

# CY 2012-2013 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM UPWP



*ANCHORAGE  
METROPOLITAN  
AREA  
TRANSPORTATION  
SOLUTIONS*

*Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska  
17 November 2011*

# AMATS CY 2012-2013 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

PREPARED BY

Anchorage Metropolitan Area Transportation Solutions  
Municipality of Anchorage, Department of Community Development  
Transportation Planning Section

IN CONSULTATION WITH

State of Alaska, Department of Transportation & Public Facilities  
Central Region Project Development  
Municipality of Anchorage, Public Transportation Department

*The preparation of this document was financed in part by funding provided by the United States  
Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration*

*~ ANCHORAGE METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS ~*  
**AMATS CY 2012 - 2013 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM**

**PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE  
UPWP**

The Unified Planning Work Program [UPWP] identifies all transportation planning and/or air quality planning or programming activities within the metropolitan area of the Municipality of Anchorage [MOA], Alaska, regardless of funding source. It delineates tasks for which federal assistance is sought from the Federal Highway Administration [FHWA] and the Federal Transit Administration [FTA] of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

The purpose of this document is two-fold. It is a management tool identifying the nature, timeline, staffing needs, cost, and funding sources of all planning activities during calendar years 2012-13. It also fulfills the planning requirements of the *Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act - a Legacy for Users* [SAFETEA-LU], the national transportation act.

The UPWP is used to justify the award of federal metropolitan Planning [PL] assistance to support the proposed planning projects. The UPWP also identifies transportation planning activities to be financed with assistance derived from the Statewide Planning and Research Program [SPRP], and other federal assistance derived from FHWA such as Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality [CMAQ] or Surface Transportation Program [STP], to ensure that all planning in the metropolitan area for which federal assistance is being requested is fully coordinated with remaining FHWA, FTA, and other planning work elements or activities for which federal assistance has already been provided.

## HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

All urbanized areas over 50,000 population must have a metropolitan planning organization [MPO] to carry out a continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative [3-C] transportation planning process, stipulated in the *Federal Highway Act of 1962*. On April 8, 1976, the Governor designated the Municipality as the MPO for the urbanized area.

*The 1977 Clean Air Act* mandated an air quality planning process be established and closely coordinated with the existing transportation planning process, in areas of non-attainment with national ambient air quality standards [NAAQS].

On January 27, 1978, the Administrator of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] designated Anchorage as a moderate non-attainment area for carbon monoxide. The Governor then designated the Municipality as the Air Quality Planning Agency for the Non-attainment Area. The Municipality and the State enacted a Memorandum of Understanding for Air Quality on September 25, 1978.

President George H. Bush signed the *1990 Clean Air Act Amendment* [CAAA] on November 15, 1990. The purpose of this law is to protect and enhance the Nation's air resources and requires States to submit plans for attaining and maintaining ambient air quality standards.

President Bush then signed the *Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act* [ISTEA] into law on December 18, 1991. ISTEA provided for disbursement of federal funds for highways, highway safety, and mass transit through FFY 1997. Under provisions of that Act, the U.S. Secretary of Transportation designated the Anchorage Metropolitan Area as a Transportation Management Area [TMA]. TMAs are subject to special requirements regarding congestion management systems, project selection, and certification.

The Act stated its purpose as: "to develop a National Intermodal Transportation System that is economically efficient, environmentally sound, provides the foundation for the Nation to compete in the global economy, and will move people and goods in an energy efficient manner."

The initial reauthorization of ISTEA was in the form of *TEA-21* in June 1998, when President Bill Clinton signed *the Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Pending enactment of a law reauthorizing TEA-21, the U.S. Congress passed the

*Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2003* [STEAO3].

President George W. Bush signed into law the *Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act - a Legacy for Users* [SAFETEA-LU] on August 10, 2005. The \$286.4 billion law reauthorizes federal surface transportation programs through FFY 2009. The law came after twelve temporary extensions of the TEA-21, which expired September 30, 2003. SAFETEA-LU represents an historic high in federal transportation spending.

SAFETEA-LU essentially maintains the programmatic structure and funding balance established in 1991's ISTEA and continued in TEA-21. SAFETEA-LU extends the five previous core programs and added another. The six programs are: 1) interstate maintenance [IM], 2) national highway system [NHS], 3) surface transportation program [STP], 4) bridge and bridge maintenance, 5) congestion mitigation and air quality [CMAQ], and the new 6) highway safety improvement program [HSIP]. The law provides an approximate 80:20 ratio of highway to transit spending, a level similar to TEA-21.

A provision of federal regulations requires annual or biennial development of a Unified Planning Work Program. The UPWP must include: 1) discussion of the area's important transportation issues; 2) description of all proposed transportation and transportation-related planning activities, including corridor planning, regardless of funding sources; 3) description of transportation-related air quality planning activities, regardless of funding sources or which agency conducts them; and 4) documentation of work performed with planning assistance under various Federal programs.

The AMATS Inter-Governmental Operating Agreement for Transportation and Air Quality Planning [Operating Agreement] governs the local transportation planning function. The Operating Agreement was approved by Resolution of the Anchorage Municipal Assembly [AR 2002-119] on April 23, 2002, subsequently signed by the Governor on October 16, 2002, and placed into effect January 1, 2003. It supersedes its predecessor of October 21, 1993. The Operating Agreement is to be reviewed and updated as necessary by the AMATS Policy Committee. The Operating Agreement appears as Appendix 'A' in this document.

## AMATS ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Municipality fulfills its dual roles as the recognized MPO and Air Quality Planning Agency for the Anchorage Non-attainment Area through the Anchorage Metropolitan Area Transportation Solutions [AMATS]. The participant groups in the AMATS planning and decision-making process are: 1) the AMATS Policy Committee, 2) the AMATS Technical Advisory Committee [TAC], 3) the municipal Planning and Zoning [P&Z] Commission, 4) the AMATS Air Quality Advisory Committee, 5) the AMATS Freight Advisory committee, 6) the Municipal Assembly, and 7) AMATS staff. Each group plays a specific role in the process. *Figure 1* on the following page illustrates the organizational structure.

### Policy Committee

The AMATS Policy Committee consists of five equal voting members: two municipal Assembly members, appointed by Assembly and serving at its pleasure in accordance with Anchorage Charter &12.03; the Mayor of Anchorage, or his designee; the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities [DOT&PF], and the Commissioner of the Alaska Dept of Environmental Conservation [ADEC] or their designees. The Policy Committee has the authority to act on all matters relating to the continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative transportation and air quality planning process for the area. In general, the Committee: 1) provides overall direction to the AMATS Technical Advisory Committee and to staff; 2) ensures adequate public involvement throughout the AMATS process; and 3) directs the preparation of transportation plans, programs, and studies. The detailed duties of the Policy Committee are included in Section 5.2 of the Operating Agreement [Appendix 'A'].

### Technical Advisory Committee

The AMATS Technical Advisory Committee consists of eleven equal voting members: the Directors of the Municipal Departments of Health & Human Services, Community Development, Public Transportation, Port of Anchorage, Project Management & Engineering Division, , and Traffic Division [or their designees]; the DOT&PF Chief of Central Region Planning and Administration, DOT&PF Regional Pre-Construction Engineer, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Manager of the South-central Region Air Quality Program, a representative from the Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC), and a member of the AMATS Air Quality Advisory Group.

The Technical Advisory Committee is subordinate to and shall report to the Policy Committee on transportation and air quality planning matters. The TAC: 1) prepares and maintains all AMATS plans, technical studies, and programs for the area; 2) provides recommendations to the Policy Committee regarding effects of transportation and air quality plans and programs on the plans of other agencies; and 3) provides recommendations to the Policy Committee in its review of federal and state funded transportation projects and programs. The detailed duties of the TAC are shown in Section 5.3 of the Operating Agreement [Appendix 'A'].

### Municipal Planning and Zoning Commission

The P&Z Commission provides a public forum for and advisory reports to other AMATS committees, groups, and officials in its review and consideration of citizen comments and recommendations on suggested transportation and air quality plans and programs. The P&Z Commission is composed of nine citizens, appointed by the Mayor, as a body representative of the community at large. The P&Z provides land use advice and transmits advisory recommendations on the AMATS LRTP and the TIP to the Assembly and the AMATS Policy Committee, prior to final Assembly review/recommendations and Policy Committee final approval. The P&Z Commission also considers the Official Streets and Highways Plan; the Air Quality Plan; the UPWP; and other relevant transportation plans including but not limited to trails, congestion management, and freight mobility.

### Air Quality Advisory Group

The AMATS Air Quality Advisory Group (AAQAG) is a technical forum consisting of members with scientific, professional or technical training and experience with air quality issues and members of the general public. Specific functions of the Group are to assist in facilitating public participation in the air quality planning process and to review and submit advisory recommendations to the Technical Advisory and Policy Committees regarding air quality planning proposals developed by the AMATS TAC.

### Freight Advisory Committee

The AMATS Freight Advisory Committee was created to advise AMATS on freight-related issues. It consists of eleven equal voting members representing the following areas of expertise or affiliation: Parcel Delivery, Haulers, Shippers, Air Cargo, the Alaska Railroad, the Port of Anchorage, the Alaska Trucking Association, Academic member, public member, Anchorage International Airport and DOT&PF - Commercial Vehicle Enforcement.

Figure 1:  
AMATS Organizational Structure

*[graphic to be included in hard-copy]*

[see link on webpage](#)

## **Municipal Assembly**

The Anchorage Municipal Assembly is a group of eleven elected public officials. Among its many transportation/land use responsibilities are to adopt an Official Streets and Highways Plan [OS&HP] a transportation element of the Comprehensive Development Plan, the local component of the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality [SIP]. The Assembly reviews and adopts by ordinance the Transportation Improvement Program and Long-Range Transportation Plans. The Assembly has two members on the AMATS Policy Committee.

## **AMATS Staff**

Principal staff for AMATS is the Municipal Community Development Department's Transportation Planning Section. Other municipal departments provide their expertise and added support. These agencies include the Project Management & Engineering Division, the Traffic Division, the Dept of Health & Human Services (Environmental Services Division), and the Public Transportation Dept. The State of Alaska supports AMATS through its Department of Transportation & Public Facilities and Department of Environmental Conservation.

## **METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA**

The Metropolitan Planning Area encompasses a major portion of the political boundaries of the Municipality of Anchorage. As depicted on Figure 2, the Metro Planning Area is bounded on the north by Knik Arm, on the east by the Chugach Mountains, on the south by Turnagain Arm, and on the west by Cook Inlet. When first designated as a metropolitan planning area in 1976, AMATS only included the Anchorage Bowl. But the Metro Area was expanded in the late 1980s to include the rapidly developing area of Eagle River/Chugiak/Birchwood/Eklutna and the predominantly residential area south of Rabbit Creek Road. The only population centers within the Municipality that are outside of the AMATS Planning Area are the Turnagain Arm communities of Girdwood, Bird, Portage Rainbow and Indian.

## **ANCHORAGE MAINTENANCE AND NON-ATTAINMENT AREAS FOR AIR QUALITY**

### **Carbon Monoxide**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency first declared Anchorage a nonattainment area for carbon monoxide (CO) in January 1978. In the late 70's and early 80's Anchorage frequently violated

federal standards. In 1985 Anchorage implemented a vehicle inspection and maintenance (I/M) program to address the problem. That program, along with dramatic improvements in emission control technology in new vehicles led to significant air quality improvements. CO concentrations have dropped by 70% over the past three decades.

