

**MINUTES
OF THE
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE
BATON ROUGE URBANIZED AREA
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Tuesday, October 13, 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. Melvin “Kip” Holden (TPC Chairman and Mayor-President – East Baton Rouge Parish), Hon. Riley “Pee-Wee” Berthelot (TPC Vice Chairman and Parish President – West Baton Rouge Parish), Hon. Barney Arceneaux (Mayor – City of Gonzales), Hon. H. Gerard Landry (Mayor – City of Denham Springs), Hon. Richard Lee (Mayor – City of Port Allen), Hon. Joey Normand (Mayor – Town of Brusly), Darnell Waites (City of Baker), Ken Dawson (Ascension Parish), Jackie Baumann (City of Gonzales), and Ronnie Robinson (DOTD).

The meeting was also attended by:

Clay Stafford (City of Gonzales), Scott Hoffeld (Arcadis), Gordon Nelson (Fenstermaker), Robert Badeaux (Livingston Parish), Ron Crum (AECOM), Steve Bonnette (City-Parish EBR), Chad Vosburg (LaDOTD), Yasoob Zia (LDEQ), Pierre Washington (Franklin Associates), Carrie Broussard (Baton Rouge Planning Commission), Logan Anderson (BRAC), Donald Burgess (Livingston Parish), Betty Burgess (Livingston Parish Republican Women), Jamie Setze (CRPC), Ravi Ponnappureddy (CRPC), Mary Breau (CRPC), Ashley Bridges (CRPC), Phuoc Dang (CRPC), and Kim Marousek (CRPC).

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Hon. Riley “Pee-Wee” Berthelot, TPC Vice Chairman

- The meeting was called to order and everyone was asked to identify themselves.

Jamie Setze asked that Ashley Bridges, Regional Transportation Safety Coordinator, give her presentation before other Agenda Items due to a meeting conflict. There were no objections.

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS

D. Capital Region Transportation Safety Coalition Update

Ashley Bridges - Regional Transportation Safety Coordinator

➤ **Capital Region Transportation Safety Plan**

- Regional Safety Plan completed in July 2015.
- Data-driven plan developed with safety partners to identify effective multimodal transportation safety solutions in the eight-parish region of the coalition.
- Like the SHSP, the regional plan’s measurable goal is to reduce the number of roadway fatalities by one-half by 2030.

- To achieve this target, non-infrastructure and infrastructure efforts will be undertaken in five emphasis areas: Occupant Protection, Impaired Driving, Young Drivers, Bicycle and Pedestrians, and Infrastructure and Operations.

➤ **“We’ve Got Your BAC” - Impaired Driving Community Outreach Event**

➤ **Problem Identification**

- Impaired driving is a critical problem in Louisiana, and nowhere is it more prevalent than in the parishes included in the Capital Region Transportation Safety Coalition (CRTSC). The CRTSC comprises Ascension, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberville, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, West Baton Rouge and West Feliciana parishes, serving a combined population of 809,284.
- According to an analysis of the data spanning a five-year period (2009 – 2013), conducted by the Highway Safety Research Group, there were 1,489 alcohol-related crashes in the Capital Region, 236 of which involved fatalities and 1,253 of which involved injuries. During that time period, drivers involved in these crashes were most often white (60%), male (71%), between the ages of 25 and 34, and with a blood alcohol content of .1 g% to .2g%. It is these drivers that the CRTSC has identified as the target audience of its proposed project.

➤ **WAFB**

- <http://www.wafb.com/story/28835902/new-program-hopes-to-bring-awareness-to-drunk-driving>

➤ **Young Drivers**

- Teen and young adult drivers have a higher risk than other age groups of being involved in serious crashes across the United States, and that is unfortunately no different in South Louisiana. Crashes involving people of the 21-24 age group often also involve drug and/or alcohol impairment or some form of driver distraction.
- Traveling the Road to Safety
 - Occupant Protection
 - Distracted Driving
 - Impaired Driving
 - Sharing the Road
 - Speeding

➤ **Share the Road! Travel Happy! Media Campaign**

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 Ken Dawson and seconded by Hon. Barney Arceneaux to approve the minutes of the previous Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) meeting, which was held on Tuesday, August 11, 2015. (Unanimous in favor).

3. ACTION ITEMS

A. Transportation Improvement Program (2015 - 2018) Amendments

Jamie Setze - Executive Director - CRPC

Project # H.007855 in ASC, LA 431 @ LA 934 Intersection Improvement, Increase cost of construction phase from \$750K to \$1.37M utilizing CMAQ funds at 80/20 cost share in FFY 2016.

Project # H.010319 in EBR, I-110: North St – Plank Rd Reconstruct JCP at Grade, Move construction phase from FFY 2018 to FFY 2019 and Increase cost from \$21M to \$24M utilizing NHPP funds at 90/10 cost share.

Project # H.010653 in WBR, LA 986 Sidewalks, Installation of Sidewalks, Add utility phase at a cost of \$11K utilizing STP>200K funds at 80/20 cost share in FFY 2016.

Project # H.011840 in ASC, LA 44 Pavement Preservation, Add right-of-way phase at a cost of \$375K utilizing STP>200K funds at 80/20 cost share in FFY 2016.

