





**Agenda Item # 5**

*Locally Funded Projects Updates (Parish/Municipal Staff and/or Consultants)*

***Terrebonne Parish:***

M. Claudet gave locally funded project updates for Terrebonne Parish.

- The extension of Westside Boulevard from Martin Luther King Boulevard through to Equity Bridge is progressing forward.
- Terrebonne Parish is attempting to get the Cannatas Bridge from DOTD.
- There are funds in place to overlay Thompson Road.
- Hollywood Road is on schedule and should let by September of 2013.
- Terrebonne Parish will need cooperation with regards to the lighting and right turn lanes for the Bayou Gardens Extension.
- The Valhi extension is completed.
- The parish is in the process of acquiring right of ways for the Country Drive project.

M. Claudet stated that he noticed Westside Boulevard phases on the letting schedule and informed the committee that those phases have been completed with parish funds.

***City of Thibodaux:***

L. Sposito gave locally funded project updates for the City of Parish.

- The letting of North Canal was moved from January 2014 to June 2014.

There was no representative from the Town of Lockport or Lafourche Parish to give an update.

**Agenda Item # 6**

*South Central Planning and Development Commission's Transportation Division Quarterly Activity Reports & Sub-Committee Reports*

***South Central Regional Transportation Safety Program Update  
(Rudynah Capone, SCPDC Transportation Division Staff)***

R. Capone informed the committee that the 2013 Traffic Safety Summit will take place on May 15<sup>th</sup> at Nicholls State University. She stated that the Coalition is working to purchase a DWI breath/alcohol testing unit through a DOTD safety grant in order to assist with efforts to combat alcohol related crashes. The unit will be shared by all law enforcement agencies in the Troop B and C areas. The proposal will be presented on May 29th to the Implementation Team. K. Belanger interjected that SCPDC only has commitments by the sheriff's in Lafourche and Terrebonne parishes.

R. Capone stated that the Coalition is also trying to get more funding for teen driving safety via the State Farm safety grant. There is also coordination with DOT and LTAP in order to conduct a curve projects. Two hundred and fifty horizontal curve locations have been identified in the parishes of Assumption, Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. John the Baptist, St. James, and St. Charles. Each parish was sent the list in order to assist with the prioritization of each location. R. Capone informed the committee that Road Safety Assessments (RSA's) on local roadways that have been identified as high crash locations are completed for the City of Thibodaux, Lafourche Parish, St. Charles Parish, St. James Parish, and St. John the Baptist. Terrebonne and Assumption

parishes will be completed next. She also notified the committee that 70 child seats were inspected during the month of March. R. Capone updated the committee on LADOTD's plans to place rumble strips and signal ahead stop signs on LA 3235; the project is scheduled to be let in October 2013.

K. Belanger stated that he was informed that pedestrians are crossing the intersection of Martin Luther King Boulevard and Enterprise Drive without any safety apparatuses. He added that he recently observed a gentleman in a motorized wheelchair attempting to cross the same intersection. K. Belanger suggested that considerations should be made in the future for points of access in order for pedestrians to travel safely across Martin Luther King Boulevard.

**Agenda Item # 7**

*Adoption of Unified Planning Work Program (Josh Manning, Staff)*

D. Babin introduced the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), and stated that the Technical Advisory Committee approved and recommended that the Policy Committee adopt said plan. L. Marretta added that the UPWP is the HTMPO's annual work plan.

***It was motioned by G. Hood to adopt the Unified Planning Work Program, J. Guidry seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Agenda Item # 8**

*Adoption of Regional Bike and Pedestrian Plan*

L. Marretta informed the committee that this plan has been worked on since 2009. J. Manning added that during the last years, MPO staff has met with parish planning staff members, members of the community, and individuals that are passionate about bicycling in order to form the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. He explained that the plan will be a living document; therefore, changes can be made to improve the plan. J. Manning stated that the plan will also be included in the long range plan, the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

***It was motioned by J. Naquin to adopt the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, J. Guidry seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Agenda Item # 9**

*TIP Amendment: H.002244 Boudreaux Canal Bridge*

J. Manning stated that TIP Amendment: H.002244 is for the Federal fiscal year 2015-2016. He added that it is under DOTD's request that projects be placed in our Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). He explained that TIP Amendment H.002244 will authorize construction to begin on the Boudreaux Canal Bridge.

