



**Representatives:**

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

**Microsoft Teams meeting**

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**Minutes**

**Wednesday, December 17th, 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, and an overflow parking lot to the south.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

*The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm.*

**Members present:**

Bob Charles – Knik Tribe  
Brian Winnestaffer - Chickaloon Native Village  
Edna DeVries, Mayor - MSB  
Jim Cooper, Mayor – City of Palmer  
Mike Brown - MSB  
Chris Bentz – (proxy for Sean Holland) DOT&PF

**Members absent:**

Glenda Ledford, Mayor – City of Wasilla

**Visitors Present:**

Adam Bradway – AK DOT&PF  
Anjie Goulding – MVP  
Ben White – AK DOT&PF  
Carrie Cecil – MVP  
Kim Sollien – MVP  
Pat Cotter – RESPEC  
Emily Haynes – FHWA  
Randy Warden – FHWA  
Alex Strawn – MSB  
James Marks

2. Consent Agenda (**Action Item**)
  - a. Approval of the December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Agenda
  - b. Approval of the November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Minutes



Motion to approve the consent agenda and minutes (*Winnestaffer*), seconded (*Cooper*). No discussion, no objection. Approved.

3. Staff Report
  - Staff Report
    - a. Schedule of topics

**Kim Sollien** provided brief staff report:

*Open House:*

- Thank you to all of the policy board members who joined us at our December 3 Open House and provided support answered questions.

*At-large seats on the Technical Committee*

- Currently, there are three at-large seats on the Technical Committee (trucking advocate, public transit advocate, and pedestrian and bicycle mobility advocate)
- Stuart Leidner recently stepped down as bike and ped mobility advocate. MVP staff will be announcing the opening for that seat soon.
- An opening for the public transit seat will also be announced following communications with technical committee as current seat holder has not responded to request for continued involvement.

*Engagement with local, regional, tribal entities:*

- Per federal regulations, MVP need to engage with local, state, and tribal entities on MTP
- As such, please expect an email asking how/ if you would like a formal presentation. Options include:
  - MVP staff can provide the entire presentation
  - You can provide the presentation and MVP can provide support
  - If you don't want a formal presentation (e.g., Knik has requested info packets in lieu) please let us know so that we can document that as part of our MTP process

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

None.

5. Technical Committee Action Items
  - a. *MTP Vision, Goals, and Objectives Motion to recommend that the Policy Board approve the MTP vision, Goals, and Objectives as presented. Motion by Dan Tucker, seconded, passed without objection*
6. Action Items
  - a. MTP Vision, Goals, and Objectives **Recommended Motion: Motion to approve the MTP vision, Goals, and Objectives as presented.**

*Motion to approve as presented (Cooper), seconded (Winnestaffer).*

*Discussion:*



**Kim Sollien** directed attention to summary of comments received beginning on page 20 of the packet. During the 30-day public comment period, MVP received 8 comments: five directly addressed vision, goals, and objectives and three were more general comments and/ or incomplete. MVP provided direct response to all comments received. MVP staff similarly reviews and, as appropriate, responds to all comments received outside of open comment periods.

Roll call vote:

- Bob Charles – yes
- DeVries – yes
- Winnestaffer – yes
- Brown – yes
- Bentz – yes
- Cooper – yes

*Motion is approved.*

- b. 26-29 DOT&PF Carbon Reduction Program Consultation: 34464 Fleet Conversion Adam Bradway, Alaska DOT&PF. **Recommended Motion, Motion to approve ADOT&PF usage of \$636,790 of MVP’s CRP FFY25 suballocation for Fleet Conversion and requesting a written agreement that the funds be returned to MVP in the form of STBG funding in FFY27.** See TC discussion notes in page 3 of the packet.

**Adam Bradway** presented the project request for consultation with MPO per federal regulation. Associated documents start on page 26 of the packet. AK DOT&PF would like to program approx. \$636,000 of Carbon Reduction Program funds to support fleet conversion. To date, MVP has not used any of the CRP funds that they received; CRP funds have specific limitations on use. FHWA has requested assurances that vehicles would be used within the MPA boundaries. Technical Committee asked DOT for agreement to offset with STBG in the future to offset the use of these CRP funds now. STBG flex funds have a much wider range of applications and can be used throughout the state. Additionally, it is possible that CRP funds will not be provided in the future pending the expected 2026 reauthorization from Congress. It is possible that FHWA may not authorize this particular use of CRP funds given boundary limitations – further engagement is needed.

