



Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership

Jessica Speed, Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership

March 22nd, 2016 ~ Joint Mat-Su Borough Assembly & Planning Commission Meeting

Palmer, Alaska



“From an economic perspective, wild salmon may be the world’s most perfect business model: Nature provides the necessary infrastructure, we invest nothing in the wild production system, and every year we harvest an enormously valuable resource.”

–Richard Nelson, Mat-Su Salmon Symposium 2015



Mat-Su Salmon Partnership Representation

Category	Total #	Percentage
Non-profit	21	35%
Governmental (local, state, federal)	18	30%
Business (including consultants)	9	15%
Tribal	5	8%
Fishing (interest groups & guides)	5	8%
Academic	1	2%
Private individual	1	2%
	60	100%



Together the
Matanuska & Susitna watersheds
total over 25,000 square miles





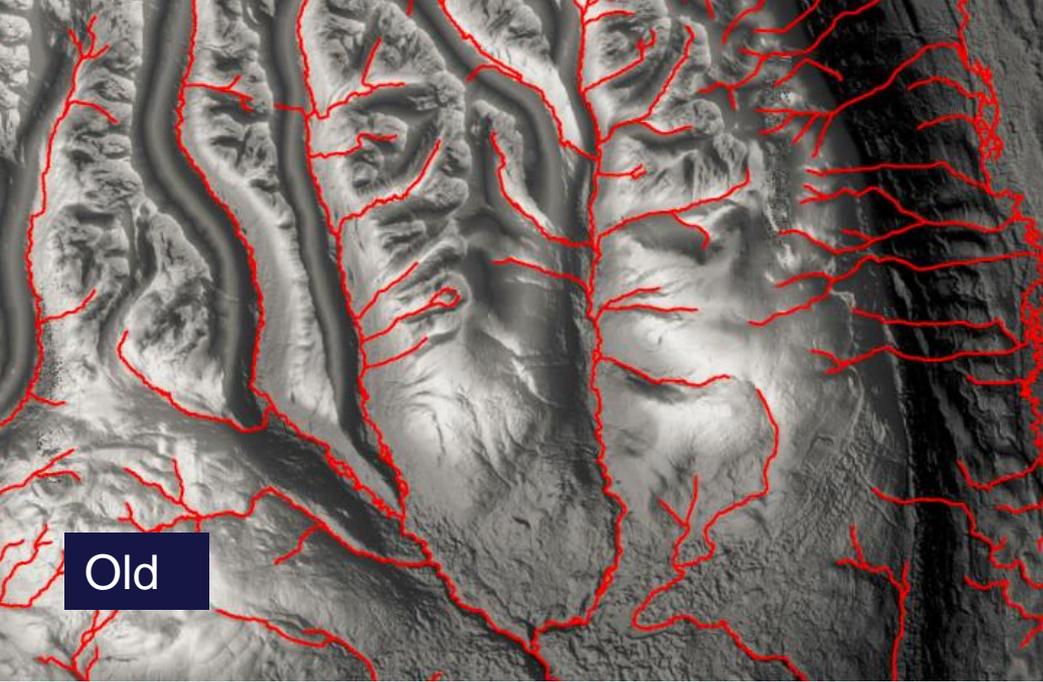
Conservation Strategies

1	Overarching Science Strategies
2	Alteration of Riparian Areas
3	Climate Change
4	Culverts that Block Fish Passage
5	Filling of Wetlands
6	Impervious Surfaces & Stormwater Pollution
7	Aquatic Invasive Species
8	Large-scale Resource Development
9	Loss or Alteration of Water Flow or Volume
10	Loss of Estuaries & Nearshore Habitats
11	Motorized Off-road Recreation
12	Wastewater Management

