

Houma – Thibodaux  
Metropolitan Planning Organization (HTMPO)

South Central Planning and Development Commission Office  
5058 West Main Street, Gray, LA 70359  
985-851-2900

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

**HTMPO Technical Advisory Committee Meeting**      **Date:** March 14, 2013

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

**In Attendance**

<b>Committee:</b>	Director of Planning and Zoning, TPCG – Patrick Gordon, Present Director of Public Works, TPCG – Greg Bush, Present Engineering Division, TPCG – Represented by Joan Schexnayder, Present Operations Manager, Roads and Bridges Division, TPCG – Perry Blanchard, Present Public Transit Manager, TPCG – Wendell Voisin, Present Public Works Director, Lafourche Parish – Represented by Terry Arabie, Present Planning Department, Lafourche Parish – Pat Matherne, Present Parish Manager/Public Works Director, Assumption Parish – Represented by Erin Watson, Absent Public Works Director, City of Thibodaux – Miguel Maggio, Absent Grants Director, City of Thibodaux – Luci Sposito, Absent Mayor, Town of Lockport – Paul Champagne, Absent Office of Planning and Programming, LA DOTD – Dan Broussard, Present District 02 Traffic Engineer, LA DOTD – Dennis Hebert, Absent District 02 Maintenance Engineer, LA DOTD – Lyle Leblanc, Present Public Transportation Administrator, LA DOTD – Donna Lavigne, Absent Federal Highway Administration – Brandon Buckner, Present
<b>Staff:</b>	Leo Marretta, SCPDC Scott Leger, SCPDC Josh Manning, SCPDC Rudynah Capone, SCPDC Cassie Parker, SCPDC
<b>Others in Attendance:</b>	Dawn Sholmire, DOTD Wayne Thibodeaux, Houma Terrebonne Housing Authority Chris Pulaski, TPCG Ken Watkins, Chamber of Commerce Port Commission

**Agenda Item # 1**

*Roll Call and Introductions*

Introductions took place at approximately 10:00 AM

**Agenda Item # 2**

*Adoption of TAC Meeting Minutes from December 13, 2012.*

***L. Leblanc motions to approve the December 13, 2012 meeting minutes, P. Blanchard seconds the motion. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Agenda Item # 3**

*LA DOTD Project Update*

L. Leblanc gave LA DOTD's project updates

- DOTD is in the process of completing the overlay on Highway 90.
- He stated that that Highway 3235 will begin being overlaid this week.
- The bridge in Larose was opened.
- He informed the committee that there are a few streets in Grand Isle that are being overlaid at this time. He also stated that a man toll booth was placed on the Leeville Bridge which will be used to collect tolls during the peak hours.
- An overlay on Highway 20, from Chacahoula to Gibson, is approaching.
- Micro surfacing will be done on Highway 308 and Highway 304 in the City of Thibodaux.
- In approximately one month, DOTD will be letting a right turn lane at Martin Luther King Boulevard and Bayou Gardens for Terrebonne Parish.
- He informed the committee that there will be an overlay done on Lafayette Street.
- DOTD is in the process of relocating utilities on Highway 57 in order to allow the contractors to begin widening Grand Caillou Road.
- A maintenance overlay on Bayou Sale Road is approaching.
- He stated that DOTD is trying to move up the overlay on Grand Caillou Road.
- The Prospect Bridge was opened approximately one and one half weeks ago.
- He informed that a lane will be closed for the construction being done on the Navigational Canal Bridge.

**Agenda Item # 4**

*Other Local Project Updates*

Terrebonne

J. Shexnayder gives the project update for Terrebonne Parish

- St. Anne Bridge is under construction.
- Thirteen right of ways have been acquired for the Country Drive Widening project.
- The clearing and grubbing has been done for the utility relocation for the Hollywood Road project. She stated that the utility relocations are currently under negotiations and should let in September.
- Terrebonne Parish began the base work for the Bayou Gardens extension in January.
- The bridge for Dularge is being manufactured. She informed the committee that site work should begin in April.
- In the process of awarding a contract for the Denley Road and Industrial Boulevard turn lane.
- The Falgout Canal Pontoon Bridge design phase is at 65 percent.

J. Manning informed the committee that F. Borne, the project manager for the Hollywood Road project, stated that everything should be ready to let in September. He stated that SCPDC is in the process of retrieving traffic counts for F. Borne.

