

MINUTES

Transportation Policy Committee Of the Regional Planning Commission For Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany and Tangipahoa Parishes

August 13, 2019

Committee Members:

Officers:

Parish President Guy McInnis, *Chairman*

Mayor LaToya Cantrell, *1st Vice Chairwoman* **Designee:** Ramsey Green

Parish President Kirk Lepine *2nd Vice Chairman*

Parish President Patricia Brister *3rd Vice Chairwoman*

Parish President Natalie Robottom, *5th Vice Chairwoman*

Parish President Michael Yenni, *Secretary* **Designee:** Walter Brooks

Parish President Robby Miller, *Treasurer*

Jefferson Parish:

Councilwoman At-Large Cynthia Lee Sheng **Designee:** Greg Giangrosso

Mayor E. "Ben" Zahn III **Designee:** Michael "Mike" Ince

Jack Stumpf

Orleans Parish:

Councilmember At-Large Helena Moreno **Designee:** Andrew Tuozzolo

Plaquemines Parish:

Councilmember Benny Rousselle

Robert Hopkins

Keith Espadron

St. Bernard Parish:

Councilmember Wanda Alcon

Joseph Montalbano

Susan Klees

St. Charles Parish:

Councilmember Julia Fisher-Perrier

Councilmember at Large Wendy Benedetto

Debbie Dufresne Vial

St. John the Baptist Parish:

Councilmember Michael Wright

Jonathan Perret

St. Tammany Parish:

Councilmember Steve Stefancik

Councilmember Mike Lorino

Chris Masingill

Bill Newton

Tangipahoa Parish:

Mayor Bob Zabbia

Dr. Bonnie Lewis

DOTD:

Secretary Shawn Wilson **Designee:** Chris Morvant

TPC Members:

Mayor Greg Cromer (Slidell)

Kevin Dolliole (Aviation Director) **Designee:** Ronaldo R. Nodal

Brandy Christian (Port) **Designee:** Charlie Ponstein

Mayor Donald Villere (Mandeville)

Alex Z. Wiggins (RTA)

GNOEC **Designee:** Carlton Dufrechou

Sharon Leader (JeT)

Mayor Pete Panepinto

Mayor Mark R. Johnson (Covington)

Attendance: 38

Consultants:

Staff: Jeffrey Roesel, Jason Sappington, Megan Leonard, Colethia Kent, et al

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AGENDA

1. Consideration: Approval of the July 9, 2019 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: Amendment to the Tangipahoa Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements
5. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Travel Demand Model Support Services
Task A-1.20TDM; FY-20 UPWP
Amount; \$25,000
6. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Stage 0 Feasibility Study
Northshore Boulevard: US 190 to I-12 S. Service Road
Traffic Study
RPC Task SL – 1.20NBS: FY-20 UPWP
7. Presentation: Draft Revision to Transportation Policy Committee/ Regional Planning Commission Bylaws
8. Consideration: Public Comment Period
9. Consideration: Other Matters



Parish President Guy McInnis, led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following the roll call by Mr. Jason Sappington, a quorum was established.

1. Consideration: Approval of July 9, 2019 Minutes

Mr. Walter Brooks made a motion to approve the July 9, 2019 minutes, seconded by Mayor Pete Panepinto and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members as noted by the Chairman.

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

Mr. Roesel referred the members to pages 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 & Transit Elements. It was so moved by Parish President Natalie Robottom seconded by Ms. Susan Klees and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance, as noted by the Chairman.

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

Mr. Roesel referred the members to pages 7 of the meeting packet for the amendments to the St. Tammany 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 Parish President Patricia Brister seconded by Councilmember Steve Stefancik and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance, as noted by the Chairman.

4. Consideration: Amendment to the Tangipahoa Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements

Mr. Roesel referred the members to pages 8 of the meeting packet for the amendments to the Tangipahoa 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 Tangipahoa TIP amendments for the Highway & Transit Elements. It was so moved by Parish President Robby Miller seconded by Mayor Bob Zabbia and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance, as noted by the Chairman.

