

PACTS Technical Committee Meeting

AGENDA

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Remote Meeting

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88159713483>

Call in: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 881 597 13483

As of March 31st, 2020 PACTS and GPCOG will be holding all committee meetings via [Zoom conferencing technology](#). We remain committed to full public access and participation in our meetings through remote access during the COVID-19 crisis. Remote meetings will be held in accordance with the requirements of [LD 2167, Public Law Chapter 618](#).

1. Welcome and Role Call- Patrick Fox, Chairman

Staff will provide a brief introduction to and overview of Zoom meeting procedures and tools.

2. Public Comments

The general public will have an open comment period with a 3-minute limit per individual to comment on any issue, including items on the agenda.

3. Acceptance of 4/14/20 Minutes (Attachment A) – 5 min.

4. Project Updates (Attachment B) – 5 min.

The following project updates are attached:

- Regional Traffic Management System
- High Crash Locations Assessment
- Crack Sealing

Questions on specific projects may be addressed at this time.

Recommended Action: Information only.

5. 2022 PACTS Collector Paving Road Segments – 10 min. (Attachment C)

The current PACTS Collector Paving contract with VHB is for five years, with full network condition assessments in Years 1 and 4 of the contract. PACTS staff met with VHB early in 2020 to discuss the schedule and process for the Year 4 Reassessment of Collector Paving this spring. Staff and VHB settled on a plan to assess “priority” collector roads with an estimated Pavement Condition Index rating of 25-45 for 2020. Based on previous years,

road segments outside of this rating are unlikely to be selected for that year's collector paving program. Focusing on roads in this range would enable VHB to deliver a list on schedule with our regular selection timeline. A list of "priority" collector roads, sorted by municipality, is anticipated from VHB on Monday, May 11th, and will be provided to the Technical Committee at the May 12th meeting.

Staff encourage municipalities to review their roads that may be eligible for consideration and compare against anticipated projects within their municipalities for 2022. Technical Committee members should communicate to staff prior to the June meeting if they have a project they would like to include due to synchronous projects in their municipality.

Recommended Action: Information only.

6. 2021 PACTS Municipal Partnership Initiative Project Selection - 15 min.

In March, the PACTS Technical Committee voted to award Scarborough \$200,000 for their Route 114/Gorham Road Reconstruction project as a part of the PACTS 2021 MPI Program. At the April PACTS Technical Committee meeting, the Committee voted to award Scarborough an additional \$75,600 of PACTS MPI funds to supplement their project, estimated at \$2.3 million. Later in April, the Town of Scarborough informed PACTS staff that they would not be moving forward with the Gorham Road reconstruction in the 2021 fiscal year.

PACTS staff contacted the Southern subregion and advised that \$200,000 of PACTS MPI funding had become available for Southern subregion projects.

If fully allocated to the Southern subregion, that would leave \$75,600 for one additional project within the PACTS region. PACTS staff will be seeking project submissions prior to June 1st on a first come first served basis, per PACTS MPI Policy.

Recommended Action: Vote to approve the Southern Subregion MPI submission.

7. Saco Maple Street Collector Paving Review – 30 min.

In 2018, Maple Street in Saco was selected as a Collector Paving project for 2020. As of April 17th, Saco withdrew their support for the Maple Street paving project due to a 200% increase in local share on the bid price. There were a multitude of factors that resulted in this outcome and the purpose of this agenda item is to explore the circumstances and develop an action plan to avoid similar issues in the future.

Reasons for the increased bid price were tied to the narrow width on Maple Street (which is a disadvantage due to the way projects are estimated by surface area), sub pavement engineering, roadway crown issues, and a comparatively high number of pedestrian ramps.

Some checkpoints within a project timeline could include:

- Verifying the accuracy of the initial scope and costs
- Communication of scope and engineering cost estimates as the project progresses
- A final engineering cost estimate signed by all parties
- Notice if projects will be coupled with other regional projects for bidding and administration.

Recommended Action: Charge staff with refining a project timeline flow chart that includes clearly defined three-party communication and project sign-off check points.

