

MINUTES

THURSDAY, JULY 8, 2021, 12:00 PM – 2:30 PM, SEED CENTER, 2ND FLOOR SEED CENTER

TPC MEMBERS PRESENT (QUORUM)

Wes Crain (Chair) (Calcasieu Parish Police Jury)
Mayor Bob Hardey (City of Westlake)
Mayor Nic Hunter (City of Lake Charles)

LCMPO STAFF

Michael Hollier (Executive/MPO Director)
Jamie Gaines (Special Projects Manager)

1. OPENING

A. Call to Order Roll Call

Mr. Wes Crain, Chair, called the meeting to order.

B. Roll Call

Mr. Mike Hollier called Roll:

- Wes Crain (Calcasieu Parish)
- Mayor Bob Hardey (Westlake)
- Mayor Nic Hunter (City of Lake Charles)

He stated there was quorum for Transportation Policy Committee (TPC).

2. NEW BUSINESS

A. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) FY 2019-22 Amendment 24 (Aggregate Record Item No. 48) MPO Resolution No. 2021-08

Review and Action Requested

TIP HIGHWAY SECTION

Moss Bluff Historic Bridge Inventory Rehabilitation Project: Remove feasibility phase for Project No. H.012043 (La. Hwy. 378) and add \$150,000 for engineering phase. Overall Project scope includes full structural, mechanical, electrical and architectural rehabilitation of movable bridge structure and application of new protective coating (paint) systems and renovations to Operator's House.

Amending TP FY 2019 -22 to remove feasibility phase for Project No. H.012043 LA 378: Calcasieu R MB RH (WEST FORK) (HBI) at \$150K of STPFLEX in FY 2021. Furthermore, added engineering phase of \$150K of STPFLEX at 80% Fed Share in FY 21.

- 14-day Public Review/Hearing period was initiated by staff on 6/24/21

- MPO Technical Advisory Committee recommends approval of MPO Resolution No. 2021-08.
- Mayor Bob Hardey motioned, seconded by Mr. Nick Hunter. Mr. Crain requested a vote on the motion to adopt the recommendation, which passed unanimously.

B. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) FY 2019-22 Amendment 25 (Aggregate Record Item No. 49) MPO Resolution No. 2021-09
Review and Action Requested

TIP HIGHWAY SECTION

1. Ihles Road (Project No. H.013812), West Prien Lake Road to Country Club Road. Work scope included expanding current two-lane roadway to four lane boulevard. Total allocated MPO funding (STP≥200K) \$6.9 M.
TAC Recommendation: Delete Project from current TIP and reallocate funds to existing and new projects.
2. Enterprise Blvd. (Project No. H.013870), Broad Street to East Prien Lake Road. Work scope includes select drainage reconstruction, water main and overlay. Increase allocated MPO funding (STP≥200K) from \$2.420M to \$6.9M (?).
3. Add New Project: Broad Street, Enterprise Road to Lakeshore Drive. Work scope is an overlay and restriping. Allocate MPO funding (STP≥200K) amount \$600,000.
 - 14-day Public Review/Hearing period was initiated by staff on 7/16/21
 - MPO Technical Advisory Committee recommends approval of MPO Resolution No. 2021-09.
 - Mayor Nic Hunter motioned, seconded by Mayor Bob Hardey. Mr. Crain requested a vote on the motion to adopt the recommendation, which passed unanimously.

C. H.003931 I-10 Calcasieu River Bridge
For Discussion

The Transportation Policy Committee has requested a meeting with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration to discuss MPO Resolution 2021-03 Approving and Adopting Design Options for the Proposed I-10 Calcasieu River Bridge, as well as questions and concerns they have about the recent Context Sensitive Solutions presentation, including, but not limited to:


- Selection of Alignment and Design “5G”
- Inclusion of bike and pedestrian infrastructure in the new bridge, and or ferry system.
- Collaboration between Kansas City Southern Railroad, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the City of Westlake Administration for a rail spur alignment on satisfactory conclusion

- Iconic aesthetics, including an Observation Tower; Signature Features, Programmable LED Lighting; Crossed Pistol features representative of the current 1949 bridge railings, and in the event the bridge is not a cable-stayed design, a Cable Stayed feature (non-supportive) as a primary feature. HNTB engineers express that from a structural point of view not a cable-stayed bridge.
- Status on the selection of a private partner.

Additional Comments

- Mr. Eric Kalivoda (LaDOTD) noted letters of interests.
- Mr. Crain requested more information on bike/ped element and ability to add an observation tower on the span or on one of the landings.
- Mr. John Cardone discussed environmental aspects of bridge. He also inquired about feasibility study that suggested there would be a 20% – 25% diversion from the toll. He inquired about environmental justice aspect of driver diversion, with various income level drivers using the bridge daily and its impact on their time and mileage traveled. Lastly, Mr. Cardone mentioned grant application for local low-income automobile owning residents, reducing their toll payment.
- Mayor Hunter had some general concerns about the new bridge.
- LaDOTD/HNTB reiterated dimensions of the new bridge, 5G Alternative:
 - Height is 73 feet
 - Span is 2,500 feet
 - Grade is 3%
- Mr. Keith DuRousseau, representing I-10 Bridge Task Force, mentions generational aspects of bridge with design life span from 75 to 100 years. He also noted ability to connect cities of Lake Charles and Westlake via bike/ped element and that the Task Force has provided design team best efforts.
- Other comments included talk of the cable-stayed design element, which could be for structural purposes or only decorative.

3. ADJOURNMENT



Wes Crain
Chair



Michael Hollier
Executive/MPO Director