

**ANCHORAGE METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSPORTATION
FREIGHT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Planning and Development Center
Conference Room #170, 1st Floor
Anchorage, Alaska**

**October 21, 2009
3:00 PM**

Those in attendance were:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Aves Thompson	Alaska Trucking Association
Laura Edwards	MSC/ADOT&PF
Stuart Greydanus	MOA/Port of Anchorage
Jimmy Doyle	Weaver Brothers
David Blazejewski	Alaska Railroad
Mike Blewett	Fred Meyers
Dr. Jang Ra	UAA/Transportation Center
Ayron Spells	UPS
Mike Thrasher	Totem Ocean
Craig Lyon	MOA/TD
Teresa Brewer	MOA/TD
Scott Karner	ADOT&PF
Harrison Yeoh	UAA/Research Assistant
Kelly Brown	UAA/Research Assistant
Craig Dotson	Denali Pipeline
Scott Lust	Denali Pipeline

Excused: David Niebert, FedEx

Absent: Jack Jones, AIA/ADOT&PF

1. CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR MR. THOMPSON called the meeting to order at 3:06 PM.; MR. DAVE NIEBERT was excused. MR. JACK JONES was absent. A quorum was established. CHAIR THOMPSON presided.

2. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

MS.TERESA BREWER explained that this meeting offered opportunities for public comment. First, the Freight Advisory Committee (FAC) discusses the business action items and then the public is asked for comment.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There being no objections to the agenda.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MR. JIMMY DOYLE moved to approve the minutes; MS. LAURA EDWARDS seconded. Minutes from August 17, 2009 approved unanimously.

5. INTRODUCTIONS – MOA/TD staff, the Freight Advisory Committee members, ADOT&PF, UAA research assistants, and Denali Pipeline staff introduced themselves.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

a. Meeting Dates – The upcoming quarterly meeting date is scheduled for January 12, 2010. The quarterly meetings will be held in Conference Room #170 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The January 12, 2010 meeting date was approved unanimously.

b. Denali Pipeline Update/Presentation – CHAIR THOMPSON introduced MR. CRAIG DOTSON and MR. SCOTT LUST from the Denali Pipeline project. MR. DOTSON provided an overview and presentation of the Denali Pipeline project. This project is logistically challenging, but has a significant potential for gas supply. A discussion on the definition of open season followed. A gas treatment plant is currently planned. To build this plant, 8,000 tons of building modules are required. These will be sea lifted to the location. It is expected that these modules will be constructed in the lower 48 and compressors will be built in S. Central Alaska. MR.STUART GREYDANUS mentioned that the Port of Anchorage is being expanded and can accommodate the project. In addition, 2 to 3 million tons of steel are needed for the project. Current project cost estimates also include distance sensitive transportation rates. The Denali Pipeline has examined the logistics of moving pipe, etc. on the existing infrastructure and

has met with ADOT&PF as this is a challenge. As with all freight movement, limiting the number of times the freight must be transferred from barge, train, or ground is paramount. At this time, “truckable” modules are not being looked at. The potential for a local module industry exists. Industry at Port MacKenzie may have that capability. Port MacKenzie is also constructing additional barge piers. It is recognized that freight traffic will need modeled to optimize mobilization. Dynamic modeling is being developed at this time to access the impacts of freight movement to existing infrastructure and the public. This effort will study pinch points, circulation, and capacity. A substantial pool of drivers and labor is expected for this project. MS. EDWARDS asked if Denali Pipeline is currently working with Jeff Ottesen at ADOT&PF. MR. DOTSON replied, not at this time as the model is not yet developed. Turning radii, bridges, alignment, time of day, freight volume, and other perimeters will be evaluated by the model. Questions regarding bridge repair, funding, and load ratings followed. It is anticipated that the next legislative session will address some of these issues.

