

**Fairbanks Metropolitan Area Transportation System
POLICY COMMITTEE
800 Cushman Street, City Council Chambers
City Hall, Fairbanks, Alaska
Meeting Minutes – June 20, 2012**

1. Call to Order

Chad Roberts called the meeting to order at 10:01 am

2. Introduction of Members and Attendees

Attendee	Representative Organization
* Bill Butler, for Mayor Isaacson	City of North Pole
*Jerry Cleworth	Mayor, City of Fairbanks
*Alice Edwards	Director, Division of Air Quality
*Luke Hopkins	Mayor, Fairbanks North Star Borough
*Mike Musick	Member, FNSB Assembly
*Chad Roberts, Vice Chair	City of Fairbanks
*Ethan Birkholz for Steve Titus, Chair	DOT & PF
** ⁺ Donna Gardino	MPO Coordinator, FMATS
** Jessica Smith	Transportation Planner/Assistant, FMATS
⁺ Mike Schmetzer	City of Fairbanks
⁺ Bernardo Hernandez	Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB)
⁺ Joan Hardesty	AK DEC - AQ
Mary Richards	Citizen
Deb Hickok	Fairbanks Convention & Visitors Bureau
Buzzy Chiu	Fairbanks Convention & Visitors Bureau Board
Linda Mahlen	DOT & PF
June Rogers	Fairbanks Arts Association, FMATS Art Selection Advisory Committee
Mark Fejes	FMATS Art Selection Advisory Committee
Sue Sprinkle	FMATS Art Selection Advisory Committee
Lisa Gambardella	Gambardella's Pasta Bella
Margaret Carpenter	DOT & PF
Kellen Spillman	FNSB
Brad Fristoe	DOT & PF
Heidi Schaefer	DOT & PF
Guy Sattley	FNSB Assembly
Shalen Bezma	Citizen
John Jackovich	The Big I
Mindy O'Neal	Office of Representative Scott Kawasaki
Lon Krol	DOT & PF
Barry Hooper	DOT & PF
Senator Joe Thomas	State of Alaska
Representative David Guttenberg	State of Alaska
David van den Berg	Downtown Association
<i>*FMATS Policy Committee Members</i>	

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***FMATS Staff Members*

+ FMATS Technical Committee Members

3. Public Comment

Sue Sprinkle spoke for the Art Selection Advisory Committee regarding the deadline of October 2013 for the greenspace art installation project. Ms. Sprinkle asked for the committee's reconsideration of the deadline extension request.

Buzzy Chiu encouraged the committee to support the wayfinding project that will be presented later in the meeting. The Downtown Association and Fairbanks Visitor and Convention Bureau Board of Directors have written resolutions supporting the project. The FVCB has also committed \$10,000 to the project. Ms. Chiu said the installation of the wayfinding project will help navigate and enhance the downtown, particularly to the transient populations.

David van den Berg addressed the committee with concerns of the traffic control plan for 2013's construction projects and the need for public input on this specific task in the future. Mr. van den Berg also asked that the direction of traffic be reversed through the current Illinois St construction to assist southbound traffic in navigating to downtown. Mayor Hopkins asked if Mr. van den Berg had made any initial contact with the DOT regarding these concerns and what was the outcome. Mr. van den Berg said he had spoken with the DOT, and they had noted two reasons for not changing: 1) would confuse drivers 2) redesign would be too difficult.

Mark Fejes urged the committee to extend the deadline for the art installation in the downtown greenspace. A written request from the Art Selection Advisory Committee is included in the meeting materials. The current deadline will only allow 7-8 months to design and install the art. The Art Selection Advisory Committee believes this timeline is too short for such a significant piece of art. Please give the committee another year for installation.

Mary Richards spoke as a concerned citizen. She urged the committee to support the wayfinding project.

June Rogers asked the committee for support of the art installation schedule extension. June Rogers also voiced support for the wayfinding project, citing positive personal experience in other cities.

