

# M E E T I N G M I N U T E S

**HTMPO Policy Committee Meeting**

**Date:** January 28, 2021

**Meeting Location:** SCPDC's Pelican Room, Gray, LA.

**In Attendance:**

<b>Committee:</b>	<p><b>Present:</b> Archie Chaisson, Lafourche Parish President Mayor Tommy Eschete, City of Thibodaux Gordon Dove, Terrebonne Parish President – proxy Chris Pulaski John Amedee, TPCG Council Danny Babin, TPCG Council Dirk Guidry, TPCG Council Christopher Morvant, LA DOTD District 02 Laura Phillips, Federal Highway Administration LA Division</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Jeff Naquin, APPJ President Mayor Ron Animashaun, Village of Napoleonville Michael Gros, LPG Council Gerald Michel, TPCG Council Darrin Guidry, TPCG</p>
<b>Staff:</b>	<p>Pat Gordon, SCPDC Shannon Edgeron, SCPDC Josh Manning, SCPDC Cassie Parker, SCPDC</p>
<b>Others in Attendance:</b>	<p>Chris Rogers, LA DOTD Dawn Sholmire, LADOTD Jeffery Leuenberger, Lafourche Parish Government Pat Matherne, Lafourche Parish Government John Warren, Lafourche Parish Government Beryl Amedee, LA State Representative Dist. 51</p>

D. Guidry called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 pm.

Invocation: J. Amedee

Pledge of Allegiance: D. Babin

The following proxy letters were submitted: C. Pulaski for G. Dove

Introductions took place. First those present, then those online.

**Agenda Item #1**

***General Public Comment***

No Public Comments were received.

## **Agenda Item #2**

### ***Adoption of Meeting Minutes from October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 HT-MPO Policy Committee Meeting.***

***It was motioned by C. Pulaski to approve the meeting minutes of the HT-MPO Policy Committee Meeting held October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020. J. Amedee seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

## **Agenda Item #3**

### ***Project Updates***

#### ***a. Current DOTD Project Updates***

C. Rogers updated the Policy Committee on the following projects:

##### **Lafourche Parish:**

- LA 3235 Improvements at LA 3161, 3162, and 657 has been completed.
- US 90 overlay from the east end barrier wall to the Des Allemands bridge is 60% complete.
- LA 1 Overlay from Leeville Bridge to Falgout Lane in Golden Meadow is 35% complete, contractor is working on drainage in Golden Meadow.
- The McCloud Bridge Approaches is approximately 50% complete.
- Overlay of US 90/LA 308 to the east end of the barrier wall will soon begin.
- Approach Slab Levelling of LA 315, 3087, 24, and 20 is set to begin.
- LA 3197 Overlay Project is set to go out for bid on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- Overlay of LA 1/Valentine Bridge to Larose is set to go out for bid on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- LA 1 Overlay from Elsen Lane to LA 182 goes to bid on March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

##### **Terrebonne Parish:**

- LA 182 Roundabout at Hollywood Road has been completed.
- LA 24 Company Canal Bridge Replacement project, LA 316 road work is expected to begin in March with bridge closure expected in May.
- LA 24 overlay from Ducros Road in Schriever to St. Charles Street in Houma, is approximately 20% complete. Contractor is currently paving from St. George Road southward.
- The Hansen Canal Bridge Replacement is 30% complete.
- LA 55 Concrete Panel Repairs Project construction has begun.

#### ***b. Locally Funded Project Updates***

C. Pulaski stated he did not have anything to report for Terrebonne Parish.

Mayor Eschete provided an update on Local Projects within the City of Thibodaux.

##### **City of Thibodaux:**

- Began the design phase for the replacement of a Canal Blvd Bridge.

#### ***c. STP<200K Projects Update***

J. Manning gave a brief update on the STP<200K Projects. He relayed the three (3) Village of Napoleonville projects have been cancelled due to the lack of local match funding. The Lafourche Parish Sidewalk Projects have been postponed for one year. The City of Thibodaux's Audubon Ave Overlay Project and Downtown Thibodaux Sidewalks entity-state agreement has been issued. The Acadian Roundabout plans have been completed and are currently under review. The request for advertising for construction and CEI for the Terrebonne Civic Center Sidewalks Project has submitted. Terrebonne Parish is currently working on the utility certification for the LA 24 Sidewalk Rehab Project. The entity-state agreement has been signed for the Valhi Blvd Multi-Use Trail Ph. 1 and the Bayou Blue (LA 316) Sidewalks.

He also provided a brief update on Safe Routes/Transportation Alternatives/SA LR Projects which are ongoing. He stated in Lafourche Parish, the SRTS Bayou Blue & Raceland Project has completed

the infrastructure portion of the project; however, the deadline to complete non-infrastructure activities has been extended due to COVID-19. The SA LR Striping & Signage has received DOTD's recommendation to advance. In Terrebonne, the Williams Ave Multi-Use Trail Project is waiting on environmental clearance and entity-state agreement. The consultant for the MLK Feasibility Study is still in the process of collecting data and reviewing crash reports.

#### **Agenda Item #4**

##### ***Committee Report***

###### ***a. Safety Coalition***

C. Parker relayed the Safety Coalition met the day prior to the Policy Committee. She reviewed data received on current fatality stats. She stated that preliminary data shows fatal injuries and suspected serious injuries are expected to be higher than in 2019. However, there were fewer crashes in 2020 than in previous years. In the South Central Region data shows from 2018-2019 fatalities increased 11% with no increase/decrease in suspected serious injuries. C. Parker also reviewed Safety Concerns submitted. LA 316 at Bayou Gardens extension study has been completed while the Chackbay Elementary School caution lights permit process has begun. She briefly reviewed highlighted SHSP 2021 Goals.

