

MINUTES

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

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

December 10th 2013

Committee Members: Chairman David Peralta, 1st Vice Chairman Mitch Landrieu (designee Cedric Grant), Secretary Patricia Brister, Treasurer John Young, Lee Giorgio, Jack Stumpf, Jacquelyn Clarkson (designee Joe Rochelle), 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, Mayson Foster, Lionel Wells, Dr. Bonnie Lewis, Sherri LeBas (designee: Mike Stack), Freddy Drennan, Jeff Davis (designee Tom Lobello), Larry Rase (designee: Carlton Dufrechou), V.J. St. Pierre (designee Buddy Boe), Pat Gallway, Natalie Robottom, Sal Longoria, Ryan Brown, Mike Cooper and Bob Zabbia

Attendance: 35

Consultants: Ernest Burguieres, III, Legal Counsel

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



AGENDA

1. Consideration: Approval of the November 12, 2013 minutes
2. Consideration: Approval of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan
South Tangipahoa Urbanized Areas
Fiscal Years 2014-2043
3. Consideration: Approval of the Transportation Improvement Program
South Tangipahoa Urbanized Areas
Fiscal Years 2014-2017
4. Consideration: Amendment to the FY-2014 Unified Planning Work Program
5. Consideration: Amendment to the New Orleans Transportation
Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements
6. Consideration: Amendment to the St. Tammany Transportation
Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements
7. Consideration: Approval of Resolutions to enter into agreements with Jefferson Parish Transit,
St. Bernard Transit, and River Parishes Transit for expenditure of FTA
Section 5339 funding for Fiscal Year 2013
8. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Stage 1 Environmental Assessment / Line and Grade Study
LA 434 Corridor
St. Tammany Parish
RPC Project LA434EA

9. Consideration: Amount \$325,000
 Consultant Selection:
 Stage O Feasibility
 LA 21 (Tyler St.) at US 190B (21st Ave.) Intersection Study
 RPC Task MC-8.14; FY-14 UPWP
 Amount \$62,000
10. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
 Pedestrian and Bicycle Education Videos
 N.O. Regional Bike/Pedestrian Safety &
 Community Outreach Education Program, Phase IV (2013-14)
 PC Project No. NBP4-Video
 Amount \$20,000
11. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
 Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Handout
 N.O. Regional Bike/Pedestrian Safety &
 Community Outreach Education Program, Phase IV (2013-14)
 RPC Project No. NBP4-Outreach
 Amount: \$15,000
12. Consideration: Public Comment Period
13. 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 November 12, 2013 Minutes

President Young made a motion to approve the November 12, 2013 minutes, seconded by President Brister and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

**2. Consideration: Approval of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan
 South Tangipahoa Urbanized Areas
 Fiscal Years 2014-2043**

Mr. Brooks referred the members to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan for South Tangipahoa Urbanized Areas Fiscal Years 2014-2043 and provided a brief explanation.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the Metropolitan Transportation Plan for South Tangipahoa Urbanized Areas Fiscal Years 2014-2043. It was so moved by Mayor foster, seconded by Mayor Zabbia and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance and the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

**3. Consideration: Approval of the Transportation Improvement Program
 South Tangipahoa Urbanized Areas
 Fiscal Years 2014-2017**

Mr. Brooks referred the members to the Transportation Improvement Program for South Tangipahoa Urbanized Areas Fiscal Years 2014-2017 and provided a brief explanation.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the Transportation Improvement Program for South Tangipahoa Urbanized Areas Fiscal Years 2014-2017. It was so moved by Mayor foster, seconded by Mayor Zabbia and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance and the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

4. Consideration: Amendment to the FY-2014 Unified Planning Work Program

Mr. Brooks explained the amendment to the FY-2014 Unified Work Program. There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the Amendment to the FY-2014 Unified Planning Work Program. It was so moved by President Young, seconded by Councilman Hunnicutt and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance and the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

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

Mr. Brooks referred the members to page 5 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 Deputy Mayor Grant, seconded by President Young 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: Amendment to the St. Tammany Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements

Mr. Brooks referred the members to pages 6 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 St. Tammany TIP amendments for the Highway Element. It was so moved by President Brister, seconded by Councilmember Falconer and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance and the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

7. Consideration: Approval of Resolutions to enter into agreements with Jefferson Parish Transit, St. Bernard Transit, and Rive Parish Transits for expenditure of FTA Section 5339 funding for fiscal year 2013

