

MINUTES

MAY 12, 2021, 9 – 10:30 AM, SEED CENTER, 2ND FLOOR, ROOM B/C AND VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

TPC MEMBERS PRESENT (QUORUM)

Wes Crain (Calcasieu Parish)
 Mayor Mike Bob Hardey (City of Westlake)
 Mayor Mike Danahay (City of Sulphur)
 Mayor Nic Hunter (City of Lake Charles) (Proxy was Mike Huber)
 Don Duberville (LaDOTD District 7)
 Carlos McCloud (FHWA La Regional Representative) (Non-Voting Member)

LCMPO STAFF

Michael Hollier (Executive/MPO Director)
 Walter Council (Planner III)
 Jamie Gaines (Special Projects Manager)

GUESTS

George Swift (Chamber/SWLA)	Rodney Hennigan (Save Our Bridge)
Butch Babineaux (Fenstermaker)	Daryl Burckel (I-10 Bridge Task Force/McNeese)
Patick Hennigan	Keith DaRousseau (I-10 Bridge Task Force)
Johnette Laborde	Denise Raw (I-10 Bridge Task Force)
Angela Murrell (LaDOTD)	John Pohorelsky (I-10 Bridge Task Force)
Emily Stine (U.S. Senator John Kennedy's Office)	Andrea Robinson (KPLC)
Kelli Van Norman (City of Lake Charles)	Ben Magallon (Alliance Transportation Group)
Deborah Fanagan (IMCAL)	Natalie Narcisse
Michael Bernard (IMCAL)	David Perry
John Guidroz (American Press)	Cissy Guidry
Dawn Sholmire (LaDOTD)	Edwin DeRouen
Jolie Rhinehart (Phillips 66)	Elizabeth McLaughlin
Jim Rock (I-10 Bridge Task Force/LAIA)	Joe Umeozulu (LaDOTD)
Burt R Yakupzack (I-10 Bridge Task Force)	

1. OPENING

A. Roll Call

Mr. Wes Crain called the meeting to order. Mr. Michael Hollier stated there was a quorum.

2. PROPOSED I-10 BRIDGE OVER CALCASIEU RIVER ALTERNATIVE AND DESIGN DECISION

Discussion:

Mayor Nic Hunter: Requested features on bridge to enhance quality of life, while being mindful of costs.

Audience: Bid out, since alternates cause heartburn.

Mr. Crain: Conduct an assessment of adding an observation tower to design of bridge. Secondly, in the event that there is no functional cable-stayed bridge design, then high consideration should be given to a decorative cable-stayed design feature.

Mayor Bob Hardey: Send to bid as what LCMPO seeks for this project. Also, include elements of LCMPO Resolution 2021-03 in bid package.

Daryl Burkel: Go for what alternative we want and say this is price we are willing to pay.

Jim Rock: Have bidders understand whole package.

Keith DaRousseau: Rendering developed cable stayed element, which can be precasted/recasted by local skilled workers in Lake Charles region. Also, the center span is 240 feet more than rough estimates, so looking at options. Suggest bridge can be constructed for 1/3 the cost. Lastly, \$3 - \$10 million for shared use path options.

Joe Umeozulu: Discussed including language for alternate designs and costs that could be examined moving forward.

Patrick Hennigan: Inquired if current LaDOTD plan include demolition and requested consideration to keep/maintain current bridge as bike/ped bridge.

Mayor Hunter: Expressed respect for the Mr. Hennigan's idea of preserving the existing I-10 Calcasieu River Bridge as a bike/ped only. However, he felt that developing a cohesive plan for this may not agree with the new I-10 Calcasieu River Bridge scope. Additionally, he expressed that he would seek any options that did not involve a toll but conceded if all options were exercised and tolls were the most feasible method to finance the new bridge, would support the project.

Mr. Keith DaRousseau, on behalf of the I-10 Bridge Task Force, requested an amendment to LCMPO Resolution 2021-03.

- Removing section that states "requesting as alternate designs," but instead expressed that they would be included as options.
- Include as options, analysis of cost estimates and carve out elements from overall costs.
- Mayor Hardey motioned to include these amendments to LCMPO Resolution 2021-03, seconded by Mr. Hunter.
 - Mayor Hunter, Mayor Hardey, Mayor Danahay, and Mr. Crain voted in support of the amendment. Mr. Duberville abstained.

3. THE FY 2019 – 22 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Council requested adoption of Amendment 23 to the TIP FY 2019 – 22, for H.005967 Nelson Road Extension and Bridge, increasing costs from \$33.88M to \$54.725, and also adding 2 additional funding sources and moving construction phase of project from FY 20 to FY 21. Staff initiated Public Review on 4/22/21.

- Mayor Hunter motioned to reorganize the fiscally constrained roadway projects in the 2045 MTP, seconded by Mayor Hardey. The Motion was passed unanimously.

4. THE 2045 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Mr. Hollier requested reauthorization re-organize projects in the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Consultants use that list to conduct other plans. Mr. Hollier suggested review and modification. Basically, wants to make realistic list, which can be reviewed with TAC for any changes.

- Mayor Hardey motioned to reorganize the fiscally constrained roadway projects in the 2045 MTP, seconded by Mayor Danahay. The Motion was passed unanimously.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT


Mr. Hollier noted that he would be presenting to TAC/TPC results of analysis on congestion mitigation, designated safety corridors, bike/ped plan, and roundabouts.

6. ADJOURNMENT

A Motion was made by Mayor Hardey to adjourn the Joint Meeting of the Lake Charles MPO committees. The Motion was seconded by Mayor Hunter. The Chair called for a vote on the Motion which was passed unanimously.



Wes Crain
Chair



Michael Hollier
Executive/MPO Director