



## MatSu Valley Planning *for* Transportation

### **Representatives:**

Bob Charles – Knik Tribe **(Secretary)**  
Edna DeVries, Mayor - MSB  
Glenda Ledford, Mayor – City of Wasilla **(Chair)**  
Brian Winnestaffer - Chickaloon Native Village  
Mike Brown - MSB  
Sean Holland - DOT&PF **(Treasurer)**  
Jim Cooper, Mayor – City of Palmer **(Vice Chair)**

### **Microsoft Teams meeting**

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(844) 594-6237 (toll-free)  
Phone Conference ID: 568 381 409#

### **Minutes**

**Wednesday, October 22nd, 2025  
1:30-3:00 pm**

### **Meeting Location**

Alaska DOT Mat Su District Office at 500 S. Seward Meridian Pkwy, Wasilla, Alaska  
There is limited parking at the building's main entrance, an overflow parking lot to the south.

#### 1. Meeting called to order and Roll Call

*Meeting called to order: 1:30 pm*

### **Members Present:**

Bob Charles – Knik Tribe (Secretary)  
Edna DeVries, Mayor - MSB  
Glenda Ledford, Mayor – City of Wasilla (Chair)  
Brian Winnestaffer - Chickaloon Native Village  
Mike Brown - MSB  
Luke Bowland DOT&PF (proxy for Sean Holland – DOT&PF (Treasurer))  
Jim Cooper, Mayor – City of Palmer (Vice Chair)

### **Visitors Present:**

Kim Sollien – MVP, Executive Director  
Anjie Goulding - MVP  
Carrie Cecil - MVP  
Adam Bradway – AK DOT&PF  
Pat Cotter - RESPEC  
Ben White - AK DOT&PF  
Mark Eisenman - AK DOT&PF  
Kristina Huling - AK DOT&PF

#### 2. Consent Agenda **(Action Item)**

- a. Approval of October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025, Agenda
- b. Approval of August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Minutes

*Motion to approve the consent agenda and meeting minutes from August 27, 2025  
(Winnestaffer), seconded. No edits. Motion is approved.*



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### 3. Committee/Working Group Reports

#### a. Staff Report

**Kim Sollien** gave staff report:

- *New MVP Staff:* Introduced Carrie Cecil, MVP's new Senior Planner, started on October 14. Carrie will support MVP across planning initiatives such as Travel Demand Modeling, Household Travel Survey, Transit Development Plans, etc.
- *AMPO Conference:* MVP staff attended the Association for Metropolitan Planning Organizations meeting in Providence, RI where they attended informational sessions and developed network connections with other MPOs.
- *Review of Annual Financial Statement (starting on pg. 21 of packet)*
  - The Financial Statement includes an overview of current account balances and summary of profits and losses for the period from October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025 (FFY25).
  - Note that FAST Planning was a fiscal sponsor for a portion of FFY25 which is not accounted for in this financial statement.
  - Reminder that MVP receives an annual 9.03% match to federal PL funds from member organizations.

### 4. Voices of the Visitors (Non-Action Items)

None.

### 5. Technical Committee October 14th Action Items

- a. Motion to approve the MTP Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives as presented for a 30-day Public Comment Period. (*Winnestaffer*), seconded. *Passed unanimously.*
- b. Motion to recommend that the Policy Board adopt the Public Participation Plan as presented. (*Tucker*), Seconded. *Passed unanimously.*
- c. Motion to recommend that the Policy Board approve and send a letter to Alaska DOT &PF documenting the lack of consultation on MVP's carryover funding, utilization of MVP STBG and CRP funds without consultation, and for not involving MVP in the discussion about the FFY26-29 STIP prior to its release to the public. *New motion: postpone, to allow staff time to document FFY24 and FFY25 projects using MVP's suballocations and an accounting of available funds for FFY26 for the November 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. (Strawn)*, seconded. Yes – 9, No – 2. *Motion carried. The letter presented to the TC is in the Packet on Page 76.*

**Kim Sollien** provided a summary of the letter and discussion with Technical Committee. The Technical Committee requested additional information on project accounting to be included in updated draft. This updated version would be subject to review by the Technical Committee at the Nov. 4 meeting before being presented to Policy Board.



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### Discussion Highlights:

- Members suggest reframing the letter to focus more broadly on improving communication between MVP and DOT&PF related to programming.
- DOT&PF representatives acknowledged that improved communication about programming is needed internally and externally to foster consultation with MPOs and steps are being taken.

### 6. Action Items

- a. MTP Vision Statement, Goals and Objectives Release for a 30-day Public Comment Period (Action Item)

**Recommended Motion: Motion to approve the MTP Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives as presented for a 30-day Public Comment Period.**

*Motion to approve (**Winnestaffer**), seconded. Item raised for discussion by **Mike Brown**.*

### Discussion:

- Introduce motion to amend Goal 1 and Objectives as presented in MTP Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives as follows (consistent with revised language as proposed by **Kim Sollien** in October 20, 2025 email to the Policy Board:

Goal 1: Ensure transportation improvements align with local land use patterns and connect housing to employment,

**Objective 1:** Improve coordination between transportation planning and local land use plans to ensure consistency between transportation projects and community development patterns.

**Objective 2:** Enhance multimodal connections between residential areas and employment hubs.

**Objective 3:** Prioritize transportation investments that maximize network efficiency based on local growth patterns.

- Changes recommended to bring goals more in line with expectations and purview of MPO and reduce potential points of conflicts between MVP and local governments.