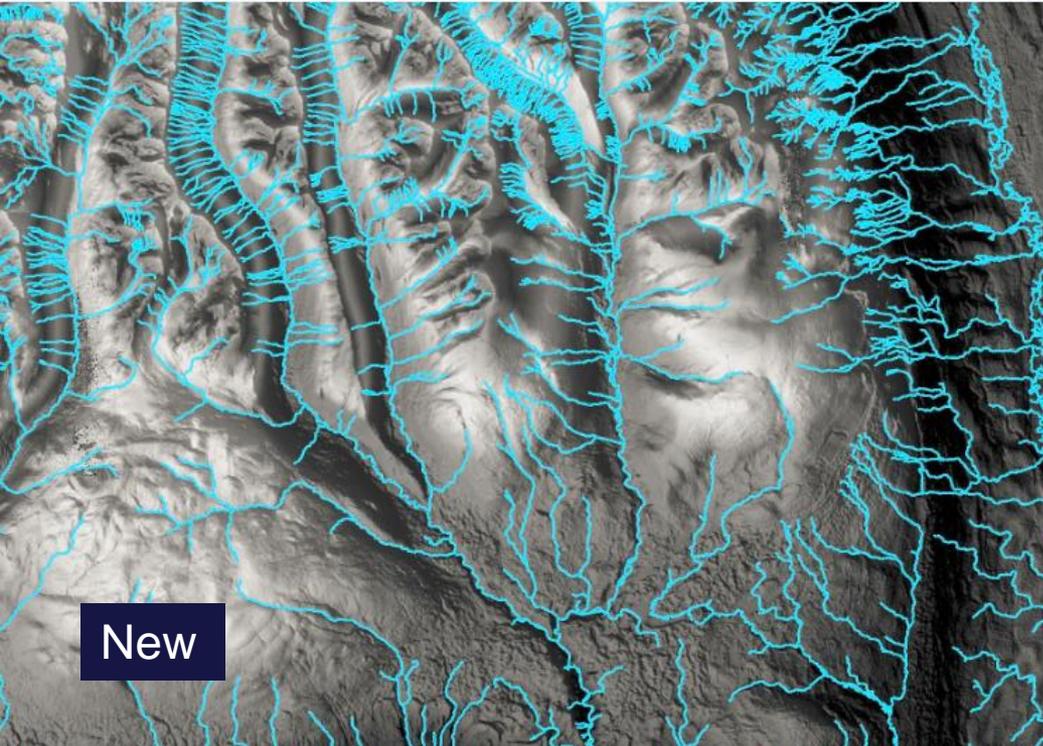
Progress:

- Science
- Conservation
- Restoration
- Information sharing & education





Old



New

Science:

- Mapping streams
- Improving knowledge of salmon
- Identifying cold water refuges



Conservation:



- 2,000 acres of important salmon habitat conserved
- Water reservations filed for Moose Creek & data collected on Kashwitna Creek and Little Willow Creek



Restoration:

14 barrier removals opened 49.5 miles of upstream habitat and 857 lake acres

11 shoreline restoration projects



Information Sharing & Education:

- Annual Mat-Su Salmon Symposium
- Summer Site Tour
- Wildlife Wednesday

Partner initiatives:

Clean Boating
Kingmakers
Septic Smart

Baby Salmon Live Here
Susitna Salmon Center
Salmon in the Classroom



Moving forward ...



Thank you!

Mat-Su
salmon
PARTNERSHIP



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PLANNING & LAND USE DEPARTMENT
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH



