

Capital Area Road and Bridge District Meeting Minutes

Time/Date: 2:00 p.m., September 26, 2022

Location: Senate Committee Room F, State Capitol

Members Present: Chairman, Mr. J. H. Campbell, Jr., Governor's Appointee
Mr. Fred Raiford (representing Mayor-President Sharon Broome), East
Baton Rouge Parish
Parish President Riley Berthelot, West Baton Rouge Parish
Dr. Shawn Wilson, Secretary, DOTD
Mr. Hank Grace (representing President Mitch Ourso), Iberville Parish
Mr. John Diez (representing President Clint Cointment), Ascension Parish

Member Absent: Parish President Layton Ricks, Livingston Parish

❖ Chairman Campbell called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Minutes:

Minutes from the May 27, 2022 Meeting were approved, on motion made by Secretary Wilson and seconded by Mr. Raiford.

Next on the Agenda, was the update on the progress being made by DOTD and Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC., since the last meeting on the Bridge project, and its identified tasks and timelines:

Mr. Vijay Kunada (PE, PTOE, PTP) with Neel-Schaffer was a special guest and presenter with Ms. Kara Moree – Project Manager for Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC

- A. Introduction of Representative(s) of Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC.
- B. Comments from Representative(s) of Atlas Technical Consultants, LLC.
- C. Other Bridge Project updates from attending representatives of DOTD.
- D. Comparison of Timelines and Tasks to actual performance by Atlas.
- E. Report on amount of funds expended/disbursed by DOTD to Atlas.

Reports available at www.mrbsouth.com

Kara Moree (Atlas) provided a PowerPoint presentation update on the project. Ms. Moree reviewed the project team, project objectives and project workflow. The focus on the presentation was on the recently released traffic study performed by Mr. Kunada's firm.

President Berthelot asked whether traffic data factored in school days, and he was told it was based on an annual average of vehicular movement.

Chairman Campbell asked about the margin of error and Mr. Kunada indicated it was 7%.

Mr. Raiford commented on the 80% local traffic number and the drive by MOVE BR to get more vehicles off of the interstate through Baton Rouge.

Mr. Grace asked about a timeline for Phase 2 and Ms. Moree indicated there are some unknowns with the federal process, but also indicated that the preferred alternative may be known before the end of 24 months. Mr. Grace thanked the project team for their work.

Sec. Wilson indicated development was driving usage on I-10; He indicated that DOTD would work as hard as they could to push the project; He commended the project team on their work thus far; He highlighted how appropriate progress had led Atlas to move to Phase II; and that traffic numbers validated DOTD's assumptions about how traffic was/is moving in and through Baton Rouge.

President Berthelot asked about traffic numbers at peak travel. The response was that morning peak is about 10 percent, with afternoon peak about 12 percent. Peak traffic congestion will likely shrink.

Mr. Campbell asked about the 1 million hours saved. Mr. Kunata said that was a net benefit.

Ms. Moree indicated that the presentation will be posted on the website by the next morning.

President Berthelot asked about the timing of an investment grade toll study. Sec. Wilson responded that traffic and revenue would be first steps and once a final location is chosen, the process could advance to the next step. Ms. Moree said that an intermediate toll study will be done during phase 2.

Mr. Campbell inquired about the diversion of traffic to I-110 northbound and how much of the number goes out of the area. Kunata responded with Sec. Wilson that all such traffic is located within the study area or in the MPO.

Mr. Campbell reminded all about the recent legislative funding from the Louisiana Legislature and the Administration of \$300 million plus a portion of the Vehicle Sales Taxes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Chairman Campbell called for public comments.

As a member of the public and a special presenter, Mr. Scott Kirkpatrick commented on CRISIS' support for the bridge and the widening of Interstate 10 in the BR Region. (Capital Region Industry for Sustainable Infrastructure Solutions)

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Campbell called for a motion to adjourn. Motion to adjourn was offered by Mr. Berthelot.

Without objection, the meeting was deemed adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Secretary of CARB-D

Riley Berthelot, President of West Baton Rouge Parish

Attest:

J.H. Campbell, Jr., Chairman of CARB-D