

By: Public Works
Adopted: March 21, 2016
Vote: Burney, Graham, O'Barr, Sullivan-Leonard, and Wilson in favor
Wall absent

**City of Wasilla
Resolution Serial No. 16-04**

An Resolution Of The Wasilla City Council Supporting Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Efforts To Develop A Regional Transportation Planning Partnership Process To Ensure Better Communication And Collaboration Between The Alaska Department Of Transportation And Public Facilities, The Borough, And The Cities Of Palmer, Wasilla, And Houston.

WHEREAS, over the last decade there have been several road projects within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (“Borough”) that have been postponed or delayed due to communication and/or collaboration issues between the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (AKDOT&PF) and the Borough; and

WHEREAS, these delays and postponements have come at significant costs in terms of project budgets, public trust, safety, and political support; and

WHEREAS, the Borough, the cities of Palmer, Wasilla, and Houston (“cities”), and AKDOT&PF hosted a regional transportation planning workshop (“workshop”) in 2014 to specifically address the challenges, opportunities and issues facing regional transportation planning and to encourage the better communication and collaboration; and

WHEREAS, workshop participants identified seven key opportunities for regional transportation planning improvements:

- Link land use and transportation planning efforts
- Emphasize regional planning and coordination
- Improve connectivity across the region
- Ensure maintenance budgets meet infrastructure needs

- Collaborate to fund projects
- Advance shared decision-making
- Encourage stakeholder and public involvement; and

WHEREAS, the Borough, cities, and AKDOT&PF have been working to implement projects and strategies identified in the report and action plan developed from the workshop since 2014; and

WHEREAS, as identified in the workshop report and action plan, the Borough, cities, and AKDOT&PF applied jointly for a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant in 2014 and developed a self-assessment report in 2015 to understand and prepare for the region's future designation as a Metropolitan Planning Organization; and

WHEREAS, the AKDOT&PF awarded a grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 to the Borough in 2015 to continue current efforts in regional transportation planning; and

WHEREAS, the development of a Regional Transportation Planning Partnership Process (partnership process) was one of the projects identified for funding by the AKDOT&PF grant; and

WHEREAS, development of the partnership process was highlighted in the report and action plan and will help to address each of the improvement opportunities identified by workshop participants; and

WHEREAS, communication and cooperation is critical to the development and implementation of the partnership process; and

WHEREAS, before completely developing the process, Borough staff is seeking support from the cities and AKDOT&PF for the overall concept and a willingness to participate in the development of the partnership process; and

WHEREAS, the partnership process is intended to create a proactive management approach to change the paradigm of how the Borough, cities and partner agencies plan for, manage, and fund transportation improvements; and

WHEREAS, the conceptual partnership process would work as such:

- 1) The process would begin before design on any major project that meets mutually agreed upon criteria;
- 2) A formal agreement is drafted and agreed upon by all parties outlining the governance structure for managing the project;
- 3) The partnership defines the problem and outlines the public involvement strategy;
- 4) Once the problem is defined, performance measures and project goals are drafted to evaluate decisions and track progress;
- 5) The partnership is involved in strategizing solutions and developing funding/implementation plans. Partners share resources to advance the identified strategies and solutions;
- 6) The partnership is not disbanded when the project enters the design phase but follows the project providing oversight and ensuring the goals and performance measures are being met;
- 7) The partnership continues to evaluate its success after construction and throughout the life cycle of the transportation facility; and

WHEREAS, the partnership would create an opportunity for improved regional governance over major transportation projects by allowing the pooling of resources, collaborative problem solving, and prioritized investments. The combination of these elements

brings the region an improved ability to operate with a shared vision, save time and money, regain the public trust, empower staff to make the right decisions, and build positive political capital; and

WHEREAS, the AKDOT&PF is obligated by 23 CFR450.210(b) to have a documented process for consulting non-metropolitan local officials for both the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and the Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wasilla City Council supports Borough planning efforts to develop a regional transportation planning partnership process to ensure better communication and collaboration between the AKDOT&PF, the Borough, and the cities.

ADOPTED by the Wasilla City Council on March 21, 2016.


BERT L. COTTLE, Mayor

ATTEST:


JAMIE NEWMAN, MMC, City Clerk

[SEAL]

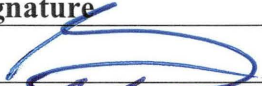
CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATION STAFF REPORT

Resolution Serial No. 16-04: Supporting Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning efforts to develop a regional transportation planning partnership process to ensure better communication and collaboration between the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, the Borough, and the cities of Palmer, Wasilla, and Houston.

