



🚲 BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN/ADVISORY COMMITTEE 🚲

Meeting Minutes

March 28, 2024 • 5:00 - 7:00 PM

FAST Planning Office, 100 Cushman Street, Suite 215, Fairbanks, AK

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

Zoom Meeting Telephone Number: 1 (253) 215-8782 Meeting ID: 821-1201-4085

1. Call to Order

Kim Streeter, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

2. Introduction of Members and Attendees

-  *Susan Bissell
-  *Ron Davis
-  **Corey DiRutigliano
-  **Jackson Fox
-  *Matt Layral
-  **Olivia Lunsford, **Vice Chair (absent)**
-  *Travis Naibert
-  *Jim Richardson
-  *Kim Streeter, **Chair**
-  **Deborah Todd **(absent)**
-  *Larry Zervos **(absent)**
-  Don Galligan
-  Richard Shank
-  Matt McDaniel
-  John Talland

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

3. Approval of the March 28, 2024 Agenda

Motion: To approve the March 28, 2024 Agenda. (Richardson/Naibert).

Discussion: No discussion.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

4. Approval of the February 29, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion: To approve the February 29, 2024 Meeting Minutes. (Layral/Davis).

Discussion: No discussion.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

5. Staff/Working Group/Chair Report

a. Staff Report

- At the March 6, 2024 Meeting, the Technical Committee:
 - Recommended approval of the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) comment letter to the DOT&PF regarding the Vulnerable Road User Safety Assessment with the amendment to add a comment about wanting to see a list of infrastructure projects also incorporated.
- At the March 27, 2024 meeting, the Policy Board:
 - Voted to postpone action on the BPAC comment letter to DOT&PF regarding the Vulnerable Road User Safety Assessment to the April meeting.
- Ms. Lunsford encouraged the BPAC to listen to the Borough Planning Commission Work Session held Tuesday, March 26, 2024, regarding the Downtown Plan which will soon go before the Planning Commission and Borough Assembly. The audio and video file are available on the Borough Planning Commission website. Ms. Lunsford wanted to BPAC note that the section related to bicycling in the downtown core has largely been removed from the Downtown Plan at the request of the City of Fairbanks including the maps in the maps section of the Plan. If you would like to provide public testimony on that you will have that opportunity.
- The Bike Lane Signing and Striping Program that FAST Planning is funding for this summer has been stripped down to just two streets now. There is a list of streets that were removed for consideration. Due to the timeline that the City of Fairbanks is on, the project will not get constructed this summer. The project has been added to the agenda for the upcoming Technical Committee Meeting to have DOT&PF provide an update on that project.

6. Public Comment Period (Non-Action Items)

- No public comment.

7. Old Business

a. Vulnerable Road User Assessment Comment Letter Update

Mr. Fox explained Comment #5 that was added to the BPAC comment letter to DOT&PF which requested that a specific list of infrastructure projects be added so there is a list of projects that are ready to go to construction.

b. Transit Plan(s) Update

Mr. Fox explained that this item was postponed from the February meeting and introduced Mr. DiRutigliano to provide an update.

c. Complete Streets Policy Update & Prioritization Plan

Mr. Fox explained that one of the requirements of the latest Transportation Bill was that MPOs across the country were supposed to adopt a Complete Streets Policy for

their MPO. FAST Planning already has a Complete Streets Policy in place that was adopted in 2015 that it is outdated and not utilized. FAST Planning plans to revise their Complete Streets Policy and develop a Complete Streets Prioritization Plan to look at a list of specific streets to produce concepts for how those roadways could be modified to become a complete street. Mr. DiRutigliano will be heading up the Plan development.

8. New Business

a. Bike Friendly FBX Program – Tiered Sponsorships, Dates, Etc.

Mr. DiRutigliano explained that we seek sponsorships so that we can print more bikeways maps as the printing of those maps is not federally funded. This year's sponsorship is tiered. Tier 1 Sponsorship is \$250 and consists of ten sponsors who will be listed on the 2024 Bike Friendly Business legend of the map with their address and business hours. Tier 1 Sponsors will also receive a window decal highlighting their level of sponsorship. They will be tagged and thanked on 3+ social media posts regarding the Bike Friendly FBX Program, their logo will go on all promotional materials, and listed on the "Thank you to our Print Sponsors" banner that is linked to their website. The Tier 2 Sponsorship is \$125 and will include listing with their logo on the bike maps, social media network recognition, printed maps, custom bikeways map holder, etc. The Tier 3 Sponsorship Level is \$75 and includes printed maps, a recognition decal, Bike Friendly FBX stickers, a custom map holder, online map presence, and more. If you would like to host a repair kit at your business, FAST Planning will be advertising the program and Repair Kit Hosts throughout the year in-person and online. The maps are small and portable and will fit in your pocket.

b. Richardson Highway MP 346 Bridge Replacements, Bicycle/Pedestrian Accommodations

Ms. Lunsford included this on the BPAC Agenda to bring attention to it. This project went before the Borough Planning Commission on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, and they recommended denial of Local Planning Approval. At that meeting, there was quite a bit of dialogue on how the new bridge design did not accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians. The goals and objectives for the project are to provide multi-modal transportation and it does not provide that. The Borough Assembly will be discussing those findings of fact even though the Planning Commission did not provide those findings to them. It is not required but you are welcome to comment on that. The Governor has the power to override that decision.

9. Informational Items

- a. Mr. Fox reminded the BPAC members that the annual Bike and Pedestrian Counts will be held in May. If anyone wants to add more intersections to the existing list of 36 that are already counted, please send them to Olivia Lunsford. Mr. Fox noted that they should be distinguishing e-bikes on the counts to determine how many e-bikes we

have. Mr. Richardson asked about adding scooters to the count. Mr. Fox explained that people usually notate those on their count forms. Last year Olivia Lunsford loaded a video on the FAST Planning website to show how to count at the intersections.

10. Other Issues

No other issues.

11. Committee Member Comments

- ☛ **Mr. Richardson** commented that when they held the Open House at the Recycling Center, he went down Peger and then down the north side of the Johansen over to Aurora Drive. The whole thing has not been plowed. He could understand not plowing on the north side. The Johansen bridge over the railroad was just impossible because they plowed the road and left piles of snow there. He thought that the BPAC should write a letter to ask that they put more priority on clearing that in the winter.
- ☛ **Mr. Davis** explained that the path is a Priority 5 for maintenance, and they physically cannot plow snow on the bike path, so it is just snow that is blown under the fence by traffic onto the path.
- ☛ **Mr. Davis** commented that he spoke with Stan Justice about Ballaine/Skarland Trail and is going to meet with him in June or July to mark the path, so the operators know that is a trailhead. He talked to the foreman about doing a better job of keeping that open and not creating a berm in that area.
- ☛ **Mr. Layral** commented that he completed two days of Complete Streets Training that was very eye opening. At the meeting he was called an "outlier" and was not sure what that meant. Mr. Layral commented that felt like an outlier in the meeting but not with the residents in his neighborhood. Mr. Layral commented that he thinks there is a disconnect between the engineers who design them and the people who use the streets. They walked Barnette Street as one of the projects and it is very clear that as designed, it creates a division between the neighborhood to the west side and downtown. The engineers were very resistant, citing design guidelines saying certain things cannot be done in certain areas but there are examples of exceptions to those guidelines in Fairbanks.

12. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: (Naibert/Layral). The meeting was adjourned at **6:16 p.m.** The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, April 25, 2024.**

Approved: _____

Kim Streeter, Chair
FAST Planning BPAC

Date: 4/25/24