

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 N O T E S

HTMPO Policy Committee Meeting

Date: November 12, 2009

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

In Attendance

Committee:	Terrebonne Parish President, Michel Claudet – Proxy Al Levron City of Thibodaux Mayor, Charles Caillouet – Proxy Bonnie Lafont Terrebonne Parish Council Member, Peter Lambert – Proxy Pat Gordon Terrebonne Parish Council Member, Johnny Pizzolatto – Proxy Suzette Thomas Terrebonne Parish Council Member, Arlanda Williams – Present Terrebonne Parish Council Member, Clayton Voisin – Present LADOTD, Michael Stack – Absent Lafourche Parish President, Charlotte Randolph – proxy Terry Arabie Town of Lockport Mayor, Richard Champagne – Present Assumption Parish President, Marty Triche – proxy Erin Watson FHWA, Jamie Setze – Absent
Staff:	Leo Marretta, SCPDC Joshua Manning, SCPDC Scott Leger, SCPDC
Others in Attendance:	Dennis Hebert – LA DOTD Vijay Kunada – NSI Emery Chauvin – LA DOTD Linda Pertiot – Lafourche COA Gregory Boudreaux – Bayou Cane Fire Department Kermit Kramer – BDR Garry Hutchinson – BCC Sgt. Matt Trahan – LSP Troop C Ricky Galloway – Duplantis Design Group Anne Picou – TPCG Pat Matherne – Lafourche Parish Government Eric Faucheaux – City of Thibodaux

Roll Call

L. Marretta called roll.

Call to Order

C. Voisin called the meeting to order at 12:05pm.

Invocation

S. Thomas led the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

R. Champagne led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item # 1

Approval of Minutes from August 13, 2009 Policy Committee Meeting

It was motioned by P. Gordon to approve the minutes from the August 13, 2009 meeting, R. Champagne seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item # 2

Public Comment

Chairman Voisin asked if there were any public comments.

No action necessary.

Agenda Item # 3

*Results of the October 21, 2009 "White Board" Meeting with DOTD
Leo Marretta, MPO Administrator and Josh Manning, MPO Transportation Planner*

L. Marretta and J. Manning gave an update on the "White Board" meeting held with DOTD and FHWA on Oct. 27th in Baton Rouge. They reported that the TIP is currently over programmed because of the types of projects being included – capacity type projects. The staff recommended that smaller projects be included in the TIP, such as turning lanes, road stripping, and light coordination.

L. Marretta suggested that "back-up" projects be developed and included in the TIP. These projects would then be "ready-to-go" in the event that one of the capacity projects in any particular year is again pushed back.

At 12:13, A. Williams joined the meeting. At 12:15, E. Watson, proxy for M. Triche, joined the meeting.

Discussion ensued for options related to the TIP.

P. Gordon motioned that no MPO meetings be held on the same day as a DOTD Road Show meeting (being held later that evening). Motion died due to lack of a second.

L. Marretta explained that this Policy Committee meeting was scheduled and advertised before MPO staff was made aware of Road Show dates.

P. Gordon requested that another Policy Committee meeting be held in December with DOTD representatives present.

No action necessary.

Agenda Item # 4

*Report on the October 27, 2009 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting and two sub-committee meetings
Leo Marretta, MPO Administrator*

L. Marretta reported on the Technical Advisory Committee meeting held on Oct. 27, 2009 and requested that additional representation from Assumption and Lockport be added to the committee.

It was motioned by T. Arabie to appoint Bobby Naquin, Public Works Director of Assumption Parish, and Richard Champagne, Mayor of Lockport, to the Technical Advisory Committee. A. Levron seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item # 5

*Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan
Scott Leger, MPO Transit Planner and GIS Administrator*

This item was tabled at the last Policy Committee meeting.

S. Leger briefly updated the Policy Committee on the Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan and associated meetings.

It was motioned by S. Thomas to adopt the Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan, P. Gordon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Items # 6

*COA and ARC TIP Letters
Leo Marretta, MPO Administrator*

It was motioned by T. Arabie to approve the inclusion of Lafourche Council on Aging and Lafourche ARC's requests in the TIP, if they are approved by LA DOTD. R. Champagne seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item # 7

*Bayou Country Cyclist club (BCC) Presentation
Matt Trahan, LA State Police Troop C and BCC*

Matt Trahan from the Bayou Country Cyclist Club gave a presentation on the local bike club. He explained that the organization had about 80-100 members, reported on some of the laws effecting the biking population, and reported on some of the routes used by the club. He reported that the organization would be willing and available to give input on any road improvements/projects. Discussion ensued.

It was motioned by P. Gordon for the HT MPO staff to create a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, A. Levron seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item # 8

*MTP Update Project Report
Vijay Kunada, Neel-Schaffer, Inc.*

V. Kunada gave an update on the Metropolitan Transportation Plan update effort. He then stated that he would like Policy Committee input on potential projects to be included in the plan. Maps and graphics with proposed projects were displayed and comments requested. Discussion ensued.

A. Levron requested that the MPO staff to model the effects of the Prospect Street Bridge closure on the LA 316 ICWW bridge.

No action necessary.

Agenda Item # 9

*Report on the LA MPO's Safety Conscious Planning Work Shop October 21 and 22, 2009
Josh Manning, MPO Transportation Planner*

L. Marretta reported on the Safety Conscious Planning Workshop on October 21 and 22 in Shreveport. He explained that DOTD's crash data was made available to the MPOs at that meeting. J. Manning briefly explained the type of data made available. Marretta also explained that the Local Road Safety Program provides some funding on local roads.

No action necessary.

Agenda Item # 10

*ITS update
Leo Marretta, MPO Administrator*

L. Marretta reported that the Memorandum of Understanding has been signed by all parties involved. He explained that Phase III is scheduled to be let in Nov. 2009.

No action necessary.

Agenda Item # 11

Other Business

L. Marretta distributed information concerning air-quality issues.

Agenda Item # 12

Next HTMPO Policy Committee Meeting

L. Marretta distributed calendars with all 2010 regularly scheduled meeting dates included.

It was motioned by P. Gordon to contact DOTD and request them to attend a special MPO Policy Committee meeting in December to explain the MPO's allotted STP<200K funding situation, A. Williams seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item # 13

Adjournment

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by A. Williams seconded by S. Thomas. Motion carried unanimously.

Date:

Copies to: MPO Policy Committee, MPO Interested Parties List, file