



TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes – September 29, 2021
Zoom Meeting URL: <https://fastplanning.us/keepup/zoom/>
Telephone Number: 1 (253) 215-8782, Meeting ID: 837 6521 0756

1. Call to Order

Jackson Fox, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:00 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
**Bill Rogers for 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
**John Netardus for Sarah Schacher	DOT&PF Preconstruction
**Jason McComas-Roe	FNSB Planning Commission
**Kellen Spillman	FNSB Community Planning
**Michelle Denton	FNSB Transportation
**John Weinberger	Fort Wainwright Planning
**Justin Burgess	AES Transportation
**Jakob Theurich	UAF
*Deborah Todd	FAST Planning
*Don Galligan	FNSB Community Planning
*Randi Bailey	DOT&PF Planning
Ivet Hall	DOT&PF Preconstruction
Adam Moser	DOT&PF HQ
Peter Stern	BPAC
Brett Johnson	Fort Wainwright
Russell Reynolds	Citizen
Chad	Citizen

* FAST PLANNING Staff members

** FAST PLANNING Technical Committee members

3. Approval of the September 29, 2021 Agenda

Motion: To approve the September 29, 2021 Technical Committee Agenda.
(Pristash/Chapman)

Discussion: No discussion.

Vote on Motion: None opposed, Approved.

4. Approval of the September 1, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Motion: To approve the September 1, 2021 Meeting Minutes. (Chapman/Pristash).

Discussion: No discussion.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

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

Mr. Fox noted the following updates:

- The Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) passed three motions at their August 26, 2021 meeting. They will meet again on September 30, 2021.
- The BPAC made a motion related to an accident between a bicycle and a motorcycle on the non-motorized path along the Johansen Expressway. Chief Ron Dupee of the Fairbanks Police Department will attend the September 30 BPAC meeting to do a Q & A about enforcement and safety issues in conflicts between motorized vehicles and pedestrians and bicyclists on non-motorized paths.
- The BPAC nominated two new projects for resurfacing to the FAST Planning Improvement Program; one is the path in North Pole along 8th Avenue and the other location is just off Danby Street near the Anne Wein Elementary and Randy Smith Middle School. The two nominations will be added for future year funding.
- The September 15th Policy Board meeting was not held due to lack of quorum related to the election debates being held at the same time and the transition of Ryan Anderson from Northern Region Director to Commissioner of DOT&PF.

6. Public Comment Period (Non-Action Items)

No public comment.

7. Old Business

No old business.

8. New Business

a. 6th Avenue & Lacey Street Intersection Storm Drain Improvements (Action Item)

- ***Consideration of Supplementing "Northern Region ADA Improvements: Fairbanks-6th Avenue Project" with \$115K to Address Drainage Deficiencies***

Mr. Fox explained that the City of Fairbanks and DOT&PF were requesting \$115,000 to upgrade drainage deficiencies causing flooding during rain events located at the intersection of 6th Avenue and Lacey Street. Mr. Fox explained the cost breakdown was approximately \$35,000 for the design and \$80,000 for construction. Mr. Fox introduced Bob Pristash, City of Fairbanks, who explained the reason for the funding request was to address the drainage deficiencies during heavy rain events and coordinated with the Lacey Street project. Ivet Hall of DOT&PF added that funding for the sidewalk replacement on the north side of the project would be improved with money from the STIP. Mr. Fox explained that the money from FAST Planning would come from AC reductions and other unobligated funds.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Motion: To recommend to the Policy Board to supplement the “Northern Region ADA Improvements: Fairbanks – 6th Avenue” project with \$115,000 to address intersection drainage deficiencies. (Denton/Pristash).

