

Roads and Highways Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: May 8, 2024

Location: Atwood Building, Anchorage, AK

Time: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Meeting Called to Order by: Chair, Dan Hall

Attendance

- **Present:** Dan Hall (Chair), Jon Fuglestad, Kodi Long
- **Not Present:** Andrew Guy, Aves Thompson, Jason Roe-McComas

Meeting Overview

This session was conducted as an informational meeting, in line with Administrative Order 337, due to the absence of a quorum.

1. Opening Actions

- **Call to Order & Roll Call:** Chair Dan Hall initiated the meeting, confirming attendance.
 - **Approval of Agenda and Previous Minutes:** Approved without modifications by Jon Fuglestad and Kodi Long.
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2. Reports

- **Chair's Report:** Chair Dan Hall provided updates on current projects and board initiatives.
- **Members' Reports:** Each present board member shared insights on the regional impacts and priorities of ongoing projects.

Public Comment Highlights

Several community members expressed concerns related to:

- The need for timely road maintenance, especially ahead of winter.
- Improved communication regarding project timelines and potential delays.

Participants also advocated for increased public involvement during early stages of project development.

3. Public Comments

No phone or online comments were submitted for this meeting.

Old Business

1. Alaska/Richardson/Steese Highway Corridor Analysis Update

Presenters: Judy Chapman and Randy Kinney

- **Action Item:** Board members reviewed and gave feedback on the corridor analysis plan, emphasizing the need for enhanced safety measures and environmental considerations.

2. Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Recap

Presenters: Commissioner Ryan Anderson and Deputy Commissioner Keith

- **Action Item:** The Board recommended continued support for a rolling STIP, which aligns with long-term project goals and ensures consistent funding.
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New Business

1. Legislative Updates & Senate Bill 263

Presenter: Andy Mills

- **Overview:** Andy provided an update on recent legislative developments affecting infrastructure funding.

2. Operating Budget & Winter Operations

Presenter: Dom Pannone

- **Key Points:** Dom presented budget allocations with an emphasis on winter preparedness and resource distribution to ensure effective seasonal operations.

3. Buy America Build America Process Changes

Presenter: Chris Goins (Virtual)

- **Information:** Chris outlined new compliance requirements impacting the procurement process for upcoming projects under the Buy America Build America initiative.

4. Stewardship & Oversight Agreement Renewal

Presenters: Commissioner Anderson and Deputy Commissioner Keith

- **Overview:** The renewed agreement's terms were outlined, highlighting the federal partnership's oversight mechanisms and roles.

5. Carbon Reduction Plan Approval

- **Presenter:** Deputy Commissioner Keith
- **Status:** Tabled for the next meeting due to time constraints.

6. USDOT Freight Network Feedback Request

Presenter: Commissioner Anderson

- **Status:** Tabled for the next meeting to allow for thorough discussion.
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Action Items Recap

- **Corridor Analysis Feedback:** The Board will finalize recommendations and communicate them formally.
 - **STIP Support:** Board to ensure the rolling STIP plan remains updated for infrastructure consistency.
 - **Tabled Items:**
 - Carbon Reduction Plan Approval
 - USDOT Freight Network Feedback Request
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Next Meeting

- **Date:** To be determined (TBD)