

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 Policy Committee Meeting

Date: October 16, 2008

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

In Attendance

Committee:	Terrebonne Parish President, Michel Claudet – Present City of Thibodaux Mayor, Charles Caillouet – Absent Terrebonne Parish Council Member, Peter Lambert – proxy Pat Gordon Terrebonne Parish Council Member, Johnny Pizzolatto - Present Terrebonne Parish Council Member, Arlanda Williams – Present Terrebonne Parish Council Member, Clayton Voisin – Present LADOTD, Michael Stack – proxy Lyle Leblanc Lafourche Parish President, Charlotte Randolph – Absent FHWA, Jamie Setze – Present
Staff:	Leo Marretta, SCPDC Joshua Manning, SCPDC Emma Bergeron, SCPDC Melissa Menuet, SCPDC
Others in Attendance:	Carroll Parr –Matherne Realty Partnership LP Ledet – Neel-Schaffer Sheila Bella - TEDA

Agenda Item # 1

Approval of Minutes from July 24, 2008 meeting

It was motioned by J. Pizzolatto to approve the minutes from the May 15, 2008 meeting, A. Williams seconded. Motion carried.

Agenda Item # 2

Public Comment

Chairman Voisin asked if there were any public comments.

Carroll Parr was introduced. He is the developer of the Matherne properties on Martin Luther King Blvd. He is currently working to extend Enterprise Dr. to LA 311 near Equity Blvd.

L. Marretta read Ms. Denise McCoy's statement into the record:

Last Thursday I had a telephone call from Ms. Denise McCoy. She had called Troop "C" to complain about the intersection of Hollywood and LA 24. Troop C gave her the MPO's phone number. It seems that she drives her child to

and from Vanderbilt every day and had several good insights into the traffic flow along Hollywood. She mentioned several trouble spots including: intersection of Hollywood and LA 24 and Hollywood and Alma. She said that she thinks that Hollywood needs a longer right turn light at MLK and there should be a left turn only lane on Enterprise going on to MLK while the right turn lane should be right and through. When I offered her a chance to express her concerns at the upcoming PC meeting, but she said that she would prefer not to speak herself. So I am reading this into the record on her behalf. We talked about the Hollywood widening project, the ITS project the traffic counting program and our MPO website. At her request I have also added her to our email list as a concerned citizen and keep her informed as to the MPO's upcoming meetings and ongoing activities.

There being no further comment, Chairman Voisin moved on to the next agenda item.

Agenda Item # 3

LADOTD Project Update

Lyle Leblanc, LADOTD Area Engineer

L. Marretta presented an overview of LA DOTD Gustav and Ike damage report pertaining to highways statewide.

L. LeBlanc updated the Committee on damage to DOTD highways sustained from the hurricanes. Such damages are as follows: trees down on roads throughout the area, erosion on LA 1, LA 56, and LA 57 among other spots. He reported that the FHWA listed the repairs needed as Permanent repairs as opposed to Emergency repairs, causing delay in addressing the situation since Permanent repairs require 90 days before a contract can be let. Discussion ensues. L. Leblanc says temporary repairs will be made in the worst spots before the 90 days are up.

L. LeBlanc then updated the Committee on DOTD projects in Terrebonne and Lafourche. Such projects are as follows: overlay of the Gheens road, LA 308 between St. Patrick and Tiger Dr., LA 1 service roads, US 90 from LA 311 to LA 316, LA 56 from Presque Isle to Marty J's; left turn lane will be added where Klondyke Rd. intersects LA 24; safety projects on LA 316 and LA 308 that will add shoulders and sub-service drains; left turn lanes on LA 311; raising the road by Chauvin brothers. He also reported that the bridge to replace the Pontoon bridge in Larose let at 32 million, so is temporarily on hold. Also, they are still waiting on monies to raise LA 315 in Dularge high enough to make a difference, though he still expects the project to be completed before next hurricane season.

J. Setz asked what utility is missing from the Prospect Bridge project. L. Leblanc says the delay has more to do with movable parts than utilities. Discussion ensued. No action necessary.

Agenda Item # 4

Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update Project

LP Ledet, Neel-Schaffer, Inc

Chairman C. Voisin introduced the next item for discussion: the Metropolitan Transportation Plan update Project. LP Ledet of Neel-Schaffer, Inc. described the study area and explained the information needed for the modeling process.

L. Marretta explained that all entities need a thoroughfare plan and that the MPO staff needs a copy of the plan for the MTP to be most effective. Discussion ensued. No action necessary.

Agenda Item # 5

Set new date for the first MTP Update Project Steering Committee Meeting

L. Marretta recommended November 13, 2008 to for the first MTP Steering Committee and Public meeting. The MTP Steering committee will meet at 5:30pm, and the Public meeting will be immediately following at 6:00pm.

P. Gordon motioned to approve this date. Seconded by J. Pizzolatto Motion passed with no discussion.

Agenda Item # 6

Staff Report

Hurricane Evacuation Traffic Counting Project Report

Josh Manning, HTMPO Staff

J. Manning discussed the MPO's traffic count program in general and then focused to the counts taken during the Hurricane Gustav evacuations. He explained that counts were placed at all roads leading out of the area, including LA 20, LA 1, LA 308, LA 70, and US 90. These counts were then used to determine which routes were used most during the evacuation. Discussion ensued. No action necessary.

Agenda Item # 7

Staff Report

HTMPO Website Updates and the Graphical Presentation of TIP Projects

Josh Manning, HTMPO Staff

L. Marretta recommended that Agenda Item #7 be postponed until a later meeting. No action necessary.

Agenda Item # 8

Staff Report

Coordinated Human Services Transportation Planning Effort Update

Leo Marretta, HTMPO Staff

Chairman Voisin asked L. Marretta to give an update on the Coordinated Human Services planning effort. Mr. Marretta said that the MPO has received a grant of \$10,000, and that Martha Cazaubon of the SCPDC/HTMPO staff has agreed to coordinate the effort. No action necessary.

Agenda Item # 10

Other Business

L. Marretta asked J. Setz to explain any federal regulations regarding bringing Assumption Parish and the Town of Lockport into the MPO. Mr. Setz said that while federal guidelines encourage the MPOs to have all the entities included in their borders represented in some way, it is left to the individual MPOs to decide how it should be implemented.

In other business, L. Marretta informed the committee that he included paperwork on the Local Road Safety Program and a list of possible funding sources for local road projects in the meeting packet as resources for MPO members.

Agenda Item # 11
Determine date of next HTMPO Policy Committee meeting

It was motioned by J. Pizzolatto and seconded by J. Setz the next meeting date of the Houma-Thibodaux Policy Committee would be held on January 8, 2009 at 12:00 PM. Motion carried.

Agenda Item # 12
Adjournment

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by J. Setz, seconded by P. Gordon. Motion carried.

Date: December 9, 2008
Copies to: MPO Policy Committee, MPO Interested Parties List, file