

**ANCHORAGE METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS  
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Mayor's Conference Room, 8th Floor  
632 W. 6th Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska**

**October 20, 2022  
1:30 PM**

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[Transportation Planning / AMATS Meetings \(muni.org\)](http://Transportation Planning / AMATS Meetings (muni.org))*

**Policy Committee Members Present:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Wolfgang Junge	Alaska Dept. of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF)
Adam Trombley	Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Adeyemi Alimi*	Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation (ADEC), Air Quality
Meg Zaletel	MOA/Municipal Assembly
Forrest Dunbar	MOA/Municipal Assembly

**Also in attendance:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Aaron Jongenelen	MOA/Planning Department
Christine Schuette	MOA/Planning Department
Jon Cecil	MOA/Planning Department
Chelsea Ward-Waller	MOA/Planning Department
James Starzec	DOT&PF
Noah King	DOT&PF
Cheryl Richardson	
Craig Lyon*	MOA/Planning Department
Randy Vanderwood	DOT&PF
Claire Dougherty	Kittelson & Associates
Brady Coy*	MOA/Traffic Engineering Department
Bart Rudolph	MOA/Public Transportation Department (PTD)
Todd Vanhove*	DOT&PF
Luke Bowland*	DOT&PF
Lorraine Kastner	DOT&PF
Emily Weiser	Bike Anchorage
Eric Taylor	DOT&PF
John Linnell	DOT&PF
Mark Eisenman	DOT&PF
Randy Brown	MOA/People Mover

*\*AMATS Technical Advisory Committee Member*

*\*\*Designated Assembly Alternate*

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

CHAIR JUNGE called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m. Adam Trombley, Chief of Staff represented Mayor Bronson. Mr. Alimi represented ADEC on behalf of Emma Pokon. A quorum was established.

**2. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT**

AARON JONGENELEN encouraged public involvement in this meeting of the AMATS Policy Committee. He explained staff would first make their presentation, followed by any comments from Committee members, and the floor would then be open to public comment.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

ASSEMBLY MEMBER ZALETEL moved to approve the agenda with the addition of the 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue Interchange as Item 6.b. ASSEMBLY MEMBER DUNBAR seconded.

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

**4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – August 25, 2022 and September 22, 2022**

ASSEMBLY MEMBER ZALETEL moved to approve the minutes. ASSEMBLY MEMBER DUNBAR seconded.

MR. TROMBLEY referred to the minutes of September 22 noting that his position as Chief of Staff became effective September 14, 2022.

*Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved, as amended.*

**5. ACTION ITEMS**

**a. Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) FY23 Budget**

MR. JONGENELEN presented the UPWP noting that, for purposes of developing the 2023 Budget, staff was advised to use \$1,700,684 in PL (Planning) allocation, with a required \$151,899 in non-federal match for a program total of \$1,852,583. This breakdown reflects a 90.97% federal funding level, with the required 9.03% local match. The final amount of PL funds may be subject to an annual obligation authority limit, which has yet to be determined by ADOT Headquarters [estimated at 90%]. AMATS utilized the 20.3% OH (Overhead) rate as set by the Municipal OMB (Office of Management and Budget). AMATS staff is recommending providing ADOT&PF Anchorage Field Office with \$121,500 of the annual PL allocation, with the remainder supporting MOA in-house personnel and consultant contracts. ADOT&PF must provide their own match for the PL funds they receive.

The Committee discussed ICAP (Indirect Cost Allocation Plan) rates and the causal factors of why the rate almost doubled and requested a detailed explanation to be presented at the next PC meeting. They also discussed 5305 funds being transit-related and TIP funding.

There were no public comments.

MR. ALIMI moved to approve. ASSEMBLY MEMBER ZALETEL seconded.

*Hearing no objections, this motion passed.*

#### **b. Freight Advisory Committee (FAC) Nomination**

MR. CECIL informed the Committee that the AMATS Freight Advisory Committee (FAC) is the community forum for freight issues affecting the AMATS area. Specific functions of this group are to assist in promoting public and private participation in the freight planning process and to comment on freight planning issues. Members of this committee may serve up to three rotating three-year terms. Jimmy Doyle resigned from the committee. Eddie Walton with Matson has agreed to serve and fill the current vacancy.

