

# PACTS

Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation System

**Transit Committee  
Meeting Notice  
Thursday, April 8, 2010, 9:30 a.m. to noon\*  
GPCOG**

**Agenda**

1. Call to order
2. Approval of Minutes from the last meeting (attached)
3. Status Reports (attached) – 5 min.
4. Review Timeline/Work Plan (attached) – 5 min.
  - a. Appoint Nominating Committee for New Officers
5. PACTS Transit Study Implementation Status Reports – 20 min.
  - a. Regional Map and Timetable
  - b. Regional Route Study
  - c. Transit Planning in Comprehensive Planning Process
  - d. Regional Pass System
  - e. Other – in order of priority
6. Regional AVL Project update – 5 min.
7. 5307 allocation update – 5 min.
8. Substitution of unspent STP Transit Funds – 10 min.
9. STP Transit Set Aside Application – 30 min.
10. Jobs Bill update – 5 min
11. Update on HUD Sustainable Communities grant application – 10 min
12. Presentation by *Maine Alliance for Sustainable Transportation (MAST)* on their proposal to Expand ZOOM Commuter Bus Service – 20 min
13. Public Comments
14. Information Sharing/Round Table Discussion/Check-In/What's Up
15. Other Business
16. Next Meeting Date and Agenda (May 13, Saco)
17. Adjourn

**\*Lunch & Learn Presentation on Gorham East/West Study begins at noon**

Attachments: March 11 PTC minutes, Status Reports, Timeline/Work Plan, Transit Committee Roster

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**PACTS Transit Committee Minutes**  
**March 11, 2010**  
**9:30 a.m. at GPCOG**

**Members Present:** Ed Clifford, Chair, ShuttleBus/ZOOM; Hank Berg, CBITD; Sara Devlin, MTA; Barbara Donovan, MaineDOT; Marina Douglass (for Patricia Quinn), NNEPRA; Hilary Frenkel, Pol. Com. Appt.; Connie Garber, YCCAC; Alex Jaegerman, Planning Com. Appt.; Tom Meyers, SPBS; Mark Nahorney, Pol. Com. Appt.; David Redlefsen, METRO; Sara Trafton, RTP

**Staff and Guests:** Maddy Adams, GPCOG; Susan Davis, MNGRR; Tony Donovan; John Duncan, PACTS; Carl Eppich, PACTS; Art Handman; Steve Linnell, GPCOG; Tom Reinauer, SMPRC; Robert Wagner, Adopt-a-Stop; Jane West, Conservation Law Foundation

1. **Call to order.** Ed Clifford, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. Introductions were made.
2. **Approval of Minutes from the February 11, 2010 meeting.** Regarding #10 – information sharing - Susan Davis said the point she wanted to make about the Maine Rail Transit Coalition is that they are here to advocate for rail. Carl corrected a number on Item 4 about the Congress Street Bus Priority Study. The number that was secured was \$367,000 not \$673,000. He also recommended a change to one of the sentences so that it would read as follows: This is money to implement some of this work. *Tom Meyers moved approval of the minutes with the above-noted corrections. Dave R. seconded the motion and it passed.*
3. **Status Reports.** A Public Meeting on the Portland north study is scheduled for March 29<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 at GPCOG.
4. **Review Timeline/Work Plan.** Remove *Destination Tomorrow* update in May 2011.
5. **PACTS Transit Study Implementation Status Reports.**
  - 5a. **Regional Map and Timetable.** Changes for the May edition are due by March 19; please send changes to Donna Tippett. Steve requested a number from each of the providers regarding how many copies they will be needing. Tom M. asked for a timeline regarding the September version. Steve responded that changes would need to be received at least six weeks before the deadline. Tom M. would like to have the next version printed in August instead of September. That would mean changes would be needed by mid-June for the September version.
  - 5b. **Regional Route Study.** No update.
  - 5c. **Transit Planning in Comprehensive Planning Process.** The March 4<sup>th</sup> Joint Transit/Planning meeting was cancelled. No new date has been set.
  - 5d. **Regional Pass System.** A small group meeting with Dave R., Tom M. and Sara T. needs to be scheduled. Please let Steve know when you want to meet.
6. **Regional AVL Project update.** Rebecca L. reported that the group met yesterday on the AVL/ITS project. The group needs to rank the operator criteria and the potential customer interfaces such as e-mail, phone, etc. We need to evaluate whether or not we need new hardware and software. Customer criteria will also need to be determined. The next meeting was scheduled for March 23<sup>rd</sup>, beginning at 12:00 noon. Ed noted that the current system we have has reliability issues.
7. **5307 Allocation Update.** This will go to the Policy Committee next week. Ed explained that twenty percent of increased funding would go to regional projects (up to \$40,000). He also said that Nat Tupper did a great job facilitating the 5307 group.

