



Public Infrastructure (PI) Technical Work Group (TWG) October 31, 2008 - Meeting Summary

Action Items/ Schedule

1. Barbara will revise and reissue the PI Catalog of Policy Options early next week (November 3rd).
2. PI TWG & AAG members will review the catalog and “reply all” with comments. If we need a short teleconference will be scheduled the week of November 3rd. At a minimum, Billy Connor, John Madden, Amy Holman, Meera Kohler, Denise Michels and Bob Pawlowski all committed to reviewing the draft.
3. The goal is to have a draft catalog that we agree is quite close to final issued by November 12th along with an agenda for the PI TWG meeting #5, a teleconference scheduled for Wednesday, November 19, from 3-5pm.

Introduction

On October 31 the Public Infrastructure (PI) Technical Work Group (TWG) had a teleconference meeting from 11:00 am to noon to review the October 28 version of the PI TWG Catalog of Policy Options.

Attendance

PI TWG: John Madden, Larry Dietrick, Greg Magee, John Warren

PI AAG: Meera Kohler, Denise Michels, Bob Pawlowski, Billy Connor, Amy Holman

Staff: Barbara Sheinberg

Discussion Highlights from Review of the October 28 PI TWG Policy Catalog

- Correct the mixing of actions/policies.
- Clearly list the policies.
- Policies should begin with, “It is the policy of the State of Alaska to...”
- Programs and actions should be listed below the relevant policy.
- The language for programs/actions will not be final at this point, but is important to list so that there is a common understanding of the policy’s implications, and so that we don’t inappropriately lose important content.
- If possible, list policies in sequential order. For example, there won’t be new engineering codes and design standards created until a commitment is made to support educational curriculum development related to climate change. *[Barbara: I received a follow-up email after the meeting indicating a concern about this comment. The commeter suggested that each policy should be able to stand alone; policies should not*

be sequential. I think that this apparent 'disagreement' is really about coming to a common sense of what the group is calling a policy, versus a program or action. I think all agree that the programs and actions should get listed under policies and that there is a sequence of decision-making for programs and actions. What we as a group do not have yet is a consensus for what we are calling policies).

- Several specific suggestions were made about how to regroup policies.
- Definitions for climate change and public infrastructure are missing from this version of the catalog, put them back in. A definition of effects of climate change is found in, "Larsen, P.H. et. al., "Estimating future costs for public infrastructure at risk from climate change." Use this.
- Specifics regarding the impacts of the opening of the Bering Sea should go to Economic Activities TWG.
- Don't lose items, consolidate better.
- Policy options should be very high level.
- We need to focus on:
 - a) How to protect or harden existing public infrastructure from effects of climate change.
 - b) How to retrofit infrastructure.
 - c) How to prioritize new investments