Anchorage has not violated the NAAQS since 1996. In 2004 the EPA approved a new CO maintenance plan that demonstrated that Anchorage had met the CO standard and could continue to meet the standard at least through 2023. In 2010 a revised maintenance plan was submitted to the EPA that showed that the I/M program is no longer necessary for continued compliance with the CO standard. The EPA is expected to approve this plan in late 2011 or early 2012. The Municipality plans to discontinue the I/M program 180 days thereafter.

### **Particulate Matter**

Although the Anchorage bowl is considered in attainment with EPA standards for fine (PM-2.5) and coarse (PM-10) particulate matter, a portion of Eagle River community is still technically designated a PM-10 non-attainment area as a consequence of violations recorded in the late-1980's. These violations were the result of dust from unpaved roads. In 1991, the Anchorage Assembly adopted a PM-10 Control Plan that was submitted to and approved by the EPA. As a consequence of the Plan, nearly all the roads in the Eagle River area were paved or surfaced with recycled asphalt. The last violations of the PM-10 standard were recorded twenty years ago.

In 2009, a PM-10 maintenance plan was prepared and submitted to EPA for approval. Once approved, Eagle River will officially be re-designated as a maintenance area.

The EPA is currently re-evaluating air quality standards for particulate matter. More stringent standards may be adopted that could affect the attainment status of both Anchorage and Eagle River with respect to the coarse particulate matter standard.

## **AMATS FISCAL YEAR**

The AMATS fiscal year for the Unified Planning Work Program is the municipal calendar year of January 1 through December 31. This is reiterated in the Inter-Governmental Operating Agreement for Transportation Planning and Air Quality Planning.

Figure 2  
Metropolitan Planning Area,  
and  
CO Maintenance and PM10 Nonattainment Areas

*[graphic to be included in hard-copy]*

[see link on webpage](#)



# MAJOR ISSUES FACING ANCHORAGE

*Significant transportation issues face Anchorage. Among the issues being addressed by AMATS are:*

**Accessibility** – The 1991 *Americans with Disabilities Act* [ADA] set standards by which the MOA strives to meet the needs of those impaired or with limited physical mobility. AMATS complies with ADA with adoption of the 1997 ADA Paratransit Plan. Capital projects are scheduled in the AMATS Transportation Improvement Program to bring existing facilities into compliance with ADA standards. We examined pedestrian needs as a travel mode in developing the Areawide Trails Plan (adopted in 1997). A comprehensive inventory of facilities was completed in 2006, and AMATS adopted a new Pedestrian Plan in 2007, in order to further assure adequate accessibility.

**Air Quality: Carbon Monoxide [CO] and Particulate Matter [PM-10]** – Anchorage has not violated federal air quality standards since 1996. Nevertheless, due to our sub-arctic climate, Anchorage still experiences elevated CO concentrations during winter temperature inversions. AMATS adopted a new CO maintenance plan that will help ensure that future violations of the air quality standard will not occur. Vehicle emissions are the source of 77% of all CO emissions in the Anchorage Bowl. The maintenance plan continues programs aimed at reducing these emissions. These include programs for Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance, Share-A-Ride and Vanpool, and expanded transit service. The plan also promotes control of vehicle cold start emissions through the use of engine block heaters. Cold starts were identified as an important component of the CO problem in Anchorage.

PM-10 problems in Eagle River were remedied by paving or surfacing local unpaved roads in the area. PM-10 remains a concern along major paved roadways throughout the Municipality. Concentrations often approach federal standards in March and April, during spring break-up, when a large accumulation of pulverized traction sand and other materials are exposed by receding snow and ice. During dry periods, this fine-grained material is stirred up by passing traffic or wind and creates elevated concentrations of PM-10. Municipal Street Maintenance and Dept of Health and Human Services staff is working on ways to address this air quality issue.

**Congestion** -- As the metropolitan area grows in population, the transportation system feels increased pressure. Along with the air quality impacts of increased congestion and its consequent effects on public health, the transportation network experiences reductions in level of service. The public pays a real cost in lost time and productivity when the transportation system is congested and inefficient. AMATS adopted a Status of the System Report in 2000 to monitor the changes in congestion, develop system management strategies, and implement policies to reduce demand during peak periods. The 2010 Status of the System Report, in conjunction with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan update, reinforced and reemphasized the need for further monitoring.

**Emergency Preparedness and Homeland Security** – As a direct result of the devastating terrorist attacks of Sept 11, 2001, on New York City and Washington DC, and concern that further incidents could occur elsewhere in the US, along with potential natural disasters such as major earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and/or wildfires, AMATS staff has teamed with the municipal Office of Emergency Operations (OEO), to address evacuation routes and other transportation-related aspects of emergency operations management.

**Maintenance** -- Inclement weather and fiscal constraints together hamper efforts of the Municipality to maintain the integrity of its transportation system. AMATS is assisting in the search for answers and funding needed for on-going roadway maintenance, as well as snow/ice removal from roads, sidewalks, and bus stops.

**Safety and Neighborhood Integrity** -- Concerns with pass-through traffic and police intervention of drug-related crime prompted AMATS to address neighborhood circulation issues. Traffic patterns in Fairview and Mountain View areas were assessed, alterations recommended, and improvements programmed. Special studies of Airport Heights, Russian Jack, and Rogers Park communities followed. These subarea studies provided the basis for the Traffic Calming Protocols Manual [TCPM]. The TCPM addressed how individual neighborhoods can request evaluation for program techniques to be applied in their areas. AMATS may explore CPTED (crime prevention through environmental design) methodologies as an adjunct to this endeavor, in

the interest of development of a safe community protocol for the Municipality.

**Strategic Highway Safety Program** - A federal mandate specified in SAFETEA-LU to identify ways to decrease the numbers of lives lost in traffic fatalities. Primarily spearheaded by the Alaska Dept of Transportation and Public Facilities

(DOT&PF) Headquarters/ Juneau, the AMATS MPO will be working with the State to develop policies and procedures by which the local community can save lives.

# **AMATS CY 2012 - 2013 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM**

## **PROGRAM ELEMENT DESCRIPTIONS**

The Unified Planning Work Program is organized into a series of five elements [100, 200, 300, 400, and 500], which are further categorized into tasks [110, 120, 130, 140] and subtasks [131, 132, 133]. The elements are generally described as follows:

### **100 - AMATS PLANS & PROGRAMS**

These tasks provide the overall plans and programs for the area. Under this element, the AMATS Unified Planning Work Program, Transportation Improvement Program, Metropolitan Transportation Plan [MTP], together with rideshare, transit marketing, and transit planning programs, are prepared, monitored and administered.

### **200 - SUBAREA / SPECIAL STUDIES, & LOCAL TRANSPORTATION**

This element concentrates on subarea or special planning studies. Subarea studies address transportation issues within a geographically-defined region of the metropolitan planning area. Potential improvements identified to meet transportation challenges of these subareas will then be included, if appropriate, in the LRTP and Transportation Improvement Program. Special studies focus on specific transportation modes, the effects of transportation system operations, or transportation system issues. Efforts include non-motorized transportation, freight mobility, traffic calming, congestion management, and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS).

In addition, both Municipal and DOT&PF staff are required to perform functions that relate to local transportation planning issues. Staff interprets the Official Streets and Highways Plan; reviews specific transportation projects; and analyzes zoning and platting [subdivision] cases, other potential developments, and ordinance amendments.

### **300 - AIR QUALITY PLANS, PROGRAMS AND STUDIES**

These tasks develop and implement programs to monitor and improve our local air quality. The U.S. EPA has established federal air quality standards for six types of air pollution. Data suggest that concentrations of ozone, nitrogen oxides, sulfur oxides and airborne lead are well below federal standards. While Anchorage enjoys good air quality with regard to these pollutants, carbon monoxide (CO) and airborne particulate matter (PM) levels are of concern. Although Anchorage has been in compliance with CO standards since 1996, concentrations of CO are still among the highest in the U.S. Concentrations

of coarse particulate matter, called PM-10, can approach federal standards in the dusty, spring break-up period. In addition, there is concern about air toxics such as benzene. Motor vehicles are a major source of these emissions. Tasks included under this element include air quality monitoring and analysis, development of strategies to control the emission of air pollution from transportation sources, and the development and adoption of the local amendments to the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality [SIP].

### **400 - DATA COLLECTION / ANALYSIS AND COMPUTER MODELING**

Collection and analysis of basic data, such as traffic counts and trends, and specific issues [i.e., intersection delays] help identify possible problems within the existing transportation system. This information is also used to calibrate computer simulation models that are designed to project future transportation needs and identify potential areas of concern. The traffic data is also used to develop vehicle miles of travel in the Anchorage Area, which is a requirement of the CAAA [Clean Air Act Amendments].

Computer modeling provides estimates of future travel, analyzes transportation demand and supply management strategies, and provides estimates of air quality emission levels for the various transportation strategies/alternatives.

### **500 - PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT/ INFORMATION**

Significant coordination and cooperative effort is required between Municipal and State departments to ensure that AMATS staff is able to meet community needs while fulfilling the federal requirements of the planning process. This element provides the administrative tools for the organizational structure of AMATS, and provides the means by which MOA and DOT&PF staff can continue their efforts to meet the goals stated in the Long-Range Transportation Plan.

In order to provide an effective citizen information process, this element implements an active public involvement program. This element includes public education regarding the AMATS process so informed decision-making occurs at the appropriate times in the process. In 2009, AMATS adopted a major update to its public involvement program, entitled Anchorage on the Move. The major update, AMATS Public Participation Plan, A Plan, A Program, A Process ensures compliance with SAFETEA-LU provisions.

**~ANCHORAGE METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS~**  
**AMATS CY 2012 - 2013 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM**  
SUMMARY TABLE OF TASKS

**100 AMATS PLANS AND PROGRAMS**

- 110 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)
- 120 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- 130 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)
  - 131 Anchorage Bowl LRTP
  - 132 Chugiak/ Eagle River LRTP
  - 133 Regional Planning (including intergovernmental coordination with NVE\*)
- 140 Certification of the AMATS Planning Process
- 150 Public Transportation (Transit) Operations Planning
- 160 Transit Marketing
- 170 Rideshare Work Program

**200 SUBAREA/SPECIAL STUDIES AND LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

- 210 Official Streets & Highways Plan (OS&HP)
  - 211 *Street Typology Map (New Task)*
- 220 Local Transportation Planning Coordination
- 230 Non-Motorized Transportation Studies and Plans
  - 231 Pedestrian Plan
  - 232 Bicycle Plan
  - 233 Areawide Trails Plan
- 240 Comprehensive Development Plan and MTP Implementation
  - 241 *Government Hill Neighborhood Plan (New Task)*
  - 243 Midtown Anchorage District Plan
  - 248 East Anchorage District Plan
  - 249 *U-Med District Plan (New Task)*
- 260 Freight Mobility
- 270 Emergency Transportation Management
- 280 Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)
- 290 Congestion Management Process / Status of the System
  - 291 Implementation Strategies: Signal Timing
  - 292 Implementation Strategies: Travel Options Program

**300 AIR QUALITY PLANS, PROGRAMS, AND STUDIES**

- 310 Air Quality Monitoring/Analysis/Reporting
- 320 Air Quality Planning and SIP Revisions
- 330 Air Quality Conformity Analyses
- 340 Evaluation of Transportation-Related Air Pollution Controls
- 350 Air Quality Promotion and Public Awareness Programs
- 360 EPA Air Pollutant Emission Model Implementation (MOVES)

**400 DATA COLLECTION/ANALYSIS AND COMPUTER MODELING**

- 410 Traffic and Transportation Data
- 440 Socio-Economic / Employment Data
- 450 Computer Modeling for SAFETEA-LU Projects
- 470 Computer Modeling in support of Air Quality Tasks
- 480 MOA Transportation Demand Model

**500 PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT/INFORMATION**

- 510 AMATS Program Administration, Coordination and Support
- 520 AMATS Staff Development and Training
- 530 Public Participation, Information, and Response
  - 531 *Title VI/ LEP Implementation Plan (New Task)*

## **100 AMATS PLANS AND PROGRAMS**

**Objective:** Maintain the interrelated planning documents necessary to sustain a continuing and comprehensive transportation planning process, carried out in cooperation with the State of Alaska and transit operators in the AMATS area. This includes:

1. Prepare and revise, as necessary, the current biennial Unified Planning Work Program;
2. Prepare and submit to DOT&PF and FHWA all AMATS Fiscal Progress Reports;
3. Review and revise, as necessary, the prioritization procedure for projects to be included in the Transportation Improvement Program [TIP];
4. Review the Ridesharing work program;
5. Prepare and submit the Ridesharing Quarterly and Annual Reports;
6. Provide a transit planning program that monitors the current system and provides operational/system improvements;
7. Implement portions of the 2035 Metropolitan Transportation Plan [MTP] when adopted; and
8. Monitor current plans and programs; prepare amendments, as necessary.

