

#	Date	Section/ Page #	Comment	Comment Received From	Staff Response
1	4/1/2025	General	We all know and understand that the role of the AMATS Public Participation Plan is to enhance AMATS ability to ignore the transportation concerns and needs of the public, whilst serving the interests of the usual private entities. That is why the BPAC and CAC completely ignore their bylaws which the TAC tiptoes in the shadows. The time for diplomacy is long past. AMATS had blood on its hands and we must all recognize that Anchorage is NOT going to change until our leadership changes. The municipality must leave the harmful tropes of the past in the past and join the rest of the 21st century urban centers in moving away from the nonsense of the mid-20th century. Anchorage Bicyclists	Merwyn Ambrose - Facebook Comment	Thank you for your comment. This comment did not provided any specific suggestions for changes to the Public Participation Plan. Staff recommends no changes to the plan based on this comment.
2	4/9/2025	General	Yes, I do wish to comment!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Your 84-page plan has beautiful graphics, lots and lots of words and seems to include absolutely everything! Everything except we need more transportation in the greater Chugiak-Eagle River areas. The Chugiak-Eagle River Senior Center does provide transit service during daylight hours Monday thru Friday. Nothing in the evenings and absolutely nothing on Saturdays and Sundays. And the Anchor Rides vehicles do NOT come out this way at all!!!! Anchor Rides is Transit-on-Request. That should be the easiest to start with. (1) I want to take one or maybe two classes at UAA, but the ones I'm interested in are evening classes for folks who work during the day. Maybe I could take the Senior Center bus to the UAA campus in the late afternoon and then request an Anchor Rides vehicle to take me home. PLEASE. (2) What about requesting an Anchor Rides vehicle to go to Church on Sundays? Once every 3 months a priest from St. Andrew's Catholic Church in Eagle River comes to celebrate Mass at the Chugiak-Eagle River Senior Center, but I want to go to Mass every Sunday, and I also want to go to special celebrations on Saturday and also in the evenings during the weekday Monday through Friday. What about special community events on Saturdays? And what about community events in the greater Anchorage area? I live at the Chugiak-Eagle River Senior Center and my email is tetarozmaryka@yahoo.com. (3) Maybe eventually you will set up some kind of regular transit service in this area [WE ARE PART OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE]. In the meantime, PLEASE SERIOUSLY consider expanding the Anchor Rides service, which is Transit-on-Request.	Rosemary Vavrin	Thank you for your comment. We will forward on your comments pertaining to transit in the Chugiak -Eagle River area to the Public Transportation Department.
3	4/18/2025	General	I recommend improving representation on the AMATS Technical Advisory Committee by allocating committee seats proportionally based on regional population. Adopting a population-based representation approach ensures equitable participation and input from all areas within the AMATS jurisdiction, reflecting each community's unique perspectives and transportation needs.	Matt Cruickshank	Thank you for your comment and suggestion. The AMATS Technical Advisory Committee is made up of staff-level representatives from agencies that serve the Anchorage region. Members are not appointed based on geographic population, but tasked with considering the transportation needs of the entire AMATS area. The AMATS Operating Agreement establishes representation on the TAC, not the Public Participation Plan. No change is recommended for this plan based on this comment.
4	4/18/2025	General	I finally finished reviewing this plan and I think it is great! The layout, graphics, font, etc... were all appealing visually, and nicely presented. Along with the language / verbiage chosen to help make things more understandable.	Stephen Stone	Thank you for your comment and support.
5	4/22/2025	Page 06	On page 6, enhance the content on page 6 to make it more comprehensive. Specifically, (1) cite the relevant federal law that requires states and localities to balance transportation goals.	AMATS Community Advisory Committee	Thank you for the suggestion. We will incorporate the relevant federal citation to enhance the content on Page 6.
6	4/22/2025	Page 06	On page 6, (2) clarify in the second-to-last paragraph who has the authority to propose projects. While a full explanation may require more than one sentence, a reference could be included directing readers to the specific page where the project proposal process is detailed. These will better serve both the general public and those seeking precise, actionable information.	AMATS Community Advisory Committee	Thank you for the suggestion. We will elaborate on the project proposal process to enhance the content on Page 6.
7	4/22/2025	Page 10	On page 10, Consider conducting outreach through community leaders or organizations ("grass tops" outreach) as a potentially more effective strategy. On objective 3, add “and local leaders” to the measure	AMATS Community Advisory Committee	Thank you for the suggestion. We will incorporate this added context.

#	Date	Section/ Page #	Comment	Comment Received From	Staff Response
8	4/22/2025	Page 10	On page 10, Current targets—such as establishing baseline data or offering incentives—do not directly measure progress toward actual engagement. In stances where it says “establish baseline data” change to “establish baseline data to advance toward broad participation that mirrors the community”	AMATS Community Advisory Committee	Thank you for the suggestion. We will incorporate this added context.
