



Copper River Highway Transportation Master Plan Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting June 6, 2022 (Zoom)

Meeting Purpose: Review proposed Vision Statement, review and amend list of projects identified to date, and confirm draft evaluation criteria.

Attendees:

DOT&PF: Judy Chapman (via Zoom), William Kulash, April Wooley

CRW: Adison Spafford, Julie Jessen

Advisory Committee: Kate Morse, Copper River Watershed; Kevin Johnson, City of Cordova; Robert Dunning, DOT&PF M&O; Megan Marie, ADF&G; David Phillips, Chugach Alaska Corporation; Ricky Gease, DNR State Parks; Scott Newlun, Cordova Electric Cooperative

Following introductions, Adison Spafford (CRW) reviewed the purpose of the Copper River Highway Master Plan (CRH MP) and the master plan process. Ideas for projects within the corridor are still encouraged and the public is invited to submit suggestions through August 31 through the [online survey](#).

A draft corridor vision statement, which incorporated thoughts heard at the January SAC and public meetings, was shared: *The Copper River Highway will be a safe, reliable, multi-modal transportation corridor that provides access to recreational, economic, and cultural activities for community members and visitors alike while sustaining the area's scenic, cultural, and ecological attributes.* The SAC recommended adding a statement regarding access to Alaska Native Land and Housing. CRW will work with DOT&PF and revise the vision statement per the SAC's comments.

Next, the group reviewed a list of projects heard to date. CRW will work with SAC members to add information/descriptions for each of the projects to facilitate evaluation and ranking.

The majority of the meeting focused on draft project evaluation criteria, which the SAC will use to review projects at the group's next meeting. Ideally, the draft CRH MP will include the top five short-

term and top five long-term projects to be implemented. Goal areas included Sustainability, Safety, System Preservation, Connectivity, and Health and Economy, to which the group added “Other”.

Additional comments included:

- Move G2.3 supports resiliency to Goal 1 Sustainability and expand definition beyond responding to natural disasters
- Move G4.4 Improves multi-modal transportation safety to Goal 2 Safety
- Amend G5.1 to Supports connectivity of fish and wildlife habitat
- Amend G5.2 to include access to cultural and historic sites
- Add Maintains established ROW to Goal 3 System Preservation

In the Other goal category, the group suggested adding the following based on the proposed vision statement:

- (Project) Has community support
- Partnership potential (similar to G1.2)
- Protects scenic qualities
- Minimizes impact to minority and disadvantaged populations (environmental justice/equity)
- Future expandability (e.g., allow space for future projects – sequence the projects)

The next SAC meeting will be held in Cordova in September, and the group will receive a packet of projects to review based on the updated evaluation criteria. SAC members will be asked to send their reviews to CRW in advance of the meeting and CRW will compile rankings for discussion.

A public meeting on the draft plan, including a list of projects and ranking, will be held in October.