

Houma – Thibodaux
Metropolitan Planning Organization (HTMPO)

South Central Planning and Development Commission Office
5058 West Main Street, Gray, LA 70359
985-851-2900

M E E T I N G M I N U T E S

HTMPO Technical Advisory Committee Meeting **Date:** December 12, 2013

Meeting Location: SCPDC's Pelican Room, Gray, LA.

In Attendance

Committee:	Director of Planning and Zoning, TPCG – Patrick Gordon, Chris Pulaski, Proxy Director of Public Works, TPCG – Greg Bush, Present Engineering Division, TPCG – Represented by Joan Schexnayder, Present Operations Manager, Roads and Bridges Division, TPCG – Perry Blanchard, Present Public Transit Manager, TPCG – Wendell Voisin, Absent Public Works Director, Lafourche Parish – Don Edwards, Present Planning Department, Lafourche Parish – Pat Matherne, Present Public Works Director, Assumption Parish – Bobby Naquin, Jeff Naquin, Proxy Public Works Director, City of Thibodaux – Miguel Maggio, Absent Grants Director, City of Thibodaux – Luci Sposito, Absent Mayor, Town of Lockport – Paul Champagne, Absent Office of Planning and Programming, LA DOTD – Dan Broussard, Matt Johns, Proxy District 02 Traffic Engineer, LA DOTD – Dennis Hebert, Absent District 02 Maintenance Engineer, LA DOTD – Lyle Leblanc, Gary Gisclair Proxy District 61- Area Engineer, LADOTD – Joey Tureau, Present Public Transportation Administrator, LA DOTD – Donna Lavigne, Absent Federal Highway Administration – Brandon Buckner, Absent
Staff:	Leo Marretta, SCPDC Scott Leger, SCPDC Rudynah Capone, SCPDC Cassie Parker, SCPDC
Others in Attendance:	

Agenda Item # 1

Roll Call and Introductions

Introductions took place at approximately 10:02 AM

Agenda Item # 2

Adoption of TAC Meeting Minutes from September 12, 2013.

M. Johns motions to approve the September 12, 2013 meeting minutes, C. Pulaski seconds the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item # 3

LA DOTD Project Updates

(L. Leblanc, District 02 and J. Tureau, District 61)

L. Leblanc gave project updates for LA DOTD District 02

- Pipelines are the only utilities still being relocated on Hollywood Road.
- Downtown Houma signal upgrades on LA 24 are 40 percent completed.
- Houma Tunnel light project is 90 percent completed; a guardrail is being installed to protect the lights.
- The restoration project of the Houma Navigational Canal Bridge, a multi-million dollar project, is 80 percent completed.
- LA 57 is waiting on utility relocations. The waterlines are expected to be relocated by mid-January.
- The Tiger Drive Bridge replacement is expected to be completed in August.
- LA 308 and LA 304 overlay projects, in the North end of Thibodaux, is expected to begin in February 2014.
- The Brule Road project, LA 309, is expected to begin in the spring of 2014.
- LADOTD will be allowing the contractor to repair the New Orleans Boulevard Bridge that was damaged by a concrete truck.

J. Tureau gave project updates for LA DOTD District 61

- Widening and overlay on Highway 308, by the Lafourche/Assumption line to LA 1011 is scheduled to let in February
- He believes that LA 663 Bayou L'Ourse bridge project has been let.

It was also stated that a long geological process takes place prior to the stabilization of a sinkhole.

Agenda Item # 4

Other Local Project Updates

Terrebonne

J. Schexnayder gave the project update for Terrebonne Parish

- St. Anne Bridge has been completed and opened to traffic.
- Seventy-two rights of ways have been acquired, seven are in negotiations and Terrebonne Parish is closing on 28 for the Country Drive Widening project.
- The Bayou Gardens extension base is completed and settling; the roadway is in the design phase.
- Turn lanes at Industrial and Denley are completed.
- The Falgout Canal Pontoon Bridge design phase is at 99 percent.
- Westside Boulevard Phase 3, Martin Luther King Boulevard to LA 311, final design is at 40 percent.
- The survey on the Westside Bridge project is being completed and geotechnical is being scheduled.
- Thompson Road base is settling and the roadway is in the design phase

