MVP for Transportation
Pre-MPO Steering Committee Meeting

MEMBERS
Todd Vanhove, ADOT&PF
Brad Hanson, City of Palmer
Erich Schaal, City of Wasilla
Brian Winnestaffer, Chickaloon Native Village
Jim Beck, Health and Human Services
Bob Charles, Knik Tribe
Tom Adams, MSB
Kim Sollien, MSB
Brad Sworts, MSB
Vacant, MSB TAB
Joshua Shaver, AK Pioneer Homes
Brian Lindamood, ARRC
Jennifer Busch, Valley Transit

NON-VOTING MEMBERS
Adeyemi Alimi, ADEC
Jackson Fox, FAST Planning
Aaron Jongenelen, AMATS
Josh Cross, TAB
Vacant, City of Houston
Vacant, LRSAAB
Adam Bradway, ADOT&PF

Minutes
Tuesday, March 14th, 2023
2:00 - 3:30 pm

1.   Call to Order

Quorum reached at 2:00pm

2.   Introduction of Pre-MPO Steering Committee Members and other Attendees

Members Present:
Tom Adams, MSB
Adam Bradway, ADOT&PF
Aaron Jongenelen, AMATS
Jackson Fox, FAST Planning
Kim Sollien, MSB
Brad Hanson, City of Palmer
Kaylan Wade (in for Brian Winnestaffer, Chickaloon Native Village)
Bob Charles, Knik Tribe
Erich Schaal, City of Wasilla
Todd Vanhove, ADOT&PF
Adeyemi Alimi, ADEC
Josh Shaver, AK Pioneer Home
Jim Beck, Health and Human Services

Members Absent:
Brad Sworts, MSB
Brian Lindamood, ARRC
Jennifer Busch, Valley Transit

Visitors Present:
Donna Gardino, Gardino Consulting Services
Natalie Lyon, RESPEC
Elise Blocker, RESPEC
Maija DiSalvo, MSB
Glenda Ledford, Wasilla Mayor

3.   Approval of the March 14th, 2023 Agenda – **(Action Item)**

*Motion to approve the March 14th, 2023 agenda **(Vanhove),** seconded. No edits. Passed unanimously.*

4.   Approval of the February 14th, 2023 Minutes – **(Action Item)**

*Motion to approve the February 14th, 2023 Minutes **(Charles),** seconded. No edits. Passed unanimously.*

5.   Committee/Working Group Reports (Including the Staff Report)
      a.   Staff Report
         • MPA Draft Boundary – Developers meeting recap

A work session was held with a group of developers, surveyors, and real estate agents in the Mat-Su Valley to review the draft MPA boundary. The same presentation that was shared in the last Pre-MPO Steering Committee was presented during the work session. A summary of MPO 101 was presented and there were questions about funding and how the Policy Board works and the difference between the Steering Committee and the Technical Committee. In response, the MPO 101 was edited to make the information more clear. Donna Gardino created an MPO FAQ sheet that has been put on the MPO website. It may be necessary to move some portions of the boundary due to geographic or administrative boundaries to match other existing boundaries. The public meeting is on March 29th. All questions and responses from the work session and the public meeting will be put together and shared. MSB is creating a package of maps for developers to review. A 30-day comment period will follow the public meeting on the 29th.

There is no update on the operating agreement and the bylaws. Kim Sollien to follow-up.

6.   Voices of the Visitors (Non-Action Items)

None

7.   Old Business

8.   New Business
      a.   Steering Committee name change proposal **(Action Item)**

Propose to change Steering Committee name to Pre-MPO Technical Committee.

Erich Schaal: Is there a risk of loss of continuity and would it be confusing to change while we're in the pre-stage?

Kim Sollien: It is laid out in the bylaws and operating agreement as the future technical committee and it adds to the confusion to have a different name in the future.

Donna Gardino: The original intent was to change it when the MPO got out of the pre stage. As a middle ground we could change it to Steering Committee / Technical or not change it at all.

Erich Schaal: Its less what steering and technical means but more the breadth of information. A clean break from pre-MPO to MPO is a good time to change the name.

Kim Sollien: If there are no other comments, we will keep the name the same.

      b.   Draft resolutions of support for MVP for Transportation
         • Non-Profit Organization paperwork signatories

Donna Gardino provided an overview of resolutions of support included in the packet.

Kim Sollien: the borough cannot sign resolution #2 because it is unable to create another organization. We need the cities and the tribes to finalize the paperwork and provide the necessary leadership.

Erich Schaal: Wasilla would like Kim to provide a presentation.

Kim Sollien: All the resolutions will be included in the packet to the Governor in May.

9.   Other Issues

    None

10.   Informational Items
       a.   Recent and upcoming website updates: MPA maps and comment tracker

Elise Blocker presented an overview of the MVPMPO.com website.

       b.   Timeline for the MPA boundary development

Kim Sollien presented an overview of the schedule. The comment period will follow the public meeting on March 29th and will remain open until April 28th. The comment map will be available on the website.

       c.   Letter re: implications for FTA funding programs based on 2020 Census changes

Kim Sollien received a letter from FTA to the Governor. The letter states that the Mat-Su Borough has been designated as an urbanized area and there will be changes to how funding for public transit flows into the urbanized area. A public entity will need to receive the funds and a nonprofit cannot directly receive the funds. They can be a subrecipient. The borough or the cities will need to work with the state to establish the policies and procedures to receive the funds to support public transit. R&M will assist with setting up the process.

11.   Steering Committee Comments

Todd Vanhove: I am retiring May 1st, 2023.

12.   Adjournment

*Motion to adjourn (**Hanson**), seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2:43pm.*

Next Scheduled Pre-MPO Steering Committee Meeting – **April 11th, 2023, from 2:00pm-3:30pm** to be held via Microsoft TEAMS Meeting