

**MINUTES
OF THE
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, May 18, 2010 ~ 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Bluebonnet Regional Library ~ Bluebonnet Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA**

Transportation Policy Committee Members present:

Hon. Melvin “Kip” Holden - Chairman (Mayor-President-EBRP), Hon. Riley “Pee Wee” Berthelot - Vice-Chairman (President-WBRP), Hon. Barney Arceneaux (Mayor-City of Gonzales), Hon. Jimmy Durbin (Mayor-City of Denham Springs), Hon. Derek Lewis (Mayor-City of Port Allen), Hon. Henry Martinez (Mayor-City of Zachary), Hon. Joey Normand (Mayor-Town of Brusly), Hon. Harold Rideau (Mayor-City of Baker), Hon. Shelton “Mac” Watts (Mayor-City of Central), Brian Marshall (CEO-CATS) and Jamie Setze (FHWA) .

The meeting was also attended by:

Peter Breaux, Dan Broussard (LA DOTD), Mike Bruce (ABMB), John Carpenter (Asst. CAO-EBRP), Don Couvillon (Sigma Consulting. Grp.), Carol Cranshaw (CATS), Kalilah H. Davis (CRPC), Jim Ferguson (EBR-CP), John Fu (LA DOTD), R.J. Goebel (CRPC), Bryan Harmon (EBP-CP), Jake Holinga (DDD), Tingting Ma (CRPC), Yash Maheswarapu (CRPC), Philip Meyers (GEC), Davis Rhorer (DDD), Karl Rothermel (AECOM), Atri Sen(IEM), Dawn R. Sholmire (LA DOTD), Lisa Smith (Terracon), Clay Stafford (City of Gonzales), Lauren Stuart (LSU-CES) and Yasooob Zia (LA DEQ).

1. INTRODUCTIONS

➤ ***Hon. Melvin “Kip” Holden, TPC Chairman***

- The meeting was called to order and everyone was asked to identify themselves.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

➤ ***Hon. Melvin “Kip” Holden, TPC Chairman***

- Hon. Melvin “Kip” Holden asked the committee if there were any corrections or additions that needed to be made to the minutes of the previous joint TPC meeting, which was held on 03-23-10. There was no opposition.

Motion was made by Hon. Jimmy Durbin and Seconded by Hon. Harold Rideau to approve the minutes of the previous TPC meeting, which was held on Tuesday, March 23, 2010.

(Unanimous in favor)

ACTION ITEMS

3. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

A. Baton Rouge Downtown Development District Greenway Project

➤ ***Davis Rhorer, Downtown Development District***

- This is a 2.73 mile proposed multi-use pathway is located in downtown Baton Rouge and runs from Memorial Stadium to Baton Rouge City Park. Funding is to design and build the project in four phases with an estimated cost between \$7.6 million and \$13 million. The final cost will be determined by the options selected and the amenities desired for each phase. Local Funding: \$200,000; Federal \$800,000 in FHWA/LACRT, FTA, DEQ and DNR funding.

B. Baton Rouge, Louisiana Riverfront Redevelopment River Road Improvements

➤ *Davis Rhorer, Downtown Development District*

- This project will create a walkable environment and sense of place conducive to developing a vibrant riverfront district. The overall project is to narrow River Road from four to three lanes from Florida to the northern perimeter at North Street, and use the reconfigured space to expand sidewalks and plant mature trees to create a signature riverfront esplanade. Local Funding: \$375,000; Federal Funding: \$1,500,000 in Transportation and HUD – TCSP funding.

Motion was made by Hon. Jimmy Durbin and Seconded by Hon. Riley “Pee-Wee” Berthelot to add items 3(A) and 3(B) to the TIP. (Unanimous in favor)

4. MPO Reports

➤ *Huey P. Dugas, CRPC*

C. Congestion Management Process (CMP) Report

- The Congestion Management Process document contains a list of prioritized congested corridors for the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) area.