Lisa Gambardella asked the committee for their approval of the wayfinding project and the extension of the art installation schedule. Ms. Gambardella referred to FMATS priorities, and noted that the Illinois Street Project lacks economic priority in regard to the length of the project and its impact on downtown traffic. She noted that the project needs to move faster to get the project completed and with a sense of urgency in order to reduce impacts to the downtown businesses. Ms. Gambardella asked the committee to recommend to DOT to reverse the direction of traffic on the Cushman Street bridge. She also voiced concerns for management of the Illinois Street Reconstruction project to be sensitive to the economy of downtown.

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Frank Eagle asked for the committee's support of the art deadline extension and wayfinding project, and requested traffic to be reversed on the Cushman Street bridge.

John Jackovich also noted his shared frustrations for the construction's impact, but noted that his topic was that of the river front property's use between the Cushman and Barnette Street bridges. He noted his visit with the Army Corp of Engineers, as he hopes to have access to the river after the completion of the greenspace construction. Mr. Jackovich was under the impression there would be a destination area along the river between the two bridges. He said it is the DOT that needs to make a request for modification to the plant life that exists, and offered his own land parcel as mitigation in exchange for a riverfront destination area.

4. Approval of June 20, 2012 Agenda.

- **Motion:** To approve the June 20, 2012 agenda. (Hopkins/Cleworth).
- **Discussion:** Discussion: Ms. Edwards would like to give a quick update for the Particulate Matter (PM)_{2.5} during item 10, Other Issues.
- **Vote on the motion:** None opposed. Approved.

5. Approval of May 16, 2012 Meeting Summary.

- **Motion:** To approve the May 16, 2012 Meeting Summary. (Cleworth/Birkholz).
- **Vote on the motion:** None opposed. Approved.

6. Committee Reports

a. Coordinator's Report

Ms. Gardino provided an update on all FMATS activities, details of which are included in the Coordinator's Report in the meeting packet. Mayor Hopkins asked about the status of The Watershed School application. Ms. Gardino noted the challenges associated with this school's application process, and also that the school may not have completed the application process. Ms. Gardino also noted the educational efforts and events such as Bike to School Day were an encouragement to the school. Mayor Hopkins asked if there was any discussion on FMATS taking on the preventive maintenance. Ms. Gardino replied that there was not.

b. Art Selection Advisory Committee

Ms. Gardino updated the committee on the RFQ/C development process, which will be utilizing the procurement website Callforentry.org (CaFÉ). The greenspace is taking shape and grade changes are taking place. There were four Art Selection Advisory Committee meetings in the last month. Mr. Roberts asked if the RFQ/C would accept international applicants. Ms. Gardino said that Margarita Bell was researching the limitations on applicants due to the project being federally funded. Mayor Hopkins asked if the action item concerning FMATS included the historical plaques at this site. Ms. Gardino answered that the request is for art, but the Committee believes the space should represent literal history as well and would like the plaques to be in the concrete circle. The committee is meeting with the Historic Preservation Commission on Tuesday. They are interested in helping install plaques in the

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greenspace in a Stage 3 project they are applying for this winter. FMATS has also written a project nomination to go to the SB160 subcommittee and then to the Technical Committee for approval. Mr. Musick asked if the Art Committee viewed the historical portion and the public art as two separate projects with separate funding sources. Ms. Gardino said the committee would like to see two separate efforts. Mayor Hopkins asked who would be representing at the Historical Committee, and Ms. Gardino noted that George Lounsbury will be there as she has a scheduling conflict. Mayor Cleworth said he spoke briefly to the Arts Committee, and believes there is confusion about the funding source for the historical piece. He said he was hoping the funds will be found elsewhere. Mayor Hopkins said if that does happen, the Policy Committee may need cost estimates to determine whether there is a significant need for more funding.

c. Boundary Subcommittee

Ms. Gardino noted the Margaret Carpenter at DOT&PF is developing a schedule for this effort. Mr. Birkholz clarified the deadline.

d. Preventive Maintenance Subcommittee

Ms. Gardino updated the committee on the nominations made by the subcommittee. The nominations included projects from the City of North Pole, City of Fairbanks, the Borough, and the State project (Easy Street, the unpaved road to the landfill). Ms. Gardino is waiting on cost estimates for each nomination. Mr. Musick asked for clarification of the City Lights project, and Ms. Gardino noted this refers to City Lights Boulevard.

