

MINUTES

JANUARY 29, 2020, 9 – 11 AM, SEED CENTER, 2ND FLOOR BOARDROOM, LAKE CHARLES, LA

TPC MEMBERS PRESENT (QUORUM)

Wes Crain (City of Lake Charles) (Chair)
Mayor Nic Hunter (Vice Chair) (City of Lake Charles) (Proxy was John Cardone)
Mayor Mike Danahay (City of Sulphur) (Proxy was Stacy Dowden)
Mayor Bob Hardey (City of Westlake)
Don Duberville (DOTD – District 7)

LCMPO STAFF

Walter Council (Transportation Planner III)

GUESTS

Mike Huber (CoLC)
Butch Babineaux (Fenstermaker)

1. OPENING

A. Roll Call

Mr. Wes Crain called the meeting to order. Mr. Walter Council stated there was a quorum.

B. Minutes from Last Joint TAC/TPC Meeting (11/20/19)

Mayor Bob Hardey motioned to approve, seconded by Ms. Stacy Dowden. Motion approved unopposed.

C. Opportunity for Public Comments or Questions

Mr. Mike Huber asked about ending of the bridge and pavement replacement construction phase for H.009620 I-210, inquiring if any bonus owed to the contractor for finishing on time. The committee members believed there will be a bonus provided.

Mr. Wes Crain asked about the new project at I-10 and I-210 split. Mr. Don Duberville says there was a 500 day construction time or about time or year and half.

- Mr. Babineaux says there should be two lanes open in each direction for the split.
- Mr. Crain noted that Calcasieu Parish Police Jury opened up offices on west side of parish in preparation.

D. Nominations and Election of TAC Chair and Vice Chair

Mr. Council explained the LCMPO Bylaws indicate a new Chair and Vice Chair should be elected at the beginning of every even number year.

- Mayor Bob Hardey motioned Mr. Crain for Chair, seconded by Ms. Stacy Dowden. Motioned carried unopposed.
- Ms. Dowden motioned Mayor Bob Hardey for Vice Chair seconded by Don Duberville. Motion carried unopposed.

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. Fuel and Freight transportation Optimization Tool (FTOT)

Mr. Council provided updates on staff working with FHWA and LaDOTD, to utilize local rice stakeholders for this pilot project.

- This pilot is to test the utility of FTOT to support State DOTs and metropolitan/regional transportation organizations in improved freight and transportation decision-making, analysis, and planning.
- The software can be utilized help LaDOTD prioritize which roads should be assessed for enhanced funding or analysis.
- There will be a final workshop for South Louisiana stakeholders March 17 - 18, 2020 in Lafayette.

B. STP<200K Projects

Mr. Antonio Carriere explained and displayed the TIP FY 2019-22 STP<200K Responsible Charge Project Tracker table to be filled out by Responsible Charges. Below are the corrections recommended by TAC committee members.

- Updates showing status of previous year's funding.
- Add fiscal years for the future.
- Change "sponsoring agency" to "project sponsor".
- Add summary work sheets.

Mr. Council provided a 2045 MTP table of fiscally constrained projects, as well as TIP FY 2019-22 STP<200K General Project Tracker.

- Mr. Council shared that Westlake would not be able to make the local match for H.007122 Myrtle Springs Rd for FY 20, requesting it go into FY 22
 - Mr. Council explained that moving the \$1.7 million dollar construction project to FY 22 would be problematic. FY 22 is programmed for construction phase of H.013812 Ihles Road (City of Lake Charles) at an authorized cost of nearly \$8 million.
 - LaDOTD and FHWA have provided a special permission for this cost amount, because typically the fiscally years are only supposed to

average in a range around \$3.5 million/year. So, adding H.007122 Myrtle Spring's \$1.7 million/year to FY 22 would not be possible with the current programming. So, the committee under advising from staff and Dawn Sholmire from LaDOTD, pushed H.007122 to the next TIP FY 2023-26, and preliminarily in FY 23.

