

**City of Palmer
Resolution No. 23-013-A**

Subject: Support of The Designation of The Mat-Su Valley Planning for Transportation (MVP For Transportation) as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) of the Mat-Su Area

Agenda of: April 25, 2023, May 9, 2023, July 25, August 7, August 22

Council Action: ☒ **Approved** ☐ **Amended:** June 13, 2023
 ☐ **Defeated**

Originator Information:

Originator: John Moosey, City Manager

Department Review:

Route to:	Department Director:	Signature:	Date:
_____	Community Development	_____	_____
_____	Finance	_____	_____
_____	Fire	_____	_____
_____	Police	_____	_____
_____	Public Works	_____	_____

Certification of Funds:

Total amount of funds listed in this legislation: \$ _____

This legislation (✓):


<input type="checkbox"/>	Creates revenue in the amount of:	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Creates expenditure in the amount of:	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Creates a saving in the amount of:	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Has no fiscal impact	

Funds are (✓):

<input type="checkbox"/> Budgeted	Line item(s): _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Not budgeted	_____

Director of Finance Signature: _____

Approved for Presentation By:

	Signature:	Remarks:
City Manager	 _____	_____
City Attorney	 _____	_____
City Clerk	_____	_____

Attachment(s):

1. Resolution No. 23-013-A

Summary Statement/Background:

The Wasilla/Knik-Fairview/North Lakes area was designated in the list of 202 urban areas by the Department of Commerce Census Bureau in a Federal Register notice dated December 29, 2022.

49 U.S.C. § 5303 as amended by the Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act, which section is identical to 23 U.S.C. § 134 of the Federal Aid Highway Act, requires the designation of a metropolitan planning organization ("MPO") for each urbanized area within the country of at least 50,000 population.

USC § 104(f), 23 USC § 134 and 49 USC § 5303 – 5306 are the Federal Transportation Planning Statutes that provide funding and require designation of a metropolitan planning organization for urbanized areas of at least 50,000 population to carry out a transportation planning process and receive federal funding.

Those Statutes require the State and the local governments to coordinate the planning and construction of all urban transportation facilities with a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process.

Administration's Recommendation:

Approve Resolution No. 23-013-A

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Introduced by: Manager Moosey
Date: April 25, 2023
Public Hearing: April 25, 2023
Second Public Hearing: May 9, 2023
Amended: June 13, 2023
Action: Adopted
Vote: 6 to 1

Yes:	No:
Best	Melin
Ojala	
Alcantra	
Anzilotti	
Carrington	
Tudor	

**CITY OF PALMER, ALASKA
Resolution No. 23-013-A**

A Resolution of the Palmer City Council in Support of Mat-Su Valley Planning for Transportation (MVP for Transportation) as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) of the Mat-Su Area, Formation of the MVP as an Independent Organization and Provide for Membership in the MPO and as a Member of the Board of Directors

WHEREAS, 49 U.S.C. § 5303 as amended by the Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act, which section is identical to 23 U.S.C. § 134 of the Federal Aid Highway Act, requires the designation of a metropolitan planning organization ("MPO") for each urbanized area within the country of at least 50,000 population; and

WHEREAS, USC § 104(f), 23 USC § 134 and 49 USC § 5303 – 5306 are the Federal Transportation Planning Statutes that provide funding and require designation of a metropolitan planning organization for urbanized areas of at least 50,000 population to carry out a transportation planning process and receive federal funding;

WHEREAS, those Statutes require the State and the local governments to coordinate the planning and construction of all urban transportation facilities with a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process; and

WHEREAS, an MPO, is generally comprised of representative from local government, transportation stakeholders and governmental transportation authorities with the purpose of ensuring regional cooperation in transportation planning and providing a conduit for the federal funding of transportation projects and programs; and

WHEREAS, designation or selection of officials or representatives to serve on the MPO Board is not set by federal law or regulation and the State of Alaska is silent on who is to serve on small MPO (less than 200,000 persons) Boards; and

WHEREAS, the Wasilla/Knik-Fairview/North Lakes, AK area was designated in the list of 2020 urban areas by the Department of Commerce Census Bureau in a Federal Register notice dated December 29, 2022; and

WHEREAS, under 23 U.S.C. § 134, via an agreement with the Governor of the State of Alaska and units of general-purpose local government that together represent at least 75 percent of the affected population, an MPO shall be designated within one-year of the release of the Federal Register Notice announcing the qualifying urban areas; and

WHEREAS, this agreement must contain a map of the new Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) which delineates the area of responsibility of the MPO and is defined by the U.S. Census, and that area that is anticipated to be considered urban in the next 20 years; and

WHEREAS, in July 2020, a consultant team was retained by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough ("MSB") to coordinate the planning for a new MPO funded by federal transportation Planning funds; and

WHEREAS, in October 2020, a Steering Committee was established, made up of transportation stakeholders of the region, whose mission is to guide the MPO formation process as it relates to presenting recommendations to the Pre-MPO Policy Board regarding organizational and operational structure and the City of Palmer is represented on this committee; and

WHEREAS, in September 2021, a Pre-MPO Policy Board was established, made up of local government officials, the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, and multi-modal advocates to oversee the development of all federally required documents necessary to be designated by the Governor as the MPO of the Mat-Su urbanized area and the City of Palmer is represented on this board; and

WHEREAS, the planning effort for the establishment of the new MPO has progressed in earnest since July 2020, conducting monthly public meetings, developing a website, annual work plans, Public Participation Plan, Public Participation Plan for Pre-MPO designation efforts, MPO Boundary Development Strategy and subsequent Metropolitan Planning Area boundary development, Metropolitan Transportation Plan Scope of Work, membership dues structure, organizational Bylaws and Operating Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Pre-MPO Policy Board, in March 2022, unanimously voted to adopt the formation of an independent, 501(c)(3) organization for MVP for Transportation; and

WHEREAS, MVP for Transportation is submitting the Pre-MPO Policy Board approved Operating Agreement, Bylaws and Metropolitan Planning Area Boundary to the Governor for designation as the new MPO for the Wasilla/Kink-Fairview/North Lakes, AK urbanized area and needs to establish its office, hire staff, establish a bank account, file Articles of Incorporation with the State of Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development Division of Corporations, obtain Business and Professional Licensing to become a non-profit corporation, negotiate intergovernmental agreements to establish participation by member agencies and associated dues, so that transportation planning work can begin on behalf of the MPO; and

WHEREAS, the City of Palmer supports an MVP for Transportation policy board composition of the following:

- (3) Mat-Su Borough officials**
- (2) City of Palmer officials**
- (2) City of Wasilla officials**
- (1) Department of Transportation official**
- (1) Knik Tribe official**
- (1) Chickaloon Native Village official**


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Palmer supports the designation of MVP for Transportation by the Governor as the MPO of the Mat-Su metropolitan planning area.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Palmer supports the formation, organization, and operation of the MPO as an independent organization.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Palmer Mayor will serve as a member of the policy board of MVP for transportation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Palmer Mayor will serve as a member of the board of directors of MVP for transportation and execute all related organizational and administrative documents on behalf of MVP for transportation.

Approved by the Palmer City Council this 22nd day of August, 2023.


Shelly Acteson, CMC, City Clerk


Steven J. Carrington, Mayor