Barbara spoke about the one-month continuing resolution. A vote will need to happen on the continuing resolution that goes until the end of the calendar year. In the meantime, the FTA has not released any funds. They are budgeting for flat funding for the next three years. You could apply for the 5/12<sup>th</sup> but she wasn't sure that the FTA would be thrilled about that. We have two weeks to wait. She is concerned that the nine-month extension is hooked to the Jobs Bill. Connie mentioned that Congress has said that we can count on getting 5/12<sup>th</sup> of next year's funding level now and then they will formally adopt a funding level.

- 8. Substitution of unspent STP Transit Funds.** A letter from GPCOG regarding the TIDS funding was distributed. Transfer of assets has not yet been completed. John Duncan said there was no rush for the Transit Committee to come up with projects that might be eligible to use the leftover funds. Steve mentioned that in previous STP submissions, we had to reduce what was requested, such as funding two vans instead of three for RTP. Most of the providers have had to make concessions. The Committee recommended that Steve outline the projects that were cut from previous submissions.
- 9. Funding changes under new Jobs Bill.** Rebecca L. explained that the funds have to be under contract within 90 days or else 50% of the funding will be taken back. Potentially it is a good amount of money. We will need to think about capital projects very seriously. Twenty-one days after the President signs the bill, the 90-days period would start. Barbara noted that the last time the money (stimulus funds) went to buses and she would recommend the same again this time. As soon as a decision has been made, the state can put the bid out. The Governor has authorized MaineDOT to make all the decisions regarding what projects to fund. We hope to get \$5.2 million (capital money). There was some discussion about 5309 funds and the reporting requirements for fixed guideway. Only if we become an urbanized area would we qualify for fixed guideway funding. Barbara reiterated her recommendation that funds go to purchasing buses. You can request exceptions for operating but you will have to follow additional rules. The reporting can be cumbersome. This should be put on next month's agenda.
- 10. Participation in HUD Sustainable Communities grant application.** Rebecca Lambert explained. Our area is eligible for up to \$2 million. There are three categories: (1) Funding to support the preparation of Regional Plans for Sustainable Development that address housing, economic development, transportation, and environmental quality in an integrated fashion where such plans do not currently exist; (2) Funding to support the preparation of more detailed execution plans and programs to implement existing regional sustainable development plans (that address housing, economic development, transportation, and environmental quality in an integrated fashion); and (3) Implementation funding to support regions that have regional sustainable development plans and implementation strategies in place and need support for a catalytic project or program that demonstrates commitment to and implementation of the broader plan. We would probably be doing #1. A meeting was held on March 3 with HUD. Participants at that meeting suggested submitting a single regional application with COG as the lead. Sara Trafton would be interested in participating. Alex thought the Planning Committee should also be involved; he volunteered to participate on their behalf.

Rebeccah S. and Neal Allen have been working with the State Planning Office on a Lakes Region Comprehensive Plan. COG recently convened a working group of energy related interests to talk about creating a regional energy plan. We are hoping we might be able to tie this all together in the application. Carl suggested also bringing in the Brunswick redevelopment group.

Tony stated that the Maine Rail Transit Coalition is recommending a rail connection between India Street to the Auburn intermodal facility. Those are two regions that are connected by rail. Sustainable communities would not be based on oil-based transportation facilities. Sustainable use of our resources is what we need to look at. He left a letter about this with PACTS. He said MRTC has a lot to offer and has a lot to do with sustainability.

Alex mentioned that the Gorham East-West Corridor Plan involves South Portland, Gorham, Scarborough, Westbrook and Portland; that would be another project that should be included. Sara D. said they have some results of what that would look like. There will be a public hearing on the Plan on March 25<sup>th</sup>. It is a regional land use and transportation project. Rebecca pointed out that the idea is to show as much partnership as possible.

