11:00 a.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by the Committee Chair, Mike Marinaccio, at 11:03 a.m.

Policy Members Present

- Supervisor Michael Marinaccio, Town of Dickinson, Chair
- Legislator Mike Roberts, Tioga County, Vice-Chair
- County Executive Jason Garnar, Broome County
- Mayor Greg Deemie, Village of Johnson City
- Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez, NYSDOT, *represented by Brian Kelly, Region 9*
- Supervisor John Schaffer, Town of Vestal
- Supervisor Rick Materese, Town of Union
- Bob Sweet, NYS Department of Economic Development
- Supervisor Lew Grubham, Town of Kirkwood
- Jennifer Gregory, Southern Tier 8, *represented by Dot Richter*

Policy Members Absent

- Mayor Richard David, City of Binghamton
- Supervisor Donald Castellucci, Jr., Town of Owego
- Supervisor JoAnne Klenovic, Town of Chenango
- Mayor Linda Jackson, Village of Endicott

Others Present

Jenn Yonkoski, BMTS
Scott Reigle, BMTS
Ashley Seyfried, BMTS
Leigh McCullen, BMTS
Cindy Paddick, BMTS
Sam Schiller, BMTS
Colleen Wagner, Broome County Deputy Executive
Chris Whalen, Executive County Office
Pam Eshbaugh, NYSDOT
Ann Leo, NYSDOT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES JANUARY 28, 2021, POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Mayor Deemie motioned to approve the minutes; Brian Kelly seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The Committee Chair, Mike Marinaccio, opened the floor for public comment.

There were no public comments.

ACTION ITEMS

UPWP Amendment

[Resolution 2021-04, Approving an amendment to the 2021-2022 UPWP]

Jennifer Yonkoski, BMTS, presented a PowerPoint highlighting the amendment to the BMTS 2021-2022 Unified Planning Work Program showing all the projects worked on. Beginning April 1, 2022, all left over funds will roll over into new fiscal year. The estimate of left-over funds will be made in November or December. We are overprogrammed by a few thousand dollars. It has been adjusted to make it more accurate. This Amendment will change the proposed dollar amount in Transit Planning assistance (based on final billing) from \$33,000 to \$28,157 and change the proposed dollar amount in the FHWA modeling assistance/training contract from \$606,754 to \$614,139.

County Executive Garnar motioned to approve the resolution; Mayor Deemie seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved.

2020-2024 TIP Amendments

[Resolution 2021-05, Approving an amendment to the 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program, ADDITION OF NEW PROJECT, PIN 935850, I88 Connector, Town of Chenango, Bridge Overlays, NYSDOT]

Jennifer Yonkoski stated that a NYSDOT is adding this new project to the program. Supervisor Schaffer inquired about the polymer overlay. Brian Kelly, NYSDOT, provided discussion.

Three 32-year-old bridges will be rehabilitated under this project. They are still in relatively good condition although the decks are starting to show distress. There is a window of opportunity to make a relatively low-cost investment now in what is proposed as an overlay; if this window is missed, we'll lose that chance and a much more expensive full deck replacement and major rehab will be required at a much greater cost.

While the resolution calls out a specific treatment of a polyester polymer concrete (PPC), the basic concept here is that we are overlaying the concrete deck. The process includes repair of any damaged concrete deck areas, scarifying the surface, applying a HMWM primer coat and then placing the material. This will provide waterproofing, establish a smooth riding surface, and restore friction.

NYSDOT Region 9 has delivered PPC overlays on 62 bridges since 2007 with good success. One notable statewide example where this has been used is the arched twin bridges on the Northway between Albany and Saratoga.

All money will be provided from Main Office NYSDOT.

Mayor Deemie motioned to approve the resolution; Bob Sweet second. The resolution was unanimously approved.

[Resolution 2021-06, Approving an amendment to the 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program, ADDITIONAL FUNDS ADDED, PIN 975437, Main Street Corridor Improvements, Increase C & CI phases, city of Binghamton]

Jennifer, BMTS, reported that is a City of Binghamton safety project for improvements on Main Street from Floral Avenue to Front Street to reduce the number of pedestrian and bicycle

accidents. It is funded with HSIP funds. The \$0.972M shortage of funds was covered by Main Office NYSDOT.

Mayor Deemie motioned to approve the resolution; Brian Kelly seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS / UPDATES

□ **Hooper Road RSA**

Leigh McCullen, BMTS, reported about BMTS's Road Safety Assessment on Hooper Road between Beatrice Lane and Pruyne Street. The assessment was done as a walking audit and showed the distribution of crashes (3-year study period) at the intersections along this section of Hooper Road and the concentration of crashes on Hooper Road at its intersections with Pruyne Street and Smith Drive.

Recommendations as a result of the walking audit are: better access management practices be implemented where the curb cuts contribute to crashes along corridor; update curb ramps to ADA standards; and repair/install sidewalks.

