MEMORANDUM
CITY/BOROUGH OF JUNEAU
155 South Seward Street, Juneau, Alaska 99801

TO: Members of the Assembly

FROM: Marc Matsil, Director, Parks & Recreation
       Dale Pernula, Director, CDD
       Ben Lyman, Senior Planner
       Rorie Watt, Director, Engineering
       Heather Marlow, Lands Manager
       Joe Buck, Director Public Works

SUBJECT: Final Draft Juneau Non-Motorized Transportation Plan

DATE: October 2, 2009

Please find the attached final draft of the Juneau Non-Motorized Transportation Plan. The draft plan reflects significant public input and comments from five community meetings, the PRAC, Planning Commission, Affordable Housing Commission, and Assembly Members.

Several changes have been made to Chapter 8 – Recommended Policies and Implementing Actions. Changes have been made to address comments and concerns voiced by Assembly Members through Public Works and Facilities Committee and CBJ Staff during final plan review.

• Policy 1: Complete preliminary engineering and cost estimation for select highest priority Non-motorized infrastructure improvements.

Adding the word ‘select’ makes it clear that work need not be done for all 18 highest propriety improvements. An additional explanation sentence now states that, “The CBJ Assembly and Department Directors will periodically identify projects to prepare this information for in response to expected funding opportunities, growing safety concerns, new or anticipated development and similar conditions.” This reflects the fact that community priorities change over time (and this is a ten year plan), that non-motorized improvements are often completed as part of larger road reconstruction projects, so having flexibility in determining highest priority projects will be a benefit.

• Policies 2 and 5 were redundant, both addressed CBJ review of private sector development. We have combined these policies into one policy, now Policy 4.

• Policy 3 addresses municipal projects. Proposed changes reflect suggestions by Rorie Watt in his September 14 memo addressing broader improvements to the process for reviewing City and State projects.
• Policy 4 deals with private sector development (was Policy 5 in the previous draft). The language was changed for accuracy and clarity. Implementing actions 5A and 5B were removed as CBJ staff felt that they were redundant or already being completed. A new implementing action 4A was added that recommends that relevant departments work together to make design standards more context sensitive. Implementing action 5E was moved to new Policy 5.

• The title of Policy 5 was revised for clarity (was Policy 6 in the previous draft) and now reads: “Integrate motorized and non-motorized transportation planning”. The implementing action 5B, about the timing of the construction non-motorized and motorized facilities, now belongs here.

• Policy 7 addresses maintenance (was Policy 8 in the previous draft). This policy was changed to read: “Develop and commit to a maintenance program for non-motorized facilities”. The word “develop” was added per CBJ concern regarding costs. This clarifies that a realistic maintenance program will be developed, to which the CBJ can commit, for non-motorized facilities. Like all CBJ actions and policies. It would be based on available funding and priorities. Other small changes were made to the explanation paragraph and the implementing actions for clarity.

• Policy 12 addresses the Cross-Juneau Bikeway (was policy 13 in the previous draft). The word “designate” was removed from this policy per CBJ staff recommendation as adopting this plan designates the cross-Juneau bikeway rather than it taking place some time in the future.