

MINUTES
CHARLES URBANIZED AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING
ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
May 19, 2016 AT 9:00 AM
2ND FLOOR, BOARDROOM
SEED CENTER
4310 RYAN ST., LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA, 70605

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Tim Conner (CPPJ) (Chair)
John Cardone (City of Lake Charles) (Vice Chair)
Todd Landry (DOTD District 7)

IMCAL STAFF:

Cheri Soileau (Executive Director/MPO Director)
Walter Council (Transportation Planner III)
Ben Magallon (Transportation Planner II)
J.D. Allen (MPO Consultant)

ROLL CALL

Mr. Tim Conner called the meeting to order. Mr. Walter Council stated there was no quorum

I. Minutes

No minutes to review

II. Old Business

- A. INFORMATION ONLY:** The MPO approved the purchase of Motorized Assistance Program (MAP) trucks at the TPC meeting on March 23, 2016, with the MPO funding 50% or \$333,178.75 of the total cost, using STP<200K funds. LaDOTD District 7 will be taking care of Title 39 Professional Services Contract to lease and maintain a single MAP trucks for I-10 and I-210 daytime shifts, beginning around July 1, 2016. Todd Landry has spoken with LaDOTD personnel, whereby, the specific I-210 main span re-decking project funds will pay for a third MAP truck to be used specifically on the I-210 Bridge during the duration of the re-decking project.

- B. INFORMATION ONLY:** Staff will conduct a Complete Streets Advisory Committee meeting on May 19, 2016 at the SEED Center at 2 pm.

II. New Business

- A. INFORMATION ONLY: INFORMATION ONLY:** Coordination in Human Services Plan document had been updated for FY 17 (2016-17).
- B. INFORMATION ONLY:** Staff made administrative modifications in the TIP from the White Board and TAC/TPC joint meeting on May 28, 2016. TAC members wanted more clarification on the Motorized Assistance Program chart entry in the TIP provided to the TPC.
- C. RECOMMENDATION FOR AMENDMENT OF THE MTP:** Calcasieu Transportation Initiative (CTI) was presented at the White board meeting on April 28, 2016, with it being requested that the plan be assessed by the TAC first. Mr. Conner, Mr. Cardone, and Mr. Allen explained that Calcasieu Parish is asking LaDOTD and FHWA for other than STP<200k funds. Mr. J.D. Allen explained that a project call is the optimal way forward, especially as so much growth is occurring. Submitting the CTI to the MPO project call gives Mr. Conner opportunity to dialogue with LaDOTD and FHWA about the parish's goals, while under the guidelines of the MPO process. Furthermore, the project call, which involves roads that are functionally classified, would allow Calcasieu Parish and all the other jurisdictions in the urbanized area opportunity to bring forth new projects into the Metropolitan Transportation Plan.
- Mr. Allen explained that sponsoring agencies represented by the MPO submit projects for the project call. Mr. Landry mentioned that LaDOTD is interested in doing a right-sizing of the system, which involves transferring some roads from the state to local jurisdictions. This may influence LaDOTD's involvement in funding projects, and may be a potential issue. The TAC made a non-binding/non-quorum recommendation that the TPC approve a project call to amend the MTP for any roads that are functionally classified
- D. FOR DISCUSSION:** Ms. Cheri Soileau explained that staff had discussed the potential of adding a Lake Charles Transit representative to the TAC, because it is a fixed route system, the biggest agency in the urbanized area, and potential for expansion. The MPO should be working with Lake Charles Transit to add support, perform studies for them, and maintain or adjust the routes and schedule of the system where needed. Mr. Allen suggested that staff assess the structure of the by-laws. Ms. Soileau expressed that it was being done.

Mr. Conner asked about the attendance of current TAC members and if they can use a proxy and how that would impact on adding another TAC member. Ms. Soileau suggested an official alternate, while Mr. Landry recommended a combination of both a proxy and alternate. Mr. Cardone stated that the role of a

proxy and/or alternate be clear. Mr. Allen stated that augmented voting membership has to promote efficiency and the ability to continue to do business, because expanding but never obtaining a quorum is still ineffective. Mr. John Cardone suggested voting members are accompanied to TAC meetings by the individual that would be the likely proxy or alternate, so they are aware of topics and the optimal way to vote for their organization. Ms. Soileau said the MPO would look at some new recommendations based on other MPOs. Mr. Conner expressed that TAC seemed favorable towards this action.

E. FOR DISCUSSION: There is an opportunity for some additional studies. Some of the preliminary ideas are below.

- a. Bike/Ped, Complete Streets, and/or Transit Study for Westlake and Sulphur.
- b. Smart Growth Plan.
- c. Access management on Ryan Street.
- d. What can we do for Westlake (Access management, what can be widened)?
- e. Specific/in-depth transportation impact study (for MPO study area as affected by sudden growth).


Mr. Conner stated that there was a Stage 0 for 378 in Westlake that looked at access management. Ms. Soileau mentioned some interest from development in the northern part of Westlake. Mr. Allen suggested that the Mayor Bob Hardey of Westlake needs to know about the Stage 0 studies for roads near booming areas and to provide that information to any developer that is interested. Mr. Landry mentioned LaDOTD's dealings with access management. Ms. Soileau and Mr. Allen suggested growth projections need to be re-assessed, including traffic studies conducted in 2014 that are outdated because of unprecedented new growth. Other forthcoming developments mentioned include new potential man-camps for more temporary workers.

III. Adjournment

Mr. Cardone motioned to adjourn. Mr. Landry seconded.



Tim Conner
Chair



Cheri Soileau
Executive/MPO Director