

ANCHORAGE METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Anchorage, Alaska

November 30th, 2021

6:30 p.m.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Members Present:

Name	Representing
Karol Fink	State of Alaska DHHS
Chelsea Ward-Waller	Public Seat
Lindsey Hajduk	Public Seat
Matt Johnson	Public Seat
Cary Shiflea	Business Seat
Emily Weiser	Bike Anchorage
Darrel Hess	Public Seat
CB Brady	Alaska Center for the Blind & Visually Impaired

Also in attendance:

Name	Representing
Aaron Jongenelen	MOA/AMATS
Joni Wilm	MOA/AMATS
Craig Lyon	MOA/AMATS
Christine Schutte	MOA/AMATS
Sean Baski	ADOT&PF
David Gamez	Lounsbury and Associates
Travis Holmes	
Jason Kewin	
Joe Taylor	
Katie Conway	
Kristen Meyers	
Morgan McGammon	
Scott L	
James Starzec	ADOT&PF
Steven Noble	
Susan Acheson	Lounsbury & Associates

1. CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR DARREL HESS called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

All members of the BPAC except John Miller and Eric Gurley were present.

3. **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT**

CRAIG LYON gave the public services announcement.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

LINDSEY HAJDUK made a motion to approve agenda. KAROL FINK seconded. CHAIR HESS added an agenda item under general information for an update to the Spenard Corridor Project. He also added an item to give Craig a few minutes to discuss a clarification on the purpose of the committee. *Hearing no objection, the agenda was amended and approved.*

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

CARY SHIFLEA made a motion to approve the minutes. KAROL FINK seconded. *Hearing no objection, the minutes were approved.*

5. **ACTION ITEMS**

A. **MTP 2050 Draft Goals & Agenda (AMATS)**

MS FINK introduced the draft BPAC comments to the MTP 2050 Draft Goals & Agenda via Teams. These included two columns with edits. These included using everyday words and plain language to describe transportation infrastructure and help engage the public engagement. Also comments encouraged using language that improved conditions for historically underserved populations. LINDSEY HAJDUK made a motion to adopt the comments on behalf of the BPAC. CHELSEA WARD-WALLER seconded. *Hearing no objection, the comments were approved as written and forwarded as official comments from the BPAC.*

6. **GENERAL INFORMATION**

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A. **Roles and Responsibilities of the BPAC**

CRAIG LYON reiterated that the role of the BPAC is advisory to the other AMATS committees. AMATS TAC and AMATS PC. He also stated that AMATS was not a design entity and was primarily a planning agency.

B. **Northern Lights Blvd – Minnesota Dr to Seward Hwy: Sidewalks Project (DOWL)**

SEAN BASKI gave the presentation in this project. It included updates on project scope (improving Northern Lights between Minnesota Blvd and the Seward Highway), project schedule (project initiation, environmental design and project construction), financial constraints, existing conditions, primary deficiencies

(driveways, non-ADA compliance, steep curb cuts, numerous driveway conflict points and driveway proximity to intersections), utilities and potential improvements. Members of the BPAC asked several questions including reasons for ADA compliance, why the sidewalk width was so narrow, ROW constraints, missed opportunities to redesign the entire ROW. MS HAJDUK offered to lead a walk along the corridor in the winter to give people an idea of what that walking experience is like for people especially during winter months. MR LYON stated that we might have a potential opportunity to send more funds to this project. MS FINK asked if the project could be turned into a road reconfiguration that included a redesign. MR BASKI stated that that would need to be a major reconstruction project and the cost would be high. MS FINK also asked who at ADOT&PF would need to be at the table to suggest a major overhaul of Northern Lights. MR BASKI stated that it would need to be a major redesign planning project. JAMES STARZEC stated that this particular project is constrained by its TIP scope when it was originally nominated for the TIP as a pathways and trails replacement project. MS WILM asked what the pathway to a complete redesign of the road would be. MR BASKI stated that between the environmental document, environmental assessment, categorical exclusion and design would take a minimum of 8-12 years to get to construction and then potentially 3 years of construction.

C. Update on AMATS TIP (AMATS)

CRAIG LYON gave the update on the TIP. He stated that they had received a large number of comments and once those were approved they would start integrating those into the TIP nomination forms. He expected that the nomination process would begin by February of 2022.

D. Update on AMATS Non-motorized Plan (AMATS)

MS WILM gave the update on the Non-motorized Plan. She stated that the plan was wrapping up final changes and on schedule to deliver the final draft by end of December, 2021. Printed copies will be available in the new year.

E. Update on AMATS Planning Projects (AMATS)

JONI WILM gave the update on other AMATS projects. They included a safety campaign with Center for Safe Alaskans which included reflective gear and bus wraps and other items. This update included a Safety Plan that was going out for RFP in 2022 and a Street Typologies Plan that would begin in 2022. EMILY WEISER asked about the Street Typology Plan and what that meant. MS WILM stated that this type of plan integrates transportation and land use to look at existing street classifications and designating street typologies for each street

within the AMATS area. These typologies include things like Downtown Street, Urban Street, Mixed Use Street etc.

- F. **Spenard Road - Minnesota Drive to Benson Boulevard (ADOT&PF)** MR BASKI gave the update on this project. It included project purpose and background, comments that have been heard from the public, overall corridor map, design alternative options and the selected alternative which was a conversion to a 3-lane roadway. Construction is set to start in 2025 pending funding and other factors. BPAC comments included questions about option preferences, environmental documents, final design considerations, snow removal considerations, bike lane snow removal maintenance issues and speed reduction potential along the corridor.

7. **COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

MS HAJDUK stated that more public education awareness was needed and that the Safety Campaign should reach out to community advocates to help spread the message.

8. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

JOHN WEDDLETON said hello to everyone and said he was glad to hear that the BPAC was still very active.

9. **ADJOURN**

MS FINK made a motion to adjourn the meeting. MS HAJDUK seconded. *Hearing no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37pm.*