###### ***b. Transit/TDM Committee***

J. Manning introduced S. Edgerson who will begin overseeing the Regional Transit Committee. J. Manning then announced at their last meeting held, the Regional Transit Committee voted to adopt the 2020 Coordinated Human Transportation Service Plan (CHSTP) Update. Committee members discussed various operations during the past year and how they have been impacted by the pandemic. J. Manning stated that it has been determined the 2020 CHSTP Update must be adopted by the Policy Committee. To his knowledge this is the first time the committee has been required by DOTD to do so. He relayed how the Public Participation Plan will be revised as well as the Bylaws to include and recognize the Regional Transit Committee has an official committee of the MPO.

###### ***i. TDM Sub-Committee***

J. Manning explained the TDM Program focuses on increasing roadway capacity by attempting to reduce the demand on the roadway primarily through the exploration of ridesharing programs. A working group has been formed to explore options for implementing a vanpool program at Fletcher Technical College.

###### ***c. Technical Advisory Committee***

Included within the meeting packet was the draft of minutes from the last TAC meeting held for the Policy Committee members to review.

###### ***i. Amtrak Sub-Committee***

P. Gordon stated there has been no change in the status of the Schriever Station renovations. However, forward movement is being made on the expansion of the Sunset Limited to Mobile, AL.

#### **Agenda Item #5**

##### ***2020 Annual Report***

J. Manning briefly reviewed the HTMPO 2020 Annual Report. For those who wanted to study further, he provided a link to the complete listing of all MPO projects. \$65,735,276.95 of funds was obligated on various roadway projects within the HT-MPO Region. Projects using STP<200K funds totaled \$6,055,711.92 with

\$1,082,316.45 was returned to FHWA from previous years. Bicycle and pedestrian projects totaled \$281,611.29.

### **Agenda Item #6**

#### ***Safety Performance Targets***

The FAST Act established five performance measures related to highway safety. Federal regulations require LADOTD to establish and report statewide highway safety performance targets each year by February 27th. MPOs are required to either adopt and support the LADOTD's statewide targets or set their own targets. J. Manning reviewed the current highway safety performance measures, their target planning tool, and the results for both the state and MPO area.

***It was motioned by C. Pulaski to adopt the LHSC recommended statewide targets for each of the five highway safety performance measures. A. Chaisson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

### **Agenda Item #7**

#### ***Transportation Improvement Program***

- a. ***H.002244 LA 56: Boudreaux Canal MB Replacement: Add Engineering Phase @ \$25K of STPFLEX at 80/20 in FFY2021. Also, add Construction Phase @ \$23,703,690.00 of STPFLEX at 80/20 in FFY2022.***
- b. ***H.013940 648 & Acadia Road Intersection Improvement: Add Right-of-Way phase @ \$575K of STP<200K at 80/20 in FY2022.***
- c. ***H.013493 Washington Street Sidewalks: H.013500 Dr. Martin Luther King Sidewalks Ph 1; H.013501 Dr. Martin Luther King Sidewalks Ph 2: Remove projects from TIP.***
- d. ***Lafourche Parish Projects Postponement***
  - i. ***H.013402 – LA 1 & LA 308 Ped and Multi-Use Path***
  - ii. ***H.013403 – LA 20 & LA 304 Sidewalk Imp (Chackbay)***
  - iii. ***H.013404 – LA1 Sidewalks***
  - iv. ***H.013490 – Central Lafourche Multi-Use Path***
- e. ***Ratification of Administrative Modifications***

J. Manning reviewed the proposed TIP Amendments. It was then ***motioned by T. Eschete to amend the TIP to reflect the proposed amendments. D. Babin seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

### **Agenda Item #8**

#### ***Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan – Receive Public Comments and Consider for Adoption***

J. Manning relayed the public comment received via email by Ms. L. Fleagle. Her concern pertained to transportation of patients from the MPO area to service providers in larger metropolitan areas, such as New Orleans and Baton Rouge. She stated the MPO area has many patients who need transportation for advanced treatments. She suggested that the inability of these patients to find transportation to these treatment centers should be studied and addressed. J. Manning stated he plans to bring this suggestion to the Regional Transit Committee for further discussion.

***It was motioned by J. Amedee to adopt the CHSTP as updated. D. Babin seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

### **Agenda Item #9**

#### ***Proposal to Amend Article V of the MPO Bylaws to include a representative appointed by the Louisiana Motor Transport Association on the Technical Advisory Committee.***

J. Manning explained that it has been highly encouraged by DOTD to have a representative from the Trucking Industry on the Technical Advisory Committee. After much discussion at the previous TAC meeting

held in November, it was suggested for staff to reach to Mr. Cully Frisard of St. James Parish who sits on the LMTA Board and is partner of the Safety Coalition. After having met with staff, Ms. R. Amar and Mr. C. Frisard has agreed to appoint a member on to the TAC who is local to the region.

***It was motioned by D. Babin to amend Article V of the MPO Bylaws to include a representative appointed by LMTA on the HT-MPO TAC. Seconded by J. Amedee. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Agenda Item #10**

***Adjournment***

***It was motioned by C. Pulaski to adjourn, seconded by J. Amedee. Motion carried unanimously.***

DRAFT