

MINUTES

APRIL 18, 2018, 9 – 11 AM, SEED CENTER, 2ND FLOOR BOARDROOM, LAKE CHARLES, LA,

TAC MEMBERS PRESENT (QUORUM)

Mike Daigle (City of Sulphur) (Chair)
John Cardone (City of Lake Charles) (Vice Chair) (Proxy was Mike Huber)
Tim Conner (Calcasieu Parish)
John S. Allen (City of Westlake)
Wes Crain (Calcasieu Parish) (Chair)
Mary-Bass Fontenot (Calcasieu Parish School Board)
Don Duberville (DOTD – District 7)

LCMPO STAFF

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

GUESTS

Mayor Carol Ponthieux (Town of Iowa)
Shelley Fontenot (City of Lake Charles)
Stacy Dowden (City of Lake Charles)
Dawn R. Sholmire (LaDOTD)

1. OPENING

A. Roll Call

Mr. Mike Daigle called the meeting to order. Mr. Walter Council stated there was a quorum.

B. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting (March 15, 2018)

Mr. Mike Huber motioned to approve minutes, seconded by Ms. Mary-Bass Fontenot.

C. Opportunity for Public Comments or Questions

There were no public comments or questions.

2. OLD BUSINESS

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

Ms. Cheri Soileau noted some updates for TIP FY 2019-22

- Staff is working on an online interactive TIP for ongoing live projects that's easily accessible. This will provide where we are at on the TIP and what stage.

- When an entity conducts a Stage 0 application, everything is an estimate based on previous experience. However, unforeseen circumstances could change costs.
- Ms. Dawn Sholmire and Mr. Dan Broussard remind that the draft TIP FY 2019 – 22 needs to be completed in the coming months.
- Ms. Sholmire explains that LaDOTD programs \$3.0 million, although technically it is overprogrammed for about \$3.5 million.
 - The over-programming is done, because historically, LaDOTD has seen that projects go over the original amount, so the buffer for over-programming is built into the funding.
 - Essentially, LaDOTD over-programs by 20%, which is how the \$3.5 million is derived.
 - White Board meeting adjusts the over-programming.
 - LCMPO did not get \$3.5M every year until 2016, followed up in 2017 and 2018.
 - There should be guidance for “purpose and need”, which needs to be emailed out.
 - After Stage 0 receives project number, TAC/TPC need to amend into TIP FY 2019 -22.
- Mr. Huber and Ms. Shelley Fontenot explain they will not be pursuing Sallier Street.
- Mr. Huber suggest flooding TIP with smaller projects.
- Ms. Bass-Fontenot relays that being able to show several smaller projects completed helps with buy in from the public.
- Ms. Soileau mentioned that the I-210 North Loop concept had been mentioned at several points at the recent focus groups and open house
- Mr. Dan Broussard reiterates that STP<200K funds works better with smaller projects. Larger projects are more difficult to get federal support.
 - Mr. Council suggested showing before and after photos of locations what that have had improvements using STP<200K funds and showing on website or other public outreach.
 - Ms. Sholmire explains that for instance, an overlay project checklist is considerably easy to implement, since it doesn’t require the intensive environmental process. So if a project is stalled out, then a smaller project(s) can use the funding in a timely manner.
- Mr. Tim Conner inquires if there is state route Calcasieu Parish can help with a city.
 - Mr. Broussard and Ms. Sholmire says as long as federally aid eligible.

B. 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Ms. Soileau shared that Stantec help conduct an Open House at the Lake Charles Civic Center on 4/12/18, as well as some focus groups.

- Attended Lake Charles North Redevelopment Agency meeting, where staff laid out maps and handed out surveys.

C. Complete Streets: Better Block Sulphur, LA

Mr. Council informed that inclement weather cancelled the Sulphur Better Block on 4/7/18, but a follow-up is being planned.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. McNeese University Outreach

Ms. Soileau shared that staff will be working with Dr. Henry Sirgo's political science class, meeting with them 3 times this Spring 2018 to discuss economic development, transportation, and safety aspects of the agency.

- Mr. Daigle noted that the City of Sulphur will be hiring 2 new interns, so will use opportunity to let them know about it. He noted using environmental science majors to work in the waste water section.
- Ms. Fontenot mentioned that SOWELA was good resource as well.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Hunter motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mayor Hardey



 Mike Daigle
Chair



 Cheri Soileau
Executive/MPO Director