



**Municipality of Anchorage
Geotechnical Advisory Commission**

A G E N D A

Tuesday, December 19, 2023

12:00 Noon – 1:30 p.m.

**Regular Meeting
(Hybrid format)**

In-Person Physical Location

Planning Conference Room 170
Planning and Development Center
4700 Elmore Road
Anchorage, Alaska

or

via Microsoft Teams

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

[Download Teams | Join on the web](#)

Meeting ID: 218 057 967 452, Passcode: cnoUnj

Or Join by Conference Call:

Dial-in Number: 907-519-0237

Conference ID: 130 487 219#

- I. CALL TO ORDER
 - A. Establishment of Quorum
 - B. Disclosures
- II. MINUTES
 - A. October 24, 2023
 - B. November 28, 2023
- III. OLD BUSINESS
 - A. Scope of Potential Project for Seismic Hazard Analysis and Mapping
 - B. GAC 2023-02, Geopier Foundation Design for the Anchorage FedEx Sorting Facility, Third-Party Review
- IV. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Discussion: How to Make the Most of Cooperation Between MOA Staff and GAC
 - B. Discussion: Goals, End-of-Year Report (Communications Committee)
- V. PERSONS TO BE HEARD (3-minute limit)
- VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - A. Communications Committee
 - B. Hazard Mitigation Committee
 - C. Seismic Hazard Committee
- VII. OTHER BUSINESS
- VIII. STAFF REPORTS
- IX. ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting – January 23, 2024



Municipality of Anchorage
Geotechnical Advisory Commission

A G E N D A

Tuesday, October 24, 2023
12:00 Noon – 1:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting
(Hybrid format)

Planning Conference Room 170, 4700 Elmore Road

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Establishment of Quorum

Members	Staff	Guests
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair John Thornley• Vice Chair Steven Halcomb• Dennis Berry• Kyle Brennan• Dave Hemstreet• Cody Kreitel• Keri Nutter• EXCUSED: Amy Steiner	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daniel Mckenna-Foster, Senior Planner• Ryan Yelle Long-Range Planning Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tim Huntting, MOA Project Management & Engineering• Grant Gephardt, MOA Development Services• Daniel King, MOA Development Services• Ross Noffsinger, MOA Development Services• Amanda Loach, MOA EOC• Dr. Elena Suleimani, Geophysical Institute, UAF

B. Disclosures

- **Commissioner Berry** is the structural engineer on item III.B. regarding the FedEx facility.
Chair Thornley asked if he would recuse himself; **Commissioner Berry** said he will recuse himself and answer any questions.
- **Commissioner Halcomb** explained he is involved in the process but is not involved in the design of the project.

New Business item IV.A. was taken up before II. Minutes and III. Old Business.

Presentation by **Dr. Elena Suleimani**, Geophysical Institute, University of Alaska Fairbanks, regarding [Tsunami Inundation Maps of Anchorage and Upper Cook Inlet](#).

II. MINUTES

A. September 26, 2023: Minutes approved unanimously with following changes:

- On page 2, acronyms corrected to SEAAK (Structural Engineers Association of Alaska), EERI (Earthquake Engineering Research Institute), and MASS (Municipality of Anchorage Standard Specifications).
- On page 2, in last paragraph: Changed to “Daniel King, MOA, explained that the 2024 IBC will be referencing ASCE 7 2022 version.”

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Scope of Potential Project for Seismic Hazard Analysis and Mapping

Update by Tim Huntting: Discussion

B. GAC 2023-02, Geopier Foundation Design for the Anchorage FedEx Sorting Facility, Third-party Review

- The group discussed the proposal, the third-party review, and how MOA stores data such as logs and boring reports.
- The group expressed interest in holding a work session.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. *(Taken up before Agenda Item II. Minutes)* Tsunami Inundation Maps of Anchorage and Upper Cook Inlet — Presentation by Dr. Elena Suleimani, UAF

B. Soil Boring Map on Municipal Website for Geotechnical Reports — Vice Chair Halcomb

V. PERSONS TO BE HEARD (none)

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Communications Committee

Report by **Commissioner Nutter**. Commissioner Brennan sent out the notice to the seismic hazard commission.

B. Hazard Mitigation Committee: Nothing to report

C. Seismic Hazard Committee: Nothing to report.

Vice Chair Halcomb reported on looking into the State committee and SEAAK (Structural Engineers Association of Alaska).

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Board of Ethics Response Regarding Conflict of Interest with Port of Alaska

Chair Thornley explained the matter and talked about his meeting with the Ethics Board. There was a discussion of the process.

VIII. STAFF REPORTS

Girdwood future land use map planned for next meeting.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Kreitel moved to adjourn, and **Commissioner Halcomb** seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1:17pm



Municipality of Anchorage
Geotechnical Advisory Commission

Meeting Summary

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

12:00 Noon – 1:30 p.m.

Regular Meeting
(Hybrid format)

Planning Conference Room 170, 4700 Elmore Road

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Establishment of Quorum

Members Present	Staff Present	Guests Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair John Thornley• Vice Chair Steven Halcomb• Dennis Berry• Kyle Brennan• Dave Hemstreet• Cody Kreitel• Keri Nutter• EXCUSED: Amy Steiner	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daniel Mckenna-Foster, Senior Planner	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wayne Bolen, MOA Development Services• Grant Gephardt, MOA Development Services• Tim Huntting, MOA Project Management & Engineering• Daniel King, MOA Development Services• Dan Ciani, Geopier Northwest• Roe Sturgulewski, Anser Advisory• Matt Van Goethem, MCG Explore Design• Will Nelson, BBFM Engineers• Yogesh Prashar, CMC/Geopier

B. Disclosures

No disclosures

III. OLD BUSINESS

The Chair moved the discussion on Old Business item B, “GAC 2023-02, Geopier Foundation Design for the Anchorage FedEx Sorting Facility, Third-Party Review,” to the beginning of the meeting.

The GAC discussed the case, third-party review, and asked the applicant to provide more information, including a methodology on how the proposed structure would react and deal with passive pressures during a seismic event.

II. MINUTES

Motion to approve the October 24, 2023 minutes fails. The Commission asked staff to rewrite the meeting minutes in a more abbreviated fashion and bring them back to the next meeting.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Tim Huntting reported on Old Business item A, "Scope of Potential Project for Seismic Hazard Analysis and Mapping Report." The amount of funding has been reduced to \$695,000, but he is working on the scope.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Girdwood Land Use Map: Commissioners looked at two versions of the draft Future Land Use Plan Map for Girdwood. Staff explained these maps were for information only; the GAC does not need to take any action.

B. Discussion of Goals, End-of-Year Report (Communications Committee)
Commissioner Nutter reported on recent activities by the Communications Committee and possibilities for future action and increasing engagement.

V. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

None.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Communications Committee

Commissioner Brennan reported that Barrett Salisbury from the State is interested in reinvigorating their participation in the GAC, and the State should be added to the invite list.

B. Hazard Mitigation Committee

No significant news.

C. Seismic Hazard Committee

Members reported that the USGS had a small working group; next week the review panel should get the updated findings.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

None

VIII. STAFF REPORTS

Staff noted that while the Watershed & Natural Resources Advisory Commission is required to do an annual report, the GAC is not. The next meeting will be on December 19, 2023.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hemstreet moved to adjourn; **Commissioner Brennan** seconded.
Meeting adjourned at 1:32pm.