

**ANCHORAGE METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS  
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
Planning & Development Center  
Conference Room 170  
4700 Elmore Road  
Anchorage, Alaska**

**April 27, 2021  
2:30 PM**

*Due to COVID-19, this meeting was conducted virtually.*

Community Advisory Committee Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Bruce Bustamante	Anchorage Chamber of Commerce
Debbie Rinckey	Chugiak/Eagle River Chamber of Commerce
S.J. Klein	District 1
Matt Cruickshank	District 2
Jonathan Lang	District 5
Diana Evans	District 4
Mike Fenster	District 6
Bob French	Federation of Community Councils
Jon Scudder	JBER

Also in attendance:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Craig Lyon	AMATS Coordinator
James Starzec	DOT&PF
Christine Schuette	AMATS Planner
Kristine Bunnell	MOA Planner

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

CHAIR CRUICKSHANK called the meeting to order at 2:31 A quorum was reached. Debbie Rinckey joined the meeting at 2:34 pm and Jon Scudder joined the meeting at 2:35 pm.

**2. PUBLIC INVOLEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT**

CHAIR CRUICKSHANK encouraged public involvement in this meeting of the AMATS Community Advisory Committee. He reminded the committee that the meeting was being recorded and the logistics of taking public comment during the meeting.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

CHAIR CRUICKSHANK asked if there were any committee members that wanted to add any agenda items under General Information.

MR. LANG said that he would like to have a discuss about DOT's proposed regulations to allow ATV's to operate on state roads and that the committee should make a resolution either in support or against the proposal.

MR. KLEIN asked to add an item to discuss the priorities of the MTP and the traffic model.

MR. FENSTER moved to amend the agenda. MR. HORN seconded.

*Hearing no objections, the agenda was approved as amended.*

#### 4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

MR. WINCHESTER moved to approve the minutes. MR. FENSTER seconded.

*Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved.*

#### 5. BUSINESS ITEMS

##### a. Chair and Vice Chair Elections

CHAIR CRUICKSHANK stated that the committee would elect chair and vice chair for a one-year term. CHAIR CRUICKSHANK asked for clarification on whether nominations and elections could happen in the same meeting. MR. LYON confirmed that they could and that there were no term limits so Mr. Cruickshank could continue serving as chair for as long as the committee approved him being the chair.

MS. EVANS asked who Vice Chair currently was.

MS. SCHUETTE stated that AMATS did not have a current Vice Chair in their records.

MR. HORN moved to nominate Mr. Cruickshank as chair. MR. LANG seconded.

*Hearing no objections, Mr. Cruickshank will serve as chair of the committee for another one-year term.*

The committee discussed nominations for vice chair.

MR. CRUICKSHANK moved to nominate Mr. Scudder as vice chair. MR. LANG seconded

*Hearing no objections, Mr. Scudder will serve as vice chair of the committee for a one-year term.*

#### 6. PROJECT AND PLAN UPDATES

##### a. Glenn Highway Artillery & Hiland Road PEL Update

MR. STARZEC confirmed that the Hiland Southbound Ramp was not being considered for a HSIP project. The crash data for the area does not support a HSIP project at that time. There is a nomination window open right now for HSIP projects. Nominations are due July 1<sup>st</sup>. You can contact the DOT& PF Traffic & Safety Department to find out how to submit a project. Currently Planning is proposing this project to headquarters in Juneau, it is a project listed in the MTP, project 205. It is also mentioned in the Glenn Highway Corridor Management Study. If the committee wishes to promote this project, passing a resolution to have the project

added to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) during the next amendment period would be a good step to take.

MR. CRUICKSHANK stated that while the PEL had been canceled, he heard that design of the Glenn Highway Artillery Road project was added to the STIP for this coming year, with alternative funding, and construction in 3-4 years from now. He asked Mr. Starzec to provide a follow-up at the next meeting as to whether design is fully funded for this project.

MR. STARZEC confirmed that he would.

MR. KLEIN stated that he would be interested to learn more about why the PEL process was canceled, but that the project was moving forward with design.

MR. STARZEC confirmed that the PEL was canceled and that the decision was made, he believed, at the commissioner level.

