

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

September 13, 2022

Committee Members:

Officers:

Parish President Mike Cooper, *Chairman*

Parish President Matt Jewel, *1st Vice Chairman*

Parish President Cynthia Lee Sheng, *3rd Vice Chairwoman* **Designee:** Greg Giangrosso

Parish President Robby Miller, *4th Vice Chairman*

Parish President Guy Mcinnis, *5th Vice Chairman* **Designee:** Jason Stopa

Mayor LaToya Cantrell, *Secretary* **Designee:** Dan Jatres

Parish President Kirk Lepine, *Treasurer*

Jefferson Parish:

Lee Giorgio

Orleans Parish:

Sophie Harris Vorhoff

Plaquemines Parish:

Councilmember Benny Rousselle

Allen Hero

St. Bernard Parish:

Councilmember Wanda Alcon

Ray Lauga, Jr.

Susan Klees

St. Charles Parish:

Councilmember Dick Gibbs **Designee:** Mary Clulee

Pastor Thomas Hines

St. John the Baptist Parish:

Councilmember Robert Arcuri

Councilmember Tammy Houston

Johnathan Perret

St. Tammany Parish:

Councilmember T. J. Smith, Jr.

Christopher Abadie

Tangipahoa Parish:

Mayor Pete Panepinto (Hammond)

Council Chair Bridgette Hyde

DOTD:

Secretary Shawn Wilson **Designee:** Chris Morvant

TPC Members:

Tomeka Watson Bryant (N.O. Public Belt RR)

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

Mayor Clay Madden

Alex Z. Wiggins **Designee:** Katherine Felton

GNOEC **Designee:** Carlton Dufrechou

Ninette Barrios (JeT)

Mayor Bob Zabbia (Ponchatoula)

Attendance: 31

Consultants:

Staff: Mr. Jeff Roesel, Mr. Jason Sappington, Ms. Megan Leonard, Mrs. Colethia Kent, et al



AGENDA

1. Consideration: Approval of the August 9th 2022 minutes
2. Consideration: Amendment to the New Orleans Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements (FFY 2019-2023)
3. Consideration: Amendment to the St. Tammany Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements (FFY 2019-2023)
4. Consideration: Amendment to the Tangipahoa Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements (FFY 2019-2023)
5. Consideration: Approval of New Orleans UZA Transportation Improvement Plan (FFY 2023-2026)
6. Consideration: Approval of St. Tammany UZAs Transportation Improvement Plan (FFY 2023-2026)
7. Consideration: Approval of South Tangipahoa UZA Transportation Improvement Plan (FFY 2023-2026)
8. Consideration: UPWP Amendment – HSIP Task
9. Consideration: Draft New Orleans Regional Freight Mobility Plan
By: Karen Parson, AICP
Principal Planner, RPC
10. Consideration: Public Comment Period
11. Consideration: Other Matters

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

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

1. Consideration: Approval of August 9th 2022 minutes

Mr. Jeff Roesel asked the Board for a motion for the approval of the August 9th minutes. Mayor Bob Zabbia made a motion to approve the August 9th minutes, seconded by Ms. Ninette Barrios and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance, as noted by the Chairman.

2. Consideration: Amendment to the New Orleans Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements (FFY 2019-2022)

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 5 of the meeting packet for the amendments to the New Orleans TIP, Highway & Transit Elements for FFY 2019-2022 and stated that the TIP is currently in effect through Federal fiscal year 22 and ends September 30, 2022.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the New Orleans TIP amendments for the Highway & Transit Elements FFY 2019-2022. It was so moved by Mr. Dan Jatres and seconded by Council Chair Bridgette Hyde 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 (FFY 2019-2022)

Mr. Jeff Roesel informed the members there are no amendments to the St. Tammany TIP, Highway & Transit Elements (FFY2019-2022)

4. Consideration: Amendment to the Tangipahoa Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements (FFY 2019-2022)

Mr. Jeff Roesel informed the members there were no amendments to the Tangipahoa TIP, Highway & Transit Elements for FFY 2019-2022.

5. Consideration: Approval of New Orleans UZA Transportation Improvement Plan (FFY 2023-2026)

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred the members for approval of the New Orleans MPA Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2052 and stated that the RPC staff submitted the draft TIP for the New Orleans Urbanized area (Southshore) in August and stated that the TIP is the programming document that reflects Tier 1 of the MTP and is the counterpart of the State Transportation Improvement Program of STIP and the TIPs are the documents that we amend as projects moved through the development process.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the New Orleans MPA Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2052. It was so moved by Ms. Sophie H. Vorhoff and seconded by Mr. Dan Jatres and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance, as noted by the Chairman.