11. **STP Transit Set Aside Application.** Steve reported that eight proposals had been received; a handout was provided. The money would be available in October 2011. Tom M. stated that he was late on one of his applications. He put in for this project three processes ago and it was spread out over three biennia. It was successful the first time. His project was withdrawn during the second installment. It has been a juggling of applications and agreements. Connie said that, from her perspective, Tom did not miss the deadline because this project has been in the pipeline for years. The Committee was fine with Tom's proposal arriving when it did. Regarding the terms of ranking, this is the same criteria and system that was developed four years ago. Connie noted that we came to this list of criteria collaboratively. We looked at how we could rank very different proposals fairly. We have tried to maximize the funds that are available and do good for the region. It was pointed out that some of the coordination recommendations have already been achieved so we may want to look at that. It's possible that some of the projects could apply for other funds. We'll need to wait and see what happens with funding. Connie asked if bus shelters could be included under capital procurement. Barbara thought they could. It may be worth keeping the signs and shelters project in mind also for any money that comes in. Tom M. said that the Technical Committee has a very thoughtful pre-submission process (enhanced project scoping). We may need to have a different application.

Tony asked if the group has ever looked at teaming up with private businesses for bus shelters. The Maine Turnpike Authority tries to seek out partnerships with businesses at their parking areas such as Cabella's.

It was asked if the STP money from TIDS and the METRO awning could be used for transit set aside projects from the list. Steve responded that we might be able to but we probably want to treat it separately.

Carl reported that six projects were submitted for the rebuild roads category. There are two projects that have bus routes (one of the criteria). David R. recommended endorsing the projects that support transit routes.

## 12. **Information Sharing**

**12a. PACTS video.** John D. provided an introduction. The purpose of the video is to reach out to the public. They hope to get the video on local access TV channels. It has been shown to the Executive Committee, Technical/Planning Committee and will be on the MBTA tonight. The video was shown. Connie said it was very well done. The choice of shots was very good, as was the narration. Hilary said it was a great video. The League of Young Voters would be very interested in putting it on their website. She asked if there would be guidance on the video about how to talk to

legislators about funding. John D. responded that PACTS is federally funded so there is a fine line. We can prepare our web site with that information. The League might be able to take on some of the advocacy piece. Susan Davis thought that the “ask” in the video wasn’t clear enough. The local and state dollars aren’t governing the costs of improving the roads. John reiterated that PACTS cannot ask the question. We want to get the general public educated on this. Jane said that was her question also. What are we supposed to do to correct the problem? If you are going to make a pitch, an energy efficient component would be great. Tony said the video didn’t advocate for getting people out of their cars. He spoke about the gas tax and how we should be advocating for that. Tom M. said the video was awesome. This video can be followed up with others on various subjects. Jane thought that educating the public about the role they can play is critical. John mentioned that for a \$10,000 video, PACTS paid about \$3,000. Hilary mentioned that the League of Young Voters re-emergence event is scheduled for April 29<sup>th</sup> at the Space Gallery and it will be focusing on the local creative economy. If PACTS would like to have this video be a part of the event, please contact the League.

In preparation for the Jobs Bill, Barbara stated that TIP and STIP amendments will be necessary. We need to make sure that those items are on our agendas because once they know how much money is available and what projects will be selected, the amendments will need to be made very quickly.

Tom M. said he was disappointed that the Transportation Bond didn’t have any vehicles in it. South Portland is beginning their budget process. They are looking at improving what they can but there will probably be cuts in service and probably fare increases in July. It is all subject to public hearing.

Steve was in D.C. for Clean Cities Energy Independence Days. METRO purchasing CNG buses was discussed with staff in DC. Dave said he has some diesels in the pipeline already, but CNG orders depend on money that isn’t there yet. If it materializes the diesel buses would go to another property.

Ed – local bus ridership numbers went up probably due to the UNE students. ZOOM bus ridership is down. ZOOM bus has a lack of signage.

David R – negligible decrease in ridership.

Robert W – not a lot of enthusiasm for the Adopt-A-Stop program so far. Creating a web site does not get enthusiasm and commitment. Tom said he knew we would get a slow start. We have a couple of volunteers and they are very enthusiastic.

Connie – she read a group decision tip from Craig Freshley. Group Decision Tips are distributed by e-mail to subscribers at no charge about every two weeks. Visit [www.GoodGroupDecisions.com](http://www.GoodGroupDecisions.com) to subscribe to the Tips.