Mr. Brooks referred the members to pages 7-9 of the packet for the resolutions to enter into agreements with Jefferson Parish Transit, St. Bernard Transit, and River Parish Transits for expenditure of FTA Section 5339 funding for fiscal year 2013.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the resolutions to enter into agreements with Jefferson Parish Transit, St. Bernard Transit, and Rive Parish Transits for expenditure of FTA Section 5339 funding for fiscal year 2013. It was so moved by Councilmember Lauga and seconded by Mr. Munn and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance and the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

8. Consultant Selection: Stage 1 Environmental Assessment / Line and Grade Study LA 434 Corridor St. Tammany Parish RPC Project LA434EA Amount \$325,000

Mr. Brooks explained the purpose of this The purpose of this study is the preparation of a Stage 1 EA and other related documents to further the findings of a Stage 0 Feasibility Study for the LA 434 Corridor, completed in May 2010.

Mr. Brooks referred the members to page 10 which listed respondents to the Request for Qualifications. He reported that, following RPC staff review and ranking, ARCADIS U.S., Inc. 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 President Brister, seconded by Councilmember Stefancik and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance and the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

- 9. Consideration:** **Consultant Selection:**
Stage O Feasibility - LA 21 (Tyler St.) at US 190B (21st Ave.)
Intersection Study - RPC Task MC-8.14; FY-14 UPWP
Amount \$62,000

Mr. Brooks explained the purpose of this study will be to evaluate and make recommendations for improving operational capacity and safety at a highly congested intersection in downtown Covington.

Mr. Brooks referred the members to page 11 which listed respondents to the Request for Qualifications. He reported that, following RPC staff review and ranking, Buchart Horn, Inc. 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 Mayor Cooper, seconded by President Brister and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance and the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

- 10. Consideration:** **Consultant Selection:**
Pedestrian and Bicycle Education Videos
N.O. Regional Bike/Pedestrian Safety &
Community Outreach Education Program, Phase IV (2013-14)
RPC Project No. NBP4-Video

- 11. Consideration:** **Amount \$20,000**
Consultant Selection:
Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Handout
N.O. Regional Bike/Pedestrian Safety &
Community Outreach Education Program, Phase IV (2013-14)
RPC Project No. NBP4-Outreach
Amount: \$15,000

Items 10 & 11 are deferred to a later date.

- 12. Consideration:** **Public Comment Period**

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

- 13. Consideration:** **Other Matters**

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. Tammany and Tangipahoa Parishes**

December 10, 2013

Committee Members: Chairman David Peralta, 1st Vice Chairman Mitch Landrieu (designee Cedric Grant), Secretary Patricia Brister, Treasurer John Young, Lee Giorgio, Jack Stumpf, Jacquelyn Clarkson (designee Joe Rochelle), 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, Mayson Foster, Lionel Wells, Dr. Bonnie Lewis, Sherri LeBas (designee: Mike Stack)

Attendance: 25

Consultants: Ernest Burguieres, Legal Counsel

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



AGENDA

1. Consideration: Approval of the November 12, 2013 minutes
2. 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: Election of Officers for 2014
5. Consideration: Agreement with Adams and Reese, LLC, to represent the Regional Planning Commission in Washington, DC for calendar year 2014
6. Consideration: Approval of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan South Tangipahoa Urbanized Areas Fiscal Years 2014-2043
7. Consideration: Approval of the Transportation Improvement Program South Tangipahoa Urbanized Areas Fiscal Years 2014-2017
8. Consideration: Amendment to the FY-2014 Unified Planning Work Program
9. Consideration: Amendment to the New Orleans Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements
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12. Consideration: Consultant Selection:

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 RPC Project No. NBP4-Outreach
 Amount: \$15,000
16. Presentation: Leake Avenue Improvements
 By: John Holtgreve, Jr., P.E., Design Engineering, Inc.
 and Keith Scarmuzza, ASLA, Mathes Briere Architects
17. Consideration: Authorization to dispose of broken or obsolete office equipment per attached listing
18. Consideration: Travel Requests
19. Consideration: Contract Extensions
20. Consideration: Consultant Billings
21. Consideration: Public Comment Period
22. Consideration: Other Matters



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

1. Consideration: Approval of November 12, 2013 Minutes

The minutes from the meeting of November 12, 2013 were approved upon a motion by Mr. Ponstein, seconded by Councilmember Lauga and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

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

Mr. Silvey explained 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 12 of the meeting packet for the balance sheet for the month ending October 31, 2013. He indicated that the RPC's total Assets and Liabilities, which include the Fund Balance) in the amount of \$1,906,406.62

