



TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes – August 4, 2021

Zoom Meeting URL: <https://fastplanning.us/keepup/zoom/>

Telephone Number: 1 (253) 215-8782, Meeting ID: 869 5573 8182

1. Call to Order

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

2. Introduction of Members and Attendee

The following were present:

Name	Representing
* Jackson Fox, Chair	FAST Planning
* Olivia Lunsford, Vice Chair	FAST Planning
** Andrew Ackerman	City of Fairbanks Engineering
** Bob Pristash	City of Fairbanks Engineering
** Bill Butler	City of North Pole
** Steven Hoke	ADEC Air Quality
** Kate Dueber	Alaska Railroad Corporation
** Judy Chapman	DOT&PF Planning
** Sarah Schacher	DOT&PF Preconstruction
** Jason McComas-Roe	FNSB Planning Commission
** Kellen Spillman	FNSB Community Planning
** Michelle Denton	FNSB Transportation
** John Weinberger (absent)	Fort Wainwright Planning
** Justin Burgess (absent)	AES Transportation
** Jakob Theurich	UAF
Randi Bailey	DOT&PF
Ivet Hall	DOT&PF
Adam Moser	DOT&PF
John Netardus	DOT&PF
Brian Lindamood	Alaska Railroad
Phoebe Bredlie	Kinney Engineering
Peter Stern	BPAC
Michael Lukshin	FHWA
* FAST PLANNING Staff members	
** FAST PLANNING Technical Committee members	

3. Approval of the August 4, 2021 Agenda

Motion: To approve the August 4, 2021 Technical Committee Agenda.
(Denton/Schacher).

Discussion: No discussion.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

4. Approval of the July 7, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Motion: To approve the July 7, 2021 Meeting Minutes. (Denton/Chapman).

Discussion: No discussion.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

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

Mr. Fox explained the motions made at the July 21, 2021 Policy Board Meeting regarding the Road/Rail Plan and the 2022 FAST Improvement Program.

6. Public Comment Period (Non-Action Items)

No public comment.

7. Old Business

a. Fairbanks Road/Rail Crossing Reduction/Realignment Plan (Action Item)

• Review of Comments Response and Recommendation for Adoption

Mr. Fox explained that the Fairbanks Road/Rail Crossing Reduction/Realignment Plan public comments were reviewed and incorporated into the document and there were three changes made to the Plan and those were shown in the meeting packet.

Motion: To recommend approval of the Fairbanks Road/Rail Crossing Reduction/Realignment Plan to the Policy Board with the three changes as noted in the meeting packet. (Spillman/Denton).

Discussion: No discussion.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

b. Chena River Walk, Stage III

• Review and Discussion of ARRC Response Letter to FAST Planning

Mr. Fox explained that a response letter was received from the Alaska Railroad for the FAST Planning letter of April 21, 2021. Mr. Fox explained that it was a conditional approval letter with the following conditions: The Railroad would divest themselves from the maintenance responsibility for the existing path from the footbridge to Chena Landings Loop Road and the new permit would also have the stipulation that the City of Fairbanks would take over maintenance of the footbridge across the Chena River as well as permanent ownership of that bridge. The Railroad would be asking for a one-time lump payment that would be based on fair market value of that property. FAST Planning has interest in repaving the path, but the City of Fairbanks would have to sign a maintenance agreement for that path.

Mr. Pristash explained that he had made a presentation to the Finance Committee, made up of members of the City Council, so they were aware of the maintenance agreement that would be necessary with the permit.

Ms. Schacher stated that she thought it was positive that they had received a response from the Railroad. Ms. Schacher stated that the letter spoke to a negotiation because the Railroad was weighing out the terms and they did not have the authority to appraise or acquire right-of-way yet so they would have to put together a request for a Phase 3 amount because they would have to amend

the TIP. Ms. Schacher stated that they could work all the background details but could not approach the Railroad with an offer. Ms. Schacher stated that they needed an exclusive use permit so they may still have some terms to work out. Ms. Schacher stated that they may have indemnification issues and were working that out with their Attorney General. Ms. Schacher stated that they needed to certify right of way by March or April to be ready for construction in 2022 but thought they should go ahead and go for it but wanted them to be aware that it would probably not be ready for construction until 2023.

