

**MINUTES  
OF THE  
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE/TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
BATON ROUGE URBANIZED AREA  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Tuesday, March 17, 2015 ~ 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
BREC Commission Chambers ~ 6201 Florida Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA**

**Transportation Policy and Technical Advisory Committee Members present:**

Hon. Riley "Pee-Wee" Berthelot (Parish President – West Baton Rouge Parish), Dr. Olin Dart (Chair of TAC), Hon. Layton Ricks (Parish President - Livingston Parish), Hon. Gerard Landry (Mayor - City of Denham Springs), Hon. Joey Normand (Mayor – Town of Brusly), Hon. Richard Lee (Mayor - City of Port Allen), Hon. Harold Rideau (Mayor - City of Baker), Jackie Baumann (City of Gonzales), Cathy Gautreaux (LMTA), Fred Raiford (City of Walker), Ken Dawson (Ascension Parish), Conner Burns (CATS), and Wilfred Barry (Iberville Parish)

**The meeting was also attended by:**

Hon. David Toups (Mayor - Addis), Ann Shaneyfelt (Louisiana Clean Fuels - LCF), Logan Anderson (BRAC), Ron Crum (AECOM), Ken Perret (LBRTA/CATS), Katie Copeland (DOTD), Suzanne McCain (Fenstermaker), Mike Bruce (Stantec), Emmett Crockett (CATS), Dan Broussard (LaDOTD), Chad Bacas (Forte & Tablada), Morgan Landry (Reliant), Chris Nichols (Reliant), Errin Flynn (CRLD), Yasoob Zia (LDEQ), Jamie Setze (CRPC), Ravi Ponnappureddy (CRPC), Mary Breau (CRPC), P. K. Dang (CRPC), Kim Marousek (CRPC), Sarah Stafford (CRPC/LCF), Ahmed Abdel-Khalek (CRPC), and Pong Wu (CRPC).

**1. INTRODUCTIONS**

- Hon. Riley "Pee-Wee" Berthelot
  - The meeting was called to order and everyone was asked to identify themselves.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

- Hon. Riley "Pee-Wee" Berthelot
  - Hon. Riley "Pee-Wee" Berthelot asked the committee if there were any corrections or additions that needed to be made to the minutes of the previous Joint TAC and TPC meeting, which was held on January 27, 2015. There was no opposition.

**Motion was made by Hon. Layton Ricks and seconded by Ken Dawson to approve the minutes of the previous Joint TAC and TPC meeting, which was held on January 27, 2015. (Unanimous in favor).**

**3. ACTION ITEMS**

- Ravi Ponnappureddy

**A. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (2015-2018) AMENDMENTS**

*Project # H.010439 in EBR, Boyd St @ 21st St Pumping Sta Imp I-110, Add engineering phase in FFY 15 at a cost of \$231K utilizing NHPP funds.*

*Project # H.972089 in EBR, HQ Disability Access for Sidewalks, Add feasibility phase in FFY 15 at a cost of \$300K utilizing STPFLEX funds.*

**Fred Raiford made a motion to approve TIP amendments, which was seconded by Conner Burns. (Unanimous in favor).**

## **B. CATS Preliminary Program of Projects FY 2016 and Transit TIP Improvements**

Ravi presented year by year what amendments are for.

- Transit TIP Amendment FY2015
  - FTA Sections 5307 and 5309
- Preliminary Program of Projects FY 2016
  - FTA Section 5307 and 5339
- Transit TIP Amendment FY 2017
  - FTA Section 5307
- Transit TIP Amendment FY 2018
  - FTA Section 5307

**Motion to approve CATS Preliminary Program of Projects FY 2016 and Transit TIP Amendments for FY 2015, FY 2017, and FY 2018 made by Ronnie Robinson and seconded by Conner Burns.**

## **4. NON ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. MPO Activity Update**

➤ Jamie Setze, CRPC

- EPA letter (handout) - update on ozone standards. CRPC's Response to Proposed EPA Ozone Standards
  - Last Meeting, We updated the committee on proposed EPA ozone standards and its impact on the Capital Region.
  - CRPC drafted a response letter documenting the same and requested EPA to either forgo or postpone promulgating the new standard.
  - Copies of the letter are available at the signup desk.
- Baton Rouge MPO Whiteboard Meeting
  - When : March 18<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM
  - Where: DOTD-HQ Exec Classroom
  - Who: Entities/representatives with STP>200K projects currently programmed in the TIP