Originator: Archie Giddings, Public Works Director

Date: 3/2/2016

Agenda of: 3/21/2016

Route to:	Department Head	Signature	Date
X	Public Works Director		3/8/16
X	Finance Director		3-9-16
X	Deputy Administrator		3/10/16
X	City Clerk		3/10/16

Reviewed by Mayor Bert L. Cottle:

 03-10-2016

Fiscal Impact: yes or no

Attachments: Resolution Serial No. 16-04 (3 pages)

Matanuska-Susitna Borough Transportation Planning Partnership flyer (4 pp)

Planning Commission Resolution Serial No. 16-03 (4 pp)

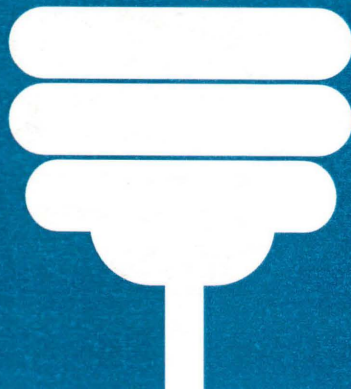
Summary Statement: In 2014, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (“Borough”) hosted a Regional Transportation Planning Workshop that was attended by representatives from the Borough, City of Palmer, City of Wasilla, City of Houston, and State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (AKDOT.) The week-long workshop was specifically designed to focus discussion topics on addressing the challenges, opportunities and issues facing Borough-wide transportation planning and ways to encourage better communication and collaboration between the Borough, the cities, and AKDOT. The process goal is to encourage better communication and collaboration efforts between the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, the Borough, and the Cities of Palmer, Wasilla and Houston. The development of the partnership is funded through a grant from the AKDOT. Next steps include seeking resolutions of support from the Borough Assembly, Planning Commission, and Transportation Advisory Board, negotiation of a formal agreement with AKDOT decision-makers to implement the partnership, and written document development outlining the partnership program.

After considering the proposed partnership at the February 9, 2016 meeting, the Planning Commission approved Resolution Serial No. 16-03 that recommends that the City Council adopt a resolution of support for the planning efforts of the Borough to develop a Regional Transportation Planning Partnership Process.

Recommended Action: Adopt resolution.

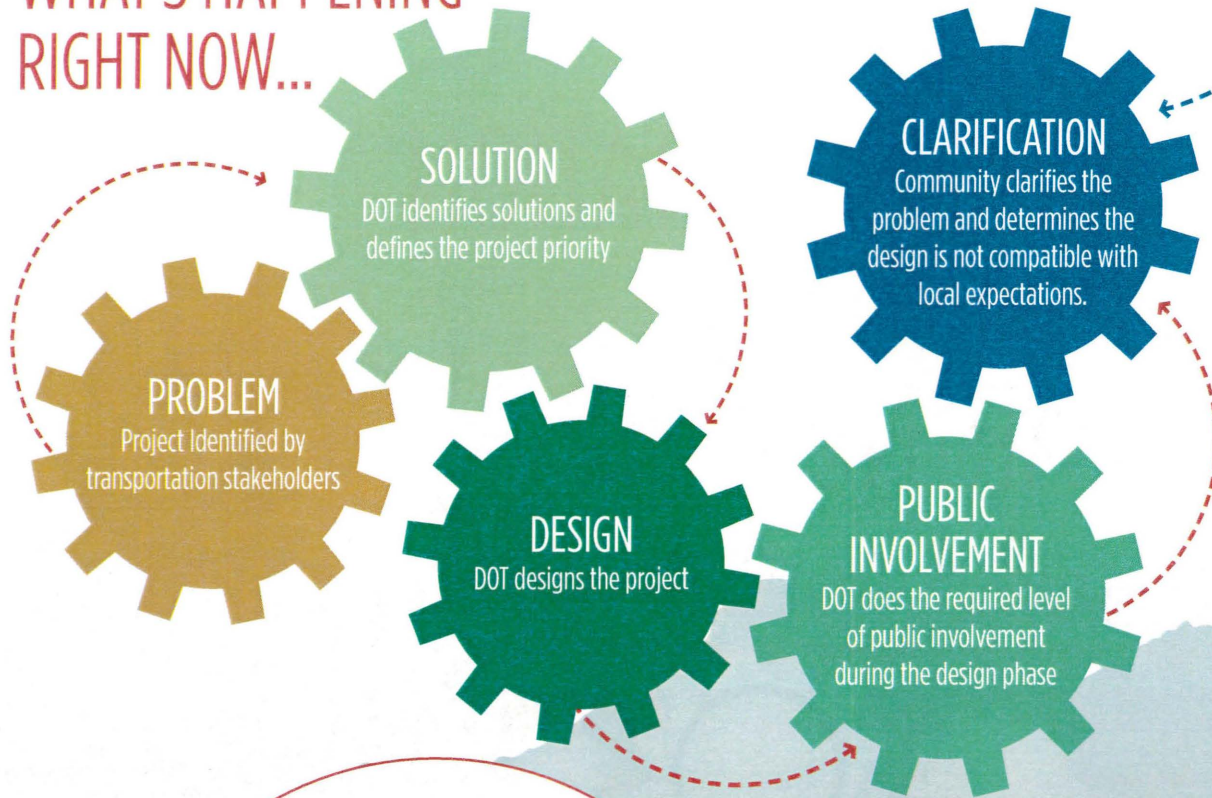


TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PARTNERSHIP



WORKING TOGETHER TO
MAKE THE BEST
TRANSPORTATION
INVESTMENT DECISIONS

WHAT'S HAPPENING RIGHT NOW...



