

**ANCHORAGE METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Mayor's Conference Room, 8th Floor
632 West 6th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska**

**November 15, 2012
1:00 p.m.**

Policy Committee Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Robert Campbell	Alaska Dept. of Transportation & Public Facilities, Regional Director (DOT&PF)
Cindy Heil	Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation (ADEC), Air Quality
Patrick Flynn	MOA/Municipal Assembly
Chris Birch	MOA/Municipal Assembly

Also in attendance

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Craig Lyon	MOA/Community Development/Transportation Planning (CCD)
Vivian Underwood	MOA/CCD
Lance Wilber *	MOA/Public Transportation Department (PTD)
Jamie Acton	PTD
Jennifer Witt *	DOT&PF
Bart Rudolph	DOT&PF
Gary Katsion	Kittelsohn & Associates

**AMATS Technical Advisory Committee members*

1. CALL TO ORDER

ACTING CHAIR FLYNN called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Cindy Heil represented the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation in Alice Edwards' absence. Mayor Sullivan was absent. A quorum was established. Chair Campbell arrived at 1:08 p.m.

2. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

MR. LYON encouraged public involvement in this meeting of the AMATS Policy Committee. He explained staff would first make their presentation, followed by any comments from Committee members, and the floor would then be open to public comment.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MS. HEIL moved to approve the agenda. ASSEMBLY MEMBER BIRCH seconded. *Hearing no objections, the agenda was approved.*

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – May 24, 2012

MS. HEIL moved to approve the minutes of May 24, 2012. ASSEMBLY MEMBER BIRCH seconded.

Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved as written.

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

a. Anchorage Regional Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Architecture Maintenance Plan

TOPIC: Staff is asking the Policy Committee to review the AMATS Policy Committee Review Draft Anchorage ITS Architecture Maintenance Plan and to consider the AMATS Technical Advisory Committee recommendation for approval. As required by a Corrective Action of the most recent FHWA Certification Review, AMATS must adopt a Maintenance Plan by January 1, 2013, for the Anchorage Regional ITS Architecture, approved on October 14, 2004. The Draft Maintenance Plan is largely based upon a technical memo developed for use by both ADOT&PF and MOA in 2009 by Telvent Farradyne, Inc., modified for Anchorage. PB Farradyne developed both Architectures originally. This Plan provides flexibility, and meets the federal requirements for identifying who is responsible, when the updates will happen, what elements are to be updated, and the process for updating the Architecture. The ITS Architecture Update Technical Team may choose to recommend changes during the Update process scheduled for 2012-13, and based upon additional stakeholder input. Key elements of the Draft Maintenance Plan include: who is responsible for maintaining the architecture; what elements are to be maintained; when the updates will be scheduled; and update process.

VIVIAN UNDERWOOD provided a brief presentation to the Policy Committee.

MR. CAMPBELL arrived at 1:08 p.m. during this presentation. Acting Chair Flynn turned the gavel over to Mr. Campbell.

There were no public comments.

ASSEMBLY MEMBER FLYNN noted the document is very technical, but felt the final steps in Section 6 seemed thin in terms of what is expected to happen as changes are conceived and

implemented. In response, MS. UNDERWOOD indicated this plan was a good first step, and as AMATS works through the update, which begins in 2013, they plan to review and modify this plan. She indicated Traffic and Transit are the two main users of the architecture, and they would like to make other people aware of the architecture and how to use it, which is why it is important to get more of the stakeholders at the table when going through the process to update the plan. She noted this is supposed to be a planning tool, and it feeds the TIP. She also noted it does not rank and score projects, but it does show priorities for projects.

CHAIR CAMPBELL noted in a general sense this is a concept that everything should be able to talk to each other electronically so you do not have one team using green-based electronics and another team using red-based electronics and not able to communicate.

MS. UNDERWOOD noted all MPO's are required to have an ITS architecture. She indicated some states have a statewide architecture, but in Alaska there is a Statewide architecture, the Municipality has its architecture and Fairbanks has its architecture. She discussed the planning function and the different systems that are going to work together and the different agencies providing people the opportunity to talk to each other, coordinate and share information in real-time.

MS. UNDERWOOD stated this Architecture Plan will be located on the AMATS web page under "plans and documents."

ASSEMBLY MEMBER FLYNN moved for approval of the Anchorage Regional ITS Architecture Maintenance Plan. MS. HEIL seconded.

Hearing no objections, the motion was approved.

**b. 2012-2013 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
Major Amendment No. 1**

TOPIC: Staff is asking the Policy Committee to review and approve a major amendment to the current 2012 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Changes in the balance of priorities of staff assignments have necessitated this budget adjustment. The modification requires TAC, PC and DOT&PF approval as stipulated in the AMATS Operating Agreement. Staff will continue to adhere to the overall Program direction and intent of work tasks as approved by the AMATS Policy Committee. Changes within this adjustment do not affect the total program budget. The following summarizes the changes:

- 100 Element – AMATS Plans & Programs
Task 130, Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Remove \$40,000 from this task, transfer to Task 530.

