



PO Box 863, Cooper Landing, AK 99572  
walkcooperlanding.org  
[walkcooperlanding@gmail.com](mailto:walkcooperlanding@gmail.com)

## SAFETY PLAN COORDINATION MEETING NOTES

**DATE:** 4/26/24

**WHERE:** Video Conference

**TIME BEGUN:** 3:00 p.m.

**PURPOSE:** Safety Plan Coordination Meeting. R&M acquainting CLT with their mission with the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) grant and wanting to meet CLT officers.

**PRESENT:** Van Le, R&M Consulting, David Story, CLT Chair, Janette Cadieux, CLT Secretary, Beth McKibben, R&M

### **DISCUSSION:**

**D Story:** Gave a brief description of the Walkable Community Project, Cooper Landing Trails, and the Town Road Planning effort.

**V Le:** Working on the SS4A transportation safety grant, all modes. Kicking off the program and seeking details not found on the website. What are the safety issues for Cooper Landing and the project? It looks like the CLT/Walkable project does fit into the plan that they seek to develop but they will reach out to communities via Advisory Planning Commissions and the online survey to determine borough-wide priorities. They want to develop a safety story for the whole borough. In next funding cycle the planning that is accomplished could lead to build funding.

The survey is critical. We need as many people as possible to take the survey. They're also running a series of community meetings. They've collected crash data. They want anecdotal information that community members can supply.

R&M/KPB will ID 20 key/critical areas and develop counter measures. Not just engineering design, school safety, but safety culture that needs to be inculcated.

**Q from DS:** Is the survey weighted? Is it ranked via # of submissions?

**A from VL:** They expected a couple hundred responses. They do not intend to have it be a popularity contest. If a community identifies key areas then that may mean much. Anticipated data being compiled to a "full story" by summer. Larger population centers will not necessarily mean inclusion. They will work to make it equitable.

**Q DS:** How do we articulate problems that exist over an entire stretch of roadway, e.g. no shoulders throughout MP 45-56 in CL?

**A VL:** Be explicit. General statements may not reflect the detail that is needed. Give MP in range if appropriate but give the exact problems faced. They will need to identify the critical corridors. Details will help with the prioritization. Federal highways will get the most attention.  
**A BMcK:** Pathways or sidewalks that end abruptly exist borough-wide so discussion will need to address transitions in general. Give these examples in your survey.

**VL** will send DS and JC flyers with QR codes for posting in the community to engage the public. Vulnerable road users must be addressed.

**Q DS:** A big push is to decrease crashes is it not? It does not seem to be oriented to active users vs motorized vehicles?

**A VL:** Yes, crashes are being tracked but the needs addressed will include all users. It's a newer plan. KPB is the largest area that this grant funded. AMATS already has a safety plan developed. AMATS is already applying for Complete Streets build-out. All of ANC streets projects will follow the Complete Streets breadth going forward.

**A BMcK:** This grant may be able to support application for other grants by having a completed safety plan.

**VL:** Brenda Ahlberg is a part of the team and emergency access or safety issues can be a part of the concern. They're working on a list of hazards that KPB residents and visitors must negotiate in traveling our roads. Secondary access may be a solution recommended. They're not going to build anything with this round of funding. They're going to have a safety plan that identifies problems and solutions to them.

**Q DS:** How do we articulate moving people out of a roadway to allow efficiency of motorized users? We want to get to active transport meaning all purpose, especially in rural areas, beyond the image of walking and biking as recreation only.

**A VL:** If you need to convey more than you have room to express in the survey you can send emails. If there's an option to car use, they want to hear about those: Travel demand management. Eliminating cars from the roadway is important. They also want to understand travel behavior. Having to get into a car to go a quarter mile doesn't make sense. Showed example of a stretch of road in ANC and the safety map for it.

**A BMcK:** Hotspots will be identified by the surveys.

**VL:** CL qualifies for the SS4A grant because we have a problem that has been identified. Rural roads often have the fatalities and may not be addressed through other programs.

**JC:** Latent demand in our area could lead to increased incidents/accidents because people will assume they can travel the town road once the new alignment of the Sterling is activated but the deficiencies of the roadway will remain unaddressed by the MP 45-60 Project. We need to build space for active users before these incidents/accidents begin happening.

**DS:** Further described the latent demand that will exist in CL once the "bypass" of CL is opened. He acknowledged other areas in KPB that have similar circumstances.

**BMcK:** The virtual public meeting will occur May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 11:30-12:30 and a recording will be on the website afterward. This will happen in addition to the face-to-face meetings in May. They will also offer telephone assist to take a survey verbally. One flyer will have a QR code and another will have a link.

**DS:** May is a gear-up time for local businesses so it becomes a tough time for folks to find room for this type of meeting.

**VL:** Acknowledged the timing as possibly difficult but it was unavoidable.

**JC:** Cooper Landing Crier is an information sharing option. It is an email listserv that residents, summer visitors, businesses, agencies all monitor and post to.

**VL:** The grant schedule is aggressive. The draft plan needs to be ready first quarter of 2025 so that KPB and partners can be eligible for the next round of funding. They'll try to be efficient while gathering the input needed.

**TASKS ASSIGNED:**

**VL/KB:** The flyers need to be updated but they will send them by Monday of next week. Paper copies of the survey can be dropped off in the community.

**JC/DS:** Our library often keeps paper copies of surveys for folks who may not have internet access or be comfortable using the internet. Folks may also take the online survey at our library. We will provide VL and BMcK with email address for the Listserv: Cooper Landing Crier.

**TIME ENDED:** 4:01