6. Consideration: Approval of St. Tammany UZAs Transportation Improvement Plan (FFY 2023-2026)

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred the members for approval of the St. Tammany MPA Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2052 and stated that the RPC staff submitted the draft TIP for the St. Tammany Urbanized area in August and stated that the TIP is the programming document that reflects Tier 1 of the MTP and is the counterpart of the State Transportation Improvement Program of STIP and the TIPs are the documents that we amend as projects moved through the development process. Mr. Jeff Roesel also stated that the Federal law requires the TIP to be consistent with the State TIP and that we have consolidated the TIPs for the Mandeville-Covington and Slidell Urbanized areas to be consistent with DOTD's STIP.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the St. Tammany MPA Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2052. It was so moved by Councilmember T.J. Smith and seconded by Mayor Clay Madden and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance, as noted by the Chairman.

7. Consideration: Approval of South Tangipahoa UZA Transportation Improvement Plan (FFY -2023-2026)

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred the members for approval of the South Tangipahoa MPA Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2052 and stated that the RPC staff submitted the draft TIP for the South Tangipahoa Urbanized area in August and stated that the TIP is the programming document that reflects Tier 1 of the MTP and is the counterpart of the State Transportation Improvement Program of STIP and the TIPs are the documents that we amend as projects moved through the development process.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the South Tangipahoa MPA Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2052. It was so moved by Parish President Robby Miller and seconded by Mayor Bob Zabbia and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance, as noted by the Chairman.

8. Consideration: UPWP Amendment – HSIP Task

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred the members to the handout and stated that staff is requesting an amendment to the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that was reviewed and adopted back in April of this year and noted that RPC received word from FHWA that we needed to include the Task that's in the handout. This is the HSIP task that funds the Safety Coalition for the Northshore and Southshore.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the UPWP Amendment – HSIP Task. It was so moved by Mr. Carlton Dufrechou and seconded by Ms. Tomeka Bryant and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance, as noted by the Chairman.

**9. Consideration: Draft New Orleans Regional Freight Mobility Plan
By: Karen Parsons, AICP
Principal Planner, RPC**

Mr. Jeff Roesel informed the members that staff has submitted the draft of the Regional Freight Mobility Plan Board review. This has been reviewed and commented on by our Freight Roundtable/ advisory committee. The freight plan is not statutorily required by FHWA or DOTD, however, given changes from the new IJA law, we believe it is strategically advantageous for the Board to review and formally adopt the freight plan. He also stated that, we believe that by doing so, projects and initiatives enumerated therein would be more competitive when discretionary funds are being sought. Nearly all the projects listed in this plan are also listed in the recently adopted MTP's for each of the UZA in our region, so there is consistency of policy between the two documents and stated that pending the board's review and comments, we will seek final adoption of this document at our October Commission meeting.

Mr. Jeff Roesel introduced Ms. Karen Parsons, RPC Principal Planner to provide a brief overview of the plan and the process of developing it.

For more information or a copy of the presentation please contact Ms. Karen Parsons- 504-483-8511 or kparson@norpc.org.

10. Consideration: Public Comment Period

Mr. Jeff Roesel asked if there were any public comments. There was none.

11. Consideration: Other Matters

Mr. Jeff Roesel wanted to recognize Ms. Sophie Harris Vorhoff, who will be leaving the Regional Planning Commission and would like to thank her for her services and wish her well in her future endeavors.

Mr. Jeff Roesel stated that our November RPC-TPC meetings will be cancelled because of Election Day.

There being no other matters to discuss, Mr. Jeff Roesel noted the quorum is still established, the Chairman proceeded to the Regional Planning Commission Meeting.

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Regional Planning Commission
For

Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany and Tangipahoa Parishes

September 13, 2022

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Officers:

Parish President Mike Cooper, *Chairman*

Parish President Matt Jewel, *1st Vice Chairman*

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Parish President Robby Miller, *4th Vice Chairman*

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Parish President Kirk Lepine, *Treasurer*

Jefferson Parish:

Lee Giorgio

Orleans Parish:

Sophie Harris Vorhoff

Plaquemines Parish:

Councilmember Benny Rousselle

Allen Hero

St. Bernard Parish:

Councilmember Wanda Alcon

Ray Lauga, Jr.

Susan Klees

St. Charles Parish:

Councilmember Dick Gibbs **Designee:** Mary Clulee

Pastor Thomas Hines

St. John the Baptist Parish:

Councilmember Robert Arcuri

Councilmember Tammy Houston

Johnathan Perret

St. Tammany Parish:

Councilmember T. J. Smith, Jr.

