

MVP for Transportation Pre-MPO Policy Board Meeting

Representatives:

John Binder - ADOT&PF
John Moosey, City of Palmer
Glenda Ledford, Mayor – City of Wasilla
Kaylan Wade Chickaloon Native Village
Bob Charles – Knik Tribe
Edna DeVries, Mayor - MSB
Mike Brown - MSB
Rob Yundt, Assembly Member - MSB
Jennifer Busch – Valley Transit
Vacant – Multi-Mobility Advocate



Microsoft Teams meeting

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Or call in (audio only)

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Phone Conference ID: 408 560 611#

Minutes

Tuesday, July 18th, 2023

2:00-3:30pm

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 2:00pm with quorum.

2. Introduction of Pre-MPO Policy Board Members and other Attendees

Members present:

Kaylan Wade, Chickaloon Native Village
Edna DeVries, MSB Mayor
Mike Brown, MSB
Bob Charles, Knik Tribe
Glenda Ledford, City of Wasilla Mayor
John Moosey, City of Palmer
John Binder, DOT&PF

Members absent:

Jennifer Busch, Valley Transit
Rob Yundt, MSB Assembly

Guests present:

Donna Gardino, Gardino Consulting Services
Natalie Lyon, RESPEC
Elise Blocker, RESPEC
Adam, Bradway, DOT&PF
Clint Adler, DOT&PF
Kim Sollien, MSB
Maija DiSalvo, MSB
Brian Lindamood, ARRC
Jackson Fox, FAST Planning
Aaron Jongenelen, AMATS
John Linnell, DOT&PF
Brian Winnestaffer, Chickaloon Native Village
Adeyemi Alimi, ADEC

3. Approval of the July 18, 2023, Agenda – (Action Item)

*Motion to approve the July 18, 2023 agenda (**Ledford**), seconded. Approved unanimously.*

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4. Approval of the March 21, 2023, Minutes – (Action Item)

Motion to approve the March 21, 2023 minutes (Ledford), seconded. A typo was corrected on the agenda. The minutes year was changed from 2022 to 2023. Approved unanimously.

5. Committee/Working Group Reports (Including the Staff Report)

a. Staff Report

The City of Wasilla and Knik Tribe have submitted their resolutions of support as well as appointed their signatories. The resolution of support of the MSB assembly is on the agenda for their meeting tonight.

Kim Sollien: Will the state appoint a board member for the non-profit?

Adam Bradway: The state has not finalized its decision.

Donna Gardino: During next month's meeting, we plan to designate who the board of directors will be for the incorporation of MVP. We have three right now.

Kim Sollien: We plan to have the next pre-policy board meeting in person since there may be documents to sign.

MVP for Transportation did receive a line item in the budget of \$ 1 million that will come through the MSB. A scope of work has been drafted that will describe how funding will be distributed. A large part of the funding will be used to support DOT&PF's membership fee and annual dues for ten years. If the City of Palmer decides they are not participating, the budget items might change. It will also be used to set up the organization for rent and staff.

Mike Brown: How did DOT come up with the federal match for the MPO in Fairbanks?

Donna Gardino: When Fairbanks became an MPO a state appropriation was received in 2008. There was still funding available when they transitioned from a hosted agency to a non-profit, so they were able to use that as their membership dues.

Jackson Fox: There is a balance of roughly \$400,000. They are using that to pay their dues to us.

Mike Brown: It sounds like the state needs to come up with a more sustainable approach.

Donna Gardino: They don't have to do that with AMATS because they are a hosted MPO. Under the non-profit scenario, once the membership is received, the costs are relatively small.

Aaron Jongenelen: The Municipality of Anchorage provides in-kind match that covers all federal funding in UPWP. For the TIP, coming up with funding is more of a challenge.

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The draft budget that has been developed shows more than what is currently allocated. The Policy Board will have a chance to approve spending before the funding is passed to MVP officially. The funding draft document will be finalized and sent to the MSB grant department which will then produce a grant agreement to meet the state's and borough's reporting requirements.

