

MINUTES

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

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

September 10th 2013

Committee Members: Chairman David Peralta, Patricia Brister, Treasurer John Young (designee Mark Drewes), Gordon Burgess, Chris Roberts (designee Deano Bonano) Vinny Mosca (designee Carlo Ferrara), Lee Giorgio, Jack Stumpf, Jacquelyn Clarkson, Stacy Head, Jeffrey Schwartz, Byron Marinovich, Mike Ford, Darren Barrois, Charlie Ponstein, Steve Stefancik, David Munn, Steve Stefancik, Reid Falconer, Richard Kelley, Mayson Foster, Lionel Wells, Sherri LeBas (designee: Mike Stack), Jeff Davis, Larry Rase (designee: Carlton Dufrechou), V.J. St. Pierre, Natalie Robottom, Donald Villere, Sal Longoria (designee: Stefan Marks), Mike Cooper and Bob Zabbia

Attendance: 31

Consultants: Ernest Burguieres, III, Legal Counsel

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



AGENDA

1. Consideration: Approval of the August 13, 2013 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: Draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program for South Tangipahoa Urbanized Area
5. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Congestion Management: Traffic Signal Improvements
RPC Task No. C-4.14
Amount \$45,000
6. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Stage 0 Feasibility: US 190 at Maple Ridge Way
Intersection Study
RPC Task MC-9.14
Amount \$56,000

7. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Strategic Plan for Jefferson Parish, Westbank
RPC Task SGEJeff-Westbank
Amount \$125,000
8. Consideration: Public Comment Period
9. 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 August 13, 2013 Minutes

Mr. Stefancik made a motion to approve the August 13, 2013 minutes, seconded by Mr. Kelley and approved unanimously as noted by the Chairman.

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

Mr. Brooks referred the members to page 4-5 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 Mr. Ponstein, seconded by Councilmember Clarkston 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: 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 Stefancik 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: Draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program for South Tangipahoa Urbanized Area

Mr. Roesel referred the members to the handouts on the table for the Draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program for South Tangipahoa and provided a brief explanation.

**5. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Congestion Management: Traffic Signal Improvements
RPC Task No. C-4.14
Amount \$45,000**

Mr. Brooks explained the purpose of this task is to provide high-level conceptual traffic signal design services in order to improve the intersections of two major intersections in Kenner, Louisiana.

Mr. Brooks referred the members to page 7 which listed respondents to the Request for Qualifications. Following RPC staff review and ranking, Urban Systems 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 Mr. Kelley 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: Consultant Selection:
Stage 0 Feasibility: US 190 at Maple Ridge Way
Intersection Study
RPC Task MC-9.14
Amount \$56,000**

Mr. Brooks explained the purpose of this task is to evaluate and make recommendations for improving operational capacity and safety along US 190 in the vicinity of Maple Ridge Way in Covington, Louisiana. Mr. Brooks referred the members to page 8 which listed respondents to the Request for Qualifications. Following RPC staff review and ranking, Neel-Shaffer 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.

**7. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Strategic Plan for Jefferson Parish, Westbank
RPC Task SGEJeff-Westbank
Amount \$125,000**

Mr. Brooks explained the purpose of this study is to evaluate and make recommendations for development scenarios in Fairfield on the Jefferson Parish Westbank. Mr. Brooks referred the members to page 9 which listed respondents to the Request for Qualifications. Following RPC staff review and ranking, Digital 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. Stumpf, seconded by Mr. Giorgio 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: Public Comment Period

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

7. Consideration: Other Matters

Mr. Brooks introduced a resolution to the board, Mississippi River Trail, Stage 0 Feasibility Study, Plaquemines Parish, State Project No. H010912

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the resolution and to authorize the Chairman and/or Executive Director to execute any documents in connection with this project. It was so moved by Councilmember Marinovich, 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.

