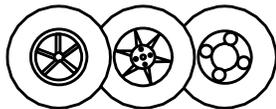
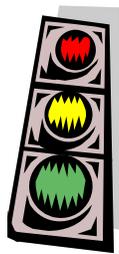


The Newsletter of  
the Battle Creek  
Area Transportation  
Study



## BCATS

January, 2013



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# “The Signal” 2014-2017 TIP

Remember: All BCATS Committee meetings are open to the public. Contact the staff office for details.

## BCATS Is Developing New FY 2014-2017 TIP

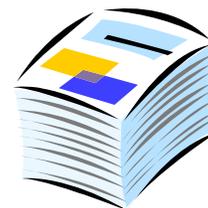
The Battle Creek Area Transportation Study (BCATS) has started the process of developing a new four-year document for the programming and implementation of transportation projects in the greater Battle Creek area. The document is called the **Transportation Improvement Program**, or **TIP** for short. In order for any of the state or local agencies, including transit, to receive Federal funding for a transportation project, it must be included in this TIP document.

The projects considered for the document are first drawn from existing transportation plans prepared by BCATS. These plans list proposed improvements to the major transportation infrastructure of the area for the next twenty to twenty-five years. In addition, general road, safety, maintenance, transit and non-motorized projects are all considered.

Representatives of all of the implementing agencies for potential projects meet to discuss possible projects and their relative priority to each other. Opportunities for collaborating, combining, or complementing each other's projects are explored as well. The funding for future improvements is very limited, so coordination is important. Some of the road projects currently being **proposed** in the BCATS area for the 2014-2017 TIP are listed below (note - transit operating and capital funds will also be included in each year's program, as well as these road-related projects). **Please provide comments to the staff office about this listing.**

This listing is subject to change as development of the TIP continues.

- 2014 - Raymond Road**, from Verona Rd./Emmett St. to Michigan Avenue (resurface)
- Golden Avenue**, from Raymond Rd. west to Battle Creek City Limits (resurface)
- Beckley Road**, from Minges Rd. east to M-66 (resurface)
- Bellevue Road**, from McAllister Rd. to Chippewa Trail (resurface)
- I-94BL**, from I-94 to Columbia Ave. (resurface)
- I-94**, bridge over I-94 at exit 92 (bridge replacement)
- 2015 - 6 1/2 Mile Road**, from Christian Dr. north to G Drive N (Golden Ave.) (resurface)
- Van Buren Street**, from Washington Ave. east to Elm St. (resurface)
- Evergreen Road**, from Harmonia Rd. south to Avenue A (resurface)
- K Drive S**, from M-66 east to 7 1/2 Mile Rd. (resurface)
- Bellevue Road**, from Chippewa Trail to 13 Mile Rd. (part in BCATS area) (resurface)
- 2016 - Territorial Road**, from 20th St. to Arbor St. (reconstruct) and from Arbor St. to Capital Ave. SW (resurface)
- Riverside Drive**, from Dickman Rd. (I-94BL) south to Burnham St. (resurface)
- BC Areawide Roadway Preventative Maintenance**, (crack-sealing) (local agencies)
- I-94BL**, from Columbia Ave. to M-96 (Dickman Rd.) (resurface)
- M-66**, from south of Glenn Cross Rd. to south of eastbound I-94 (restore and rehab.)
- 2017 - B Drive S**, from 3 1/2 Mile Rd. east to M-66 and **Capital Avenue SW**, approx. .25 mile north and south of B Drive S (resurface)
- Main Street**, from Mary St. to south City Limits, & from M-66 to Hamblin Ave. (resurface)
- Goguc Street**, from Capital Ave. SW to Carl Ave. (resurface)
- BC Areawide Roadway Preventative Maintenance**, (chip seal projects) (local agencies)



**Public input** is welcomed at each phase in the development of the new TIP document. Please contact the BCATS office for further details, or speak directly to the responsible road agency personnel in your area.

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide the public with information regarding the activities of the Battle Creek Area Transportation Study (BCATS). The public is encouraged to contact BCATS at the above address or telephone (269) 963-1158, fax (269) 963-4951 or e-mail: bcats@bcatsmpo.org concerning issues in *The Signal* or other transportation matters.

## Schedule for the Development of the 2011-2014 TIP

Dec.  
2012

The process for developing a new Transportation Improvement Program extends over many months. After preparing a preliminary project list for the four-year program, BCATS requests public comment on the proposed list. Look for this in the next couple of months.

For the first time in many years, the list of projects will not have to undergo an assessment related to air quality impacts for ozone. The Kalamazoo and Battle Creek areas are currently considered in attainment for air quality issues. However, this is expected to change once the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has, and uses, the results of air monitoring from last year's (2012) very hot, sticky summer.

BCATS also reviews the project listings to see if there will be any disproportionate impacts on areas of the community which are designated as "environmental justice" areas. These are areas where there are higher than average percentages of persons who are considered low income or traditionally underserved, such as: minority communities.

In June, 2013, it is expected that the BCATS Committees (the Technical and the Policy Committees) will formally act on adopting a finalized new Transportation Improvement Program for 2014 to 2017. Comments are solicited throughout the process and there will be a final public hearing at the Policy Committee meeting for comments on the TIP before the final action of the Committee is taken.

Following action by the BCATS' Committees, the new TIP is submitted to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the federal funding agencies for their review and approval. The FY 2014-2017 TIP is scheduled to be effective as of October 1, 2013.

June  
2013

## Maintaining the 2014-2017 TIP After It is Adopted

The process for maintaining the new Transportation Improvement Program is ongoing. The document is fully updated every two to three years, but changes occur between updates. Certain categories of federal funding are awarded on an annual basis. In order for the funds to be spent, the projects selected for those funds need to be added to the existing TIP. This is done through an "amendment" process. The amendment process requires a re-evaluation of financial soundness (called fiscal constraint), a double check of environmental justice issues, and a review of air quality impacts (depending upon the type of project), and if BCATS has to meet air quality standards at the time. The amendment process incorporates public involvement as well.

**Follow the development of the TIP, as well as changes to the program over time, on the BCATS website at [www.bcatsmpo.org](http://www.bcatsmpo.org)**

**Reminder: Public input** is welcomed at each phase in the development of the new TIP document. Please contact the BCATS office for further details.

