

MINUTES

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

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

October 9, 2012

Committee Members: John Young, Chairman, David Peralta, 1st Vice Chairman, Mitch Landrieu, 2nd Vice Chairman (designee: Cedric Grant) Patricia Brister, Treasurer, John Shaddinger, Lee Giorgio, Jack Stumpf, Jacquelyn Clarkson, Stacy Head, Jeffery Schwartz, Ronald Carrere, Mike Ford, Darren Barrois Sr., Ray Lauga, Jr., Charles Ponstein, David Munn, Steve Stefancik, Maureen Clary, Sherri LeBas (designee: Mike Stack), Freddy Drennan, John Morrow, Larry Katz, V.J. St. Pierre (designee Tim Vial) Pat Gallwey, Natalie Robottom, Donald Villere, Barbara Major (designee: Stefan Marks) and Mike Cooper

Attendance: 28

Consultants: Ernest Burguieres, III, Legal Counsel

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


AGENDA

1. Consideration: Approval of August 14, 2012 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: Consultant Selection:
Canal Street Corridor, Jefferson Parish
(RPC Task No. A-4.13)
Amount \$50,000
5. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Transportation Enhancement Activities
Jefferson Parish (Kenner)
(RPC Task No. A-2.13)
Amount \$45,000

- 6. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements
St. Tammany Parish
(RPC Task No. MC-5.13BP)
Amount \$30,000
- 7. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Travel Demand Model Support Services
(RPC Task No. B-4.13)
Amount \$50,000
- 8. Consideration: Authorization to enter into Agreement with LADOTD
Re: Smart Growth Education and Community Outreach
Amount \$1,115,745
- 9. Consideration: Authorization to enter into Inter-Agency Agreement
With University of New Orleans
Re: Regional Bike/ Pedestrian Safety and Community
Education Program
(RPC Project No. NORBP3-UNO-12)
Amount \$45,000
- 10. Presentation: Public/Private Partnerships
Re: Aviation Development Opportunities
- 11. Consideration: Public Comment Period
- 12. Consideration: Other Matters



Mr. Young 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 August 14, 2012 Minutes

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

2. Consideration: Amendments to the New Orleans Transportation Improvement Program, Highway Elements

Mr. Brooks referred the members to page 6 of the meeting packet for the amendments to the New Orleans TIP, Highway 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 FY-12 TIP amendments for the highway elements. It was so moved by Mr. Grant, seconded by Mr. Munn and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

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

Mr. Brooks referred members to pages 7-12 of the meeting packet for the St. Tammany Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements, and provided a brief overview.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the St. Tammany Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements. It was so moved by Ms. Brister, seconded by Mr. Stefancik, and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

**4. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Canal Street Corridor
Jefferson Parish
(RPC Task No. A-4.13)
Amount \$50,000**

Mr. Brooks explained that the scope of this study project is to examine transportation circulation and mobility problems in the area bounded by the 17th. Street Canal, Carrollton Street, Metairie Road, and Veterans Boulevard. Mr. Brooks referred the members to page 13 which listed respondents to the Request for Qualifications. Following RPC staff review and ranking, Digital Engineering 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. Stumpf, seconded by Mr. Young, and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

**5. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Transportation Enhancement Activities
Jefferson Parish (Kenner)
(RPC Task No. A-2.13)
Amount \$45,000**

Mr. Brooks explained that the scope of this study is To assist the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) in the planning and design of needed site improvements (including a detailed site survey) in four focus areas: Power Blvd. (W. Esplanade Ave. – Vintage Dr.), Chateau Blvd. (W. Esplanade Ave. – Vintage), Loyola Dr. (I-10 to East Loyola and West Loyola Dr.), and Airline Dr. @ Williams Blvd. Mr. Brooks referred the members to page 14 which listed respondents to the Request for Qualifications. Following RPC staff review and ranking, Gulf Engineering & Consultants (GEC) 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. Stumpf, seconded by Mr. Young, and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

