

MINUTES

**Transportation Policy Committee
Of the
Regional Planning Commission
For**

Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard and St. Tammany Parishes

April 9th 2013

Committee Members: David Peralta, Chairman, Mitch Landrieu, 1st Vice Chairman (designee: Cedric Grant), Billy Nungesser, 2nd Vice Chairman, John Young, Treasurer (designee: Kazem Alikhani), Chris Roberts (designee: Brett Lawson), Lee Giorgio, Jack Stumpf, Jacquelyn Clarkson (designee: Natalie Mitchell), Stacy Head, Jeffrey Schwartz, Ronald Carrere, Keith Hinkley, Byron Marinovich, Mike Ford, Darren Barrois, Ray Lauga, Casey Hunnicutt, Charles Ponstein, David Munn, Steve Stefancik, Reid Falconer, Richard Kelley, Maureen Clary, Sherri LeBas (designee: Mike Stack), Jeff Davis (designee: Rachel Zimmerle), Larry Rase (Carlton Dufrechou), V. J. St. Pierre (designee: Buddy Boe), Iftikhar Ahmad (designee: Kemper Joy Schwenke), Natalie Robottom (designee: Randy Vincent), Donald Villere, Ryan Brown, Barbara Major (designee: Justin Augustine) and Mike Cooper

Attendance: 33

Consultants: Ernest Burguieres, III, Legal Counsel

Staff: Walter Brooks, Jeffrey Roesel, Nicholas Silvey, Megan Leonard, et al



AGENDA

1. Consideration: Approval of March 13th & 26th, 2013 Minutes
2. Consideration: Amendment to the New Orleans Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements
3. Consideration: Amendment to the St. Tammany Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements
4. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Stage 0 Feasibility Study – Judge Edward Dufrene Parkway Extension and Safety Study – Hahnville, LA
(RPC Task No. A-5.13)
Amount - \$55,000
5. Consideration: LA 23 Widening (Happy Jack – N. Port Sulpher) EA Supplemental No. 1
(RPC/N-Y Associates Contract No. H.001399)
Amount - \$10,846

- 6. Consideration: Authorization to Submit Unified Planning Work Program For FY-14
- 7. Resolution: Contractual Authorization for Federal Transit Administration FY-14 Planning Grant New Orleans Transportation Planning Area
- 8. Resolution: Contractual Authorization for Federal Transit Administration FY-14 Planning Grant St. Tammany Transportation Planning Area
- 9. Resolution: Contractual Authorization for Federal Transit Administration FY-14 Planning Grant South Tangipahoa Transportation Planning Area
- 10. Resolution: Contractual Authorization for Federal Highway Administration FY-14 Planning Grant New Orleans Transportation Planning Area
- 11. Resolution: Contractual Authorization for Federal Highway Administration FY-14 Planning Grant St. Tammany Transportation Planning Area
- 12. Resolution: Contractual Authorization for Federal Highway Administration FY-14 Planning Grant South Tangipahoa Transportation Planning Area
- 13. Presentation: Mr. Ken Human
Associate Director, Stennis Space Center
- 14. Consideration: Public Comment Period
- 15. Consideration: Other Matters



Mr. Peralta led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following the roll call, a quorum was established and the Chairman called the Transportation Policy Committee meeting to order.

1. Consideration: Approval of March 13 & 26, 2013 Minutes

Mr. Stefancik made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Ponstein and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

2. Consideration: Amendment to the New Orleans Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements

Mr. Brooks referred the members to page 4 of the meeting packet for the amendments to the New Orleans TIP, Highway & Transit Elements, and provided a brief explanation of each item.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the New Orleans TIP amendments for the Highway & Transit Elements. It was so moved by Mr. Grant, seconded by Mr. Ponstein and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

3. Consideration: Amendment to the St. Tammany Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements

Mr. Brooks referred the members to pages 5-6 of the meeting packet for the amendments to the New Orleans TIP, Highway & Transit Elements, and provided a brief explanation of each item.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the New Orleans TIP amendments for the Highway Element. It was so moved by Mayor Cooper, seconded by Mr. Stefancik and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

- 4. Consideration: Consultant Selection:**
Stage 0 Feasibility Study – Judge Edward Dufrene Parkway
Extension and Safety Study – Hahnville, LA
(RPC Task No. A-5.13)
Amount - \$55,000

Mr. Brooks explained the purpose of this task is to assess railroad crossing safety on the existing Judge Edward Dufrene Parkway and to evaluate the feasibility of either extending the roadway consistent with St. Charles Parish’s Master Planning efforts, or providing alternative access out of the corridor in the event of emergency.