- 200 Element – Special Studies & Local Planning
Task 210, Official Streets and Highways Plan. Remove \$30,000 from this task, transfer to Task 510.
- 300 Element – Air Quality Plants, Programs and Studies
No changes necessary.
- 400 Element – Data Collection / Analysis & Modeling.
No changes necessary.
- 500 Element – Program Admin / Public Involvement
Task 510, Program Administration. Augment funding by \$30,000 from Task 130. Task 530, Public Involvement. Augment funding by \$40,000 from Task 210.

MR. LYON provided a brief presentation. He explained that by year-end anything spent in this Program up to 110% of the budgeted amount is reimbursed by the federal government, and anything above 110% is not reimbursed. This budget amendment moves funds between tasks under the five elements so the 100% level is not exceeded. For example, he noted that at the end of the third quarter the 500 Element, Program Admin/Public Involvement is approximately 95% of the program budget. The 200 element is at approximately 50%, which would allow moving some of those funds into the 500 element. He noted the TAC reviewed and recommended approval of this amendment.

There were no public comments.

In response to Chair Campbell, MR. LYON confirmed this amendment moves money from project deliverables into overhead.

ASSEMBLY MEMBER FLYNN moved to approve Major Amendment 1 to the 2012-13 UPWP.
ASSEMBLY MEMBER BIRCH seconded.

Hearing no objections, the motion was approved.

c. Other Business Items - None

6. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

a. Public Transportation Update

LANCE WILBER provided a status report on public transportation. He provided a written copy to the Committee, which included his briefing paper, as well as report findings from the Municipality's Budget Advisory Commission. MR. WILBER highlighted the top ten things

Public Transportation is focused on, which included MAP-21, the TIP and the UPWP. He noted Transit's primary tasks are planning, marketing and ride sharing. He indicated Transit is on task including Affirmative Action and Title VI. Ridership is steady. He stated ridership is less than a ½ a percent off from this time last year, but so is the amount of service on the street, and the days and hours service is provided. With the Assembly's approval of Transit's Budget Plan B, MR. WILBER indicated the service they will provide in 2013 will be the same as provided in 2012 for fixed routes and Anchor Rides. The Assembly also passed a fare increase, which for People Mover would raise the one-way adult fare from \$1.75 to \$2.00, and then there are some adjustments in 30 day and 12 month passes. Overall, he stated the bus business is good. In 2013, Transit will be doing an On-Board Survey as a complement to the MTP update, and are looking at doing work at Mid-Town and the Dimond Center. He noted Transit will be replacing its oldest buses and already has the federal dollars for this. The buses should arrive in late summer.

There were no public comments.

In response to Assembly Member Flynn, MR. WILBER noted the old buses would be auctioned, discussed the plans for the Transit Center at the Dimond Center, and putting in a new Transit Center in the Mid-Town area.

In response to Chair Campbell, MR. WILBER confirmed the Transit Budget on the capital side is primarily funded by grants, AMATS and the State legislature. He noted there is bonding for match, and on the operational side from Municipal property taxes.

CHAIR CAMPBELL asked for an explanation on the grants Transit received, and the effect to the TIP amendment and Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans. MR. WILBER explained the grants Transit received in 2012 and the impact on the TIP. The received a State of Good Repair Grant for \$1.3 million, and some of it will be used to advance the bus purchase. Transit has 2011 money, 2012 money and the 2012 grant money, and the combination of those three with the match is the reason Transit will be able to buy those buses this year and not next year. As a result, Transit will not need that \$1 million in this federal fiscal year. He confirmed this is a one-time deal. He noted after this buy Transit will not need to buy any more buses for four more years because the fleet will be up to more current states, and those funds can be used for facilities and other improvements. In addition, he explained when MAP-21 came in the FTA allocation went up and Transit had more money to meet those needs, and as a result would not need it in the CMAQ category.

b. Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan

JAMIE ACTON provided a presentation on Human Service Transportation Coordination. Highlights included:

- SAFETEA-LU Overview
- Explanation of Coordination – unified, comprehensive strategies to improve and expand travel options for seniors, people with disabilities and low income populations.
- Anchorage’s Coordination Goals
- Anchorage’s Coordination – 2009 Human Service Transportation Coordination Plan, UPWP and TIP.
- FTA Funding Programs
- Competitive Process
- \$2.3 million in awards to date
- Outcomes and success
- MAP-21 FTA program changes

In response to Chair Campbell, MS. ACTON noted with MAP-21 that funding levels overall within this program as far as dollars would be about the same, but she thinks there will be more competition for some of those dollars because the eligibility activities have been expanded. However, Transit is still waiting on guidance to determining whether they will compete, programming it into the TIP, or how they will be using this money. MAP-21 is a two-year bill with an 18 month implementation.

MS. ACTON noted this is funded through a blend of capital and operations dollars, but no guidance has been received yet on MAP-21 with regard to funding for this program. She indicated funding has been heavier towards capital as opposed to the operations side. She noted the general dollar value of this program to date since 2008 is \$2.3 million.

c. Other Informational Items - None

7. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

There were no other committee comments.

8. SCHEDULED AMATS MEETINGS

Technical Advisory Committee, December 6, 2012

Policy Committee, December 20, 2012

CHAIR CAMPBELL noted there would be significant action items on the Committee’s agenda for its next meeting including the TIP Amendment and the Air Quality issue. MR. LYON noted next year’s Work Program would be on the agenda as well. There will be a TAC work session tomorrow, November 16th from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Permit Center to talk about next year’s Work Program.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.