**5. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Travel Demand Model Support Services
Task A-1.20T.20TDM; FY- 20UPWP
Amount \$25,000**

Mr. Roesel explained the purpose of this project is to provide technical services to the RPC as needed in the maintenance, update, and use of the transportation demand model and associated analytical software used for long-range strategic planning, and other transportation and land use related tasks.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman call for a motion to the Consultant Selection: Travel Demand Model Support Services (Task A-1.20T.20TDM; FY- 20UPWP) in the amount \$25,000 with WSP USA, Inc. It was so moved by Parish President Kirk Lepine, seconded by Ms. Sharon Leader and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance and the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

**6. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Stage 0 Feasibility Study
Northshore Boulevard; US 190 to I-12 S. Service Road
Traffic Study
RPC Task SL – 1.20NSB; FY-20 UPWP
Amount \$40,000**

Mr. Roesel explained the purpose of this project is to perform a Stage 0 Feasibility Study to address existing traffic congestion, transportation mobility, and safety issues along Northshore Blvd.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman call for a motion to the Consultant Selection: Stage 0 Feasibility Study Northshore Boulevard; US 190 to I-12 S. Service Road Traffic (RPC Task SL–1.20NSB; FY-20 UPWP) in the amount \$40,000 with Burk-Klienpeter, Inc. It was so moved by Mayor Donald Villere, seconded by Mayor Mark Johnson and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance and the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

**7. Presentation: Draft Revision to Transportation Policy Committee/Regional Planning
Commission Bylaws**

Mr. Roesel referred the members to a draft revision of the Transportation Policy Committee/Regional Planning Commission Bylaws and stated that the RPC underwent a Certification Review in November of 2018, and that a Certification Review is required by U.S. Code to be held every four years jointly by FHWA and FTA.

Mr. Roesel stated that there is no motion needed and that RPC will come back to the Board in September 2019 for final approval.

8. Consideration: Public Comment Period

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

9. Consideration: Other Matters

Mr. Roesel introduced Mr. Alex Wiggins, CEO, Regional Transit Authority (RTA) to the Board. The Board welcomed Mr. Wiggins.

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

**MINUTES
Regional Planning Commission
For
Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany and Tangipahoa
Parishes
August 13, 2019**

Committee Members:

Officers:

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Councilmember Steve Stefancik
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Chris Masingill
Bill Newton

Tangipahoa Parish:

Mayor Bob Zabbia
Dr. Bonnie Lewis

DOTD:

Secretary Shawn Wilson **Designee:** Chris Morvant

Attendance: 29

Consultants:

Staff: Jeffrey Roesel, Jason Sappington, Megan Leonard, Colethia Kent, et al


AGENDA

1. Consideration: Approval of the July 9, 2019 minutes
2. Consideration: Committee Reports:
 - (a) Budget and Personnel Committee
 - (b) Other Committee Reports
3. Consideration: Financial Report
 - (a) Balance Sheet of Local Activities
 - (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: Amendment to the Tangipahoa Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements

7. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Travel Demand Model Support Services
Task A-1.20TDM; FY-20 UPWP
Amount: \$25,000
8. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Stage 0 Feasibility Study
Northshore Boulevard: US 190 TO I-12 S. Service Road
Traffic Study
RPC Task SL – 1.20NSB; FY-20 UPWP
\$40,000
9. Presentation: Draft Revision to Transportation Policy Committee / Regional Planning Commission Bylaws
10. Consideration: Authorization to Dispose of Broken for Obsolete Office Equipment
11. Adoption: Updated: Title VI Policy/Public Outreach Policy and Program
12. Presentation: Impacts of Bonnet Carre Spillway Openings
By: Robert A. Thomas, Ph.D., Professor & Director
Loyola Distinguished Scholar Chair in Environmental Communication
Center for Environmental Communication
School of Communication & Design
& The Environmental Program Faculty
Loyola University
13. Consideration: Travel Request
14. Consideration: Contract Extensions
15. Consideration: Consultant Billings
16. Consideration: Public Comment Period
17. Consideration: Other Matters

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

1. Consideration: Approval of July 9, 2019 Minutes

The minutes from the meeting on July 9, 2019 were approved upon a motion by Mr. Ramsey Green seconded by Mr. Robert Hopkins and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

2. Consideration: Committee Reports:
(a) Budget and Personnel Committee
(b) Other Committee Reports

Mr. Roesel informed the members there were no committee reports at this time and no motion is needed.

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

Mr. Roesel referred the members to page 10 of the meeting packet for the balance sheet for the month ending June 30, 2019 and the Monthly Budget Report. He indicated that the RPC's Total Assets are \$2,549,252.40 and Total Liabilities and Fund Balance are \$2,549,252.40.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the balance sheet of local activities. It was so moved by Councilmember Wanda Alcon, seconded by Parish President Patricia Brister and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

Mr. Roesel also explained there were no budget amendments at this time.

