

*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**

**June 9, 2020**

Committee Members:

**Officers:**

**Mayor** LaToya Cantrell, *Chairwoman*

**Parish President** Kirk Lepine *1st Vice Chairman*

**Parish President** Mike Cooper *2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman*

**Parish President** Matt Jewell *3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Chairman*

**Parish President** Jaclyn Hotard *4<sup>th</sup> Vice Chairman*

**Parish President** Cynthia Lee Sheng *5<sup>th</sup> Vice Chairwoman*

**Parish President** Robby Miller, *Secretary*

**Parish President** Guy McInnis, *Treasurer*

**Jefferson Parish**

**Mayor** Joe Peoples **Designee:** Perry Talamo

Lee Giorgio

Jack Stumpf

**Orleans Parish:**

Ronald Carrere

**Plaquemines Parish:**

Keith Espadron

**St. Bernard Parish:**

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

Raj Pannu

Jonathan Perret

**St. Tammany Parish:**

**Councilmember** Steve Stefancik

Christopher Masingill

**Tangipahoa Parish:**

**Mayor** Pete Panepinto

**Council Chair** Carlo Bruno

**DOTD:**

**Secretary** Shawn Wilson **Designee:** Chris Morvant

**TPC Members:**

**Mayor** Greg Cromer (Slidell)

M.D. "Mike" Stolzman **Designee:** Trish Haver

Brandy Christian (Port) **Designee:** Andree Fant

**Mayor** Donald Villere (Mandeville)

Alex Z. Wiggins (RTA) **Designee:** Katherine Bush Felton

GNOEC **Designee:** Carlton Dufrechou

Ninette Barrios (JeT)

**Mayor** Bob Zabbia (Ponchatoula)

**Mayor** Mark R. Johnson (Covington) **Designee:** Erin Bivona

Attendance: 34

Consultants:



AGENDA

1. Consideration: Approval of the May 12, 2020 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: Amendment to the New Orleans Urbanized Area Unified Planning Work Program for FY-21
6. Consideration: Amendment to the South Tangipahoa Urbanized Area Unified Planning Work Program for FY-21
7. Consideration: Public Comment Period
8. Consideration: Other Matters

Megan Leonard, RPC’s Director of Management & Finance thanked the Board for joining in RPC’s third Virtual meeting using the platform GoToWebinar. She went over how to use the GoToWebinar platform and gave instructions for questions/comments and public comments. Once the motions for the agenda items are made, a poll will appear on your screen for the full Board to cast their vote on the item. All items, packet, minutes, handouts etc. were emailed to the Board and posted on the RPC website for public view. All items are listed under the handouts section on GoToWebinar.

Jeff Roesel, RPC’s Executive Director led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following the roll call by Jason Sappington, RPC’s Deputy Director, a quorum was established.

Mayor LaToya Cantrell, RPC’s Chairwoman thanked everyone for participating in the virtual meeting and for being on the call and thanked RPC staff for being so wonderful and moving very swiftly. She also stated to the Parish Presidents and Mayors that we had our first scare with Cristobal, some had more rain than others but glad we were making headway with that and thanked Parish President Miller for getting all of them on a thread text in the nick of time and she’s looking forward to that type of collaboration and connectivity as we move through the hurricane season.

Chairwoman explained that there’s a quick poll on the screen to click if you’re in attendance and submit and will ask for a motion to approve the minutes for the next item.

**1. Consideration: Approval of May 12, 2020 Minutes**

The Chairwoman asked the Board for a motion for the approval of the May 12<sup>th</sup> minutes. Parish President Cynthia Lee Sheng made a motion to approve the May 12, 2020 minutes, seconded by Parish President Matt Jewell. Based on the poll, this item is approved by the Transportation Policy members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

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

Jeff Roesel 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 Chairwoman called for a motion to approve the New Orleans TIP amendments for the Highway & Transit Elements. It was so moved by Mr. Perry Talamo, Designee

for Mayor Joe Peoples and seconded by Councilmember Wendy Benedetto. Based on the poll, this item is approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

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

Jeff Roesel informed the members there were no amendments to the St. Tammany TIP, Highway & Transit Elements.

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

Jeff Roesel informed the members there were no amendments to the Tangipahoa TIP, Highway & Transit Elements.

5. **Consideration: Amendment to the New Orleans Urbanized Area Unified Planning Work Program for FY-21**

Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 6 of the meeting packet for the amendment to the New Orleans Urbanized Area Unified Planning Work Program for FY-21, and provided a brief explanation of this item.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairwoman called for a motion to approve the New Orleans Urbanized Area Unified Planning Work Program for FY-21. It was so moved by Mayor Pete Panepinto and seconded by Parish President Mike Cooper. Based on the poll this item is approved by the Transportation Policy members in attendance with Trish Haver, Designee for Mr. Stolzman with New Orleans Public Belt Rail Road abstaining, as noted by the Chairwoman.

6. **Consideration: Amendment to the South Tangipahoa Urbanized Area Unified Planning Work Program for FY-21**

Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 7 of the meeting packet for the amendment to the South Tangipahoa Urbanized Area Unified Planning Work Program for FY-21, and provided a brief explanation of this item.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairwoman called for a motion to approve the South Tangipahoa Urbanized Area Unified Planning Work Program for FY-21. It was so moved by Council Chair Carlo Bruno and seconded by Parish President Guy McInnis. Based on the poll, this item is approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

7. **Consideration; Public Comment Period**

The Chairwoman asked if there was any public comments. There was none.

