
City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

March 26, 2003

Special Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Public Safety & Transportation Commission was held on March 26, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. in the city hall conference room, Bethel, Alaska.

Chair John Hastie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the commission, the following were present:

Jerry Drake	Brad Kehoe
Tae Hwa Chung	Tom Fazzini
Jim Blake	John Hastie

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

Howard H. Morris, Chief of Police and Taxi Inspector
Nicole Williams, Recorder

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Mary Krevans spoke about the upcoming bike rodeo, the importance of protection against head injuries by wearing a helmet, recycling of helmets when out grown, and requirement of wearing a helmet for individuals under the age of 18.

Cub Scouts also noted the importance of wearing a helmet while riding a bike and the idea of helmets being issued out by the city.

Gretchen Brown with Injury Prevention at YKHC distributed a statistics sheet on head injuries, noted that head injuries due to not wearing a helmet are massive in numbers, and would like to try to reduce the number of injuries in our community by wearing helmets. There are approximately 10 head injuries per year in Bethel. Gretchen also mentioned that there is not currently a bill before legislature for helmets in the state of Alaska.

Carl Berger along with Kelly Shawn, from Washington, D.C. and Bruce Wells from the Department of Transportation in Juneau were present to discuss the possibility of a public transit system in Bethel.

Bruce Wells said that the DOT looks at community needs and costs and in his perspective, a study needs to be done for each level of service being considered.

Kelly Shawn mentioned that Colleen Soberay had submitted a federal grant application to his organization for public transit and his goal while in Bethel is to try to determine the needs of our community and hopes to build a foundation of information to help get us on the right track based on our community needs.

Suggestions to the Public Safety & Transportation Commission are to continue and proceed to the next level of process but need to wait for Kelly Shawn's results of his time spent here first.

Discussion ensued.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Drake	To approve the regular agenda.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	
Under New Business added – Bike helmet ordinance.		
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Drake	To approve the minutes of the regular meeting on March 10, 2003.
SECONDED BY:	Blake	
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.	

CHIEFS' COMMENTS

Chief Morris stated that the Police Department has finally completed the project of the new radio console installation. The Police Department will be preparing for the Break Up Party.

TRANSPORTATION INSPECTORS REPORT

Nothing to report at this time.

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICIAN'S REPORT

Nothing to report at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Bike helmet ordinance - requested Chief Morris to obtain information from the city attorney on helmet ordinance for snow machines, four wheelers, etc.

COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Brad Kehoe mentioned the problem of cabs blocking traffic in the BNC parking lot.

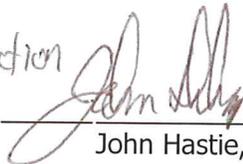
Jim Blake asked if the headlight ordinance pertained to any vehicle transporting passengers or if it pertained to "for hire" only.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Drake	To adjourn the meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.	

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.,
March 26, 2003.

Approved this 2nd day of June, 2003.

By direction 
John Hastie, Chairperson

ATTEST:


Nicole Williams, Recorder