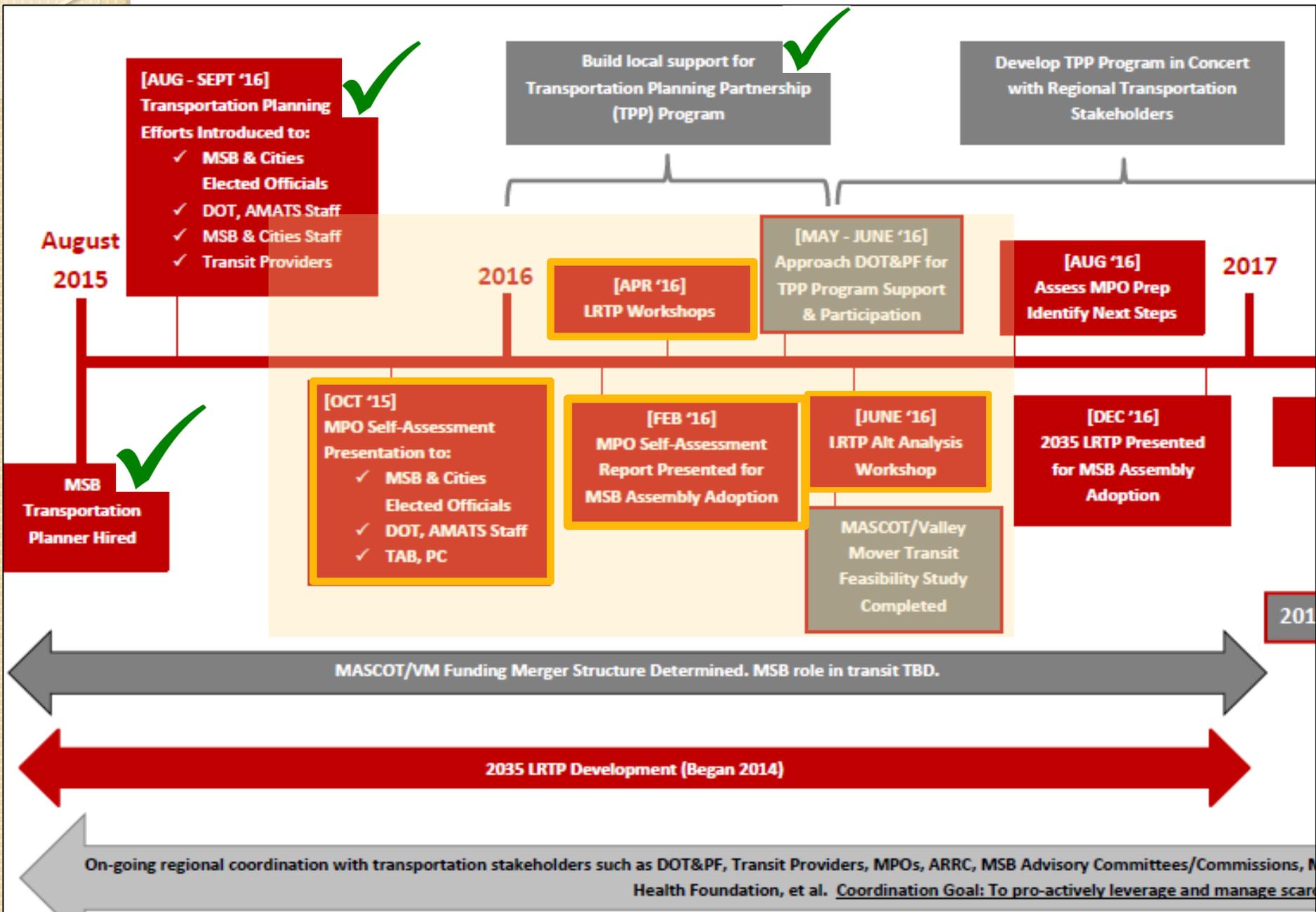
Mat-Su Borough Transportation Planning Spring 2016 Update



Joint Planning Commission/Assembly Meeting - March 22, 2016

Jessica Smith, MSB Transportation Planner

Lauren Driscoll, AICP, MSB Chief of Planning



NOTE: This schedule for planning purposes only and is meant to be flexible. This schedule will be adjusted as needed.

What We've Been Up To...

- Long Range Transportation Plan Update
- Regional Aviation System Plan (Phase 2)
- Metropolitan Planning Organization Prep
- Transportation Web Portal
- Transit Coordination
- Transportation Planning Partnership

TO DO LiST

1. **SO**
2. **MANY**
3. **THINGS**



2035 MSB LRTP



- **Scope: Update the 2007 LRTP and OSHP**
 - ✓ Identify needs and improvements to guide transportation decisions through 2035.
 - ✓ Update Official Streets & Highways Plan (OSHP) map for projected 2035 street and highway system.
- **Key Features**
 - Fiscally constrained programming
 - Increased public involvement
 - Scenario planning
 - Increased efforts to develop a more multi-modal transportation system
- **Status**
 - Technical memo and modeling completed in August of 2015.
 - UPDATE: working with DOT as state revenue has drastically changed!
 - Scenario planning and community mapping complete June 2016
 - 2 workshops (see upcoming events)
 - Several community meetings
 - Community council and stakeholder outreach
 - Online open house with interactive mapping

2016 Schedule

Spring - Scenario Workshops

Summer - Draft Plan

Fall - Public Review & Legislation

Upcoming Events

April 19 (Morning)

Workshop #3: Transit Workshop

April 19 (Afternoon)

Workshop #4 : What does transportation look like to you?



Alaska DOT&PF Access Management Coordination

➤ **Scope**

- ✓ Develop pro-access permitting process specifically for DOT&PF owned roads in the Mat-Su
- ✓ Create GIS mapping of ideal intersection locations on DOT&PF owned roadways.
- ✓ Focuses on the Parks Highway.

