



JULY 1, 2007 - JUNE 30, 2008

2008

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM
in
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
for the
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA URBANIZED AREA

DRAFT

CAPITAL REGION PLANNING COMMISSION
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A
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Capital Region Planning Commission

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INTRODUCTION

The *Fiscal Year 2008 Unified Planning Work Program* (UPWP) emphasizes a continuation of the planning and management activities conducted by the Capital Region Planning Commission (CRPC). The thrust of this work program continues to be directed at the evaluation of completed functional planning elements, and increased levels of implementation and coordination activity, including program development and major refinements to the Transportation Plan. Planning and management assistance continues to evolve from facility-based planning activities into comprehensive area-wide policies and objectives.

The functional planning efforts of CRPC have become increasingly sophisticated, more technically involved, and more closely tied to implementation and funding. The emphasis on functional planning activities at the local level is continued in the FY 2008 Unified Planning Work Program.

Primarily a management tool for planning and coordination, the UPWP provides the basis for cataloging and integrating CRPC's activities into general categories. This document delineates the programmatic and fiscal relationships essential for internal planning and programming of resources to achieve the stated goals.

The focus of the transportation planning activities is shown in Figure 1. This study area is composed of the City of Baton Rouge and the surrounding urban areas. The part of the area lying east of the Mississippi River includes the municipalities of Baton Rouge, Gonzales, Baker, Zachary, Walker, and Denham Springs, while that part west of the river in West Baton Rouge Parish includes the municipalities of Brusly and Port Allen. The estimated population of the study area is over 600,000. The area and population has increased due to recently released U.S. Census Urbanized Area information.

ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

The transportation planning activities are the joint efforts of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LA DOTD) and the Capital Region Planning Commission (CRPC). These activities are under the direction of the Transportation Policy Committee. This committee is composed of chief elected officials from Baton Rouge, Port Allen, Baker, Brusly, Zachary, Gonzales, Walker and Denham Springs and the Parishes of East Baton Rouge, West Baton Rouge, Ascension, and Livingston, in addition to members from the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, the Federal Highway Administration (non-voting member), CRPC, and the quasi-public Capital Area Transit System. The Greater Baton Rouge Airport Commission is a creation of the East Baton Rouge City-Parish Government and is represented on the committee by the Mayor-President of East Baton Rouge Parish.

As the guiding organization, the primary responsibilities of this Committee are:

- § Adoption of metropolitan goals and objectives
- § Review and evaluation of transportation plan alternatives
- § Selection of a plan for adoption
- § Adopting implementation priorities

As part of the review and evaluation function, the Transportation Policy Committee is the mechanism whereby appropriate consideration of social, economic and environmental factors relating to the individual plan elements will be ensured. Under the Transportation Policy Committee

is the Technical Advisory Committee. It is through this committee that the individual planning activities of the participating agencies will be coordinated to produce multi-modal unified work elements. This committee is composed of engineering and planning representatives from highway, mass transit, air, and water transportation. Each involved political jurisdiction is represented, as well as members from the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the Federal Highway Administration. It is the responsibility of the committee to:

- § Delineate the scope and responsible agency for the individual planning tasks
- § Coordinate the planning efforts and resources of the participating agencies and monitor the work progress of the tasks
- § Review plan element alternatives prior to submission to the Transportation Policy Committee

In addition, the Technical Advisory Committee will recommend to the Policy Committee changes in the Transportation Plan to achieve a balanced system consistent with prevailing socio-economic and environmental policies.

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STATUS OF AREA PLANNING

Comprehensive Planning for the Urbanized Area is being performed on two levels. The East Baton Rouge City-Parish Planning Commission is responsible for detailed comprehensive planning for a large part of the study area. This plan is updated on a periodic basis reflecting changes caused by the urban growth of the area, and in 1997 with the annexation of Ascension Parish. A major update referred to as the *Horizon Plan* took place during the early 1990's with CRPC/DOTD providing most of the transportation element and a major transportation model data variables update was completed in 1995. In addition, comprehensive plans have been or are in the process of being adopted for the municipalities of Baker, Brusly, Port Allen, Walker, and Zachary. On a regional basis, CRPC is responsible for initiating and updating the comprehensive plan and is now on a continuing planning phase.

Formalized transportation planning in the Baton Rouge area dates to as early as 1946 and was continued by periodic studies from that time. A significant expansion in scope and detail of planning was realized as a result of the *Federal Aid Highway Act of 1962* with the adoption of the *Baton Rouge Metropolitan Area Transportation Study in 1967*. As a result of this study, a *Transportation Improvement Plan* was adopted by the Transportation Policy Committee and has been reaffirmed by that committee annually. The current emphasis of activities is on the long-range plan update and short-range planning activities. The *Baton Rouge Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update* was completed during 1992, and the recommended long-range improvements through the year 2010 were based on forecasted trends in population, dwelling units, occupied dwelling units, retail employment, total employment and school enrollment. This *Long Range Plan* was updated in 1994, 1997 and 2001. The MPO study area was expanded in Ascension Parish in 1997, 2001, 2004, and 2006. The 2006 plan has forecast improvements through the year 2029. The MPO network and data variables were updated to include this annexed area in 1998. The MPO network and transportation model reflect the new and expanded area. The area expanded again due to the new urbanized area as required by the new 2000 Census. CRPC continues the process of updating the network and data variables for the Transportation Long Range Plan update.

The Capital Region Planning Commission has provided technical assistance to the Capital Area Transit System (CATS) since 1970, when the City-Parish of East Baton Rouge purchased the bus system from a private operator. Recent FTA planning related activities include route efficiency analysis, transit service computer model development, handicapped accessibility planning, safety and alcohol planning, financial analysis, and technical assistance for grant application.

Public involvement in the transportation planning process is accomplished through a number of actions as follows:

Public Outreach - All *Transportation Plan* and *Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)* developments, adoptions and amendments will be subject to public notification procedures as follows:

- Notification will occur at least thirty (30) days prior to adoption or amendment actions unless federal regulations require different actions.
- General **public notice** will occur in the local official paper of record for the Metropolitan Area.
- All affected public government bodies, area Legislators, and other interested governmental entities will be notified in writing of pending actions. The MPO will maintain a list of civic,

community and special interest organizations which will also be notified in writing of all impending actions. We use the list to initiate outreach efforts with these groups including civic clubs, churches, neighborhood organizations, etc. This list was initially developed by the MPO staff and is reviewed and updated annually. Organizations wishing to be added to or deleted from the list may notify the MPO in writing.

- Copies of all official documents are posted for public review in each local parish library in the metropolitan planning area, each main office of local government members, and in the MPO offices.

Public Hearing - A public hearing is held prior to the amendment or adoption of any plan or program. A response to all relevant comments received is included in the final draft of the plan or program prior to its adoption. Significant changes resulting from public comment to either plans or programs result in an additional comment period of thirty (30) days.

Transportation Technical Advisory Committee Meetings - The content of the Technical Advisory Committee reflects the variety of governmental, institutional, and transportation providers of the metropolitan area. Membership includes the parishes of Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge, City of Baton Rouge, City of Baker, City of Zachary, City of Port Allen, Town of Brusly, City of Denham Springs, City of Walker, Greater Baton Rouge Airport District, Port of Greater Baton Rouge, City of Gonzales, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, the Capital Area Transit System (CATS), and the Greater Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce.

Transportation Policy Committee - The membership of the Policy Committee consists of the Mayors of the City of Baton Rouge, City of Port Allen, Town of Brusly, City of Baker, City of Zachary, City of Denham Springs, City of Walker, City of Gonzales, and the Parish Presidents from East Baton Rouge Parish, West Baton Rouge Parish, Livingston Parish, and Ascension Parish, representative from the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, Director of Capital Area Transit System (CATS), Director of Capital Region Planning Commission, and the Federal Highway Administration. Local plans and programs will be officially adopted by this committee.

Factors Considered in the Planning Process - Under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU 2005-2009) legislation, the MPO has the continued responsibility of preparing and maintaining the long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program and the Unified Planning Work Program. This year's work program represents a continuation of the strategic planning process begun with last year's work program. The focus continues to be on maintaining, improving, and utilizing the information resources collected by the MPO in the day-to-day transportation decision-making process. In addition, the 2007-2008 Unified Planning Work Program will continue to address the seven planning factors identified in SAFETEA-LU that must be considered by MPOs in developing transportation plans and programs. These factors are outlined below:

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and nonmotorized users.
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and nonmotorized users.

