



**FMATS Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**FMATS Conference Room, 800 Cushman Street**  
**December 13, 2018 • 5:00-7:00PM**

**1. Call to Order**

Mr. van den Berg, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**2. Introduction of Members and Attendees**

\*David van den Berg, Chair

\*John Stowman

\*Nathan Belz

\*Mindy O'Neill

\*Peter Stern

\*Bud Kuenzli

\*\*Alicia Stevens

Ivet Hall

Jim Richardson

Andrew Ackerman

Bob Pristash

**\*BPAC Representative**

**\*\*FMATS Staff**

**3. Approval of the December 13, 2018 Agenda**

**Motion:** To approve the December 13, 2018 Agenda. (O'Neill/Stern).

**Discussion:** No further discussion.

**Vote on Motion:** None opposed. Approved by consent.

**4. Approval of the October 11, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

**Motion:** To approve the October 11, 2018 Meeting Minutes. (O'Neill/Stowman).

**Discussion:** No further discussion.

**Vote on Motion:** None opposed. Approved by consent.

**5. Staff /Working Group/Chair Reports**

**Staff Report:** Ms. Stevens provided a summary of all the FMATS activities that she or other staff had attended or participated in since the last BPAC meeting.

**Chair Report:** Mr. van den Berg provided a brief report about his BPAC activities since the last meeting specifically the Resolution that was passed to help set priorities for City sidewalk snow removal. Mr. van den Berg stated that he had a meeting scheduled with Jeff Jacobson of Public Works to discuss the priorities and how they coincided with set snow removal routes.

**Working Group Reports:**

**Bike and Ped Count Program:** Nathan Belz explained that he had been trying to acquire additional automated counters similar to the ones that FMATS had already purchased to put in alternate locations and was waiting to hear back about the grants for those as they were pursuing an equipment grant from the University and the Research Center that required match funds.

**Bike Benefits Program:** Mr. Belz stated that a student who graduated UAF last May and worked at CRW in Anchorage was in the process of developing a list of businesses who would participate in the Bike Benefits Program.

**Travel Diary Project-**Mr. Belz stated that the project was dead in the water because it was not well received during the proposal process and did not get funded. Mr. Belz explained that there were currently two other bike-related projects in the works. The first was a study of safety augmented bike illumination regarding the policies and laws for lights a bicycle was supposed to have, and the second study was developing an instrumented bicycle trailer that would measure pavement and ride roughness on dedicated bike facilities.

## 6. Public Comment Period

Ms. Stevens read an email that was received from Glenn Miller, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Transportation Director.

"To the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee  
December 13, 2018

It was my intention to attend the meeting tonight but the borough assembly meeting agenda conflicts with the BPAC meeting.

I want to express thanks to the City PW department for their operation of the sidewalk clearing equipment so far this winter. Its use has been noticeable and improved access to pedestrian traffic. Thank you for your efforts.

I also noticed on a number of streets, graders were used to remove hard pack which resulted in depositing the snow piles alongside the edge of these streets until snow removal can be performed. Knowing snow removal resources within the City are limited and therefore takes significant time to address all the roads within the City, I would like to suggest snow plowing/hard pack removal **always** be coupled with snow **pick up and removal**. If it can't be removed in conjunction plowing, it shouldn't be performed.

Understanding this would mean actually plowing roads would have to wait longer than currently performed, I believe it would still result in better overall access to pedestrians and bicycles plus would not significantly degrade road conditions with exception to the most severe snow fall events.

Utilizing snow plowing and removal resources in this manner would result in very few roadside berms accumulating while still maintaining acceptable driving conditions on most roads which the City is responsible for. I also understand there are exceptions to high traffic areas that initial plowing must be performed quickly without the removal process. The goal should be to always limit the amount of snow berms alongside roads as they significantly affect the ability for pedestrians and bicycles to safely access various services.

Thank you, Glenn Miller, FNSB Transportation Director

Ms. Stevens explained that she had received permission from Mr. Miller and forwarded the email to Mayor Matherly.

Mr. Richardson commented that at one time the City had a policy that they would not plow unless they could remove the berm but if they were going to have a length of time between plowing of road, the roads without sidewalks needed to be level to some degree for the safety of pedestrians.

Mr. Ackerman stated that he spoke to Mr. Miller at the Technical Committee meeting and his main concern had been snow berms at transit stops, so the City might want to focus on those as a priority for snow removal.

**7. Old Business****a. Work Plan Overview**

**MTP Update:** Ms. Stevens explained that the MTP was slated for approval by the Policy Board at their December 19, 2018 meeting and once that long-range plan was approved they would be creating a 2019-2023 TIP using those projects.

**Maintenance Improvements-**Ms. Stevens explained that the BPAC Resolution regarding prioritization of City sidewalk snow removal had been submitted to the City of Fairbanks.

**Public Outreach:** Ms. Stevens explained that she had met with Bud Kuenzli and Mindy O'Neall met about the PSAs and had a brainstorming session about what they wanted them to look like.

**Wheel/Walk About** -Ms. Stevens stated that the Walk/Wheel About would be scheduled for the spring.

**Grant Possibilities:** Ms. Stevens explained that the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant project nominations were due at the end of January 2019 and there was \$9M in available grant funding. Ms. Stevens stated that FMATS could not apply but could help potential applicants with their applications.

**b. PSA Video**

Mr. Kuenzli explained that he had contacted KUAC but did not know whether it would work for the video stuff at KUAC since it was expensive. Mr. Kuenzli stated that he had also spoken with Channel 11 and was waiting to hear from them. Mr. Kuenzli stated that at the very least they could get radio or social media for the PSAs.

**Bike/Ped Counts:** Andrew Ackerman demonstrated how to use the bike/pedestrian counts from the counters that were acquired with a TAP Grant to manipulate data and create various types of reports.

**c. 2019 Membership**

Not discussed.

**8. New Business****a. Chena River Walk Stage III Update**

Bob Pristash, City Engineer-City of Fairbanks and Ivet Hall, Project Engineer-DOT&PF provided an update of the Chena River Walk Stage III project.

**b. FAIRBANKS Ridership Data**

Mr. Stowman stated that the final number for 2018 was 2,555 rentals by 1,678 users and he pointed out that 1/2 to 2/3 were people who downloaded the app.

**c. February Meeting Date (Action Item)**

Ms. Stevens stated that the next meeting was scheduled for February 14, 2019 which was Valentine Day, so they might want to change the date.

Ms. O'Neall suggested changing the meeting date to Thursday, February 21, 2019.

There was a discussion about the location of the next meeting due to the FMATS office departure from the City of Fairbanks on December 31, 2018.

It was decided by the group that the next BPAC meeting would be held on Thursday, February 21, 2019.

**9. Other Issues**

No other issues.

**10. Committee Member Comments**

- Ms. O'Neill stated that the Planning Commission heard several bike and pedestrian comments at their last meeting and clearing of transportation corridors had become a Borough priority. Ms. O'Neill also informed the group that there were two Planning Commission seats available and encouraged them to apply.
- Mr. Stern stated that he would like to have a discussion at the next meeting about nominating a project to repave the bike path from University Avenue to the Johansen all the way to the New Steese as the asphalt on the path was in very poor condition and he could provide photos if necessary.
- Mr. Belz stated that he wanted to reiterate that he was completely opposed to the idea of jutting paths out to meet the edge of the roadway shoulder and felt that they should not be encouraging that type of design.

**11. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. The next BPAC meeting is Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 5 p.m. at a location yet to be determined.

Approved:  for  
David van den Berg, Chair  
Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Date: 2/21/2019