- Purpose: To review the status of existing STP>200K (Urban System) projects and adjust timelines
- Planning Commissioner Training Workshop. March 21st, Town of Livingston Municipal Building
  - When : March 21<sup>st</sup>, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM
  - Where: 20550 Circle Drive, Livingston, LA 70754
  - Who: Planning officials to complete their Act 859 four-hour training requirements
  - No Cost, First come, first served, RSVP by Thursday, March 19, 2015
- Local Public Agency Qualification Program
  - **Day 1 AM**  
LPA Qualification Core Training Module (4 PDHs)
  - **Day 1 PM**  
Project Planning, Feasibility and Application Development Module (4 PDHs)
  - **Day 2**  
Project Design & Delivery: Developing an LPA Project for Bidding Module (7 PDHs)
  - **Day 3**  
Construction, Engineering, and Inspection Module (CE&I) (7 PDHs)
- Travel Demand Management Program - Geaux Ride
  - Ridesharing website complete.
  - Working to setup pilot run with LADOTD, LDEQ, and LDNR.
  - Staff working on developing an incentive package.
  - Developing partnerships with Uber to ensure that Geaux Ride participants have a guarantee ride home.
- EDA and DRA 2015 Funding Cycle
  - The next funding cycle deadline for Economic Development Administration grants closes on **June 12, 2015**.
  - We anticipate Delta Regional Authority funding announcement in the next two months. We will contact members when we know the date.
  - Please contact Courtney if you would like additional information on these funding opportunities.  
Courtney Maciasz  
[CMaciasz@brgov.com](mailto:CMaciasz@brgov.com)  
(225) 383-5203
- Communication and Public Outreach
  - Revamp/modernize website 30 – 60 days
  - Developing newsletter – First one sometime in April. Initial goal to send out one every four months  
Possibly will include:
    - Information on ongoing projects

- Funding opportunities
- Highlight emerging regional issues
- CRPC 2.0 – Creating a brochure explaining CRPC services to the public and elected officials
- Bike/Pedestrian Planning
  - Working with Front Yard Bikes to help conduct a road safety demonstration for earth day.
  - Working with the Webb Park Home Owners Association to improve connectivity and walkability in that neighborhood.
  - Begun the process of implementing a comprehensive pedestrian Bike/Count Program
  - Participating the Sustainable Transportation Advisory Committee meetings regarding complete streets for Baton Rouge.
  - Continued to promote Bike/Ped safety
- Capital Region High School Video Contest
  - On behalf of the leadership of East Baton Rouge, West Baton Rouge, Ascension, Livingston and Iberville Parishes, the Capital Region Planning Commission is hosting a High School Video Contest aimed at educating our youth about road safety before bad habits can be formed. We would like to extend a formal invitation to all students in grades 9-12 in the above parishes to participate.
  - <http://www.canyouseemenowcontest.com/>
  - Over half of all bicycle fatalities in Louisiana occur between 7 p.m. and midnight.
  - In the past five years 78 Louisiana bicyclists died between 7:00 p.m. and midnight and 19 died between midnight and 6:00 a.m.
  - Possible causes for crashes
    - no lights on bikes,
    - riding on the wrong side of the street,
    - running stop signs or
    - being hit by drivers who are distracted or impaired by alcohol.
- Other Activities
  - Conducted quarterly Coordinated Human Services working group meetings.
  - Provided Technical Assistance to CATS
    - Refine and revise 2016 Planned Program of Projects
    - Implement new tripper service to serve Emerge Center and L'Auberge Casino
    - Updated stop and stop order files to reflect all the changes proposed for April 2015
    - Analyze stop level passenger count data to identify shelter locations for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)
  - Completed modeling, analyzing results and preparing reports for Government Street road diet project as requested by LADOTD.

- Staff is currently reviewing LADOTD's comments on STP>200K projects and working with local entities to address them in timely manner.

## **B. Highway-Rail Safety in Louisiana**

- Betsey Tramonte, Transportation Specialist - Safety, FHWA - Louisiana

- Overview of Highway-Rail Issues in Louisiana
- Louisiana's Highway Rail Safety Program
- Louisiana's Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Action Plan
- LDOTD's Crossing Consolidation Program

## **C. Capital Region Transportation Safety Coalition - Safety Projects Update**

- Ravi Ponnappureddy

- Tom Ed McHugh  
Coalition Champion  
tomedmchugh@cox.net
- CRPC Contact:  
Ashley Hebert  
Regional Transportation Safety Coordinator  
Capital Region Planning Commission  
(225) 383-5203  
ahebert@brgov.com
- **Five Emphasis Areas**  
Young Drivers  
Impaired Driving  
Bike/Pedestrian  
Occupant Protection  
Infrastructure & Operations
- **4E Approach**  
Engineering  
Enforcement  
Education  
Emergency Services
- Activity Update
  - Held coalition meetings on all five emphasis areas at State Police Headquarters.
  - Action plans for all the emphasis areas are complete
  - Working closely with LADOTD to review the updates to the action plans of all the five emphasis areas of CRTSC.
  - Prepared and finalized Louisiana Highway Safety Commission (LHSC) grant application materials.
  - Met with Ascension parish Government leadership to discuss the formulation and implementation of local road safety plans for the area.
  - DOTD set aside safety funding and will be working with individual Parishes to develop a "**Parish Safety Plan**".
    - Ascension – ASAP

- Livingston – Summer 2015
- E. Baton Rouge – Fall 2015

## **5. Other Business**

There was no other business.

## **6. Adjournment**

**A motion was placed by Hon. Joey Normand to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Ken Dawson. (Motion carried with no opposition).**