13. **Other Business.** None
14. **Next Meeting Date and Agenda.** The next meeting is scheduled for April 8<sup>th</sup>.
15. **Adjourn.** The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

## **Agenda Item #3**

### **Status Reports**

1. Policy Committee Meeting
  - The Policy Committee met on March 18
  - The Committee voted on 5307 funding and bike/ped proposals
2. Operations Committee Meeting
  - The Operations Committee met on March 23 and discussed the ITS / AVL project
  - The Committee also discussed moving forward with the first phase of the Regional Sign and Shelter project
  - The Committee also discussed moving forward with the first phase of the Regional Sign and Shelter project
3. Planning Committee Meeting
  - The Planning Committee met on April 1<sup>st</sup>
  - MAST presented a proposal to expand ZOOM commuter service to Biddeford/Saco and to extend to Lewiston, Auburn and Augusta
  - There was also a discussion on the long range plan update – Destination Tomorrow
4. Portland North Study
  - There was a public meeting at the Auburn City Hall on March 30.
  - There will be a public meeting in Portland by the end of April.
5. Staff updates:
  - PACTS and GPCOG staff continue to work diligently on the Destination Tomorrow Update
  - GPCOG has begun the Route 4 origin-destination study for METRO.
  - PACTS and GPCOG staff continue to be involved in the Gorham East-West Study. The Study Team will make a presentation at a 12:00 – 1:30 Lunch & Learn, GPCOG conference room, April 8.
  - GPCOG is taking the lead on a HUD Sustainable Communities Planning Grant.

## **Agenda Item #4**

### **Draft Timeline/Work Plan for the PACTS Transit Committee**

<b>DRAFT</b> 4/14/2010
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#### **Fiscal Year 2010:**

<i>July 2009</i>	Sub-Committee on 5307 Formula funding allocation
<i>August</i>	<i>Provide input to PACTS Process Review</i>
<i>September</i>	<i>Participate in PACTS TIP Process Review, including JARC</i>
<i>October</i>	Approve Allocation Formula for 5307 and STIC
<i>November</i>	Develop Study Proposals for 5303 and 5307 Planning funds and UPWP
	Provider information (ridership, miles, etc.) due
<i>December</i>	

<i>January 2010</i>	Submit recommendation to Policy Committee for FTA Section 5307 funds
<i>February</i>	<i>Submit 2012/2013STP proposals to staff for ratings</i>
<i>March</i>	<a href="#">Public comment period for Section 5303 and 5307 funds, '10/'11 (pending release of Federal Register notice)</a> Public Comment Period for STP proposals for 2012/2013 Update TIP
<i>April</i>	FTA Budget announced <a href="#">Appoint Nominating Committee for new Officers</a> Adopt STP proposals for submission to Policy Committee
<b>May</b>	<b><i>Destination Tomorrow update</i></b>
<i>June 2010</i>	Annual evaluation of Committee (year 6) Elect New Committee Officers

**Fiscal Year 2011:**

<i>July 2010</i>	
<i>August</i>	
<i>September</i>	<i>Participate in PACTS TIP Process Review, including JARC</i>
<i>October</i>	Review and Approve Allocation Formula for 5307 and STIC
<i>November</i>	<a href="#">Regional Transit Study; Annual Report</a> Develop Study Proposals for 5303 and 5307 Planning funds and UPWP Provider information (ridership, miles, etc.) due
<i>December</i>	
<i>January 2011</i>	Submit recommendation to Policy Committee for FTA Section 5307 funds
<i>February</i>	<i>Submit 2012/2013STP proposals to staff for ratings</i>
<i>March</i>	<a href="#">Public comment period for Section 5303 and 5307 funds, '12/'13 (pending release of Federal Register notice)</a> Public Comment Period for STP proposals for 2012/2013 Update TIP
<i>April</i>	FTA Budget announced Appoint Nominating Committee for new Officers Adopt STP proposals for submission to Policy Committee
<i>June 2011</i>	Annual evaluation of Committee (year 6) Elect New Committee Officers Provider information (ridership, miles, etc.) due