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:** **Amendment to the Tangipahoa Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements**
7. **Consideration:** **Consultant Selection:**
Travel Demand Model Support Services
Task A-1.20 TDM; FY-20 UPWP
Amount: \$25,000
8. **Consideration:** **Consultant Selection:**
Stage 0 Feasibility Study
Northshore Boulevard: US 190 to I-12 S. Service Road
Traffic Study
RPC Task SL – 1.20NSB; FY-20 UPWP
\$40,000
9. **Presentation:** **Draft Revision to Transportation Policy Committee/Regional Planning Commission Bylaws**

Mr. Roesel requested concurrence of items 4-9 which were already 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 4-9 in globo as these items have been already approved by the Transportation Policy Commission. It was so moved by Mr. Bill Newton and seconded by Councilmember at Large Wendy Benedetto and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

10. **Consideration:** **Authorization of Dispose of Broken or Obsolete Office Equipment**

Mr. Roesel referred the members to page 11 of the packet and explained the need to dispose of the broken or obsolete equipment listed.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the Disposal of the broken and obsolete office equipment. It was so moved by Mr. Walter Brooks and seconded by Parish President Robby Miller, and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

11. **Adoption:** **Updated: Title VI Policy/Public Outreach Policy and Program**

Mr. Roesel referred the members to a handout of the resolution and a copy of the plan that was presented last month to the Board as a draft and a request to approve Title VI Policy/Public Outreach Policy and Program to be sent to our federal partners to comply with.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the Resolution Title VI Policy/Public Outreach Policy and Program. It was so moved by Councilmember Benny Rousselle, seconded by Councilmember Wanda Alcon and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance and the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

12. **Presentation:** **Impacts of Bonnet Carre Spillway Openings**
By: Robert A. Thomas, Ph.D., Professor & Director
Loyola Distinguished Scholar Chair in Environmental Communication
Center for Environmental Communication
School of Communication & Design
& The Environmental Program Faculty
Loyola University

Mr. Roesel introduced Dr. Robert A. Thomas to the Board. Dr. Thomas discussed the Bonnet Carre Spillway opening and the environmental impact associated with it.

There were several comments made by members of the Board which included Chairman Guy McInnis who talked about the Bonnet Carre Spillway and St. Bernard parish where there is a need for more awareness. Parish President Patricia Brister wanted to thank Parish President Guy McInnis for all his work and stated that this is very serious and it affects all of us. Mr. Carlton Dufrechou stated that the water isn't as good as it should be and that Pontchartrain will recover and it's about us staying in this area. Parish President Natalie Robottom wanted to know if there is a surge in the river what would happen to St. John The Baptist parish, she stated that they are in contact with the Army Corp. of Engineering but never got a response back from them. Mr. Ramsey Green mentioned that Mayor LaToya Cantrell is very focus on these issues and that she is a committed partner to the region and she's on board with assisting as a city. Also, Councilmember Benny Rousselle wanted to see a model run on the dredging of the river and to see what it will do and stated that dredging should be part of the study.

Parish President Guy McInnis thanked Dr. Thomas for his presentation. For more information on this presentation please contact Megan Leonard at 504-483-8525 or mleonard@norpc.org

13. **Consideration:** **Travel Request**

Mr. Roesel referred members to page 12 of the packet and pointed out 2 travel request: one staff member (Adam Tatar) requesting to attend the EPA Region 6 Quality Assurance Training, August 27-29, 2019, Bernalillo, NM. One staff member (Tom Haysley) requesting to attend the National Operations Academy, November 4-15, 2019, Baltimore, MD.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the travel request. It was so moved by Mayor Bob Zabbia, seconded by Mr. Robert Hopkins, and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

14. Consideration: Contract Extensions

Mr. Roesel informed the board there are no extensions at this time.

15. Consideration: Consultant Billings

Mr. Roesel referred the members to a summary list of the consultant bills on pages 13 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 Councilmember Steve Stefancik and seconded by Mr. Ramsey Green and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

16. Consideration: Public Comment Period

Mr. Bob Tannen who represents Rand Corporation briefly talked about the CPRA & others on the long range issues and to develop a strategy on how to go forward and meet with these long range issues to resolve them in the short term.

17. Consideration: Other Matters

The Chairman asked if there was any other matters. There was none.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Parish President Natalie Robottom seconded by Parish President Kirk Lepine, and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.