Bob Charles: Where will the grant be administered through while the MPO is being set up?

Kim Sollien: Through the borough in Planning for the first initial costs until MVP is set up.

The State sent its changes to the Operating Agreement. The Department of Law wants the operating agreement to be between the State and MVP for Transportation, so we are going to change the title page and hold off on signatures. Once the chair is designated after the formation of the MVP, the chair will sign. There were other suggested changes.

Donna Gardino presented the comments and changes to the Operating Agreement.

Jackson: For example, for reimbursements, each employee will be billed at 110% to cover the indirect costs. After a year, the MPO will coordinate with the State what the indirect cost rate will be.

It is intended to finalize the Operating Agreement, the Bylaws, and the boundary map by the next meeting in August. Once finalized, they will be included in the packet and then sent to the governor.

Maija DiSalvo provided a summary of transit funding changes with the urban designation.

Kim Sollien: If the Assembly decides they don't want to be a direct recipient of the funds, we are looking into other eligible entities that could provide that service.

Brian Lindamood: Doesn't DOT act as the direct recipient for FAST?

Jackson Fox: No, that's the Fairbanks North Star Borough.

Donna Gardino: Once MVP receives planning funds from the state, MVP will also receive transit funds from FTA.

If the Assembly chooses not to be the recipient, hopefully, another eligible entity volunteers. As a last resort, the state could do it but it's not something that it does right now.

6. Voices of the Visitors (Non-Action Items)

None

7. Old Business

a. Policy Board Membership & Dues Structure discussion

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It is in the packet, and it is currently on hold until we know whether the City of Palmer is involved.

Donna Gardino provided a summary of a discussion with the City of Palmer about how the MPO will affect the City of Palmer.

1. MPO Development Timeline – updated

The resolutions of support should be received this month. The operating agreement, the bylaws, and the boundary map should be ready next month and then sent off to the governor. The non-profit documentation is being created for incorporation in September.

Donna Gardino: There is a statewide MPO meeting this Thursday, once we get the final allocation for planning funds, the UPWP will have to be amended. It will go out for a 30-day comment period after the amendment is complete.

b. Boundary development update

Gerrit Verbeek presented the Boundary Development Report located in the packet.

The deadline for the comments on the boundary map is Friday July 21st.

Bob Charles: Please have a placeholder for Schrock Road and the Seldon extension for review in the future.

Donna Gardino: At a minimum, the map will be reviewed and reevaluated every 10 years.

Kim Sollien: Just to clarify we received comments about including Schrock and the Seldon extension, but it did not meet the threshold.

Gerrit Verbeek: To keep more in line with the general population's desire for less regulation, we decided to keep the boundary small and defensible.

c. MPO funding update

Adam Bradway provided a summary of PL funding and other funding for the MPO.

Donna Gardino: A list of priorities has been developed for the MPO. These priorities will be forwarded to the State.

Kim Sollien: Donna created a memo that outlines the Metropolitan Transportation Plan with a budget and the travel demand model with a budget, as well as a scope for a household survey. We're going to add scope to look at transit development.

8. New Business

a. MOU for Operations of the MVP for Transportation Office

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Donna Gardino provided an overview of the MOU for Operations of the MVP Office document in the packet.

Comments on the draft document are due by the end of July 2023.

Kim Sollien: MSB will need more staff to continue supporting the MPO once the MPO is formed.

Bob Charles: We will be reliant on the support of FAST Planning.

9. Other Issues

10. Informational Items

The August meeting will be hybrid in-person/virtual meeting. The location to be determined.

11. Policy Board Comments

None

12. Adjournment

*Motion to adjourn (**Ledford**), seconded. Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm*

Next Scheduled Pre-MPO Policy Board Meeting – **August 15th**, to be held via Microsoft TEAMS Meeting