8. Adjourn.

Attachment A
PACTS Technical Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 14, 2020

8:30 AM -10:00 PM

Remote Meeting

In Attendance:

Name	Affiliation	Attendance
Tom Milligan	Biddeford	Y
Robert Malley	Cape Elizabeth	Y
Bill Shane	Cumberland	N
VACANT	Executive Committee	N/A
Jay Reynolds	Falmouth	Y
Adam Bliss, Vice Chair	Freeport	Y
Bob Burns	Gorham	N
Rebecca Grover	Maine Turnpike Authority	N
Darryl Belz	MaineDOT	Y
LaRay Hamilton	MaineDOT	Y
Clark Baston	North Yarmouth	N
Joe Cooper	Old Orchard Beach	Y
Jeremiah Bartlett	Portland	Y
Nathan White	Raymond	N
Patrick Fox, Chair	Saco	Y
Angela Blanchette	Scarborough	Y
Abbie Sherwin	SMPDC	N
Justin Gove	South Portland	Y
VACANT	Transit Committee	N/A
Katherine Kelley	Westbrook	Y
Mark Arianti	Windham	Y
Erik Street	Yarmouth	Y
<u>Guests</u>		
Ken Capron	MicroRail	
For GPCOG	Kristina Egan, Ryan Neale, Elizabeth Roberts, Harold Spetla	

1. Welcome- Patrick Fox, Chair

Patrick opened the meeting by having those in attendance introduce themselves.

2. Public Comments

Ken Capron, MicroRail, asked whether any of the transit organizations had considered using UV rays to kill the COVID-19 virus. Patrick opened the floor to any transit organizations to comment. There were no comments and Patrick noted that staff would pass along this question to other transit organizations.

3. Acceptance of 3/10/20 Minutes

Bob Malley motioned to approve the 3/10/2020 minutes; the motion was seconded by Joe Cooper; all were in favor.

4. Project Updates

Harold informed the Committee of the new agenda format, in which staff will write project updates that will only be addressed at the meeting if Committee members express interest.

PACTS High Crash Locations

Jay Reynolds asked about the status and timeline for VHB's High Crash Locations Assessment. Harold informed the Committee that staff were still providing feedback on the draft desktop assessments by VHB. Once staff provide feedback, VHB will provide a list of ten proposed locations for full road safety audits. Staff will review that list and likely bring it before the Committee for feedback. Harold advised that there is still a bit of time before the full road safety audits are selected.

Regional Transportation Management System

Angela Blanchette asked about the status of the RTMS Committee, noting that it had not convened for some time. Harold clarified that proposals for the most recent RTMS RFP have been received and were being reviewed prior to the selection process. Staff anticipate reconvening the RTMS Committee once a contract has been negotiated with the selected consultant and a revised memorandum of agreement has been drafted to account for municipal match to the RTMS program.

Angela asked about the general direction of the RTMS program. Elizabeth noted that staff have a list of goals that PACTS would like to accomplish and that staff are looking to compile a package of tasks that could be used to apply for a grant in the future. The selected RTMS consultant will also inventory the necessary tasks within the communications network.

5. PACTS Technical Committee Vice Chair Nominations

Patrick noted that in July Adam Bliss will be taking over as Chair of the Technical Committee, thus vacating his Vice Chair position. Adam said that two individuals have offered to serve as Vice Chair. Adam asked for clarification on the voting process and Patrick clarified that they were seeking nominations and would vote on any nominees. Adam noted that Justin Gove and Katherine Kelley have offered to serve as Vice Chair.

Justin said that he was not actively pursuing the Vice Chair nomination but was willing to serve if the Committee appointed him. Katherine also spoke up to express her willingness to serve as Vice Chair. Justin stepped down from consideration and nominated Katherine for Vice Chair, and Angela seconded. All members voted in favor of appointing Katherine Kelley as Technical Committee Vice Chair beginning July 2020.

6. PACTS Municipal Partnership Initiative: Central Region, Cape Elizabeth Request

Patrick recapped Cape Elizabeth's request for funding at the March 10th meeting and noted that the recommended action is to award the \$25,000 to Cape Elizabeth in accordance with their sub-regional decision and award the remaining MPI funds to Scarborough to supplement their \$200,000 request on a \$2.3 million project.

