



Battle Creek Area Transportation Study (BCATS)

***FY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) - AMENDMENT #12***

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**REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS**

THE BATTLE CREEK AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS) HEREBY GIVES NOTICE of opportunity for public involvement in the twelfth amendment to its *Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)* for fiscal years (FYs) 2023-2026 (10/1/22–9/30/26), consisting of the following proposed changes:

- 1)** Modifying the 2025 pavement marking applications by the Michigan Dept of Transportation (MDOT) on selected trunkline segments in the MDOT Southwest Region (SWR) to include both longitudinal and special marking projects, and update budget accordingly for a single Permanent Pavement Marking project. Preliminary engineering (PE) phase cost increased 100% to \$20,000, construction (CON) phase cost increased 37.3% to \$2,890,000. Traffic safety project funded 90% Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), 10% State of Michigan Funds Michigan Betterment "M"; [\*\*JN-209623\*\*](#)
- 2)** Abandoning the separate project for 2025 special pavement marking applications by MDOT on selected trunkline segments in the MDOT SWR, and re-directing the project's \$10,000 PE budget and \$310,000 CON budget, and the planned work to the project described previously under item 1; [\*\*JN-209624\*\*](#)
- 3)** Increasing the CON budget, based on recent bids, by 36.4% to \$15,000, for MDOT's 2025 pavement marking retroreflectivity readings on selected trunkline segments in the MDOT SWR. Traffic safety project funded 90% Fed HSIP, 10% State "M"; [\*\*JN-209634\*\*](#)
- 4)** Modifying MDOT's planned 2026 bridge replacement on M-89 (Washington Ave) over the Battle Creek River, to add road work on M-89 between Dickman Rd and Michigan Ave to support maintenance of traffic during bridge construction, with added funds and a right-of-way (ROW) phase. Overall PE budget increased 35.2% to \$1,253,852, overall CON budget increased 40.4% to \$8,685,049, new ROW phase budget \$50,000. New total budget \$9,988,901; funded 81.85% Fed Bridge Formula Program (BFP) and Surface Transportation Program (STP), 18.15% State "M". Road work will also complement the separate \$1,477,000 bridge capital preventive maintenance (CPM) project on M-89 (Washington) over GTW RR & Kalamazoo River, also planned for 2026; [\*\*JN-213719, JN-203293\*\*](#)

**5)** Adding a 2024 transit capital project for indoor & outdoor electrical upgrades to provide safety & security measures at the pedestrian station platform for intercity bus transportation in downtown Battle Creek. Total budget \$230,000; 80% Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5311, 20% State of Michigan Comprehensive Transportation Fund (CTF); and **JN-221434**

**6)** Modifying the fifteen locations planned for MDOT's 2025 overband crack fill or asphalt crack treatment, currently over ~56.4 miles of various trunkline segments in the MDOT SWR. Previously selected two locations in BCATS area of I-94BL (M-37) from I-94 to Skyline Dr, and M-96 (Columbia Ave) from Helmer Rd to I-194, are unchanged. CON phase budget for BCATS area work total \$88,000, regionwide total \$1,100,000; 81.85% Fed STP, 18.15% State "M".

**JN-219294.** *9/13/24, Change Request 3, updated project to add three locations and remove two, including adds in BCATS area, I-194 from I-94 to Golden Ave, and I-94BL (Dickman Rd) from M-37 (Helmer Rd) to I-194. Net total project length increased ~1.17 mi.*

Further details of the above listed changes, and other projects in the TIP, can be provided upon request and may also be found online at [www.bcatsmpo.org](http://www.bcatsmpo.org). Public comment on this TIP amendment is encouraged by e-mail to [bcats@bcatsmpo.org](mailto:bcats@bcatsmpo.org), or in-person within BCATS' 9/11/24 Technical Committee meeting or 9/25/24 Policy Committee meeting, each beginning at 1:30pm in the Springfield Municipal Building; call ahead or check BCATS' home page at [www.bcatsmpo.org](http://www.bcatsmpo.org) for details on attending and participating in those meetings. Comments will be accepted thru Policy Committee action on September 25<sup>th</sup>. Direct questions and/or comments to: BCATS, 601 Avenue A, Springfield, MI 49037; phone 269/963-1158, e-mail [bcats@bcatsmpo.org](mailto:bcats@bcatsmpo.org).

This text, the following list, and the bolded JN's following each item 1-6 within the notice text above were not printed in the notice as published.

**1) JN-209623 2) JN-209624 3) JN-209634 4) JN-213719, JN-203293**

**5) JN-221434 6) JN-219294**

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The following project was changed administratively as its modification did not meet requirements for the formal amendment process, that would include public noticing and local approval through the MPO process. The adjustment is listed here for information and discussion as appropriate.

