Transportation Advisory Board
AGENDA
Lower Level Conference Room

REGULAR MEETING 2 P.M. February 26, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. ITEMS OF BUSINESS
   a. Chair & Vice Chair selection

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
   a. December 13, 2018

VI. AUDIENCE INTRODUCTION/PARTICIPATION

VII. STAFF/AGENCY REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS
    a. Joshua Cross, Dan Elliott, Fred Wagner: Subdivision Construction Manual Update
    b. Ben Coleman (MSB): Road Project Funding Difficulties
    c. Ben Coleman (MSB): Valley Transit Fleet Refresh: Local Match

VIII. NEW BUSINESS
     a. Valley Transit Fleet Refresh: Local Match Resolution
     b. Kings River Bridge Replacement and Glenn Highway Long Lake MP 84.5-92 Resolution
     c. Sara Jansen: AARP Livable Communities Meeting Report

IX. MEMBER COMMENTS

X. NEXT MEETING – June 27, 2019

XI. ADJOURNMENT
I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM.

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board was called to order at 2:07 pm on Thursday, December 13, 2018, in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Lower Level Conference Room, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska.

Transportation Advisory Board members present and establishing a quorum were:
   Ms. Jennifer Tew
   Mr. Joshua Cross
   Ms. Cindy Bettine
   Mr. Dan Elliott
   Mr. Antonio Weese
   Ms. Emily Dodge

Staff and Agency Representatives in attendance were:
   Mr. Ben Coleman, MSB Transportation Planner
   Mr. Alex Strawn, MSB Development Services Manager
   Mr. Allen Kemplen, DOT Central Region Planner

II. APPROVAL OF TODAY’S AGENDA

MOTION: To approve agenda. 1st: Dan Elliott 2nd: Antonio Weese

Discussion:

Motion carried unanimously.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dan Elliott led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Dan Elliott made a motion to approve the Minutes of September 27; Joshua Cross seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

V. AUDIENCE INTRODUCTION/PARTICIPATION (3 minutes per person)

VI. STAFF/AGENCY REPORT

MOTION: Jennifer Tew made a motion to amend the agenda, to move the timber transport permit presentation to after Mr. Kemplen’s presentation on Planning
and Environmental Linkage Studies, focusing on the Wasilla Bypass. Dan Elliott seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

A. Allen Kemplen (DOT): Planning & Environmental Linkage (PEL) Study—Wasilla Bypass
B. Alex Strawn (MSB): Ordinance 18-093—Timber Transport Permit
C. Dan Elliott (TAB): Subdivision Construction Manual update
D. Ben Coleman (MSB): Bond Project Funding Sources

VII. ITEMS OF BUSINESS
A. Timber Transport TAB Resolution 18-05

MOTION: Dan Elliott made a motion to approve the Timber Transport Resolution 18-05 as presented. Emily Dodge seconded.

AMENDED MOTION: Joshua Cross made a motion to remove the words “on remote roads” from Resolution 18-05 and add a period after “…heavy traffic”. Antonio Weese seconded.

Amended motion carried unanimously.

SECOND AMENDED MOTION: Emily Dodge made a motion to remove the words “whichever is more” from Resolution 18-05. Joshua Cross seconded.

Second amended motion and second withdrawn.

Motion with amendment carried unanimously.

B. Calendar of 2019 Meetings
Next meeting will be held on February 26, 2019 (Tuesday) at 2 p.m.

C. CIP Process Update TAB Resolution 18-06 and Project Nominations.

MOTION: Dan Elliott made a motion to extend the meeting to 5:15 p.m. Jennifer Tew Seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Dan Elliott made a motion to approve Resolution 18-06. Antonio Weese seconded.

AMENDED MOTION: Jennifer Tew made a motion to remove recommendations 2, 3, 4, and 8 from Resolution 18-06.

Amended motion failed (no second).
MOTION: Dan Elliott made a motion to extend to 5:20 p.m. Emily Doge seconded.

Motion to extend carried unanimously.

Motion to approve Resolution 18-06 carried with Cindy Bettine opposed.

VIII. Member Comments:
   Jennifer Tew: No comment
   Joshua Cross: No comment
   Dan Elliott: No comment
   Antonio Weese: It is fortunate that no one was seriously hurt from the earthquake despite the damage.
   Cindy Bettine: No comment
   Emily Dodge: No comment

IX. ADJOURNMENT
   Meeting adjourned at 5:18 PM

___________________________________  ___________________________
, Chair  Date

ATTEST:

___________________________________  ___________________________
Ben Coleman, MSB, Planner II  Date
Key Issues:
- No Borough road powers
- Transportation systems bond funded at 50%
  - State is not a viable match source at this time
  - Barriers to accessing federal pass-through grants
- Insufficient capital at RSA level
- RSAs cannot spend outside of boundary
To: John Moosey, Borough Manager

From: Jessica Smith, Planning Division Manager

Date: December 4, 2018

Re: Local Match Funds for Valley Transit Bus Replacement

The planning department is requesting the administration’s support and Assembly appropriation of $341,334 from the Community Transportation Program Grant Match budget line item for a local match to leverage $3,438,666 in FTA 5311 (Rural Areas) and FTA 5339 (Bus & Bus Facilities Infrastructure) to replace six of Valley Transit’s buses. The deadline to commit funds is December 17, 2018.