9	4/22/2025	Page 10	On page 10, Consolidate language to refer to underrepresented AND unserved populations in all metrics	AMATS Community Advisory Committee	Thank you for the suggestion. We will incorporate this added context.
10	4/22/2025	Page 10	On page 10, Reword target to say “That AMATS receives comments or feedback from underrepresented/underserved areas on specific projects or work items	AMATS Community Advisory Committee	Thank you for the suggestion. We will incorporate this added context.
11	4/22/2025	Page 11	On page 11, On objectives 1 and 3, reword target to say: Year 1 establish baseline data; Year 2 establish progress target	AMATS Community Advisory Committee	Thank you for the suggestion. We will incorporate the following added context: Establish baseline data to set progress targets with plan update.
12	4/22/2025	Page 11	On page 11, Add note that these metrics need to be evaluated and reporting on	AMATS Community Advisory Committee	Thank you for the suggestion. We will incorporate this clarification in the paragraph on Goals of this Plan on Page 9.
13	4/22/2025	Page 18	On page 18, For member seats, list out the chambers of commerce by name	AMATS Community Advisory Committee	Thank you for the suggestion. We will incorporate this added context.
14	4/22/2025	Page 18	On page 18, For member seats, add the word Municipal before Assembly	AMATS Community Advisory Committee	Thank you for the suggestion. We will incorporate this added context.
15	4/22/2025	Page 29	On page 29, Adjust figure 6 so it is clearer for the public to understand	AMATS Community Advisory Committee	Thank you for the suggestion. We will revise Figure 6 for clarity.
16	4/22/2025	Page 33	On page 33, Adjust figure 8 so it is clearer for the public to understand	AMATS Community Advisory Committee	Thank you for the suggestion. We will revise Figure 8 for clarity.
17	4/22/2025	Page 68	On page 68, Adjust the bar chart colors for better clarity and place the data labels directly beneath each bar.	AMATS Community Advisory Committee	Thank you for your comment. At this time the Title VI Plan has already been approved, we will rework the demograhic data visuals with the next update to the Title VI Plan.
18	4/22/2025	General	Red line all changes in AMATS documents as a policy	AMATS Community Advisory Committee	Thank you for your comment. We agree that tracking changes is important for transparency and ease of use. We will strive to maintain a clear log of updates moving forward and hope future tools we are exploring will help improve public access to changes made over time. Staff does not recommend adding a policy on red lining AMATS documents.
19	5/16/2025	General	Thank you for the commitment to use lay-person’s language and reduce the use of acronyms in the public participation plan and future documents.	Rabbit Creek Community Council	Thank you for your comment and support.
20	5/16/2025	General	The graphic calendar of AMATS committee meetings (page 41) and the “at a glance” guides to main AMATS products (pages 44-45) are helpful.	Rabbit Creek Community Council	Thank you for your comment and support.
21	5/16/2025	Pages 29 and 33	The graphics of the Transportation Plan and Funding Plan on pages 29 and 33 are very confusing as explained under Specific Comments.	Rabbit Creek Community Council	Thank you for your comment. We will revise Figures 6 & 8 for clarity.
22	5/16/2025	Pages 09-11	Thank you for new ‘performance measures’ to evaluate the effectiveness of the public participation program. However, the proposed performance measures fall short, as explained under Specific Comments.	Rabbit Creek Community Council	Thank you for your comment. We will address each specific comment on this topic.
23	5/16/2025	Page 06	Please cite the federal law that establishes AMATS. It’s useful to know at the very start of the Public Participation Plan that this is a federally-mandated agency. This information is currently in pages 48-56 and some readers won’t get that far.	Rabbit Creek Community Council	Thank you for the comment. We will incorporate the relevant federal citation to enhance the content on Page 6.

#	Date	Section/ Page #	Comment	Comment Received From	Staff Response
24	5/16/2025	Page 06	Also, on Page 6 please identify WHO proposes/decides projects under AMATS. This information is currently in pages 48-56 and some readers won’t get that far. Institutions with no identifiable people or location feel opaque and inaccessible to the public. (like customer service “call centers”, for example). People exploring AMATS want to know not just what AMATS does but WHO IT IS. Please identify on this summary page at the start of the document that AMATS consists of 5 (?) transportation planning staff with an office in Anchorage, and a five-person policy committee who decide project priorities and funding.	Rabbit Creek Community Council	Thank you for the suggestion. We will incorporate these ideas to enhance the content on Page 6.
25	5/16/2025	Page 09-11	Sending outreach materials to underserved individuals doesn’t seem promising. AMATS is complex and technical. It might be more effective to reach out through community community groups, where people already engage and can ask questions. This includes Community Councils.	Rabbit Creek Community Council	Thank you for your comment. We will expand the text in the performance measures regarding the goal of Engaging Diverse Audiences to include community leaders and organizations.
