



## **Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, October 20, 2022 • 5-7 p.m.

FAST Planning Office, 100 Cushman St., Ste. 205

By computer at [www.fastplanning.us/keepup/zoom](http://www.fastplanning.us/keepup/zoom)

By telephone at: 1 (253) 215-8782 Meeting ID: 869-6120-5585

### **1. Call to Order**

Mr. Fox explained that due to the absence of both the Chair, Nathan Belz and the Vice Chair, Olivia Lunsford, a motion was needed for someone to serve as Chair for the meeting.

**Motion:** To have Jackson Fox serve as Chair of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting. (Zervos/Naibert).

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

Mr. Fox called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

### **2. Introduction of Members and Attendees**

\*Nathan Belz, Chair (**absent**)

\*Susan Bissell (**absent**)

\*\*Jackson Fox

\*\*Olivia Lunsford, Vice Chair (**absent**)

\*Travis Naibert

\*Jim Richardson

\*Peter Stern

\*Kim Streeter (**absent**)

\*\*Deborah Todd

\*Larry Zervos

David Fischer, DOT&PF

Don Galligan, FNSB Planning

Stan Justice

Cam Webb

**\*BPAC Representative, \*\*FAST Planning Staff**

### **3. Approval of the October 20, 2022 Agenda**

**Motion:** To approve the October 20, 2022 Agenda. (Richardson/Naibert)

**Discussion:** No discussion.

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

### **4. Approval of the September 29, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

**Motion:** To approve the September 29, 2022 Meeting Minutes. (Richardson/Zervos).

**Discussion:** No discussion.

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

## 5. Staff /Working Group/Chair Reports

- At the October 12, 2022 Technical Committee meeting a letter of support for State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Amendment #5 was passed and a copy of that letter is included as Page 8 of the meeting packet.
- As of September 30, 2022, the Technical Committee has scored all seven of the projects submitted for funding in the new FFY23-27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP development summary was updated to include the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee support for the Bike Lane Signing & Striping Pilot Project, College Road Safety & Access Improvements Planning Study, Airport Way/Peger Road Intersection Study, and winter access improvements on Skarland Trail off Ballaine Road.
- The Project Enhancement Committee (PEC) expressed their support for the College Road Safety & Access Improvements Planning Study and the Airport Way/Peger Road Intersection Study at the October 20, 2022 meeting.
- A letter was sent to Dan Schacher of DOT&PF Maintenance requesting that the path repairs on Davis Road and Farmers Loop be included in the DOT Preventative Maintenance Program for the summer of 2023. Mr. Schacher's response was that due to the severe staff shortage, he could not fit it into their maintenance program this coming summer. The email correspondence from Mr. Schacher is included in the Meeting Packet on Page 23.

## 6. Public Comment Period:

**Don Galligan, Fairbanks North Star Borough** – I just wanted to make a formal request to the BPAC for a letter regarding the Steese/Johansen Interchange project that is coming up for Local Planning Authority Approval. What I am asking for is a letter detailing the BPAC's concerns with the project, and whether or not they feel like the State has addressed them adequately, for inclusion in my Staff Report. I would like to begin a broader conversation about bringing the BPAC comments into many of these Local Planning Authority projects. The project you are hearing about tonight, the Richardson Highway Milepost 351 Project, is another one that would be beneficial to have comments for as well.

**Mr. Fox** asked Mr. Galligan about the Borough's timeline for receiving the letter from BPAC.

**Mr. Galligan** stated that for the Steese-Johansen project, he was not expecting the Local Planning Authority request before January 2023, so it would not go before the Planning Commission until the end of February 2023, and then to the Borough Assembly in March 2023.

**Mr. Fox** stated that he would add this to the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee Agenda for November.

## 7. Old Business

### a. Bike Lane Signing & Striping Pilot Project (Action Item)

- ***Recommendation to City of Fairbanks on Initial Bike Lane Network***

Mr. Fox explained that a smaller network was proposed by Jim Richardson for the initial Bike Lane Signing and Striping Project recommended by the City of Fairbanks. Mr. Fox explained that the route Mr. Richardson proposed would be a continuous loop around the Downtown core. Mr. Fox explained that he had reviewed the width of the shoulders on the roadways depicted in the proposed

route and there was sufficient room on all of the routes for a bike lane. However, there might be some on-street parking that might have to go away as a result of those bike lanes.

Mr. Fox asked if the BPAC wanted to propose two smaller networks to the City of Fairbanks or if they wanted to have a work group meeting to discuss and decide the routes.

Mr. Naibert asked if they should make a list as to how they wanted the striping to happen.

Mr. DiRutigliano offered to provide some materials containing examples of the different types of signing and striping for the bike lanes.

Mr. Fox stated that he could provide some examples from the tool kit in the original 2012 Non-Motorized Plan.

Mr. Fox explained that FAST Planning staff will do some research and identify the on-street parking areas to better identify some of the challenges and opportunities. Once that is done, a doodle poll will be sent out to the BPAC to set a working group meeting for the first or second week of November 2022.