Lafourche

D. Edwards gave the project updates for Lafourche Parish

- There are four major road projects taking place in Lafourche Parish at this time.
 - A project has been bid and contract awarded, for approximately three million dollars, in the north portion of the parish.
 - An estimated three million dollar project, in north central portion of the parish, has been bid and will be awarded soon.
 - There is a four million dollar project in design for the southern portion of the parish.
 - The parish has a road repair contract, which has been awarded for the southern portion of the parish. The project is estimated at \$800,000.00.

Jeff Naquin stated that there was no project updates for Assumption Parish. There was no representative

from the City of Thibodaux or the Town of Lockport.

Agenda Item # 5

Draft UPWP

J. Manning presented the draft Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), which is the document that authorizes DOTD to provide funding to the MPO's for planning efforts. J. Manning informed the committee that an Ozone and Particulate Matter (PM) task was added to the document.

J. Naquin motions to recommend that the Policy Committee accept the draft UPWP for public comment. M. Johns seconds the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item # 6

Proposed TIP Changes/Transit Applications

J. Manning stated that an amended Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) will be provided at a later date. He then presented the transit request letters from the following agencies located in the region: Assumption ARC, Assumption COA, Lafourche ARC, Lafourche COA, Lafourche Special Education District No.1, St. James Parish Government, Terrebonne ARC, Terrebonne COA, and Vacherie Personal Care Services. In order for these agencies to apply for Federal Transit Administration grant funding, a letter requesting to be placed in the TIP must be submitted and accepted by the MPO.

L. Leblanc motions to recommend that the Policy Committee accept the transit TIP request letters and include those requests in the TIP. G. Bush seconds the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item # 7

MTP Update- Nomination of Study Team

J. Manning explained that the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) encapsulates everything that deals with the transportation of individuals and/or goods in this region for the next 25-30 years, such as highway, transit, bicycle and pedestrian, safety, and freight. The horizon date for the MTP is 2040. In the scope submitted by HTMPO to DOTD, it proposes that a study team will be appointed by the Technical Advisory Committee and the Policy Committee to act as a steering committee for the MTP update. J. Manning requested that the committee members volunteer or nominate individuals to serve on the study team. He asked that at least one person from each jurisdiction be appointed. The following individuals were nominated:

1. Don Edwards, Lafourche Parish Public Works Director
2. Jeffery Leuenberger, Lafourche Parish Government
3. Matt Johns, LA Department of Transportation and Development
4. Wendell Voisin, Terrebonne Parish Good Earth Transit
5. Christopher Pulaski, Terrebonne Parish Government
6. Nakita Mills, Assumption Parish
7. Dennis Hebert, LA Department of Transportation and Development

Agenda Item # 8

Review of Functional Classification Map

J. Manning explained functional classification and presented functional classification maps to the committee. He requested that the committee review and submit comments pertaining to the maps.

Agenda Item # 9

Other Business

South Central Planning and Development Commission (SCPDC) and the Houma-Thibodaux MPO have been tasked by the Lafourche Parish Council to perform a transit feasibility study for the parish. L. Marretta stated that council passed a resolution requesting that SCPDC apply for a grant, with Lafourche Parish providing the 20 percent local match, to conduct a transit feasibility study to determine attractors, trip generators, the location of work and schools, etc. The study will cost \$150,000.00 or less.

J. Manning also updated the committee on the Travel Demand Management program. L. Marretta stated that, in order to receive 100 percent funding, the main focus will be encouraging vanpooling.

M. John informed the committee that MAP-21 presented freight as a larger priority with the federal government. He explained that a National Freight Network is being established with the three main components, which include: primary freight network, all other interstate, and critical rural freight corridors. M. Johns stated that the Primary Freight Network is open for comments at this time.

Agenda Item # 10

Next Meeting Date:

Thursday March 13, 2013 10:00 AM

Agenda Item # 11

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:10 AM.