- Increase the accessibility and mobility of people and for freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.

Planning Emphasis Areas - FTA, cooperatively with FHWA, develops Planning Emphasis Areas (PEA's), which identify national areas of strategic focus that warrant consideration in the metropolitan and statewide transportation planning processes. PEA's are suggested to state and local officials and transit operators as a guide to considering national emphasis areas during statewide³ and metropolitan planning. PEA's are identified and promoted for use in planning processes, and typically published in FTA's Annual apportionment notice on the FTA Home Page at www.fta.dot.gov.

In recognition of the priority that planning organizations and grantees must pay to implementing the new and changed provisions of SAFETEA-LU, FTA and FHWA have rescinded all PEA's.

SAFETEA-LU Sections 3005, 3006 and 6001 – It is believed that the requirements of Sections 3005, 3006 and 6001 have been met and comply with SAFETEA-LU planning provisions. New plans and TIP's also comply with the expanded scope, consultation, mitigation and participation requirements

ISSUES, PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Transportation has always had an influential impact on shaping urban growth patterns and lifestyles. Early development of transportation systems was directed toward providing a basic level of access and mobility. Recently, emphasis in the planning and implementation of transportation systems has been toward efficient movement of people and goods, and the resultant benefits to all population segments including the effects on development patterns, energy consumption, and environmental as well as other considerations.

Over time, the balance of emphasis has been steadily shifting from quantity to quality. Similarly, the issues, problems and opportunities have shifted away from the purely technical and now involve environmental, urban impact, and energy consumption considerations. Emphasis is currently on better management of what now exists within the constraint of limited resources. Within this context, the transportation planning issues confronting the CRPC Region include:

PROGRAMS= GOALS

Within the context of reduced federal prescriptive provisions, perceived local area needs and CRPC's overall role in transportation planning, efforts will be directed toward the following types of activities:

GOAL: Implementation of Balanced and Efficient Transportation Services for the CRPC Region.

- I. Maintain a transportation plan to serve as a guide for transportation investment and service decisions.**
 - Maintain a current CRPC Regional Transportation Plan
- II. Maintain current transportation system inventory and usage data.**
 - Maintain up-to-date estimates and forecasts of existing demographic and land use activity for input to transportation planning activities
 - Maintain current transportation system inventory and usage data
- III. Evaluate local area transportation problems and develop recommended solutions.**
 - Inventory and evaluate traffic operations at problem intersections and assist in developing improvement projects
 - Inventory and evaluate traffic operations on limited segments of existing roadways and develop traffic flow improvement recommendations
 - Work with local units of government in the preparation of local transportation plans that identify existing conditions, needs, recommended projects and multi-year improvement

programs

IV. Evaluate local area air quality transportation related projects and develop recommended solutions.

- Evaluate traffic operations and recommended highway improvements to determine their effect on air quality
- Work with local units of government in the preparation of local transportation plans that improve existing air quality conditions

V. Prioritize and program transportation projects to assure project funding and full utilization of federal and state funds.

- Develop and maintain an annual *Transportation Improvement Program*

VI. Assist in implementation of specific transportation projects.

- Provide assistance to local social service agencies to secure funds to purchase vehicles
- Assist in local community(s) and other agencies to identify and establish park-and-ride lot(s) for carpooling, vanpooling, and transit

VII. Provide transportation planning information and technical assistance in support of development and implementation programs.

- Provide transit planning assistance to CATS and local governments in the region
- Provide process-related assistance in arranging and conducting public meetings and issue identification and understanding
- Provide technical data and assistance to on-going transportation corridor and facility studies

VIII. Apply aCommunity Growth@ principles and tools to the transportation planning process.

- Create Range of Housing Opportunities and Choices
- Create Walkable Neighborhoods
- Encourage Community and Stakeholder Collaboration
- Foster Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Make Development Decisions Predictable, Fair and Cost Effective
- Mix Land Uses
- Preserve Open Space, Farmland, Natural Beauty and Critical Environmental Areas
- Provide a Variety of Transportation Choices
- Strengthen and Direct Development Towards Existing Communities
- Take Advantage of Compact Building Design

- Provide Connectivity of Developments

Program Sub-Category Title
BASE STUDIES/
CONTINUATION OF ACTIVITY

CODE A

OBJECTIVE

To provide for the short-term transportation needs in the CRPC region and to identify actions, including TSM measures that rationally address problems. Included are portions of the long-range plan that require further detailing, planning for low-capital projects that require short implementation schedules, and evaluation of measures to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the existing transportation system.

PREVIOUS WORK

Recent efforts in the area of short-range planning and TSM activities include:

- Development of quick-response techniques for corridor and intersection analysis and project implementation;
- Efforts to establish a street maintenance management system;
- Analysis of service changes proposed for CATS routes and a financial plan to reduce transit services;
- Analysis of fare structure changes proposed for CATS;
- Update of handicapped transportation services to comply with ADA regulations;
- Development of a park-and-ride system in conjunction with other ridesharing services;
- A Transit Development Plan;
- Air Quality Conformity Analysis;
- Analysis of Travel Demand Reduction/Operation Management Strategies;
- A Management Information Service Study; and
- A CATS Marketing Plan.

METHODOLOGIES

A-1 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN

This task will address the development of a public participation plan as required by SAFETEA-LU [23 U.S.C. 134/49 U.S.C. 5303(i)(5), (i)(6), and (j)(4) and 23 U.S.C. 135/49 U.S.C. 5304 (f)(3) and (g)(3)] that provides reasonable opportunities for interested parties to comment on the content of the metropolitan TIP.

CRPC staff shall review its present citizen involvement plan to meet the SAFETEA-LU requirements. CRPC will also request the assistance of the FHWA planner assigned to the Baton Rouge MPO to assist in such a manner that will ensure the Public Participation Plan (PPP) addresses the requirements of SAFETEA-LU to assure continued compliance by the MPO. The PPP will be utilized in the citizen participation processes identified in tasks D-1 and D-2.

A-2 CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROCESS

SAFETEA-LU reinforces the requirement for congestion management planning. Also, since the passage of the *Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991*, all urbanized areas with a population exceeding 200,000 have been designated as Transportation Management Areas. As the designated MPO for Baton Rouge, CRPC is responsible for maintaining the Congestion Management Plan.

Within a transportation management area, transportation plans and programs are based on a continuing and comprehensive transportation planning process carried out by the MPO in cooperation with the State and transit operators. The transportation planning process within a management area must provide for effective management of new and existing transportation facilities through the use of travel demand reduction and operational management strategies.

The following actions were undertaken to complete the Traffic Management Center (TMC) Plan. This plan is referred to as the *ITS Master Plan for Baton Rouge*. This plan reflects the multi-jurisdiction function of traffic management to include the MPO parishes of East Baton Rouge, West Baton Rouge, Livingston and Ascension.

Task 1: Coordinate and participate in team meetings. The Incident Management Team meets on a regular basis. Continue coordination between agencies to include reporting as a condition of participation in the TMC.

Task 2: Continue to review studies related to traffic management and summarize recommendations, funding requirements, and implementation and operational responsibilities contained in each study. Develop a matrix which shows recommendations, by study, and by implementing and operating agencies. Identify areas of overlap and areas which are not covered in the studies relating to traffic management.

- Task 3: Continue to interview agencies which are responsible for implementing measures identified in Task 1 and determine either the degree of implementation or potential for implementation in the future. Discuss with appropriate agencies their position with regard to incorporating recommended measures as part of traffic management center strategies. This includes the willingness of agencies to provide staffing, and/or funding to utilize the measure as part of TMC operations.
- Task 4: Identify data and information needs for the TMC, and match needs with those agencies which are currently, or will in the future generate needed data and information. Determine how data can be communicated to the TMC, who needs access to the data at the TMC, and what degree of access is needed, e.g., "read only". Develop parameters for accessing and using data which can be incorporated into agreements between agencies conceding use of data and information. Staff and other local team members will visit other facilities to observe the collection and ultimate use of data collected at the TMC.
- Task 5: Based on the preceding tasks, continue to develop an organizational chart for the TMC which illustrates roles, level of resources needed, reporting relationships, and management relationships between agencies which will participate in the TMC. These relationships would be defined and a suggested schedule for staffing and financial support of the TMC from each agency provided. This would form the basis of a written coordination and implementation plan to present to participating agencies for adoption.
- Task 6: Safety will be incorporated into the transportation planning process. Staff will avail itself of training courses made available by NHI and NTI, CRPC will develop structured relationships between agencies such as DOTD, LA Highway Safety Commission, Baton Rouge Area Safety Council and other units of local government. A committee structure will be developed to formalize the MPO relationship with these various bodies. The MPO process to develop a GIS system based on safety and accident data. All transportation modes will be captured in the data base and safety factors will be considered in plans, programs and projects.
- Task 7: Transportation security in a regional transportation context will be defined, investigated, and plans and programs, as developed, will be prepared. The interstate, regional road system, railroad, water and water systems, and high risk security land uses will define the regional context. All the transportation modes coupled with the petro-chemical corridors have a potential extreme high security risk. Facilities such as the port of Baton Rouge, several deep water private ports, a single railroad, bridge in Baton Rouge, railroad switching yards, the airport, and haz-mat transportation routes, and petro-chemical plants along the river have potential security issues. A study that will measure the level and/or severity of security risk will be developed. Staff will seek training and networking with local, state, federal, and private entities in this area.