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 Mr. Kelley, seconded by Mr. Ponstein and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

Mr. Silvey then referred the members to page 13 of the meeting packet for the monthly budget report with one budget amendment, as reflected on the report (attached). There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the monthly budget report. It was so moved by Mr. Giorgio, seconded by Mr. Kelley and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

4. Consideration: Election of Officers:

Mr. Silvey explained that we would be following the normal rotation for the officers. The 2014 officers are:

MITCHELL J. LANDRIEU
Chairman
BILLY NUNGESSER
1st Vice Chairman
PATRICIA BRISTER
2nd Vice Chairman
JOHN F. YOUNG
3rd Vice Chairman
GORDON BURGESS
Secretary
DAVID PERALTA
Treasurer

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the election of officers. It was so moved by President Young and seconded by President Brister and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

5. Consideration: Agreement with Adams and Reese, LLC, to represent the Regional Planning Commission in Washington, DC for calendar year 2014

Mr. Silvey identified to the members of the Commission that the agreement with the firm of Adams and Reese, which represents the Commission in Washington, D.C., was recommended by the Budget and Personnel Committee for renewal at the previous cost, \$5,000 per month / a total of \$60,000 for calendar year 2014.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the monthly budget report. It was so moved by President Young, seconded by President Brister and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

- 6. Consideration: Approval of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan
South Tangipahoa Urbanized Areas
Fiscal Years 2014-2043**
- 7. Consideration: Approval of the Transportation Improvement Program
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Fiscal Years 2014-2017**
- 8. Consideration: Amendment to the FY-2014 Unified Planning Work Program**
- 9. Consideration: Amendment to the New Orleans Transportation
Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements**
- 10. Consideration: Amendment to the St. Tammany Transportation
Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements**
- 11. Consideration: Approval of resolutions to enter into agreements with Jefferson Parish**

Transit, St. Bernard Transit, and River Parishes Transit for expenditure of FTA Section 5339 funding for Fiscal Year 2013

- 12. Consideration: Consultant Selection:**
Stage 1 Environmental Assessment / Line and Grade Study
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RPC Project No. NBP4-Outreach
Amount: \$15,000

Mr. Brooks requested concurrence of items 6-15 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 6-15 as these items have been already approved by the Transportation Policy Commission. It was so moved by President Young seconded by Councilmember Hunnicutt and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

- 16. Presentation: Leake Avenue Improvements**
By: John Holtgreve, Jr., P.E., Design Engineering, Inc.
and Keith Scarmuzza, ASLA, Mathes Brierre Architects

Design Engineering, Inc. and Mathes Brierre Architects were hired by the RPC to develop and evaluate alternative transportation connection solutions for improvements to Leake Avenue between Oak Street and Broadway Street. Given the fact that Leake Avenue serves as a regional connection between Jefferson and Orleans Parishes, the RPC decided to highlight the project at the December Commission meeting.

The objective of the study was to determine feasibility of widening sidewalks, improving bicycle facilities, and creating a landscaped buffer zone between the community and the Public Belt Railroad, which runs parallel to Leake Avenue on the levee side of the road. Considerations were also given to enhancing pedestrian crossings along Leake Avenue to connect the community and recreational activities on and near the levee, accommodating parking constraints in the commercial areas of Leake Avenue, providing alternative storm water management solutions, and easing traffic congestion around the US Army Corps of Engineers facility. The design team and the RPC met with various stakeholders over the course of the project, and the resulting preferred alternative was presented at the December Commission meeting.

Mr. Brooks thanks Mr. Holtgreve & Mr. Scarmuzza for the presentation.

17. Consideration: Authorization to dispose of broken or obsolete office equipment per attached listing

Mr. Silvey identified to the Commission that several pieces of office equipment (attached) were either broken or obsolete, and for their disposal, our policy requires Commission authorization

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

18. Consideration: Travel Request

There is no travel at this time.

13. Consideration: Contract Extensions

Mr. Silvey referred the members to page 22 for a list of contract extensions. He explained to the board these extensions are for time only.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the contract extensions. It was so moved by President Brister and seconded by Mr. Kelley, and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

14. Consideration: Consultant Billings

Mr. Silvey referred the members to a summary list of the consultant bills on page 23 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 Lauga, seconded by Councilmember Hunnicutt, and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

15. Consideration: Public Comment Period

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

16. Consideration: Other Matters

Mr. Brooks explained to the board there had been a request to use the building as an early voting site for Orleans Parish. The early voting dates would be January 18th & 25th and March 1st & 8th of 2014.