Mayor Hopkins asked if there was any discussion about the issue of maintaining railroad crossings. Ms. Gardino said no, not at this meeting. Mr. Butler asked about the issue of overhead utility standards. Mr. Birkholz clarified the standards and codes associated with this detail, summarizing that if an overhead cable is less than 18 feet, it must be raised to the height as specified in the standards. He noted some options for waivers of this standard. Mr. Birkholz also noted the liability issue for the State in addressing the utility conflicts. Ms. Gardino asked what the height standard for the Administrative Code verses the State design standards. Ms. Birkholz answered it is 18 feet for the administrative code, and 20.5 feet in the State preconstruction manual, which means it would be possible to issue a design waiver. Mayor Hopkins asked how the Administrative Code could be amended. Mr. Birkholz detailed the relationship between the statutes and Alaska Administrative code. Mayor Hopkins asked if the preventive maintenance project did not change the current state of the height, could the statute be changed to address this challenge. Mr. Birkholz noted that it did not matter what type of project addressed an area, if the utilities were not up to code height, it would need to be addressed. Mayor Hopkins again asked if the legislators could be approached to address the particular problems of utility standards within preventive maintenance projects. Mr. Birkholz answered that non-federal funds could be transferred to an entity that had road powers could possibly not address the standards within this type of project. Mr. Roberts asked how the State funds could be transferred and the project be completed. Mr. Birkholz answered that he believes this would be the case, but if the State designed the project, they would have to follow the Preconstruction Manual design standards.

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Mayor Cleworth asked which year and the total amount for the preventive maintenance funding. Ms. Gardino said there was \$2 million for construction for next FFY13. Mayor Hopkins commented on the issue of road powers and how the Borough Preventive Maintenance projects are in road services areas. Mr. Birkholz suggested a pre-evaluation of the utility heights to avoid wasting efforts on a potentially inappropriate project.

7. Old Business

a. Illinois Reconstruction Update

Ms. Gardino provided an update on this project, which included a list of change orders included in the meeting packet. Additional change orders will be coming for utilities at approximately \$200,000. The remaining offset funding is currently at \$287,000 to cover these costs. There are also other options (i.e., State funding sources) available to fund the future change orders.

b. Final Bylaw Amendment Approval. (Action item)

- **Motion:** To approve the FMATS Policy and Technical Committee Bylaws, as presented. (Hopkins/Edwards).
- **Vote on the motion:** None opposed. Approved.

Mr. Roberts passed the bylaws approval sheet to all committee members for signature.

c. Banking Request Status

Ms. Gardino referred to the letter from the DOT Headquarters in the meeting packet, approving \$3.5 million from FY 12 to FY 14 to fund projects that have been moved to that date. They would like to wait on FY 13 to see how the funding looks. Ms. Gardino noted appreciation of the DOT's flexibility. Mayor Hopkins asked if the monies will come back. Ms. Gardino said if they don't provide all monies and the project is ready to go to construction, FMATS will have to advance construction. It will not prevent projects going to construction. Mr. Birkholz clarified the DOT cannot guarantee the monies back all in one year, but they will give it back.

