

MEETING MINUTES OF THE
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
AND
TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE (TPC)
CAPITAL REGION METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Tuesday, March 13, 2018
1:30PM – 3:00 PM

BREC Commission Chambers, Room 1800
6201 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA

Technical Advisory and Transportation Policy Committee Members present:

Hon. Ed Reeves, Jamie Ethridge, Hon. Riley Berthelot, Hon. Layton Ricks, Hon. Gerard Landry, Yasoob Zia, Jennifer Branton, Harold “Skip” Paul, Jackie Baumann, Pete Newkirk, Dan Broussard, Hon. David Toups, Mary Gourdon, Kevin Durbin, Mike Enlow, Rowdy Gaudet, M. Todd Donmyer, Hon. Richard Lee, III, Tacie Rabalais, William “Bill” Deville

The meeting was also attended by:

Phuoc Dang, Roy Payne, Pong Wu, Perry Franklin, Robert Badeaux, Carlos McCloud, Dawn Sholmire, Lael Holton, Codi Neyland, Stacy Schlieve, Gary Heitman, Ahmed Abdel-Khalek, Ruth Phillips, Marissa Lingoni, Yuwen Hou, Fred Raiford, Wilfred Barry, Ravi Ponnappureddy, Jamie Setze, Rachel DiResto, Seneca Toussant, Leah Selcer, Carondalette Stewart, Kendra Hendricks

1. INTRODUCTION

Hon. Riley L. “Pee Wee” Berthelot – TPC Chairman

The meeting was called to order by Hon. Riley L. “Pee Wee” Berthelot. The meeting began with introductions by attendees.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Hon. Riley L. “Pee Wee” Berthelot – TPC Chairman

Chairman Berthelot requested a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Mayor Landry noted that in Section 5 of the minutes, Dr. Kalivoda stated all that DOTD needed from the MPO was a commitment. The committee did not vote on the item and there was no commitment made. With that clarification, the motion to approve was made by Hon. Gerard Landry and seconded by Hon. Ed Reeves. The motion carried unanimously.

3. UPDATE FROM THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Capt. Harold “Skip” Paul – TAC Chairman

Chairman Paul updated the group that the TAC committee met 2 weeks ago. When the amendments came up, one or two of the TAC members had concerns about projects being removed from the TIP and only receiving notice the day before the meeting. The TAC decided not to vote on any TIP amendments. The TIP amendments will be brought forward today.

As far as non-action items, there was a presentation from a DOTD representative on the I-10 project. Jamie Setze requested that we submit questions prior to the meeting. We had a total of 13 questions and all 13 were answered at the meeting. They will appear in the minutes from the TAC and will be made available to you. Phase 1 Environmental has started on the project. A public meeting is scheduled for May or June. There is a website, i10br.com,

that has all the details of the project. There is also a Contact Us section on the website where you can submit questions about the projects.

The TAC committee had an ITS subcommittee. It became inactive a while back. CRPC would like to reinstate the committee and we need volunteers. Mayor Landry asked for more information on the subcommittee. Chairman Paul replied that the committee is for transportation systems management and operations committee and would look at congestion, studies, etc. Jamie Setze added that the committee would review transportation systems management (i.e. synchronized signals) or operations (using turn lanes in certain areas, managing shoulders). We are looking for technical people who work with traffic daily or engineers. Mayor Landry suggested that if there were no more than 3 or 4 people volunteering, CRPC should dissolve it.

4. ACTION ITEMS

1. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments

Jamie Setze, CRPC, presented the TIP Amendments. The two amendments that were controversial at the last meeting were taken out.