**Other tasks:**

- Execute the Implementation Schedule for the ***Regional Transit Coordination Study***.
- Provide assistance and coordination for implementing ***Destination Tomorrow*** and associated studies and plans
- Determine level of involvement of the Committee wishes to have in ongoing studies such as:
  - Congress St. Bus Priority Study
  - Passenger Rail to Brunswick
  - Portland North, Small Starts Study
  - Transit Oriented Zoning
  - Maine Narrow Gauge RR Extension Study

- Gorham East/West Corridor Study
- Greater Portland Livable and Sustainable Region Initiative
- HUD Sustainable Communities Planning Grant proposal
- Other future studies
- Monitor likelihood that PACTS will become a Transportation Management Area
- Respond to Policy Committee requests for action, information or recommendations as needed

**Agenda Item #4 a**  
**Appoint Nominating Committee for New Officers**

PACTS Committees elect new officers every two years. New terms take effect at the beginning of the PACTS fiscal year in July. Typically, the vice chair moves up to the position of chairman. The nominating committee makes recommendations regarding candidates for new vice chairman and chairman. The committee is made up of the current chair and immediate past chairman.

**Agenda Item #5 a**  
**Regional Map and Timetable**

We have ordered a total of 10,650 Transit Guides from the printer for distribution in May. There are minimal artwork change charges for this printing.

**Agenda Item #5 b**  
**Regional Route Study**

The RFP should be issued by the time of the meeting.

**Agenda Item #5 c**  
**Transit Planning in Comprehensive Planning Process**

The Joint Planning and Transit Meeting will meet next on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00. It will be followed by the PACTS Planning Committee meeting.

**Agenda Item #5 d**  
**Regional Pass System**

METRO has agreed on a fare increase. Before the price for the regional pass can be negotiated, the price for the Maine Care Pass needs to be determined. The subcommittee will be reconvened soon.

**Agenda Item #6**  
**Regional AVL/ITS Project**

The Operations Committee met on March 23 to discuss the Regional AVL/ITS Project. The Committee ranked potential customer interfaces for providing real time vehicle information to

customers (the top four are: touchtone/Interactive Voice Response, vehicle location on a map on the Web, ETA/Countdown on the Web, and a Travel Management Coordination Center). The Committee also ranked operator criteria into two categories. The Committee used these rankings, combined with ranked customer criteria, to evaluate whether the current AVL system (software/hardware) is sufficient to accomplish the goal of the project, which is to make real time vehicle location information available to the public. While the current ActSoft/CometTracker System performed reasonably well under operator criteria (for which it was originally purchased), it performed inconsistently under customer criteria and customer interface. The Committee did not decide to categorically abandon ActSoft/CometTracker, but it will now explore other AVL solutions.

Due to confusion surrounding Travel Management Coordination Centers (TMCC), the next Operations Committee Meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup> will include a presentation on TMCCs. In addition to clarifying the purpose and role of a TMCC, this presentation will hopefully help the Committee decide whether to design software/hardware specs in order to accommodate a TMCC.

## **Agenda Item # 7**

### **Section 5307 allocation**

The PACTS Policy Committee met on March 18, and approved the new 5307 formula.

The formula allocates 5307 funds as follows:

- Divide the base portion of 5307 funds (funds up to 2009 amounts, or \$2.25 mm) based on the traditional formula (BSOOB: 6.66%; CBITD: 17.34%; METRO: 58.61%; RTP: 7.35%; SPBS: 7.00%; YCCAC: 3.04%)
- Any additional 5307 funds would be divided as follows:
  - The first 20%, up to \$40,000 would support shared projects
  - The balance, up to \$160,000, would be divided based on increased boardings (70%) and revenue vehicle miles (30%).
  - Any additional funds above \$200,000 would be divided according to the traditional formula (above).

## **Agenda Item #8**

### **Substitution of Unspent STP Transit Funds**

GPCOG submitted a letter last month for \$51,000 of unspent funds. METRO has indicated they will have a letter to release its \$90,000 at this meeting. The Transit Committee needs to make a proposal for spending these funds. As mentioned previously, the only previous proposal that was not fully funded was from RTP. They had asked for three paratransit vehicles and only two were funded at \$70,000 each. Presumably there would be an increase in the cost of the same vehicle today.

## **Agenda Item #9**

### **STP Transit Set Aside Application**

Discussion of these applications was tabled at the last meeting until more was known about funding. While actual dollar amounts remain unknown, the Committee needs to discuss staff's proposed ranking and either approve or alter it, so that it can make recommendations to the Policy Committee.

