

MINUTES

Transportation Policy Committee
of the
Regional Planning Commission
for

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

April 10, 2012

Committee Members: John Young, Jr., Chairman (designee: Ryan Breaux); David Peralta, 1st Vice Chairman, Billy Nungesser, Secretary; Patricia Brister, Treasurer; Elton Lagasse (designee: Angela Callais), Lee Giorgio, Jack Stumpf, Jacquelyn Clarkson, Ronald Carriere, Keith Hinkley, Byron Marinovich, Mike Ford, Darren Barrois, Sr., Ray Lauga, Casey Hunnicutt, Charles Ponstein, David Munn, Steve Stefancik, Reid Falconer, Richard Kelley, Sherri LeBas (designee: Mike Stack), John Morrow, V.J. St. Pierre, President Natalie Robottom, Donald Villere, Barbara Major (designee: Stefan Marks), Ryan Brown and Mike Cooper

Attendance: 28

Consultants: Ernest Burguieres, III, Legal Counsel

Staff: Walter Brooks, Jeff Roesel, Nick Silvey, Jonathan Ducote, Maggie Woodruff, Megan Leonard, et al



AGENDA

1. Consideration: Approval of March 13, 2012 Minutes
2. Consideration: Amendment to the New Orleans Transportation Improvement Program, Transit Element
3. Consideration: Amendment to the St. Tammany Transportation Improvement Program Highway Element
4. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
ADA Deficiency Analysis
For Select Transit Corridors
RPC Project No. FTA –M-2
Amount: \$10,000

- 5. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Howard Avenue Extension
Supplemental Environmental Assessment (EA)
(RPC Project No. HWA-2)
Amount: \$50,000
- 6. Presentation: “Right-Sizing the State Highway System”
By: Dr. Eric Kalivoda, Deputy Secretary
LA Dept of Transportation and Development
- 7. Consideration: Complete Streets Workshop
(May 1st and June 19th)
- 8. Consideration: Public comment Period
- 9. Comment Period: RPC Ferryboat Advisory Committee



Mr. Nungesser acted as Chairman and 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.

Mr. Brooks welcomed new staff member of the RPC, Megan Leonard

1. Consideration: Approval of March 13, 2012 Minutes

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

2. Consideration: Amendments to the New Orleans Transportation Improvement Program, Transit Element

Mr. Brooks referred the members to page 4 of the meeting packet for the amendments to the New Orleans TIP, Transit Element.

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

3. Consideration: Amendments to the St. Tammany Transportation Improvement Program, Highway Element

Mr. Brooks referred members to page 5 of the meeting packet for the amendment to the St. Tammany TIP, Highway Element.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the amendment to the St. Tammany TIP, highway element. It was so moved by Mr. Stefancik, seconded by Mr. Kelley, and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

- 4. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
 ADA Deficiency Analysis
 For Select Transit Corridors
 RPC Project No. FTA –M-2
 Amount: \$10,000**

Mr. Brooks explained that the scope of this study is to provide an analysis and inventory of 25 priority intersections within a quarter mile of existing transit facilities, identifying ADA compliance needs, types of improvements, and estimated costs and quantities. Mr. Brooks referred the members to page 6 for a list of respondents to the Request for Proposals. Following RPC staff and DOTD review, C & S Consultants, 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 Mr. Ponstein, seconded by Mr. Kelley, and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

- 5. Consideration: Consultant Selection
 Howard Avenue Extension
 Supplemental Environmental Assessment (EA)
 (RPC Project No. HWA-2)
 Amount: \$50,000**

Mr. Brooks explained that the project is a Supplemental Environmental Assessment for the proposed extension of Howard Avenue to the north of its existing intersection with Loyola Avenue. The project roadway extends between Loyola Avenue and LaSalle Street, behind the Superdome/Arena/US Post Office Complex.

Mr. Brooks referred the members to page 7 for a list of respondents to the Requests for Proposals. Following RPC staff and DOTD review, Burk-Kleinpeter, 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 Mr. Ponstein, seconded by Mr. Kelley and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

- 6. Presentation: “Right-Sizing the State Highway System”
 By: Dr. Eric Kalivoda, Deputy Secretary
 LA Dept of Transportation and Development**

Mr. Brooks introduced Dr. Eric Kalivoda who gave a presentation on “Right-Sizing the State highway System”. Dr. Kalivoda discussed a voluntary program offering capital assistance

as compensation for state-to-local roads. He discussed that the purpose is to reduce the size of the DOTD and empower local governments. In his presentation he explained that Louisiana has 27% of the roads managed by the DOTD with the national average being 19%. The DOTD's goal is to help local governments take ownership of local roads and work to get closer to the national average. Dr. Kalivoda explained the state should not maintain neighborhood streets in urban and rural areas. By seizing this opportunity it will allow DOTD to focus on the system most important to the economy; freight movement, tourism and business travel. The participation in the program is voluntary. If parishes decide to participate the roads will be repaired prior to transfer under the DOTD road transfer program and local governments will be credited for 40 years of routine and capital maintenance.

