

MVP for Transportation MPO Policy Board Meeting

Representatives:

Bob Charles – Knik Tribe
Edna DeVries, Mayor - MSB
Glenda Ledford, Mayor – City of Wasilla
Brian Winnestaffer, Chickaloon Native Village
Mike Brown - MSB
Sean Holland - ADOT&PF
Steve Carrington, City of Palmer



Minutes

Tuesday, January 16th, 2024

2:00-3:30 pm

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 pm with a quorum.

2. Introduction of MPO Policy Board Members and other Attendees

Representatives Present

Steve Carrington, City of Palmer
Glenda Ledford, City of Wasilla
Bob Charles, Knik Tribe
Sean Holland, Alaska DOT&PF
Edna DeVries, MSB

Representatives Absent

Brian Winnestaffer, Chickaloon Native Village
Mike Brown, MSB

Guests Present

Donna Gardino, Gardino Consulting Services
Kim Sollien, MSB
Elise Blocker, RESPEC
Natalie Lyon, RESPEC
Adam Bradway, Alaska DOT&PF
Brad Hanson, City of Palmer
Kaylan Wade, Chickaloon Native Village
Brian Lindamood, ARRC
Maija DiSalvo, MSB

3. Approval of the January 16th 2024, Agenda – (Action Item)

*Motion to approve the January 16th, 2024 Agenda (**Charles**), seconded. No edits.
Passed unanimously.*

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

*Motion to approve the December 19th, 2023 Minutes (**Charles**), seconded. No edits.
Passed unanimously.*

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

Formal nominations for the Technical Committee need to be made in letter form. The Technical Committee has received nominations for Brian Lindamood and MSB Staff. MVP MPO requests the remaining nominations by the end of January with the intent to have an official Technical Committee meeting in February. The Technical Committee's purpose and tasks are in the meeting packet and proxy voting is allowed. There are currently three vacant seats on the Technical Committee: multimodal, trucking, and public transit.

Donna Gardino provided a summary review of MVP's Allocations/STIP presentation that was made to the Technical Committee by Alaska DOT&PF on January 9. An error was noted under FFY 2026 for 34404 MPO Planning funds. The funds will not double in FFy26 and amounts in FFY27 and 28 are incorrect. The allocation will remain consistent throughout the years.

Adam Bradway: The latest version of the FFY24 – 27 STIP was sent to FHWA. The project list within the MVP boundary slide excludes some projects such as those being funded under safety programs and bridge and pavement preservation programs. Once the STIP is in place, the comprehensive list will be developed. MVP will be updated on all state-sponsored projects occurring within the MPO Boundary.

Donna Gardino: Just for clarification, the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) has its own money totaling about \$53,000,000 and the criteria for project selection is very data-centric. Adam is going to break down the areas that have been identified for safety improvements within the MPO and provide those to the Policy Board.

Adam Bradway: For your information, note that projects that have already received their construction funding will not appear on the list although construction may be starting next year.

Bob Charles: We would like to know how DOT&PF prioritizes and ranks the projects before we get too far into adopting projects into the STIP. We might be able to use the same criteria in our work.

Edna DeVries: I do not see Engstrom and Bogard on here. Are they in a different place?

Adam Bradway: That project is part of the HSIP and will be included in the list of all projects that I will develop for MVP. There are a handful of other HSIP projects they are just not in a good format to share right now. It will be presented once it is ready.

Hiring for the MPO Coordinator was reopened to get more applicants. The position closed on the 12th.

The Deputy Commissioner met with Jackson Fox and Donna Gardino. A new policy was shared regarding how Alaska DOT&PF will be coordinating with the MPOs. It is

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meant to formalize the department's procedures for MPO cooperation in the development of the STIP, MTP, and TIP. The guidance may also apply to an MPO's UPWP. The policy was reviewed, and written comments will be presented to Alaska DOT&PF.

Kim Sollien: Will the comment letter be presented to the Technical Committee and the Policy Board?

Donna Gardino: They will be cc'd when it is sent.

Voices of the Visitors (Non-Action Items)

None

6. Old Business

7. New Business

a. Construction Contract Award Process - Funding the Low Bid (Action Item)

Within the meeting packet is a letter addressed to FHWA from MVP encouraging FHWA to reevaluate the STIP and TIP construction obligation processes.

Motion to authorize letter to FHWA (Carrington), Seconded. Passed unanimously.

b. List of Meeting Dates for 2024 (Action Item)

Motion to approve the approve the List of Meeting Dates for 2024 (Charles), seconded. No edits. Passed unanimously.

c. Meeting format discussion

Hybrid meetings work most of the time. Once MVP gets an office space, that could change. An edit was noted to add "pm" to the time within the description.

8. Other Issues

None

9. Informational Items

a. Transit Update

Maija DiSalvo presented a summary update of the Transit Continuity Plan. More information such as ridership and demand services are being gathered and will be presented to the Assembly once it is available.

b. MOU for Operations of the MPO Office

1. MVP for Transportation Membership fee and annual dues structure

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The MOU for the Operations of the MPO Office was approved last year. The dues structure outlines the amount of money each organization will be responsible for. Kim Sollien will be taking the MOU to get signatures.

Steve Carrington: When does the funding need to be made available to the MPO?

Kim Sollien: There are still a few things that need to be done to form the MPO. This is just a reminder to start thinking about your organization's processes to get the money moving.

Steve Carrington: Are the amounts shown in the table the amounts that are expected?

Kim Sollien: Yes.

c. Articles of Incorporation submittal

The Articles of Incorporation need to be signed and notarized. Once signatures are acquired, RESPEC can submit the Articles of Incorporation.

10. Policy Board Comments

None.

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn (**DeVries**). The meeting was adjourned at 3:08 pm.

Next Scheduled MPO Policy Board Meeting – **February 20th**, to be held via Microsoft TEAMS Meeting