D. 2010-2011 Unified Planning Work Program

- This document delineates the programmatic and fiscal relationships essential for internal planning and programming of resources to achieve the stated transportation goals for the Baton Rouge urbanized area.

Motion was made by Hon. Barney Arceneaux and Seconded by Hon. Derek Lewis to approve both items 4(C) and 4(D). (Unanimous in favor)

NON-ACTION ITEMS

5. LADOTD Request:

➤ *Huey P. Dugas, CRPC*

- SP-077-02-0020 move from 2010 to 2011; parish government add \$1.5 million to build a new sewer system; (Administrative modification)

6. LADOTD Request:

➤ *Huey P. Dugas, CRPC*

- SP 254-02-0052 move from 2011 to 2010; (Administrative modification)
- The committee was made aware of this change.

7. Coordinated Human Service Transportation Services Plan Update

➤ *Ms. Carol Cranshaw, CATS*

- Ms. Cranshaw advised that this document is updated every 5 years; which enables the movement of public transit funds that are obtained through the state and federal government.
- The goals of this document are as follows:
 - Create cost effective delivery
 - Increase capacity
 - Quality of service
 - Make sure that all things are understood and accessible by the riders
 - To ensure that the coordination process is comprehensive and sustainable
- Four quarterly meetings are held to educate the community on how to access funds that are needed to provide for the citizens.

8. MPO Policy to Integrate Bicycling and Walking into Transportation Systems

➤ Carol Cranshaw, CATS

- Ms. Cranshaw spoke as she is a member of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee.
- The DOT has a policy to incorporate safe and convenient walking and bicycling facilities in 2 transportation projects.
- The MPO has a policy statement that will be voted on at the next TAC meeting; which will be held on Tuesday, June 22, 2010.
- The proposed policy statement was presented to the committee.

9. Construction Update - Green Light Plan – Status, Progress and Update

➤ Jose Alvarez, P.E., Construction Engineer

- Mr. Alvarez updated the committee on several projects that are underway.
- There are 19 active projects in East Baton Rouge Parish for an approximate cost of \$180.8 million dollars.
- 17 of these projects are within the “Green Light Program”.
- Projects were discussed in more details and construction site slides were displayed.

10. MPO ACTIVITY UPDATE

➤ Huey P. Dugas, CRPC

- Congestion Management Process workshop was delivered at the Bluebonnet Library on March 25, 2010. All local officials and their staff were invited.
- The Innovative Interchange and Design Workshop was held at TTEC, LSU, on March 30, 2010. Joseph Hummer, P.E. was the guest speaker.
- Maintained the draft CMP and UPWP on the website.
- Participated in an Air Quality Conformity training workshop; which was held at LSU.
- Attended Work Zone Management training.
- Conducted MPO Training workshop at the Bluebonnet Library on May 4, 2010
- Attended meetings on the LA 1 Connector project in West Baton Rouge Parish with Sherri LeBas and private investors. Met with the staff of facility planning and control because the monies that were appropriated to the project by Senator Marrioneaux had to be released to the parish.
- Attended Congressman Cassidy’s Rural Development Conference in Denham Springs.
- Conducted modeling on a proposed road in Ascension Parish for the officials and the consultants.
- As a member of LTRC ITS Lab Project Review Committee, we reviewed and rated 9 research proposals for possible funding by DOTD.
- MPO population estimates were provided to the committee.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

➤ Hon. Melvin “Kip” Holden, TPC Chairman

- John Carpenter, Asst. CAO-City/Parish EBR, spoke to the committee regarding the importance of obtaining the most accurate census data in their communities. The accuracy of those numbers ensures that all areas receive their fair share of federal and state dollars.
- Lauren Stuart, LSU-CES, spoke to the committee regarding Louisiana & Mississippi Green Jobs Consortium. Fliers and registration forms were provided.

12. ADJOURNMENT

➤ Hon. Melvin “Kip” Holden motioned to adjourn.