### **Current Work Efforts and Adopted Documents Related to this Element**

- Unified Work Programs, TIP, and Ridesharing Programs have been developed annually. The CY 2000-2001 UPWP was the first biennial Program document.
- Anchorage Bowl 2027 Long-Range Transportation Plan, adopted by the Anchorage Assembly [AO 2005-115] as an element of the Comprehensive Plan, and approved by the AMATS Policy Committee in April 2007, replaced the 1991 LRTP for the Anchorage Bowl.
- Chugiak/Eagle River 2027 Long-Range Transportation Plan, approved by Anchorage Assembly Resolution 2007-77, May 2007, and approved with changes by the AMATS Policy Committee June 2007.
- Metropolitan Transportation Plan, replaces the Anchorage Bowl and Chugiak/ Eagle River LRTP's. Work currently underway calls for adoption by the AMATS Policy Committee by June of 2012.
- AMATS Triennial Certification Reports, November 1996, November 1999, November 2002, April 2006 and April 2011; self-certification occurring in 1997, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008.
- Public Transportation Development Plan [PTDP], approved 1999 (replaced the Transit Development Plan [TDP], approved 1993).
- People Mover Blueprint, approved 2002.
- Origin and Destination Study, October 1996.
- On-going transit operations and service planning.
- Review/participation in Alaska Public Transportation Management System.

### **Scheduled 2012 - 2013 Work Tasks**

#### **110 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM [UPWP]**

**Background:** AMATS Unified Planning Work Programs were prepared, adopted, and amended on an annual basis. The 2000-2001 UPWP was the first biennial effort. The 2012-2013 UPWP continues the trend of two-year documents.

**Objectives:** Monitor the 2012-2013 Unified Planning Work Program and revise it, as necessary, to meet changing conditions. Prepare and adopt the AMATS 2013 Annual Fiscal Element to the UPWP. Abide by, and amend as needed, the Inter-governmental Transportation and Air Quality Planning Operating Agreement. Coordinate the 2012-2013 UPWP with the CY2012 and 2013 MOA Community Development Department Operating Budget development. Participate in the biennial work program audit process for 2010-2011.

*Performance Plan:* Prepare the draft 2013 Annual Element of the UPWP for review by November 2012; final 2013 UPWP Element for adoption by December 2012. Prepare draft 2014-2015 UPWP for review and approval during third and fourth quarters of 2013.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Department, Transportation Planning Section with input from MOA Departments of Public Transportation, and Health & Human Services [DHHS], Project Management & Engineering Division, MOA Office of Management & Budget [OMB] Capital Improvement Officer, and the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities [DOT&PF], Central Region.

## **120 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM [TIP]**

*Background:* Transportation Improvement Programs [TIPs] are prepared, adopted, and amended on an on-going basis. The Policy Committee approved the FFY 2010-2013 TIP in November 2009.

*Objectives:* Monitor the AMATS FFY2010-2013 TIP and amend, as necessary. Review and coordinate the AMATS TIP with the MOA Capital Improvement Program, the DOT&PF Statewide Transportation Improvement Program [STIP], and capital budget requests to the Legislature/Governor. Initiate work efforts on the FFY2014-2017 TIP with adoption by early 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2013.

*Performance Plan:* Review/revise the TIP, as necessary, to meet project development scheduling and funding. Prepare any necessary major amendments to the Program. Review and compare highway, transit, pedestrian, and other projects contained in the MOA CIP & DOT&PF STIP, as well as capital requests to the Alaska Legislature. Review capital budget bills for consistency with adopted AMATS Plans and Programs. Incorporate the FTA notification process into the TIP, as recommended by FTA. Develop and approve the 2014-17 TIP by 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2013.

*Primary Responsibility:* Coordination and document preparation by MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section, with input from MOA Departments of Public Transportation, and Health & Human Services [DHHS], Project Management & Engineering Division, MOA Office of Management & Budget [OMB] Capital Improvement Officer, The Alaska Railroad Corporation [ARRC], and the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities [DOT&PF], Central Region.

## **130 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

*Background:* Federal regulations require the development of a MTP as a key product of the metropolitan planning process. The AMATS area currently has two long-range transportation plans that are being combined to create a new MTP: the Anchorage Bowl 2027 LRTP and the Chugiak-Eagle River 2027 LRTP.

*Objective:* The Anchorage Bowl LRTP and the Chugiak-Eagle River LRTP will be combined into one document during the next revision to the AMATS LRTP. The integration of those two plans will result in one comprehensive planning document (MTP) which will still maintain sub-regional priorities and will detail common concerns and issues needing to be addressed.

*Performance Plan:* Continue development of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan with adoption by the AMATS Policy Committee before June of 2012. Monitor and implement once adopted.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section, with support from other MOA agencies and DOT&PF, and with the assistance of consultants, through professional service contracts.

### 131 ANCHORAGE BOWL 2027 LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)

*Background:* The AMATS Policy Committee adopted the Anchorage Bowl 2025 Long-Range Transportation Plan [LRTP] in December 2005. The Anchorage Municipal Assembly had adopted the LRTP by ordinance [AO2005-115] in October 2005. SAFETEA-LU regulations require updates every four years, although the extent and depth of these updates varied. The Anchorage Bowl 2025 LRTP was the first major revision of the Plan in 14 years, with updates and amendments of the 1991 Plan adopted in 1994, 1997, 2001, and 2004. The AMATS Policy Committee adopted an amendment to the 2025 LRTP in April 2007, adding the Knik Arm Crossing Project into the plan.

*Objective:* The Anchorage Bowl LRTP and the Chugiak-Eagle River LRTP will be combined into one document during the next revision to the AMATS LRTP.

*Performance Plan:* Monitor and implement the adopted Anchorage Bowl 2027 Long-Range Transportation Plan until the adoption of the combined Anchorage Bowl/ Chugiak ER MTP by June of 2012.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section, with support from other MOA agencies and DOT&PF, and with the assistance of consultants, through professional service contracts.

### 132 CHUGIAK/EAGLE RIVER LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

*Background:* The Chugiak/Eagle River 2027 Long-Range Transportation Plan [C/ER-LRTP] was recommended for approval with changes, to the AMATS Policy Committee by the Anchorage Municipal Assembly by resolution [AR2007-77] in May 2007, as an element of the Comprehensive Plan, and approved by the AMATS Policy Committee in June 2007. This plan addresses the geographic subarea of the Municipality encompassing the communities of Eagle River, Chugiak, Birchwood, and Eklutna, and replaces the previous Chugiak/Eagle River Transportation Plan of 2003.

*Objective:* The Anchorage Bowl LRTP and the Chugiak-Eagle River LRTP will be combined into one document during the next revision to the AMATS LRTP.

*Performance Plan:* Monitor and implement the adopted Chugiak-Eagle River 2027 Long-Range Transportation Plan until the adoption of the combined Anchorage Bowl/ Chugiak ER MTP by June of 2012.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section, with substantive input from the Chugiak/Birchwood/Eagle River Rural Road Service Area (CBERRRSA) Board, and support from the MOA Planning Department, MOA Public Transportation Department, MOA Health and Human Services, MOA IT Department, DOT&PF, and the C/ER-LRTP Citizen Advisory Group.

### 133 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

*Background:* Over half of the State's population lives within the Municipality of Anchorage or the Matanuska-Susitna (Mat-Su) Borough. Multiple agencies have explored, pursued, and received funding for a wide range of transportation (road, rail, marine, and air) projects in the region. In the long-term economic, land-use, and transportation interests of all parties, a regional planning committee [including the MOA, the MSB, Native Village of Eklutna (NVE), military, Port of Anchorage, Anchorage International Airport, DOT&PF, and Alaska Railroad] is a key component to coordinate regionally significant improvements.

*Objective:* Assess the regional planning effort, and develop a set of common goals or a guiding principle that the MOA, the MSB, and the tribal government can agree to. Coordinate with newly forming Regional Transit Authority to facilitate coordination of planning efforts on behalf of all parties to address regionally significant projects, particularly those that cross jurisdictional boundaries.

*Performance Plan:* The MOA, the MSB, the Native Village of Eklutna, the Alaska Railroad, and DOT&PF must work together to establish regional priorities to implement both special project funding and general increases in transportation funding.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, ARRC, and DOT&PF.

### 140 CERTIFICATION OF THE AMATS PLANNING PROCESS / COMPLIANCE WITH SAFETEA-LU

*Background:* The Municipality fulfills its federally-mandated role as the recognized Metropolitan Planning Organization through Anchorage Metropolitan Area Transportation Solutions [AMATS]. AMATS participated in its first triennial planning process certification by FHWA/FTA in 1996. The report by FHWA/FTA was completed in October 1996 with recommendations to enhance the current planning process; no corrective actions were required. In 1999 and 2002, FHWA and FTA revisited and reviewed the AMATS planning process. Findings in 1999 again concluded that no corrective actions were required.

However, in the FFY 2010 review identified several corrective actions and some recommendations that will need to be resolved in a timely manner before the next certification takes place.

*Objective:* Ensure compliance with SAFETEA-LU requirements. Prepare plan, schedule and budget to resolve any corrective actions and recommendations to take place during the time frame of this 2012-13 UPWP.

*Performance Plan:* Review, endorse, and monitor the planning process against federal requirements, regulations, and any formal recommendations by FHWA/FTA. The next Federal Triennial Certification / Endorsement will be conducted before September 2014.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section, with support from DOT&PF and other provider agencies.



## 150 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION (TRANSIT) OPERATIONS PLANNING

The Municipal Public Transportation Department receives funding for planning activities from the Federal Transit Administration [FTA] Section 5303 program. These funds are passed from FTA to the State of Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities [ADOT&PF]. The MOA receives these funds from ADOT&PF in the form of a grant. Supplemental planning funds may be provided from the FTA Section 5307 program. Funding from FTA is to be used to conduct planning activities related to the operation and development of mass transportation services, facilities, and equipment. The program is expected to support the basic transportation planning process in place within the urbanized area; including capital planning, financial planning, and operations related planning essential to the provision of transit service, facilities, and equipment.

### 151 Program Support and Administration

*Background:* The MOA Public Transportation Department administered and monitored transit planning functions, conducted public meetings and solicited citizen input into development and maintenance of transit operations, and provided staff input/support for various AMATS projects on an on-going basis.