- (1) The Amite River bridge near French Settlement. Amendment requested-add environmental phase to FFY2018 at a cost of \$685K STPFLEX funds at 80/20 in FFY 2018 and move construction phase from FFY 2018 to FFY 2019. Total estimated cost is \$24M STPFLEX Funds.
- (2) Emergency pipe repair at US 61 @ Greenwell Springs in East Baton Rouge. This project is not currently in the TIP but due to the emergency nature, we gave an exception to add it. Amendment requested-add construction phase at a cost of \$1M NHPP at 80/20 in FFY 2018.
- (3) Rehabilitation for LA 22 (from 1-10 to LA 429) in Ascension Parish. The cost increased from \$2.1M to \$3.4 M. Reason for amendment-cross-over was added in the medial of the project for the new fire station; median islands were added at the railroad; guardrail was added to the two bridge locations; shoulder rehab
- (4) Dijon Drive Phases 1 and 2. Request is to administratively increase the current federal funds on this project by 20% and amend TIP to reflect the move of the federal dollars.

It was moved by Kevin Durbin and seconded by Mayor Ed Reeves to approve the TIP amendments. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Expansion

Jamie Setze explained that as part of the long-range plan, CRPC was moving to monthly TAC meetings and to become more inclusive. CRPC has added LSU, Greater Baton Rouge Industrial Alliance, BREC, Visit Baton Rouge, CPEX and CRISIS.

5. NON-ACTION ITEMS

1. CRPC Activity Update

Setze also discussed the non-action items. The regional traffic counting program data collection is complete and the data analysis is underway. The results will be presented at the April and May TAC and TPC meetings. The pavement maintenance analysis has been

completed for Ascension Parish pavement. We are currently working with East Baton Rouge. Data is available for Livingston, West Baton Rouge and City of Plaquemine. As Capt. Paul mentioned, we are restarting the TSMOC Committee. Ideally, we would like traffic/transportation engineers from MPO parishes, DOTD traffic engineers, DOTD ITS, LSU/LTRC representative, EBR Smart Cities representative and a FHWA ITS representative to serve on the committee.

DOTD announced 2018 Safe Routes to Public Places Program call for projects. You must own the road to apply. We forwarded the email to all CRPC member governments and public agencies. Other announcements include: Local Road Crash Data Workshop on April 19th from 9:00 am-1:00pm at TTEC and LPA Qualification program on June 12-14 is mandatory for project managers and responsible charges from all local governments that have or will have federally funded transportation projects. It is offered through Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP).

In the office, CRPC is

- (1) developing a Model Sharing Agreement where CRPC will charge a fee to consultants to use the models developed by us
- (2) The Ascension Parish Local Road Safety Plan draft document is being finalized and will be sent to the Parish for review and approval
- (3) Initiating work on the Local Road Safety Plan for Livingston Parish
- (4) Developing the annual work program for FY 2019
- (5) assisted West Baton Rouge Parish with air quality analysis for two CMAQ trail projects

2. Commuter Krewe Project Update

Lael Holton, AECOM, discussed Commuter Krewe. Commuter Krewe is actively trying to change people's commuting patterns. As Jamie mentioned, the official public roll-out was last Tuesday. Thank you to everyone that came out. The wrapped car for Commuter Krewe that you saw was provided by EBR. It was about 50-60 people in attendance. We are working on reaching out to other partner organizations to bring the message of alternative commuting. We are developing a quarterly learning session curriculum. This will help the state bring the message of TDM projects to other locations across the state. It is anticipated that other areas will look into carpooling, vanpooling and ridesharing options. We will be providing information to other MPOs and transit organizations across the state. We will use live webinars that can be recorded and shared to partner agencies and other interested parties.

Next week we are discussing the creation of a vanpool program. It is an 8-member working group. We expect to have 4 meetings. We will go over the basics and feasibility of a vanpool program. The goal is to present a vanpool report that looks at the actual feasibility of a regionwide vanpool program and recommendations on funding mechanisms.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Hon. Riley L. "Pee Wee" Berthelot – TPC Chairman

Chairman Berthelot asked if the committee needs to vote or pass a resolution to show our commitment to LADOTD. Jamie Setze answered no, not until the long-range plan has been updated.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Berthelot asked for a motion to adjourn. It was moved by Hon. Ed Reeves and seconded by Hon. Richard Lee, III to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.