Pruyne and Smith Street crashes seem to be a result of the traffic signals in close proximity. BMTS recommends removing the traffic signal on Smith Street and use a "right in-right out" configuration.

□ **Bike/Ped counter Data and Updates**

Ashley Seyfried, BMTS, reported that the monthly count reports can be accessed on the BMTS Website. The seasonal count is increasing as expected with the warmer weather. Maintenance overview – in March 2021 counters were cleaned, batteries replaced, etc.

□ **COVID Mobility Report**

Ashley Seyfried, reported impacts of COVID-19 with mobility in Broome and Tioga Counties comparing trends from pre-COVID to the end of March 2021.

Non-essential trips – recreational and retail trips show a significant drop at lockdown; it decreased again when the second COVID wave hit.

Essential trips – grocery and pharmacy trips show a drop at lockdown, but not as much as non-essential trips, there was a large spike before lockdown and around Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Transit trips – followed similar trends.

Workplace trips – decrease at the beginning of lockdown and slight increase since.

Residential – time spent at home (not number of trips). Large increase at the beginning of lockdown and slight decrease.

This was based on Google analytics and trends.

□ **NYSDOT Project Updates**

Brian Kelly, reported on:

- **GATEWAY PROJECT – ROUTE 363**
 - NYSDOT put quite a bit of effort into our first large virtual public meeting earlier this year for the Gateway Project which is the future project along Route 363, North Shore Drive and State Street in downtown Binghamton
 - Two alternatives were proposed
 - Option 1.11, or the Street Grid Option
 - Options 1.12B, or the North Shore Road Diet Option
 - The public and stakeholders expressed a number of concerns over Option 1.11 and did not support it.
 - Option 1.12b was preferred by the majority that commented.
 - One area of question related to the pedestrian trail along the river came up.
 - Some people were interested in putting the trail on the river side of the wall and others in building an elevated berm against the wall. Unfortunately, both of these are essentially non-starters with the US Army Corps of Engineers
 - Others were interested in some type of barrier or fence separating pedestrians from traffic. This is something that NYSDOT will incorporate in the project.
 - NYSDOT intends to move forward with Design Approval for option 1.12b and progress into Final Design.

- **ROUTE 434 GREENWAY PROJECT**
 - Awarded to Bothar Construction
 - Major work is underway
 - The majority of work will take place in 2021 and 2022. The current completion date is June 1, 2023.

- **INTERSTATE 81 IN KIRKWOOD**
 - Night paving work (7 p.m. – 7 a.m.)
 - Resurfacing (mill and fill) I81 from Exit 2 to Exit 3

- **INTERSTATE 81/Route 11 EXIT 5**
 - Replacing the Route 11 bridge over I81 in the Town of Dickinson and intersection improvements with roundabouts.
 - Scheduled completion date is December 31, 2022.

- **ROUTE 79 OVER THE CHENANGO RIVER**
 - The project is on schedule and is expected to be let in November 2021.
 - The existing bridge will be used during construction.

- **I81 – ROUTE 17 INTERCHANGE CONCRETE PAVEMENT FRICTION TREATMENT**
 - The existing concrete pavement has been found to have low friction and this project will diamond grind the surface to add friction and replace all pavement markings
 - Some minor concrete pavement repair is also proposed

- **ROUTE 434 AT CLAYTON AVENUE – SIGNAL REPLACEMENT PROJECT**
 - The project was let on March 11, 2021, and work is expected to be completed by the end of the year

- The existing signal is beyond its expected service life and is a regional priority for replacement due to having embedded signal poles.
 - The existing left-turn lane onto Clayton Avenue is over capacity and should be lengthened. Pedestrian accommodations should be upgraded to accommodate all disabled users.
 - This project includes the installation of a HAWK signal on Route 434 that is/was part of the Town of Vestal's TAP project. TAP funding was moved to this project to better coordinate the work.
- **ROUTE 11 AND ROUTE 434 – UPGRADE PEDESTRIAN ACCOMMODATIONS AT THREE TRAFFIC SIGNALS**
 - The project was let March 11, 2021, and work is expected to be completed by the end of the year.
 - This project installs pedestrian hardware at three existing traffic signals. One signal is located on Route 11 at the Interstate 81 Exit 6 ramp. The other 2 signals are located on Route 434, one at the intersection with African Road and the other at the intersection with Sycamore Street and Rano Boulevard. Included are pavement markings. Curbing, and sidewalks at the new pedestrian pole/button locations.

BUSINESS OFFERED FROM THE FLOOR

There was no business offered from the floor.

2021 MEETING SCHEDULE

- The next Policy Meeting date will be September 9, 2021. An announcement will be sent out.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mayor Deemie; it was seconded by Supervisor Materese. The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 a.m.