

BINGHAMTON METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION STUDY
POLICY COMMITTEES

September 9, 2021

11:00 a.m.

Broome County Office Building, 6th Floor Legislative Conference Room
Also, via Zoom

The meeting was called to order by the Committee Chair, Mike Marinaccio, at 11:00 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 Richard David, City of Binghamton
- Mayor Linda Jackson, Village of Endicott
- Mayor Greg Deemie, Village of Johnson City
- Supervisor Lew Grubham, Town of Kirkwood
- Supervisor Donald Castellucci, Jr., Town of Owego, *represented by Joann Lindstrom*
- Supervisor Rick Materese, Town of Union
- Supervisor John Schaffer, Town of Vestal
- Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez, NYSDOT, *represented by Brian Kelly, Region 9*
- Bob Sweet, NYS Department of Economic Development
- Jennifer Gregory, Southern Tier 8, *represented by Dot Richter*
- Supervisor JoAnne Klenovic, Town of Chenango

Policy Members Absent

All Present

Others Present

Jenn Yonkoski, BMTS
Scott Reigle, BMTS
Ashley Seyfried, BMTS
Leigh McCullen, BMTS
Cyndi Paddick, BMTS
Ayla Schermer, Federal Transit Administration
Nicole McGrath, FHWA
Pam Eshbaugh, NYSDOT
Ann Leo, NYSDOT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES JUNE 10, 2021, POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Mayor Deemie motioned to approve the minutes; Vice-Chair Roberts 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

- **NYSDOT Targets for Safety Performance Measures**
[Resolution 2021-07, Supporting the 2022 NYSDOT Performance Standards related to Safety]

Jennifer Yonkoski, BMTS, reported that supporting NYS performance standards for safety is something BMTS does every year. In the past, BMTS has been asked to support NYS safety targets set, thereby committing to programming projects that help the state meet the goals.

Mayor Deemie motioned to approve the resolution; Supervisor Materese seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved.

2020-2024 TIP Amendments

- **[Resolution 2021-08, Approving an amendment to the 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program, FAST Act requirement – TIP Description of Anticipated Effects]**

Jennifer Yonkoski reported on the resolution, which is a FAST Act requirement, that the MPO must incorporate into their TIP. BMTS adopted the transit safety targets in January, now the amendments must be incorporated into the TIP in order to approve subsequent amendments.

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

- **[Resolution 2021-09, Approving an amendment to the 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program, PIN 9PM022 Pavement Marking Contract, increase Construction phase from \$1.400M to \$2.500M and CI phase from \$0.140M TO \$0.250M]**

Jennifer Yonkoski reported that this TIP amendment was requested by NYSDOT to increase construction funds, that will come from Main Office, for the pavement marking program. Brian Kelly, NYSDOT, added that NYSDOT had increased pavement blocks on a statewide basis and, therefore, the pavement must be striped.

Mayor Deemie motioned to approve the resolution; Supervisor Grubham seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved.

- **[Resolution 2021-10, Approving an amendment to the 2020-2024 Transportation Improvement Program, BC Transit FTA Section 5339 Competitive Grant Award]**

Jennifer Yonkoski reported this TIP amendment is from an FTA competitive award that BC Transit won to purchase six electric busses. BC Transit will be supplementing the purchase with other funding.

Mayor Deemie motioned to approve the resolution; Supervisor Grubham seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS / UPDATES

- **BMTS Travel Demand Model Update**
Ashley Seyfried, BMTS, reported the kick-off meeting with the selected consultant, Transpo, was held in July.
- **North St., City of Binghamton RSA**
Leigh McCullen, BMTS, reported BMTS is working on a safety assessment on North Street between Edwards Street and Front Street in the City of Binghamton. The walking audit will be held on September 28 at 1:30 p.m. They will be looking at the existing condition of the roadway and come up with suggested improvements.
- **Annual Traffic Count Program**
Leigh McCullen reported that the last week of September – the first week of October BMTS will have their consultant conduct turning movement counts via a camera-based system at 100 signalized intersections
- **Bike/Ped Counter Data**
Ashley Seyfried presented a report on the pedestrian and bicycle counts for 2021. Currently, the count is over a million. Ashley reviewed the graphs, the counts, and described the peaks; weather data was included. The South Washington Street Bridge has the highest count. Counts are down 17 percent from 2020 to 2021.
- **TIP Update: 2023–2027 Call for projects this fall**
Jennifer Yonkoski is anticipating a call for projects for a TIP update this fall. She is awaiting guidance from NYSDOT.
- **Federal Transportation Legislation Update**
Jennifer Yonkoski reviewed the current information regarding the Federal Transportation bill. The US Senate passed the infrastructure bill in August. Jennifer then reviewed the key programs compared to FAST Act Authorization over five years. It showed a substantial increase in funding overall.
- **E-bike Regulations**
Scott Reigle, BMTS, reported on the e-bike regulations on multiuse trails that BMTS has been working on this year. The purpose is due to the rise in e-bike usage. NYS law has three classifications of e-bikes:

Class I e-bikes are those in which the motor provides a boost only when a rider is pedaling. The boost cuts out at 20 mph and the rider must rely on their own muscle power to go any faster than that.

Class II e-bikes are those in which the throttle can be switched to provide a boost up to a maximum assisted speed of 20 mph, without any pedaling required. The boost cuts out at 20 mph, and the rider must rely on their own muscle power to go any faster than that.

Class III e-bikes are pedal-assist like Class I's, except they have a maximum assisted speed of 28 mph. They are also equipped with a speedometer.

NYS regulations do not include multiuse trails, that is left up to local jurisdictions. BMTS is

trying to do across-the-board regulations to avoid confusion on different trails. Recommended regulations are e-bikes follow trail etiquette, no combustion engines are to be used on the multiuse trails, only Class 1 and 2 e-bikes are to be used on the trails, riders must abide by speed limits on the trails and ride according to the condition, and all state helmet laws apply. Signage will be developed and Broome County Security will enforce regulations. Municipalities can adopt ordinances for their multiuse trails including establishing speed limits. The regulations will also include electric scooters.

NYSDOT Project

Brian Kelly reported that:

- On I81 in Kirkwood, crews are paving over the joint repairs done in the past few years to preserve the investment. The work is largely complete.
- The I81/NY 11 Exit 5 Bridge has made a lot of progress, however there is a delay in the delivery of structural steel. It is expected to be delivered in October. This will not affect the project end date.
- The Route 434 Greenway Project is progressing. The schedule remains on track.

BUSINESS OFFERED FROM THE FLOOR

There was no business offered from the floor.

2021 MEETING SCHEDULE

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

A motion to adjourn was made by Mayor Deemie; it was seconded by Brian Kelly. The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.