## **8. New Business**

### **a. New Airport Path Connection Signage**

Mr. Fox explained that this project was discussed by the PEC at their October 20, 2022 meeting so they have a game plan but are looking for more volunteers to assist them. Mr. Fox explained that with the Airport Way West Improvements that were completed this summer, Airport Way was repaved, as well as the adjacent frontage roads: Old Airport Road, Hoselton, and Dale Road. A new continuous separated bike/ped path was installed along Hoselton, Dale, and Wien Lake Roads. The DOT paid for the vast majority of this project. FAST Planning provided a \$1.6M contribution to complete the bike/ped connection to the Fairbanks International Airport Terminal. The new path alignment is a 10-foot wide separated path on the west side of Wien Lake Road that crosses Airport Way with a rectangular rapid flashing beacon connecting with the new separated path facility on Hoselton and Dale Roads. Mr. Fox explained that one of the important things about this connection is that it provides an opportunity for travelers to or from the Fairbanks International Airport to not only reach the neighborhood across Airport Way, but also the three hotels along Dale and Hoselton Roads which are La Quinta Inn & Suites, Pikes Hotel, and Princess Lodge. Mr. Fox explained that in his communications with airport staff and operators, they expressed interest in getting wayfinding signs from the airport terminal to the hotel facilities telling folks arriving at the airport to take this new path to arrive at their destination and an approximate distance and how long the walk would be. Mr. Fox explained that in the wintertime, airport police track people that are walking along the roadway and ask them to go back to the airport and take cabs or other forms of motorized transportation for their safety. Mr. Fox explained that a suite of wayfinding signs could be discussed and agreed upon this winter with the PEC to come up with the signs and a map pamphlet to show the trail system and distances. Mr. Fox asked for volunteers from BPAC for a working group.

Mr. Naibert asked if there was any thought to soliciting the hotels to help them create the signs using FAST Planning money.

Mr. Fox stated that we may not be able to specifically list the hotels name if we use FAST Planning funds. Mr. Fox stated that there is also State advertising rules that we may not be able to advertise a public businesses on road rights-of-way. Mr. Fox stated that it was trickier with those types of signs if you put it on airport property pointing people to private businesses or destinations.

Mr. Richardson asked if the path would be maintained year around or who was doing the maintenance on this.

Mr. Fox stated that it might be the airport maintenance personnel keeping the path clear, not the traditional DOT Maintenance & Operations personnel, but right now that had not been determined.

Mr. Fox stated that they might be able to keep a pickup truck moving all the way down that path since it is 10 feet wide. Mr. Fox stated that it was likely that DOT Northern Region Maintenance would not be interested in maintaining that path in the winter.

Mr. Stern asked if there would also be signs for the other hotels near Fred Meyer and other local places of interest besides the three hotels near the Airport.

Mr. Fox stated that there could be signs containing information for those hotels and businesses as well.

Mr. Naibert volunteered to help and thought it would be a start to all kinds of signage for the whole network.

Mr. DiRutigliano stated that whatever got deployed from the airport would be great as long as it was consistent with the City wayfinding signs.

Mr. Fox stated that it was his vision that FAST Planning would provide the funds for this but would be requesting the assistance of airport and DOT to install them.

**b. Winter Maintenance Forum – November 15, 2022**

Mr. Fox explained that FAST Planning met with the Seasonal Mobility Task Force to create a draft agenda for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Maintenance Forum that will be held on November 15, 2022 from 5-7 pm at the Noel Wien Library. Mr. Fox explained that the agenda of speakers had increased with the addition of the City of North Pole and possibly MACS Transit. Mr. Fox explained that the presentations would be about what challenges they faced with the back-to-back snow events last year and how they would prepare for those events this winter. Mr. Fox explained that David Granger formerly of REI had a new bike business and would be giving a bicycle maintenance presentation. Mr. Fox explained that Ms. Lunsford is working on getting door prizes. Mr. Fox explained that reflective armbands have been ordered for the event and there will be FAST Planning reflective hats available as well. Mr. Fox explained that Ms. Lunsford will be showcasing the FAST Planning interactive map called, "Who Maintains This Road" and a map of winter maintenance priorities. Flyers will be distributed and there will be posts on social media and on message board signs around town to encourage attendance.

**9. Informational Items**

**a. Guest Presentation by DOT&PF on Richardson Highway MP 351**

Mr. Fox introduced David Fischer of DOT who provided a presentation for the Richardson Highway, Milepost 351 Project. The project will improve operations and safety of the rail crossing on the highway.

**10. Committee Member Comments:**

- Mr. Naibert commented that he thought in light of the presentation and Mr. Galligan's comment during the Public Comment period, they should put drafting a letter on the next meeting agenda.
- Mr. Stern commented that it might be nice to get a heads up from Lauren Little on the finalized design of that interchange project since it has gone through a lot of revisions.
- Mr. Galligan commented that Lauren Little was no longer the DOT Project Manager of that project, and it was now Jennifer Wright.
- Mr. Fox stated that he would try to get Jennifer Wright to provide a presentation for that project at the November meeting.

**11. Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn.** (Naibert/Richardson). The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m. The next BPAC meeting is Thursday, November 17, 2022, 5-7 p.m.

Approved:   
Nathan Belz, Chair  
Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Date: 11/17/22