Proposal summaries are below. Full proposals can be downloaded by clicking on the URL associated with each summary.

#### **A. SPBS – Mill Creek Transit Hub (\$206,870)**

<http://www.pactsplan.org/documents/SBBus%20Transit%20Hub%20PACTs%20STP%20Set-aside%20Feb%2010.doc>

The alignment of all routes would be greatly simplified through the area by reconfiguring them all to operate to, from, and through a new “transit hub.” This project proposes to construct a Transit Hub on the 100’ x 100’ city-owned parcel at the corner of Ocean and Thomas Streets in Mill Creek. There will be space for three buses to serve the hub at the same time and the Transit Hub will become the focal point for transit services in the area and will provide an aesthetically pleasing, architecturally compatible, comfortable, inviting, and convenient experience for our current riders and to attract new patrons.

#### **B. BSOOB – Transit Bus (\$380,000)**

<http://www.pactsplan.org/documents/STP%20BSOOB%20LOCAL%20BUS.doc>

One of their vehicles, Bus #24, has **335,000 miles** on it as of January 2010. The bus operates up to **60,000 miles** a year so that it will reach the recommended replacement mileage of **500,000 within two years**. This project would purchase a new 31-passenger transit bus to replace Bus #24.

#### **C. BSOOB – Bus Shelters (\$100,000)**

<http://www.pactsplan.org/documents/STP%20app%20WAVE%20shelter.doc>

The ZOOM Turnpike Express has been in operation since 1998 traveling from Exit 32 (Biddeford) and Exit 36 (Saco) Park and Ride lots. Recent years have seen significant growth in ridership to over 46,000 riders in FY09. The Park & Ride lots also serve the WAVE Van. The bus shelters at both lots are small simple structures – not offering much comfort for passengers waiting for a bus or ride home. This project would purchase and install two (2) bus shelters, equipped with heat and vehicle information displays to create an attractive waiting place.

#### **D. BSOOB – UNE – Downtown Bus (\$200,000)**

<http://www.pactsplan.org/documents/STP%20app%20UNE%20BUS%20Final.doc>

Since 2007 the ShuttleBus has been providing transit bus service between downtown Biddeford/Saco and the University New England (UNE) during the academic year. Ridership on the route has increased each year to approximately 10,000 in FY09. Initially a trial service, the Shuttle Bus did not acquire new equipment for this route and has instead relied on an older vehicle each year that would otherwise be retained as a spare. Now this bus has 600,000 miles on it – obviously having outlasted its recommended lifespan of 350,000 miles. This project would purchase a 16 or 18-passenger cut-away vehicle for the ShuttleBus UNE Nor’easter Route.

E. CBITD – Freight Handling Equipment (\$65,000)

<http://www.pactsplan.org/documents/PACTSAppFrthandEquipCBL02.12.10.pdf>

The District's two forklifts are close to the end of their useful lives and in need of replacement. The inventory of associated cargo handling equipment has been depleted over time with the need for replacement. This project would purchase two new forklifts and associated cargo handling equipment such as pallet jacks, hand trucks, and freight carts and cages to replace aged, damaged and lost equipment.

F. CBITD – Electronic Ticketing (\$115,000)

<http://www.pactsplan.org/documents/PACTSAppElecTixCBL02.12.10.pdf>

The District is in the preliminary stages of implementing an electronic ticketing system. Funding is currently available for Phase 1 of the project; however sufficient funding is not available, and not yet identified, for the next phase of this project. The scope of work for this project will include the procurement of hardware necessary for the implementation of an electronic ticketing system. Items to be purchased include, but are not limited to, the following: photo pass, tablet PCs, mobile wireless admission control, printers, and camera.

G. CBITD – Preventive Maintenance (\$200,000)

<http://www.pactsplan.org/documents/PACTSAppPrevMaintCBL02.12.10.pdf>

The District is in need of additional funding for preventive maintenance of its terminal, vessels and computers. This project would utilize \$200,000 in funding for preventive maintenance of the District's five vessels, the Casco Bay Ferry Terminal and various computer systems.