*Motion to amend movement to approve ADOT&PF usage of \$636,790 of MVP’s CRP FFY25 suballocation for Fleet Conversion provided that a written agreement that the funds be returned to MVP in the form of STBG funding in FFY27 be prepared by ADOT&PF. Seconded (Winnestaffer). No further discussion, no objections. Approved.*

7. Old Business

- a. MVP Improvement Program Update on Scope, Schedule, and Budget. ADOT&PF Chris Bentz.

**Chris Bentz** presented update on projects. Associated documents included as page 27 and 28 of the packet.



- This is an update on the MVP improvement program to set aside up to \$1 mil annually to work on smaller projects that might be completed more expediently. The Policy Board had previously approved a list of 14 projects, mostly repaving with some new paving. Projects were recommended by the City of Wasilla, City of Palmer, and MSB. This read out concerns the design and review of projects. This will inform the scope, schedule, and budget of the projects. Eventually, will need to engage partners to establish match funding.
- The DOT&PF team spent the 2025 field season looking at things required by fed/ state guidelines to ensure all projects meet standards required for use of federal funds – e.g., ADA ramps, utility lines.
  - The team did identify some ramps that need to be improved to ADA but they do not conflict with the ROW so no associated additional costs.
  - On all 14 roads, 40 plus locations where utilities do not meet requirements. In process now of obtaining as-builts and checking with utilities for permits to assign financial responsibility for rectifying the issues.
- DOT&PF expect to do combined review of all projects in spring and early summer, which should be accompanied by better cost estimates.

**Jim Cooper** asked if curb and gutter are included as part of these projects?

**Chris Bentz** notes that drainage was excluded as part of this review to expedite the projects. Any curb and gutter issues, the city/ MSB need to be addressed separately. Combining would result in project delays of up to 1-2 additional years.

b. MTP Update

- Interactive Project Map Live
- Formal Call for Projects from agencies date pending mid-late January
- Stakeholder outreach and special meeting schedule- letters sent

**Kim Sollien** noted:

- We are receiving good engagement through our interactive comment map and to continue to encourage others to use it.
- Have not set a date for formal project nominations. We are waiting on deliverables from Respec on Friday including a project list (what they would recommend to improve network). Hope to present that in January.

**Adam Bradway** noted that DOT&PF is also working on their project list for the next 25 years in parallel with MVP's MTP process. DOT&PF expects to bring this list to the board at about the same time as MVP's project list. As part of this, DOT&PF will also be reaching out more informally to engage with the cities, MSB, and tribes to discuss DOT's vision for what is expected in the next 25 years.

c. MVP FFY 24&25 Funding Allocations, Carryover, and FFY26 Funding Award

- Letter from ADOT&PF documenting improvements that could be made with the 3C process, STIP involvement, carryover funding,



and usage of MPV's suballocations without consultation- Ben White, Alaska DOT&PF

a. Letter to the Policy Board From ADOT&PF

**Ben White** presented a summary of the letter, which is the outcome of Technical Committee and Policy Board meetings in October.

- The letter addresses both the past programming variances that led to MVP's funds being used without notification as well as plans for carry over funds in FY26.
- Overall result is that MVP is going to walk away with more funds in FY26 (including TIFIA funds).
- DOT&PF recommendations moving forward:
  - DOT should provide written documentation of how MVP funds are intended to be programmed in advance notice where possible.
  - Add programming of carry over funds as a subject line to MPO quarterly meetings to make sure that everyone's financial programming is being addressed consistently.
  - DOT should prepare an annual report of where the funds went and how they were spent.
- Clarification that federal funds are typically available for 3-years (depending on program). It is DOT&PF practice to program older and harder to spend funds first. This means that FY24 funds programmed may not be replaced with other FY24 funds but funds from FY25, etc. to make the MPO whole.
  - MVP FFY 24,25,26 funding and project documentation Update - Adam Bradway, Alaska DOT&PF
    - a. FFY2026 suballocation documentation from ADOT&PF
    - b. Carry forward the workbook from ADOT&PF
    - c. MVP Program of Projects Accounting (purple highlights =funding projects)
    - d. MVP Accounting of Projects that used our funding

