



## **POLICY BOARD**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**January 21, 2026 • 12:00 – 2:00 P.M.**

FAST Planning Office, KeyBank Building, 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: 814-1712-8532

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

Mayor Hopkins called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

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

| <b>Attendee</b>                   | <b>Representative Organization</b>  |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| *Scott Crass                      | FNSB Assembly                       |
| *Grier Hopkins, <b>Chair</b>      | Mayor, Fairbanks North Star Borough |
| *Lauren Little, <b>Vice Chair</b> | DOT&PF                              |
| *Nick Czarnecki                   | DEC Air Quality                     |
| *Mindy O'Neill                    | Mayor, City of Fairbanks            |
| *Larry Terch                      | Mayor, City of North Pole           |
| *Crystal Tidwell                  | Fairbanks City Council              |
| **Corey DiRutigliano              | FAST Planning                       |
| **Jackson Fox                     | FAST Planning                       |
| **Olivia Lunsford                 | FAST Planning                       |
| **Deborah Todd                    | FAST Planning                       |
| **Randi Bailey                    | DOT&PF Planning                     |
| **Don Galligan                    | FNSB Community Planning             |
| +Brett Nelson                     | DOT&PF Planning                     |
| Mellissa Kellner                  | FNSB Community Planning             |
| Laura Achee                       | Senator Bjorkman's Office           |
| Emily Haynes                      | FHWA                                |
| Randy Warden                      | FHWA                                |
| Ben White                         | DOT&PF Planning                     |
| Sara Lucey                        | DOT&PF Planning                     |
| Ivet Hall                         | DOT&PF Preconstruction              |
| Megan Flory                       | RESPEC                              |
| James Marks                       | HDR                                 |

**\*FAST Planning Policy Board Members, \*\* FAST Planning Staff Members, +FAST Planning Technical Committee Members**

**3. Approval of the January 21, 2026 Agenda**

**Motion:** To approve the January 21, 2026 Agenda. (Crass/O'Neill).

**Discussion:** No discussion.

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

**4. Approval of the December 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

**Motion:** To approve the December 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes. (Terch/Crass).

**Discussion:** No discussion.

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

**5. Staff/Working Group/Chair Reports (including mid-year Operating Budget review)**

- Mr. Fox attended the joint Borough Assembly/Road Service Area Commission meeting. There was a presentation by staff regarding maintenance of road service areas and how to maintain roads that are not in road service areas.
- Mr. Fox attended a meeting with DOT and City of Fairbanks on the Chena Riverwalk project. There is a substantial increase in the construction estimate for the project. The maintenance agreement and match funding decisions still need to be worked out.
- The FFY2025 Audit with Alliance CPAs, LLC is wrapping up.
- An AMLIP Investment account was opened and \$800K was transferred to KeyBank from the FAST Planning account at Mt. McKinley Bank on January 16, 2026.
- Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #2 was released for public comment from December 21, 2025 to January 30, 2026.

**6. Public Comment Period (Non-Action Items)**

No public comment.

**7. Old Business**

**a. FFY2023-27 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #2**

***Review of Comments Received to Date; Comment Period Open Through January 30, 2025***

Mr. Fox explained that TIP Amendment #2 is out for public comment until January 30, 2026. Following the closing of the public comment period, any comments, additions, or revisions will be incorporated into the TIP, and it will be brought back to the Technical Committee and Policy Board to review and approve.

**8. New Business**

**a. Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update-Public Survey Results & Next Steps**

***Go to: <https://arcg.is/1zrPrz1> for Survey Results and Interactive Map Comments***

Ms. Lunsford provided a presentation of the new dashboard she created on the FAST Planning website. The dashboard contains data collected from public survey results for the MTP Update. There will be a steering committee meeting in February to discuss the Needs Analysis section. The data collected from the public survey will help highlight issues and gather a list of potential new projects.

**b. Alaska DOT&PF Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Guest Presentation**

Sara Lucey, DOT&PF Statewide Planning Chief, provided an update for the Alaska DOT&PF Long-Range Transportation Plan.

**9. Informational Items**

**a. FFY2026 Obligations and Offsets**

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

**10. Other Issues**

No other issues.

**11. Policy Board Member Comments**

**Mayor Terch:** I'd like to thank Ms. Lunsford and Ms. Lucey for their presentations today. It's nice to see the information but then visually be able to see that in a form that makes it a lot easier to absorb. So, thank you for that.

**Ms. Little:** I'll just echo it's exciting to see all these long-range planning efforts syncing up. We've got the LRTP, which is the State's long-range effort. We've got the FAST MTP. AMATS is also going through an MTP effort. MVP is also working on their first MTP. It's neat to see all these efforts on similar timelines. So, hopefully at the end of it we'll have plans that don't just sit on shelves.

**Mr. Czarnecki:** It's good to be here in person and hopefully I'll make more of these in person during the next year.

**Mayor Hopkins:** Thanks, Mr. Fox for coming to the Assembly meeting. It was helpful having your input there. It answered a lot of questions and tampered down the rhetoric, and we moved forward on some good ideas. So, thank you for that. We are hoping to move forward with a resolution to fix the state situation as a Legislative priority, meaning that we wouldn't have to have two votes to add a new service area or annex an area into another one. That would allow us a clean slate moving forward with the understanding that we are not impacting any road service areas that are already in place. The Joy School survey is out for public comment, and we've gotten close to 2,000 comments so far in about four days. I have no idea what the results are. Everybody is stopping me and Mayor Hopkins on the street asking what we are going to do with it. It's going to be open for another six weeks so if you haven't taken it, please do. Now the hard part is doing the thing with it.

**12. Adjournment**

**Motion to Adjourn:** (O'Neill/Crass). The meeting was adjourned at **1:07 p.m.**  
The next Policy Board Meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 25, 2026.**

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

for

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Grier Hopkins, Chair  
FAST Planning Policy Board

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

2/25/2026