

By: M. DiSalvo
Introduced: August 7, 2023
Public Hearing: August 21, 2023
Action: Adopted

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION NO. 23-20**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION
RECOMMENDING MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY ADOPTION OF THE
2023 COORDINATED HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE.

WHEREAS, the primary focus of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough's Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP) Update is to evaluate and improve transportation options and access to services for priority populations such as older adults, youth, indigenous populations, veterans, individuals with disabilities, individuals living in poverty, and individuals with limited English proficiency; and

WHEREAS, historically, research indicates that priority populations have higher rates of transit dependency and lower access to vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 U.S. Census identified a higher rate of priority populations in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB) when compared to other coordinated planning regions, underscoring the need for improved transportation services and provider coordination; and

WHEREAS, the most recent update to the MSB's CHSTP was adopted in 2018; and

WHEREAS, Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Circular 5310 funding through the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act and Alaska Mental Health Trust (AMHT) funding through the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) Alaska Community Transit office focus on the transportation needs of disadvantaged persons and those with special transportation needs that cannot be met through traditional personal automobile or public transportation means; and

WHEREAS, in order for local providers to be eligible for FTA 5310 or AMHT funding, projects must be derived from a locally developed, coordinated plan that is updated at least every five years; and

WHEREAS, the ADOT&PF must certify to FTA that a CHSTP includes all of the following requirements:

1. Be locally developed, evidenced by public participation that must include seniors, individuals with disabilities, representatives of public, private, nonprofit, and human services transportation providers, and other members of the public.

2. Include information on the community background, an inventory of local resources and services, a needs assessment, gaps in service, strategies, priority of projects, and a signature page of participating agencies.
3. A resolution from the local governing body adopting the plan.
4. Must be updated every five years.

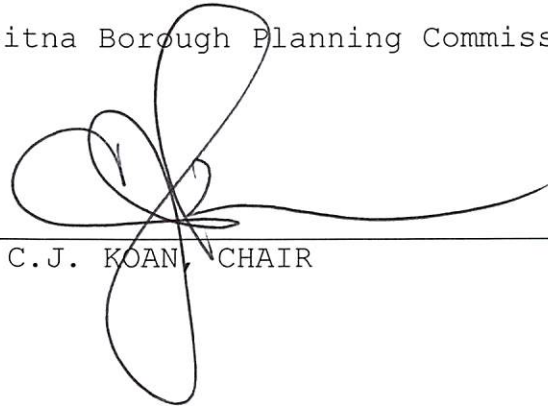
WHEREAS, the CHSTP Update gathered feedback from interviews, advisory committee meetings, and a workshop, all involving transit providers, human service organizations, and local, regional, and state agencies and organizations, and also included a 30 day public comment period; and

WHEREAS, the CHSTP Update includes a list of prioritized goals and strategy recommendations to implement future improvements that effectively meet the transportation needs of priority populations throughout the Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission hereby recommends Assembly adoption of the 2023 Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan Update.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Commission recommends the Assembly request a summary of changes that were made with this proposed update and request an analysis of overall cost that the existing transit system has to taxpayers.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission
this 21st day of August, 2023.



C.J. KOAN, CHAIR

ATTEST



KAROL RIESE, Planning Clerk

(SEAL)

YES: 5- Allen, Koan, Scoggin, Glenn, McLabe

NO: 0