Additional details in support of above agenda topic and discussion.

d. FFY26-29 STIP Update Adam Bradway, Alaska DOT&PF

Expecting STIP out around Legislative session (3<sup>rd</sup> week January) for 45-day public comment.

e. Alaska DOT&PF SAFEROADS initiative Adam Bradway, Alaska DOT&PF

No new updates. It is expected that there would be programming of some funds in STIP towards this initiative.

8. New Business

9. Other Issues

a. MTP Video edit request by Alaska DOT&PF



The video has been edited and is back online.

- b. Small Urban Apportionment (split) letter for FY 2024 in the Wasilla - Knik - Fairview - North Lakes (WKFNL) small urban area
- c. Transit update- 5307 Split letter

**Kim Sollien** initiated discussion with summary of the two letters included in the packet starting on page 72.

- The Small Urban Apportionment letter from the AK DOT&PF Commissioner was a hang up in getting 5307 grant funds to direct recipients for FY24 funds. The letter indicates that a future policy will be developed to allocate funds within small urban areas.
- The Commissioner has requested MVP input on policy for future allocations (i.e., split).
- The ARRC has provided a letter suggestion proposed split.
- The request to the Policy Board then is to provide further direction on what engagement they would like MVP to have in this process and what information they need to facilitate that engagement

**Brian Winnestaffer** – Chickaloon receives FTA funds through Tribal Transit funds and recognizes that FTA requires close tracking of various transit metrics. It would be good to have some comparison between railroad and Valley Transit numbers since that is how FTA allocates funds.

**Mike Brown** –

- Did not see the logic in the AARC letter describing the methods of splitting funds in Anchorage as translating well to MVP and FAST; however, the railroad has been receiving these funds for passenger operations for years. To that end, he suggests that there So thinks there may be a better balance between the full amount AARC is asking for and \$0. The MSB is supportive of exploring different options for funding splits. This is no longer as urgent because the immediate need to support Valley Transit is taken care of with the FY24 funds as allocated in the Commissioner’s letter.
- Senses we are not obligated to give them funds, but they do qualify (FTA must be recognizing them in some way or form to be giving them funds).
- If there is a way to connect to services or infrastructure within the boundary, that would make more sense. The MSB would like to work through what other options are out there.
- The other fiscal reality is the match component from the borough. E.g., if they get all the funds and the MSB is unable to meet that match. This is something that will need further discussion and review of MSB financials.

**Bob Charles** – This is going way back to getting statutory language put in by Ted Stevens. Moving forward, the focus should be on the appropriate split of these funds between the borough and AARC.

**Jim Cooper** – Raised concerns that AARC is saying they need funds, but they are just continuing to reduce services overall.



Summary of requests from Policy Board:

- Research on ridership data, infrastructure data, etc.
- Research on what other funding sources to support AARC other than 5307?
- A general write up of intent of 5307 funds and what makes this unique

10. Informational Items

- a. Community Outreach & Engagement Analytics Report

**Anjie Goulding** provided a high level report out on what we are seeing on across our social media and outreach platforms and how we are using these platforms to improve outreach to the community and track engagement.

- FB = 12k plus views, 60 followers
- Insta = 12k plus views, 104 followers

11. Policy Board Comments

**Brian Winnestaffer:** Suggested that social media could focus on partnership by emphasizing different Technical Committee and Policy Board members/ organizations.

12. Adjournment

*The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 pm.*

Next Scheduled MPO Policy Board Meeting – January 28th, from 1:30 pm to 3:00 p.m. to be held via Microsoft TEAMS and at the Alaska DOT Mat-Su District Office at 500 S Seward Meridian Pkwy, Wasilla, Alaska.