*Objective:* Provide the necessary administration to effectively manage transit planning grants; encourage public participation in the transit planning function; develop transit elements of the AMATS Unified Planning Work Program; provide interagency coordination.

*Performance Plan:* Produce quarterly progress reports; annual progress reports; submit input for the biennial UPWP; solicit public participation for transit plans, programs, and services; provide staff support to the AMATS process and plans.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Public Transportation Department.

### 152 General Development/Comprehensive Transit Planning

*Background:* Developed an on-going data collection and analysis program, gathered data on transit ridership trends; conducted attitude/awareness surveys of transit riders; developed monthly and annual ridership reports, completed origin-destination studies of area residents.

*Objective:* Continue to maintain up-to-date databases to support the transit planning function. Information gathered and analyzed will address bus stop inventory; ridership data by time of day and route segment, by fare category; on-time performance; and schedule reliability and adherence.

*Performance Plan:* Utilizing ITS technologies and new data collection tools implemented in 2008, begin accurate studies of running times and passenger activities. Continue study of transit ridership, collect and analyze transit information including bus stop activity, maximum ridership load, route segment analysis, and schedule adherence. Conduct a triennial sampling survey of ridership using FTA sampling methodology for passenger and passenger mile data. Produce monthly/annual ridership reports analyzing service and seasonal ridership trends by route. Maintain an on-going system to aggregate and analyze farebox ridership data. Collect data as requested/required to support special planning studies.

Utilize ITS technology in passenger counting activity. Automated Passenger Counters were implemented in 2008. Develop practices to verify, analyze and disseminate data collected.

Integrate the MOA Geographic Information System [GIS] into the transit planning function. Provide staff resources to collect, manage, and maintain a geo-database of all bus stop locations with associated amenities, a photo of each bus stop, mapping of bus routes and bus stop locations, and bus stop information signage.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Public Transportation Department.

### **153 Transit System Level Planning / LRTP**

*Background:* Provided staff support in the development of the transit element of the AMATS Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Completed Dimond Center Intermodal Facility Feasibility Study

*Objective:* Ensure transit development is incorporated into area-wide long-range transportation plans.

*Performance Plan:* Review and endorsement of the MTP, plan updates and priority projects; participate in development of a Transit Alternatives Analysis for the Highway 2 Highway project; implement Phase I of the Dimond Center Intermodal Facility Feasibility Study recommendations by 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2013.

Assist in the development of transit alternatives for major roadway construction projects. Provide input and encourage land use and transit interface in project planning.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Public Transportation Dept and MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section.

### **154 Transit Project Level Planning / LRTP**

*Background:* Review plans for roadway and development construction, recommended facilities for transit and pedestrian necessities.

*Objective:* Coordinate transit elements into transportation developments and investments; coordinate transportation investments, land use development, and transit facility needs.

*Performance Plan:* Review plans/proposals of other public agencies or private developers that impact the public transportation system, particularly as they influence transit operations and services. Construct bus stop facilities consistent with adjacent land uses. Develop and analyze transit capital facilities and equipment; transit campus facilities needs assessment; safety and security assessment; Tudor Road campus master plan update; develop specifications for transit vehicles; audit/upgrade bus stops for compliance with the ADA, and the TFDG.

Provide staff resources and data for transit elements of local projects.

Plan for transit-oriented, pedestrian-friendly improvements, including bus stop shelters, stop relocations, pathways to bus stops, and crossing improvements.

Plan and develop/improve transit centers in support of Anchorage's 2020 Comprehensive Plan recommendation of Town Center development.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Public Transportation Department/Contracted Transportation Professionals.

#### **155 Short-Range Transportation Planning: Transit**

*Background:* Assembly adoption of the 1999-2003 Public Transportation Development Plan [PTDP]; developed and implemented route and schedule adjustments recommended in the East Anchorage, South Anchorage and West Anchorage transit studies; designed transit service levels required for preparation of annual operating budgets, and implemented required service levels. The People Mover Blueprint, a five year plan to restructure People Mover, was adopted and implemented in 2002, 2003 & 2004. A Five-Year People Mover Blueprint Plan Update was completed in 2009.

*Objectives:* Continue focus on management analysis of internal operations and service planning. Evaluate transit service in terms of traveler demand, route performance and service level. Develop, propose, adopt, and coordinate implementation of route/service modifications, consistent with service design guidelines and plans.

*Performance Plan:* Perform service/operations planning activities which implement route restructure recommendations; complete sub-area studies and develop issues papers; develop/implement budget-mandated service adjustments.

Incorporate ITS technology in short-range transit planning projects to facilitate movement of transit buses in mixed traffic, improve communications, and enhance operational efficiencies, safety, and system performance. Provide support to new ITS activities including real-time bus arrival times, web-based customer information, and farebox policies and practices; install new card reading fareboxes that will make boarding the buses faster and more convenient and improve passenger boarding data. These fareboxes will allow transit to increase businesses to enroll employees with passes similar to the current U-Pass program.

Utilize tools developed from the High-Priority Transportation Corridor Prototype Plan to analyze our system on a route by route performance basis. Utilize Transit Boardings Estimation and Simulation Tool (TBEST) modeling software to analyze optional service scenarios.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Public Transportation Department.

#### **156 Transportation Improvement Program: Transit**

*Background:* Developed capital programs complying with the Long-Range Transportation Plan and the Public Transportation Development Plan.

*Objective:* Develop the Public Transportation component of the AMATS TIP, based on transit level-of-service and projected capital needs. Coordinate transit projects contained in the TIP with the Municipal Capital Improvement Program [MOA/CIP] and State of Alaska Capital Improvement Program.

*Performance Plan:* Monitor, update, and amend as necessary, the Public Transportation component of the TIP and 6-year Municipal Capital Improvement Program.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Public Transportation Department.

## 157 Other Projects

*Background:* Developed the ADA Paratransit Plan and annual updates; developed and submitted the Title VI Compliance Report and triennial Affirmative Action Reporting; analyzed private sector participation in transit projects and activities; implemented human services transportation coordination; facilitated agency coordination meetings.

*Objective:* Coordinate paratransit services with social service agencies and others to maximize efficiency and effectiveness. Incorporate ADA requirements in transit facilities and support regional air quality, economic vitality, and accessibility/mobility goals.

*Performance Plan:* Ensure transit facilities and practices follow FTA recommended Safety and Security procedures. Mobility Coordinator activities to grow coordination of transportation services and to continue planning and delivery of coordinated transportation for senior citizens, people with disabilities and low-income people; prepare periodic updates of the Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan; ensure public transportation services meet accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, to include vehicles, equipment, and communications; review air quality and environmental plans as related to transit operations; private sector participation; ensure an active public involvement process for public transportation activities; Title VI compliance; Limited English Proficiency (LEP) compliance; Disadvantaged/Women-Owned Business Enterprise [DBE/WBE] compliance; Affirmative Action activities; integration and coordination of the public transportation systems of contiguous communities (MASCOT, from the Mat-Su Valley).

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Public Transportation Department.

## 160 TRANSIT MARKETING

*Background:* Marketing is an integral part of transit management, as well as an AMATS Congestion Management Program strategy and an element of the Public Transportation Development Plan. Following development of the 2002 Route Restructure Study, the Public Transportation Dept worked with a marketing consultant to develop goals and objectives for introducing new riders to the system, increasing frequency of use, and continuing successful programs (U-Pass, Class Pass and Employer Sponsored Pass).

Marketing Anchorage public transportation includes the People Mover fixed bus route system; the AnchorRIDES curb-to-curb paratransit service; and the Share-A-Ride carpool/vanpool program.

**Objective:** To increase ridership, build institutional and service identity, and increase awareness of public transportation's role and contribution to the community. Transit marketing seeks to:

- Build usage and market share for transit and rideshare services
- Increase user quality and friendliness of People Mover services
- Enhance People Mover's image and brand
- Build community support for People Mover and alternative modes

*Performance Plan:* Conduct an audit analysis of marketing programs, strategies, materials and resource allocation to examine the effectiveness of current marketing initiatives. Develop specific, primary marketing strategies using market research, travel behavior inputs, and cost-effectiveness criteria to guide strategic deployment of marketing resources. Formulate and evaluate direct marketing techniques to increase route ridership. Design marketing campaigns and materials to address key target audiences including "Choice Riders", Downtown commuters, large employers, commercial centers, and the Glenn Hwy corridor. Implement marketing actions and monitor/report both quantitative and qualitative results. Continue to implement Marketing Plan strategies to meet established goals through the 2012-2013 Work Program.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA/Public Transportation Department

## **170 RIDESHARING WORK PROGRAM**

*Background:* The Anchorage Share-A-Ride program receives federal funding each year to manage a carpool/vanpool matching program for the residents of Anchorage and its commute areas. The program is a division within the MOA Public Transportation Department. FHWA and DOT&PF/Central Region monitor and approve the annual Work Program.

*Objective:* To encourage and support alternatives to single occupant vehicle (SOV) drivers by coordinating with employers, sponsoring vanpool services, providing rideshare matching services and disseminating information.

*Performance Plan:* The 2012-2013 Work Program's primary emphasis is to strengthen the Employer Transportation Coordinator program at Anchorage and Mat-Su Valley business and government organizations. This includes promotional outreach efforts for carpooling and vanpooling, and staff efforts toward Employer-Sponsored ridesharing, applicant services, match lists, commute surveys and the development/distribution of information.

## **171 Program Administration**

*Background:* Reviewed/approved previous work programs and monitored their annual progress. Development and implementation of the program is funded with federal capital monies [Surface Transportation Program (STP)].

*Objective:* Establish and execute Share-A-Ride program efforts. Monies allocated to this task are for administrative expenses.

*Performance Plan:* Manage Share-A-Ride Work Program, monthly reporting and administration.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA PTD and DOT&PF

## **172 Networking**

*Background:* Maintain contacts with agencies in the U.S. and Canada. [Share-A-Ride has joined with the Cascade Chapter of the Association for Commuter Transportation, as Anchorage was the only member of ACT in Alaska.].

*Objective:* Follow Best Practices for commuter transportation and leverage knowledge gained from peer organizations.

*Performance Plan:* Maintain relationships with other rideshare agencies to obtain information on marketing strategies and promotional materials. Modify the Anchorage program to incorporate Best Practices and provide the most efficient and cost effective marketing approaches. Develop working relationships with Mat-Su Valley governmental agencies to promote ridesharing and vanpooling to Anchorage. Provide information to local agencies interested in promoting rideshare activities. Give presentational overviews and/or conduct outreach at employer worksites, organizations, etc.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Public Transportation/Share-A-Ride

### **173 Employer-Sponsored Ridesharing**

*Background:* More than 310,000 employees at 343 area locations received commuter surveys since 1986. As of September 2011, 131 Employer Transportation Coordinators (ETCs) work with Share-A-Ride to distribute information to its employees.

*Objective:* Support Anchorage employers to encourage and promote ridesharing.

*Performance Plan:* Contact twenty-five (25) major employers/employment locations to enlist employer support of ridesharing in the municipality and commute areas, including the Mat-Su Borough. Encourage appointment of ETCs and provide training, support, materials, and periodic communications.

Work with the University of Alaska Anchorage, Alaska Pacific University and Anchorage Charter College to expand vanpooling and carpooling by their staff, complementing the current U-Pass program. Reach out to other U-Med District agencies including Alaska Pacific University, Alaska Psychiatric Institute, Alaska Native Medical Center, Alaska Native Health Tribal Consortium, McLaughlin Youth Center, Southcentral Foundation, Providence Alaska Hospital and U.S. Geological Survey to expand vanpooling and carpooling by their staff.

