

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

**August 1, 2024
1:00 PM**

*This meeting is available for viewing at
[Transportation Planning / AMATS Meetings \(muni.org\)](https://www.muni.org/transportation-planning/amats-meetings)*

Technical Advisory Committee Members Present:

Name	Representing
Ben White	Alaska Dept. of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF), Anchorage Field Office
Kate Dueber	Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC)
Luke Bowland	DOT&PF
Melinda Kohlhaas	MOA/Project Management & Engineering Department (PM&E)
Taylor Keegan	MOA/Parks & Recreation Department
Jamie Acton	MOA/Public Transportation Department (PTD)
Adeyemi Alimi	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)
Craig Lyon	MOA/Planning Department
Steve Ribuffo	MOA/Don Young Port of Alaska

Also in attendance:

Name	Representing
Aaron Jongenelen	AMATS
Christine Schuette	AMATS
Mook Puttong	AMATS
Stephanie McGavin	HDR
Laurie Cummings	HDR
Sam Tyler	DOWL
Kelly Kirkpatrick	DOWL
Galen Jones	DOT&PF
Mary McRae	DOT&PF

**Policy Committee Member*

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

VICE CHAIR WHITE called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Brad Coy, MOA Traffic Engineering Department was absent. Kate Dueber represented the Alaska Railroad Corporation in Brian Lindamood's absence. A quorum was established.

2. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

AARON JONGENELEN encouraged public involvement in this meeting of the AMATS Technical Advisory Committee. He explained staff would first make their presentation, followed by any comments from Committee members, and the floor would then be open to public comment.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

MR. BOWLAND moved to amend to add Item 5.b., Letter of Support for DOT&PF Wildlife Crossing Pilot Program Study. MS. KOHLHAAS seconded.

MR. LYON pointed out that this is a business item and requested the required seven days' public notice.

MR. BOWLAND explained that FHWA (Federal Highway Administration) has a grant opportunity available and DOT&PF is looking to apply for this funding. Having a letter of support from AMATS would help with their nomination to compete on a national level. The due date is September, so if this cannot be included in these August meetings, they will not be able to include any support with the application.

MR. LYON explained that since it would be posted a week prior to the Policy Committee meeting, it would allow the public enough time to review it.

Hearing no objections, the agenda was approved, as amended.

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – June 6, 2024

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

Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved.

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

a. Vulnerable Road Users Information from Strategic Highway Safety Plan

MR. JONGENELEN noted that DOT&PF is working on a multi-year Road Safety Audit rotating program for the State of Alaska, and is requesting information from AMATS to provide a selected roadway segment or intersection within the AMATS boundary. DOT&PF is looking for locations that are focused on Vulnerable Road Users (VRU). This project will rotate between the DOT&PF regions and the MPOs. Central Region DOT&PF has requested that Debarr Road between Pine and Boniface be audited. Staff reviewed and recommended the following:

- Intersection: West 5th & 6th Avenues and A and C Streets
- Segment: Tudor Road - Lake Otis Parkway to Elmore Road

MARY MCRAE with DOT&PF assisted with the presentation and responding to questions.

There were no public comments.

MS. KOHLHAAS moved to recommend to the Policy Committee that we take the staff recommendations and include the intersection West 5th Avenue and 6th Avenue and A Street and C Street, and the segment Tudor Road – Lake Otis Parkway to Elmore Road be included in the multi-year road safety audit. MR. BOWLAND seconded.

Hearing no objections, the motion passed.

b. Letter of Support for DOT&PF Wildlife Crossing - Glenn Highway Wildlife Vehicle Mitigation Study

MR. BOWLAND noted that FHWA is accepting grant applications for the Wildlife Crossing Pilot Program. DOT&PF is looking to pursue a grant for the Glenn Highway between Anchorage and the Mat-Su Borough as a heavily traveled roadway with a number of wildlife versus vehicle collisions. They are hoping this can provide an opportunity to work with stakeholders, collect data, and identify optimal locations for wildlife crossings, which would later be incorporated into a construction project. This would be competing against other applications on a national level, so these letters of support really do help to hopefully bring in more funding into the State of Alaska.

There were no comments.

MR. LYON moved to send the letter to the Policy Committee. MS. KEEGAN seconded.

Hearing no objections, the motion passed.

Mr. Ribuffo joined the meeting.

6. PROJECT AND PLAN UPDATES @ 2:20PM

a. Hiland Road Interchange Project Update

KELLY KIRKPATRICK and SAM TYLER with DOWL presented the update. GALEN JONES with DOT&PF was also present.

There were no comments.

b. Q3 Obligation Report FFY24

MR. JONGENELEN presented the obligation report.

In response to Mr. Lyon's question if there is a guesstimate on a STIP adoption, VICE CHAIR WHITE noted that the public comment period closes August 5 and a revised version will be sent to FHWA next Friday. It would be a rapid turnaround on comments and responding to those comments, but would take more than four days. The intent is to fast track this to FHWA, who then has up to 30 days to review and provide feedback. It could be early to mid-September, including the holiday.

There were no public comments.

c. Q3 AMATS Project Update

MR. JONGENELEN presented the quarterly update.

There were no comments.

d. AMATS TIP Amendments #2 and #3 Updates

MR. JONGENELEN presented the TIP amendment updates.

There were no comments.

7. COMMITTEE COMMENTS - None

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

9. ADJOURNMENT

MR. LYON moved to adjourn. MR. ALIMI seconded.

Hearing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 1:41 p.m.