26	5/16/2025	Page 09-11	A lot of the performance “targets” in this draft are currently to “establish baseline data”. That is an incomplete target. Set some actual goals regarding the quantity and quality of individuals participating and submitting substantive ideas or feedback.	Rabbit Creek Community Council	Thank you for your comment. We will incorporate the following added context: Establish baseline data to set progress targets with plan update.
27	5/16/2025	Pages 09-11	Regarding AMATS’s evaluation of the public process: An effective public participation program shouldn’t be measured solely in how much outreach AMATS did nor in how many residents participated. The end goal of public participation should be public influence. Did the public comments have an impact? Did AMATS policy-makers shift the spending or project designs or timelines in ways to better serve the express interests and values of the public?	Rabbit Creek Community Council	Thank you for your comment. At this time, we are editing drafted performance measures and we will keep these in mind as we continue to review and revise the performance targets in the future.
28	5/16/2025	General	The experience of our Community Council is that 95% of our specific written recommendations or requests elicit a response of “Thank you for your comment. No change.” There is often no explanation. Judging from the Comment Response documents prepared by AMATS staff, the same pattern of declaring “no change” holds true for other public commenters. The vast majority of submitted written comments result in no significant change: in other words, public comments have very little or no influence. We assume the purpose of public comments is to give credence to public knowledge and analysis from across the community. Therefore, we request that AMATS assess a couple of different measures, especially with regard to written comments:	Rabbit Creek Community Council	Thank you for sharing your concerns. AMATS is committed to ensuring that public involvement guides transportation planning efforts. While some comments may be difficult to address due to timing, feasibility, or federal requirements, we will continue to improve the clarity of our responses and do our best to explain these limitations moving forward.
29	5/16/2025	New Proposed Measure	1. What percent of public comments were on topic and generally informed? (This lets AMATS assess whether they provided enough information on the topics under review.)	Rabbit Creek Community Council	Thank you for your comment. AMATS responds to all public comments regardless if they are on topic or not. This is not an objective performance measure to track. AMATS staff recommends that we monitor public comments to see if they are generally informed on the topic and if not, we will adjust our messaging moving foward.
30	5/16/2025	New Proposed Measure	2. What percent of public comments resulted in a significant revision? (This lets the public and AMATS know whether public participation is worthwhile.)	Rabbit Creek Community Council	Thank you for your comment. The measure would need some restructuring to capture all comments that shape the overall planning process from start to finish. AMATS staff recommends that we consider this comment as we review and revise the performance targets in future updates to the Public Participation Plan.

#	Date	Section/ Page #	Comment	Comment Received From	Staff Response
31	5/16/2025	New Proposed Measure	3. What categories of public comments indicate a strong public interest and how can ANMATS serve that public interest through new goals or new project priorities? (This lets the public know that they are a partner in the “continuous collaborative” planning mandated by Federal law.	Rabbit Creek Community Council	Thank you for your comment. While we value and carefully consider all public input, we also have a responsibility to balance the broader community needs, including those that may not be directly voiced but are still important. AMATS staff is not clear on what is specifically being asked for here.
32	5/16/2025	Pages 14, 29, & 33	The flow chart showing organizational structure is confusing. Please re-do it. There are arrows indicating senior planners “directing” coordinators and modelers, when we think those persons are one and the same. The senior planners all appear to report to one senior planner, which may not be the case. The role of the Community Advisory Committee is also confusing. Finally, the relation of the MOA staff to AMATS is unclear.	Rabbit Creek Community Council	Thank you for your comment. We will rework the organizational structure graphic to incorporate these comments.
33	5/16/2025	Pages 14, 29, & 33	The graphics showing planning cycles are quite confusing. It’s hard to list all the points of confusion, but in part: The arrows don’t make sense. Double-ended arrows are particularly confusing. The shading of various boxes is unexplained. There are some boxes that aren’t connected to the diagram, just floating. Some boxes express actions, and some do not. We suggest that you re-design these flow-charts and beta-test them with members of the public.	Rabbit Creek Community Council	Thank you for your comment. We will revise Figures 6 & 8 for clarity.
34	5/16/2025	Page 12	Page 52 Map of AMATS Boundary The geographical footprint is fundamental information. Move the map to the start of the document, right with the This is AMATS summary page (page 6).	Rabbit Creek Community Council	Thank you for your comment. We will move the Boundary information directly after the Introduction and before the Goals of the Plan section.
35	5/16/2025	Page 09 & 33	The coastline resolution on that Alaska outline is low and makes it look like Anchorage is way farther inland, which could be confusing... I initially thought it was pointing to the Mat-Su.	Emily Weiser	Thank you for your comment. We will revise Figures 2 & 7 to show the topography of the State of Alaska.
36	5/16/2025	Page 33	The directionality of what must be in what is not clear, for either area of overlap. I think adding the word “already” would work (“Regionally significant and/or federally funded STIP projects in the AMATS area must already be in the TIP”), or maybe there’s a better way to word it.	Emily Weiser	Thank you for your comment. We will revise Figure 7 to be more clear.