***It was motioned by D. Guidry to approve TIP Amendment h. 002244, G. Hood seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Agenda Item # 10**

*New Urban Boundaries and Planning Area*

J. Manning stated that every ten years, when the Census is released, urban areas are designated. He presented a map which displayed the census designated urban area. He explained that to avoid confusion with the boundaries, the census designated area was smoothed to create the smoothed urbanized area for the Houma-Thibodaux Metropolitan Planning Organization (HTMPO). J. Manning requests that the committee approve the smoothed area for the HTMPO.

He then explained that the green portion of the map is considered the planning area. The planning area is the portion to be modeled when the HTMPO's long range transportation plan is being updated. L. Marretta added that the \$3 million dollars received by the HTMPO annually can be spent within the green planning area. J. Manning requests that the committee approve the above mentioned maps as the new smoothed urban boundary and planning area maps for the HTMPO.

***It was motioned by J. Naquin to approve the new urban boundaries and planning area maps for the Houma- Thibodaux Metropolitan Planning Organization (HTMPO), D. Guidry seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Agenda Item # 11**

*Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update Process*

J. Manning provided the committee members with a portion of the HTMPO's Public Participation Plan, Planned Specific Guidelines 6.0. He explained that these guidelines specify the steps that must be taken in order to update any plans for the HTMPO, including the TIP, UPWP and MTP. He stated that the last MTP update was adopted in May 2010. He informed the committee that an update must be adopted every five years; therefore, the next update must be adopted by May 2015. He explained that in past years, DOTD has hired consultants to assist with updating the MTP. J. Manning informed the committee that the 2015 update will be done in-house.

**Agenda Item # 12**

*Ozone and Particulate Matter Advance Program*

M. Vince with the Louisiana Department of Environment Quality (LADEQ) presented information regarding the Ozone and Particulate Matter Advance Program. He informed the committee that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has made changes to the Particulate Matter standard. Therefore, the benefits of the Ozone Advance Program have been expanded in order to cover Particulate Matter. The committee was asked to approve a proposal to the EPA, requesting that the Houma-Thibodaux Metropolitan Planning Organization (HTMPO) area be included in the Advance Program for Particulate Matter. He explained that the Advance Program allows groups to document efforts made, so that when the Ozone standard decreases, the group is able to demonstrate to the EPA that proactive steps were taken in order to reduce emissions that are being generated within the specific geographic area.

L. Marretta asked M. Vince to explain some of the implications associated with being in non-attainment. M. Vince responded that, with regards to Ozone, an area in non-attainment will be at risk for conducting Transportation Conformity Analysis on all transportation projects. He added that conducting this analysis will add additional burden and costs to those projects.

M. Claudet asked M. Vince is there any disadvantage associated with the HTMPO voting to participate in the Ozone and Particulate Matter Advance Program. M. Vince explained that there are no disadvantages.

***It was motioned by M. Claudet to approve the proposal to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requesting that Houma- Thibodaux Metropolitan Planning Organization (HTMPO) area be included in the Advance Program for Particulate Matter, G. Hood seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Agenda Item # 13**

*Other Business*

There was no further business.

**Agenda Item # 14**

*HTMPO Meeting Calendar*

*Next Policy Committee Meeting - Thursday, July 25, 2013 at 11:30 A.M.*

**Agenda Item # 15**

*Adjournment*

***It was motioned by A. Williams to adjourn the meeting at approximately 12:58p.m., G. Hood seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***