Christopher Abadie

Tangipahoa Parish:

Mayor Pete Panepinto (Hammond)

Council Chair Bridgette Hyde

DOTD:

Secretary Shawn Wilson **Designee:** Chris Morvant

Attendance: 24
Consultants:

Staff: Mr. Jeff Roesel, Mr. Jason Sappington, Ms. Megan Leonard, Mrs. Colethia Kent, et al



AGENDA

1. Consideration: Approval of the August 9th, 2022 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. Resolution: Lake Pontchartrain Barrier: Request to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program
5. Presentation: Brownfield Grant Award- St. Bernard Parish
By: Adam Tatar
Brownfields Coordinator, RPC
6. Consideration: Travel Request
7. Consideration: Contract Extensions
8. Consideration: Consultant Billings
9. Consideration: Public Comment Period
10. Consideration: Other Matters



1. Consideration: Approval of August 9th 2022 minutes.

Mr. Jeff Roesel asked the Board for a motion for the approval of the August 9th 2022 minutes. Councilmember Benny Rousselle made a motion to approve the August 9th 2022, minutes, seconded by Mayor Pete Panepinto and approved unanimously by the Regional Planning Commission as noted by the Chairman.

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

Mr. Jeff Roesel explained there were no committee reports at this time.

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

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 6 of the meeting packet for the balance sheet for the month ending July 31, 2022. He indicated that the RPC's Total Assets and Liabilities, which include the Fund Balance in the amount of \$3,033,060.34

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the balance sheet. It was so moved by Parish President Robby Miller and seconded by Parish President Kirk Lepine and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

4. Resolution: Lake Pontchartrain Barrier: Request to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program

Mr. Jeff Roesel introduced the resolution to the board and deferred the resolution to Parish President Mike Cooper who thanked the RPC for allowing him to consider this request and explained the resolution to the board and offered this resolution for consideration and asked for a seconded motion that was made by Parish President Matt Jewell, there were no objections, and the resolution was approved by the board. Mr. Lee Giorgio stated that this resolution is well needed, appropriate and long overdue.

For more information on the Lake Pontchartrain Barrier: Request to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program, please contact St. Tammany Parish Council Office at 985-898-2590 or councilmembers@stpgov.org

**5. Presentation: Brownfield Grant Award- St. Bernard Parish
By: Adam Tatar
Brownfields Coordinator, RPC**

Mr. Jeff Roesel introduced Mr. Adam Tatar, RPC Brownfield Coordinator to the members. Mr. Tatar showed the members a presentation slide on the Brownfield Grant Award for St. Bernard Parish and described the program and the results of the coordination efforts. Mr. Jeff Roesel stated that RPC and St. Bernard parish have been working to apply for Brownfield Program funds on behalf of the parish. The parish was recently awarded funds from the EPA to start on that effort.

For a copy of this presentation, please contact Mr. Adam Tatar at atatar@norpc.org or 504-483-8533.

6. Consideration: Travel Request

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred members to page 8 of the meeting packet and pointed out 3 travel requests, the first request was retroactive for Ms. Maggie Woodruff and Ms. Elizabeth Morris, who attended the Louisiana Broadband Summit, August 30-31, 2022, in Alexandria, LA. The second travel request is for Ms. Maggie Woodruff, to attend the NADO Annual Training Conference, October 16-18, 2022, Pittsburgh, PA., and the 3rd request is for Mr. Adam Tatar, to attend the Louisiana Brownfield Conference, October 4-5, 2022, Houma, LA.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the travel requests. It was so moved by Mr. Ray Lauga, Jr. seconded by Ms. Susan Klees and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

7. Consideration: Contract Extensions

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 8 of the packet for the contract extension and explained that the extension is a no cost extension, time only.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the contract extension. It was so moved by Councilmember T.J. Smith and seconded by Mr. Christopher Abadie and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

8. Consideration: Consultant Billings

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred the members to a summary list of the consultant bills on pages 8 of 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 Parish President Robby Miller, seconded by Councilmember Wanda Alcon, and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

9. Consideration: Public Comment Period

Parish President Cooper wanted to take the opportunity to thank everybody for the unanimously support of the resolution that was offered and for those Parish Presidents who are present to please sign the letters of support. The Chairman asked if there was any other public comment. There was none.

10. Consideration: Other Matters

Mr. Jeff Roesel wanted to remind the members that there will be no Commission Meeting in November because of Election Day.

The Chairman asked if there were any other matters. There was none. There was a motion to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Allen Hero, Parish President Benny Rousselle seconded, and the Chairman adjourned the meeting.