Planning efforts for a major downtown intermodal facility will continue during this program year. This task will provide the technical support needed for the implementation of the locally adopted Plan Baton Rouge. This effort will investigate the detail and technical ramifications of developing a downtown facility to include transit, rail, taxi, bicycle, pedestrian and other necessary considerations.

Emphasis will be placed on access routes to transit or other major destinations with priority being given to safety issues. Other areas of emphasis may include but not necessarily be restricted to:

- \$ Area Circulation Plans
- \$ Access Management Plans
- \$ Roadway and Intersection Improvements (Channelization) (Continuous Flow Intersections)
- \$ Urban Goods Movement
- \$ TSM/TDM Actions
- \$ Safety Improvements
- \$ Parking
- \$ Corridor Analysis
- \$ Incident Management

Staff is required and shall attend if available workshops, conferences and training to improve efficiency and skills under this work program task.

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

An ongoing incident management team with regular meetings to conclude with performance evaluation documents.

An access management plan to serve as a prototype and use as selected corridor.

Planning and evaluation of candidate intersections suitable for implementation of "Continuous Flow Intersection" application.

An ongoing comprehensive Congestion Management Process that provides strategy on technical data reports for selected routes, locations, systems and developed plans.

An optimization plan to administer and manage the rating and prioritization of traffic and other data collected at the TMC. A portion of these activities will be contracted to consultants through professional service contracts.

Responsible Agencies: CRPC, DOTD

A-3 COORDINATED PUBLIC TRANSIT HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The MPO needs a task to address the Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan as required by SAFETEA-LU. Sections 3012, 3018, and 3019 of the SAFETEA-LU require that proposed projects under three FTA formula funding programs (Special Needs of Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities (49 U.S.C.5310(d)(2)(B)(i) and (ii)); Job Access and Reverse Commute (49 U.S.C. 5316(g)(A) and (B)); and New Freedom (49 U.S.C. 5317(f)(3)(A) and (B)) must be derived from a locally developed public transit-human services transportation plan. This plan must be developed through a process that includes representatives of public, private, and non-profit transportation and human services providers, as well as the public. And, an area wide solicitation for applications for grants under the latter two programs above shall be made in cooperation with the appropriate MPO.

CRPC staff has worked with LADOTD staff, consultants, local governments, and private and public sector entities to develop plan components. Through this process the MPO policy committee appointed the Capital Area Transit System as the designated recipient of grant funds. CATS and CRPC staff were assisted by FTA, Community Transportation Association of America and Easter Seals in the development of this plan.

Activities that were completed in the first year include the selection of a coordinating agency by the stakeholders committee. Invitations were sent to proposed participants including a copy of a survey entitled "Framework for Action Self-Assessment Tool." Follow-up phone calls to ensure participation were done. A planning meeting was held with the participants to assess survey findings, identify goals and objectives, challenges and constraints, identify needs of population served, and identify transportation resources. The "Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan" was approved by the Baton Rouge TPC in January 2007 and submitted to LADOTD.

This year's work programs will include the formation of a steering committee, forming working groups where necessary to continue identifying and evaluating existing transportation coordination activities, establishing criteria for evaluating options, and to hold public meetings, and then select options for implementation and if necessary agreements, MOV's or other local approval.

A-5 ADA PLANNING

This work element will focus on *Americans with Disabilities Act* (ADA) planning. Major planning activities will focus on complying with the key provisions of the ADA, such as:

- § Public Transit authorities providing fixed route transit service must provide comparable level paratransit service to disabled individuals who cannot otherwise use the fixed route service
- § Transit authorities providing ADA oriented demand responsive service must also buy or lease accessible vehicles unless it can be demonstrated that the system provides a level of service to the disabled equivalent to that provided to the general public
- § New facilities built must be accessible and existing facilities with major alterations must be made accessible to the maximum extent feasible.

- § Assistance to the CATS Board of Directors ADA Committee
- § Staff is required and shall attend if available workshops, conferences and training to improve efficiency and skills under this work program task.

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

Reports, data, technical studies and staff recommendations to the CATS management, the Office of the Mayor-President and the Baton Rouge ADA Committee.

Responsible Agency: CRPC

A-6 CLEAN AIR PLANNING

According to the standards adopted upon the passage of the *Air Quality Amendments of 1990*, the Baton Rouge Urbanized Area has been classified as a marginal non-attainment area for ozone. The area will be bumped up to a "moderate" classification in 2008 due to 2006 violations. This has triggered new requirements that must be met. As a severe non-attainment area, there are certain requirements which must be met. Work tasks anticipated during this work program cycle include:

- § CRPC and DOTD staff will monitor any changes in the adopted Long Range Plan and the FY 2008 TIP. If changes are made which require a positive conformity finding and CMAQ analysis by FHWA, CRPC and DOTD staff will do a quantitative analysis of those changes using TRANPLAN/PPSUITE and MOBILE 6. No changes will be made to the TIP or the Long Range Plan unless FHWA approval is obtained upon their receipt of the quantitative analysis.
- § If necessary, CRPC and DOTD staff will do a quantitative analysis of all projects which are part of the FY 2008 TIP and a general reassessment of the relative feasibility of selected transportation control measures.
- § CRPC will monitor regulatory developments at the federal, state, and local level related to transportation/air quality and advise affected entities through monthly reports of developments that might impact their planning activities. CRPC will investigate the reclassification impacts of other areas through site visits and other means.
- § CRPC will implement public education/outreach on transportation/air quality issues. This may include presentations, media events, seminars, conferences, informational/promotional materials, etc.
- § Air quality planning technical assistance will be provided to implement an Ozone Action Program throughout the ozone non-attainment area. CRPC representatives will continue to meet with employers, public entities and special interest groups to develop episodic, seasonal and on-going air quality programs and provide as needed assistance to existing company programs.
- § Participation by CRPC in the Greater Baton Rouge Clean Cities and Clean Air Coalition to promote clean fuel vehicles and supporting infrastructure will continue.

§ Participation by CRPC in the Clean Air Coalition to support clean air activities.
In addition to the above tasks, CRPC and DOTD staff will work to supply DEQ staff, as required, with information regarding the emission reduction potential of transportation control measures related to criteria pollutants and their precursors, including but not limited to:

- § Improved public transit with neighborhood circulators, special transit shuttles and experimental service
- § Transportation Reference Information Program that schedules trips with rolling stock optimization
- § High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes
- § Employer based transportation management plans
- § Trip reduction ordinances
- § Traffic flow improvement programs which achieve emission reductions
- § Park-and-ride facilities
- § Programs which limit or restrict vehicle use through parking restrictions or other TCM's in downtown areas or other areas of emission concentrations
- § Programs to limit portions of road surfaces to use by non-motorized vehicles (bicycles or pedestrians)
- § Programs to control extended idling of vehicles
- § Programs to reduce motor vehicle emissions
- § Flex-time and compressed week programs
- § Alternative fuel programs
- § Other programs such as Clean Cities Program
- § Staff is required and shall attend if available workshops, conferences and training to improve efficiency and skills under this work program task

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

Conformity analysis for air quality of the TIP and Metropolitan Transportation Plan and a qualitative analysis.

A portion of these funds may be contracted to a consultant through a professional contract.