The Committee discussed Freight Advisory Committee seats being limited to those individuals with specific technical expertise.

There were no public comments.

ASSEMBLY MEMBER ZALETEL moved to approve. MR. ALIMI seconded.

*Hearing no objections, this motion passed.*

#### **c. Travel Time Reliability Targets**

MR. JONGENELEN noted that the Travel Time Reliability (TTR) is part of the System Performance program, which is a subpart of the Transportation Performance Management (TPM). The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) defines TPM as a strategic approach that uses system information to make investment and policy decisions to achieve national performance goals.

The Committee discussed the definition of calculated travel time and reliability, and possible penalties for reducing travel speeds.

There were no public comments.

MR. TROMBLEY moved to accept. MR. ALIMI seconded.

*Hearing no objections, this motion passed.*

**6. PROJECT AND PLAN UPDATES**

**a. State Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)**

CLAIRE DOUGHERTY with Kittelson & Associates provided a PowerPoint presentation.

There were no comments.

**b. Seward Highway: 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue Interchange**

NOAH KING with DOT&PF provided a PowerPoint presentation.

The Committee discussed right-of-way impacts and acquisitions; parking minimums; current use requirements; Total Take, condemnation, eminent domain, and Highest and Best Use of properties; public comments; and funding. They also discussed time-traps with having 20 years to see a project to fruition or, if not, pay back all the funding; and STIP amendments.

CHAIR JUNGE opened the floor to public comments.

EMILY WEISER with Bike Anchorage asked for clarification on the nature of the comments from the public that would be appropriate for this STIP amendment. Are we talking about project design, or timing, or funding source? What sort of comments is DOT&PF looking for?

MR. VANHOVE explained that there were no restrictions regarding comments. Although, it is a little premature to talk about this specifically because the project is still in infancy stage. In the STIP, we primarily focus on funding and funding projects. All comments are adjudicated.

MS. WEISER understood that all comments are considered, but asked if there was something that would be particularly relevant to the decision and specific to the STIP amendment in terms of what in this project is included in the STIP.

MR. VANHOVE further explained that STIP comments basically cover timing, allocation, and program and types of funding. Project specific questions are probably not as appropriate for STIP comments.

**7. GENERAL INFORMATION - None**

**8. COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

CHAIR JUNGE announced that there are four safety corridors within the Central Region: Parks Highway, Knik Goose Bay, Seward Highway, and Sterling Highway. Effective today, DOT&PF decommissioned the Parks Highway as a safety corridor as a result of the completion of the divided four-lane project that went out to Big Lake. That project is

complete and the double-fines for speeding in that corridor have been removed. Once Knik Goose Bay is done, that designation will also be removed. We are working to get a Sterling Highway design built out next year for construction. When completed, it will connect the four lanes between Sterling and Soldotna and that safety corridor will be decommissioned. The larger project south of Anchorage will take a few more years to complete. STIP Amendment #5 is out for review with the end of October being the due date for public comments. MR. VANHOVE added that the amendment, other than the 36th Avenue project, is just for cleanup. Central Region does not have a lot in that amendment, but STIP Amendment #6 will begin after the first of the year.

CHAIR JUNGE noted that the RFP (Request for Proposals) opens tomorrow to replace the girder on the recently damaged Artillery Road Bridge. There will be limited lane closures at night on a weekend from 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. with only a minor amount of traffic routed through Eagle River, as it is a fairly minor repair. There is a Transportation Fair today at the Menard Sports Center in the Valley between 3:00 – 7:00 p.m. The Anchorage Transportation Fair is scheduled for January 12, 2023, at the Alaska Airlines Center from 3:00 – 7:00 p.m. With regard to Dowling Road, we have the north/south traffic over the top of the bridge and by the end of next week the roundabout will be open, which will relieve a lot of the pressure on Tudor Road and other east/west corridors. We will still have a lot to clean up next year, but will not have complete closures of that interchange. Some temporary rut repair was done recently on Minnesota Drive going through the Westchester area, but that project will be milled and paved and officially done next year. Lastly, the intersections of C Street and Tudor Road and C Street and Dimond are just about complete.

**9. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

ASSEMBLY MEMBER DUNBAR moved to adjourn. MR TROMBLEY seconded.

*Hearing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.*