

December 10, 2024

To: Sean Holland, Director, DOT&PF Central Region

AMATS Policy Committee

Cc: Aaron Jongenelen, AMATS Coordinator

Hello,

Bike Anchorage supports the Anchorage projects nominated for the 2025 Highway Safety Improvement Program, as included on the agenda for the December 5, 2024 meeting of the AMATS Technical Advisory Committee. Our nonprofit works to make Anchorage a better place to get around by bike, and we also strongly support pedestrian safety improvements. We sincerely thank DOT&PF for working to improve pedestrian safety in Anchorage, including through the proposed HSIP projects.

For all the proposed projects, we support and appreciate the proposals to add crosswalks, shorten crossing distances, reduce vehicle speeds and lanes, repurpose surplus space for snow storage, and use leading pedestrian intervals. These proven safety countermeasures will save lives.

In particular, we strongly support these projects and urge DOT&PF to fund them for 2025:

- **25CR03: Mountain View Rd VRU Improvements:** This area has a high need for pedestrian facilities, and we appreciate DOT&PF working with AMATS to develop this project.
- 25CN01: Northern Lights Road Diet: Lois Drive to Lake Otis Parkway: This project is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate how repurposing surplus road space can expand transportation options, reduce the maintenance burden, and improve multimodal safety.
- 25CN02: Ingra and Gambell Street Road Diets: Similarly to 25CN01, the lane reduction would allow better use to be made of surplus space. It is also a cost-effective and quick way to improve safety and quality of life for Fairview residents, who have long suffered significant negative impacts of the highway running through their neighborhood.
- 25CN03 A St VRU Improvements: The Downtown Protected Bike Lane pilot project helped demonstrate that removing a lane on this corridor can be a successful way to repurpose surplus space, and filling the gaps in non-motorized facilities will help complete our transportation network. Reducing the speed limit will follow naturally from reducing the road width and adding a signal, and will further improve safety.

We urge the AMATS Policy Committee and DOT&PF Central Region to support all the nominated 2025 HSIP projects, with priority for those we have highlighted here.

Sincerely,

Alexa Dobson Executive Director, Bike Anchorage

with support from Bike Anchorage Advocacy Committee and Board of Directors