A-9 MODEL ENHANCEMENTS

Section 51.452(b)(1) of the *EPA Conformity Rule* of November 24, 1993, stipulates a number of enhanced air quality modeling requirements for areas classified as serious and above for ozone non-attainment. These requirements include the following:

- § Time-of-day/peak-period travel demand and travel times must be provided
- § Travel speeds must be empirically based
- § Model-produced speeds must be validated through use of a post-processor analytical methodology

Baton Rouge, as a marginal in 2007 and “moderate” in 2008 non-attainment area for ozone, must address these enhanced modeling requirements. It is CRPC’s objective to continue to review and analyze existing travel demand and air quality models together with this Federal Legislation in order to determine feasible enhancements to the modeling procedures that are used in Baton Rouge. CRPC will continue the processing of the 2000 Census data. Work tasks anticipated during this work program cycle continue as follows:

- § A consultant will provide training and modeling to CRPC staff on various air quality modeling requirements as related to regional travel demand modeling.
- § Existing Federal legislation and new EPA standards/regulations will be reviewed to determine exactly what enhancements are required to the current air quality modeling procedures.
- § Continue to work with the current CRPC validated model. This effort may include an audit to be conducted by the post-processor model developer.
- § Feasible enhancements to the CRPC modeling procedure will continue to be implemented.
- § Documentation will be prepared highlighting the CRPC modeling accomplishments.
- § Develop TRANSCAD Transit Model for CATS to generate most efficient routes, project ridership increase, costs analysis, etc.
- § Enhanced modeling will be used to extend and enhance our capabilities in advanced Congestion Management Systems (CMS) planning and implementation.
- § Staff is required and shall attend if available workshops, conferences and training to improve efficiency and skills under this work program task.

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

Training of staff, an audit of the post-processor model development of an enhanced model, a status

report of modeling accomplishments, and transit modeling.

A portion of these funds may be contracted to a consultant through a professional services contract.

Responsible Agency: CRPC

A-11 DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PLANS AND PROGRAMS

CRPC staff will evaluate the factors described below to determine their applicability for further analysis and implementation in developing transportation plans and programs.

- § Preservation of existing transportation facilities including using existing facilities more efficiently.
- § The consistency of transportation planning with applicable federal, state, and local energy conservation programs, goals, and objectives.
- § The need to relieve congestion and prevent congestion from occurring.
- § The effect of transportation planning on land use and development, and the consistency of transportation plans and programs with short-term and long-term land use and development plans.
- § The programming of expenditure on transportation enhancement activities.
- § The effects of all transportation projects without regard to whether such projects are publicly funded.
- § Access to ports, airports, intermodal transportation facilities, major freight distribution routes, monuments and historic sites, and recreation areas (One or more of these model functions will be selected for preliminary study to determine the impacts of intermodal development).
- § The need for connectivity of roads within the metropolitan area with roads outside the metropolitan area. It is possible that work on extending major corridors and loop assessment will be conducted.
- § The transportation needs identified through use of management systems.
- § Preservation of rights-of-way for construction of future transportation projects.
- § The use of life cycle costs in the design and engineering of bridges, tunnels, or pavement.
- § Methods to enhance the movement of freight.
- § The overall social, economic, energy, and environmental effects of transportation decisions as described in the transportation goals section.

- § Methods to expand and enhance transit services and to increase the use of such services.
- § Capital investments that would result in increased security in transit systems.
- § Major thoroughfare plans and transportation area plans/programs including state planning initiatives.
- § Plans, programs, projects to address freight, safety and security on an intermodal scale.
- § Bicycle and pedestrian planning. An assessment of the existing plan will be conducted with a condition survey of all existing and proposed facilities.
- § Safety and security will be included as factors to consider in the development of plans and programs.
- § Staff is required and shall attend if available workshops, conferences and training to improve efficiency and skills under this work program task.

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

Technical services for local governments, TAC and TPC for specific plans and program input into the transportation planning process. The formation of an Intermodal Planning Committee that will interface MPO with the DOTD intermodal Committee will be pursued.

Special studies will be conducted and some may be in response to post hurricane Katrina and the transportation impacts on the urbanized area.

A portion of these funds may be contracted to a consultant through a professional services contract or passed through to the EBR City-Parish.

Responsible Agency: CRPC

A-14 DATA BASE MAPPING

There are currently several types of map bases used for transit and highway planning purposes. The *Transportation Equity Act (SAFETEA-LU)* requires that planning efforts utilize an inter-modal approach. It is believed that a Geographical Information System (GIS) that could accommodate both public and private sector data would cost less to maintain, provide a high level of credible information, and provide a wide variety of economic and non-economic benefits. This element will continue the effort CRPC has put forth to map critical information for transportation planning purposes. General mapping areas include the following:

- § ADA Demand Response Corridors and client locations
- § Transit stop locations and related intermodal information
- § Major trip destinations and origins
- § Major employment areas

- § Transit routes, park-and-ride lot information
- § Title VI and related mapping requirements
- § Identification of congested corridors and proposed TCM actions
- § Maintain and monitor land use information in our transportation planning activities
- § Data base material updated using ArcView, ArcGIS and TRANSCAD
- § Staff is required and shall attend if available workshops, conferences and training to improve efficiency and skills under this work program task

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

Preparation of technical mapping/data in both manual and computer generated form as appropriate in support of CRPC's overall planning and transportation work program. Coordination and standardization of map content, data collections and dissemination system for CRPC and CRPC's public involvement process.

Responsible Agencies: CRPC, EBR City-Parish

Program Sub-Category Title

SURVEILLANCE

CODE B

OBJECTIVE

To develop and maintain, on the appropriate update cycle, the basic data essential to transportation planning activities. Such a data base represents current conditions within the study area and permits comparison to previous as well as forecast periods to determine the impact on the planning process. Types of data to be maintained include trends in demographic and land activity; the transportation system level of service, utilization, impacts on the natural resource base, particularly air quality and energy, and travel survey data.

PREVIOUS WORK

The data base presently maintained includes an historical description of the region's demographic and economic characteristics, with emphasis on those factors affecting trip making, travel location and transportation funding capability.

As part of the activities related to the regional transportation plan, work on the base year 1988 data variables was completed in 1991, along with future year forecasts through 2015, updated in 1995 1997 and 2006, and presently extended to 2029. Data variables compiled for their use in the transportation plan include population, total dwelling units, occupied dwelling units, retail employment, total employment, and school attendance.

As a result of CRPC's *By-Pass Feasibility Study* and the work by the East Baton Rouge Planning Commission, transportation data variables by traffic zones were updated to reflect recent changes in land use patterns. The base year is 1997 using available census data, Department of Labor employment information, and Department of Education school attendance.

Essential to the identification of the location of the population base within the CRPC study area and the transportation facilities serving the travel demand generated by residents of the study area is the establishment and maintenance of adequate base maps, aerial photos, and traffic count volumes. Base maps were updated as part of the FY 1998 UPWP, and traffic count maps were published in 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, and 2004. The next traffic count map will be updated in the spring of 2008 and published during the summer of 2008.

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

The CRPC and EBR City-Parish Planning Commission conducted a major land use plan update during 1999, 2000 and 2006.

METHODOLOGIES

B-1 LAND USE AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC SURVEILLANCE

This work element will include:

- CRPC will continue to obtain current traffic data at selected locations. This information, which will be used in the development of design data and for air quality purposes. It will include: intersection turning movement peak hour traffic counts, daily 24-hour traffic counts, and classification breakdown of those counts.

- CRPC will continue to evaluate impacts of land use and socio-economic changes in the Transportation Study Area. Land use base maps updated during previous work programs will be kept current. Land use variables forecasted through 2032 have been adjusted and modified. This computer file of base year and future year data variables will be maintained by CRPC. Changes to the data file, as necessary, will be supplied to DOTD.
- CRPC will continue to maintain all maps related to the Transportation Management Area (TMA), the Urbanized Area, the functional class system, and the study area traffic zones.
- CRPC has exchanged electronic and digital versions of the *Long Range Transportation (Major Street) Plans* and will continue to coordinate its transportation planning efforts with *Horizon Plan* land use and street plan activities.
- Land use surveillance activities throughout the study area will be evaluated to determine if forecasts appear to be consistent with actual conditions. CPPC will assist in collecting land use data. They will also assist in processing and forecasting data variables for the CRPC travel demand forecast model.
- CRPC is party to the statewide Incident Management Team meeting program sponsored by DOTD. CRPC is co-facilitator with DOTD and their consultant on all Incident Management Team meetings conducted in Baton Rouge. CRPC also coordinates on all Incident Management implementation projects in the Baton Rouge area. This includes the deployment of a new staged wrecker service at the foot of the Mississippi River Bridge in the City of Baton Rouge.
- Staff is required and shall attend if available workshops, conferences and training to improve efficiency and skills under this work program task.

