

MINUTES

DECEMBER 12, 2017, 9 – 11 AM, SEED CENTER, 2ND FLOOR, ROOM B/C, LAKE CHARLES, LA,

MEMBERS PRESENT (QUORUM)

Mayor Chris Duncan (City of Sulphur) (Chair)
Mayor Nic Hunter (City of Lake Charles) (Vice Chair) (Proxy was John Cardone)
Mayor Bob Hardey (City of Westlake)
Wes Crain (Calcasieu Parish)
Don Duberville (DOTD – District 7)

TAC MEMBERS PRESENT (QUORUM)

Tim Conner (Calcasieu Parish Police Jury)
John Cardone (City of Lake Charles) (Proxy was Mike Huber)
Don Duberville (DOTD – District 7)
Gary Williams (City of Westlake)
Michael Daigle (City of Sulphur)

LCMPO STAFF

Cheri Soileau (LCMPO Director)
Walter Council (Transportation Planner III)
Benjamin Magallon (Transportation Planner II)

GUESTS

Jeff McKee (DHS)
Butch Babineaux (Fenstermaker & Associates)
Mr. Vijay Kunada (Neel Schaffer)
Cade McLemore (OHSEPP)

1. OPENING

A. Roll Call

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

B. Approval of TPC Minutes from Last Meeting (October 25, 2017)

- Mayor Hardey motioned to approve, Mr. Wes Crain seconded.

C. Approval of TAC Minutes from Last Meeting (October 19, 2017)

- Mr. Michael Daigle motioned to approve, Mr. Mike Daigle seconded.

D. Agenda Addendum

- For New Business, add “Agenda I” in regards to Performance Measures Workshop. Mr. John Cardone motioned, Mr. West Crain seconded.

- For New Business, add “Agenda J” in regards to All Hazards Recovery Plan. Mayor Hardey motioned, Mr. Crain seconded.

E. Opportunity for Public Comments or Questions

Mr. Jeff McKee, U.S. Department of Homeland Security representative, shared that his division was seeking potential partner MPOs for the Regional Resiliency Assessment Program (RRAP), examining scenarios of events to improve security and resilience of nation’s infrastructure, specifically the Calcasieu Shipping Channel.

- Has communicated with SWLA Chamber, OHSEPP, and other stakeholders, LSU, and UL-Lafayette.
 - Only 6 out of 40 location scenarios will be selected for this national program, which will be 100% federally funded at around \$500,000.
 - A Supply Chain Council has been created in Baton Rouge, LA that would be partners on long term project, assessing dependencies and interdependencies.
 - Deadline to submit potential projects is in May 2018.
- Mr. Crain asked how we compare to other parts of the world. Mr. McKee cited Puerto Rico as an example of being completely dependent on certain level of shipping transportation. Also looking at shipping activity in Pittsburgh, PA region.
- Mr. Huber noted the importance of the Sabine River Diversion Canal. Mr. McKee agreed.
- Mr. Crain mentioned the I-10 bridge. Mr. McKee expressed not wanting to go to broad with this program.

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. FOR DISCUSSION: I-10 Bridge

Ms. Cheri Soileau shared feedback from recent meetings related to the project.

- Meeting with Shawn Wilson, reiterated the EIS process and necessity, along with the idea that it is much broader than just EDC spill.
 - Record of Decision by Spring 2019, which will initiate the financing aspect.
 - Suggested that toll proposals be facilitated by concessionaires, as they are familiar with industry standards.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. FOR ACTION: Amendment XV for the TIP

Staff requested action for Amendment XV in the TIP, regarding the construction phase of the I-210 Cable Barrier project, which was moved from FY 17 to FY 20.

- Mr. Huber motioned to approve Amendment XV in the TIP, seconded by Mr. Duberville as recommended by the TAC.
- Mr. Hardey motioned to approve Amendment XV in the TIP, seconded by Mr. Cardone for final approval by the TPC.

B. FOR DISCUSSION: TIP Development

Mr. Ben Magallon expressed that it was time to develop a new TIP for FY 019 – 22. He mentioned that about \$10.4 million not allocated yet over the next 4 years.