**6. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements
St. Tammany Parish
(RPC Task No. MC-5.13BP)
Amount \$30,000**

Mr. Brooks explained that the scope of this study is to review the LA 21 corridor to investigate enhancements to bicycle and pedestrian mobility and safety and to reduce congestion and improve air quality. Mr. Brooks referred the members to page 15 which listed respondents to the Request for Qualifications. Following RPC staff review and ranking, Meyer Engineers 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. Stefancik, seconded by Mr. Shaddinger, and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

- 7. Consideration:** Consultant Selection:
Travel Demand Model Support Services
(RPC Task No. B-4.13 TM)
Amount \$50,000

Mr. Brooks explained that the scope of this study contract 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. Mr. Brooks referred the members to page 16 which listed respondents to the Request for Qualifications. Following RPC staff review and ranking, Parsons Brinckerhoff, 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. Grant, seconded by Mr. Giorgio, and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

- 8. Consideration:** Authorization to enter into Agreement with LADOTD
Re: Smart Growth Education and Community Outreach
Amount \$1,115,745

Mr. Brooks explained that the scope of this study to build local and regional capacity for transportation and land use planning through developing alternative future smart growth scenarios for the New Orleans metropolitan region.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the resolution to enter into agreement with LADOTD and to authorize the Chairman and/or Executive Director to execute any documents in connection with this project. It was so moved by Mr. Munn, seconded by Mr. Stefancik, and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

- 9. Consideration:** Authorization to enter into Inter-Agency Agreement
With University of New Orleans
Re: Regional Bike/ Pedestrian Safety and Community
Education Program
(RPC Project No. NORBP3-UNO-12)
Amount \$45,000

Mr. Brooks explained that the scope of this study program is to develop, conduct and disseminate pedestrian and bicycle research and data analysis. Tasks will build on the existing Pedestrian Bicycle Resource Initiative (PBRI) developed under Phase I and II of the Greater New Orleans Bike/Ped Program.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the Inter-Agency Agreement with the University of New Orleans 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. Giorgio, and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

7. Presentation: Public / Private Partnerships
Re: Aviation Development Opportunities
By: Mr. John Miller

Chairman Young explained that he invited Mr. John Miller, Managing Partner of M7 Capital, to present his concept for an airline hub at Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport (LANOIA) to the Transportation Policy Committee and Regional Planning Commission. Mr. Young said there has been a lengthy effort to this end and he felt it was something the Commission should take a look at. He then introduced Mr. Miller.

Mr. Miller gave a detailed PowerPoint presentation of his proposal to purchase Frontier Airlines and create a hub at LANOIA as well as offer shuttle service to all Louisiana commercial airports. He outlined the history and current air service offered at LANOIA, and depicted how the proposed new hub would exponentially increase air service opportunities for this region and the State. It will also improve and expand the terminal facilities. He offered the full presentation and supporting documents through his website “newfrontierairlines.com”.

Several members expressed the importance of additional air service for business development as well as the need for improved airport facilities. Councilmember Clarkson and Deputy Mayor Grant stated that the City is performing its due diligence studying the proposal and weighing the risks.

Mr. Young concluded discussion by stating that he felt such opportunities are rare and therefore we must thoroughly investigate the potential opportunity which would benefit the entire region. He thanked Mr. Miller for his tenacity.

Ms. Brister offered a resolution stating that the Commission requests and encourages the City of New Orleans and the New Orleans Aviation Board to expeditiously evaluate this proposal and to conduct all necessary due diligence in a timely manner and to keep the Commission informed of their findings and recommendations. Mr. Ponstein seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

8. Consideration: Public Comment Period

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

9. 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 and St. Tammany Parishes**