d. Complete Streets Tree Planting North of the Barnette Street Bridge

Ms. Gardino said the recommendation from the Technical Committee was to delay the implementation of complete streets north of the Chena River and incorporate it in the Cushman/Barnette Complete Streets project. There is now uncertainty that this will be able to be accomplished due to challenges such as utility relocation. It was asked that sidewalks be changed to 8' on the west side. Construction is moving forward with reviewing that change and possible implementation. Because the final design of the Complete Streets concept is not complete, complete streets cannot proceed north of the bridge. Mayor Cleworth said an 8-foot sidewalk could accommodate aesthetic elements such as the tree planters. The Cushman piece of the Complete Street should be started next year, however, the City

does not want to negatively impact downtown businesses more than necessary. Mayor Hopkins asked for clarification on which project the complete streets implementation would take place on north of the Cushman Street bridge. Mayor Cleworth clarified that it is a continuation of the Complete Streets Project for downtown. Mayor Hopkins asked if more funding would be necessary due to adding to the project. Mayor Cleworth said this is likely, as the current funding is only to the south side of the river on Cushman and Barnette Streets. Mayor Hopkins asked that this committee would need to see a cost breakdown for the additional north segment.

8. New Business

a. Street Light Conversion Project – Stage III (Action Item)

- **Motion:** To approve a \$43.6 PH2 increase for the Streetlight Conversion project, using offset funding. (Cleworth/Hopkins).
- **Discussion:** Ms. Gardino noted this item went to the Technical Committee in May because the estimate for construction was quite a bit higher than that of the City's estimates on a similar project. She noted that 47% of costs are grounding issues with up to 25 new luminaries, which weren't included in other estimates. The Technical Committee recommended proceeding with design, but not to fund the construction until we have a better estimate. Construction funds will be put as an illustrative. DOT and UAF are going to be overseeing a consultant-driven design for these lighting treatments. Mr. Musick asked if the current engineering estimate was from UAF Engineering, and Ms. Gardino confirmed. Mayor Cleworth asked for clarification on the terminology of streetlight efficiency and not LED; Ms. Gardino explained the technology changes quickly, indicating something other than LED lighting may be a better fit for such lighting improvements.
- **Vote on the motion:** None opposed. Approved.

b. UPWP Draft (Action Item)

- **Motion:** To approve the Draft FFY13 – FFY14 Unified Planning Work Program for public comment. (Birkholz/Hopkins).
- **Discussion:** Gardino briefly explained the purposed of the UPWP. One comment received referred to including the environmental document for Fairbanks Rail Realignment. Mayor Hopkins asked if the railroad realignment would be for the EA/EIS and if the committee would amend the motion to include this under task 400? Ms. Gardino said the railroad should fill out the nomination form.
- **Amended Motion:** To amend task 400 to include the contingency project for the EIS for the railroad. (Hopkins, Cleworth).
- **Vote on the motion:** None opposed. Approved.
- **Discussion:** Mr. Birkholz asked if there was an indication of dollar amount. Ms. Gardino said no, it would just be the cost of an EIS, about \$5 million. Mr. Hooper (DOT&PF) agreed this was a reasonable estimate. Mr. Birkholz noted this might be outside of the scope of the UPWP, as the funding on the UPWP is so small. Mayor Hopkins asked if other funds could be added to the UPWP, and Mr. Birkholz explained that this is not the intent of the UPWP,

but funds could be added or serve as a match. Funding probably needs to be added through the TIP.

- **Amendment was withdrawn.** (Hopkins, Cleworth).
- **Discussion:** Ms. Gardino and Mr. Birkholz briefly explained that possible funding changes should not be reflected until a Highway Bill has been passed and definitely funding changes have been established. Ms. Edwards noted an edit needed on pages 42 – 43. Mr. Roberts asked if the committee was comfortable asking Ms. Gardino to make the technical edits and to approve this document for public comment.
- **Vote on the motion:** None opposed. Approved.

c. City of Fairbanks Wayfinding Project (Action Item)

- **Motion:** To add City of Fairbanks Downtown Wayfinding Project to the TIP and to fund it with \$60,000 of 381 funding. (Cleworth/Hopkins)
- **Discussion:** Mayor Cleworth said the Fairbanks City Council is in support of this project, and has presented a resolution and a financial commitment to this project. This project is primarily a project to be in the Fairbanks city core, and there is not necessarily a project of direct concern to the DOT & PF.