Work with local, state and federal government agencies to promote and expand alternate transportation options available through the Share-A-Ride program.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA/Public Transportation/Share-A-Ride

### **174 Advertising and Public Information**

*Background:* Provide incentives for carpoolers and vanpoolers, including free gasoline, I/M services, timers for engine block heaters, or parking, and reduced rates in Anchorage Parking Authority garages. Provide posters to businesses to inform their employees/patrons about carpooling. Co-sponsor Care-About-Air activities with People Mover, ADEC, and municipal Dept of Health & Human Services.

*Objective:* Expand awareness and enrollment in the Share-A-Ride program.

*Performance Plan:* Develop and execute cost-effective promotions and informational materials for distribution to targeted groups as well as the general public.

Provide incentives for ridesharing in conjunction with promotional activities, and cooperative efforts with private businesses and government agencies. Through vanpool contractor, promote program benefits including an Emergency Ride Home and Try-A-Ride. Recognize cooperative employers through press releases and feature media articles. Conduct program outreach at major employer sites and community events.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Public Transportation/Share-A-Ride

## **175 Applicant Services**

*Background:* Matching applicants is an ongoing function of the Share-A-Ride program. As of June 2011, 5,177 applicants were registered with the program, with 276 commuters sharing rides in 137 carpools and sixty-four (64) vanpools transporting 1,128 daily riders.

*Objective:* Provide ongoing services to applicants, monitor and evaluate the rideshare program.

*Performance Plan:* Rideshare participant updates and applicant match-lists are ongoing functions of the program. Conduct Commute Surveys at various businesses in the Anchorage and Mat-Su commute areas. Reach out to database applicants to ensure their continual interest in the program and update their information in an effort to match them with other commuters.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Public Transportation/Share-a-Ride

## **176 Vanpooling**

*Background:* The vanpool program was initiated in February 1995; by October 2005 there were 24 vans in operation; by August 2009 there were 52 vans in operation with six (6) contingency vans. In November 2005, ten (10) vans were received and a new contractor was selected. In 2006, 32 (thirty-two) new vehicles were put into service to replace older vehicles. Between 2008 and 2010, forty (40) new vans were purchased for fleet expansion and replacement. In February 2011, the incumbent contractor was awarded the contract. Over 14 million vehicle miles were saved by vanpoolers in 2010.

*Objective:* Increase both the number of vanpools in operation and commuters in the vanpool program, by providing an efficient, cost-effective, alternative commute option to Anchorage-area commuters.

*Performance Plan:* Primary emphasis will be on increasing the number of active vanpools in the Anchorage and Mat-Su commute area and increasing occupancy in active vehicles in the fleet. Vanpool program administration, marketing, ridematching, employer outreach, customer satisfaction review, user charges and budget will be closely managed.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Public Transportation/Share-A-Ride

## **177 Office Management**

*Background:* The 2011 Program was implemented on schedule and within budget.

*Objective:* Provide staffing for the Rideshare office and conduct the 2012-2013 Programs in an efficient, effective manner.

*Performance Plan:* Operate the Share-A-Ride office weekdays 8:00am - 5:00pm. Provide telephone and web information and coordination, as required. Maintain sound internal procedures; monitor and document performance; produce timely and accurate statistical reports.

Provide grant management/reporting to DOT&PF and FHWA, including employee supervision, issuance of quarterly and annual reports, budget oversight and liaison.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Public Transportation/Share-A-Ride

## **178 Ridesharing Quarterly/Annual Reporting**

*Background:* Preparation and submittal of fiscal reports is an on-going task.

*Objective:* Prepare and submit quarterly reports/billings to DOT&PF and FHWA to document the ridesharing program.

*Performance Plan:* Prepare, review and submit Quarterly Progress Reports and Billings; Annual Reports for Fiscal Years 2012 and 2013.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Public Transportation/Share-A-Ride, with support from DOT&PF Central Region Planning



## **200 SUBAREA/SPECIAL STUDIES AND LOCAL PLANNING COORDINATION**

**Objectives:** (1) Examine specific transportation system improvements in a geographic area and identify needed roadway, transit, and bikeway improvements for inclusion in the AMATS TIP and LRTP/MTP; and (2) examine specific environmental conditions associated with the operation of the transportation system, specific design features of such systems [i.e., landscaping], or specific transportation functions and/or impacts.

Ensure that local transportation planning needs continue to be met. Coordination of local transportation networks with the National Highway System is critical to achieve a balanced system that provides for both through traffic movement and local access. Ensure that proposed transportation projects remain consistent with adopted AMATS Plans and Programs and are reviewed by the appropriate municipal boards and commissions. Coordinate transportation and land use development throughout the Municipality. Assess impacts on the transportation system that may result from new development. Ensure consistency between municipal and AMATS documents such as between the Official Streets and Highways Plan [OS&HP] and the Long-Range/Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

### **Current Work Efforts and Adopted Documents Related to this Element**

- Areawide Trails Plan [ATP], adopted by AO 96-140, April 1997.
- Hillside District Plan, adopted by AO 2010-22, April 2010, which amended the Areawide Trails Plan for the plan area.
- Eagle River Central Business District Circulation Study (ERCBD), approved by the AMATS PC, February 2011.
- Northern Access to U-Med District Reconnaissance Study, September 2011.
- Non-Motorized Transportation Plan: Pedestrian Plan, adopted by AO 2007-96, October 2007.
- Non-Motorized Transportation Plan: Bicycle Plan, adopted by AO 2010-08, March 2010.
- Official Streets & Highways Plan [OS&HP], adopted by AO 96-97(s), December 1996; revised October 2005 (AO 2005-115); currently near the end of another revision process (anticipated completion in first quarter of 2012).
- Review of subdivisions, zoning amendments, conditional uses, and variance requests.
- U-Med District Plan, 2004-2005; Providence/University Area Transportation Study, 1998.
- Transportation / Land Use draft goals /objectives for Anchorage 2020.
- Other transportation planning efforts principally supported by non-federal funds, including sub-area circulation studies, and Anchorage CBD Parking & Circulation Study.

### **Scheduled 2012 - 2013 Work Tasks**

#### **210 OFFICIAL STREETS AND HIGHWAYS PLAN [OS&HP]: MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION**

**Background:** The most recent OS&HP was adopted by the municipal Assembly in August 1996, and was endorsed and incorporated into the LRTP by AMATS in December 1996. The OS&HP was updated by amendment, concurrent with the process of adopting the Anchorage Bowl 2025 Long-Range Transportation Plan (subtask task 131), in October 2005. An OS&HP revision was started in 2010 and is expected to be adopted by the municipal Assembly in the first quarter of 2012.

**Objective:** Monitor and amend the OS&HP, as necessary, to meet changing needs of the community and to remain consistent with other planning documents. The OS&HP is an implementation tool of Anchorage 2020 and of the Long-Range/Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Finalize the 2010-2011 OS&HP update. As appropriate, include

funding in the TIP for local studies called for in the OS&HP. Implement the street typology project called for in the OS&HP.

*Performance Plan:* Continue to monitor the OS&HP and provide interpretation of the adopted plan maps. Prepare necessary amendments, in accordance with the recommendations of Anchorage 2020 and the Long-Range/Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Implement the OS&HP through development project reviews, road project reviews, and special studies. An OS&HP revision was started in 2010 and is expected to be adopted by the municipal Assembly in the first quarter of 2012.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section.

## **211 Street Typology Designations for the Anchorage Bowl**

*Background:* The 2025 Long-Range Transportation Plan created Street Typology additions to the functional classifications of the OS&HP, in order to emphasize a more balanced street function that considers land uses and all modes of users. The typologies are carried into the draft 2010-2011 OS&HP update. The Chugiak-Eagle River community has requested that street typologies not be applied in their community until after the adoption of Chapter 21.10 of the Title 21 Rewrite.

*Objective:* Apply the street typologies to collector and arterial streets (and local streets where appropriate), creating a Street Typology Map, to be included in the OS&HP by amendment, in order to ensure that future street design (including intersections, sidewalks, and transit stops) reflect adjacent land uses and all modes of users.

*Performance Plan:* Work with applicable MOA departments/divisions/sections and the public to determine the appropriate street typology (from the list provided in the LRTP and OS&HP) for each collector and arterial street in the Anchorage Bowl. Determine whether street typologies should be applied to any local streets. Develop a street typology map, and with the appropriate public process, amend the OS&HP to include the street typology map by 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2013.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development, Transportation Planning Section, with MOA Project Management and Engineering, Traffic Division and Engineering and Design Section; MOA Community Development, Long-Range Planning Section; DOT&PF; and public.

## **220 LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING COORDINATION**

### **Transportation Project Plan Reviews**

*Background:* The MPO is responsible for the review of all local transportation-related projects. Proposed land development applications are reviewed for transportation-related impacts, review of traffic impact analyses resulting from land development generating substantial traffic volumes

*Objective:* Review of planned and programmed transportation projects, coordinated transportation and land use development review, assessments of transportation impact analyses.

*Performance Plan:* Review transportation project plans proposed by Municipal and State agencies for consistency with adopted AMATS plans and programs, on an as-submitted basis, review plans and/or proposals of other public agencies or private developers for impacts on the transportation system, review TIAs and proposed development plans for impacts on the Anchorage transportation system, on an as-submitted basis. This task also encompasses review and update of existing project review agreements between the MOA and ADOT with regards to staff, P&Z, and Urban Design Commission reviews of DOT&PF projects.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section, MOA Public Works Dept, Traffic Safety and Project Management & Engineering Divisions, and DOT&PF.

## **230 NON-MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION STUDIES AND PLANS**

*Background:* In the mid 2000s, the municipality split the concept of non-motorized transportation into three elements of a new Non-Motorized Transportation Plan, of which the 1997 Areawide Trails Plan became one element. The second element, the Pedestrian Plan, was adopted in 2007, and the third element, the Bicycle Plan, was adopted in 2010.

*Objective:* Implement recommendations of all three elements of the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan. Continue work on an update to the Areawide Trails Plan. Create an AMATS Active Transportation Advisory Committee. Determine the appropriate update schedule for the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan elements.

*Performance Plan:* Use the three elements of the Non-Motorized Transportation plan for project recommendations to be nominated for TIP funding. Staff implements other tasks recommended in the plans. Continue updating the Areawide Trails Plan, to be completed by the end of 2012. Form an AMATS Active Transportation Advisory Committee by 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2012, and provide a staff liaison to assist with committee organization and activities. By the end of 2012, have a schedule for regular updates for the elements of the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section, with support from Project Management & Engineering.

### **231 Pedestrian Plan**

*Background:* The Pedestrian Plan is the second element of the Non-Motorized Plan. It was adopted by Municipal Ordinance in October 2007.

*Objective:* Implement the recommendations in the Pedestrian Plan.

*Performance Plan:* Continue implementation of the Pedestrian Plan utilizing the 2010-13 TIP.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section.

### **232 Bicycle Plan**

*Background:* The Bicycle Plan is the third element of the Non-Motorized Plan. It was adopted by Municipal Ordinance in March of 2010.

*Objective:* Identify and prioritize corridors necessary to complete the bicycle trail system in Anchorage.

*Performance Plan:* Implement the recommendations in the Bicycle Plan utilizing the 2010-13 TIP.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section.