Hon. Joey Normand asked for further explanation on Item 1, as to why it's gone from \$750K to \$1.37M. Ronnie Robinson explained that the original was just a right turn lane; but when they looked at the survey with higher elevation, left turn lane and drainage, it went up.

Hon. H. Gerard Landry made a motion to approve the presented Transportation Improvement Program (TIP 2015 – 2018) amendments, which was seconded by Hon. Joey Normand (Unanimous in favor).

4. NON-ACTION ITEMS

A. MPO Activity Update

Jamie Setze - Executive Director, CRPC

➤ Planning and Zoning Assistance

- Responded to request for planning assistance from the
 - Zachary,
 - New Roads, and
 - West Baton Rouge Parish.

- Going up to Central tomorrow.
- Had preliminary consultations regarding various zoning and land use planning assistance with
 - Brusly,
 - Albany, and
 - Denham Springs
- Assisted Town of Slaughter to update their Zoning map.

➤ **Planning Commissioner Training Workshop**

- CRPC offers training four times a year for planning officials to complete their Act 859 four-hour training requirements.
- These training sessions are funded in part by local member dues. Training materials have been developed according to Act 859. (No Fees)
- The course is taught by Stephen D. Villavaso, FAICP, J.D. with Villavaso & Associates.
- Last one was conducted on Saturday, September 12th, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM in Port Allen, LA.
- Next one probably will be in early December. If any local jurisdiction is interested to host the training, please let us know.

Contact

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

➤ **Geauxride Launch September 16**

➤ **Local Road Safety Program**

<http://www.ltrc.lsu.edu/lrap/lrsp.html>

- Does your town or Parish have curves and intersections that need safety improvements?
 - 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
- Contact CRPC if you need help with crash data analysis or project application.
 Phone: 383 5203
 Email: crpc@brgov.com
- Local Road Safety Program - Changes
 - Memo was sent on October 1st

- New changes effective from October 1st
- \$500,000 limit per year per entity eliminated
- Projects are prioritized using evaluation criteria listed in the memo. Emphasis will be placed on Benefit/Cost Ratio when cost exceeds 500,000
- Local Public Agency (LPA) will no longer need to enter into an agreement with a consulting firm for engineering, construction, and inspection services. LRSP project managers will manage the contracts
- The LP A may still choose to do their own engineering, but this will be at their own cost
- Similar contracting changes will be made for the Safe Routes to School Program

➤ **Regional Crash Data Analysis**

- CRPC staff currently wrapping up the regional crash data analysis based on the crash data obtained from DOTD for the years between 2009 and 2014.
- Preliminary results
 - Indicate that about 60% of all traffic crashes in the five parish region occurred at roadway intersections
 - Fatal crash rate (per 100 million vehicle-miles) in each of five parishes in the capital region is higher than the statewide fatal crash rate
 - Traffic crash rate (per million vehicle-miles) in four of the parishes (except for Iberville) is also higher than the statewide crash rate.
- Detailed results will be presented at the December meeting.
- Draft report completed. Will meet with local entities to present and discuss the results.
- CRMPO Region - Crash Hot Spot Map

➤ **Other Activities**

- Met with North Shore Black Elected Officials & Coalition Assoc.
- Attend monthly Baton Rouge Mid – City Merchants Association meetings
- Participated in the I-10 Widening Project public meetings.
- Conducted a formal RFP process, selected a vendor, and finalized contract with Iron Design LLC to design and install Bike Racks throughout Southern University and The Downtown Development District.
- Worked with the Capital Region Safety Coalition and Marmillion Gray Media to develop the Travel Happy Media Campaign for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Emphasis Area.
- Working with CRISIS coalition on the Regional Projects Screening project
- Staff worked on modeling proposed Ashland Connector project in Ascension Parish. Worked with FHWA, EPA, DEQ, and DOTD to determine the regional significance of this project. Not significant, so it did not trigger Air Quality.
- Attended a Long Range Transportation Plan Scenario Planning

- workshop/peer exchange hosted by FHWA
- Assisted the Port of Baton Rouge by providing data and analysis on their TIGER grant application
- Staff worked on making administrative modifications to the Transportation Improvement Program
- Working on Asset Management Plan
- Working on analyzing 2014 travel time data to analyze the effects of recurring vs non-recurring congestion
- Providing technical assistance to CATS for December 2015 service change implementation. Completed service equity analysis for the same
- CRPC and CATS working on administrative modifications to CATS CMAQ projects that were approved during 2012 CMAQ call for projects

B. MTP 2037 Amendment

Jamie Setze - Executive Director, CRPC

Not presented. It might not happen, depending on Federal Highways.

C. Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update 2042

Jamie Setze - Executive Director, CRPC

- Draft Scope of Work – Complete.
- Will be sending for DOTD approval next week
- Draft scope of work for MTP Public Outreach done. Will be advertising the public outreach RFP after DOTD approves the scope.
- Staff Currently
 - Base Data Collection
 - Base Data Analysis
 - Crash Data Analysis
 - Existing Conditions & Deficiencies
 - Update Base Model Network
- CRPC will be contacting all the local entities in the upcoming months to collect their land use and zoning data

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Hon. Riley “Pee-Wee” Berthelot, TPC Vice Chairman

There was no other business.

6. Adjournment

A motion was placed by Hon. Richard Lee to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Hon. Barney Arceneaux. Motion carried with no opposition. Meeting was adjourned.