Deb Hickok from the Visitor's Bureau provided a brief presentation on the nominated project which included examples of wayfinding plans in other cities around the US. \$10,000 in funding has been committed from the Visitor's Bureau, and the Technical Committee has recommended another \$60,000. Mr. Birkholz would like the DOT to participate if at all possible. Mayor Hopkins noted the challenges for the Bus Stop signing project. Mayor Cleworth noted coordination with DOT could happen.

- **Vote on the motion:** None opposed. Approved.

d. Draft TIP Amendment.

- **Motion:** To approve the Draft Transportation Improvement Program Amendment #3 for public comment. (Hopkins/Musick).
- **Discussion:** Gardino provided a brief summary of the amendment, which includes the College Road Corridor Study and the Wayfinding Project, as well as a few illustrative projects and some movement of funds from one project or year to another. The College Road project will be federally funded, which calls for an amendment and public comment period.

Mayor Hopkins asked Ms. Gardino to go over the changes on the North Pole Pedestrian Facility. Ms. Gardino said she moved this project from FY14 to FY13 to offset the movement of College Road from FY13 to FY 14 in efforts to get the project to construction next year. Mayor Hopkins commented that the DOT seems to have trouble moving forward, and Mr. Birkholz noted the right-of-way delays for this project are not anticipated to be as long as once thought. Mr. Butler asked if this process is in negotiation. Mr. Birkholz said he did not know if the process was that far along.

Mayor Hopkins asked about the Yankovich Bike Path's status at the DOT with ROW acquisitions. Mr. Hooper (DOT) noted the environmental document progress should be completed later this summer. The ROW is the next step. It is actively being worked on.

Mayor Cleworth commented that South Cushman is not funded (\$10 mil), the only missing segment to the Cushman Street corridor reconstruction. He asked that this committee keep this project in mind to move forward with construction along with the adjacent projects in the same corridor. If ROW acquisition is kept at a minimum, this could be a quick project. Mayor Hopkins asked that with various appropriations of money, none of this went to this project. Mayor Cleworth noted there were two funding sources, and some freedom with the funds from the Governor; the legislative monies cannot be utilized for this project. Ms. Gardino noted the design money has been secured. The project needs \$351,000 for final design. Ms. Gardino noted the environmental piece is almost finished. Mayor Cleworth asked that this project be a part of the appropriation of the \$7.5 million.

- **Vote on the motion:** None opposed. Approved.

e. Traffic Flow Direction on Cushman Street Bridge.

Ms. Gardino asked the DOT representative, Brad Fristoe, to discuss the traffic direction. Mr. Fristoe briefly summarized the history of the traffic plan (safety, congestion, and meeting needs of users) and spoke to different experts (designers, planning, construction traffic, regional traffic, the City) concerning the construction traffic detours. For this particular project, the main focus was safety at Cushman and 1st Ave. by reducing the number of entrances to the project. Congestion was not increased and safety was not reduced. Increasing entrances and reducing exits would make the congestion a problem. 1st Ave is set up to deal with this traffic. If the traffic direction across Cushman Street bridge is reversed, additional vehicles will be funneled onto 1st Ave, causing increased conflicts with pedestrian traffic.

Traffic counts in the downtown area were also summarized, noting that one of the main flows is traffic north bound. If that route is shut down, the amount of traffic entering downtown will be reduced. The detour is well signed to redirect into downtown. If traffic direction is changed, more people will be directed by Golden Heart Park, which is a high pedestrian use area, increasing traffic congestion. The DOT recommends the current traffic pattern, as it is safer, has minimal congestion, and the maximum amount of traffic input to downtown.

Lisa Gambardella commented that business owners wanted maximum traffic into downtown.

Mayor Cleworth asked for clarification: If the committee recommends the reverse of the traffic flow regardless of the DOT recommendation, would it be impossible to do so. Mr. Fristoe said no, the DOT would simply readjust for the opposite direction through the current detour. However, if it changes something on the contractor's schedule, it could cause delays and that is problematic.

