Comprehensive Road Plan: Official Maps and Policies

This study was supported by the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities and funded, in part, by a Federal Highway Administration PL Grant.

Adopted July 11, 1991
This document contains the official Comprehensive Road Plan Maps and Policies of the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB). Future road corridors are mapped for those areas shown on the Panel Key. Policies in this Plan apply to the entire Borough.

The three local governments within the FNSB and the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities have individual regulations for the establishment of roadways. These regulations establish right-of-way widths and construction standards for the road network. Within the Cities of North Pole and Fairbanks, respective functional classification systems and road standards are retained. Outside city boundaries, FNSB standards apply.

The Comprehensive Road Plan is a guideline to development. Roads are intended to be established incrementally as growth occurs. Road corridors as shown by this plan will only be dedicated on private property at the time owners subdivide their land. Corridors on public land should only be constructed in response to needs to access land.

In some cases, development patterns may dictate that alternative road corridors be substituted for those in the plan. Alternate corridors must meet the transportation need served by the original corridor. There may also be a need for road corridors not anticipated by this plan. These situations will be evaluated on a case by case basis, as part of the FNSB platting process. Update of this plan shall be in accordance with requirements outlined for the FNSB Comprehensive Plan.

The Comprehensive Road Plan is intended as a decision making guide for the FNSB Platting Board, Planning Commission, and Assembly. It will also provide information for developers and the general public on future road network recommendations and requirements.
ORDINANCE NO. 91-021

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE COMPREHENSIVE ROAD PLAN
AS AN ELEMENT OF THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR
BOROUGH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

WHEREAS, conflicts are arising in our community over the need to provide road access to property on the one hand, and the desire to protect neighborhoods from through traffic on the other hand; and

WHEREAS, a Comprehensive Road Plan has been prepared to help resolve this conflict; and

WHEREAS, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Comprehensive Plan states that the Borough "Prepare a Comprehensive Road Plan (official map) that generally maximizes the use of land in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan ...; and

WHEREAS, the Fairbanks North Star Borough does not have a Comprehensive Road Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Planning Department is required to insure legal access to new lots as part of the subdivision process, and the Comprehensive Road Plan will allow this process to work more efficiently; and

WHEREAS, roads will be established through the platting process, only if and when property owners decide to subdivide their land; and
WHEREAS, this Plan has received a great deal of public scrutiny through exposure at public meetings, display advertisements in the Daily News Miner, and through notification of property owners; and

WHEREAS, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Planning Commission held a public hearing on June 4, 1991 and voted unanimously to recommend adoption of the Comprehensive Road Plan to the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Assembly of the Fairbanks North Star Borough:

Section 1. Classification. This ordinance is of a general and permanent nature and shall not be codified.

Section 2. The Fairbanks North Star Borough Comprehensive Plan is amended by incorporating therein the Comprehensive Road Plan, attached hereto as Attachment 1.

Section 3. Effective date. This ordinance shall be effective at 5:00 p.m. on the first Borough business day following its adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 11TH DAY OF JULY, 1991.

[Signature]
Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

[Signature] Mona Lisa Drexler, CMC
Municipal Borough Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 91-021
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COMPREHENSIVE ROAD PLAN POLICIES
(ADOPTED JULY 11, 1991)

Fairbanks North Star Borough adopted a Comprehensive Plan in March of 1984. The transportation element of the plan contains a number of goals and policies which address the road network and other modes of transportation. Part of the effort to develop a Comprehensive Road Plan is to expand and clarify these policies.

The intent of the policies is to guide development of the Borough road network. They supplement, rather than replace existing ordinances. To avoid conflicts, all roads within the Borough which are outside the City of Fairbanks and the City of North Pole, will conform to FNSB Title 17 requirements. Within the City of Fairbanks and the City of North Pole, the municipality's respective adopted road standards apply.

The following sections divide these road related policies into six categories; Access/Rights-of-Way, Traffic Circulation, Aesthetics, Environment, Community Impact, and Safety.

ACCESS/RIGHTS-OF-WAY

Additional Road Plan Policies

1. Existing rights-of-way and public road easements which are wider than the minimum widths required by this document, should be retained.

2. When proposing, designing, and building new road corridors, protection shall be given to trails identified in the Comprehensive Recreational Trail Plan. This protection shall include:
   a. Avoid building major collectors alongside or parallel to existing trails. If this becomes necessary, adequate separation between the road and the trail will be provided so as not to adversely affect existing trail use.
   b. In order to reduce trail/driveway conflicts, no minor collectors will be built alongside or parallel to existing trails.
3. For unincorporated areas of the FNSB, proposed major and minor collector corridors shall be indicated on the Official Comprehensive Road Plan Map. Alternative corridors which can satisfy the same transportation needs may be substituted on a case by case basis.

4. Trails identified in the FNSB Comprehensive Recreational Trail Plan that are located within existing road rights-of-way, shall be provided for in future upgrades of the roadway.

