

MVP for Transportation Pre-MPO Policy Board Meeting

Representatives:

Vacant - ADOT&PF
Steve Carrington, Mayor – 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



Minutes

**Tuesday, October 17th, 2023
2:00-3:30 pm**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to at 2:14 p.m. with a quorum.

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

Members Present:

Kaylan Wade, Chickaloon Native Village
Glenda Ledford, Mayor - City of Wasilla
Steve Carrington, Mayor - City of Palmer
Bob Charles, Knik Tribe
Mike Brown, MSB
Edna DeVries, Mayor - MSB

Members Absent:

Rob Yundt, Assembly Member – MSB
Jennifer Busch, Valley Transit

Visitors Present:

Donna Gardino, Gardino Consulting Services
Clint Adler, DOT&PF
Adam Bradway, DOT&PF
Jackson Fox, FAST Planning
Natalie Lyon, RESPEC
Kim Sollien, MSB
Ben White, DOT&PF
Brad Hanson, City of Palmer
Brian Winnestaffer, Chickaloon Native Village
Brad Sworts, MSB
Gerrit Verbeek, MSB
John Linnell, DOT&PF
Aaron Jongenelen, AMATS
Erich Schaal, City of Palmer
Adam Moser, DOT&PF
Adeyemi Alimi, ADEC

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3. Approval of the October 17, 2023, Agenda – (Action Item)

Motion to approve the October 17, 2023, Agenda (Ledford), seconded. No edits. Approved unanimously.

4. Approval of the September 19, 2023, Minutes – (Action Item)

Motion to approve the September 19, 2023 Minutes (Ledford), seconded. No edits. Approved unanimously.

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

a. Staff Report

Located in the meeting packet, the Operating Agreement packet was routed through DOT to the Commissioner's office on October 9th.

Kim Sollien and Donna Gardino attended the Quarterly MPO Update meeting last week in Anchorage. Kim discussed the next steps for forming the non-profit MPO organization and the possibility of FAST Planning hiring an interim MVP coordinator. Some of the main topics discussed during the meeting were funding the TransCAD Travel Model, the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, and the Household Travel Survey and the steps needed to become an MPO in good standing by 2026. ADOT decided it wanted to provide a supplemental grant to the MPO which will be used to fund the required MTP, model and survey, hire staff, and get the organization up and running in addition to the PL fund allocation. ADOT received 1400 comments on the STIP during the comment period and they are working their way through the comments. One of the issues is that several projects in the STIP are not contained within the MTPs of the MPOs, which is required. This illustrates the importance of the development of the MTP and consultation with the MPOs. FHWA has given DOT a 180-day extension to finalize the STIP which is a rare occurrence.

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

None

7. Old Business

a. Designation of MPO: Transmittal

The MVP Operating Agreement, Boundary, Bylaws, and resolutions of support have been transmitted to the Commissioner's Office with a request to be designated as the MPO for the Mat-Su urbanized area.

b. Founding Board of Directors (Action Item)

Mayor Ledford was named as the Board President during the last Policy Board meeting, but the other founding members need to be reaffirmed. The resolutions of support named Bob Charles and Brian Winnestaffer as signatories. The operating agreement has been changed to reflect those names. Formal approval is needed to allow the founding members to sign the Articles of Incorporation and any other documentation.

Motion to approve Mayor Glenda Ledford, Nicholas R. Charles Jr., and Brian Winnestaffer as the MVP for Transportation founding board members (DeVries), seconded. Passed unanimously.

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8. New Business

a. FFY24 UPWP Amendment – (Action Item)

Donna Gardino provided a summary of the changes to the UPWP starting on page 69 of the meeting packet. Also within the meeting packet on page 97 is a letter from ADOT that outlines the amount of federal funds MVP for Transportation is expected to receive. The Steering Committee requested more detail to be added to the TransCAD Model and project criteria sections. These additional changes will be made once the comment period is completed. The UPWP will be released for public comment for 30 days until November 15th.

Motion to approve the FFY24 UPWP for public comment. (Ledford), seconded. Passed unanimously.

b. Letter of Support for PL Allocation – (Action Item)

Donna Gardino provided a summary of the Letter of Support for PL Allocation.

Motion to approve the Letter of Support to the DOT&PF for the PL Fund Allocation (DeVries), seconded. Passed unanimously.

Steve Carrington: Just for clarification, the PL funding is which amount?

Donna Gardino: The letter approves that MVP for Transportation is going to receive \$410,000 and \$91,000 and allows ADOT to use \$66,000 of the \$410,000, referencing the October 12, 2023 letter from ADOT.

c. Non-Profit Articles of Incorporation – (Action Item)

Natalie Lyon provided a summary of the Articles of Incorporation. Once the Articles of Incorporation are filed, the business license can be procured.

Motion to approve the Articles of Incorporation for MatSu Valley for Transportation, as presented. (Carrington), seconded. Passed unanimously.

d. FAST Planning Hiring Temporary Coordinator – (Action Item)

Jackson Fox with FAST Planning offered to host a remote employee on behalf of MVP for Transportation. In the packet is a draft job description and a draft agreement between FAST and MVP. This arrangement would be for no longer than one year. The Policy Board in Fairbanks voted unanimously in favor of extending this offer to MVP.

Motion to accept FAST Planning's offer to host a temporary Coordinator on behalf of MVP for Transportation (Ledford), seconded. Passed unanimously.

On the Mat-Su Borough Assembly agenda for November 21st, is an action item for them to accept and appropriate the \$1,000,000 from the State of Alaska. Those funds will be used to support hiring and match costs for MVP for Transportation.

Adam Bradway: DOT has worked out how to get the funding to Jackson. How is the hiring process going to work and who would be doing the interviews?

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Jackson Fox: The hope is to get at least two Pre-Policy Board Members on the interview committee.

9. Other Issues

None

10. Informational Items

None

11. Policy Board Comments

Steve Carrington: When is the public comment period on the UPWP?

Donna Gardino: The UPWP will be on the website later today and will be up for 30 days.

12. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn (**Ledford**). The meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

Next Scheduled Pre-MPO Policy Board Meeting – **November 21st**, to be held via Microsoft TEAMS Meeting