



TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

July 3, 2024 • 12:00 – 2:00 P.M.

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: 863-7720-2146

1. Call to Order

Jackson Fox, Chair called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

2. Introduction of Members and Attendees

The following were present:

Name	Representing
*Jackson Fox, Chair	FAST Planning
*Olivia Lunsford	FAST Planning
*Corey DiRutigliano, Vice Chair	FAST Planning
*Deborah Todd	FAST Planning
*Randi Bailey	DOT&PF Planning
*Don Galligan	FNSB Planning
**Michael Bredlie	FNSB Rural Services
**Justin Burgess (absent)	AES Transportation
**Nick Czarnecki	ADEC Air Quality
**Michelle Denton	FNSB Transportation
**Kate Dueber	Alaska Railroad Corporation
**Alexa Greene (absent)	Eielson Air Force Base
**Walker Ringstad for Kevin McKinley	FNSB Planning Commission
**Brett Nelson	DOT&PF Planning
**John Netardus	DOT&PF Preconstruction
**Robert Pristash	City of Fairbanks Engineering
**William Rogers	City of Fairbanks Engineering
**Lt. Mike Roberts (absent)	Alaska State Troopers
**Kellen Spillman	FNSB Community Planning
**RJ Stumpf	Fairbanks International Airport
**Jakob Theurich	University of Alaska Fairbanks
**Danny Wallace	City of North Pole

**John Weinberger	Fort Wainwright
Ivet Hall	DOT&PF Preconstruction
Brian Roberts	DOT&PF Right-of-Way
Ben White	DOT&PF Planning
Barry Hooper	DOT&PF Right-of-Way
Kerri Martin	DOT&PF Environmental
Carl Heim	DOT&PF Traffic & Safety
Jennifer Wright	DOT&PF Preconstruction
Marie Heidemann	FHWA
Megan Flory	RESPEC
James Marks	Alaska Municipal League
Zanonymous	Participant

****FAST PLANNING Staff members ** FAST PLANNING Technical Committee members**

3. Approval of the July 3, 2024 Agenda

Motion: To approve the July 3, 2024 agenda as presented. (Pristash/Nelson).

Discussion: No further discussion.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

4. Approval of the June 5, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion: To approve the June 5, 2024 Meeting Minutes. (Rogers/Pristash).

Discussion: No further discussion.

Vote on Motion: None opposed. Approved.

5. Staff/Working Group/Chair Report

a. Staff Report

- At the **June 19, 2024** meeting, the Policy Board:
 - Supported the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Motor Vehicle Emissions Budget for PM2.5 for the State Implementation Plan 2024 Amendment.
 - Approved the \$30,000 funding contribution from FAST Planning’s Undesignated Fund for the North Pole Bus Shelters project contingent upon completion of a Maintenance Agreement for the two bus shelter locations.
 - Approved a \$20,000 funding contribution from FAST Planning’s Undesignated Fund to the City of Fairbanks for the Turner Street Improvements project contingent upon completion of a Maintenance Agreement with the City of Fairbanks. This would be for the removal of planters between 4th and 5th Avenues and repaving that area.
 - Supported the Draft DOT&PF Policy & Procedure on MPO Coordination during the development of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), and included the comments from the Technical Committee that they made in the amended motion on June 5, 2024. [Technical

Committee Motion from June 5, 2024: *To recommend to the Policy Board to support the Draft Alaska DOT&PF Policy & Procedure on MPO Coordination during development of the STIP; recommend amendments to the document expressly identifying when MPO is supposed to be the MPO Policy Board compared to MPO staff where appropriate; and add more detail on who is responsible for doing what with expected timelines, particularly to the 'Draft STIP' section.]*

6. Updates from Alaska DOT&PF on the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

Deputy Commissioner Katherine Keith was not present at the meeting. Mr. Nelson explained that they are still waiting for the STIP to go public. Mr. White commented that they were working on the Air Quality information in the STIP.

7. Public Comment Period

- **Stan Justice (email comment read into the record by Olivia Lunsford)**

Hi Technical Committee, I see Yankovich is on your agenda. Bike path supporters, including me, continue to oppose where this project went. We fought for years to get a separated path around UAF lands but a narrow ROW, DOT's oversized road standards, and intractable adjacent residents killed the separated path. A wide shoulder is not a useful substitute for a separated path. Shoulders are peppered with gravel all summer and buried in snow all winter. Would you let your child learn how to ride a bike on a road shoulder? We would be happy to see this project (in its current form) further delayed or killed entirely.

I just got back from a trip to Scotland where I was amazed at how well they get on with incredibly narrow roads. Many roads are a single narrow lane with "passing places," a pull out to let a car by. And even two-lane roads are much narrower than our roads. And they have numerous long trails (separated paths) that get heavily used by visitors and residents alike.

8. Old Business

a. Draft FFY2025-26 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

- ***Review of Public Comments Received, Corresponding Revisions to Document, and Recommendation to Policy Board***

Mr. Fox explained that the comment period for the UPWP closed on June 19, 2024. Mr. Fox presented the comments and associated revisions included in the meeting packet.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Motion: To recommend to the Policy Board to approve the FFY2025-26 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) as presented and revised. (Spillman/Denton).

Discussion: Mr. Spillman commented that he appreciated the title and scope change of the Richardson Highway Corridor Study. He thought that broader corridor studies tend to be cheaper and more beneficial. Mr. Spillman commented that he thought that the questions and revisions were minor and did not have any issues with that. He thought that many of the concerns could be incorporated once the project was started. He appreciated them taking the time to review this. In general, this was probably the most aggressive and well-funded UPWP he has been a part of in 14 years and is excited to start working on some of these projects and is in support of it.

Vote on Motion: None opposed Approved.

b. Draft Alaska DOT&PF Policy & Procedure on MPO Coordination during Development of the STIP

- **Review of the Revisions to Document Based on Feedback from All Three MPOs**

Mr. Fox explained the changes made to the working draft version of the Draft Policy & Procedure resulting from comments received from the three MPOs.

9. New Business

a. Project Updates from DOT&PF

- Airport/Cushman Intersection Improvements update from Carl Heim
- Chena Riverwalk Stage III update from Ivet Hall and Barry Hooper
- Pearl Creek Elementary School Access Improvements update from John Netardus
- Holmes Road update from John Netardus and Ivet Hall
- Yankovich/Miller Hill Road Reconstruction update from Ivet Hall

10. Informational Items

a. Obligations and Offsets

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

11. Other Issues

No other issues

12. Committee Member Comments

- John Netardus commented that he filed final inspections on the Dog Park, Aztec Subdivision in North Pole, and Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon on College Road and they all looked good.

13. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: (Netardus/Pristash). The meeting adjourned at **1:25 p.m.**
The next Technical Committee Meeting will be August 7, 2024.

Approved:  Date: 8/7/2024
Jackson C. Fox, Chair
FAST Planning Technical Committee