➤ **Key Features**

- Partner with DOT&PF for MSB-specific solutions
- long-term planning for optimal access points
- Provides clear direction from DOT&PF on future access points
- Assists in maintaining the road's functional classification (collector, arterial)
- Sets the stage for future access management best practices in the MSB

➤ **Status**

- This is a DOT&PF managed project.
- DOT&PF has approached MSB Planning, Public Works, and Capital Projects Departments for local knowledge and advice.
- DOT&PF developing maps and best practices guidance for MSB review.
- MSB reviewing a draft version of proposed intersection locations.

2016 Schedule

January – Kick-off Meeting

February – Scope Defined

March – Intro to Assembly/PC

April thru September –
Development of Plan/Policy

October – DOT&PF Presentation to
Assembly/PC

November/December – Review

Early 2017 – Guidelines in place!



The Transportation Web Portal

➤ **Scope**

- ✓ Develop a website-based “One-Stop-Shop” for all things MSB Transportation.

➤ **Key Features**

- **Smart Communities Project**
- Interactive mapping tool showing transportation facilities and for Assembly, Community Council, and RSA districts.
- Framed with information for Transportation FAQs
 - Life Cycle of a Road
 - What are my options? (MASCOT, Valley Mover, Share-a-Ride, Taxis, Aviation, Hybrid Airship Launch Pads, Bike/Ped Paths)
 - Current Project Status
 - Why are there tubes across my road? (Data Collection)
 - How to get involved! (Meetings and Events)

➤ **Status**

- Managed in-house by IT & Planning staff
- 70% complete on all tasks
- Anticipate roll-out by end of summer 2016

2015-2016 Schedule

Fall 2015

- Funding Established
- Software Upgrades

Winter 2015 – Summer 2016

- Kick-off Meeting, Team Established
- Information gathered for content
- Website programming development

Summer 2016

- **GO LIVE!**

MSB MPO Self Assessment

➤ Scope

- ✓ Assess MSB's "ready-ness" for anticipated Metropolitan Planning Area/Organization designation.
- ✓ Research best practices for MPO establishment through peer MPO interviews.

➤ Key Features

- Identifies MPO requirements
- Documents MSB's current transportation planning practices
- Provides feedback and advice from peer MPO interviews
- Recommends next steps for MPO preparation

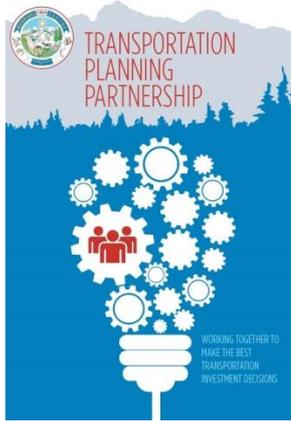
➤ Status

- Assembly referred the MPO Self Assessment to PC and TAB
- Due back to Assembly by May 16, 2016

2015-2016 Schedule

February - May 2016

- Legislation routing to MSB Assembly, TAB, and PC.
- **TAB**
 - Intro 2/24/2016
 - Action anticipated 3/23/2016
- **Planning Commission**
 - Intro Public Hearing 3/21/2016
 - Action anticipated 4/4/2016



Transportation Planning Partnership

A Blueprint for Transportation Decision-Making in the Mat-Su

➤ **Scope**

- Develop a process for joint transportation decision-making that works for Mat-Su Cities, the Borough, and Alaska DOT&PF
- MPO skill building

➤ **Key Features**

- 3-C process (continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive)
 - recommended by FHA
- Established guidelines to better leverage resources
- Designs a process specifically for Mat-Su!

➤ **Status**

- As of 3/21/2016:
 - the City Councils of Palmer, Houston and Wasilla have signed resolutions of support
 - Coming Soon for MSB Assembly, PC and TAB Review & Support!

2016 Schedule

April – June (NOW)

- MSB public process: Ask for review & support of project development.

June – July

- Approach DOT&PF decision-makers for Memorandum of Agreement to implement developed process.

Fall/Winter 2016

- Develop process guidelines.

Winter /Spring 2017

- *Initiate partnership trial with Corridor Planning projects (funded!)*

Regional Aviation System Plan (RASP), Phase II



➤ Scope

- ✓ Implement recommendations of 2008 RASP (Phase I) in 5 Tasks.
 - Task 1: Economic Impacts of Aviation in MSB
 - Task 2: South MSB Airport/Floatplane Base Location Study
 - Task 3: Aviation Advisory Board Engagement
 - Task 4: Airport Master Plan & Airport Layout Plan Cost Estimates
 - Task 5: Compatible Land Use Study

➤ Key Features

- Provides public information for economic benefits of aviation in Mat-Su
- Studies possible location and cost estimates for a future airport/floatplane base in South Mat-Su (20-year, full build out)
- Studies compatible land use, ownership, potential compatibility issues and development opportunities around State Airports in MSB (Big Lake, Goose Bay, Lake Louise, Sheep Mountain, Skwentna, Talkeetna, Willow).