October 9, 2012

Committee Members: John Young, Chairman, David Peralta, 1st Vice Chairman, Mitch Landrieu, 2nd Vice Chairman (designee: Cedric Grant) Patricia Brister, Treasurer, John Shaddinger, Lee Giorgio, Jack Stumpf, Jacquelyn Clarkson, Stacy Head, Jeffery Schwartz, Ronald Carrere, Mike Ford, Darren Barrois Sr., Ray Lauga, Jr., Charles Ponstein, David Munn, Steve Stefancik, Maureen Clary and Sherri LeBas (designee: Mike Stack)

Attendance: 19

Administrative Consultants: Ernest Burguieres, Legal Counsel

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



AGENDA

1. Consideration: Approval of August 14, 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. 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: Consultant Selection:
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Amount \$45,000
- 11. Consideration: RPC Resolutions on Need for Expedited Funding and
Construction of Hurricane Protection Levees for St. Charles,
St. John, Jefferson and St. Tammany Parishes
- 12. Presentation: National Weather Service Forecast Office
Impacts of Hurricane Isaac
By: Ken Graham, Meteorologist-in-Charge
New Orleans / Baton Rouge Forecast Office
- 13. Consideration: Travel Authorization
- 14. Consideration: Contract Extensions
- 15. Consideration: Consultant Billings
- 16. Consideration: Other Matters



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

1. Consideration: Approval of August 14, 2012 Minutes

The minutes from the meeting of August 14, 2012 were approved upon a motion by Mr. Ponstein, 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 then referred the members to page 18 of the meeting packet for the balance sheet for the month ending August 31, 2012. He indicated that the RPC's total Assets and Liabilities, which include the Fund Balance) in the amount of \$1,901,829.31 with all parishes up-to-date with their support to the Commission programs.

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

Mr. Silvey then referred the members to page 19 of the meeting packet for the budget compared to actual expenditures dated August 31, 2012.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the Budget Compared to Actual Report and the requested budget revisions. It was so moved by Mr. Munn, seconded by Ms. Brister and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

- 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:** Consultant Selection:
 Canal Street Corridor
 Jefferson Parish
 (RPC Task No. A-4.13)
 Amount \$50,000

- 7. Consideration:** Consultant Selection:
 Transportation Enhancement Activities
 Jefferson Parish (Kenner)
 (RPC Task No. A-2.13)
 Amount \$45,000

- 8. Consideration:** Consultant Selection:
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Amount \$45,000

Mr. Brooks requested concurrence of items 4-11 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 4 -11 in globo. It was so moved by Mr. Stumpf, seconded by Mr. Lauga and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

- 12. Consideration: RPC Resolutions on Need for Expedited Funding and Construction of hurricane Protection Levees for St. Charles, Jefferson and St. John Parishes**

Mr. Brooks referred Members to pages 21-22A, and summarized the three resolutions for St. Charles, Jefferson and St. John Parishes, being offered by their respective Parish Presidents.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a second to approve the resolutions. The second was offered by Mr. Stumpf and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

- 13. Presentation: National Weather Service Forecast Office
Impacts of Hurricane Isaac
By: Ken Graham, Meteorologist-in-Charge
New Orleans / Baton Rouge Forecast Office**

Due to time constraints, this presentation was deferred to a future meeting.

- 14. Consideration: Travel Authorizations**

Mr. Silvey referred Members to page 23 of the packet and pointed out that a staff member (Kara Renne) is requesting to attend the Southwest Regional Executive Directors Association (SWREDA), November 13-14, 2012, Dallas TX

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

- 15. Consideration: Contract Extensions**

Mr. Silvey directed the members to page 24 for the complete list of contracts to be extended with no changes to the compensation for the contracts.

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

16. Consideration: Consultant Billings

Mr. Silvey referred the members to a summary list of the consultant bills on page 25 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 Mr. Stefancik, seconded by Mr. Giorgio and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

17. Consideration: Other Matters

Mr. Brooks reported that Tangipahoa Parish is considering membership in the Regional Planning Commission, as the result of the U.S. Census designation of Hammond/Ponchatoula as a new urbanized area. Mr. Brooks explained that this is for informational purposes only; no action is required at this time.

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