

**ANCHORAGE METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS  
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Mayor's Conference Room, 8th Floor  
632 W. 6th Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska**

**July 18, 2024  
1:00 PM**

*This meeting is available for viewing at  
[Transportation Planning / AMATS Meetings \(muni.org\)](http://Transportation Planning / AMATS Meetings (muni.org))*

**Policy Committee Members Present:**

Name	Representing
Sean Holland	Alaska Dept. of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF)
Graham Downey	Mayor's Special Assistant for Housing & Transportation
Jason Olds	Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation (ADEC), Air Quality
Daniel Volland	MOA/Municipal Assembly
Mark Littlefield**	MOA/Municipal Assembly

**Also in attendance:**

Name	Representing
Aaron Jongenelen	AMATS
Christine Schuette	AMATS
Mook Puttong	AMATS
Daniel Mckenna-Foster	MOA/Long-Range Planning Division
Kate Dueber	Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC)
Ben White*	DOT&PF
James Starzec	DOT&PF
Mark Eisenman	DOT&PF
Anna Bosin	DOT&PF
Julie Jenkins	Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
Joselyn Biloon	DOT&PF
Morgan Miller	HDR
Brandon Telford	MOA/Project Management & Engineering Dept. (PM&E)
Zakary Hartman	MOA/Traffic Engineering Dept.
Bart Rudolph	MOA/Public Transportation Dept. (PTD)
Chelsea Ward-Waller	PM&E
Jackson Fox	Fairbanks Area Surface Transportation (FAST)
Brett Nelson	DOT&PF
Shannon McCarthy	DOT&PF
Jamie Acton*	PTD
Adam Moser	DOT&PF
Marie Heidemann	FHWA
Judy Chapman	DOT&PF
Emily Weiser	AMATS Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)
Melissa Babb	
Sarah Riopelle	DOT&PF

*\*AMATS Technical Advisory Committee Member*

*\*\*Designated Assembly Alternate*

**1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

CHAIR HOLLAND called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Assembly Member Littlefield acted as designated alternate in the absence of Assembly Member Zaletel. Graham Downey, Special Administrative Assistant, represented Mayor LaFrance. A quorum was established.

**2. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT**

AARON JONGENELEN encouraged public involvement in this meeting of the AMATS Policy 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**

ASSEMBLY MEMBER VOLLAND moved to approve the agenda. ASSEMBLY MEMBER LITTLEFIELD seconded.

MR. DOWNEY moved to reorder the agenda to hear Item 6.a. before Item 5.a. MR. OLDS seconded.

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

**4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – June 20, 2024**

ASSEMBLY MEMBER VOLLAND moved to approve the minutes. ASSEMBLY MEMBER LITTLEFIELD seconded.

*Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved.*

**6. PROJECT AND PLAN UPDATES**

**a. Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Amendment #1 Update**

BEN WHITE presented the STIP update, noting that the deadline has been extended to August 5, 2024.

There were no comments.

**5. ACTION ITEMS**

**a. 2024-27 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Amendment #1 Comments**

MR. JONGENELEN presented STIP Amendment #1. He added that AMATS' staff was just notified on July 4 of the release, providing them with only a few days to review and provide comments. This did not allow enough time for the Technical Advisory Committee to review and provide comments prior to coming before this committee.

The committee discussed projects needing to be listed in the TIP prior to being added into the STIP, public involvement, air quality conformity, fiscal constraint, and Advanced Construct and Advanced Construct Conversions.

JAMES STARZEC assisted with responding to questions.

There were no public comments.

ASSEMBLY MEMBER VOLLAND moved to have AMATS forward the letter with the edits incorporated on to the commissioner. ASSEMBLY MEMBER LITTLEFIELD seconded.

*Hearing no objections, the motion passed.*

## 7. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

ASSEMBLY MEMBER VOLLAND felt that part of the important function and role of an MPO is to make sure there is a measure of local control when it comes to transportation decisions, infrastructure, and land use. He does not want to amend the TIP in a way just to make the state's priorities go at the potential expense of deprioritizing local priorities, but to make sure the TIP is the leading document.

CHAIR HOLLAND noted that TIP Amendment #2 pulled out all the projects that were on the NHS. There are a lot of important projects not only for the Anchorage community but also the Statewide Transportation System. The list does show some help for the Eagle River residents, which he felt were a little bit misrepresented by AMATS.

## 8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

MR. JONGENELEN noted that AMATS is down to two staff members and has a GIS position in addition to the three current planning vacancies.

## 9. Adjourn

ASSEMBLY MEMBER VOLLAND moved to adjourn. ASSEMBLY MEMBER LITTLEFIELD seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.