Mayor Hopkins asked what the timeline for the Barnette closure would be. Mr. Fristoe said there would be a one-lane at a time closure over a 25-day period. Mayor Hopkins asked if the committee recommended it, would the DOT do some research with the contractor and then come up with that change before Sept 15th and report on if it's feasible to the committee.

Mayor Cleworth believes traffic is down on Cushman Street. He asked what Mr. Birkholz's opinion was on the project's traffic impacts.

- **Motion:** To ask DOT to take a second look at the traffic flow and consider reversing traffic (on the Cushman Street Bridge) prior to September 15th. (Cleworth/Hopkins).
- **Amended Motion:** Mayor Hopkins moved to amend the motion to set aside the hard to do considerations and work on developing a plan to make it happen. (Hopkins/Musick).
- **Discussion:** Mr. Birkholz said technically the traffic direction can be switched, but the problem may be a perception, not hard evidence, and also changing the traffic direction could introduce other risks. The DOT will see what is in the best interest of the project, and what the cost impacts would be. Mr. Butler asked how long and if this project could be completed without further disruption. Mayor Hopkins said he believes there is plenty of time to publish the change to the public and for the work to be done on Barnette. This change is for downtown businesses that think this will be effective.
- **Vote on the amendment:** Five in favor. One opposed (Edwards). One abstention (Birkholz). Approved.

Mr. Musick asked why the direction couldn't be changed, as this was discussed in the April 18th meeting. Originally there was something about the utilities, but that didn't seem to be the case throughout the project. Ms. Edwards commented she was not comfortable with this change.

- **Amended motion:** To ask the DOT to take a second look at the traffic flow and consider reversing traffic (on the Cushman Street Bridge) prior to September 15 and set aside the hard to do considerations and work on developing a plan to make it happen. (Cleworth/Hopkins).
- **Vote on the motion:** Five in favor. One opposed (Edwards). One abstention (Birkholz). Approved.

f. Airport Way Beautification

- **Motion:** To recommend to the DOT & PF to consider alternative beautification treatments for medians along airport way. (Hopkins/ Butler.)
- **Discussion:** Ms. Gardino noted the current issues and provided examples of less maintenance intensive and more aesthetic treatments; photographed examples of current conditions and alternative treatments were included in the meeting packet. Ms. Gardino noted that similar treatments could be incorporated on University Avenue. Mayor Hopkins asked what PM Project was on Airport Way? Mr. Birkholz answered it was in FFY14 and included signal and luminary upgrades; but maintenance reduction within medians would be great. The project manager is considering alternatives for Airport Way median treatments.

Mayor Hopkins noted the Borough may or may not have funding to go back to the full scope of maintenance agreement with DOT next year. The aspect of the lilac bushes were discussed as they possibly create hazards to drivers such as sight distance obstruction. He asked if it were possible to postpone this discussion to see what DOT proposed? Mr. Birkholz noted DOT was in already in the preliminary design, looking at concepts. Mayor Cleworth noted that the motion is fairly generic and could it be done by DOT. Mr. Birkholz said the project manager is already doing this. Mayor Hopkins asked that DOT to come back with concept plans for the committee to weigh in on the discussion.

- **Motion:** Move to postpone the motion. (Hopkins, no second). Withdrawn.
- **Vote on the motion:** None opposed. Approved.

g. Deadline for Art Installation (Action Item)

- **Motion:** To extend the end date for the art installation to September 2014. (Musick/Hopkins).
- **Discussion:** Ms. Gardino read the Art Selection Advisory Committee's Statement included in the meeting materials packet and noted Kes Woodward's recommendation. Mayor Hopkins said the intention was to complete the art installation while the contractor was on the job; and asked Mr. Birkholz if in DOT's review of this possible action item, was this to be a self-contained project. Mr. Birkholz asked if the project required anything from the contractor. Ms. Gardino said the artist is responsible for all installation. Mr. Birkholz commented he did not know why the committee had set the current deadline. Ms. Edwards clarified that they originally thought the art installation and Illinois Street project would be one and the same effort, but that may no longer be the case. Mayor Cleworth noted he agreed with Ms. Edwards' comments and asked if this conflicts with the current contract. Mr. Birkholz said no, the project just has to be kept open until the project is complete. Mayor Hopkins asked if there are any utilities or other challenges, this could all be worked out while the contractor is still on site. Mr. Roberts noted that the issue may be in contractor liability.