8. **Consideration: Other Matters**

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

There being no other matters to discuss, Jeff Roesel noted the quorum is still established, the Chairwoman 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**

**June 9, 2020**

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**Officers:**

**Mayor** LaToya Cantrell, *Chairwoman*

**Parish President** Kirk Lepine *1st Vice Chairman*

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**Jefferson Parish**

**Mayor** Joe Peoples **Designee:** Perry Talamo  
Lee Giorgio  
Jack Stumpf

**Orleans Parish:**

Ronald Carrere

**Plaquemines Parish:**

Keith Espadron

**St. Bernard Parish:**

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**St. Charles Parish:**

**Councilmember** Julia Fisher-Perrier  
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**St. John the Baptist Parish:**

**Councilmember** Michael Wright  
Raj Pannu  
Jonathan Perret

**St. Tammany Parish:**

**Councilmember** Steve Stefancik  
Christopher Masingill

**Tangipahoa Parish:**

**Mayor** Pete Panepinto  
**Council Chair** Carlo Bruno

**DOTD:**

**Secretary** Shawn Wilson **Designee:** Chris Morvant

Attendance: 25

Consultants:

Staff: Jeffrey Roesel, Jason Sappington, Megan Leonard, Malissa Givhan, et al

  
**AGENDA**

1. Consideration: Approval of the May 12, 2020 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: Regional Planning Commission Fiscal Year 2021 Local Activities Budget
5. Consideration: Regional Planning Commission Fiscal Year 2021 Operating Budget
6. Consideration: Contract Extensions

- 7. Consideration: Consultant Billings
- 8. Consideration: Public Comment Period
- 9. Consideration: Other Matters



**1. Consideration: Approval of May 12, 2020 Minutes**

The Chairwoman asked the Board for a motion for the approval of the May 12<sup>th</sup> minutes. Parish President Kirk Lepine made a motion to approve the May 12, 2020 minutes, seconded by Councilmember Julia Fisher-Perrier. Based on the poll, this item is approved by the Regional Planning Commission members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

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

Jeff 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**

Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 8 of the meeting packet for the balance sheet for the month ending April 30, 2020. He indicated that the RPC's Total Assets and Liabilities, which include the Fund Balance in the amount of \$2,198,458.39.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairwoman called for a motion to approve the balance sheet of local activities. It was so moved by Councilmember Michael Wright, seconded by Ronald Carrere Based on the poll, this item is approved by the Regional Planning Commission members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 9 of the packet to show the Board the budget as of April 30<sup>th</sup>. There are no amendments at this time and no motion is needed.

**4. Consideration: Regional Planning Commission Fiscal Year 2021 Local Activities Budget**

Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 10 for the Fiscal Year 2021 Local Activities Budget and explained the line items.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairwoman called for a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2021 Local Activities Budget. It was so moved by Ms. Susan Klees, seconded by Ms. Debbie Dufresne Vial. Based on the poll, this item is approved by the Regional Planning Commission members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

**5. Consideration: Regional Planning Commission Fiscal Year 2021 Operating Budget**

Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 11 for the Fiscal Year 2021 Operating Budget and explained the line items. Megan Leonard, RPC Director of Management & Finance explained that it is a large budget due to multiple grants, and that it will not all be spent in this fiscal year but will carry-over to next year.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairwoman called for a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2021 Operating Budget. It was so moved by Parish President Robby Miller, seconded by Councilmember Steve Stefancik. Based on the poll, this item is approved by the Regional Planning Commission members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

**6. Consideration: Contract Extensions**

Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 12 of the meeting packet for the contract extension. This request is a time only extension.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairwoman called for a motion to approve contract extension. It was so moved by Mr. Keith Espadron, seconded by Parish President Cynthia Lee Sheng. Based on the poll this item is approved unanimously by the Regional Planning Commission members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman. Based on the poll, this item is approved by the Regional Planning Commission members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

**7. Consideration: Consultant Billings**

Jeff Roesel referred the members to a summary list of the consultant bills on pages 13-23 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 Chairwoman called for a motion to approve the consultant billings. It was so moved by \*Mayor Greg Cromer, seconded by \*Mayor Bob Zabbia. Based on the poll, this item is approved by the Regional Planning Commission members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman. \*Mayor Cromer, Mayor \*Zabbia are members of the Transportation Policy Committee, there was no objections to them making this motion.

**8. Consideration: Public Comment Period**

Citizen, Mr. Chriss Cazayoux of St. Tammany, asked does any entity in the RPC, or does the RPC plan on submitting for the U.S Dept. of Labor, Employment & Training Administration, WORC grant. Maggie Woodruff, RPC Economic & Development Director, told him that RPC is working with our community colleges like Delgado and Nunez who can be applicants and provide apprenticeship training for private sector jobs and that she will follow up with him.

The Chairwoman asked if there was any other public comment. There are no other public comments at this time and we can move to the next item.

**9. Consideration: Other Matters**

Mr. Chris Masingill made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Lee Giorgio seconded and based on the poll the motion to adjourn the meeting is approved unanimously by the Regional Planning Commission members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

Also Mayor Cantrell urged the Mayors, Parish Presidents and RPC to submit their application for the Cares Act Grant from the State for their expenses and that there were new guidance, the City of New Orleans had submitted their application on April 30<sup>th</sup> and got a response from the development team whose managing their request, she urges all to move forward with applying for the grant, she stated there was some expectations that the money allocated would not be able to be spent and that she is pushing back on that because the guidelines now allow us to deal with the payroll expenses. She stated that the bottom line is to do what it takes to get our fair share of the dollars. Parish President Cynthia Lee Sheng of Jefferson parish mentioned that she received an email from a person putting in a submittal that came back from the State with 9 points to clarify with a 2 day turn around by Thursday. Mayor Cantrell replied that the State wants the documentations sooner than later and extended her support so that we can get the fair share of dollars.