

**MINUTES
OF THE
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE/TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
BATON ROUGE URBANIZED AREA
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Tuesday, January 26, 2016 ~ 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. Melvin “Kip” Holden (TPC Chairman and Mayor-President – East Baton Rouge Parish), Hon. Riley “Pee-Wee” Berthelot (Parish President – West Baton Rouge Parish), Hon. Gerard Landry (Mayor - City of Denham Springs), Hon. Richard Lee (Mayor - City of Port Allen), Hon. Harold Rideau (Mayor - City of Baker), Ken Dawson (Ascension Parish), Yasoob Zia (LDEQ), Ronnie Robinson (DOTD), Skip Paul (Consultant), Jackie Baumann (City of Gonzales), Fred Raiford (City of Walker), Dan Broussard (DOTD), Bill Deville (CATS), and Kevin Durbin (WBR Parish).

The meeting was also attended by:

Chandra Bondzie (FHWA), Ron Crum (AECOM), Michael Thomassie (Duplantis Design Group), R. Adam Davis (Providence), James Taylor (Franklin Assoc.), Thomas Stephens (B.R. Public Works), Darnell Waites (City of Baker), Errin Flynn (CRLD), Mary Stringfellow (FHWA), Stephen Bonnette (EBR City Parish), Ken Perret (LBRTA/CATS), Kyler Lewis (Geo Engineers), Stacy Schlieve (Congressman Graves), Jamie Setze (CRPC), Ravi Ponnappureddy (CRPC), Mary Breau (CRPC), Kenyatta Robertson (CRPC), Phuoc Dang (CRPC), Ahmed Abdel-Khalek (CRPC), and Zhan Shi (CRPC).

1. INTRODUCTIONS

- Hon. Melvin “Kip” Holden – TPC Chairman
 - The meeting was called to order and everyone was asked to identify themselves.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

- Hon. Melvin “Kip” Holden – TPC Chairman

Motion was made by Hon. Riley “Pee Wee” Berthelot and seconded by Hon. Harold Rideau to approve the minutes of the previous Joint TAC and TPC meeting, which was on 12/08/15. There was no opposition.

3. ACTION ITEMS

- Jamie Setze

A. Election of TPC Officers

- Hon. Melvin “Kip” Holden was elected Chairman.

Hon. Melvin “Kip” Holden was nominated for Chairman by Hon. Riley “Pee Wee” Berthelot and seconded by Fred Raiford. Unanimous in favor.

- Hon. Riley “Pee Wee” Berthelot was elected Vice Chairman.

Hon. Riley “Pee Wee” Berthelot was nominated for Vice-Chairman by Ken Dawson and seconded by Ronnie Robinson. Unanimous in favor.

B. Election of TAC Officers

- Harold “Skip” Paul was elected Chairman.

Harold “Skip” Paul was nominated for Chairman by Jamie Setze and seconded by Fred Raiford. Unanimous in favor.

- Hon. H. Gerard Landry was elected Vice Chairman.

Hon. H. Gerard Landry was nominated for Vice-Chairman by Hon. Riley “Pee Wee” Berthelot and seconded by Hon. Melvin “Kip” Holden. Unanimous in favor.

C. MTP 2042 Public Outreach RFP Selection

- We have an RFP out for Public Outreach for our long range plan update, however, one of the reviewers was out sick last week, so they could not have the meeting. We did get three submissions. The Committee will be meeting later this week. What we would be requesting from the Policy Committee is to have another meeting in February. Our next scheduled meeting is in March, but we don’t want to wait to get the consultant on board to start doing the PR because that will start bleeding over our time. We want to coordinate ours with things like the FutureBR 5 Year Update that’s going to be going on this summer; so we want them all to work together. We will be requesting a February meeting and that’s why it’s not an Action Item today.

D. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (2015-2018) AMENDMENTS

Project # H.005121: LA 415: I-10 to LA 1 (LA 1 Connector) in WBR, Increase the cost of Environmental Phase and Value Engineering from \$270K to \$350K at 80/20 cost share in FFY 2016.

Project # H.011936: Combine H.011936 and H.012175 into one project H.011936. Add construction phase at 11.5M NHPP at 90/10 cost share in FFY 2016. Project was originally covered under line items but now have to be listed in TIP and STIP by project number.

Hon. Riley “Pee Wee” Berthelot made a motion to approve the presented Transportation Improvement Program (TIP 2015 – 2018) amendments, which was seconded by Hon. H. Gerard Landry. (Unanimous in favor).