➤ Status

- Economic Impact Report is Complete.
- Economic Impact Brochure is being finalized.
- Working with DOT&PF and FAA for draft concept layouts.
- Task 4 is complete; Task 5 is in progress.

Schedule

- *Floatplane Base Study to continue through April 2017*
- *Task 5 will wrap up Summer 2016.*

Transit Coordination

- Attended the Transit Feasibility Study & Plan Stakeholder Workshop (March 1)
- MSB Staff Interview by Feasibility Study project team (March 8)
- Continue to work with transit providers on regional transportation issues.

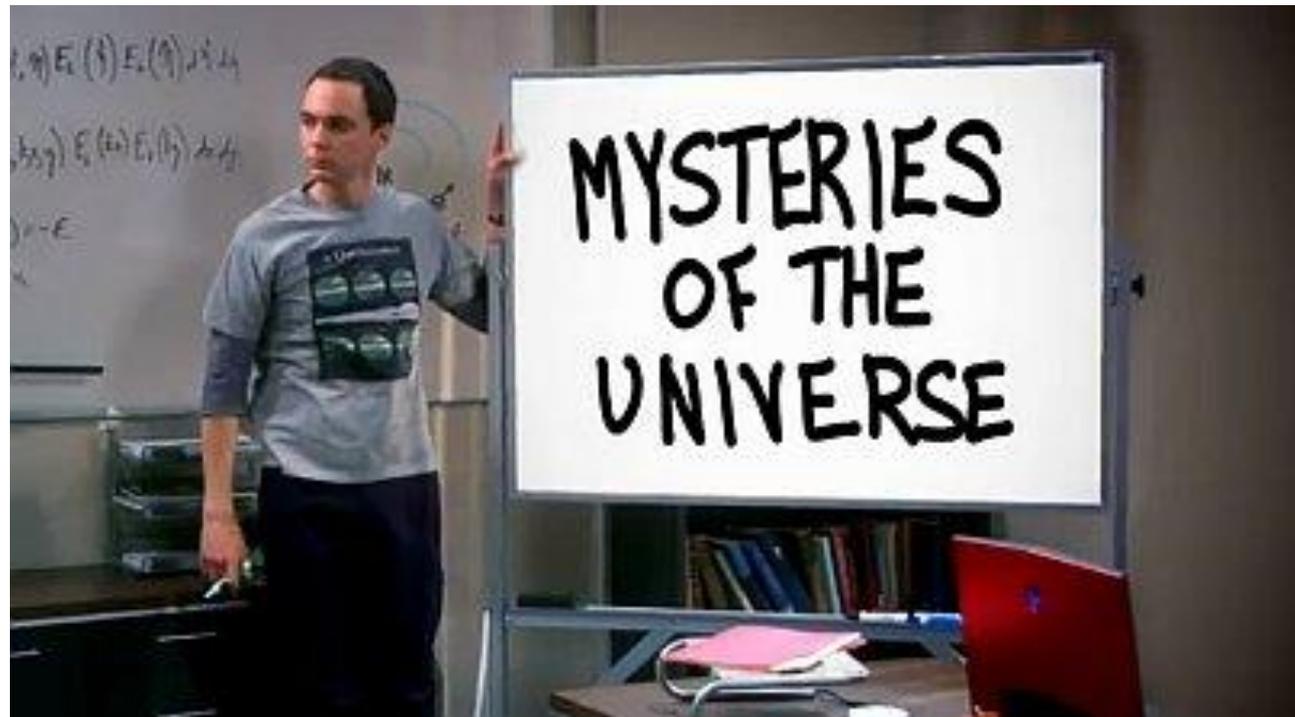


Did You Know?

After a quick review, we found the **Mat-Su Borough** has contributed over **\$200,000** since **2008** towards transit-related projects and equipment.

This funding leveraged over \$6.5 million in funds for transit-related projects in the **Borough!**

QUESTIONS?





THANK YOU!

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3/22/2016