Mr. Brooks referred the members to page 7 which listed respondents to the Request for Qualifications. Following RPC staff review and ranking, C. H. Fenstermaker & Associates, LLC was recommended to undertake this project.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the consultant selection and to authorize the Chairman and/or Executive Director to execute any documents in connection with this project. It was so moved by Mr. Munn, seconded by Mr. Nungesser, and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

- 5. Consideration: LA 23 Widening (Happy Jack – N. Port Sulpher) EA**
Supplemental No. 1
(RPC/N-Y Associates Contract No. H.001399)
Amount - \$10,846

Mr. Brooks explained the purpose of this task for the purpose of assisting the RPC in performing a Stage 1 Environmental Assessment of LA 23 from Happy Jack to Port Sulpher.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the Supplement and to authorize the Chairman and/or Executive Director to execute any documents in connection with this project. It was so moved by Mr. Nungesser, seconded by Mr. Ford, and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

- 6. Consideration: Authorization to Submit Unified Planning Work Program**
For FY-14
- 7. Resolution: Contractual Authorization for Federal Transit**
Administration FY-14 Planning Grant
New Orleans Transportation Planning Area
- 8. Resolution: Contractual Authorization for Federal Transit**
Administration FY-14 Planning Grant
St. Tammany Transportation Planning Area
- 9. Resolution: Contractual Authorization for Federal Transit**
Administration FY-14 Planning Grant
South Tangipahoa Transportation Planning Area
- 10. Resolution: Contractual Authorization for Federal Highway**
Administration FY-14 Planning Grant
New Orleans Transportation Planning Area
- 11. Resolution: Contractual Authorization for Federal Highway**
Administration FY-14 Planning Grant

**12. Resolution: St. Tammany Transportation Planning Area
Contractual Authorization for Federal Highway
Administration FY-14 Planning Grant
South Tangipahoa Transportation Planning Area**

Mr. Brooks requested authorization to submit the Unified Planning Work Program for FY-14. Mr. Ponstein requested that we take items 6-12 in globo.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve items 6-12 and to authorize the Chairman and/or Executive Director to execute any documents in connection with this UPWP. It was so moved by Mr. Stefancik, seconded by Mr. Nungesser, and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman

**13. Presentation: Mr. Ken Human
Associate Director, Stennis Space Center**

Mr. Brooks asked Chris Laborde of the RPC staff to introduce Mr. Ken Human, Associated Director of the Stennis Space Center. Mr. Human began by explaining that for more than four decades, John C. Stennis Space Center in south Mississippi has served as NASA's primary rocket propulsion testing ground. Today, the center provides propulsion test services for NASA and the Department of Defense, as well as the private sector. It is home to NASA's Rocket Propulsion Test Program, which manages all of the agency's propulsion test facilities. State-of-the-art facilities, a seven-and-one-half mile canal waterway system and the 125,000-acre acoustical buffer zone that surrounds Stennis enable delivery and testing of large-scale rocket engines and components. With NASA's Space Shuttle Program ended, Stennis now is preparing to test RS-25D/E and J-2X engines that will be used on NASA's new heavy-lift Space Launch System. NASA also has announced the agency will partner with commercial interests in providing space travel and transportation, and Stennis already is working with commercial companies to supply their rocket propulsion testing needs. For example, the center has partnered with Orbital Sciences Corporation to provide testing of the AJ26 Aerojet rocket engines that will be used to power the Taurus II on commercial cargo transport flights to the International Space Station. With its effective cost-sharing philosophy, state-of-the-art test facilities, highly-trained and professional workforce, and commitment to safety and customer satisfaction, Stennis is a model of government efficiency, providing American taxpayers positive returns on their investments. NASA has a workforce of more than 2,000 civil servants and contractors, part of the center's total workforce of 5,000-plus. The center has a strong influence on the economy of surrounding communities.