- Mr. Council noted TAC's January 23, 2020 meeting, full non-voting recommendation to the TPC:
 - Move H.007122 Myrtle Spring to FY 23
 - Add 2045 MTP M-03 E. Burton St., between Smith Rd to Savoy Rd, to FY 21, at a cost of about \$600. The Stage 0 is already completed
 - Add 2045 MTP C-78 Sallier St at Ryan St intersection, which should be less than \$2 million to FY 21.
- Ms. Dowden wanted to make an alteration, by removing M-03 E. Burton and replacing with M-13 Post Oak Road, between Division to Burton Street for FY 21.
- Mr. Cardone motioned to recommend the 2045 MTP's C-78 Sallier Street and M-13 Post Oak Road be substituted for H.007122 Myrtle Springs in TIP FY 2019 -22 using STP<200K funds, and Responsible Charges proceed with completing the Stage 0 process for each construction phases, seconded by Ms. Stacy Dowden. Motion carried unopposed.
 - Mr. Cardone suggested further dialogue occur at the next Joint TAC/TPC meeting on February 20, 2020.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Safety Performance Measures

Mr. Council noted TAC recommendation that the TPC move for the MPO to adopt LaDOTD's updated Safety Performance measures and targets as Amendment I to the 2045 MTP.

- In accordance with document update procedures, as a MTP amendment, the 14-day Public Review/Hearing period will be initiated by staff on 1/31/20 after TPC approval, and pending public comments, final adoption will be 2/13/20.
 - Ms. Amber Ashworth added additional information of why the MPO should adopt LaDOTD's targets.
 - Ms. Ashworth also noted that should would like to have the Regional Safety Coalition's Infrastructure and Operations section during future TAC meetings, but specifically at the next Joint TAC/TPC meeting in February 20, 2020.
- Mayor Bob Hardey motioned to adopt LaDOTD's targets, seconded by Ms. Dowden. Motion carried unopposed.

B. Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) FY 2020-21 (See Link in Email Invitation)

Mr. Council explained that LaDOTD is requesting only a draft update of the UPWP FY 2020 -21 by March 1, 2020.

- The final deadline for TAC recommendation and TPC adoption, along with submission of the new UPWP to LaDOTD is before June 1, 2020.
 - Mr. Council noted that these procedures give FHWA time to review the UPWP, before June deadline.
- Final PL funding allocations for UPWP FY 2020-21 will be provided to the MPO staff to insert in the UPWP tables in June 2020.
- Staff continues to review opportunities for anticipated unused funding for the current UPWP FY 2019-20.
 - Staff has looked at bike/ped, freight/congestion, and SOWELA transportation study.
 - Requesting any input for potential studies at the next Joint TAC/TPC meeting in February 20, 2020
 - Mr. Council mentioned there can be no carryover of funds, according to LaDOTD. Those are viewed as LaDOTD's operational funds. Instead, all the MPOs across the state have their remaining funds aggregated together, and MPOs can make bids for those funds.

C. HSTP/Transit Committee

Mr. Carriere shared that staff is working on improving coordination, currently on a survey to enhance mobility management.

D. 2020 U.S. Census

Mr. Council shared U.S. Census is gearing up to begin the enumeration process for Spring 2020.

- U.S. Census sent out an inquiry to all jurisdiction to make sure that the statistical geographical areas were updated correctly.
- The U.S. Census will send a letter in mailboxes with a link, allowing for the first time for voters to vote via desktop or smartphone. Enumerators will knock on doors if the website census form is not completed.

E. Louisiana Passenger Rail Station Assessment

Mr. Council shared Powerpoint of a LaDOTD conducted comprehensive study of all rail stations in the state:

- The 2018 study developed to be a conceptual for purpose of initiating the development of guidance towards the state's passenger rail transportation planning activities.


- Review of industry standards
- Combined with passenger rail station field assessments
- Conceptual list of station features and standards that may applicable to future intercity passenger rail within the state.
- Lake Charles, along with all the other stations that are on the Sunset Limited route in the study, are all Category 4 stations, which is lowest ridership of less than 20,000/year: Lake Charles (4,000/year); Lafayette (6,100/year); and Hammond/Slidell (11,000/year).
- Enhancements suggested for Lake Charles's station included low cost station signage, increased passenger amenities, and platform reconstruction.
- Final considerations for Lake Charles' station included taking advantage for development of nearby vacant or underutilized parcels, access to downtown Lake Charles and McNeese, fulfilling Lake Charles bike/pedestrian master plan to design bike lane down Ryan Street.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Don Duberville motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mayor Bob Hardey.



Wes Crain
Chair



Michael Hollier
Interim Executive/MPO Director