

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
SENATE TRANSPORTATION STANDING COMMITTEE

January 24, 2023

1:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator James Kaufman, Chair
Senator Löki Tobin
Senator Robert Myers

MEMBERS ABSENT

Senator David Wilson, Vice Chair
Senator Jesse Kiehl

OTHER LEGISLATORS

Representative Genevieve Mina

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

INTRODUCTION: TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

- HEARD

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION

No previous action to record

ACTION NARRATIVE

[1:30:28 PM](#)

CHAIR JAMES KAUFMAN called the Senate Transportation Standing Committee meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Present at the call to order were Senators Myers, Tobin and Chair Kaufman.

INTRODUCTION
Transportation Committee

[1:31:59 PM](#)

CHAIR KAUFMAN, District F, announced the consideration of Transportation Committee member's introductions and discussion. He stated that bill referrals will receive two hearings each with additional meetings for particularly substantive bills.

Public testimony and proposed amendments would be postponed until the second meeting.

1:32:20 PM

CHAIR KAUFMAN noted that the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOTPF) would provide overviews in the upcoming weeks. He relayed his professional history as a retired quality manager. He viewed the committee as an improvement council.

1:33:56 PM

CHAIR KAUFMAN shared the mission statement of the committee, to collaboratively drive continuous improvement across all modes of transportation. He acknowledged that funding and political realities shaped the committee's work within the legislature.

1:34:49 PM

SENATOR MYERS, District Q, stated that he drives trucks for a living. He expressed concern about federal dollars received by the state via recently passed bills in Congress. He wished to highlight equity in fund distribution, economic development and public safety when attending to federal contributions. He spoke about state oil revenue and past mistakes resulting from poor strategic planning.

1:37:26 PM

SENATOR TOBIN, District I, introduced herself. The district she serves holds the arterial roads traveling to and from the port. She highlighted the port as a community and state priority. Resources for the state arrive through the port. She sought to limit supply chain disruptions. She spoke about her interest in land-use planning focused on safe and multimodal transportation pathways. She shared that she was married to a small plane pilot, so airport function and safety was another priority. She mentioned the Seward-Glenn mobility study in the community of Fairview. She hoped for transportation planning that allows all Alaskan citizens to thrive.

1:39:52 PM

CHAIR KAUFMAN informed the committee that quality management was his career before becoming a legislator. He shared his belief that Alaska was created, not designed. There is a tremendous opportunity to put more design and value into improvements within Alaska. He stated that the framework for the next series of meetings would be a high-level overview of what the department does to foster continuous improvement. He asked committee members to speak with him about any concerns.

1:41:58 PM

CHAIR KAUFMAN acknowledged that Representative Genevieve Mina was attending the meeting.

1:43:09 PM

At ease

1:43:25 PM

CHAIR KAUFMAN reconvened the meeting.

1:43:49 PM

There being no further business to come before the committee Chair Kaufman adjourned the Senate Transportation Standing Committee meeting at 1:43 p.m.