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For more information contact:

Scott Dyer, Mayor's Office: (225) 389-7957

Susan Boudreaux, Mayor's Office: (225) 389-5101

**Mayor Holden Announces Public Meeting to Present Results
Of TramLinkBR Project Environmental Assessment**
30-Day Public Comment Period Begins Today

Mayor-President Melvin "Kip" Holden has announced the second public meeting of the **TramLinkBR** project, the proposed modern streetcar system to connect downtown, Old South Baton Rouge and the LSU campus, will be held Tuesday, June 21st from 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.

The public meeting is being held in coordination with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to obtain comments on the Environmental Assessment, which evaluates the project's potential social, cultural, economic, environmental and transportation-related impacts and identifies measures to avoid, minimize or mitigate those impacts. The project team will also present at the meeting the project's Locally Preferred Alternative including the preferred route alignment, stop locations and operations and maintenance facility site, and discuss the City-Parish's plan for project funding. Plus, team members from Fregonese Associates will be at the meeting to display key recommendations for the land use plan being developed to address the anticipated redevelopment along the corridor.

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 in Meeting Rooms 9 and 10 of the River Center, easily accessible from the West Parking Garage and St. Louis Street entrance.

There will be a presentation at 6 p.m. by Mayor Holden and Ashley Booth, project manager for HNTB Corporation, the architectural, engineering and planning firm selected to lead the project.

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.

As of Tuesday, June 7th, the entire Environmental Assessment can be viewed and downloaded at www.TramLinkBR.com and a copy is available for review at the City-Parish Department of Transportation and Drainage in City Hall, 222 St. Louis Street, Room 880, Baton Rouge, LA 70802; and at the Carver Branch Library, 720 Terrace Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Comments must be received by July 7, 2016 to be included in the project record. Comments may be submitted online at www.TramLinkBR.com or sent to: K. Stephen Bonnette, P.E., Director, Department of Transportation and Drainage, City of Baton Rouge—Parish of East Baton Rouge, 222 St. Louis Street, 8th Floor, Room 880, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. You can also reach him at 225-389-3158 (voice), 225-389-5391 (fax) or by email to info@tramlinkbr.com.

“We have received great support and cooperation from the U.S. Department of Transportation, Secretary Anthony Foxx and his staff to complete this Environmental Assessment on a fast-track schedule to position this project to compete for funding,” said Mayor Holden. “Our recent trip to Kansas City to see first-hand the success of its streetcar system demonstrated how we can not only move people in a new, efficient way, but also create economic development to benefit the entire parish. I’m very pleased that we are working together to implement what was set out for East Baton Rouge Parish in our FUTUREBR master plan.”

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. The completion of this project phase will allow the City-Parish to seek additional federal and local funding to complete final design and construction.

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