5. Ensure that future subdivisions have adequate area for snow storage.

6. In order to allow flexibility in subdivision design, design criteria should be developed for divided streets or roadways.

TRAFFIC CIRCULATION

Additional Road Plan Policies

1. Internal road networks in subdivisions shall be designed to discourage through traffic on roads providing direct access to residential lots.

2. Routing of commercial and industrial traffic through residential areas shall be avoided.

3. Where necessary to insure access for future development, subdivisions shall be designed to provide future road connections to adjacent land.

4. To ensure emergency vehicle access and the safety of residents, secondary access to residential areas shall be provided.

5. Developments fronting on limited access roadways shall be designed with alternative access.
6. To reduce through traffic and improve safety in residential subdivisions, the use of three-way or "T" type intersections is encouraged.

7. Incorporate locations for MACS bus stops, where necessary, into designs of future road projects. (See also Safety # 4.)

AESTHETICS

Additional Road Plan Policies

1. Retain existing vegetation within right-of-ways which would not interfere with road or trail construction, or create safety problems.

2. Require landscaping of areas that have been disrupted due to road construction. To minimize maintenance costs, hardy, disease resistant and drought tolerant indigenous species should be utilized. Landscaping should include trees and bushes as well as grasses.

3. Encourage maintenance agreements with local organizations and service areas to maintain landscaped areas along roadways.

4. Encourage a landscape plan for principal and major arterials identified in the FMATS Transportation Plan, which are located within the area designated as urban in the FNSB Comprehensive Plan.

ENVIRONMENT

Additional Road Plan Policies

1. During road corridor planning for undeveloped areas, evaluate the suitability of adjacent land for development and direct construction away from environmentally sensitive areas.
2. Consider the affect of new road construction or reconstruction on transportation corridors of local, state, scenic, historic, or environmental significance.
3. Develop and implement, where appropriate, the construction of adequate corridors for safe passage of wildlife across new and reconstructed roads.
4. To minimize drainage problems, roads should not interfere with the flow of natural drainage features.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Additional Road Plan Policies
1. Select alignments of transportation improvements to; minimize costs and displacement of residences and businesses, improve development potential, and to define neighborhoods.
2. Discourage roadway alignments which penetrate or divide established residential neighborhoods except in instances of overriding public interest.
3. Study and implement when warranted neighborhood traffic control devices to protect residential areas from excessive traffic.
4. Consider the effects of light pollution caused by intersection lighting on outlying residential neighborhoods. In sensitive areas, utilize cutoff fixtures or other techniques to mitigate impacts.
SAFETY

Additional Road Plan Policies

1. Traffic analysis and roadway improvements should ensure safe and adequate pedestrian circulation in downtown areas, activity centers, and neighborhoods.

2. Encourage education of the public in the proper use of existing and new facilities such as interchanges, turn lanes, acceleration (merge) lanes, bikeways etc.

3. New roads shall be designed so that the placement of mailboxes can conform to current U.S. Postal Service standards.

4. New roads shall be designed to accommodate necessary pullout areas for mailboxes and if possible coordinate their use as centralized school bus and public transit vehicle stops.

5. Where trails designated in the FNSB Comprehensive Recreational Trail Plan intersect roads, and grades allow, encourage the installation of properly sized culverts or bridges to avoid on-grade crossings and improve safe passage.

6. When ongrade road/trail crossings are necessary, designs shall include ramping for the trail and adequate sight distances for motorists and trail users.
NOTE: These existing right-of-ways are classified as to their future function. The platted roadway may or may not be constructed at this time.
Comprehensive Road Plan
Adopted July 11, 1991

Roadway Classification

NOTE: These existing right-of-ways are classified as to their future function. The platted roadway may or may not be constructed at this time.

Source: FNSB Base Maps, Feb. 22, 2006

Fairbanks North Star Borough Department of Community Planning
T. 1N., R. 3E., F.M.
Map Panel 113

Proposed Road Corridors

- ARTERIAL
- MAJOR COLLECTOR
- MINOR COLLECTOR
- FUTURE STUDY
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Roadway Classification

- **ARTERIAL**
- **MAJOR COLLECTOR**

Proposed Road Corridors

- **MAJOR COLLECTOR**
- **MINOR COLLECTOR**
- **FUTURE STUDY**

NOTE: These existing right-of-ways are classified as to their future function. The platted roadway may or may not be constructed at this time.

Source: FNSB Base Maps, Feb. 22, 2006

Fairbanks North Star Borough
Department of Community Planning

T. 2N., R. 1E., F.M.

Map Panel 121
Comprehensive Road Plan

Adopted July 11, 1991

Roadway Classification

- ARTERIAL
- MAJOR COLLECTOR

Proposed Road Corridors

- MAJOR COLLECTOR
- MINOR COLLECTOR
- FUTURE STUDY

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Comprehensive Road Plan

Adopted July 11, 1991

Roadway Classification

- ARTERIAL
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Proposed Road Corridors

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Map Panel 423