Bob Malley said that Cape Elizabeth Town Manager Matt Sturgis had met with the other Central Sub-region representatives and discussed growing construction cost estimates. Bob clarified that nothing in the scope had changed since last year's MPI request; the price increase is due to increased construction cost estimates, thus leading to Cape Elizabeth's request for supplemental funding.

Several committee members expressed support of funding the Cape Elizabeth MPI request, noting compromise by the sub-region and a shared need to combine funding sources to move a project forward.

Darryl Belz noted that these funds are intended for 2021, so any work completed in 2020 will not be reimbursable until 2021. The work is eligible but will not see these funds until 2021.

Harold summarized the MPI award process: The Technical Committee will select the projects for the list to be presented to a PACTS governing committee, and the PACTS governing committee will then vote on whether to fund the proposed list.

Tom motioned to approve the recommended action as written, and Bob seconded. All were in favor.

7. Synchro/Simtraffic Traffic Simulation Demonstration

Elizabeth informed the Committee that there was a licensing issue with the Synchro software, so staff were unable to demonstrate the software to the Committee. Jeremiah noted that he was also having the same issues in Portland. The demonstration will be provided at a future meeting.

Patrick noted that the Committee had moved through the agenda quickly and opened the floor for any discussion.

Jay noted that the Route 100 project in Falmouth was continuing through the pandemic and Jeremiah noted that the Portland roundabout project at Deering's Corner had just started.

Several members noted that they had seen decreased traffic volume, which is an advantage to move construction along. Angela mentioned that any projects trying to conduct traffic counts were running into issues with unusually low counts.

Patrick noted that he would like to discuss the Saco Maple Street collector paving project in May. The project will not move forward because engineering estimates came back much higher than was anticipated. LaRay Hamilton explained that this project was bid combined with a Biddeford project. Because they were bid together, they had to be either accepted together or rejected together. LaRay also said that many ADA requirements are driving up the price of projects. He noted that some municipalities were doing the ADA work on their own, thus avoiding some of the federal labor requirements and lowering the overall cost. MaineDOT would come through later for paving.

Several members expressed an interest in having a round robin discussion in May to look at the bid prices throughout the region.

Katherine Kelley expressed that she would like to hear if MaineDOT has news on the traffic signal network in May or June. Jeremiah also noted his interest. Darryl noted that he would try to follow up with Steve Landry on his availability.

8. Adjourn.

Tom Milligan made a motion to adjourn; Jay Reynolds seconded; all were in favor.

Attachment B

PACTS Project Updates

Regional Traffic Management Systems

An RTMS assessment RFP was posted in February. The RFP seeks a consultant who will perform an overall assessment on the communications network, as well as identify, assess, and address traffic signal equipment currently experiencing malfunctions. RTMS RFP proposals were due on April 9th. Two proposals were received. The selection committee, which consist of Elizabeth Roberts, Steve Landry, Jeremiah Bartlett, and Katherine Kelley have reviewed and scored proposals. The selection committee is deciding which consultants to interview.

High Crash Locations Assessments

VHB was hired to perform high crash location assessments at 24 locations throughout the PACTS region. The consultant, VHB, submitted desktop assessments to PACTS in mid-March. Staff are reviewing the assessments and have started to return them to VHB with comments. When the revised desktop assessments are received, they will be distributed to the technical committee. VHB, with input from the technical committee, will provide a recommended list of 10 locations for a full road safety audit (RSA). Staff will review and bring before the Technical Committee for feedback prior to moving forward with the full RSAs at the ten locations.

Crack Sealing

On March 2nd, the Technical Committee convened for an unscheduled meeting to select road segments for a PACTS Crack Sealing pilot project in which MaineDOT would manage the contractor bids. PACTS moved \$50,000 to a new MaineDOT WIN dedicated to PACTS Crack Sealing and the Committee selected 13 miles worth of road for crack sealing, with the understanding that it is possible that not all segments will receive treatment. MaineDOT reported on April 22nd that the contractor bids came in lower than expected, at \$46,346.33. While the bid is lower than the \$50,000 programmed, this still does not guarantee treatment for all roads listed in the pilot project.

Attachment C

To be updated when available.