### **233 Areawide Trails Plan**

*Background:* The municipal Assembly adopted the Areawide Trails Plan (ATP) in April 1997. A consultant and MOA Planning Dept staff developed the Plan, with assistance of AMATS staff. The Plan replaced the Anchorage Trails Plan, as well as sub-plans for the Anchorage Bowl, Girdwood/Turnagain Arm, and Eagle River areas, adopted in 1985. AMATS incorporates the ATP as an element of the long-range transportation plans. This is the first element of the Non-Motorized Plan and an update to it was begun in 2011.

*Objective:* Continue updating the Areawide Trails Plan, to be completed by the end of 2012.

*Performance Plan:* Complete the update of the ATP by the end of 2012.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section and MOA Public Works Department, Project Management and Engineering Division, with assistance through contractual professional services.

## **240 COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

*Background:* AMATS staff work efforts need to interface with those of the MOA Long-Range Planning Section to implement Anchorage 2020, the current adopted comprehensive plan, ensuring that land use/transportation interrelationship issues are identified and addressed in any implementation process. An extensive public process was utilized in updating the Comp Plan, indicating that the Plan has wide support and endorsement of the community.

*Objective:* Continue to coordinate land use and transportation planning efforts through the implementation of recommendations of Anchorage 2020. Elements to be examined may include planning and development for town centers, transit corridors, and district plans, revisions to Municipality of Anchorage parking requirements, and updates to the street design guidelines and standards.

*Performance Plan:* Review implementation measures (such as Title 21 Rewrite, West Anchorage District Plan, etc.) for consistency with the transportation elements of the Anchorage Bowl Comprehensive Plan.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section, and Land Use Planning Division, with assistance from DOT&PF.

## **241 Government Hill Neighborhood Plan**

**Background:** A Government Hill Neighborhood Plan (GHNP) is being prepared in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding for the Knik Arm Crossing Project. Neighborhood and district plans are also an essential implementation strategy of the *Anchorage 2020 - Anchorage Bowl Comprehensive Plan*. The GHNP will promote the orderly growth, improvement, and future development of the Government Hill neighborhood. Development of the GHNP will meet the requirements of Anchorage Title 21, Section 21.05.155 and the municipal comprehensive plan. The GHNP will also incorporate Historic Preservation Plan elements specific to the Government Hill neighborhood.

**Objective:** Creation of a neighborhood plan for the Government Hill Community Council area.

**Performance Plan:** Develop a Government Hill Neighborhood Plan. The project will include the following:

- A public involvement plan, neighborhood profile, issues/opportunity report, and a vision, goals and objectives report.
- Two neighborhood design charrettes, a public open house, and other public outreach efforts including meetings with stakeholders such as major landowners, Government Hill Community Council, neighborhood residents, service providers, and other interested parties.
- A complete public review draft plan which will be presented at informational meetings to the Planning & Zoning Commission and the Municipal Assembly, and to the general public in conjunction with a public open house and other meetings.
- A public hearing draft neighborhood plan for Government Hill which will be formally reviewed by the Planning & Zoning Commission and the Municipal Assembly, and adopted by the Assembly as an element of the municipal comprehensive plan.

The period of performance will be approximately 15 months, with interim products being submitted throughout the contract period, and a final product being submitted by December 2012.

**Primary Responsibility:** Long-Range Planning Section, Planning Division, MOA Community Development Department, with consultant services assistance, and in coordination with representatives of the Government Hill Community Council, neighborhood residents, stakeholders, and the general public.

## **243 Midtown District Plan**

**Background:** The Anchorage 2020 Comprehensive Plan designates the Midtown area of Anchorage as a major employment center. According to the Comp Plan, employment centers “will provide efficient access to goods and services, enhance multi-modal transportation and create vital, attractive, urban environments.” Important elements of employment centers include: (1) higher employment densities [50 to 75 employees per acre] to support more efficient transit service, (2) mixing supportive retail uses such as restaurants, banks, and shopping with office development, (3) enhancing the pedestrian environment, and (4) creating successful, public focal points such as plazas and parks.

**Objective:** Creation of a mixed use, high density, pedestrian-oriented employment center in midtown.

*Performance Plan:* Complete the Midtown Plan by 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2012. Completion of the plan has been held up by work efforts on the Municipal Title 21 update.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Long-Range Planning Section, in cooperation with the Transportation Planning Section with consultant services assistance.

## **248 East Anchorage District Plan**

*Background:* The East Anchorage District Plan (EADP) is a plan that will guide growth and development in East Anchorage, particularly through the implementation of the policies and strategies in Anchorage 2020 - Anchorage Bowl Comprehensive Plan and other approved community plans, policies and programs that support a sustainable and livable East Anchorage.

*Objective:* The EADP will establish goals and policies that reflect the vision of residents, landowners, and public entities for future growth in East Anchorage. The Plan will provide recommendations to guide growth and development in the area and strategies for implementing those recommendations that suit the area's character. Issues and opportunities stemming from topics such as individual neighborhoods, traffic and transportation needs, housing choices, land use and building design, economic development, public services and infrastructure, parks and recreation and the area's relationship with adjacent military lands and activities will be identified and addressed in the planning process.

*Performance Plan:* AMATS staff will assist Long Range Planning staff with transportation elements of the EADP. Initiate the EADP planning process in 1Q 2012 and complete the EADP by 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2013.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Long Range Planning Section, in cooperation with the Transportation Planning Section with consultant services assistance.

## **249 U-Med District Plan**

*Background:* The University-Medical (U-Med) District Plan was adopted in 2003 and since that time, new facilities and roads have been built; more are in construction with many more being planned for.

*Objective:* The U-Med District Plan update will assess current conditions, identify future land uses and open space areas; motorized and non motorized transportation needs; a feasibility study for a co-generation power and distribution system within the U-Med area; and a Parking Utilization Study.

*Performance Plan:* AMATS staff will assist Long-Range Planning staff with transportation elements of the U-Med District Plan with completion of the update by 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2013.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Long-Range Planning Section, in cooperation with the Transportation Planning Section with consultant services assistance.

## 260 FREIGHT MOBILITY

*Background:* Planning factor #7 of federal Metropolitan Planning regulations requires that MPOs conduct freight mobility studies as part of the metro transportation planning process. In June 2001, AMATS adopted and approved a Freight Mobility Study. Regulations further state “supporting technical efforts should proceed from an analysis of goods and services movement problem areas, as determined in cooperation with appropriate private sector involvement, including, but not limited to, addressing interconnected transportation access and service needs of intermodal facilities”. While initially established in 2006, the AMATS Freight Advisory Committee was reconvened in January 2009 and quarterly meetings along with freight workshops were held.

*Objective:* Continue to prioritize and implement recommendations in both the 2025 Long-Range Transportation Plan and the June 2001 Freight Mobility Study with assistance of the Freight Advisory Committee. Further, work to identify problem freight intersections, access issues, and undertake a Freight Mobility Movement Survey. Develop outreach programs, schedule intersection/access tours, attend and present information at local industry and agency meetings in order to gain input from the freight community. Coordinate with state, municipal, and local agencies on freight needs during design and site plan development reviews. Update the 2001 Freight Mobility Study to look at freight movement throughout the region. The study will document freight movements, identify industry trends, collect freight data, illustrate key deficiencies, outline opportunities, conduct stakeholder outreach and develop recommendations.

*Performance Plan:* Schedule and attend meetings of the Committee. The Committee will review the recommendations in the LRTP and TIP, and make suggestions for project criteria, design, evaluation, and recommendations for other needed improvements. Continue to have the Freight Advisory Committee act as a standing subcommittee to advise the AMATS TAC on freight matters. Monitor freight activities, and participate in relevant freight training activities and on-going education opportunities. Update the 2001 Freight Mobility Study by 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2013. Complete the Freight Mobility Movement Survey by 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2013.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section, with possible assistance from DOT&PF.

## 270 EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT

*Background:* Transportation Planning has long encouraged connectivity between neighborhoods, ensuring a continuous network of streets. This disperses traffic, reduces the volume of cars on any one street in the network, and eliminates circuitous vehicular trips. Of prime consideration is the need to provide adequate circulation for emergency and public service vehicles. In the review of private development proposals, particularly subdivisions and Planned Communities’ master plans, it is critical that the Municipality requires neighborhood streets to be connected. This may not always be supported by the individual neighborhoods themselves, but is in the best interest of the community as a whole. As shown by the EOC Wildfire Incident Scenario, evacuation routes for the Hillside area are woefully scarce. Similar problems exist in portions of Chugiak/Eagle River. A 2002 Municipal ordinance adopted Public Safety Amendments to the Anchorage 2020 / Anchorage Bowl Comprehensive Plan. New Policy 98 states that results of a comprehensive process to address natural and man-made emergencies and disasters to which Anchorage may be vulnerable should result in long-term disaster mitigation efforts through land use, transportation, and public facilities planning. Neighborhood or District Plans, and the Hillside District Plan are listed as essential to policy implementation;

Street Connectivity Standards are also listed as an implementation strategy. In 2005 a Steering Committee was formed to address gaps in existing street connectivity for emergency response and evacuation in the Chugiak-Eagle River area.

*Objective:* Ensure that community residents can be evacuated in an emergency, and that public service vehicles have adequate routes to hazardous scenes.

*Performance Plan:* Work with Anchorage Fire Department, Chugiak Volunteer Fire Department, South Fork Volunteer Fire Department, Girdwood Fire Department, road boards, and community councils, to identify gaps and missing links in neighborhood transportation grid connections, and to work towards eliminating identified gaps, to enhance emergency vehicle response times, and to support implementation of national and local emergency response standards. Complete by third quarter 2013 the work for Chugiak-Eagle River, and begin by fourth quarter 2013 work for Anchorage Bowl. Continue to work with MOA Planning and Project Management and Engineering Departments to develop and implement Street Connectivity Standards.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Department, Transportation Planning and Long Range Planning Sections, in cooperation with MOA Public Works Dept, Project Management & Engineering Division, Anchorage Fire Department, Chugiak Volunteer Fire Department, South Fork Volunteer Fire Department, Girdwood Fire Department, road boards, and community councils.

## 280 INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS [ITS]

*Background:* Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) represents the integration of new and existing technologies and services aimed at improving safety, increasing efficiency, and reducing transportation costs for the movement of people and goods. ITS serves to enhance and improve all areas of transportation, including highways, signal systems, transit, parking, emergency services, street maintenance, commercial vehicles, and traveler information. Federal ITS regulations published in 2001 require MPOs, including AMATS, to have a regional ITS architecture (a framework for planning and deployment) that is consistent with the national and state ITS architectures. A regional architecture is to be maintained and kept up to date. The MOA Regional ITS Architecture Final Report, including an Implementation Plan, was approved by the AMATS Policy Committee in 2004. The Implementation Plan is used as input to guide decisions for deploying ITS in the MOA. Regulations also require ITS projects, or projects having ITS elements, and funded with highway trust fund dollars, to demonstrate conformance with the local ITS Architecture, and to document compliance with specific Systems Engineering Analysis requirements, prior to project implementation.

*Objective:* Review and update the Anchorage ITS Regional Architecture as necessary. Provide support to managers of ITS projects to enable them to comply with federal requirements. Continue local support for ITS.