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

An updated database and maps of existing and future land uses have been developed in concert with local planning agencies for use in long range comprehensive planning, transportation planning, air quality planning, and individual project assessments. This effort will continue.

A portion of these funds may be contracted to a consultant through a professional services contract.

Responsible Agencies: CRPC, DOTD, EBR, CPPC

B-2 TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM INVENTORY AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING

The street inventory maintenance system developed under the *Needs Assessment Task*, in previous work programs, requires a data gathering system. Maintenance of this data gathering system will be the responsibility of the East Baton Rouge City-Parish Department of Public Works and shall include:

- Selective placement of traffic counters to update traffic counts according to a pre-

established schedule. These counts will be coordinated with the selective surveying of travel characteristics such as occupancy rates, vehicular mix, speed runs along major arterials, special traffic counts at major traffic generators, update of ADTs, etc. This surveillance effort will be coordinated with the State's traffic count program. The information from this surveillance is used in Congestion Management projects, future updates of the Long Range Transportation Plan, and in development of the CRPC *Traffic Count Map* and directory. The purchase of additional traffic counters, computer hardware and software, and other hardware items to support this data gathering system is included.

- Phase I of the *Incident Management Program* for East Baton Rouge Parish was completed previously. This phase provided a number of strategies and recommendations to manage incidents on the Interstate highway system. Many of the recommendations from the Phase I document have been successfully implemented and are in progress at this time. During *Phase II* these various ideas will be tried and evaluated. The goal is to determine the most feasible recommendations that can be implemented immediately and identify those that should be included as the program is further developed. This will require a coordinated effort between the various agencies involved in order to ensure success.
- CRPC is party to the statewide Incident Management Team meeting program sponsored by DOTD. CRPC is co-facilitator with DOTD and their consultant on all Incident Management Team meetings conducted in Baton Rouge. CRPC also coordinates on all Incident Management implementation projects in the Baton Rouge area. This includes the deployment of a new staged wrecker service at the foot of the Mississippi River Bridge in the City of Baton Rouge.
- Staff is required and shall attend if available workshops, conferences and training to improve efficiency and skills under this work program task.

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

Updated traffic information (existing and future) for all project level planning, programming and design activities.

A portion of these funds may be contracted to a consultant through a professional services contract.

Responsible Agencies: CRPC, EBR City-Parish

Program Sub-Category Title

TRANSPORTATION PLAN REAPPRAISAL

CODE C

OBJECTIVE

To review the adopted transportation system plan, maintaining a twenty-year planning horizon, while providing the detailed plan information required by implementing agencies. Such activities use the regional data base derived under the surveillance and base study elements previously developed. The adopted transportation plan is subjected to review and reappraisal to reflect changes in development trends and new forecasts and policies. The travel simulation models must be evaluated and modified as appropriate to assure sound planning techniques are employed. In addition, refinement and detailing of the plans are prepared to provide facility design and system utilization information for the implementing agencies.

PREVIOUS WORK

Work on the "Baton Rouge Metropolitan Area Transportation Plan Update" was completed during FY 1992. CRPC and DOTD worked closely with the Consultant, the RBA Group, on various phases of the study. The study area was modified and some thirty-three (33) traffic zones were added. Traffic zone boundaries were modified to correspond with census tract boundaries. All traffic zones were renumbered in geographical sequence. Over 55,000 travel survey cards were given to the public at twelve (12) external station locations, with over 16,000 returned. CRPC staff coded and delivered this information in computer format to the RBA Group. CRPC completed base year and future year forecast of population, dwelling units, occupied dwelling units, total employment, retail employment, and school attendance, for those traffic zones outside East Baton Rouge Parish. Wilbur Smith and Associates provided the same information for East Baton Rouge Parish, as part of the *Horizon Plan*.

CRPC staff made several adjustments to the Wilbur Smith data, as deemed necessary. All of the base year data has been compared to 1990 census data, as it has become available, in order to confirm the accuracy of the planning variables being used in the long-range model.

The 1988 base year network was developed and the model was successfully calibrated. An E+C Network was developed and highway system deficiencies for 2010 were identified. Three test networks were developed as a means of evaluating and eliminating system deficiencies. Additionally, CRPC staff tested all projects listed as part of the East Baton Rouge Parish "Horizon Plan".

The first two test networks were not deemed sufficient in terms of eliminating system deficiencies. As a result, the Transportation Policy Committee and the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee officially adopted test network three as the Long Range Transportation Plan for the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Area. The adopted plan called for significant improvements to major facilities, including 191 miles of widening, 10 miles of realignments, 22 new miles of roadway and 10 miles of elevated sections. All of these improvements were placed into three phases spanning to the year 2010, at a cost exceeding \$1 billion.

As part of the *FY 1995 Work Program*, CRPC staff prepared a financially constrained *Long Range Transportation Plan*. This document identified those projects that could be completed through the

year 2015, based on average federal, state, and local transportation funds projected to be received in the Transportation Management Area. This plan was revised and an updated 1997 plan was adopted in June 1997. This document identified projects to be completed through the year 2020, based on the same assumptions as the previous plan. The 1997 plan was revised and updated in current 2004. CRPC documents received federal approval in May 2004, and modified in January 2006.

Work on the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Area Transportation Plan update is underway. The consultant services of KLL, Neel-Schaffer and Alliance Transportation are conducting the plan update and model conversion. Traffic zone boundaries are being modified and renumbered. Additional external stations have been added and travel survey cards have been issued at these locations. CRPC completed the 2004 base year data variable update. The consultants have completed building the new model network. The consultants are forecasting the data variables to horizon year 2032. The model will then be calibrated and validated and given to CRPC for use.

METHODOLOGY

C-1 TRANSPORTATION PLAN REAPPRAISAL (HIGHWAYS)

This work element will include:

- CRPC will continue to reassess the present TSM and Metropolitan Transportation Plan and evaluate existing and prospective new measures for inclusion in the Congestion Management Plan, as required by the Intermodal SAFETEA-LU.
- Alternative land use strategies will continue to be tested using the TRANPLAN and other models. Simulated runs will be made to reflect possible changes in the highway network.
- It is possible that work on extending major corridors and an outer loop assessment will be conducted.
- Since Baton Rouge is a “marginal” for 2007 and “moderate” for 2008 non-attainment area, TRANPLAN will be used to monitor changes in VMT generated by proposed highway projects that are part of future year TIP’s.
- CRPC staff will continue to develop expertise in PC modeling, specifically TRANPLAN, TRANSCAD, PPSUITE, COR-SIM, and other GIS programs. Staff is currently developing skills in the use of intersection assessment analysis software such as *Passer II*, *SYNCHRO*, *COR-SIM* and *Highway Capacity Software* (HCS) including single and multi-lane, and Vissim.
- DOTD will provide a list of state projects to CRPC as the state's input into the FY 2008 TIP.
- CRPC will prepare and submit to FHWA and DOTD a *FY2008 Transportation Improvement Program* including a **Financial Element**. This document will list all intended highway transportation projects for the next three years for the Baton Rouge Transportation Management Area, including those non-NHS and STP projects approved by the Transportation Policy Committee.

- Socio-economic data will be reviewed to determine the need to meet conformity regulations. Data variables for the expanded traffic analysis zones have been collected and are being forecast to 2032. These include population, housing, employment, and school attendance.
- Complete the validation and possibly calibrate the model to the updated Horizon Plan data variables.
- CRPC will provide special effort to analyze and evaluate bicycle and pedestrian and other capacity alternatives to better address SAFETEA-LU concerns regarding mobility.
- CRPC will continue a Quick Response Team (QRT) program to respond to special problems of congestion, project lead times and jurisdictional overlaps. Projects will be identified by local officials and the public and include minor roadway problems that can utilize short term improvements and immediate solutions, such as turn lanes, signals and signal timing projects, signage and pavement markings, sight distance and turning radii, traffic control measures and major termini access. QRT's will consist of representation from the MPO, LADOTD, local government and transportation professionals.
- Staff is required and shall attend if available workshops, conferences and training to improve efficiency and skills under this work program task.

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

Documents showing the results of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and TIP updates. Further information will be documented on land use and air quality conditions in the TMA.

A portion of these funds may be contracted to a consultant through a professional services contract.