4. NON ACTION ITEMS

A. MPO Activity Update

➤ Jamie Setze, CRPC

- FY 2015 Federally Obligated Projects
 - FY 2015 Federal Authorizations – Highway
 - FY 2015 Federal Authorizations – Transit

- FAST Act (2016 – 2020)
 - FAST Act – Highway Summary
 - Signed into law on December 4th 2015
 - First long-term transportation act since SAFETEA-LU
 - Authorizes \$305 B – 225 B from HTF and remainder from GF
 - Major emphasis on freight investments
 - New program – National Highway Freight Program (NHFP)
 - \$1.2 B per year
 - Distributed to states by formula
 - In addition, established a \$900 M per year discretionary program
 - Surface Transportation Program (STP) is now renamed as Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBGP)
 - Transportation Alternatives Program is folded in to STBGP and renamed as STBGP Set-aside
 - NHFP dollars can now be spent on non-NHS highway bridges on Federal-Aid eligible highway
 - FAST Act – Transit Summary
 - \$ 61 B over five years - \$49B from HTF and \$12B from GF
 - Section 5303 Metropolitan Planning – No changes
 - Section 5307 – Urbanized area formula grants
 - Demand-response other than ADA paratransit becomes eligible in TMA’s (>200k population)
 - Removes requirement to spend at least 1% on “associated transit improvements” for large urban areas
 - Section 5309 – fixed guideway capital investment grants
 - Threshold for “small start” increased to \$100 M
 - Changes made to criteria and processes by which FTA evaluates “new starts”
 - Provisions are added to facilitate joint transit-intercity rail projects
 - Section 5310 – formula grants for the enhanced mobility of seniors and individuals with disability
 - States and local government entities operating public transit services are classified as eligible direct recipients
 - Section 5311 – formula grants for rural areas
 - Additional sources of eligible “non-federal” matching funds are established including cash from non-governmental sources and advertising sales
 - Section 5339 – bus and bus facility grants
 - Entire section is rewritten but most of them are minor and technical. Some of the significant changes are:
 - Increased amount allocated nationally and per state allocation increases from \$1.25 M to \$1.75 M
 - Includes a new program of competitive grants for low- and no-emission buses
- LA – Highway Apportionments
- LA – Estimated Transit Apportionments/Allocations
- Congestion Mitigation for Air Quality (CMAQ) Call for Projects (2020-2024)
 - CMAQ – Purpose & Funding
 - To fund transportation projects or programs that will contribute to attainment or maintenance of the national ambient air quality standards for Ozone, Carbon Monoxide, and Particulate Matter.
 - To improve air quality and relieving congestion
 - \$4.4 Million in Federal funds annually

- 20% Local match required
 - CMAQ Eligibility – High Project Priority Types
 - CMAQ Eligibility – Medium & Low Project Priority Types
 - CMAQ Ineligibility
 - Roads classified as Rural Minor Collector and Local are not eligible for federal funds
 - Building new roads and widening existing roads are not eligible for CMAQ funds
 - FHWA’s Program Guidance will help to identify both eligible and ineligible projects.
- CMAQ – Eligible Parishes
 - CMAQ funds are available only in ozone nonattainment and maintenance parishes.
 - Based on DOTD, following 5 parishes are eligible for CMAQ funds:
 - East Baton Rouge
 - West Baton Rouge
 - Iberville
 - Ascension
 - Livingston
- CMAQ Documentation & Deadline
 - All applications must identify sponsorship by a government entity such as a city, parish, or state government organization that can provide non-federal matching funds.
 - An emissions analysis showing reductions for NOx and VOC, and, DOTD Stage 0 documents must be included with the submittal of proposed projects
 - Applications should include a clear project timeline for implementation
 - Submit six hardcopies of the Stage 0 documents, air quality analysis with proposed projects
 - **Applications are due on May 2, 2014**
- CMAQ – CRPC Assistance
 - Perform emissions analysis and prepare air quality report for submittal with project application.
 - Please provide us the project details **at least 3-4 weeks prior** to the application deadline.
 - **If you need assistance with emissions analysis contact**
 Ravi Ponnappureddy
 E-mail: Nponnappureddy@brgov.com
 Phone: 2253835203
- CRPC Major Projects/Tasks 2016
 - MTP 2037 – Amendment
 - Mobility Report and CMP
 - MTP 2042 Plan and Model Development
 - UPWP FY 2017 Development
 - CMAQ Projects Analysis
 - Ascension Pavement Condition Data Collection
 - Transportation Asset Management Plan
 - Non-Motorized Plan
 - Travel Demand Management Expansion
- Public Notice: Public Listening Session for Transportation Planning
 Tuesday, February 16, 2016, 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm, Room 175, Transportation Training and Education Center (TTEC), 4099 Gourrier Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808-4443

- Technical Advisory Committee and Transportation Policy Committee Scheduled Meeting Dates (2016)
- Freight in the Southeast Conference
April 11-12, 2016, Omni Riverfront Hotel, 701 Convention Center Boulevard, New Orleans, LA
http://www.ittsresearch.org/ITTS_2016_conference.html#Registration
- SWREDA (SouthWest Region Directors Association)
CRPC will be hosting the 2016 Conference in Baton Rouge – August 23-26
<http://www.swreda.org/>

B. FHWA Certification Review 2016

➤ Chandra Bondzie

USDOT Site Visit of the Capital Region Planning Commission (CRPC) will be conducted at the Transportation, Training and Education Center (TTEC), February 16 – 18, 2016, 4099 Gourrier Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808-4443. Ms. Bondzie reviewed the Agenda for the Review. Handouts were given.

C. Local Road Safety Program

(Not presented.)

5. Other Business

➤ Hon. Melvin “Kip” Holden – TPC Chairman

- Jamie recognized Ronnie Robinson (LaDOTD) for his last meeting with the Committees.

6. Adjournment

Hon. Melvin “Kip” Holden adjourned the meeting by motion by Hon. Riley “Pee Wee” Berthelot.