

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

**February 9, 2023
2:30 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:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Brad Coy (Chair)	MOA/Traffic Engineering Department
Craig Lyon	MOA/Planning Department
Brian Lindamood	Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC)
Todd Vanhove	Alaska Dept. of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF), Anchorage Field Office
Luke Bowland	DOT&PF
Adeyemi Alimi	Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)
Jamie Acton	MOA/Public Transportation Department (PTD)
Steve Ribuffo	MOA/Port of Alaska
Melinda Tsu	MOA/Project Management & Engineering (PM&E)
Matt Stichick	MOA/Anchorage Health Department (AHD)

Also in attendance:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Aaron Jongenelen	AMATS
Christine Schuette	AMATS
Jon Cecil	AMATS
Chelsea Ward-Waller	AMATS
Skylar King-Strang	
James Potts	
Bart Rudolph	MOA/PTD
Robert Wertman	RSG
Sean Baski	DOT&PF
Cheryl Richardson	
Sarah Preskitt	
Nancy Pease	
James Starzec	DOT&PF
Justin Shelby	DOT&PF
Karen Button	Friends of Fish Creek
Steve McKeever	
Anna Bosin	
Mark Eisenman	DOT&PF
Sean Holland	DOWL
John Weddleton	
Matt Duncan	Spenard Community Council
Travis Holmes	DOT&PF

Alex Read	DOT&PF
Christina Huber	DOT&PF
Susan Acheson	Lounsbury & Associates
Joe Taylor	Lounsbury & Associates
Rachel Steer	DOWL
Emily Weiser	Bike Anchorage
Aaron Hunting	DOT&PF
Randy Brown	MOA/PTD
Lindsey Hajduk	Spenard Community Council
Mark Butler	North Star Community Council
Margaret Auth	Spenard Community Council

**Policy Committee Member*

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

CHAIR COY called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m. A quorum was established prior to the arrivals of Ms. Tsu at 2:33 p.m. and Mr. Vanhove at 2:35 p.m.

2. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

AARON JONGENELEN 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. ALIMI moved to approve the agenda. MS. ACTON seconded.

Hearing no objections, the agenda was approved.

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – December 1, 2022

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

Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved.

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

a. 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #1

MR. JONGENELEN presented TIP Amendment #1 noting that it was released for a 45-day public comment period with 102 comments having been received. Based on the comments

received, changes were made to Table 1: Fiscal Constraint, Table 2: Roadway, Table 3: Non-Motorized, Table 4: Plans and Studies, Table 5: Congestion Mitigation Air Quality, Table 8: NHS, and Table 10: Other Federal, State and Local Funded projects within the AMATS area.

The Committee referred to Table 6 to correct Line 19 from C Street to Old Seward Highway (striking Elmore Road) and to add the word “Upper” to DeArmoun Road in Line 9. They also discussed the Lois Drive and 32nd Avenue project being included as an AMATS project.

MR. JONGENELEN noted that the Parks & Recreation Department had contacted him regarding the multi-use pathway from Tudor Road to Northern Lights Boulevard (Project NMO 00012 in Table 3) that is being combined with the West Tudor Road Pathway Connection Project. Parks & Recreation is already paying a match on a number of expensive AMATS trail projects and will not be able to meet the match for any phase of this project. He was informed by Ms. Tsu that ARDSA (Anchorage Road and Drainage Service Area) bonds cannot be spent on projects outside of Municipal right-of-way and this project is intending on being in the railroad right-of-way. The Parks Foundation is reaching out to the Anchorage Assembly to see if they can provide any funding, but right now we are hoping for a legislative request by the Parks Foundation to get funding from the State to pay the match on this project. His recommendation is to not delete this project but instead moved it to 2024 to allow more time to come up with matching funds. If in 2024, it is determined that more time is needed or we will not meet the match for the project, then the decision can be made to possibly replace it with another project.

CHAIR COY opened the floor to public comments.

NANCY PEASE

MR. LYON moved to accept staff's Comment Response Summary recommendations and forward to the Policy Committee for approval. MR. VANHOVE seconded.

Hearing no objections, this motion passed.

MR. LYON moved to recommend TIP Amendment #1 to the Policy Committee for approval. MR. BOWLAND seconded.

CHAIR COY restated that one of the corrections suggested by Ms. Tsu was to replace Elmore Road with Old Seward Highway in Line 19. The second correction was to move the Non-Motorized project in Table 3 from 2023 to 2024 funding.