Responsible Agencies: CRPC, DOTD

C-2 TRANSPORTATION PLAN REAPPRAISAL (TRANSIT)

This work element will include:

- CRPC will prepare and submit to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) a *FY 2008 Transportation Improvement Program*. This document will list all intended transit projects for the next five years for the Baton Rouge Urbanized Area. The *Program of Projects* will also be updated on an as-needed basis.
- Staff is required and shall attend if available workshops, conferences and training to improve efficiency and skills under this work program task.

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

A consistent, ongoing process for updating the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and the Transportation Improvement Program while maintaining consistency with required management systems, air quality conformity and local government requests.

Responsible Agency: CRPC

Program Sub-Category Title
TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

CODE D

OBJECTIVE

To utilize the expertise and information of the CRPC Transportation Planning staff and DOTD in providing transportation support services to local governments and interested citizens.

PREVIOUS WORK

Over the years, CRPC has provided technical assistance and planning services to local units of government and various citizen groups. DOTD has provided current and future traffic data for intersection and roadway construction, on an as-needed basis.

METHODOLOGIES

D-1 CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (HIGHWAYS)

This work element will include:

- CRPC will provide presentations, visuals, data summaries and other information as requested at public hearings and citizen meetings on an as-needed basis.
- CRPC will hold public hearings before and after the FY 2008 TIP is approved in accordance with the SAFETEA-LU requirements. CRPC will continue the operation of its effective outreach project with CPCC to bring our Long Range Plan to area and sub-area public meetings for presentation and discussion purposes.
- CRPC will continue to create a home page to have dynamic links into the DOTD, DEQ, DNR, DPW and other governmental agencies. This will ensure real-time multiple agency data access and retrieval.
- CRPC will continue implement strategies for engaging minority and low-income populations to ensure compliance with Title VI and Environmental Justice Orders. It is anticipated that participation with the local planning commissions in neighborhood planning district meetings, CATS, and other special interest meetings will be utilized. CRPC will document issues and concerns that are raised in these meetings; and the MPO will incorporate appropriate considerations into the TIP project planning efforts.
- Staff is required and shall attend if available workshops, conferences and training to improve efficiency and skills under this work program task.

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

Reports with maps and tables in hard copy as well as electronic form of analyses of transportation and traffic modeling results. Models used in these analyses include travel demand forecasting, intersection analysis, corridor analysis and sub-area analysis.

A portion of these funds may be contracted to a consultant through a professional services contract.

Responsible Agency: CRPC, EBR-CPPC

D-2 CITIZEN PARTICIPATION (PUBLIC TRANSIT)

This work element will include:

- CRPC will provide technical support at all monthly meetings of the Capital Area Transit System (CATS). Staff will also provide presentations and technical support at all public hearings and meetings regarding public transit in the CRPC region.
- CRPC will continue to create a home page to have dynamic links into the DOTD, DEQ, DNR, DPW and other governmental agencies. This will ensure real-time multiple agency data access and retrieval.
- CRPC will implement strategies for engaging minority and low-income populations to ensure compliance with Title VI and Environmental Justice Orders. It is anticipated that participation with the local planning commissions in neighborhood planning district meetings, CATS, and other special interest meetings will be utilized. CRPC will document issues and concerns that were raised in these meetings; and the MPO will incorporate appropriate considerations into the TIP project planning efforts.
- Staff is required and shall attend if available workshops, conferences and training to improve efficiency and skills under this work program task.

A portion of these funds may be contracted to a consultant through a professional services contract.

Responsible Agency: CRPC, EBR-CPPC

D-3 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (HIGHWAYS)

This work element will include:

- DOTD will derive current traffic data from existing assignments or actual traffic inventories for facility design purposes. Projection of future traffic assignments will be derived through the use of the PC Model. Blanket or ground counts of the existing traffic volumes will be used to assure accuracy of traffic assignments.

- CRPC will provide analysis of specific traffic problems upon the request of local units of government. Proposed changes to the highway network will be analyzed using the TRANPLAN model. Information obtained through these analyses can be used in the update of the TSM System and *Long Range Plan*. CRPC staff, as a technical arm to local governments, public and private entities, will develop and implement short range planning programs/projects on an as needed basis. This task provides CRPC staff with a means to respond to local urban policy issues.
 - CRPC will provide technical assistance to local entities to develop projects and programs under SAFETEA-LU. Where the need for a SAFETEA-LU major metropolitan transportation investment is identified, corridor or sub-area studies shall be undertaken to develop or refine the plan for design concept and scope of the project.
 - CRPC staff will continue to provide the progress and status of emphasis areas of SAFETEA-LU, the CAA of 1990 and other mandated state and federal requirements to the TAC, TPC, and other entities. Items such as deadlines, schedules and required responses from the local governments to such requirements will be prepared by CRPC.
 - Reliable information on current and projected usage and performance of transportation systems is critical to the ability of planning process to supply credible information to decision-makers to support preparation of plans and programs that respond to each locality=s unique needs and policy issues. Staff will seek training courses on topics which are available through NTI and NHI to enhance and maintain their technical capacity.
- § Staff is required and shall attend if available workshops, conferences and training to improve efficiency and skills under this work program task.

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

Reports with maps and tables in hard copy as well as electronic form of analyses of transportation and traffic modeling results. Models used in these analyses include travel demand forecasting, intersection analysis, corridor analysis and sub-area analysis.

It is anticipated that some of these activities under this task will be contracted to local governments or consultants through a professional services contract.

Responsible Agencies: CRPC, Local Governments

D-4 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (PUBLIC TRANSIT)

CRPC staff will provide a variety of assistance to the Capital Area Transit System (CATS) and the local units of government including:

- Consultation on a daily basis with CATS on all aspects of mass transit operations. CRPC functions as the technical arm of CATS and, as such, provides numerous quick response type studies and reports for the CATS Board. Issues that appear most prominent this year are revenue analyses, service adjustments, and computerization of all CATS operations. CRPC will prepare data on issues such as these, as requested by CATS management and the CATS Board.

- Continuation of the mass transit public awareness program and expansion of the transit information distribution system to various activity centers along existing transit routes. These transit information centers each have a color-coded system route map, individual route schedules, and general information about the transit system and its operation in Baton Rouge.
 - Continuation of assistance to CATS to develop and maintain a viable D.B.E. program in coordination with the program presently under CATS.
 - Continuation of efforts to obtain planning data and demographic information that can be used to assess current service levels, deficiencies, and opportunities. The same effort applies to future planning activities.
 - Continuation of preparation of grants and assistance on request for proposals and IFB's.
 - Technical assistance on preparation of the various FTA required reports such as the Section 15, Quarterly Progress Reports, etc.
 - Continuation of technical assistance to community organizations, public-at-large, and private sector on any transit request for the urbanized area. This also includes the coordination of human services transportation to ensure that transportation services are seamless, comprehensive and accessible to all citizens.
 - Continuation of provision of progress and status information to the City-Parish and CATS on the FTA program.
 - Continuation of issue specific tasks such as those required for grants that the City-Parish wishes to pursue or CATS management requests.
- § Staff is required and shall attend if available workshops, conferences and training to improve efficiency and skills under this work program task.

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

Reports with maps, tables, charts and illustrations in hard copy as well as electronic form of analyses of transportation with special emphasis on pedestrian, bicycle, transit and intermodal results. Models and GIS used for these tasks include TRANSCAD, ArcView, ArcGIS, Main Route and compiled programs.

It is anticipated that some of these activities under this task will be contracted through a professional service contract.

Responsible Agency: CRPC

Program Sub-Category Title
CATS SERVICES PLANNING

CODE F

OBJECTIVE

To provide specialized and legal service planning for CATS.

PREVIOUS WORK

A number of tasks have been completed in this area which provides the transit authority with the necessary policies, processes, operational manuals, regulations, etc. to meet its transportation mission. Previous work included the legal aspects of a regional transportation authority, self insurance, contract procurement, updating the public transportation commission, employment incentives, personnel policy compliance, ADA technical assistance, Title XIX funding potential, fleet liability self-insurance, downtown and civic development studies, security, and revision of route, fare and licensing procedure at CATS, the Public Transportation Commission and the Metropolitan Council levels.

METHODOLOGIES

F-1 OPERATIONS PLANNING

This task is for operational level planning and training activities by CATS staff and the City-Parish Government. This work element will include:

- Purchase of software and training for transit operations, alternative approaches to service delivery, new technologies, FTA training, scheduling, innovative service delivery programs and various applicable planning activities.
- Route level planning, scheduling, and surveying. A consultant will be used to update the previous comprehensive operational survey.

