

**ANCHORAGE METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Planning & Development Center
Main Conference Room, 1st Floor
4700 Elmore Road**

**February 1, 2024
1:00 PM**

*This meeting is available for viewing at
[Transportation Planning / AMATS Meetings \(muni.org\)](http://Transportation Planning / AMATS Meetings (muni.org))*

Technical Advisory Committee Members Present:

Name	Representing
Brad Coy (Chair)	MOA/Traffic Engineering Department
Brian Lindamood	Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC)
Ben White	Alaska Dept. of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF), Anchorage Field Office
Luke Bowland	DOT&PF
Jamie Acton	MOA/Public Transportation Department (PTD)
Craig Lyon	MOA/Planning Department
Steve Ribuffo	MOA/Port of Alaska
Melinda Kohlhaas	MOA/Project Management & Engineering (PM&E)
Taylor Keegan	MOA/Parks & Recreation Department

Also in attendance:

Name	Representing
Jon Cecil	AMATS
Chelsea Ward-Waller	AMATS
Mook Puttong	AMATS
Van Le	R&M Consultants
James Starzec	DOT&PF
Joann Mitchell	Kinney Engineering
Laurie Cummings	HDR Alaska
Adam Bradway	DOT&PF
John Linnell	DOT&PF
Mark Eisenman	DOT&PF

**Policy Committee Member*

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

CHAIR COY called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. Adeyemi Alimi with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and Matt Stichick with the MOA Health Department were absent. A quorum was established prior to the arrival of Mr. Ribuffo at 1:20 p.m.

2. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

JON CECIL encouraged public involvement in this meeting of the AMATS Technical Advisory 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

MR. LINDAMOOD moved to approve the agenda. MR. BOWLAND seconded.

Hearing no objections, the agenda was approved.

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – January 4, 2024

MR. BOWLAND moved to approve the minutes. MR. LYON seconded.

CHAIR COY referred to the second paragraph on page 8, noting a correction to the second sentence that should read, "...Sean Holland...", not Sean Baski.

MR. BOWLAND agreed to the amendment. MR. LYON seconded.

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

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

a. Air Quality Conformity Determination for 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

MS. WARD-WALLER noted that the purpose of the Air Quality Conformity Determination (AQCD) is to ensure that the federally funded MTP does not hinder the attainment or continued maintenance of national ambient air quality standards. Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) that serve areas designated as maintenance areas for one or more air pollutants must perform a conformity determination prior to approving transportation plans. The AMATS planning area contains both a CO Limited Maintenance Area for the Anchorage Bowl and a PM-10 Limited Maintenance Area for Eagle River. Therefore, a conformity determination must be performed for these two pollutants based on an analysis of monitoring data.

There were no comments.

MR. LINDAMOOD moved to recommend approval. MR. BOWLAND seconded.

Hearing no objections, the motion passed.

b. 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)**Appendices****Comment Response Summary Public****Comment Response Summary Tribal and Agencies**

MS. WARD-WALLER noted that the AMATS 2050 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) began in June 2021, when a contract was signed with consulting firm R&M Consultants, Inc. to help prepare and develop the document. The federal deadline for this document is August 24, 2024. The MTP has a horizon year of 20 years but must be updated no later than every four years. The 2050 MTP planning process had multiple phases, many of which were presented to this committee before the next phase, including: goals, objectives, performance measures, and prioritization criteria; scenario development; a recommended project list based on fiscal analysis; and a plan draft and public comment summary. Changes to the draft 2050, based on the public comments, were recommended by the Technical Advisory Committee and made by the Policy Committee in their November and December 2023 meetings. The updated draft presented today includes those changes.

The committee expressed their appreciation to staff for their tremendous amount of work, resulting in a graphically pleasing and well-laid-out valuable resource.

CHAIR COY opened the floor to public comments.

JAMES STARZEC

MR. LYON moved that the Technical Advisory Committee forward this document to the Policy Committee, recommending approval. MS. KOHLHAAS seconded.

Hearing no objections, the motion passed.

6. PROJECT AND PLAN UPDATES - None

7. GENERAL INFORMATION - None

8. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

MR. BOWLAND announced that on February 7, 2024, DOT&PF will be holding their next public meeting for the Seward Highway to Glenn Highway Connection Planning and Environmental Linkage (PEL) from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Fairview Recreation Center. They will be unveiling a number of different alternatives on how to make improvements in that area.

MR. LYON informed the committee that senior planning positions are available in AMATS and in the Long-Range Planning Division.

MS. ACTON noted that the Public Transportation Department will have a position available in mid-February for a senior transportation planner.

MS. KOHLHAAS noted that PM&E has a capital improvement program coordinator position available for a senior planner.

MR. BOWLAND pointed out that Workplace Alaska, the state recruiting website, is a great place to look for any available State jobs.

CHAIR COY noted that he appreciated DOT&PF attending the STIP joint meeting.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

MR. STARZEC noted that DOT&PF is also hiring a transportation planner to be the new STIP manager.

MS. WARD-WALLER announced that using AMATS funding, they will be sending several people to Finland to the same cycling urbanism master class that she attended last year. Two from DOT&PF, several from the Traffic Engineering Department and PM&E, and an Assembly member will be attending. The participants should get a true winter city experience.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MR. BOWLAND moved to adjourn. MS. KOHLHAAS seconded.

Hearing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.