- He asked the committees to consider two possible methods of approaching redeveloping the TIP:
 - 1) Take remaining projects from Stage 1 of the MTP and evaluate.
 - 2) Take all the projects in the MTP and re-rank, including unfunded vision projects.
- Other points included:
 - Cost estimates have changed for many projects, meaning these projects each require a new Stage 0.
 - Easiest and most effective method to redevelop the TIP was utilizing Stage 1 projects in the MTP.
 - New FAST ACT guidelines stressed emphasis on system preservation over capacity building, so intersection improvements are more likely to be federally funded than building brand new roads.
 - A difference between project prioritization and project deliverability, with the latter possibly overstepping the former because of resources available.
- Mr. Vijay Kunada highlighted other MPOs they are advising, recommending projects that have already been prioritized to initiate EIS, just to get some movement.

C. FOR INFORMATION: 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)/Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Ms. Soileau expressed that the LRTP/MTP consultant contract had received final signatures.

D. FOR INFORMATION: I-210 Bridge Regional Traffic Study Update

Mr. Kunada gave a presentation for some of the potential mitigation strategies to present to the public, for the Alternative B recommendation of closing one lane in each direction during I-210 re-decking project.

- Project is set to be let in May 2018.
- Some mitigation strategies include:
 - Enhanced traffic control near Prien Lake Road interchange.
 - Proposed signal retiming along Lake St., Ryan St., Enterprise Blvd, and Gerstner Memorial Blvd.
 - Northbound and southbound left turn lane improvements
- Preliminary long-term recommendations include:
 - LA 384 (Big Lake Rd to McNeese St.) Stage 0 study recommendations
 - LA 385/Ryan St. – Stage 0 feasibility study recommendations
 - 2040 MTP Plan projects – Lake St., Gauthier Rd, LA 378
 - Additional River Crossing – Ex: Extension of Gauthier Rd to West

E. FOR INFORMATION: Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA)

Mr. Council noted the LUCA Training was held on December 5, 2017. This is an opportunity for jurisdictions to help the U.S. Census update addresses in preparation for the 2020 Census.

- Mr. Council will email out other local training sites for stakeholders that missed that meeting.

F. FOR INFORMATION: Fueling Progress in Westlake

Mayor Hardey shared that nearly 50 people attended session, facilitated by Louisiana Clean Fuels, on bringing municipal revenue generating CNG station to site near I-10 in Westlake, LA. There is no CNG fueling facility in all of SWLA

- Lots of local and regional businesses like CNG vehicles for the decreased maintenance and lowered fuel costs.
- There are multiple companies that can supply CNG.
- Station cost estimated at between \$1.5 - \$2 million.
- Two types of CNG tanks: Slowing filling takes overnight; Big compressor fills up in a few minutes.

G. FOR INFORMATION: TPC/TAC Election Information

Mr. Council, according to MPO Bylaws, the bi-annual TAC and TPC elections for chair and vice chair would be held in January 2018.

H. FOR DISCUSSION: TPC/TAC Calendars

Ms. Soileau suggested TAC and TPC should continue meeting every month, with several on-going and new projects like the update to the 2045 MTP.

I. FOR INFORMATION: Performance Measures Workshop, Baton Rouge, LA

Mr. Council invited the committees and shared that the Louisiana MPO Performance Management Workshop would be held on January 25- 26, 2017.

- It provides opportunity to learn about new federal and state performance management requirements; discuss regional policy goals; examine innovations happening nationwide.
- Along with 3 staff members attending, the program is reimbursing 5 local stakeholders to attend at \$540/person. Staff will send agenda to committee members so they can RSVP.

J. FOR INFORMATION: All Hazards Transportation Recovery Plan

Mr. Ben Magallon invited the committees and shared that staff will be hosting the free training, using FTA funded research grant on immediate and short-term disaster recovery, along with the role transit providers play in a coordinated emergency plan, March 19 – 20, 2018.

- MPOs from the across the state are invited as well.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Crain motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mayor Hardey.



Mayor Chris Duncan
Chair



Cheri Soileau
Executive/MPO Director