Mr. Brooks thanked Mr. Human for his presentation.

9. Consideration: Public Comment Period

The Chairman asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

10. Consideration: Other Matters

Parish President Nungesser talked to the board about new flood elevations and how he has reached out to the East coast officials that have been dealing with the aftermath of Sandy for a new coastal plan.

There being no other matters to discuss, the Chairman adjourned the meeting and proceeded to the Regional Planning Commission Meeting.

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Attendance: 24

Administrative Consultants: Ernest Burguieres, Legal Counsel

Staff: Walter Brooks, Jeffrey Roesel, Nicholas Silvey, Megan Leonard, et al



AGENDA

1. Consideration: Approval of April 9, 2013 Minutes
2. Committee Reports: (a) Budget and Personnel Committee
(b) Other Committee Reports
3. Consideration: Financial Report
(a) Balance Sheet
(b) Monthly Budget Report
4. Consideration: Amendment to the New Orleans Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements
5. Consideration: Amendment to the St. Tammany Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements
6. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Stage 0 Feasibility Study – Judge Edward Dufrene Parkway Extension and Safety Study – Hahnville, LA
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St. Tammany Transportation Planning Area
- 14. Resolution: Contractual Authorization for Federal Highway
Administration FY-14 Planning Grant
South Tangipahoa Transportation Planning Area
- 15. Consideration: Contract Extensions
- 16. Consideration: Consultant Billings
- 17. Consideration: Public Comment Period
- 18. Consideration: Other Matters



The Chairman called the meeting to order and noted the existence of a quorum.

1. Consideration: Approval of March 13 & 26, 2013 Minutes

The minutes from the meeting of March 13 & 26, 2013 were approved upon a motion by Mr. Lauga, seconded by Mr. Giorgio and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

**2. Committee Reports: (a) Budget & Personnel
(b) Other Committee Reports**

Mr. Silvey explained that the committee reports would come under regular agenda items.

**3. Consideration: Financial Report
(a) Balance Sheet of Local Activities
(b) Monthly Budget Report**

Mr. Silvey referred the members to page 15 of the meeting packet for the balance sheet for the month ending February 28, 2013. He indicated that the RPC's total Assets and Liabilities, which include the Fund Balance) in the amount of \$1,758,173.27

Mr. Silvey then referred the members to page 16 of the meeting packet for the local activities budget revisions and the monthly budget report

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the local activities budget revisions & Monthly budget report. It was so moved by Mr. Munn, seconded by Mr. Nungesser and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

- 4. Consideration: Amendment to the New Orleans Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements**
- 5. Consideration: Amendment to the St. Tammany Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements**
- 6. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Stage 0 Feasibility Study – Judge Edward Dufrene Parkway Extension and Safety Study – Hahnville, LA (RPC Task No. A-5.13)
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Mr. Brooks requested concurrence of items 4-14 which were recommended for approval by the members of the Transportation Policy Committee.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve items 6-12 in globo. It was so moved by Mr. Stefancik, seconded by Mr. Kelley and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

- 15. Consideration: Contract Extensions**

Mr. Silvey referred the board to page 24 and explained that the extensions were a time extension only.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the extensions. It was so moved by Mr. Nungesser seconded by Mr. Stefancik and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

16. Consideration: Consultant Billings

Mr. Silvey referred the members to a summary list of the consultant bills on page 25 in the meeting packet, noting that staff had reviewed each of them and favorably recommended them for approval.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the consultant billings. It was so moved by Mr. Kelley, seconded by Mr. Nungesser and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

17. Consideration: Public Comment Period

The Chairman asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

18. Consideration: Other Matters

There being no other matters to discuss, the Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. It was so moved by Mr. Nungesser, seconded by Mr. Ms. Head and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.