

# MVP for Transportation MPO Policy Board Meeting

## **Representatives:**

Bob Charles – Knik Tribe  
Edna DeVries, Mayor - MSB  
Glenda Ledford, Mayor – City of Wasilla  
Brian Winnestaffer - Chickaloon Native Village  
Mike Brown - MSB  
Sean Holland - ADOT&PF  
Steve Carrington – Mayor, City of Palmer



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Phone Conference ID: 959 952 654#

## **Minutes**

**Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**2:00-3:30 pm**

### **A. Meeting called to order**

The meeting was called to order with quorum at 2:00 pm.

### **B. Introduction of Members and Attendees**

#### **Members Present**

Steve Carrington, City of Palmer  
Sean Holland, Alaska DOT&PF  
Brian Winnestaffer, Chickaloon Native Village  
Glenda Ledford, City of Wasilla  
Bob Charles, Bob Charles  
Edna DeVries, MSB  
Mike Brown, MSB

#### **Members Absent**

None

#### **Guests Present**

Donna Gardino, Gardino Consulting Services  
Elise Blocker, RESPEC  
Megan Flory, RESPEC  
Josh Cross, Transportation Advisory Board Kinney Engineering  
Kim Sollien, FAST Planning  
Kaylan Wade, Chickaloon Native Village  
Clint Adler, Alaska DOT&PF  
Adam Bradway, Alaska DOT&PF  
Luke Bowland, Alaska DOT&PF  
Aiza Miguel, Traffic Engineer Kinney Engineering  
John Linnell, Alaska DOT&PF  
Ben White, Alaska DOT&PF  
Brian Lindamood, ARRC  
Erich Schaal, City of Wasilla  
Katherine Keith, Alaska DOT&PF  
Julie Jenkins, FHWA

### **C. Approval of the April 16th, 2024, Agenda – (Action Item)**

*Motion to approve the April 16, 2024, Agenda (Winnestaffer), seconded. Passed unanimously*

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## D. Approval of the March 19th, 2024, Minutes – (Action Item)

*Motion to approve the March 19th, 2024 Minutes (Charles), seconded. Passed unanimously.*

## E. Committee/Working Group Reports (Including the Staff Report)

### 1. Staff Report

Kim Sollien is now working at FAST Planning as the MVP MPO Coordinator. A written staff report is located in the meeting packet. The Welcome Packet is located on the MVPMPO.com website in the documents tab. MVP is following the Open Meetings Act regarding meeting notifications. Therefore, special meetings need to be advertised. The Policy Board can expect to make formal UPWP recommendations for fiscal years 24 and 25 in May 2024.

**Clint Adler:** The contract for the Seward Meridian project construction was awarded to Mass Excavation. They have a Notice to Proceed this summer with a completion date of fall 2026.

## F. Voices of the Visitors (Non-Action Items)

None

## G. Old Business

- a. Statewide Transportation Improvement Program Update – Deputy Commissioner Keith – Alaska DOT&PF

Alaska DOT&PF has launched digital tools that show the status of the STIP. The 2024 construction season has been uploaded into Alaska Project Exchange (APEX).

Alaska DOT&PF received partial approval of the STIP on March 27, 2024. Six projects were excluded, two of which were grant projects. Alaska DOT&PF is working through the Tier 2 findings that have much to do with MPO Coordination and documentation. An amendment is scheduled to go out in the next couple of weeks. Documentation for the 3C process is next to be resolved. The MPO TIP will likely have to wait for approval until the Alaska DOT&PF public process is completed. There is an opportunity to make project changes.

Kim Sollien provided a summary of the STIP 2024-2027 Revenue Forecast and what the options are for prioritizing proposed projects within the MVP boundary.

Donna Gardino: The funding allocations were removed from FFY 24 and 25. How are the suballocations programmed in the STIP that has been conditionally approved? Where did they go since they were removed from the ledger?

Katherine Keith presented an updated TIP ledger and presented a list of projects within the MVP boundary and within the Mat-Su Borough. The list of projects has not changed. The funding is being used for design starts and then construction funds will have to be programmed later. Projects are needed to obligate the funds.

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Adam Bradway: We need to clarify that the tables that were sent to the Technical Committee match and the amounts are the same.

Katherine Keith: There are a lot of projects within the Mat-Su Borough, they just have different funding sources.

Brian Lindamood: I just wanted to point out that we received the FTA apportionments last week. We can get that to you next week.