Ms. Gardino also noted that signalization is not in plan, and Mr. Schmetzer concurred with these facts. Ms. Gardino noted that area will be part of the contractor's responsibility. They are liable for anything that happens in the area. Ms. Edwards asked for clarification on the RFQ/C, artist selection process, and scheduling, and if this info be available before the DOT project shuts down. Ms. Gardino said yes, they are looking to have the artist and concept selected by the October meeting of this committee. Additional permitting must be completed before the art can move forward.

Mayor Hopkins asked for clarification of the historic signage, and Ms. Gardino said that is it possibly going to be another committee's efforts, not that of the Art Selection Advisory Committee. Edwards asked if the historic signage might come in earlier than the art installation, and Ms. Gardino noted it might be possible. Mr. Musick noted his support of

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this request and the Arts Committee's hard work. Mayor Hopkins also noted similar support, and there is no reason not to proceed with this request.

- **Vote on the motion:** None opposed. Approved.

9. Public Comment

Deb Hickok and Buzzy Chiu thanked the committee for their support of the Wayfinding project nomination.

June Rogers expressed her appreciation for the committee's actions today. She also expressed appreciation for the long term consideration of the median alternatives, particularly to address the lilac bush sight obstruction issue.

Dermot Cole noted that the median on the Airport Way/Farmer's Loop intersection was gravel in place of dirt, resulting in the weeds growing up overtime in this median. Sue Sprinkle suggested perennial wild flowers in these areas. Mr. Cole also noted past flowers planted here (30 years ago).

John Jackovich voiced his concerns about the DOT moving forward with the stipulations process to insure a Chena River access area at the future greenspace. It is his belief that the foliage does not affect the fish/wildlife in this particular 230-foot segment. He hopes he can assist in getting support for the modification from the DOT and the Army Corp of Engineers, particularly to see what an advantage it is to gain access to the river. Mayor Hopkins asked if Mr. Jackovich had looked at UAF's actions on the access to Ballaine Lake. Mr. Jackovich noted that he'd like to isolate that area strictly as a destination to in downtown.

10. Informational Items.

a. EPA for PM 2.5

Ms. Edwards provided an update of the EPA standards, and the impact data for Fairbanks. Fairbanks is between 11 – 12. She also briefly noted all the retained standards for the area, such as haze or smog seen in cities. There are no calculations available to see Fairbanks' status on this standard. There will be a 9-week comment period, resulting in a final document. Mayor Hopkins thanked Ms. Edwards for her overview, and asked if there is any clarification on how any of these effect the required SIP timeline. Ms. Edwards noted this did not change the current timelines on past years' regulations. Mayor Cleworth thanked Ms. Edwards for the update, and noted the city's budgetary challenges in putting forth efforts to meet all of the standards, as well as the borough's efforts, only to have standards change. He asked what the lead time is before a change can be made. Ms. Edwards noted the ambient air timeline is at five years, which also includes review of health and epidemiology data. Mayor Cleworth clarified the process, and ability for local comment on the standards. Ms. Edwards said yes, anyone can comment on these outcomes and plans. This is done through implementation rules to discover the setting of the health standards, the regulations, and guidance rules. All of this can be commented on by anyone. Mayor Hopkins asked if our "urban haze" is the "ice fog." Ms. Edwards said she did not know.

Mayor Cleworth called to adjourn, due to the length of the meeting.

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13. Adjourn

- **Motion to adjourn.** (Cleworth/Butler).
- **Vote on the motion.** None opposed. Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 pm.

Approved: Steve Titus
Steve Titus, P.E., Chair
FMATS Policy Committee

Date: 7/20/12