**7) JN-218784** - *Modifying MDOT's 2024 CON phase of installation of pedestrian crosswalk improvements at various crosswalk locations on selected trunkline segments in the MDOT SWR. As stated in the project's JobNet record, Change Request (CR) #11 (approved 8/13/24) "Removed a location to bring within budget and updated the construction dates to match the progress clause. Also increased PE and ROW to match what has been spent." The removed location was 0.138 mi of M-96 (Dickman Rd) between Army St/Tony Tiger Trl and Barberry Dr, in the City of Springfield. The remaining locations include two segments in Kalamazoo, and two in Battle Creek: M-66 (Division St) from the police station driveway northward over the Battle Creek River to Flint St, and M-66 (Capital Ave NE) from Hopkins St (opposite Bailey Park) northward to J Bartlett Dr. PE phase budget increased 13.1% to \$300,000. ROW phase budget increased 8.3% to \$13,000. CON phase budget of \$1,119,126 unchanged (BCATS area work in CON phase \$383,251, Kalamazoo work \$735,875). Funded 90% FHWA Vulnerable Road Users (VRU) program, 8.75% State "M", 1.25% Local Act 51 City.*

# Camp

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camp on sandy soil where the military has told hundreds of thousands of Palestinians to shelter since ordering them out of their homes.

Hamas denied any fighters were present.

Rescuers dug with shovels through the night, searching for bodies and survivors buried where the strike had blasted a crater the size of a small soccer field.

Tents in the surrounding area had been incinerated, leaving only metal frames dusted with ghostly ash in a wasteland littered with debris. A car had been completely buried, only its top visible beneath the sand.

In the morning, mourners at a nearby hospital wailed over bodies heaped in white plastic bags or wrapped in blood-stained shrouds.

One of Raed Abu Muammar's daughters had been killed. His wife and his other daughter had been buried but were pulled out alive. He carried the surviving baby girl.

"I was under the sand as well. I got out and started looking for my daughters and my wife. I saw body parts of the neighbors in my tent - I did not know those were our neighbors' parts until I saw my family in one piece."

"These are the Israeli targets. Look at them," he said, gesturing to the baby girl in his arms. "We were in humanitarian areas that were supposed to be safe."

The Gaza health ministry, which compiles casualty figures, said hospitals had so far received 19 bodies. Other victims were still under sand or on roads that rescuers could not reach, it said.

The Hamas-run Gaza government media office put the number of fatalities at more than 40. It said that at least 60 others were wounded in the strikes and many remained missing.

Residents and medics said the camp was struck by five or six missiles that set off explosions and sent people fleeing.

The Gaza Civil Emergency Committee said at least 20 tents caught fire, and 65 dead or wounded.

"Our teams are still moving out of the area. It looks like a new Israeli massacre. A Gaza civil emergency official said the U.N. Middle East peace envoy T



Aysenur Ezgi Eygi was killed by Israeli forces during a protest. INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY MOVEMENT/HANDOUT VIA REUTERS

Wennesland strongly condemned the Israeli strike in a densely populated safe area, while also saying civilians should never be used as human shields.

"The principles of distinction, proportionality and precautions in attack must be upheld at all times," he said. "I reiterate my call for all sides to immediately reach an agreement that will bring about the release of all hostages and a cease-fire. The killing of civilians must stop, and this horrific war must end."

The Israeli military said it had struck senior Hamas commanders who were operating in a command center embedded inside the designated humanitarian area.

"These terrorists were directly involved in the execution of the Oct. 7 massacre and have been recently operating to carry out terror activities," it said.

The military added that casualty figures do not align with the information by the IDF, the precise number of deaths is not known, and the accuracy of the

Hamas denied Israeli allegations that its fighters were present in the targeted area, and rejected accusations it ex-

ploited civilian areas for military purposes.

"This is a clear lie that aims to justify these ugly crimes. The resistance has denied several times that any of its members exist within civilian gatherings or use these places for military purposes," said Hamas in a statement.

The war was triggered on Oct. 7 when Hamas attacked Israel, killing 1,200 people and taking about 250 hostages, according to Israeli tallies. Israel's subsequent assault on Gaza has killed more than 41,000 Palestinians, according to the enclave's health ministry.

The two warring sides each blame the other for a failure so far to reach a cease-fire that would end the fighting and see the release of hostages.

Nearly all of Gaza's 2.3 million people have been forced from their homes at least once, and some have had to flee as many as 10 times.

### Israel says its forces likely 'unintentionally' killed US activist

Israel's military said it was highly likely its troops fired the shot that killed an American-Turkish woman at a protest in the West Bank last week, but said

her death was unintentional and expressed deep regret.

U.S. Secretary Antony Blinken said the killing was "unprovoked and unjustified" and showed the Israeli security forces needed to make some fundamental changes in their rules of engagement.

Turkish and Palestinian officials said Friday that Israeli troops shot 26-year-old Aysenur Ezgi Eygi, who had been taking part in a protest against settlement expansion during a regular protest march by activists in Beita, a village near Nablus.

Israeli Defense Forces commanders had conducted an investigation into the incident, the military said in a statement on Tuesday.

"The inquiry found that it is highly likely that she was hit indirectly and unintentionally by IDF fire which was not aimed at her, but aimed at the key instigator of the riot," the military said.

"The IDF expresses its deepest regret over the death of Aysenur Ezgi Eygi," it added.

U.S. officials had called for a full inquiry and said Washington would withhold judgment until Israel presented its findings.

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# we're now open in Battle Creek

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