**28.50 - Stopped**

**Agenda Item # 5**

*Draft UPWP – Vote for PC Recommendation*

C. Pulaski gave an update on Terrebonne Parish's Comprehensive Plan. He informed the committee that Terrebonne Parish's Master Plan update was adopted by the Planning Commission at the end of November 2012. On December 19, 2012, it will be presented to the Council.

The Transportation element of the document has information with regards to the public transit system and ways to improve it, how the transportation plan ties into other elements of the Master Plan, understanding non-motorized modes of transportation and implementing the complete streets policy, pedestrian and bicyclist infrastructure, as well as, policy objectives and strategies. He informed everyone that the full Master Plan can be located on the Terrebonne Parish website ([tpcg.org/planning](http://tpcg.org/planning)).

**Agenda Item # 6**

*TIP Amendment- h.002244 Boudreaux Canal Bridge*

R. Capone informed the committee that South Central Planning and Development Commission has a three (3) year contract with the Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) to develop a regional version of the Statewide Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP). She further explained that there is a subcommittee to the South Central Regional Transportation Safety Plan (SCRTSP) committee, which is Infrastructure and Operations. The subcommittee recently conducted a Road Safety Assessment (RSA) on the top three (3) high crash roadways in the City of Thibodaux; those roadways included: St. Patrick Street, Acadia Road and Audubon Avenue. She stated that the committee is still awaiting the official report from the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) team. She commented that a roundabout was suggested as a possible solution for the intersection at Acadia Road and Audubon Avenue.

L. Leblanc added that there is a large section of right of way at the intersection at Acadia Road and Audubon Avenue. He also stated that, in the interim, the signal lights can be adjusted to assist with the problem.

R. Capone informed the committee that DOTD, with their Strategic Highway Safety Plan in place, has opened applications available to local agencies to apply for grant funding in order to implement their local safety projects.

L. Leblanc commented on the LA 3235 Safety Project. He informed the committee that the speed limit on this particular corridor is 65 miles per hour. He states that, according to traffic studies, there is no justification to lower the speed limit. Instead of lowering the speed limit, there will be certain safety measures that will be implemented. Those measures include the following: placing turn lanes at certain sections of the corridor, closing some of the crossovers, and modifying the slope approaching the levee on LA 24. R. Capone added that research has shown that most fatalities were concluded alcohol related.

R. Capone closed her Safety Program Update by informing the committee that the 2013 Safe Routes to School application for grant funding will open on January 1, 2013. She encourages everyone to think about an elementary or middle school that can benefit from this program. She also informed the committee that Napoleonville Middle School is applying for phase 2 of their existing sidewalk.

**Agenda Item # 7**

*MTP Update Process*

J. Manning presented the draft version of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) to the Technical Advisory Committee in order for them to recommend it to the Policy Committee. He explained that the UPWP represents the budget for the subsequent state fiscal year's planning. He stated that this year, there is a new planning dollar amount because of the 2010 Census. He explains that New Orleans lost population while other areas gained population. Therefore, the budget for this year increased, as it is reflected in the document. He stated that one particular change is shifting some funds from traffic counting to the MTP update process. He explained that traffic counting will continue to be done in support of the MTP. J. Manning informed the committee that there will be a new task, B-5 Ozone Advance Program, added to the MTP task list.

J. Schexnayder informed J. Manning that there are certain sections of the document that the date was not updated. J. Manning stated that he will correct those dates.

***L. Leblanc motions to recommend the draft UPWP, with the noted corrections, be presented to the Policy Committee for consideration, G. Bush seconds the motion. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Agenda Item # 8**

*Other Business*

J. Manning stated that Acadian Road needs to be amended to the new TIP. He explained that this project was in the previous TIP, which expired in October 2012. In order for the funding to remain available so that the project can move forward, the Technical Advisory Committee will have to approve the project be moved.

J. Manning pointed out that another change is within the Transit element of the document. He explained that Good Earth Transit's (GET) program of services, the Council on Aging's (COA), Association of Retarded Citizen's (ARC), as well as, other small transit providers are beginning their new grant application process for the 2013 fiscal year. Therefore, the 2013 fiscal year was updated in order to show what grants the transit providers are applying for.

***L. Leblanc motions to recommend that the amendments to the TIP be presented to the Policy Committee for consideration, J. Schexnayder seconds the motion. Motion carried unanimously.***

**Agenda Item # 9**

*Next Meeting Date: Thursday March 14, 2013 10:00 AM*

**Agenda Item # 14**

*Adjournment*

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:20 AM.