

MINUTES

AUGUST 16, 2018, 9 – 11 AM, SEED CENTER, 2ND FLOOR BOARDROOM, LAKE CHARLES, LA,

TAC MEMBERS PRESENT (QUORUM)

Mike Daigle (City of Sulphur) (Chair) (Proxy was Stacy Dowden)
John Cardone (City of Lake Charles) (Vice Chair)
Tim Conner (Calcasieu Parish) (Proxy was Greg LaFleur)
Donald Brinkman (Port of Lake Charles)
Mary-Bass Fontenot (Calcasieu Parish School Board)
Don Duberville (DOTD – District 7)

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Dan Broussard (DOTD State Planning Section) (Non-Voting)
Casey Lewis (DOTD-Rural Transit) (Non-Voting)

LCMPO STAFF

Cheri Soileau (LCMPO Director)
Walter Council (Transportation Planner III)

GUESTS

Butch Babineaux (Fenstermaker)
Mike Huber (CoLC)

1. OPENING

A. Roll Call

Mr. John Cardone called the meeting to order. Mr. Walter Council stated there was a quorum.

B. Nomination and Election of new TAC Chair

Ms. Stacey Dowden replaced Mike Daigle as City of Sulphur's representative, who was the chair.

- Donald Brinkman motioned for John Cardone to be chair, and Ms. Stacey Dowden as Vice Chair, seconded by Don Duberville.

C. No Minutes to Approve

D. Addendum Item

Mr. Council requested adding information on 2 TIP administrative modifications.

- Mr. Don Duberville motioned, seconded by Ms. Mary Bass- Fontentot.

E. Opportunity for Public Comments or Questions

Mr. Mike Huber and Mr. John Cardone mentioned streets that may see some improvements in the future:

- Ryan and Sallier Street turn lane.
- Reopen eastbound Nelson ramp.

Ms. Soileau mentioned grade separation potential on Sallier, which Mr. Cardone added had been mentioned in the past. Mr. Donald Brinkman noted that the Port of Lake Charles is working to increase up to 100 cars at one time, taking about 8 minutes.

- Mr. Huber mentioned that this a possible Tiger Grant opportunity.
- Ms. Soileau noted EDA grants.
- Mr. Brinkman cautioned that a grant may be less effective time wise, but did mention Federal Rail Administration grants.
- Ms. Soileau re-emphasized turning down lanes on Sallier is probably not the best approach.

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Development for FY 2019-22

Mr. Council noted the STP<200K funded projects in the current TIP FY 2019 – 22 and the two Stage 0 projects (Ihles Road and Enterprise Blvd) form the City of Lake Charles awaiting a project number from the LaDOTD.

- Mr. Council shared the current aggregation of projects, including the yet to be LaDOTD approved Stage 0 projects will come to \$14 million, which basically means no further projects can be added using these funds.
- Mr. Cardone requested at the Joint TPC/TAC next meeting on Thursday, September 20, 2018, this funding matrix be displayed on screen.

B. 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Ms. Soileau noted that the 2045 MTP development was moving along smoothly, with the consultants, Stantec, Inc.

Ms. Soileau shared some concerns about the forward movement of the I-10 bridge, noting that according to LaDOTD the Environmental Impact Statement would likely be pushed back a year to 2020.

- Ms. Soileau added she would have a representative from LaDOTD or HNTB speak on progression of EIS at next Joint TAC/TPC meeting.

C. I-210 Bridge Re-Decking

Ms. Soileau noted there would be a representative to present on the I-210 bridge re-decking at the next Joint TAC/TPC meeting.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. TIP FY 2015 – 18 Administrative Modifications

Mr. Council noted administrative modifications for LA 384 – LA 385 (H.002059, changing funding category, as well as funding increase for Hazel Street (H.011837)

B. Advance Program – Southwest Louisiana Air Quality Task Force

Mr. Council noted the update to the Advance Program had been completed.

- New partners and strategies: bike lanes, CNG station, planting trees, etc.
- The regions ozone emissions have stayed below the 70 part per million level for the last 3 years.
- Mr. Huber mentioned CoLC adding energy efficient transit buses.

C. Travel Efficiency Assessment Model (TEAM)

Mr. Council noted the various strategies modeled to reduce emissions via vehicle miles traveled: Travel Demand Management; Transit Improvement; Parking Pricing; and Land Use – Neighborhoods.

- However, this study provided opportunity to acknowledge weaknesses in strategies and consider in future endeavors how to potentially intensify methods for emissions reductions.

D. Transportation for America (T4America)

Mr. Council noted the relevant Lake Charles recommendations.

- T4America facilitated a February 2018 workshop that included LaDOTD, Rapides Planning Commission, and other MPOs, providing some useful critiques and tips to have a clearer vision for transportation projects moving forward.
- In Spring 2019, TAC and TPC will prioritize a list of transportation projects for 2045 MTP, long-range transportation plan, encompassing the next 25 years. Staff recommends TAC/TPC keep the existing framework, but massaging in some of the critiques and tips from February 2018 workshop and document.
- Mr. Council added that Lake Charles MPO's 2016 TIP project prioritization was recognized in the final document as a "national leader" for the "quantitative scoring framework in its prioritization process" that "few other MPOs have done yet", along with having a process that elected officials understood and promoted. This prioritization process was designed by Alliance Transportation Group.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Mary Bass Fontenot motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Donald Brinkman.



John Cardone
Chair



Cheri Soileau
Executive/MPO Director