Donna Gardino: Back to Adam's point, looking at page 60 and 61 of the meeting packet, clarification is still needed on how programs are funded in the STIP. Are TAP and STBG funds programmed into the STIP?

Katherine Keith: Correct. We needed a mechanism to program the funds.

Kim Sollien: The TAP funds from the ledger are being focused on the Palmer-Fishhook bike path. The borough was awarded those funds before MVP was formed. There are other projects as well, that are all regionally significant but the Policy Board has not had a chance to discuss these projects. There are three million dollars that still need to be allocated. Are we supposed to be coming up with other projects to help with decision-making to spend down those funds? Also, I thought we had six months before the amendment was to be submitted but you mentioned earlier that we have a few weeks. If it's in two weeks, how are we able to participate?

Katherine Keith: I don't want to propose anything with planning funds within the MPO planning area. We want to acknowledge that this is your authority to spend these funds. This was the proposed solution we came up with in the meantime because these were scored projects that were on our list. We are submitting the amendment because the AMATS TIP is being held up. We still need to come up with a process for the Policy Board to score projects. Several amendments will be submitted.

Adam Bradway: We are asking for MVP to look at where the money is going and decide if they support it for the next two years. After that, MVP will have a TIP. If MVP decides that they want to remove a project from the list, Alaska DOT&PF will have to determine how the project will be funded.

Katherine Keith: The funding for Knik Goose Bay Road was removed and that will be corrected in the next amendment.

Donna Gardino: How can we buy MVP a little more time since we only have a couple of weeks? The August Redistribution doesn't have to be programmed in FFY 24, it can go into FFY 25 is that correct?

Katherine Keith: No, it has to be obligated technically by the end of August.

Donna Gardino: When does this August Redistribution have to be obligated?

Katherine Keith: This fiscal year. It has to be programmed by October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Adam Bradway: There are four projects, two TAP and two CTP, those are the most critical because we are trying to get those started. If we could get a

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consensus on those first, that would work. We can work out our other options later.

Donna Gardino: When we do get to FFY26, it's going to be a real challenge programming design starts because of the capacity of the Alaska DOT&PF.

**b. Technical Committee designation reminder**

There is still a seat open for Public Transit.

**c. DOT&PF Project Prioritization Overview – presented by Ben White, Alaska DOT&PF**

Ben White presented the Project Planning and Programming Review PowerPoint. The slides are located in the meeting packet.

**Bob Charles:** As a new MPO, we need to have a project prioritization plan codified to go through the checklist. So by the time it comes to the Policy Board, the projects have already gone through the process.

**d. Travel Demand Model and Household Travel Survey – presented by Adam Bradway, Alaska DOT&PF**

Adam Bradway provided a presentation on the Travel Demand Model and Household Travel Survey. The presentation slides are located in the meeting packet.

**H. New Business**

**a. Letter of Support for Prioritization Process Pilot Program – presented by Adam Bradway, Alaska DOT&PF (Action Item)**

*Motion to approve the Letter of Support for the Prioritization Process Pilot Program (Winnestaffer), seconded. Passed unanimously.*

**b. Mat-Su Travel Demand Model 2019 Base Model Proposal – presented by Adam Bradway, Alaska DOT&PF (Action Item)**

*Motion to approve the Travel Demand Model 2019 Base Model Proposal (Charles) seconded. Passed unanimously.*

**c. Non-Profit Officer Appointments (Action Item)**

*Motion to approve the Non-Profit Organization officers Bob Charles as secretary and treasurer and Brian Winnestaffer as Vice President, (DeVries), seconded. Passed unanimously.*

**d. Technical Committee Trucking Advocate appointment (Action Item)**

*Motion to approve Lawrence Smith as the Technical Committee Trucking Advocate (Winnestaffer), seconded. Passed unanimously.*

**I. Other Issues**

None

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### J. Informational Items

#### a. Transit Update – presented by Maija DiSalvo, Mat-Su Borough

Moved to the next meeting.

#### b. Articles of Incorporation / Non-Profit paperwork update – Kim Sollien, MPO Coordinator

The Articles of Incorporation correction is in progress.

### K. Policy Board Comments

No comments

### L. Adjournment

*Motion to adjourn the meeting (**Charles**), seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm.*

Next Scheduled MPO Policy Board Meeting – **May 21<sup>st</sup>**, to be held via Microsoft TEAMS Meeting