Discussion on the scope of the project, whether a bullet line will serve S. Central followed. CHAIR THOMPSON asked if Denali Pipeline had any freight movement recommendations, such as access to the Port, volume of freight, and downtown. MR. DOTSON expressed that efficient freight movement and improving freight movement through the Port safely and efficiently is a sensible goal. CHAIR THOMPSON thanked MR. DOTSON and MR. LUST for the presentation.

c. Freight Survey Proposal Discussion & Vote – CHAIR THOMPSON explained that some questions on the proposal were raised. MS. EDWARDS reviewed the list of questions. One primary concern was the project scope does not measure freight volume and its origin and destination. Freight industry often keeps that data as propriety. Unfortunately, at this time, the scope of this project cannot address that issue. However, CHAIR THOMPSON suggested that this topic be further examined in a future freight mobility study. Committee members agreed. It was decided that the scope of work will include traffic count collection for freight at specific intersections. This information is available through MOA, ADOT&PF. The committee members expressed interest in viewing the stakeholder/interviewee list prior to conducting the surveys. MS. KELLY BROWN stated this list will be available within the next week for the

committee's review. MS. BROWN asked if this survey would include interviewing the general public. MR. AYRON SPELLS noted that the purpose of this survey is freight mobility rather than the general public. MR. DAVE BLAZEJEWSKI stated that freight management can distribute the survey to their employees, drivers, contractors, etc. Committee members agreed that they would like to see the list of stakeholders and survey questions prior to release. DR. RA agreed that the scope of work could be updated to include this effort. MR. SPELLS inquired if benchmarks and earlier research from other municipalities are being implemented in this process. DR. RA affirmed that MS. BROWN and MR. HARRISON YEOH have studied several freight surveys from various municipalities. CHAIR THOMPSON pointed out that Washington State has an aggressive well-established freight mobility program and that may be a good source.

CHAIR THOMPSON confirmed that the proposal would be updated as discussed, clarifying the scope of work, staff hours, and will include prior review and approval of the stakeholders list and survey questions by the FAC, traffic count collection at specific intersections, and other minor amendments.

CHAIR THOMPSON asked for a motion to approve and fund the Freight Survey proposal as amended. MS. EDWARDS moved to approve and fund the Freight Survey proposal as amended. MR. DOYLE seconded. Discussion regarding funding and invoicing followed. The anticipated cost of the Freight Survey for Phase I is \$20,000.00. MR. CRAIG LYON provided an overview of the potential funding sources, such as TIP (Transportation Improvement Program) funding and PL (Planning) Funding. The fiscal year ends soon and there may be some PL funds to begin work, with additional funding available in 2010. MS. BROWN stated that many of the Freight Survey documents and deliverables could be completed in late December. Billing and invoicing can be done at specific project milestones. Billing is handled by the Traffic Department's Accounting division.

No objection. Unanimous vote to approve funding the amended Freight Survey.

d. Alaska World Trade Center Transportation Conference, November 12, 2009 – MS. BREWER explained MS. EDWARDS will give a

presentation on behalf of the FAC at the conference. MS. BREWER with MS. VAN LE'S help is creating a brochure on the FAC's activities to provide at the conference. For copies of the presentation and to provide comment on the draft brochure, contact MS. BREWER. MS. BREWER also thanked the Problem Freight Survey bus tour participants. Staff really appreciated MR. TIM SELK, Driver and Safety Trainer with Weaver Brothers and MS. DEBORAH JONES, Safety Director also with Weaver Brothers for their participation.

e. Site Review – No site reviews.

f. Training Opportunities. Talking Freight Series is holding a webinar on November 18, 2009 about security issues as related to freight. See the Talking Freight Website for more information.

7. Informational Reports: MS. EDWARDS/FREIGHT

CONFERENCE – Due to time constraints, this report was tabled to the next meeting.

a. Committee Comments – MS. EDWARDS asked if a freight budget proposal for the joint MOA/State legislative request was submitted. MR. LYON responded that staff did develop a project summary and budget, but that the request needs input from engineers to obtain accurate cost estimates. The City and the State have coordinated for several months on developing priorities for this legislative request and it might not be possible to add freight improvement projects at this time, but it is definitely worth trying. CHAIR THOMPSON asked if the FAC could do anything to support this freight request. MR. LYON stated that he will meet with MOA staff and see if there is an opportunity.

b. Public Comment – None

8. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.