MR. LYON accepted the corrections as friendly amendments to his motion. MR. BOWLAND seconded.

Hearing no objections, this motion passed.

b. AMATS Policies & Procedures – Funding Percentages

MR. JONGENELEN presented the funding percentage recently discussed by the TAC and the PC for non-motorized projects in the 2050 MTP. The committees included comments on

the funding percentages that are or should be used for the AMATS TIP for non-motorized users with the suggestion of 15-30%. Outlined in the proposed changes that pertain only to TIP Tables 2 through 6 are: A - Roads/Major Infrastructure, B – Pavement Replacement, C – Transportation Enhancements, D – CMAQ; and to add a new category to reflect the new table in 2023-2026 for Plans and Studies. Will assign a 5-10% allocation percentage to reflect the need for continued funding of planning projects.

CHAIR COY opened the floor to public comments.

CHERYL RICHARDSON
EMILY WEISER, Bike Anchorage
SEAN HOLLAND, DOWL
NANCY PEASE
ANNA BOSIN
JAMES STARZEC, DOT&PF

MR. LYON moved to recommend the changes suggested in the Memorandum to the Policy Committee for approval. MS. ACTON seconded.

CHAIR COY mentioned that CMAQ was to be changed to STBG.

MR. JONGENELEN noted that the Committee discussed changing STBG funding to CMAQ eligible projects.

MR. LYON accepted the additions as friendly amendments to his motion. MS. ACTON seconded.

Hearing no objections, this motion passed.

c. Letter to the Legislature from the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) on Winter Maintenance

MS. SCHUETTE briefed the Committee on the proposed letter drafted by the CAC to be sent to the Alaska Legislature expressing winter maintenance concerns within the AMATS boundary.

MR. BOWLAND disclosed that he will abstain from voting on this matter because the letter is advocating for DOT&PF.

MR. JONGENELEN noted that the letter is from the CAC, but if the TAC recommends forwarding it to the Policy Committee for review, staff will rework the letter making it come from the Policy Committee itself. With regard to advocacy, since Wolfgang Junge is the Policy Committee Chair and the DOT&PF Regional Director, we will not have the letter come from Mr. Junge directly, but from the Policy Committee as a whole. It is an important issue for us to address and we should not be limited just because AMATS' makeup includes people from partnering agencies.

MR. RIBUFFO pointed out that the letter is dated January 10, 2022. MR. JONGENELEN will make sure the letter is updated to reflect 2023.

CHAIR COY opened the floor to public comments.

MARK BUTLER mentioned that the letter should be corrected to read, “Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport”, not Ted Stevens International Airport.

MS. TSU moved to redraft the letter to come from AMATS and forward it to the Policy Committee with corrections to the airport name and the date of the letter. MR. ALIMI seconded.

Hearing no objections, this motion passed.

6. PROJECT AND PLAN UPDATES

a. AMATS Model Information

MR. CECIL briefed the Committee on the model. ROBERT WERTMAN with RSG provided a PowerPoint presentation.

The Committee discussed 3rd Avenue being a significant industrial area and if it could be a mode shift situation, and if the model has the ability to do Select Link Analysis to determine how traffic is traveling through the city.

CHAIR COY opened the floor to public comments.

CHERYL RICHARDSON
ANNA BOSIN
STEVE MCKEEVER

Ms. Acton left the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

b. Spenard Corridor Project Update

ALEX READ and AARON HUNTING with DOT&PF and JOE TAYLOR with Lounsbury & Associates provided a PowerPoint presentation.

MR. LYON moved to extend the meeting an additional 15 minutes. MR. RIBUFFO seconded.

Hearing no objections, this motion passed.

The Committee discussed design speeds being for brand new construction and measurable speed studies for existing speed limits.

CHAIR COY opened the floor to public comments.

SEAN HOLLAND
MARK BUTLER
MARGARET AUTH, Spenard Community Council
LINDSEY HAJDUK
EMILY WEISER, Bike Anchorage

MS. TSU moved to extend the meeting an additional 15 minutes. MR. LYON seconded.

Hearing no objections, this motion passed.

Mr. Lindamood left the meeting at 4:44 p.m.

(public comments continued)

MATT DUNCAN, Spenard Community Council
KAREN BUTTON, Friends of Fish Creek
SARAH PRESKITT, Spenard Community Council
ANNA BOSIN
CHERYL RICHARDSON

7. GENERAL INFORMATION - None

8. COMMITTEE COMMENTS - None

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

10. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.