*Performance Plan:* Work with key stakeholders to update and maintain the Anchorage Regional ITS Architecture as necessary. Continue to work with FHWA, FTA and DOT&PF HQ to provide guidance and offer training opportunities to local project managers concerning compliance with federal ITS requirements. Continue to educate stakeholders about ITS. Participate in ITS related meetings, training, and conferences necessary to keep updated on ITS initiatives. Work with partner agencies of AMATS to form an ITS Advisory Subcommittee by 1/1/2013 to the AMATS Policy and Technical Advisory Committees, and serve as staff to the Subcommittee. The ITS Advisory Subcommittee would be responsible for updating and maintaining the Anchorage Regional ITS



Architecture, identifying opportunities for ITS deployment in projects funded in the TIP, and providing guidance to project managers on compliance with federal ITS regulations.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Department, Transportation Planning Section, with assistance from MOA Traffic Engineering, MOA Project Management & Engineering, MOA Public Transportation, and other municipal agencies, and with support from DOT&PF, FHWA, FTA, and potentially consulting services.

## 290 CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROCESS

*Background:* The AMATS Policy Committee adopted the 1993 Congestion Management Program [Phase I] in October 1994. The plan was developed with consultant assistance and staff from MOA/DCPD, MOA/Public Transportation, MOA/DPW, and DOT&PF. Public surveys and workshops were conducted to identify the issues regarding traffic congestion and what strategies could be implemented or existing strategies expanded to address those issues. Staff completed work [Phase II] on the development of a performance measurement system and its associated data collection and system monitoring, as well as standards that can be used to monitor systemwide congestion and evaluate the effectiveness of existing congestion management strategies. The resulting "Status of the System Report" was published in September 2000 with updates completed in 2004, 2008 and 2011.

*Objective:* Based on the performance measures contained in the "Status of the System Report," AMATS will continue to monitor congestion and track the effectiveness of current management strategies for performance. The MTP recommends that the Status of the System Report be updated every four years. A new report will therefore be prepared during the 2014-15 UPWP horizon. The MTP also recommends the creation of a new institutional framework to promote the evaluation and implementation of congestion management strategies.

*Performance Plan:* Create new institutional framework for the evaluation and implementation of new congestion management strategies. Re-evaluate the existing set of transportation system performance measures and the need for additional data collection efforts by 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2013.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section, with assistance from other municipal departments, and DOT&PF.

## 291 Implementation Strategies ~ Signal Timing

*Background:* The Municipality of Anchorage received a federal grant, shown in the Transportation Improvement Program, to refine the timing of traffic signals. This project supports strategies identified in the Congestion Management Program.

*Objective:* Work with DOT&PF Program Development staff to provide project oversight and participate on project team.

*Performance Plan:* Continue to implement strategies and utilize ITS methods to improve signal timing in the AMATS area.

*Primary Responsibility:* Executive Oversight from MOA Public Works Department, Traffic Engineering Division, with primary technical support from MOA IT Department, GIS Division.

## **292 Implementation Strategies ~ Travel Options Program**

*Background:* The LRTP identified the need to expand the range of existing congestion management programs that encourage commuters and other users of the transportation system to shift from single occupancy vehicles to other modes of transportation. A Mobility Coordinator position was created via the TIP and MTP to be the entity responsible for the design, development and execution of new travel demand initiatives.

*Objective:* Creation of a Travel Options Report which proposes strategies to maximize the efficiency of the existing transportation system by engaging users such as business owners, employees, non-profit organizations, transportation and land use planners, and non-work commuters. Like roadway expansions, travel option programs are measurable for in their ability to reduce congestion, reduce commute costs, and improve air quality and livability.

*Performance Plan:* Adoption of Travel Options Report by first quarter of 2012.

*Primary Responsibility:* Contract administration and oversight from MOA Public Transportation Dept, with secondary support from MOA Traffic Dept.

## **300 AIR QUALITY PLANS, PROGRAMS, AND STUDIES**

*Objective:* To monitor, analyze, develop and implement programs to improve air quality.

### **Current Work Efforts and Adopted Documents Related to this Element**

- Eagle River PM-10 Control Plan, MOA, December 1990.
- Congestion Management System Performance Measures and Standards
- Anchorage CO Maintenance Plan, adopted by EPA, July 2004.
- Anchorage CO Maintenance Plan revisions, under review by EPA, 2011

### **Scheduled 2012 - 2013 Work Tasks**

#### **310 AIR QUALITY MONITORING / ANALYSIS / REPORTING**

*Background:* The MOA Dept of Health & Human Services has had primary responsibility for monitoring, air quality data analysis and reporting for over 25 years. Responsibilities include monitoring of CO, PM-10, and PM-2.5; analysis and reporting of AQ trends.

*Objective:* Continue monitoring for CO, PM-10 and other air pollutants and submit data, as required to EPA. Investigate levels of air pollution in Anchorage. Prepare biennial report summarizing air quality data and trends.

*Performance Plan:* Monitor air quality in the Anchorage area as required by EPA. Evaluate air quality data, analyze trends, prepare annual report, and submit data to ADEC and EPA on a quarterly basis.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Dept of Health & Human Services.

#### **320 AIR QUALITY PLANNING AND SIP REVISIONS**

*Background:* The State of Alaska has delegated responsibility for local air quality planning to the MOA. Anchorage is responsible for preparing any necessary air quality revisions for incorporation into the State Implementation Plan for approval by the EPA. Over the past 30 years, Anchorage has prepared SIP revisions to address CO and PM-10 non-attainment issues in the MOA. Anchorage is now classified as a maintenance area for CO. Anchorage last violated the air quality standard for CO in 1996. Anchorage is now classified as a CO maintenance area after the EPA approved the Anchorage CO Maintenance Plan in 2004. In 2010 a revised maintenance plan was submitted to the EPA that shows that the vehicle inspection and maintenance (I/M) program is no longer necessary for continued compliance with the CO standard. EPA approval is expected in late 2011 or early 2012. Although the I/M Program is expected to be discontinued shortly thereafter, the revised Plan retains commitments to carpooling and vanpooling, transit marketing and air quality public awareness programs. Although most of the Municipality of Anchorage is considered to be in attainment with the PM-10 standard, the EPA classified a portion of Eagle River as a PM-10 nonattainment area because of air quality violations caused by dust from unpaved roads in the late 1980's. However nearly all the roads in the area were paved and the last violations were measured 20 years ago. In 2009 a PM-10 maintenance plan was prepared and submitted to EPA that shows that the paving program should provide for continued compliance with the PM-10 standard for at least the next decade even with anticipated growth in road traffic. Once EPA approval has been obtained, Eagle River will be re-designated as a maintenance area for PM-10.

*Objectives:* Continue to prepare plans/implement strategies for reducing CO, PM-10 and other pollutants as required to maintain compliance with federal clean air standards.

*Performance Plan:* Prepare new plans as required. Ensure implementation of air quality control strategies in adopted plans.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Dept of Health & Human Services [DHHS], with support from, and coordination with, ADEC.

### **330 AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSES**

*Background:* Federal regulations require that all federally-funded transportation plans and programs be shown to be consistent with the State Implementation Plan for Air Quality and not interfere with the attainment or maintenance of federal air quality standards. Conformity analyses must be performed for transportation plans and programs in the MOA because Anchorage is designated as a maintenance area for CO and Eagle River is designated as a nonattainment area for PM-10.

*Objectives:* Perform analyses required for air quality conformity determinations by AMATS long range transportation plans and improvement programs.

*Performance Plan:* Prepare analyses required for the MTP, TIP and amendments.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Dept of Health & Human Services, and MOA Traffic Department in coordination with ADEC.

### **340 EVALUATION OF TRANSPORTATION-RELATED AIR POLLUTION CONTROLS**

*Background:* The MOA, in collaboration with the ADEC, has conducted a number of studies to characterize the nature and contributing causes of air pollution in the MOA and to evaluate the effectiveness of potential control strategies. Over the past 15 years, a number of studies have been conducted to quantify the contribution of cold start / warm-up idle emissions to the CO problem and to evaluate the effectiveness of strategies like engine block heater use and I/M to reduce these emissions. To address PM-10, the MOA has developed and implemented new procedures for reducing PM-10 from major roads by application of magnesium chloride dust suppressant. To address air toxics the MOA recently completed phase 1 of a two phase study to evaluate the effectiveness of new EPA rules reducing the amount of benzene in gasoline on ambient concentrations of benzene in Anchorage. Phase 2 will begin in 2012. These EPA rules require refiners to cut the amount of benzene allowed in Anchorage gasoline from about 5% to 1.3%.

*Objective:* Investigate appropriate and climate-suitable methods for addressing transportation-related air pollution in the MOA.

*Performance Plan:* Complete phase 2 of benzene study to assess effectiveness of new EPA-mandated gasoline benzene content limits by 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2013. Evaluate effectiveness of magnesium chloride PM-10 control.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Dept of Health & Human Services.

### **350 AIR QUALITY PROMOTION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS PROGRAMS**

*Background:* The MOA has used Congestion Mitigation / Air Quality (CMAQ) funding to promote behaviors to reduce the emissions of CO and other air pollution. The Plug @20 campaign uses television, radio and print media and other methods to encourage motorists to use engine block heaters fall below 20 degrees. Research has shown block heaters can cut cold-start CO emissions by more than half. The MOA has also promoted

bicycling and walking as a means to get to work and school and reduce air pollution from motor vehicles. The coordination of the annual Bike-to-Day is one example of the efforts put forth.

*Objective:* Promote and encourage alternatives to the single occupancy vehicle to reduce transportation-related air pollution in the MOA.

*Performance Plan:* Continue with Plug@20 campaign during winter months and assess effectiveness through public opinion survey conducted annually each March. Coordinate Bike-to-Work Day (and Week).

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Dept of Health & Human Services.

### **360 EPA Air Pollutant Emission Model Implementation (MOVES)**

*Background:* The EPA is developing a new emission factor model called MOVES to replace the current MOBILE6 model. EPA has mandated the use of the new MOVES model beginning in March 2012, to develop emission inventories and budgets and to prepare conformity determinations.

*Objective:* Develop "in-house" expertise necessary to run the EPA MOVES model and use it develop a revised CO emission inventory and emission budget. Like MOBILE6, MOVES will have to be integrated with the Anchorage Transportation Model to develop emission estimates.

*Performance Plan:* Develop basic competence and familiarity of MOVES among at least two MOA staff, work with transportation modelers to develop ways to integrate necessary transportation model outputs with the MOVES model by 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2012.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Dept of Health & Human Services.

## **400 DATA COLLECTION/COMPUTER MODELING**

**Objective:** To maintain and update the socioeconomic database to support the TransCAD transportation planning model.

To continue to enhance the reliability of travel forecasting procedures, to apply the updated computer simulation model to system level transportation analyses, to complete any necessary modifications to the model, and to provide documentation of model procedures.

### **Current Work Efforts and Adopted Documents Related to this Element**

- The on-going traffic data collection programs of Municipal Traffic Department and DOT&PF Highway Data Section.
- Application of the air quality model to the Anchorage Bowl network for the Anchorage Bowl Long-Range Transportation Plan update and the air quality conformity reports.
- AMATS Computer Model Assessment, 1995.
- Updated land use forecast, 2004.
- TMIP Model Peer Review, 2004.
- MOA Travel Demand Model Validation, 2005.
- MOA Travel Demand Model approved by AMATS Policy Committee, 2005
- Project-specific modeling, on going and continuous.
- Anchorage Household Travel Survey, 2002.
- Status of the System Report, 2011.

### **Scheduled 2012 - 2013 Work Tasks**

#### **410 TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION DATA**

Produce Annual Traffic Report, which includes a summary of transportation trends analysis/information, trail/pedestrian system changes, and the roadway system alterations during the year. The traffic information includes studies regarding travel time, classification, and speed, as well as data to support air quality conformity and the VMT tracking requirements. Special studies may address other issues, such as parking trends, and sidewalk and trail usage.