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**

September 10, 2013

Committee Members: Chairman David Peralta, Patricia Brister, Treasurer John Young (designee Mark Drewes), Gordon Burgess, Chris Roberts (designee Deano Bonano) Vinny Mosca (designee Carlo Ferrara), Lee Giorgio, Jack Stumpf, Jacquelyn Clarkson, Stacy Head, Jeffrey Schwartz, Byron Marinovich, Mike Ford, Darren Barrois, Charlie Ponstein, Steve Stefancik, David Munn, Steve Stefancik, Richard Kelley, Mayson Foster, Lionel Wells, Sherri LeBas (designee: Mike Stack),

Attendance: 21

Consultants: Ernest Burguieres, Legal Counsel

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



AGENDA

1. Consideration: Approval of the August 13, 2013 minutes
2. Committee Reports: (a) Budget and Personnel Committee
Consideration: Updates to the RPC Policies & Procedures
(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: Draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program for South Tangipahoa Urbanized Area
- 7. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
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Intersection Study - RPC Task MC-9.14
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- 9. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Strategic Plan for Jefferson Parish, Westbank
RPC Task SGEJeff-Westbank
Amount \$125,000
- 10. Presentation: Targeting Quality Jobs for In-Demand Occupations
By: Dr. Allison Plyer, Executive Director
Greater New Orleans Community Data Center (GNOCDC)
- 11. Consideration: Travel Request
- 12. Consideration: Contract Extensions
- 13. Consideration: Consultant Billings
- 14. Consideration: Public Comment Period
- 15. Consideration: Other Matters



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

1. Consideration: Approval of August 13, 2013 Minutes

The minutes from the meeting of August 13, 2013 were approved upon a motion by Mr. Kelley, seconded by Councilmember Stefancik and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

- 2. Committee Reports:**
- (a) **Budget & Personnel**
Consideration: Updates to the RPC Policies & Procedures
 - (b) **Other Committee Reports**

Mr. Silvey explained item (a) would be deferred to a later date and 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 11 of the meeting packet for the balance sheet for the month ending July 31, 2013. He indicated that the RPC's total Assets and Liabilities, which include the Fund Balance) in the amount of \$2,319,133.78

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the balance sheet of local activities budget revisions. It was so moved by Mr. Kelley, seconded by President St. Pierre

and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman

Mr. Silvey then referred the members to page 12 of the meeting packet for the monthly budget report. There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the monthly budget report. It was so moved by Mr. Stumpf, seconded by Mr. Munn and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, 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: Draft Metropolitan Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program for South Tangipahoa Urbanized Area**
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Mr. Brooks requested concurrence of items 4-8 which were 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 4-8 in globo. It was so moved by Councilmember Stefancik seconded by Mr. Ponstein and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

- 4. Presentation: Targeting Quality Jobs for In Demand Occupations
By: Dr. Allison Plyer, Executive Director
Greater New Orleans Community Data Center (GNOCDC)**

Amber Seely of the RPC staff introduced Dr. Plyer to the board. Dr. Plyer began her presentation, Targeting Quality Jobs for In Demand Occupations. She explained the purpose is to provide region with a better measure of current cost of living for a variety of applications. Provide data to aid decision-making processes for economic development strategies and WIB investments. She explained to the board the Targeting Quality Jobs for In-Demand Occupations are to Create Basic Economic Security Tables (BEST) for all Louisiana parishes, Identify industry clusters that have more job openings that pay “BEST” wages, Identify high growth and high demand occupations in region that pay “BEST” wages, and share the information through key stakeholder presentations and a final report. The RPC has commissioned BEST Index for each parish in the entire state of Louisiana and they can be found (and downloaded) for FREE online here: BasicEconomicSecurity.org Data is also available for comparison to

national average and to other specific areas in the country. Mr. Brooks thanked Dr. Plyer for her presentation.

5. Consideration: Travel Request

Mr. Silvey referred Members to page 13 of the packet and pointed out that one staff member (Rebecca Otte) is requesting to attend the 2013 EPA Region 6 Brownfield Partners Forum, October 23-24, 2013

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

13. Consideration: Contract Extensions

Mr. Silvey referred the board to page 14 and explained that the extensions were a time extension only.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the extensions. It was so moved by Mr. Kelley seconded by Councilmember Stefancik 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 15 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. Kelley, seconded by Councilmember Clarkson 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 introduced a resolution to the board, Mississippi River Trail, Stage 0 Feasibility Study, Plaquemines Parish, State Project No. H010912

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the resolution 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. Giorgio and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

There being no other matters to discuss, the Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. 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.