8. New Business

a. Preview of Draft Priority Route Map for Non-Motorized Facilities

Mr. Fox explained that on July 29, 2021, the Draft Priority Route Map for Non-Motorized Facilities created by Olivia Lunsford of FAST Planning was approved by a motion of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee and presented to the Seasonal Mobility Task Force on August 2, 2021. Mr. Fox displayed the map and explained the various layers and features included on it. Mr. Fox stated that as a second map would be created to show all the paths that were not being maintained during the winter months.

b. Date Change for October Technical Committee Meeting (Action Item)

- **Consideration of changing date from 10/6/21 to 9/29, 9/30, or 10/1/21**

Mr. Fox explained that he and Olivia Lunsford would be attending the Association of MPOs Conference the first week of October and would not be able to facilitate the October 6th Technical Committee Meeting, so a survey was sent out to the members with possible dates of 9/29/21, 9/30/21, and 10/1/21, and September 29, 2021 from 12-2 p.m. was the date and time that received 100% of the votes.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Motion: To change the October Technical Committee meeting date to September 29 from 12 to 2 p.m. (Denton/Ackerman).

Discussion: No discussion.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

c. Revision of Transportation Improvement Program Policy (Action Item)

- **Consideration of Consolidating FAST Improvement, Sidewalk, Intersection, and Safety/Efficiency Programs into Single Program**

Mr. Fox explained that a request was received from DOT to combine the four FAST Improvement Programs into one program in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Public Comment: No public comment.

Motion: To recommend to the Policy Board to adopt the Transportation Improvement Program Policy changes as shown on Page 101. (Chapman/Denton).

Discussion: Mr. Spillman offered an Amendment to the Motion.

Amendment to the Motion: To add the language "It is the intended goal of the FAST Planning Improvement Program to aim to allocate 80% of the funding to

roadway projects and 20% of the funding to non-motorized projects, with the understanding that this could vary from year to year.” (Spillman/Denton).

Discussion: Mr. Spillman stated that the intent of the language was to maintain the same split that was originally intended for the funding allocations.

Mr. Pristash asked if the intent was that the language at the top of the page remained in addition to the amendment.

Mr. Spillman stated that Mr. Pristash was correct and that was his intent.

Mr. Ackerman stated that the language seemed redundant, but he was not opposed.

Ms. Chapman stated that she was going to say something similar to what Mr. Ackerman said and would prefer not to have a percentage in there but just to refer to the program as multi-modal.

Vote on Amendment to the Motion: Seven in favor. Four opposed. (Chapman, Dueber, Hoke, McComas-Roe). Approved.

Amended Motion: To recommend to the Policy Board to adopt the Transportation Improvement Program Policy changes as shown on Page 101 and add the language “It is the intended goal of the FAST Planning Improvement Program to aim to allocate 80% of the funding to roadway projects and 20% of the funding to non-motorized projects, with the understanding that this could vary from year to year.”

Vote on Motion as Amended: None opposed. Approved.

d. **Proposed Crosswalk on College Road at Farmer’s Market (Action Item)**

- **Consideration of Adding Crosswalk into FAST Improvement Program as an FFY2022 Contingency Project**

Mr. Fox explained that this was a request from DOT for a proposed crosswalk on College Road at the Farmer’s Market. Mr. Fox explained that it was within the Long-Range Transportation Plan, the current Non-Motorized Transportation Plan, had been moved up to a short-term priority level, and was a low-cost project with a rectangular flashing beacon. Mr. Fox explained that it could be added as a contingency project in the 2022 or 2023 FAST Improvement Program.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Motion: To recommend to the Policy Board to add the College Road at Farmer’s Market crosswalk as a contingency project in 2022 to the FAST Improvement Program. (Schacher/Denton).

Discussion: Mr. Spillman stated that he thought it was a great idea and we should absolutely do it. Mr. Spillman stated that College Road was in drastic need of mid-block crossing and was glad that the location met pedestrian warrants to have one and would like to see if they could get the identified area at Beaver Sports warranted for a crosswalk as well.

Mr. Netardus stated if this project was added as a contingency as part of the 2022 Program, there was a chance that it would not make it into that program, but they could reprioritize that at a future meeting.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

e. FAST Planning FFY22 Office Budget (Action Item)

Mr. Fox explained that annually FAST Planning came up with a new estimate for operation of FAST Planning office starting on October 1, 2021. Mr. Fox presented a comparison by account for each of the past four years and proposed a budget increase of 3% for adjustment to annual increases to advertising, insurances, IT services, telephone, training, and travel.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Motion: To approve the FAST Planning FFY2022 Office Budget. (Spillman/Chapman).

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. Technical Committee Member Comments

- No committee member comments.

12. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: (Ackerman/Denton). The meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m. The next Technical Committee meeting is Wednesday, September 1, 2021.

Approved:  Date: 9/1/2021
Jackson Fox, Chair
FAST Planning Technical Committee