WHY THIS IS NOT OPTIMAL

- Waste of Time and Money
- Loss of Public Trust
- Burnt Out Staff
- Expended Political Capital

WE NEED A BETTER WAY TO DEFINE AND SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF OUR TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM!



SOLUTION PARTNERSHIP ROADMAP



During the project scope development, the partnership process is initiated



Partnership develops performance measures to address partnership goals



Develop toolbox of strategies for project designers that can be implemented to meet the performance measures



Partnership develops funding & implementation strategy that utilizes partner resources to advance project

WHY A PARTNERSHIP APPROACH MAKES SENSE...

- Cost Effective and Time Saving
- Operate with a Shared Vision
- Each Partner Brings Something
- Pooling of Resources
- Vested Interest for Success
- Protect Investment
- Advance Mutual Interests
- Amplify Success
- Collaborative Problem Solving
- Allows for Range of Investments

PERFORMANCE MEASURES THAT ADDRESS A BROAD RANGE OF PARTNERSHIP GOALS



2

Get official buy-in — signed inter-governmental agreement with all parties defining areas of responsibility

3

Partnership works through agreed strategy during life cycle of project

4

Partnership defines the problem & outlines public involvement strategy

8

Partnership remains engaged as the project advances through design & construction so that the performance measures are met.

WHAT'S IN OUR TOOLBOX



IMPROVEMENTS COME IN
MANY SHAPES AND SIZES.
HERE'S HOW...

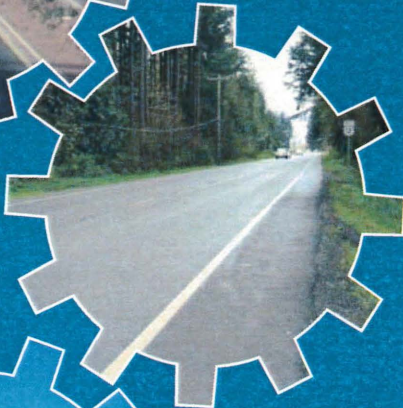
- Maintenance
- Transit improvements
- Rail improvements
- Bike/Ped improvements
- Local street connections
- Emergency management
- Signal timing
- Traffic demand management
- Economic impact evaluations
- Safety enhancements
- Traveler information
- Intersection improvements
- Road widening
- Cradle to cradle projects

PARTNERSHIP CASE STUDIES



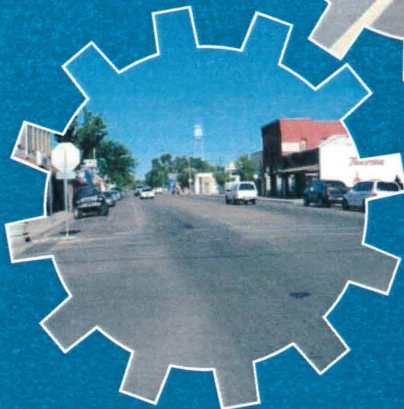
TRIP 97 Central Oregon

TRIP97 is a collaborative multi-agency effort focused on developing a long-term framework for the improvement and maintenance of the US 97 corridor. It is a study of a concept to change the paradigm of how they plan and fund US 97 related improvements and investments.



US 12 CORRIDOR Chehalis WA

The Chehalis tribe paid to have a study done on a WSDOT, US Highway. In addition to the Tribe and DOT partner, the two counties within which the corridor spanned were also engaged. It was a unique partnership that led to shared, commonly supported solutions.



KUNA DOWNTOWN CORRIDOR PLAN Kuna, ID

Corridor planning project that had a lot of cross-agency collaboration (mainly between the City and County). The project won an Excellence in Transportation Award, partially based on the amount of agency collaboration. "In the eight years I've been with city council, I haven't seen that kind of involvement with the taxpayers. I am very happy that we have leadership at ACHD that seeks more input for the cities and for the taxpayers." said Kuna City Council President, Richard Cardoza.

**WASILLA PLANNING COMMISSION
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 16-03**

A RESOLUTION OF THE WASILLA PLANNING COMMISSION SUPPORTING MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH PLANNING EFFORTS TO DEVELOP A REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PARTNERSHIP PROCESS TO ENSURE BETTER COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES, THE BOROUGH, AND THE CITIES OF PALMER, WASILLA, AND HOUSTON.

WHEREAS, over the last decade there have been several road projects within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough ("Borough") that have been postponed or delayed due to communication and/or collaboration issues between the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (AKDOT&PF) and the Borough (Borough); and

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WHEREAS, the Borough, cities, and AKDOT&PF have been working to implement projects and strategies identified in the report and action plan developed from the workshop since 2014; and

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WHEREAS, the AKDOT&PF is obligated by 23 CFR450.210(b) to have a documented process for consulting non-metropolitan local officials for both the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and the Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan (SLRTP).

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wasilla Planning Commission hereby supports Borough planning efforts to develop a regional transportation planning partnership process to ensure better communication and collaboration between the AKDOT&PF, the Borough, and the cities.

ADOPTED by the Wasilla Planning Commission on February 9, 2016.

APPROVED:




Jessica Dean, Chairman



Date

ATTEST:



Tina Crawford, AICP, City Planner

VOTE: Passed Unanimously