Mr. Ford posed a question in regards to how this would affect the State Police. Ms. Clarkson followed up with concerns and comments regarding the CCC. Mr. Stefancik asked questions involving local fuel taxes, subsidizing rural areas, and about maintaining current and new road ways. Mr. Brooks thanked Mr. Kalivoda for his presentation.

**7. Consideration: Complete Streets Workshop
(May 1st and June 19th)**

Mr. Brooks introduced Mr. Dan Jartes, RPC's Pedestrian and Bicycle Program Manager. Mr. Jartes explained the City's new Complete Streets approach to street improvements. New Orleans adopted a historical Complete Streets ordinance that will guide future decisions about how transportation investments are made in the City of New Orleans. Mr. Jartes informed the Commission when the workshops would be.

There were no questions or comments. The Chairman thanked Mr. Jartes for the information.

8. Public Comment Period

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

9. Other Matters: RPC Ferryboat Advisory Committee

Mr. Brooks explained that Presidents of Parishes that have ferry service would like to establish an Advisory Committee with the support of the RPC staff. Mr. Brooks offered to facilitate meetings with each parish to discuss individual situations and needs.

Mr. Stefancik made a motion to approve the advisory committee, seconded by Mr. Lauga and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman

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Attendance: 21

Administrative Consultants: Ernest Burguieres, Legal Counsel

Staff: Walter Brooks, Jeff Roesel, Nicholas Silvey, Maggie Woodruff, et al



AGENDA

1. Consideration: Approval of March 13, 2012 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. Presentation: “Best Development Practices in Land Use and Transportation”
By: Reid Ewing, Ph.D. Professor of City and Metropolitan Planning at University of Utah
5. Consideration: Consultant Selection:

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| | ADA Deficiency Analysis
For Select Transit Corridors
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| 6. Consideration: | Consultant Selection:
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| 7. Consideration: | Amendment to the New Orleans
Transportation Improvement Program
Transit Element |
| 8. Consideration: | Amendment to St. Tammany Transportation
Improvement Program
Highway Element |
| 9. Consideration: | Travel Authorizations |
| 10. Consideration: | Consultant Billings |
| 11. Consideration: | Other Matters |



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

1. Consideration: Approval of March 13, 2012 Minutes

The minutes from the meeting of March 13, 2012 were approved upon a motion by Mr. Stefancik, seconded by Mr. Lauga 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 8 of the meeting packet for the balance sheet for the month ending February 29, 2012. He indicated that the RPC's total liabilities and fund balance were \$1,948,728.08 with all parishes up-to-date with their dues.

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

He then referred the members to page 9 of the meeting packet for the budget compared to actual expenditures dated February 29, 2012 and there were no budget amendments.

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

- 4. Presentation: “Best Development Practices in Land Use and Transportation”
By: Reid Ewing, Ph.D. Professor of City and Metropolitan Planning at University of Utah**

Meredith Soniat, RPC’s Sustainability Planner introduced Reid Ewing, Ph.D. Mr. Ewing’s presentation discussed the best development practices in land use and transportation. He discussed Smart Growth’s two purposes being to influence the surface transportation bill and to influence the MPO practice. He also discussed the quantitative and qualitative reviews and discussed examples of major cities around the nation.

There were no questions and the Chairman thanked Mr. Ewing for his presentation.

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Mr. Brooks requested concurrence of items 5-8 which were recommended for approval by the members of the Policy Committee.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve items 5-8 in globo. It was so moved by Mr. Stefancik, seconded by Mr. Kelley and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

- 9. Consideration: Travel Authorizations**

Mr. Silvey reported that there was one staff member requesting to attend the U.S. Economic Development Administration conference in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on May 16-18, 2012.

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

10. Consideration: Consultant Billings

Mr. Silvey referred the members to a summary list of the consultant bills before page 11 in the meeting packet, noting that staff had favorably reviewed each of them for payment.

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. Giorgio and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

15. Other Matters:

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