The consultant/contractor will perform the following services:

1. Provide all services on a turnkey basis. (CATS' responsibilities will be limited to incidental functions for which the contractor must rely on CATS, such as providing ID's for checkers to ride free, notifying operators and other staff of the existence of the checking project, and keeping the contractor abreast of changes to routes, schedules, and stop locations.)
2. Perform 390 hours of on-board checks of the CATS fixed-route transit system per calendar quarter. The checker will physically ride the CATS vehicle, and tally boardings and alightings at each stop. The 390 hours will be calculated based on scheduled time. Layovers, and unusual delays such as accidents and breakdowns, may be counted as part of the 390 hours.
3. Select trips to be checked in such a manner that all weekday, Saturday, and Sunday trips system-wide will be checked on a rotating basis. Thus, at any given time as the

project progresses, there will be a reasonably current picture of stop-by-stop riding in every part of the system. For this purpose, LSU and Southern University summer service will be considered to be separate from fall and spring service. Trips that are abnormal due to accidents, breakdowns, or similar reasons are to be rechecked.

4. Ensure that the selection of trips includes all checking necessary for the preparation of Form S-10 of CATS' annual National Transit Database report.
5. Avoid making checks during holiday periods when riding levels can be expected to be abnormal.
6. Suspend the normal rotation, in order to concentrate checks on a given route or other subset of the system for a period of time, if so instructed by CATS.
7. Prepare, and keep updated, a spreadsheet showing on's, off's, and on-board counts by route, day (weekday/Saturday/Sunday), trip, and stop, reflecting for every trip the latest check performed on that trip. Provide CATS an electronic copy of this spreadsheet quarterly, or at any time on request.
8. Submit a report quarterly, or at any time on request, showing current trends and highlighting any opportunities or needs for route or schedule changes that are indicated by the data gathered.

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

Software, training, manuals, scheduling, ongoing passenger surveys, and systems development which provides means for data development and access.

Route level planning, scheduling, and surveying.

This activity will be conducted by CATS and or consultants through a professional service contract

Responsible Agency: Capital Area Transit System

F-2 SHORT/LONG RANGE SAFETY/SECURITY PLANNING

This task would provide short and long term planning efforts in the continuing investigation and development of ways to address safety and security, CATS exposure to fleet liability, general liability, and workers= compensation claims in the following or similar areas:

- Surveillance and security planning
- Short and long term planning for safety and accident prevention
- Long term planning for a possible insurance pool program
- Planning document to address workplace violence
- Planning procedures, claims investigations and resolution program for self-insured retention
- Planning for excess insurance programs
- Planning state remedial legislation

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

Reports with maps, tables, charts, and illustrations in hard copy as well as electronic form of analyses of transportation planning results. Models and GIS used for these tasks include TRANSCAD, ArcView, Main Route and compiled programs.

It is anticipated that some of these activities under this task will be contracted through a professional service contract.

Responsible Agency: Capital Area Transit System

F-3 PRIVATE SECTOR GOVERNMENTAL COMPLIANCE PLANNING

This task is for planning work needed for CATS to comply with the multitude of federal, state, and local rules, laws, and regulations applicable to its overall operation and planning efforts. It would include developing materials and information, including procedural manuals or written instructions where applicable, for CATS use in addressing, as needed, the following types of issues:

- Long term planning of legal, financial, and technical capacity requirements, including CATS relationship with the City-Parish Government and CATS status under special state legislation
- Planning documents for human resources and labor policies, including hiring, training, advancement, compensation, equal employment opportunity and anti-harassment programs, employee pension and other benefit programs, collective bargaining, and termination
- Compliance planning with applicable procurement and DBE regulations
- Short and long term planning for budget, financial and contract matters relative to the generation of income and payment of expenses
- Planning efforts to assist in regulations and liability regarding the transportation of elderly and disabled patrons
- Planning for fare and service changes
- Planning a drug-free workplace for FTA drug and alcohol program compliance
- Planning requirements for keeping federally funded equipment and facilities in good operating order
- Planning for charter rules
- Planning efforts with other applicable laws, regulations, and rules

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

Reports with maps, tables, charts and illustrations in hard copy as well as electronic form of analyses of transportation planning results. Models and GIS used for these tasks include TRANSCAD, ArcView, Main Route and compiled programs.

It is anticipated that some of these activities under this task will be contracted through a professional service contract.

Responsible Agency: Capital Area Transit System

F-4 RIVER FRONT PLANNING

This task is for continuation of the planning work needed for CATS to comply with the multitude of transit and transportation needs to unify the downtown riverfront experience. The primary objective is a conceptual plan of coordinated amenity improvements to complement the impressive recent developments, and promote the long-term growth, of the downtown riverfront area. CATS will play a lead role in unifying this downtown riverfront experience with a mass transit support system.

CATS and the City of Baton Rouge are seeking to develop its riverfront into a world-class amenity. Building upon the strengths of Downtown Baton Rouge, the city is initiating a project that will encompass both public and private sectors and will capture the vision of the community. The goal is to create a riverfront that is unique and reflective of Baton Rouge, one that inspires and encourages economic development, and uses mass transit as a unifying element in the community design.

In summary, the downtown riverfront plan strives to capture the current spirit of Renaissance so pervasive in the people, associations, and institutions of Downtown Baton Rouge and will include the following items:

- **Examination of proposed improvements along the Riverfront's edge and Downtown**
 - New River District
 - Downtown Visitors' Amenity Plan
 - Plan Baton Rouge
 - Riverfront Master Plan (1990)

- **Connectivity to surrounding riverfront assets**
 - Existing Municipal Dock
 - Louisiana Art and Science Museum/Planetarium & Plaza
 - USS KIDD Nautical Museum
 - Baton Rouge River Center
 - Proposed Riverfront Transit Center
 - Old State Capitol
 - Shaw Center for the Arts

Baton Rouge Water Works
Baton Rouge Hilton Capitol Park
Proposed New Library
New 19th Judicial Courthouse
Central Business District – Private Sector Developments
Capitol Park Visitors' Center
Levee Bike Path
Pedestrian Bridge at the Baton Rouge River Center

- **Exploration of potential physical riverfront amenities**
 - Private Sector Initiatives (restaurants, residential, commercial)
 - 3000-3,500 seat – Amphitheater & Public Meeting Places
 - Minor League Baseball Stadium
 - Children's Museum
 - Landscaping
 - Seating and lighting
 - Water features
 - Pedestrian access
 - Ecology of the riverfront
 - Transportation
 - Public and Private (River as well as River Road)
 - Parking
 - Transit facility
 - Reconfiguring or removal of existing amenities
 - Riverfront Dock (possible retrofitting for more than one vessel)
 - Riverfront Plaza
 - Stage
 - Current levee improvements
- **Riverfront as a destination for major civic events as well as utilization by entities such as the Baton Rouge River Center – extension of the convention center**
 - Amenities necessary for public gatherings
 - Catering infrastructure
 - Restroom facilities
 - Transit facility
 - Access to riverfront
- **Design of the North Boulevard Town Square**
 - Connects the Entertainment District to the Baton Rouge River Center
 - District in turn directly to the riverfront

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

Reports with maps, tables, charts and illustrations in hard copy as well as electronic form of transportation planning results.

It is anticipated that some of these activities under this task will be contracted through a professional service contract.

Responsible Agency: Capital Area Transit System

F-5 DOWNTOWN AMENITIES PLANNING

This task is for continuation of the planning work needed for CATS to comply with the multitude of transit and transportation needs to unify the downtown experience. The primary objective is a conceptual plan of coordinated amenity improvements to complement the impressive recent developments, and promote the long-term growth, of the downtown community.

In conjunction with the current rebirth in Baton Rouge's City Center, the Downtown Visitors' Amenity Plan is strategically directed at developing the City's identity profile by enhancing its Riverfront Plaza, ease of vehicular access, use of transit and pedestrian friendly character. Targeting the major identifying components of the City's visitor landmarks, connective infrastructure, and visual image, the plan identifies conceptual amenity upgrades and additions to significantly strengthen and enrich Downtown's visitor orientation, user experience, and tourist marketability.

Simply put, the key principle of the Amenity Plan is to connect the pieces. Through the Urban Design of signage, lighting, and landscape / streetscape components, the Plan provides for enhanced linkages between the River Center, Sheraton Baton Rouge Convention Center Hotel, Belle of Baton Rouge Casino, U.S.S. Kidd, Riverfront Plaza, Irene W. Pennington Planetarium, Louisiana Art and Science Museum, Old State Capitol, Shaw Center for the Arts, Entertainment District, Capitol Park, and the Old Governor's Mansion.