*Motion to amend (**Brown**), seconded. No objection.*

*Motion to approve as amended (**Winnestaffer**), seconded. No further discussion, no objection. Motion is approved.*

- b. Public Participation Plan adoption (Action Item)

**Recommended Motion: Motion to adopt the Public Participation Plan as presented.**

*Motion to approve (**Winnestaffer**), seconded. Item raised for discussion by **Mike Brown**.*



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### Discussion:

- Would like to recognize that there is a sensitivity to off-road vehicles and their use of public ROWs as part of MVP public participation planning and outreach.

*Motion to add language acknowledging off-road vehicle users as interested stakeholder on page 19 of the Public Participation Plan (Brown), seconded. Amendment is approved.*

*Motion to adopt as amended (Winnestaffer), seconded. No further discussion, no objection. Motion is approved.*

### c. MVP FFY 26 Annual Budget Approval

**Recommended Motion: Motion to approve the FFY annual budget as presented**

*Motion to approve (**Cooper**), seconded. No further discussion, no objection. Motion is approved.*

### d. IRS Form 990 prep and FFY 2025 Annual Audit

**Recommended Motion: Motion to approve a professional services agreement with Altman, Rogers & Co. for IRS Form 990 prep and FFY 2025 Annual Audit**

*Motion to approve (**Bowland**), seconded. No further discussion, no objection. Motion is approved.*

## 7. Executive Session

### a. Executive Director Review

### b. Staffing Update and Performance Review Summary

Executive Session is not included in public record. Executive Session exceeded allotted time.

*Motion to extend the meeting to 3:30 pm (Winnestaffer), seconded. No further discussion, no objection. Motion is approved.*

## 8. Old Business

### a. Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update

#### i. Review Public Involvement Schedule and First Open House, December 3rd, location TBD (RESPEC)

- Tentative meeting location at Wasilla High School Theater Room (4:30 – 6:30 pm. Meeting will provide an overview of the MTP process, who is MVP, launch project map, and general engagement with the public – e.g., what do you need, want, see as challenges and opportunities.



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b. Evaluation Criteria Work Session October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10am-1pm at the Curtis D. Menard Memorial Sports Center

- Technical Committee will be meeting to work through evaluation criteria for reviewing and evaluating projects submitted. Policy Board members are invited to join if available.

c. 26-29 STIP Update from Lauren Little, Chief Engineer DOT&PF

- No update, awaiting further information from DOT. Was expected in October, no timeline.

### 9. New Business

a. None

### 10. Other Issues

a. Transit update

- Contract between MSB and Valley Transit has been signed. MVP will be meeting with Jennifer Bush of Valley Transit on Monday to discuss ways that MVP can provide support.

#### *Discussion Highlights:*

- Question – Is there a map of where valley transit is going to be operating?
- There will be no additional routes within core area, same fixed route. The questions to explore – what is level of service and what, if any, change in ridership?
- Note that have not yet received the federal grant side for FFY26 from FTA due to the ongoing government shutdown. This does increase risk of uninterrupted operation depending on length of shutdown.
- Suggestion to explore opportunities to leverage additional support for rural areas using rural funds potentially freed up by grant funding shift.

### 11. Informational Items

a. STIP Memo Carry-Over Funding – Lack of 3C Process for MVP Sub-Allocations

- See above notes under topic 5.

b. Office Space Consideration

a. [AlaskaRealEstate.com - \(MLS# 25-12477\): 432 S Alaska Street #1-3, Palmer](https://www.alaskarealestate.com/property/432-S-Alaska-Street-1-3-Palmer-99574)

- **Kim Solien** noted that MVP has been working with a realtor to identify space within MVP needs constraints (office space and conference room). Options are limited within allocated budget.

#### *Discussion Highlights:*

- Meeting space might be available in new gateway center (will be a Borough owned facility) to flex meeting. Also, Palmer Senior Center may be looking to allocate some space.
- Discussion of whether renting or purchasing is more appropriate.



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### c. UPWP Quarterly/Final Report

- Kim Sollien will be submitting report to Alaska DOT&PF at the end of October.

### d. PL Match Request for FFY26: Invoices sent to Policy Board Members

- Kim Sollien notes that MVP has received payment from almost everyone.

### e. Element Agency Branding Update

- **Anjie Goulding** presented new branding and website. Goal is to launch website by end of October. The new format is designed to be able to drive users to most critical information that the need to foster effective engagement.

### f. MVP Facebook/Instagram Review

- New Social Media is launched. Find us on Facebook and Instagram (@mvpmmpo). Like and follow!

## 12. Policy Board Comments

- **Brian Winnestaffer** – Revisiting the letter from the DOT vs. MVP letter, highlighted potential concern over a political vs. data driven STIP. Is there some way that we can ensure that the STIP is transparent and back into the hands of the planning department and data driven?
- **Luke Bowland** – The Seward to Glen linkage open house was held in Anchorage on October 21, 2025. Although the project site is outside of the MPO boundary, it is worth tracking as it will impact commuters. Public comment period is currently open to review alternatives.

## 13. Adjournment

*The meeting was adjourned at 3:33 pm.*

Next Scheduled MPO Policy Board Meeting – November 19th, from 1:30 pm to 3:00 p.m. to be held via Microsoft TEAMS and at the Alaska DOT MatSu District Office at 500 S Seward Meridian Pkwy, Wasilla, Alaska.