All six buses currently used by Valley Transit to operate their commuter route between the MSB and Anchorage were purchased from Anchorage’s People Mover when already past their useful life. The buses have, on average, over 850,000 miles and are in serious need of replacement. The current buses provide over 50,000 annual rides.

Cost Breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Individual Cost ($)</th>
<th>Qty.</th>
<th>Total Cost ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bus</td>
<td>570,000</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3,420,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus Branding</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>180,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farebox</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>180,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Cost</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3,780,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost to Borough (9.03% of total)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>341,334</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adopted Plan References & Community Support

Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan
- Adopted November 27, 2018
- Describes the current and growing need for transit service improvements based on demographic changes, while funding has decreased (p.6, 15-30, 43)
- The Borough and cities do not regularly provide local match funds to leverage federal funds necessary to maintain vehicles and help cover operating expenses (p.6, 43).
- Strategy: identify additional funding sources, including grants from local government (p.8, 50)
- Strategy: rebrand Valley Transit rolling stock (p.9, 52)

Long Range Transportation Plan
- “While the automobile has been the primary mode of transportation, residents have expressed a focused interest in improving transit...” (p.9)
- “Improve access to Jobs for both residents and employers” (p.21) “Improving multimodal access to jobs...” (p.21)
- “Expand the transit system including more regular service to Anchorage and more fixed-route service” (p. 29
Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) Support
- Fleet refresh program asking for match funds for new public transit vehicles for Valley Transit.
  The TAB nominated this project to the 2020-2025 CIP, awaiting Assembly approval.
A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDING ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATION OF UP TO $341,334 FROM THE COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM GRANT MATCH BUDGET TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED 9.03% LOCAL MATCH FOR FEDERAL TRANSIT GRANTS TO REPLACE VALLEY TRANSIT COMMUTER BUSES.

WHEREAS, Valley Transit is seeking to replace six commuter buses operating between the Mat-Su Borough and Anchorage for a total cost of $3,780,000; and

WHEREAS, Valley Transit is eligible for FTA 5311 (Rural Areas) and FTA 5339 (Bus & Bus Infrastructure) funds; and

WHEREAS, a local match of 9.03% is required to receive FTA 5311 and FTA 5339 funding, with up to $341,334 from the Mat-Su Borough and up to $3,438,666 granted by the Alaska Community Transit Office; and

WHEREAS, Valley Transit provides over 50,000 annual commuter rides to Mat-Su Borough Residents; and

WHEREAS, Valley Transit’s commuter buses were purchased from Anchorage’s People Mover already past their useful life, and the commuter buses average 850,000 miles and need to be replaced; and

WHEREAS, the 2035 MSB Long Range Transportation Plan and the 2018 Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan recognize the increasing need to prioritize investment in transit services in the Borough; and
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board hereby recommends Assembly appropriation of $341,224 from the Community Transportation Program Grant Match budget to provide the required 9.03% local match for federal transit grants to replace Valley Transit commuter buses. If the grant award from the Alaska Community Transit Office is less than $3,438,666, any unused match funding will remain in the Community Transportation Program Grant Match budget.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board this 26th day of February, 2019.

__________________________, Chair

ATTEST:

Benjamin Coleman, Transportation Planner
Staff Support
Project Overview

The Western Federal Lands Highway Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in partnership with the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), is planning to rehabilitate 25.5 miles of the Glenn Highway, from Kings River Bridge (MP 66.5) to Cascade (MP 92).

Purpose and Need

The purpose of this project is to enhance the safety of the highway and accommodate the anticipated traffic for the next 20 years. This rehabilitation project will:

- Preserve and extend the service life of the highway
- Provide climbing lanes
- Enhance safety
- Provide rock fall mitigation

Environmental Review

As a part of this project’s ongoing National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental review process, FHWA is working on Environmental Assessment Re-evaluations for each construction phase of the Glenn Highway between MP 66.5 and 92.

Glenn Highway Long Lake

Section MP 84.5 to 92

The project team is currently developing the preliminary design and evaluating the environmental impacts of realigning the Glenn Highway to the south of Long Lake. Through realignment, the highway will avoid the chronic rockfall area adjacent to Long Lake. Work in 2018 included geotechnical subsurface investigation and preliminary design development through 50% completion.

In 2019, the project development team plans to complete the environmental compliance, develop the plans, specifications and engineer’s estimate through 70% design, and initiate the right-of-way acquisition process.

