

**MINUTES
OF THE
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, August 11, 2009 ~ 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Bluebonnet Regional Library ~ Bluebonnet Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA**

Technical Advisory Committee Members present:

Dr. Olin Dart, TAC Chairman, Hon. Jimmy Durbin, TAC Vice-Chairman, Hon. Mike Grimmer (President, Livingston Parish), Hon. Henry Martinez (Mayor, City of Zachary), Hon. Joey Normand (Mayor, Town of Brusly), Jackie Baumann (Ascension Parish DPW), Barry Brewer (City of Port Allen), Dan Broussard (LADOTD), Huey Dugas (CRPC), Jay Hardman (Port of Greater BR), Tom Landry (LADOTD), Jamie Setze (FHWA), and Hon. Shelton "Mac" Watts (Mayor, City of Central).

The meeting was also attended by:

Hon. Harold M. Rideau (Mayor, City of Baker), Ara Arman (GEC), Brandon Brewer (J Brandon Brewer, LLC), Mike Bruce (ABMB), Aaron Dupont (James Construction), Brandon Ellzey (Livingston Parish News), John Fu (LADOTD), R.J. Goebel (CRPC), Melissa Guilbeau (EBR-DPW), Bryan Harmon (EBR DPW), Lael Holton (CCPC), Yashasvi Maheswarapu (CRPC), Jonathan McPowell (AECOM), Don Neisler (CRPC), Yvonne Norwood (CRPC), Phillip Parker (Providence Engineering), Ken Peret (LA GRTA & Fenstermaker), Don Powers (PowersBrewer LLC), Laura Riggs (LADOTD), Karl Rothermel (AECOM), Dawn Sholmire (LADOTD), Lisa Smith (Aquatera Eng.), Mary Stringfellow (FHWA), Gregory Trahan (AECOM), and Yasooob Zia (LA DEQ).

1. INTRODUCTIONS

- Dr. Olin Dart, Chairman
 - The meeting was called to order and everyone was asked to identify themselves.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN (PPP)

- R.J. Goebel, CRPC
 - This document is a requirement of the federal regulations. It outlines the actions that CRPC will take towards community outreach and it complies with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
 - The plan has undergone the required 45 day comment period, which expired on July 28, 2009.
 - Mr. Goebel opened the floor for an official public hearing, any additional comments and requested a motion for adoption.

**Motion was made by Hon. Jimmy Durbin and Seconded by Hon. Joey Normand to adopt the Public Participation Plan (PPP).
(Unanimous in favor)**

3. I-10 CORRIDOR PROJECT

- Mike Vosberg, P.E., LA DOTD
 - This project will widen I-10 from four lanes to six lanes from the 10/12 split to approximately 1500 feet past the Siegen lane overpass. It will encompass previous work that was completed during the I-10 Picardy Interchange project that widened a portion of the I-10 between Bluebonnet and Siegen. It will include a new bridge over Essen Lane that will be wider than the current structure.
 - DOTD will also rebuild the bridge over Ward Creek between Essen Lane and Bluebonnet Boulevard. The new bridge will be approximately two feet higher than the current bridge and allow additional clearance in preparation for higher water levels in the creek due to increased run-off caused by future development in the area.

- Austin Bridge and Road is the contractor.
- It is a 950 calendar day project, it has a completion date in the fall of 2011 and the cost is \$86 million dollars.
- The project is currently in Phase I, Stage II, which means it is 8.3 percent complete and 19 percent of the time has elapsed.
- Pictures were shown of the construction area.

4. I-12 CORRIDOR PROJECT

➤ Aaron Dupont, Project Manager – James Construction

- This project widens I-12 from two lanes to three lanes eastbound from the west side of the O'Neal Lane overpass to just east of Pete's Highway and eastbound from just westbound of 4H Club Road to the west side of the O'Neal Lane overpass. Included in the widening will be a 12-foot inside and outside shoulders and a complete replacement of the eastbound and westbound bridges over the Amite River.
- James Construction Group is the contractor.
- This project has a completion date in November of 2011 and the cost is \$100 million dollars.
- To date, the project is 20 percent complete.
- Pictures were shown of the construction area.

5. MPO CERTIFICATION UPDATE

➤ Jamie Setze, Planning & Research Engineer - FHWA

- According to federal law, if a city has a population greater than 200, 000 people, a review must be performed every 4 years.
- The certification review dates were January 6, 7 & 8, 2009.
- Four to six months after the review, a summary is generated with the status which could be one of the following four:
 - Certified
 - Certified with conditions
 - Certified with conditions and restrictions
 - Decertified
- All of the corrective action items were overviewed along with the status of this MPO, which is certified with conditions and restrictions. There are 2 crucial timeline dates in which many of the items are due; September 1, 2009 and February 1, 2010. If all items have been completed by the required dates, the conditions and restrictions will not be outlined. However, if the items fail to make the deadline dates, the conditions and restrictions will be outlined.
- FHWA has been having by-weekly meetings with CRPC in order to overview the actions to date.
- After the review in February 2010, CRPC will be reevaluated and upgraded to certified.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

- ##### ➤ Nothing further was to be discussed.

7. ADJOURNMENT

- ##### ➤ Dr. Olin Dart adjourned.