## **b. Anchorage Downtown Plan Step 2**

### Project Background:

*Step 2 is the second phase of the targeted update and review of the 2007 Anchorage Downtown Comprehensive Plan. The intent of Step 2 is to review what has been accomplished in Downtown Anchorage since the 2007 Plan was adopted; assess present day conditions by reviewing the most recent economic, housing, and demographic data and public feedback; and determine how to incorporate recent changes to municipal code, land use decisions, and reports to create future objectives for the revitalization and development of Downtown Anchorage.*

MS. BUNNELL with MOA Long-Range Planning Division provided a PowerPoint Presentation about the targeted update to the Downtown Plan.

The following were Committee questions with responses noted in *Italic*.

(MF) He was wondering if the jobs shown for 99501 included jobs in the Federal Building because the Federal Building has its own zip code.

*(KB) Said that she did not know that the Federal Building had its own zip code.*

(SK) He was wondering if there were specific projects identified within this plan that should be brought to the attention of this committee.

*(KB) There are many transportation projects still in the downtown plan. The survey asks if these projects should remain in the plan. This committee could review the projects listed in chapter 8 and provide a recommendation on which projects should remain in the plan. Many of the street conversions listed in the plan would need a study first to determine how they would work together and who would maintain them.*

(MC) He asked if any of these studies were listed in the 2040 MTP.

*(KB) She stated that the studies were not listed in any of the AMATS plans.*

(SK) He stated that if the committee was going to consider a sub-committee later in the agenda to look at project priorities, this could fit under that purview.

**7. General Information**

**a. New CAC Member Diana Evans**

MS. EVANS introduced herself to the committee as the CAC member of District 4.

**b. AMATS Quarterly Newsletter**

MR SCHUETTE presented the first AMATS Quarterly Newsletter to the committee.

**c. DOT & PF's Proposed Regulations to allow ATV's to operate on state roads -  
*amended item to the agenda***

MR. LANG informed the committee that the State is considering a regulation change to allow both ATV's and snow machines on all state roads that operate at 45 miles or less. In his opinion, this committee should write a resolution and send it to the policy committee opposing these changes to regulation.

The committee discussed the proposed regulation changes.

MR. LANG agreed to write a draft resolution for the committee's consideration at the next meeting.

**d. Priority Projects & the Traffic Model – *amended item to the agenda***

MR. KLEIN stated that he believes that the traffic model is out of date and does not reflect current conditions or trends. He suggested that a subcommittee be created to research this topic and bring information to the committee at the next meeting.

The committee discussed the creation of a subcommittee.

CHAIR CRUICKSHANK expressed concern creating a subcommittee because each CAC member represents a different district within the Municipality. He suggested setting up a work session for the CAC once the MTP 2050 project list is ready for review.

MR LYON confirmed that that was possible. He stated that it was already the plan to come to the CAC very early on in the planning process for the 2050 MTP.

MS. BUNNELL asked for a point of clarification as to whether MR. KLEIN had suggested earlier that this committee should create a sub-committee to review the projects presented in the Anchorage Downtown Plan.

MR. FRENCH stated that the committee should consider longer term items such as the MTP and shorter-term items, such as the State's proposed regulation changes differently as there will be time constraints

CHAIR CRUICKSHANK asked for a point of clarification on whether the MTP subcommittee and the Anchorage Downtown Plan subcommittee were two separate committees.

MR. KLEIN stated that he thought that they were two separate subcommittees.

CHAIR CRUICKSHANK asked MR. KLEIN if he could draft something up for the committee to vote on next meeting concerning the projects and model of the MTP.

MR. KLEIN confirmed that he would work with MS. EVANS and MR. FENSTER to draft something for the committee to take action on next meeting.

**e. Downtown Plan Subcommittee – *amended item to the agenda***

MR. KLEIN stated that he would like to see a subcommittee established to review the projects in the Anchorage Downtown Plan and see how do the projects relate to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), Long-range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).

CHAIR CRUICKSHANK stated that MR. KLEIN should prepare something for the next meeting so that the committee could take action on it and see if there was support for creating the subcommittee.

**8. Committee Comments - NONE**

**9. Public Comments - NONE**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

***Hearing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 3:57 p.m.***