Comments and Contact Information

Questions or comments can be sent via mail or email to:

Steve Morrow
Environmental Protection Specialist
Phone: (360) 619-7811
glennhighway@dot.gov

Reuben Johnson, P.E.
Project Manager
Phone: (360) 619-7995
glennhighway@dot.gov

FHWA Western Federal Lands Highway Division
610 East Fifth Street
Vancouver, WA 98661-3801

Visit the project website for more information:
Please share your comments. Comments can also be e-mailed to glennhighway@dot.gov. For more project information, visit: http://bit.ly/GHW66-92

Name: __________________________
E-mail: _________________________
Address: _________________________
City: _____________________________ State: __________________ Zip: _____________

Please add me to the project e-mail list. □
Please fold here and tape at bottom for mailing.

ATTN:  Steve Morrow, Environmental Protection Specialist
Federal Highway Administration
Western Federal Lands Highway Division
610 East Fifth Street
Vancouver, WA  98661-3801
Project Overview
The Western Federal Lands Highway Division of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in partnership with the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF), is planning to rehabilitate 25.5 miles of the Glenn Highway, from Kings River Bridge (MP 66.5) to Cascade (MP 92).

Purpose and Need
The purpose of this project is to enhance the safety of the highway and accommodate the anticipated traffic for the next 20 years. This rehabilitation project will:

- Preserve and extend the service life of the highway
- Provide climbing lanes
- Enhance safety
- Provide rock fall mitigation

Environmental Review
As a part of this project’s ongoing National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental review process, FHWA is working on Environmental Assessment Re-evaluations for each construction phase of the Glenn Highway between MP 66.5 and 92.

Glenn Highway
Kings River Bridge MP 66.5
The existing Kings River Bridge is in need of structural and functional (safety) upgrades and is no longer cost-effective to maintain. Therefore, replacement is recommended.

In 2018, the project team conducted subsurface geotechnical investigations and preliminary hydraulic analysis in support of a new bridge located immediately up river of the existing.

The project team is currently developing the preliminary design and evaluating the environmental impacts of the bridge replacement and plan to complete the design and environmental clearances in 2019. Pending environmental clearance and funding, the project will be shelf-ready for construction in 2020.

Project Schedule
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental review and preliminary design</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final design and right-of-way acquisition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Dependent on many factors, including the availability of future funding


Comments and Contact Information
Questions or comments can be sent via mail or email to:

Steve Morrow
Environmental Protection Specialist
Phone: (360) 619-7811
glennhighway@dot.gov

Reuben Johnson, P.E.
Project Manager
Phone: (360) 619-7995
glennhighway@dot.gov

FHWA Western Federal Lands Highway Division
610 East Fifth Street
Vancouver, WA 98661-3801

Spring 2019
Please share your comments. Comments can also be e-mailed to glennhighway@dot.gov. For more project information, visit: http://bit.ly/GHW66-92

Name: ____________________________________________
E-mail: ____________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
City: __________________________ State: _____________ Zip: _____________

Please add me to the project e-mail list. ☐
ATTN:  Steve Morrow, Environmental Protection Specialist
Federal Highway Administration
Western Federal Lands Highway Division
610 East Fifth Street
Vancouver, WA  98661-3801
A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD SUPPORTING THE GLENN HIGHWAY REHABILITATION PROJECT MP 66.5-92.

WHEREAS, the Glenn Highway Rehabilitation Project MP 66.5-92 (project) is in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Capital Improvement Program; and

WHEREAS, the project improves a critical link for trucking goods from the rest of the continental United States and Canada to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and Anchorage; and

WHEREAS, the project will significantly improve safety by moving the highway alignment away from a mountainside subject to continual rock falls;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board hereby supports FHWA and DOT&PF completion of the Glenn Highway Rehabilitation Project MP 66.5-92.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board this 26th day of February, 2019.

__________________________, Chair

ATTEST:

_________________________
Benjamin Coleman, Transportation Planner
Staff Support
A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDING ASSEMBLY DEVELOP A POLICY REQUIRING THAT FUTURE BOROUGH ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS INCLUDE THE PURCHASE OF ADEQUATE RIGHT OF WAY TO CONSTRUCT PAVED PATHWAYS FOR NON-MOTORIZED USE AND THAT THIS BE CLEARLY DEFINED IN THE SUBDIVISION CONSTRUCTION MANUAL. FURTHER, THAT THE PROJECT BUDGETS INCLUDE THE NECESSARY FUNDING TO CONSTRUCT THE PATHWAYS.

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board advises the Assembly on transportation-related issues; and

WHEREAS, the board recognizes the need for safe pathways for non-motorized use adjacent to existing and future roads;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board hereby recommends the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly develop a policy requiring that future Borough road construction projects include the purchase of adequate right of way to construct paved pathways for non-motorized use and that road project budgets include the necessary funding to construct the pathways as would be defined by the subdivision construction manual.
ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Advisory Board this 26th day of February, 2019.

__________________________

, Chair

ATTEST:

________________________________________

Benjamin Coleman, Transportation Planner
Staff Support