



TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes – November 7, 2018

City of Fairbanks, Council Chambers, 800 Cushman Street
Fairbanks, Alaska

1. Call to Order

Jackson Fox, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

2. Introduction of Members and Attendees

The following were present:

* **FMATS Policy Committee members**

** **FMATS Staff members`**

*****FMATS Technical Committee members**

Name	Representing
*** Jackson Fox, Chair	FMATS Executive Director
*** Andrew Ackerman	City of Fairbanks
*** Bob Pristash	City of Fairbanks
*** Bill Butler	City of North Pole
*** Steven Hoke	ADEC, Air Quality Division
*** Blake Adolfae	AK Railroad Corporation
*** Randi Bailey for Judy Chapman	DOT&PF Planning
*** Jake Allen for Sarah Schacher	DOT&PF Preconstruction
*** Eric Muehling	FNSB Planning Commission
*** Kellen Spillman	FNSB Community Planning
*** Michelle Felix for Glenn Miller	FNSB Transportation
*** John Weinberger	Fort Wainwright Planning
*** Tom Pascoe	UAF Facilities
*** Alan Hoza (absent)	Lynden Logistics
** Alicia Stevens, Vice Chair	FMATS Transportation Planner
** Deborah Todd	FMATS Administrative Assistant
** Don Galligan	FNSB Planning
Peter Stern	Citizen
Keith Hanneman	PDC Engineers
Mark Kimerer	Bettisworth North
Andrew Ooms (via telephone)	Kittelson & Associates
David van den Berg	BPAC

3. Approval of the November 7, 2018 Agenda

Motion: To approve the November 7, 2018 Technical Committee Agenda. (Pristash/Ackerman).

Discussion: No further discussion.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

4. Approval of the October 3, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Motion: To approve the October 3, 2018 Meeting Minutes. (Spillman/Bailey).

Discussion: No further discussion.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

5. Committee/Working Group Reports (including the Chair's Report)

Mr. Fox provided a brief Staff and Chair report summary of all the meetings, presentations, hearings, project open houses, training, teleconferences, and work group meetings that he or FMATS staff had attended, facilitated, or participated in.

6. Public Comment Period (Non-Action Items)

No public comment.

7. Old Business

a. FMATS Improvement Program Project Priorities (Action Item)

• ***Furthering the discussion on including Davis Road in the FFY20 Program***

Mr. Fox explained that the Policy Board had approved two of the three FMATS FFY19 and FFY20 FMATS Improvement Program priority tables recommended by the Technical Committee and had postponed decision on the third table due to concerns about additional water service crossings on Davis Road from the City's firefighting foam contamination issue and the newly published DEC contaminant thresholds. Mr. Fox stated that the City had since determined that there would be no more water service crossings required for the contamination issue on Davis Road which resolved the Policy Board's question of whether to keep the Davis Road Resurfacing project on Table 2 for FFY20.

Discussion followed about including additional project nominations from agencies that had not already submitted projects for FFY20 and the scoring process.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Motion: To request that the City of North Pole, UAF, and FNSB submit new nominations to the FMATS FFY20 Improvement Program as contingency projects prior to seeking approval from the Policy Board for the FFY20 Program Priorities. (Butler/Pristash).

Discussion: Mr. Spillman asked if the proposed new projects would have to be scored by the Technical Committee for recommendation of approval by the Policy Board.

Mr. Fox stated that Mr. Spillman was correct.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

8. New Business

a. Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Modification #6 (Action Item)

• ***To recommend to the Policy Board to approve the Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Modification #6.***

Mr. Fox explained the modifications that were made to the TIP and stated that the primary reason for the modification was to add additional construction funding to the FFY19 FMATS Sidewalk Improvement Program based on a new estimate provided by DOT. Mr. Fox explained that the other changes consisted of movement of design funds, a budget increase to the Coordinator's Office to cover additional expenses related to the reorganization effort, and banking requests that were received since the last Administrative Modification.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Motion: To recommend to the Policy Board to approve TIP Administrative Modification #6 as presented. (Pristash/Felix).

Discussion: No further discussion.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

- b. **BPAC Recommendation on City Sidewalk Winter Maintenance (Action Item)**
- ***A Resolution written by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee to aid the City of Fairbanks in prioritizing their snow removal on sidewalks.***

Mr. Fox explained that a Resolution had been made by the FMATS Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) to help the City of Fairbanks prioritize snow removal on City sidewalks following discussions with the City of Fairbanks Public Works Director about the lack of established sidewalk route priorities for snow removal. Mr. Fox stated that the Public Works Director had asked the BPAC for their recommendations on priorities for routes and the Resolution presented their thoughts on where priorities should be made. Mr. Fox stated that the Resolution had not been officially delivered to the City of Fairbanks, as they wanted to garner support from the Technical Committee and Policy Boards before sending it.

Mr. Ackerman stated that he would encourage the BPAC to create a map showing the priority routes.

Ms. Stevens stated that a map had already been created showing the routes and could be included as an attachment to the Resolution.

Mr. Muehling stated that at the Borough Planning Commission Meeting there had been strong support of maintenance of shoulders to be used as bike paths.

Public Comment: Peter Stern: Mr. Stern stated that he appreciated the effort that City Public Works put into working with BPAC to determine routes and priorities. Mr. Stern stated that this would need to be revisited in the future due to the new sidewalks on Wembley and when Gillam Way was completed because of safety to pedestrians, winter maintenance in that area would have to be a priority since a lot of kids would be using that sidewalk. Mr. Stern stated that he wanted to let them know that it was a big step forward in improving the transparency of how the City addressed snow removal.

