



## POLICY BOARD MEETING

### Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2021 • 12:00 – 2:00 P.M.

FAST Planning Office, 100 Cushman Street, Suite 205, Fairbanks, AK

Web Conference at: <https://fastplanning.us/keepup/zoom/>

Zoom Meeting Phone Number: 1 (253) 215-8782 Meeting ID: 825 1843 6189

#### 1. Call to Order

Mr. Anderson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

#### 2. Introduction of Members and Attendees

Attendee	Representative Organization
*Ryan Anderson, Chair	Director, DOT&PF Northern Region
*Jim Matherly, Vice Chair	Mayor, City of Fairbanks
*Bryce Ward	Mayor, Fairbanks North Star Borough
*Michael Welch	Mayor, City of North Pole
*Aaron Gibson	Fairbanks City Council
*Alice Edwards	Director, DEC Air Quality
*Frank Tomaszewski (absent)	FNSB Assembly
**Jackson Fox	FAST Planning
**Olivia Lunsford	FAST Planning
**Deborah Todd	FAST Planning
**Don Galligan	FNSB Community Planning
+Steven Hoke	DEC Air Quality
+Judy Chapman	DOT&PF Planning
+Robert Pristash	City of Fairbanks
Michael Lukshin	FHWA
John Netardus	DOT&PF

*\*FAST Planning Policy Board Members, \*\* FAST Planning Staff Members, + FAST Planning Technical Committee Members, • Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) Members*

#### 3. Approval of the June 16, 2021 Agenda

**Motion:** To approve the June 16, 2021 Agenda as presented. (Welch/Edwards).

**Discussion:** No discussion.

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

#### 4. Approval of the May 19, 2021 Meeting Minutes

**Motion:** To approve the May 19 Meeting Minutes as recorded. (Welch/Edwards).

**Discussion:** No discussion.

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

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

**a. Staff Report and Technical Committee Action Items**

Mr. Fox noted the following updates:

- Mr. Fox attended and provided testimony at the Alaska Railroad Corporation Board Real Estate Committee Meeting regarding the Chena Riverwalk Project. A letter was sent in April 2021 providing them options for conveyance of the long-term land interest, the reduction of the project footprint, and the resurfacing of the existing path in Chena Landings Loop Subdivision. Based on what he heard at that Board meeting, Mr. Fox believed that he would receive a conditional approval letter, the Railroad wanted to be involved with the path design, making sure that the City of Fairbanks maintained ownership of the footbridge across the river, and appeared to be interested in a long-term prepaid land lease for the land.
- The Work Group of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee met twice to make progress on identifying all the path and sidewalk locations, scoring them, and putting together a map to recommend priority maintenance for those facilities. Olivia Lunsford will put those into GIS and hoped to make it available for committee review in July.
- The Seasonal Mobility Task Force met June 14, 2021 to update the Seasonal Mobility Recommendations Report and made recommendations for updates to performance guidelines and implementation measures.
- The FAST Improvement Program Subcommittee met June 14, 2021 to look at all the road locations that were nominated for 2021-22. The priority list was then refined and will be on the agenda as an Action Item at both the July Technical and Policy Board meetings.
- Mr. Fox is on the Stakeholder Groups for both the Statewide Freight Plan and Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan and sent an email about the Virtual Public Open House and online survey effort that was underway. Mr. Fox is attending all the working group meetings for both of those planning efforts.
- FAST Planning held the Annual Bike/Pedestrian Count Program and there were volunteers at 27 of the 36 intersections on the list. It was a successful event. FAST Planning will be adding the data to the master spreadsheet and graphing those results to present them at the July Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting.
- Received the final revised Non-Motorized Plan that can now be viewed on the FAST Planning website.
- The Cowles Street Reconstruction project was included as an earmark in the U.S. House's Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill. The House reduced the list of eligible projects for that earmark down to three projects with the Cowles Street project making the final cut. Later this summer that Bill will be sent to the Senate for approval.
- Mr. Fox prepared Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Administrative Modification #4 that is on the Agenda as an Action Item and a motion was made and passed unanimously by the Technical Committee recommending approval by the Policy Board.

**6. Public Comment Period (Non-Action Items)**

No public comment.

## 7. Old Business

### a. Fairbanks Road/Rail Crossing Reduction/Realignment Plan-Website Tour

Mr. Fox explained that the website was live for the Fairbanks Road/Rail Crossing Reduction/Realignment Plan and, as directed by the Policy Board, the Plan was made available for a 45-day public comment period closing July 9, 2021. Mr. Fox explained that the Plan website was created and was receiving public comment. Mr. Fox explained that the Plan could be downloaded in sections and there was a tab on the top right listing all the crossing locations included in the Plan that could be clicked on to show what the issues and proposed improvements were for a specific crossing. Mr. Fox explained that at the bottom of the webpage there was a place to provide written comments and submit them and the Policy Board and Technical Committee would receive a preview of the comments at the July meeting. Mr. Fox explained that the Plan was promoted through various social media posts, an article was in the newspaper, hard copies of the Plan available at the FAST Planning Office, and presentations would be provided to the two City Councils if desired.

## 8. New Business

### a. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Administrative Modification #4 (Action Item)

- ***Review of project funding adjustments and consideration of approval of TIP Administrative Modification #4***

Mr. Fox explained the changes that were made to the TIP and summarized on Page 26 of the meeting packet.

**Public Comment:** No comment.

**Motion:** To approve Transportation Improvement Program Administrative Modification #4. (Ward/Welch).

**Discussion:** No discussion.

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

## 9. Other Issues

No other issues.

## 10. Informational Items

### a. Obligations and Offsets

Mr. Fox explained the obligations and offsets included in the meeting packet.

## 11. Policy Board Member Comments

- Ms. Edwards commented that she hoped they all really enjoyed their 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday.
- Mayor Welch commented that North Pole was celebrating the 5<sup>th</sup> of July and reopening the Grange from 12-7 pm with music, food, and everyone was invited to come.
- Mayor Matherly commented that the Solstice Midnight Sun Fair Downtown was the weekend of June 18-20, 2021. Mayor Matherly commented that he wanted to send his heart out to everyone who was fighting the fires and we already had some starting out there and we had the hot weather, so everyone needed to be careful of that.
- Mr. Anderson wished everyone a happy Solstice and thanked them for putting up with all the traffic around 3rd Street and that side of town.

Mr. Anderson commented that they were getting that project done and appreciated everyone's patience with that.

**12. Adjournment**

**Motion to Adjourn.** (Welch/Ward). The meeting adjourned at 12:49 p.m. The next Policy Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 21, 2021.

Approved:   
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Ryan Anderson, Chair  
FAST Planning Policy Board

Date: 7/22/21