**Background:** MOA Traffic Dept annually conducts a monitoring program regarding pedestrian / vehicular volumes and travel characteristics within the Municipality. The majority of the data is in the Anchorage Bowl; limited data is collected in Eagle River. The data program is accomplished using both manual turning movement techniques and with a variety of automated traffic equipment. The information supports the MOA traffic safety/capacity programs, signal timing improvements, the transportation model, and project analyses.

Collect information such as travel time delay studies supports various applications, including the AMATS computer simulation model and signal-timing evaluations. MOA Data also performs 24-hour hose and radar spot studies on various roadway segments. This information is used to monitor traffic speed trends along roadways.

All applicable information is put together in the Annual Traffic Report. Data has been publishing this report since the mid-1980s. The report format provides a comprehensive overview of changes within the transportation network, traffic accident rates, traffic control devices, and intersection volumes. The report also identifies safety concerns.

**Objectives:** Record existing traffic data and evaluate trends regarding travel conditions on roadways and trails within the MOA, such as changes in average daily traffic [ADT]

and accident rates. Improve coordination of data collection between the MOA and the State.

*Performance Plan:* MOA Traffic staff collects/analyzes/updates and produces a statistical and informational report on which traffic trends can be analyzed for roadways and trails within the Municipality.

DOT&PF Highway Data Section performs traffic link counts and vehicle classification studies, and updates the AADT [annual average daily traffic].

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Public Works Dept, Traffic Engineering Data Section, and DOT&PF Traffic Data.

## 440 SOCIO-ECONOMIC / EMPLOYMENT DATA

### 441 Land Use / Socio-Economic Data Collection / Evaluation

*Background:* Transportation planning models used to forecast future traffic volumes require extensive land use data collection efforts as well as the development of land use allocation models needed to forecast future land use distribution and densities. KJS Associates developed a spreadsheet-based land use allocation model in 1998, as a part of the transportation planning model update. The land use allocation model began with existing land use information and utilized existing trends methodology to forecast future land use allocation. Most recently, the land use allocation model was updated to reflect the assumptions contained in Anchorage 2020.

*Objective:* Review current information concerning land use, including analyzing census income information, along with employment figures, for input to the AMATS computer model. Analyze the accuracy of existing housing and employment data and update where needed. Update existing housing and employment data using MOA permit data. Update housing and employment projections based on latest regional projections.

*Performance Plan:* Review, collect, and conduct quality control reviews on housing and employment data for the transportation demand model.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section, with support from private consultants.

## 450 COMPUTER MODELING OF FEDERAL-AID PROJECTS

*Background:* New road projects require the use of the Travel Demand Model to project future traffic volumes. In the past the model has been used to forecast traffic for the Glenn Hwy MIS study, the Seward Highway MIS study, as well as numerous arterial expansion projects.

*Objective:* Support regional planning efforts using the transportation demand model.

*Performance Plan:* Apply the MOA transportation demand model in support of design and development of federally funded projects and plans. This task is to address project level analysis for transportation improvements.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section.

#### **470 COMPUTER MODELING IN SUPPORT OF AIR QUALITY TASKS**

*Background:* The Anchorage Bowl of the Municipality is designated as a maintenance area for air quality [CO]. The MOA must provide an analysis of conformity between the LRTP and TIP and the CO/SIP. Portions of Eagle River are a PM-10 non-attainment area, which also requires conformity determinations.

*Objective:* Provide model support to air quality conformity analyses for TIP updates and amendments, LRTP updates and amendments, and other times, as required by federal conformity regulations. Prepare required air quality conformity reports.

*Performance Plan:* Staff will develop traffic model runs corresponding to the required analysis years, which can be input into the approved EPA air quality models. A report will be prepared which shows model inputs and assumptions, and conclusions regarding the air quality impacts of the AMATS transportation plans and programs.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section, and MOA DHHS, Air Quality Section.

#### **480 MOA TRANSPORTATION DEMAND MODEL**

*Background:* The MOA transportation computer simulation model was validated to a 2002 base year and subsequently updated (not validated) to the year 2007 for socioeconomic data and roadway configuration. The 2007 model is currently under further development for the H2H project, and will be validated and documented as a base year during the development of that project. Air Quality Conformity regulations require that transportation planning models validate to base year traffic counts that are no older than 10 years.

*Objective:* Monitor and update the transportation demand model for accuracy. A regional household travel survey will be undertaken before the end of second quarter 2012. That travel survey will be used to validate and recalibrate the AMATS travel demand model.

*Performance Plan:* Contract with a professional consulting firm to provide technical and operational support of the transportation demand model. Activities within this task also include any/all work necessary to the continued refinement of the model.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section, with consultant assistance, and support from DOT&PF.



## **500 PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT/INFORMATION**

**Objective:** Provide the necessary administration, technical support, committee support and coordination to effectively manage the AMATS transportation planning program. Develop necessary technical skills to more effectively perform AMATS tasks. Provide an effective public involvement program for AMATS transportation planning and air quality planning and provide a project implementation process to insure that planning efforts take issues of public concern into account.

### **Current Work Efforts and Adopted Documents Related to this Element**

- 2001 Anchorage on the Move.
- 1996 Citizens' Transportation Reference Guide.
- AMATS Technical Advisory and Policy Committee meetings.
- Production of AMATS Committee meeting minutes.
- Staff attendance at FHWA, FTA, and/or State-sponsored seminars and short courses.

### **Scheduled 2010 - 2011 Work Tasks**

#### **510 AMATS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, COORDINATION AND SUPPORT**

**Background:** This on-going task refers to the overall staff functions of AMATS personnel.

**Objectives:** A well-managed transportation planning program.

**Performance Plan:** The Traffic Director provides the overall program supervision and serves as chairman of the AMATS Technical Advisory Committee. The Transportation Planning Division Manager handles day-to-day staff operations. Staff provides necessary administration to effectively manage the AMATS transportation planning program and provide support to the Policy and Technical Advisory Committees, prepare and disseminate AMATS committee packets, develop agendas, transcribe minutes, and attend all Committee meetings. Continuing coordination between MOA and ADOT staff to exchange information, discuss relevant transportation issues, and enhance SAFETEA-LU management systems. Coordination with other transportation agencies, including, but not limited to the Alaska Railroad Corporation, the Port of Anchorage, Merrill Field, and the Ted Stevens/Anchorage International Airport.

**Primary Responsibility:** MOA Community Development Dept Director and Transportation Planning, and DOT&PF Planning. [Task includes in-kind match funds to support the Traffic Director's effort in supervising and attending AMATS meetings as well as other Traffic Dept staff's involvement and assistance in the AMATS program.]

#### **520 AMATS DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING**

**Background:** Transportation planning is a dynamic process, and the responsibility to keep informed of up-to-date technologies and techniques is recognized.

**Objective:** Continue efforts toward improvement of the technical skills of AMATS-associated staff. Some development/training meetings will involve out-of-state travel (i.e., meetings or training sessions of the Transportation Research Board, ITS America, ITS Alaska, American Planning Association, US DOT Research and Innovative Technology Association (RITA), National Transit Institute, National Highway Institute, AMPO and the Institute of Transportation Engineers).

*Performance Plan:* A technically sound transportation program staffed by skilled, qualified personnel. Staff will attend in-state and out-of-state FHWA/FTA sponsored seminars and workshops related to program needs, on an as-needed basis.

*Primary Responsibility:* Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section, with the concurrence of FHWA.

## **530 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, INFORMATION AND RESPONSE**

*Background:* AMATS staff provides the citizens of Anchorage with opportunity for public input in the decision-making process, through public meetings, published announcements and a public involvement program. The current AMATS Public Participation Plan (PPP) was adopted in 2009.

*Objective:* Continue to provide information about AMATS plans and programs in response to telephone, facsimile, letter, memorandum and document requests from the general public and local, state and federal agencies. The current AMATS PPP should be updated on a 4 year cycle, with the next update starting in late 2013.

*Performance Plan:* Increase the public awareness of transportation and air quality programs, using existing information methods [Municipal Web-page, community council newsletters, Municipal Page in the newspaper, public speaking opportunities, forums, Annual Report to the Public, and so forth] to present information on a regular basis, which matches with program timeframes. The majority of effort will use minimal cost methods of communications, but additional publication and printing costs will be necessary. Staff is also responsible for the public review process of various plans and documents as noted in other locations of this UPWP. [Review of locally funded projects or meeting attendance related to other PL funded tasks in this work program, such as the LRTP update, will be charged to that respective task.] Staff will respond to requests from the public, civic groups and legislators concerning the AMATS transportation planning process, plans, programs, and projects. In addition, advertisements will be placed in local newspapers announcing AMATS Policy, Technical Advisory, and Citizens' Advisory Committee meetings. Advertisements for other transportation planning issues-related meetings will be charged to the respective task. Staff provides on-going support and effective disclosure of AMATS project and federal program information to specific municipal advisory boards, community councils, civic groups, local and state legislators, as well as the general public. Begin update to the AMATS PPP in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2013.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Dept, Transportation Planning Section and DOT&PF.

## **531 Title VI Plan**

*Background:* Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination based on race, color or national origin. In 1974, the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed that the failure to ensure a meaningful opportunity for national origin minorities, with limited-English proficiency, to participate in a federally funded program violates Title VI (Federal-Aid Recipient Programs & Activities) regulations. Additionally, requirements are outlined in Executive Order 13166: Improving Access to Service for Persons with Limited English Proficiency signed on August 11, 2000. Its purpose is to ensure accessibility to programs and services to eligible persons who have limited proficiency in the English language.

Furthermore, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) published Policy Guidance Concerning Recipients' Responsibilities to Limited English Proficient Persons in the December 14, 2005 Federal Register Volume 70; Number 239. The guidance explicitly identifies Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) as organizations that must follow this guidance. The Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan must be consistent with the fundamental mission of the organization, though not unduly burdening the organization.

*Objective:* Complete a Title VI Plan, to include a Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Policy.

*Performance Plan:* Prepare a Title VI implementation plan, Needs Assessment and complaint procedures by June 1, 2012. That will include development of goals and objectives used for assessing Environmental Justice (EJ) decision making.

*Primary Responsibility:* MOA Community Development Department, Transportation Planning Section, with assistance from MOA Public Transportation, and other municipal agencies, and with support from DOT&PF Civil Rights Office, FHWA, and FTA.

# AMATS

## Calendar Years 2012-2013

### Unified Planning Work Program

## **2012 Financial Tables**

### AMATS 2012

### Funding Summary and

### Revenues & Expenditures

---

---

**AMATS**  
**Calendar Years 2012-2013**  
**Unified Planning Work Program**

**Appendix ‘A’**

**AMATS Inter-Governmental  
Operating Agreement for  
Transportation and Air Quality  
Planning**

---

---

# AMATS

## Calendar Years 2012-2013

### Unified Planning Work Program

## **Appendix ‘B’**

### Glossary of Acronyms, Terms and Documents

---

**AMATS**  
**Calendar Years 2012-2013**  
**Unified Planning Work Program**

**Appendix ‘C’**

**PL Distribution Formula**

---

**AMATS**  
**Calendar Years 2012-2013**  
**Unified Planning Work Program**

**Appendix ‘D’**

**Federal Triennial Certification  
of the Planning Process  
for 2009**

---

---



# AMATS

## Calendar Years 2012-2013

### Unified Planning Work Program

## **Appendix ‘E’**

### Table of Major Discrete Projects

---

---

---

---

---

# AMATS

Calendar Years 2012-2013

Unified Planning Work Program

## **Appendix ‘F’**

Federal Approval  
Correspondence

