

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2017 AT SEED CENTER, 2ND FLOOR BOARDROOM, LAKE CHARLES, LA

MEMBERS PRESENT (QUORUM)

Tim Conner (Chair)
John Cardone (Vice Chair)
Heath Allen (Lake Charles Regional Airport)
Mike Daigle (City of Sulphur Public Works)
Don Duberville (LaDOTD District 7)

LCMPO STAFF

Walter Council (Transportation Planner III)
Benjamin Magallon (Transportation Planner II)

GUESTS

Butch Babineaux (Fenstermaker & Associates)
Gina Quibodeaux (City of Sulphur Public Works)

1. OPENING

A. Roll Call

- Mr. Tim Conner called the meeting to order. Mr. Walter Council stated there was a quorum

B. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

- No minutes to approve.

C. Opportunity for Public Comments or Questions

- No public comments or questions.

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. FOR INFORMATION: Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)/Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Consultant Selection Process. Mr. Ben Magallon shared that Stantec was scored as the most suitable consultant after a very close final selection process.

B. FOR INFORMATION: Travel Efficiency Assessment Model (TEAM). Mr. Council explained that staff had completed the TEAM process, and was awaiting final. Results on how the strategies and scenarios selected could reduce emissions.

- Strategies modeled included Travel Demand Management (TDM) for vanpool/carpool for workers in the petrochemical industry zone,

reduction of transit time, parking pricing downtown, and land use density.

- The Motor Vehicle Emission Simulator (MOVES) used data collected by staff to further model emissions. The number of vehicles in the parish, Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) on different types, VMT for different vehicles, and age distribution of vehicles were data provided to EPA partners.

C. FOR INFORMATION: Technical Assistance on Performance Measures for MPOs.

Mr. Council explained staff is partnering with Transportation for America to receive technical assistance on the upcoming FAST Act performance measures, which will be beneficial to developing the upcoming 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan.

- Meeting is being planned a day on or between January 24 – 27, 2017

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. FOR ACTION: FAST Act Safety Performance Measures and Targets. Mr. Magallon requested TAC recommendation to the TPC for the MPO to adopt the LaDOTD's Safety Performance measures and targets.

- Mr. John Cardone motioned, seconded by Mr. Don Duberville.

B. FOR INFORMATION: LaDOTD District 7 Legislative Public Hearing for FY 2018-19: Road Show. Mr. Magallon noted the annual LaDOTD District Road Show to be held on Tuesday, October 5, 2017, 9 am – 12 pm at the Lake Charles Civic Center, Contraband Room.

C. FOR DISCUSSION: I-10 Bridge Preliminary Alternatives: Southwest Louisiana Toll Commission. Mr. Council mentioned the lack of funding for infrastructure projects has made local solutions more crucial. A potential Southwest Louisiana Toll Commission is generating discussion as part of the solution for I-10 bridge funding.

- Mr. Cardone mentioned the local gas tax. Mr. Magallon mentioned local gas tax is not allowable, but can do some modeling and research.
- Mr. Butch Babineaux noted there are studies that can be done to assess the impacts of travelers avoiding a potentially tolled I-10 to take I-210. Mr. Babineaux relayed his history working for a toll consultant, and measuring diversion, sensitivity, and optimal toll rates. He advised doing a sketch level planning study, then an investment level planning study which is more expensive. Furthermore, he suggested looking to see if current I-10 preliminary alternative study mentions tolls. He also

encouraged providing a forum to educate locals about funding options: tolls, bonding, etc.

- Mr. Conner wanted information shared with the TPC.
- Mr. Council mentioned there is opportunity to conduct a cost-benefit analysis for the TIGER Grant in 2018, which provides between \$25 - \$100 million for transportation projects.

D. FOR ACTION: Transit Representative on the TAC. Mr. Council noted that staff is seeking TAC recommendation to the TPC to approve a transit representative on the TAC.

- The FHWA MPO Assessment, presented at the 8/23/17 Joint TPC/TAC meeting, recommended a transit representative on the TAC. Lake Charles MPO is not in a Transportation Management Area (TMA) requiring a population of 200,000. However, it is projected that by 2020 Census, LCMPO will be a TMA, with that designation requiring a transit representative on the TAC.
- TAC advised that that more discussion is needed, along with necessary changes to by-laws.

4. ADJOURNMENT

A. Adjournment

- Mr. Mike Daigle motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Heath Allen.



Tim Conner
Chair



Cheri Soileau
Executive/MPO Director