

**MINUTES
OF THE
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE
BATON ROUGE URBANIZED AREA
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Tuesday, August 11, 2015 ~ 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
BREC Commission Chambers ~ 6201 Florida Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA**

Transportation Policy Committee Members present:

Hon. Riley “Pee-Wee” Berthelot (TPC Vice Chairman and Parish President – West Baton Rouge Parish), Hon. Harold Rideau (Mayor – City of Baker), Hon. Joey Normand (Mayor – Town of Brusly), Hon. Layton Ricks (Parish President – Livingston Parish), Ken Dawson (Ascension Parish), Fred Raiford (City of Walker), Ronnie Robinson (DOTD), Wilfred Barry (Iberville Parish), and Bob Mirabito (CATS)

The meeting was also attended by:

Hon. David Toups (Mayor – Town of Addis), Yasoob Zia (LDEQ), Ken Perret (LGRTA), Alan Krouse (Buchart Horn), Logan Anderson (BRAC), Karl Rothermel (Vokert), Mike Bruce (Stantec), Amy Shaneyfelt (LCF), Robert Collins (CATS), Ron Crum (AECOM), Cathy Gautreaux (LMTA), Jamie Setze (CRPC), Ravi Ponnappureddy (CRPC), Mary Breau (CRPC), Phuoc Dang (CRPC), Kim Marousek (CRPC), and Courtney Maciacz (CRPC)

1. INTRODUCTIONS

- ***Hon. Riley “Pee-Wee” Berthelot, TPC Vice Chairman***
 - 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, TPC Vice Chairman***
 - 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 Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) meeting, which was held on Tuesday, May 12, 2015. There was no opposition.

Motion was made by Hon. Layton Ricks and seconded by Ken Dawson to approve the minutes of the previous Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) meeting, which was held on Tuesday, May 12, 2015. (Unanimous in favor).

3. ACTION ITEMS

A. Transportation Improvement Program (2015 - 2018) Amendments

Project # H.011496 in EBR, Quail Dr: Turn Lane at Perkins (LA 427), Add right-of-way phase in FFY 17 at a cost of \$12.3K, utility phase in FFY 17 at a cost of \$12.8K, and construction phase in FFY 18 at a cost of \$475K utilizing CMAQ funds at 80/20 cost share.

Project # H.011213 in EBR, I-12: Sound Barrier Wall @ Essen Ln, Remove Engineering phase of \$50k NHPP at 90/10, Construction Phase - increase cost from \$1.3M to \$2.2M in FFY 15 utilizing NHPP funds at 90/10 cost share.

Project # H.000464 in LIV, US 190 @ LA 1026 (Roundabout), right-of-way phase - increase cost from \$100K to \$2M HISPPPEN at 90/10 cost share and \$500K STBONDS in FFY 16, Construction Phase - increase cost from \$1.2M to \$4.11M HISP at 90/10 cost share and \$500K STBONDS in FFY 16.

Project # RU 18-24-16 in IBR, Add FTA 5311 project in FFY 16 showing Iberville Sheriff's Office as a recipient for Federal Award Amount of \$249K towards operating costs.

Project # RU 18-32-16 in LIV, Add FTA 5311 project in FFY 16 showing Livingston Parish Council/Livingston Council of Aging as a recipients for Federal Award Amount of 47K towards capital costs and \$285K towards operating costs.

Fred Raiford made a motion to approve the presented Transportation Improvement Program (TIP 2015 – 2018) amendments, which was seconded by Hon. Layton Ricks (Unanimous in favor).

B. CATS Program of Projects FY 2015

Jamie Setze - Executive Director - CRPC

Jamie presented what CATS will be doing in 2015 with their federal funds. As required by Federal Transit Administration, Program of Projects is being updated to reflect the actual federal allocation FTA 5307 and FTA 5339 amounts for FY 2015.

Motion to approve CATS Program of Projects FY 2015 was made by Hon. Layton Ricks and seconded by Ken Dawson. (Unanimous in favor).

C. Amendment of Action Items - Children's Hospital Road

Jamie Setze - Executive Director - CRPC

We did a Call for Projects last summer and East Baton Rouge Parish chose to apply a big chunk of that urban systems money to the Green Light Project Phase 2 on Old Hammond.

Recently, within the last month, the Children's Hospital that is opening up at the Lady of the Lake between there and the Baton Rouge General has announced they will have a ground breaking in December and they do not have a road to their new hospital. So, the city parish would like to take the money they were going to apply to Old Hammond and build a new road between Essen and Bluebonnet.

What we are doing today, we're just adding the Environmental Assessment (EA) to start, it's going to be locally funded, and this will be subject to the interagency air quality because we haven't talked to FTA, FHWA, DEQ and DOTD to make sure this doesn't trigger conformity.