These unique landmarks embody a wealth of civic treasures that could collectively benefit from a higher profile of coordination and connectivity to better serve first time tourists, repeat visitors, business travelers, and daily users of Downtown Baton Rouge.

The Downtown Visitors' Amenity Plan entailed a comprehensive design inventory of the existing visual infrastructure in the City Center. Building upon an analysis of strengths and weaknesses in the current condition of signage, lighting, and landscape, a range of Conceptual Design graphics provide a framework for future detailed design and implementation. Each particular component is positioned as a further, value-added investment towards the continued revitalization of downtown Baton Rouge, by means of sharpening and enriching its distinctive civic identity, urban character, and unique marketing brand.

These design recommendations must be closely coordinated with the many public and private endeavors underway to foster a culturally rich, socially engaging, and economically dynamic urban community in which to live, work, and play.

The Concept Plan seeks to build on the momentum of the landmark 1998 Plan Baton Rouge Master Plan, Capitol Park Master Plan, Capitol Park Interpretive Plan, and the Riverfront Master Plan. The project report encompasses the shared ideas, plans, and photographs plus the generous participation of time and assistance of many stakeholders in the downtown community. CATS will play a lead role in unifying this downtown experience with a mass transit support system.

In summary, the Downtown Visitors' Amenity Plan strives to capture the current spirit of Renaissance so pervasive in the people, associations, and institutions of Downtown Baton Rouge

and will include the following items:

- Design of way-finding signage including vehicular, pedestrian, interpretative, landmark, street signs, and transit
- Downtown Trolley Stations
- Riverfront Transit Center

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

Reports with maps, tables, charts and illustrations in hard copy as well as electronic form of transportation planning results.

It is anticipated that some of these activities under this task will be contracted through a professional service contract.

Responsible Agency: Capital Area Transit System

Program Sub-Category Title **ADMINISTRATION**

CODE G

OBJECTIVE

To provide overall management of the transportation program related to FHWA, FTA, and DOTD.

PREVIOUS WORK

Administration of the FY 1975 through FY 2007 UPWP.

METHODOLOGIES

G-1 ADMINISTRATION (HIGHWAYS)

This work element will include:

- DOTD will provide assistance and guidance to CRPC in the development of individual work tasks, administer the PL contract with the CRPC, attend transportation-related meetings to assure effective implementation of the program, and perform other administrative tasks as necessary.
- CRPC will provide the administration of the *Unified Planning Work Program* tasks funded by PL funds. Included in this effort will be the monitoring of work done under third-party contracts with CRPC. Other activities under this element include development of future work programs, certification submission, quarterly reports, review of planning activities, and any other documentation required by FHWA. CRPC staff will also review and familiarize itself with those requirements pertaining to the *SAFETEA-LU* and the *Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990*.

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

The preparation of narrative and expenditure reports, routine correspondence, administrative record keeping, billings and all activities documentation pertaining to FHWA funded tasks in the a Unified Planning Work Program.

Responsible Agency: CRPC

G-2 ADMINISTRATION (TRANSIT)

This work element will include:

- CRPC will develop individual work tasks and administer the DOTD and FTA contracts.
- CRPC will provide the administration of the *Unified Planning Work Program* tasks funded by FTA funds. Included in this effort will be the monitoring of work done under third-party

contracts with CRPC. Other activities under this element include development of future work programs, certification submission, quarterly reports, review of planning activities, and any other documentation required by FTA. CRPC staff will also review and familiarize itself with those requirements pertaining to the *SAFETEA-LU* and the *Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990*.

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

The preparation of narrative and expenditure reports, routine correspondence, administrative record keeping, billings and all activities documentation pertaining to FTA funded tasks in the a Unified Planning Work Program.

Responsible Agency: CRPC

Program Sub-Category Title

RIDESHARING

CODE H

OBJECTIVE

To implement a comprehensive ridesharing program in the CRPC Region.

PREVIOUS WORK

CRPC had a ridesharing program during the latter part of the 1970s and the early part of the 1980s. It was terminated due to lack of funds and lack of public interest. Due to the non-attainment status attributed to Baton Rouge resulting from the *Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990*, the ridesharing program was re-instituted during FY 1993 and is currently funded under the CMAQ Program.

METHODOLOGIES

TASK - DEMAND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

According to the standards adopted upon the passage of the *Air Quality Amendments of 1990*, the Baton Rouge Urbanized Area is classified as serious non-attainment. As a serious non-attainment area, there are certain requirements that must be met, including the implementation of a ridesharing program. CRPC is now prepared to concentrate not only on formation of a ridesharing program, but also on other demand management strategies. Work tasks anticipated during this work program cycle under the classification of demand management include:

- CRPC staff will continue to develop its ridesharing program. Areas of emphasis include implementing a fully operational program and providing technical support to entities that have established programs.
- CRPC staff will expand its ridesharing matching program. Emphasis area includes improved software development and targeted employer-based programs.
- CRPC staff will continue to implement the park-and-ride lot program.
- CRPC staff will continue to market demand management strategies directly to major employers. Emphasis will be placed on the distribution of materials related to various demand management programs.

RESULTS/PRODUCTS

- An employer-based ridesharing program
- A community-based ridesharing program

- A regional-based park-and-ride program

It is anticipated that some of these activities will be contracted to a consultant through a professional service contract.

Responsible Agency: CRPC

NOTE: This task will be funded with CMAQ Funds and not PL Funds

TABLE 1

**CAPITAL REGION PLANNING COMMISSION
FY 2008 UNIFIED WORK PROGRAM**

	FEDERAL FUNDS				LOCAL FUNDS	
	TOTAL FUNDS	PL	FTA SECTION 5307	FTA SECTION 5303	CRPC	OTHER LOCAL
A - BASE STUDIES	640,500	495,000	30,000	0	115,580	0
A-1 Public Participation Plan		50,000	10,000		15,000	
A-2 Congestion Management (Hwy) (A,B,C,D)	187,500	150,000			37,500	
A-3 Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan	43,750	25,000	10,000		8,750	
A-5 Elderly & Handicapped Planning	12,500		10,000		2,500	
A-6 Air Quality Planning (A,C)	87,500	75,000	10,000		2,500	
A-9 Model Enhancement (A,C)	62,500	50,000			12,500	
A-11 Transportation Plans & Programs (A)	215,500	170,000			45,580	
A-14 Data Base Mapping (GIS) (A)	31,250	25,000			6,250	
B - SURVEILLANCE	160,000	128,000	0	0	10,000	22,000
B-1 Land Use and S-E-E	100,000	80,000			10,000	10,000
B-2 Inventory and Performance	60,000	48,000				12,000
C - PLAN REAPPRAISAL	237,500	160,000	30,000	0	0	47,500
C-1 Plan Reappraisal (Hwy) (A)	200,000	160,000			40,000	
C-2 Plan Reappraisal (Transit)	37,500		30,000		7,500	
D - SERVICES	587,095	286,911	90,000	100,978	79,206	30000
D-1 Citizen Participation (Hwy)	46,137	36,911			9,226	
D-2 Citizen Participation (Transit)	12,500		10,000		2,500	
D-3 Technical Assistance (Hwy) (A,D)	312,500	250,000			32,500	30,000
D-4 Technical Assistance (Transit) (A)	215,958		80,000	100,978	34,980	
F - CATS SERVICES PLANNING	962,500	0	770,000	0	0	192,500
F-1 Operations Planning (A,B)	125,000		100,000			25,000
F-2 Safety/Security Planning (A,B)	65,000		52,000			13,000
F-3 Compliance Planning (A)	85,000		68,000			17,000
F-4 River Front Planning (A,B)	187,500		150,000			37,500
F-5 Downtown Amenities Plan	500,000		400,000			100,000
G - ADMINISTRATION	136,855	99,484	10,000	0	27,371	0
G-1 Administration (Hwy)	124,355	99,484			24,871	
G-2 Administration (transit)	12,500		10,000		2,500	
TOTAL	2,724,450	1,169,395	930,000	100,978	232,157	292,000

* Congressional ear mark funds

(A) - All or a portion of these tasks may be done through professional services contracts.

(B) - Local funds from EBR

(C) - A portion of these funds are special PL funds to cover costs for complying with air quality conformity requirements.

(D) - Local funds from local governments.