

**NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH ASSEMBLY
ORDINANCE 22-01**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE NORTHWEST
ARCTIC BOROUGH ASSEMBLY TO ADOPT
CHAPTER 10.24 OF THE BOROUGH CODE TO
ESTABLISH A REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION
PLANNING ORGANIZATION, AND FOR RELATED
PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS: the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration establishes Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs) to identify local transportation needs, conduct planning, assist local governments, and support the statewide transportation planning process in non-metropolitan regions of a state, including Rural Alaska and communities off the road system (“Rural Alaska”); and

WHEREAS: pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 5304 (a)(1) and (e)(1), the State of Alaska is directed to develop a statewide transportation plan and a statewide transportation improvement program for all areas of the State and must cooperate with affected local transportation officials or, if applicable, through regional transportation planning organizations; and

WHEREAS: pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 5304 (l), to carry out required transportation planning processes, a state may establish and designate regional transportation planning organizations to enhance the planning, coordination, and implementation of statewide strategic long-range transportation plans and transportation improvement programs, with an emphasis on addressing the needs of non-metropolitan areas of the State, including Rural Alaska; and

WHEREAS: pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 5304 (l)(2) and (3), RTPOs are multijurisdictional organizations composed of voluntary nonmetropolitan local officials or their designees and voluntary representatives of local transportation systems, and shall at a minimum include a policy committee and fiscal and administrative agent; and

WHEREAS: pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 5304 (l)(4), the duties of the RTPO include:

- (A) developing and maintaining, in cooperation with the State, regional long-range multimodal transportation plans;
- (B) developing a regional transportation improvement program for consideration by the State;

(C) fostering the coordination of local planning, land use, and economic development plans with State, regional, and local transportation plans and programs;

(D) providing technical assistance to local officials;

(E) participating in national, multistate, and State policy and planning development processes to ensure the regional and local input of non-metropolitan areas;

(F) providing a forum for public participation in the statewide and regional transportation planning processes;

(G) considering and sharing plans and programs with neighboring regional transportation planning organizations, metropolitan planning organizations, and, where appropriate, tribal organizations; and

(H) conducting other duties, as necessary, to support and enhance the statewide planning process.

WHEREAS: the State of Alaska Department of Transportation supports the establishment of RTPOs in Alaska and recently designated federal funding in furtherance of this effort; and

WHEREAS: the Alaska Municipal League (AML) also supports the establishment of RTPOs in Alaska; and

WHEREAS: under Resolution 21-65, the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly expressed its support for the creation of and participation in an RTPO; and

WHEREAS: the Assembly has determined that it is in the Borough's best interest to adopt Chapter 10.24 of the Borough Code in order to better serve the Borough and its residents through establishment of an RTPO.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED BY THE
NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH ASSEMBLY:**

Section 1: Chapter 10.24 of the Borough Code is adopted as follows:

10.24.010 Northwest Arctic Regional Transportation Planning Organization.

The Northwest Arctic Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NABRTPO) is hereby established as public forum where regional transportation leaders will consider multi-modal transportation projects that affect the entire region. The purpose is to create a common perspective,

prioritization, and unified voice on transportation projects and issues that affect the entire region. The organization will address specific transportation projects as well as long-range regional transportation planning.

10.24.020 Functions.

As an advisory body, the NABRTPO will perform the following functions:

- A. Review and make recommendations on regional transportation issues;
- B. Select and prioritize regional transportation projects;
- C. Establish a process to evaluate and rank regional projects;
- D. Communicate project recommendations to local, state, and federal officials;
- E. Develop and update long-range regional transportation plans;
- F. Review and advise government agencies and transportation providers on planning issues with regional significance; and
- G. Serve as a regional public forum for transportation issues.

10.24.030 Organization.

A. The NABRTPO Policy Committee will be organized as follows:

- 1. One member nominated from each of the following organizations: Northwest Arctic Borough, NANA Regional Corporation, Maniilaq Association, Northwest Arctic Borough School District, and the City of Kotzebue.
- 2. One village representative from each of the following areas: (A) Kivalina and Noatak; (B) Kiana, Noorvik, and Selawik; (C) Ambler, Kobuk, and Shungnak; (D) Buckland and Deering.
- 3. The mayor, the assembly president, DOTP&F representative, and the regional representative and senator currently serving in the Alaska State Legislature may participate in NABRTPO meetings as ex officio nonvoting members.

B. When appointing NABRTPO members, the mayor and assembly will consider the following: the ability and character of members to represent the borough as a whole, the necessary expertise to identify transportation needs,

identify available resources, and to establish and implement a regional transportation strategy and plan to meet those needs.

C. Other than ex officio members, upon request, each member will receive compensation at the rate established by NABC 2.80.060 for each meeting day of the commission attended unless that member otherwise receives compensation from their member organization. Compensation will be paid at the rate established by NABC 2.80.060 per day of attendance at a convention, conference, or similar gathering. Compensation does not include per diem which may be paid separately.

10.24.040 Meetings.

- A. The NABRTPO should meet at least three times per year to review and establish annual priorities for transportation projects and conduct other organization business.
- B. All meetings of the NABRTPO and any technical subcommittees will be open to the public and subject to public notice as provided in law.

10.24.050 Staff.

The staff from member agencies or contracted consultants will coordinate the administration of the NABRTPO.


Section 2: This Code Ordinance shall be effective immediately.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 22nd DAY OF March 2022.



Nathan Hadley, Jr., Assembly President

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 22nd DAY OF March 2022.



Dickie Moto, Sr., Mayor

SIGNED AND ATTESTED TO THIS 22nd DAY OF March
2022.

Helena Hildreth

Helena Hildreth, Borough Clerk

ATTEST:

First Reading: February 23, 2022

Second Reading: March 22, 2022