So what we're doing is just adding an EA phase; not going to complete that phase until we do an new air quality document, but we just need that in there so DOTD can put a project number on the project and start working.

Motion to approve amending Agenda to add Action item made by Hon. Joey Normand and seconded by Ken Dawson. (Unanimous in favor).

It's privately funded. The EA is not going to use any federal funds or any state funds, but we have to have it in there for them to start working on it. The way the air quality works is they can't take a federal action until it's in the plan in TIP. So until we have an interagency to make sure this doesn't trigger it, we would like this to get started in EA.

Motion to approve adding Hospital Rd EA in the TIP subject to air quality made by Fred Raiford and seconded by Hon. Layton Ricks. (Unanimous in favor).

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS

A. MPO Activity Update

Jamie Setze - Executive Director, CRPC

➤ **Communication and Public Outreach**

- New newsletter for CRPC. Summer/Fall 2015 newsletter came out yesterday.
- We have a new home page for our website. We got that up and running this morning.

➤ **Capital Region Transportation Safety Coalition (CRTSC) Update**

- Finalized the five emphasis areas for the Safety Coalition. Going to start moving those into action plans. We finalized the plans and going to start working on them. Those are posted on the website.
- Capital Region Transportation Safety Plan
 - Safety Plan is finalized and will be posted on the new CRPC website to be launched on August 11th.
 - The focus will now be on implementation of this plan.
- **Impaired Driving Outreach Grant Approved**
 - Grant will allow the CRTSC to conduct impaired driving outreach events in other Parishes similar to the ones successfully conducted at the Live After Five events in Baton Rouge

➤ **Planning Commissioner Training Workshop**

- When: September 12th, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- Where: Port Allen, LA
- Who: Planning officials to complete their Act 859 four-hour training requirements
- No Cost, First come, first served, RSVP by Wednesday, September 9, 2015
- The course will be taught by Stephen D. Villavaso, FAICP, J.D. with Villavaso & Associates, LLC

Contact

Kim Marousek
kmarousek@brgov.com
(225) 383-5203

➤ **Travel Demand Management Program**

- <https://geauxride.greenride.com/>
- Geauxride portals for LADOTD, LDEQ, and LDNR launched.
- Coordinating with LDEQ and LCF to conduct PSA event early September to encourage participation in the carpooling program.
- Worked with Uber to set up a promo code for all first time users. Promo code unlocks first free ride.

➤ **Bike/Pedestrian Planning**

- EPA visited Baton Rouge to host a two-day workshop to assess the feasibility of the project.
- EPA worked with Mayor President's Office, DDD, CRPC, CPEX, BRAF, and Bike BR, hosted Bike Share Information and Visioning Session.
- The city-parish was one of 22 regions to be selected for the Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities grant.
- Funding is not yet confirmed, but the workshops will gain more clarity.
- Bike/Pedestrian Counts – June 15 - 21

➤ **Local Road Safety Program**

- <http://www.ltrc.lsu.edu/ltap/lrsp.html>
- Does your town or Parish have curves and intersections that need safety improvements? Submit your Local Road Safety Program (LRSP) Project Proposals by September 30, 2015.
- Applications are accepted continuously and evaluated after quarterly cutoff dates (March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31)
- Who is Eligible to Apply for funding? Parish or municipal jurisdictions
- We have the Level 1 crash data

➤ **Transportation Modeling Activities**

- Staff providing modeling support for the I-10 (LA 415 – Essen Ln on I-10 and I-12) stage 0 feasibility study.
- Staff has been modeling numerous scenarios requested by DOTD for LA 1 to LA 30 Connector since September 2014.
- New scenarios in addition to the previously modeled ones were requested in the recent months.
- Staff worked on modeling a new connector between Essen Ln and Bluebonnet Blvd between I-10 and Summa based on the request from the City/Parish.
- Staff working on modeling a Old Hammond (Boulevard de Provence to Millerville) based on the request from DOTD.
- Crash Hot Spots Analysis
 - Staff working on crash data analysis in preparation for the MTP Update.
- Origin – Destination Analysis

➤ **Asana – Project Management Tool**

- Implemented an internal project management tool to improve efficiency in project/tasks implementation at CRPC.

➤ **Other Activities**

- Worked on drafting Regional Traffic Counting Program Scope
- Worked on planning the MTP 2042 update (Detailed presentation follows)
- Working on preparing local road condition reports using the pavement condition data that was collected in 2014.
- Working on preparing the mobility reports based the travel time data 2012, 2013, and 2014 in preparation for CMP.
- Staff worked on making administrative modifications to the Transportation Improvement Program.
- Continued the discussion and research regarding the establishment of air quality Emission Reduction Credits (ERC's).
- Participated in the Louisiana Clean Fuels conference.
- Attend air quality modeling (MOVES) training in Austin, TX.

B. Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update 2042

Jamie Setze - Executive Director, CRPC

** Computer down, discussion held. Presentation highlights below.

- July 20 was 2 year mark where we need to have a new long range plan with a new Air Quality document.
- Going to start in December. Hopefully by then we'll have an Air Quality budget.

- What is the MTP?
 - Guiding document for future investments in roads, transit services, bicycle and pedestrian facilities and related transportation activities and services to match the growth expected in the Capital Region.
 - Represents a long-term vision for Capital Region's transportation system.
 - Identifies multimodal transportation improvements over the next 25 years.
 - Fiscally constrained and conform to air quality standards.
 - Adopted by MPO's Governing Board.
- Why is this plan important?
 - Any regionally significant transportation project in the Capital Region **irrespective of the funding source can only be implemented** if it is included in this plan
- How many projects can be included?
 - As many as possible as long as we demonstrate fiscal constraint and air quality conformity.
- What areas are covered?
 - Ascension
 - E. Baton Rouge
 - Iberville (Partial)
 - Livingston (Partial)
 - W. Baton Rouge (Partial)
- Do we have an existing MTP?
 - Yes. MTP 2037
- MTP 2037 – Funding Summary
 - The revenue projections for local, state and federal recurring funds for transportation projects identified in the Baton Rouge MTP 2037 Update were in the magnitude of \$2.4 Billion.
- How was it developed?
 - Public Input
 - Agency Consultation Meeting – March 2012
- Why update now?
 - Proactive approach
 - Current co conforming plan **expires on July 12, 2017.**
 - Starting early so that we can do extensive outreach and develop a plan that accurately reflects the needs of the region.
- Process Outline discussed
- Timeline given
- Is the process changing?
- Extensive Public Outreach
 - Public Outreach Strategy
 - Public Meetings
 - Agency Consultation Meetings (Not limited to just one)
 - Stakeholder Meetings
 - Community Groups

- Social Media Outreach
 - PSA's
 - Online Surveys
 - Partnerships (e.g. FUTUREBR Outreach Meetings)
 - Website etc.
 - TAC & TPC Meetings
- What kind of Input?
 - Population & Employment Growth Projections
 - Existing & Future Land use
 - Transportation Solutions & Funding Strategies
 - Transportation Problems, Choices, & Needs
- Next Steps?
 - Staff will be working on:
 - Base Data Collection
 - Base Data Analysis
 - Existing Conditions & Deficiencies
 - Update Base Model Network
 - Develop Transportation Survey
 - Finalize Scope & Timeline
 - Kick-off Meeting
 - Finalize Public Outreach Plan
 - Call for Projects
 - Agency Consultation
- While staff is busy crunching data and planning, you could:
 - Start thinking about the issues and needs (Short Term and Long Term) in your locality and our region.
 - Also, start thinking about transportation solutions you may have for your locality and our region.
- Let's begin our journey with selecting a name for our new plan.
 - **GreauxSmart 2042**
 - **TransCAMS 2042** (Transportation Connectivity Accessibility Mobility and Safety in 2042)
 - **CATCAMS 2042** (Capital Area Transportation Connectivity Accessibility Mobility and Safety in 2042)
 - **CATCAMPS 2042** (Capital Area Transportation Connectivity Accessibility Mobility and Safety Plan 2042)
 - Other suggestions?

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Hon. Riley "Pee-Wee" Berthelot, TPC Vice Chairman

- **Ken Perret, LGRTA**
 - Fall elections are going to be very important. There are two constitutional amendments on the ballot that deal with transportation funding. Last time we lost Amendment 4 which would have provided an infrastructure bank. The legislature has authorized the infrastructure

bank. Constitutional amendment No. 2 will allow the state treasurer to put state funds into the infrastructure bank to make them available. That's the key issue. It's allowing the treasurer to fund the infrastructure bank.

Amendment No. 1, The Budget Stabilization Act, has to do with mineral revenues coming into the state and how they are divided up. The affect will be additional monies for transportation.

Most important is the election for governor. Without a governor that's going to support transportation, we're dead in the water. We have to have a governor that's going to come up with a transportation program that's going to be foresighted and have economic development as a goal and improvement of our transportation system. All four candidates have said they are interested and they support transportation funding but none of them have come up with a specific plan.

- **Jamie Setze**

- Ron Crum asked when we are getting a new building. We are working with EDA on finalizing our application for a new building. Working with the city to find a location. We are looking the Triangle Building downtown (currently DA's office).

6. Adjournment

A motion was placed by Hon. Harold Rideau to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Fred Raiford. Motion carried with no opposition. Meeting was adjourned.