

**ANCHORAGE METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Planning & Development Center  
Conference Room 30  
4700 Elmore Road  
Anchorage, Alaska**

**January 25, 2022  
2:30 PM**

*This meeting was conducted in-person and virtually*

Community Advisory Committee Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Steve Horn	District 3
Mike Fenster	District 6
Bob French	Federation of Community Councils
Jon Scudder	JBER
S.J. Klein	District 1
Jim Winchester	Planning & Zoning Commission
Debbie Rinckey	Chugiak/Eagle River Chamber of Commerce

Also in attendance:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
James Starzec	DOT&PF
Christine Schuette	AMATS Planner
Aaron Jongenelen	MOA Planner

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

VICE CHAIR SCUDDER called the meeting to order at 2:40. A quorum was reached.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MR. KLEIN moved to approve the agenda. MR. Fenster seconded.

*Hearing no objections, the agenda was approved.*

**4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

MR. HORN provided an edit to the 10-26-21 minutes.

MR. FRENCH moved to approve the minutes as amended. MR. FENSTER seconded.

*Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved.*

**5. BUSINESS ITEMS**

**a. Chair & Vice Chair**

MR. FENSTER moved to table this discussion until April when since the current chair could not be present at this meeting.

MR. FRENCH seconded.

**b. Hiland Merge Lane Improvements Resolution**

MR. KELIN moved to approved Resolution 001-2022 on Hiland Merge Lane Improvements.

MR. HORN seconded.

MR. KLEIN asked if the need for this project has been established?

MR. JONGENELEN stated that the project is listed as a high priority in the Glenn Highway Integrated Corridor Management (ICM) Study as a safety concern because the merge lanes in locations as too short. This committee came forward and wanted to pass a resolution noted the safety concerns specifically on the Hiland merge lanes.

MR. KLEIN asked the committee members for clarification that this is a project that Eagle River is asking for.

VICE CHAIR. SCUDDER mentioned that he believes that this is a project that CHAIR CRUICKSHANK is recommending approval of.

MR. FRENCH stated that as a Glenn Highway commuter he knows that the Hiland area has been a problem. The on-ramp southbound from the Artillery Road interchange has been improved since the third land was added along with the bridge and this is the remaining bottleneck coming out of Eagle River.

VICE CHAIR. SCUDDER called a vote.

***Hearing no objections, the motion passed unanimously.***

**c. TIP Nomination Scoring Committee**

**BACKGROUND**

*The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is the AMATS area project plan for transportation improvements. It is the investment program consisting of capital improvements to the metropolitan transportation system. The TIP is the means of implementing the goals and objectives of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Additionally, the TIP process is used to satisfy the public participation process of the Program of Projects (POP) that is required in U.S.C. Section 5307. AMATS administers approximately \$30 million in federal transportation funding annually through the Roadway, Non-motorized, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program, and Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) within the urbanized area.*

MR. JONGENELEN reminded the committee that nominations for the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) are underway and due February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022. He stated that he is putting

together the committee that will score project nominations and that a member of the CAC has an opportunity to serve on that committee. So far, there are (2) individuals from the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) on the committee, one from Long-Range Planning at the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA), one from the MOA Department of Project Management and Engineering (PM&E) and one from the MOA Traffic Department, as well as myself. Mr. Jongenele went on to explain that to serve on this committee will be about a two-week commitment. The individual selected, needs to be able to remain neutral and score the projects based on the TIP Criteria and not personal feeling towards the projects.

MR. FENSTER asked for clarification on when this process will take place.

MR. JONGENELEN stated that he is not sure of the exact timeline and that it depends on when staff can compile all the necessary data based on how many nominations come in. The public is not asked to provide traffic or accident data, so staff must find that information and compile it as part of the project nomination.

VICE CHAIR SCUDDER asked if anyone on the committee wished to serve in this capacity?

MR. KLEIN asked for clarification on how many hours over the two-week period would be required. And if the workload could be split between two members.

MR. JONGENELEN stated that it is hard to say how many hours will be necessary. It could be more than 20 hours a week depending on how many nominations are submitted. He also stated that the works really needs to be done by one member to keep the scoring consistent.

Hearing no volunteers, VICE SCUDDER recommended that staff send out an email to the committee to see if there was interest from members not in attendance today.

MR. JONGENELEN stated that staff would send an email out to the committee with the parameters detailed out.

## **6. PROJECT AND PLAN UPDATES**

### **a. Glenn Highway PEL Update**

MR. KLEIN stated that he wanted to make sure the committee was aware that there was an open house for the Seward Glenn Mobility Project on January 27th and that the comment period was open through February 28<sup>th</sup>. Public comment at this time will help establish the evaluation criteria for this project.

VICE CHAIR SCUDDER asked if it was possible to get a presentation on the project.

MR. KLEIN said that he could reach out to project staff to set up a presentation at a special meeting if that was the will of the body.

MS. SCHUETTE stated that this project has presented to the TAC and PC and AMATS staff could direct the committee to the recordings of those presentations as well.

### **b. 2050 MTP**

#### **BACKGROUND:**

*The AMATS 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) plans over a 20-year horizon. It covers all modes of transportation: freeways, highways, streets and sidewalks, public transit, trails and freight mobility; and addresses congestion management and air quality standards.*

MR JONGENELEN gave a brief update on where staff was in the MTP development process. He stated that at the end of December, public comment on the goals and objectives of the plan closed and that staff is almost ready to post the comment response summary. Staff anticipates having the next public comment period on the performance measures, targets and plan criteria in March 2022. He requested that they look for that item on the February TAC and PC agendas.

## **7. General Information**

### **a. Appointing Committee Member Alternates**

MS. SCHUETTE stated that at the last meeting, the committee expressed interest in having alternates appointed so that the committee can still conduct its business when members need to be absent. Ms. Schuette went on to say that this is an opportunity that is already written out in the bylaws so if any committee members wish to put forth an alternate for their seat, they would need to have the alternate fill out the same application that each member filled out and those applications go to the PC for approval.

### **b. Committee Attendance**

VICE CHAIR SCUDDER mentioned that this is an item that he requested at the last meeting on committee member attendance.

MS. SCHUETTE stated that in the committee by-laws, if a member misses three consecutive meetings in a row, they would be subject to removal from the committee. We are tracking this now and looking at 2021 attendance, no one has missed three meetings in a row. Ms. Schuette went on to explain that if a member did miss three meetings in a row, the committee through the chair, would have the opportunity to remove them from the committee if they wished.

## **8. Committee Comments – NONE**

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

*Hearing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.*