H. RTP – Mobile Data Terminals (\$244,613)

<http://www.pactsplan.org/documents/STP%20FY12%2013%20RTP%20Proposal.pdf>

RTP seeks STP funds for the purpose of acquiring and installing 36 integrated mobile data computer/automatic vehicle location modules (MDC/AVL) on its fleet of buses and vans. This technology will provide RTP with increased capacity in areas of service delivery, data management, and customer service. The MDC/AVL technology is built on a platform that is expandable and able to integrate with other transit agency technology.

I. SPBS – Replace bus operations and maintenance building (\$238,153)

<http://www.pactsplan.org/documents/SP%20Bus%20Building%20PACTs%20STP%20Set-aside%20Feb%2010.pdf>

*(This proposal was received after the due date. It was scored by staff with the understanding that it would have to be accepted by the Transit Committee for consideration. SPBS has received two out of a planned three installments of STP funding for this project over the three previous biennia.)* In March of 1995, Criterium-Mooney Engineers evaluated the condition of twenty-seven municipally owned buildings. For bus-related buildings, recommendations were made to renovate and/or repair the structures bringing them up-to-date with current codes and regulations. Since that time no substantive repairs or renovations have been implemented. This project would demolish or renovate principal buildings including Bus Office and Bus Garage. Replace these buildings with a centralized structure that combines the offices and facilities.

## **Agenda Item #10**

### **Jobs Bill Update**

The President has now signed [H.R.2847](#) - Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment Act (Jobs Bill). This Bill includes \$6.15 billion for public transit, some of which will come to Maine as

5307 Funds. The Maine DOT will help direct those funds, which need to be under contract in less than four months.

## **Agenda Item #11**

### **HUD Sustainable Communities Update**

HUD, DOT and EPA have teamed up to offer \$100 million through a new Sustainable Communities Program. Our area would be eligible for up to \$2 million.

While the final NOFA is not yet released, a small group of regional entities (GPCOG, PACTS, Muskie School and the County among others) have been meeting weekly to set up the framework for a grant application. Items under discussion include selecting a region (which will likely be larger than Cumberland County), and identifying statements of need (such as dependence on petroleum, disjointed planning and governing entities, etc.). The current process is focused specifically on executing the grant application in the short time allotted – not on the planning process itself.

## **Agenda Item #12**

### **Presentation by *Maine Alliance for Sustainable Transportation (MAST)* on their proposal to Expand ZOOM Commuter Bus Service**

This presentation was pushed forward from the cancelled March Joint Transit-Planning meeting. It was presented to the Planning Committee on April 1<sup>st</sup>. This will be a presentation on alternative transportation concepts/proposals by MAST who is “*actively seeking support and endorsement of this proposal from civic organizations, chambers of commerce, local governments, and legislators*”. This will be a brief 15-20 minute presentation by proponents of the proposal with a question and answer period to follow. Please see additional e-mail attachments.

## **Agenda Item #13**

### **Public Comments**

This Agenda Item is reserved for any comments the public or anyone attending may wish to share with the committee.

#### **Glossary of Terms**

1. ARRA American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
2. AVL Automatic Vehicle Location
3. BOP Biennial Operations Plan (MDOT)
4. BTIP Biennial Transportation Improvement Program (MDOT)
5. CMAQ Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program (Federal Funds)
6. EMDC Eastern Maine Development Corporation
7. FHWA Federal Highway Administration
8. FTA Federal Transit Administration
9. ISTEA Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act
10. ITS Intelligent Transportation Systems
11. JARC Job Access & Reverse Commute
12. MDOT Maine Department of Transportation

13. MPO Metropolitan Planning Organization (PACTS, KACTS, ATRC, BACTS)
14. NNEPRA Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority (Downeaster, contracts with Amtrak)
15. OPT Office of Passenger Transportation (MDOT)
16. PACTS Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation System (Portland Area MPO)
17. SAFETEA-LU Safe, Affordable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Act–Legacy for Users
18. STIC Small Transit Intensive Cities
19. STIP Statewide Transportation Improvement Program
20. STPA Sensible Transportation Policy Act
21. STP Surface Transportation Program (Federal Funds)
22. TE Transportation Enhancement Program (Federal Funds)
23. TEA-21 Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
24. TIP Transportation Improvement Program (PACTS)
25. UPWP Unified Planning Work Program
26. URIP Urban-Rural Initiative Program
27. 5303 FTA Planning Program
28. 5307 FTA Urbanized Assistance

## PACTS Transit Committee Roster

Updated on 2/2/10

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