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Mayor Holden Announces Public Meeting on Modern Streetcar Connecting Downtown and LSU
TramLinkBR Project Will Determine Preferred Route, Position Project for Funding

Mayor-President Melvin "Kip" Holden has announced the first public meeting of **TramLinkBR**, a project that will include conceptual engineering, planning and environmental clearance for the proposed modern streetcar system to connect downtown, Old South Baton Rouge and the LSU campus.

The streetcar, or tram, was envisioned in FUTUREBR, the East Baton Rouge Parish comprehensive master plan, to boost redevelopment along the Nicholson Drive corridor and connect LSU and residential areas with job centers located downtown.

The public meeting will be held on Thursday, January 28, 2016 from 5:00 – 7:30 p.m. in Meeting Rooms 9 and 10 of the River Center, easily accessible from the West Parking Garage and St. Louis Street entrance. Mayor Holden and the project team will present information about the project in a brief presentation at 6:00 p.m. The remainder of the meeting will be an open house format to allow the public to view displays, ask questions and get additional information from the project team.

"I have been very pleased with the support provided by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Secretary Anthony Foxx and his staff to help us get this important project underway," said Mayor Holden. "With construction in progress on our Water Campus and new employment centers like IBM increasing our downtown workforce, it has become even more important that we implement transit systems that work. This tram will not only move people back and forth along this busy corridor, it will also spur redevelopment in one of the prime areas we targeted in FUTUREBR."

At the meeting, the public will see maps of potential routes and the location of associated facilities as well as get information on the community development potential surrounding the project. They will also learn more about the type of modern trams envisioned for Baton Rouge and how they operate.

A project website, www.TramLinkBR.com, will include information made available to the public at the meeting along with a section for the public to provide feedback.

Ashley Booth, project manager with HNTB Corporation, the architectural, engineering and planning firm selected to lead the project, will join Mayor Holden in presenting the project to the public.

The city-parish was awarded a federal TIGER VI grant in September 2014 to help fund the planning, environmental and conceptual engineering studies currently being conducted.

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