Discussion: Mr. Pristash explained that doing this now would alleviate the need for a separate project later and seemed like an efficient way to get this extra work done. Mr. Pristash explained that they would learn a lot about the drainage system in that area, so he thought it was a good, efficient way to move forward with the Lacey Street design.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

b. **Old Richardson Highway Intersection Improvements (Action Item)**

• **Consideration of Increasing Utilities Phase Budget from \$300K to \$600K**

Mr. Fox explained that they had already approved \$300,000 for the Utility Phase of this project based on the DOT estimate and then more accurate estimates were provided by the Railroad that were more than previously anticipated which caused an increase, so DOT was requesting additional funding and introduced John Netardus of DOT to explain further.

Mr. Netardus, DOT&PF Project Manager, explained that the Railroad took a critical look at what needed to be done on this project with moving some of the signal cabinets and crossing pads, and it was determined that upgrades were needed to some of the Railroad’s systems to make them compliant with all the current safety standards. Mr. Netardus explained that the upgrades included pathways at East 5th Avenue and 8th Avenue going from the Old Richardson Highway to Santa Claus Lane and the Old Richardson Highway down 8th Avenue connecting all the pedestrian pathways to make it safer for pedestrian, vehicular, and railroad traffic. Mr. Netardus explained that DOT was requesting a total of \$600,000 for the upgrades to this project.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Motion: To recommend to the Policy Board to increase the Utilities Phase budget of the “Old Richardson Highway Intersection Improvements” project from \$300,000 to \$600,000. (Netardus/Chapman).

Discussion: No further discussion.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

c. **Technical Committee Meeting Format (Action Item)**

• **Consideration of Virtual/Hybrid/In-Person Options for Future Meetings**

Mr. Fox explained that this had been added to the agenda based comments during the September 1st Technical Committee meeting regarding changing the meeting format from virtual to in-person or a hybrid of the two. Mr. Fox explained that they had tried that with the BPAC meetings. Mr. Fox explained that FAST Planning would like to return to in-person meetings at some point in the future but given the current spike in COVID-19 cases in Alaska he thought it would be prudent to continue the meetings via Zoom until those numbers improved. Mr. Fox explained that if no motion was made by the Technical Committee, FAST

Planning would continue to monitor the number of COVID cases and proceed accordingly.

Public Comment: No public comments.

Motion: No motion was made.

d. **2022 FAST Planning Meeting Dates Calendar (Action Item)**

Mr. Fox explained that the draft FAST Planning meeting dates were prepared for 2022 and asked if they had any questions or revisions.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Motion: To recommend to the Policy Board to approve the Draft 2022 FAST Planning Meeting Dates Calendar as presented. (Chapman/Denton).

Discussion: No discussion.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

9. **Other Issues**

No other issues.

10. **Informational Items**

a. **“Access Management – Why we try to limit driveways onto major collectors and arterials”- Presentation by Kellen Spillman**

Kellen Spillman and Don Galligan of the Fairbanks North Star Borough provided a presentation about access management from driveways onto major collectors and arterials.

b. **4th Annual Winter Maintenance Forum – October 26, 2021**

Mr. Fox explained that the 4th Annual Winter Maintenance Forum would be held on Tuesday, October 26, 2021 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the Noel Wien Library Auditorium at 1215 Cowles Street. Mr. Fox explained that there would be speakers from DOT&PF, the City of Fairbanks Public Works Department, and three departments of the Fairbanks North Star Borough: the Rural Services Division, Parks and Recreation, and School District as well as door prize drawings at the end of the event. Mr. Fox explained that the event was being offered as a hybrid meeting so people could attend in-person or via Zoom. Mr. Fox explained that a flyer would be posted on social media, in the newspaper, postcards in various locations around town, and a recording of the event would be available on the FAST Planning Website for those unable to attend.

c. **Obligations and Offsets**

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

11. **Technical Committee Member Comments**

- No comments.

12. **Adjournment**

Motion to Adjourn: (Denton/Chapman). The meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m. The next Technical Committee meeting is Wednesday, November 3, 2021.

Approved:  Date: 11/3/2021
Jackson Fox, Chair
FAST Planning Technical Committee