David van den Berg, Chair of BPAC stated that his signature was at the bottom of the Resolution and he wanted to let them know the criteria that was used on the priority list. Mr. van den Berg stated that in downtown Fairbanks there were a lot of traffic generators and a large network of sidewalks and there was a lot of low income housing, civic, and municipal buildings so all users and needs converged on downtown which made it a priority.

Motion: To recommend to the Policy Board to forward the FMATS Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee's "Resolution of Support of Prioritized Sidewalk Winter Maintenance" to the City of Fairbanks. (Pristash/Muehling).

Discussion: Mr. Spillman stated that he agreed with Mr. Ackerman that they needed to have a map and would also like to see South Cushman, especially the Bjerremark Subdivision, listed as well as schools.

Amendment to the Motion: adding emphasis to South Cushman Street and Bjerremark neighborhood as well as routes that directly access schools. (Spillman/Pristash).

Discussion: Mr. Ackerman asked Mr. Spillman if he was saying that the South Cushman Street/Bjerremark area should be a first priority area.

Mr. Spillman stated that this was just a recommendation to the City Public Works Department to consider those routes when they were prioritizing their maintenance responsibilities.

Ms. Stevens stated that South Cushman Street and Bjerremark Subdivision were listed in the Lathrop Route and were listed as priority after the Downtown Core.

Vote on Amendment to the Motion: None opposed. Approved.

Amended Motion: To recommend to the Policy Board to forward the FMATS Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee's "Resolution of Support of Prioritized Sidewalk Winter Maintenance" to the City of Fairbanks adding emphasis to South Cushman Street and Bjerremark neighborhood as well as routes that directly access schools.

Vote on Amended Motion: Eleven in favor. One opposed. (Ackerman).

c. Election of Chair and Vice Chair (Action Item)

Mr. Fox explained that according to the Bylaws, the Technical Committee elected a Chair and Vice Chair annually no later than the end of November. Mr. Fox stated that currently he was the Chair and Alicia Stevens was the Vice Chair, so the Technical Committee could choose to keep them in those positions or select other members to serve. Mr. Fox also reminded them that the Chair and Vice Chair were non-voting members of the Technical Committee.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Motion: To nominate Jackson Fox as Chair of the Technical Committee. (Ackerman/Muehling).

Discussion: Mr. Hoke stated that Mr. Fox did an excellent job as Chair and was impartial and presented information in a way that worked well with the Committee. Mr. Hoke stated that he remembered that the Policy Board had some concerns about electing staff members as Chair and Vice Chair and asked if Mr. Fox remembered exactly what the issue had been.

Mr. Fox stated that he thought that he did not remember exactly but thought that it had to do with members lack of participation.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

Motion: To nominate Alicia Stevens as Vice Chair of the Technical Committee. (Pristash/Felix).

Discussion: No further discussion.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

9. Other Issues

No other issues.

10. Informational Items

a. Fairbanks Air Quality Update

Steven Hoke of DEC provided an update of the transition of air quality responsibilities from the Fairbanks North Star Borough to the DEC.

b. Old Rich Hwy Intersection Improvements Open House-November 7, 2018

Mr. Fox explained that there would be an Old Richardson Highway Intersection Improvements Open House on November 7, 2018 from 4:30-7:00 p.m. at the North Pole Middle School Cafeteria on 300 East 8th Avenue.

c. Freight Mobility Plan Open House – October 13, 2018

Mr. Fox explained that the Draft Freight Mobility Plan Open House would take place on Tuesday, November 13 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Fairbanks Train Depot on 1031 Alaska Railroad Depot Road.

d. 10.17.18 Policy Board Action Items

Mr. Fox stated that the Policy Board Action Items were included in the meeting packet.

e. Obligations and Offsets

Mr. Fox stated that there had been no obligations to date for FY19 and explained the current project FY19 offsets.

11. Technical Committee Comments

- Ms. Bailey thanked the agencies for getting their FFY19 Improvement Program match checks and maintenance agreements signed with DOT in a timely manner.
- Mr. Muehling thanked the Chair and Co-Chair for continuing their service and stated that they did a great job.
- Mr. Spillman asked if he could be added to the agenda for the next meeting to update them about the Salcha/Badger Subarea Plan. Mr. Spillman stated that it included the area of Badger Road all the way to Salcha and was funded by the Department of Defense for the expected population increase associated with the F-35s. Mr. Spillman stated that the Lathrop Street Extension Project was to extend Lathrop Street as the main entrance into Tanana Lakes and the Borough had \$2M to expand that road network and intended to submit another \$2M grant application to the Federal Land Access Program that opened in January to further expand that network. Mr. Spillman stated that the user numbers for Tanana Lakes were through the roof and beyond any projections they had made, and they were getting closer and closer to a long-term master plan for that facility.
- Mr. Adolfae reiterated Mr. Muehling's comments about the Chair and Co-Chair and stated that he would be in town attending the Freight Mobility Plan Meeting.
- Mr. Hoke thanked Mr. Fox and Ms. Stevens for their great work and looked forward to spending another year with them.

12. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: (Ackerman/Felix). The meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m. The next Technical Committee meeting is Wednesday, December 5, 2018, Noon, City Hall, City Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, AK.

Approved: _____


Jackson Fox, Chair

FMATS Technical Committee

Date: _____

12/5/2018