

Houma-Thibodaux Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Policy Committee Minutes
October 14, 2004, 12:00 PM

1. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Pat Gordon

2. Prayer

The Prayer, Mr. Wayne Thibodeaux

3. Roll Call

Mr. Scott Leger called roll

Lafourche Parish President, Ms. Charlotte Randolph-Absent

Terrebonne Parish President, Mr. Don Schwab-Present, proxy Mr. Pat Gordon

City of Thibodaux Mayor, Mr. Charles Caillouet-Present, proxy Ms. Bonnie Lafont

Terrebonne Parish Council Member, Mr. Harold Lapeyre-Present, proxy Mr. Perry Blanchard

Terrebonne Parish Council Member, Mr. Peter Rhodes-Present

Terrebonne Parish Council Member, Mr. Wayne Thibodeaux-Present

Terrebonne Parish Council Member, Mr. Clayton Voisin-Present, proxy Ms. Leesa Foreman

LADOTD, Mr. Tom Payment-Present, proxy Mr. Roland Maurin

4. Approval of minutes from August 12, 2004 meeting

Moved, W. Thibodeaux, second, P. Gordon, no discussion, passed.

5. Presentation: SCPDC Rational Speed Study

K. Ghirardi stated that SCPDC is engaged in a study designed to determine whether selected roadways speed limits should be adjusted to a more rational speed limit based on sound engineering principles and standards. Mr. Ghirardi introduced Ms. Martha Cazaubon of SCPDC who wrote the proposal for the study. Mr. Ghirardi also introduced Mr. Dean Tekell and Ms. Nina Ludington of Gulf Engineers & Consultants who preformed the speed analysis of the selected roadways. Mr. Ghirardi then presented a Power Point presentation giving a brief description of the study. Discussion ensued.

6. Discussion: Prioritization of Stage II projects of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

K. Ghirardi stated that the MPO prioritizes the projects listed in the MTP. W. Thibodeaux asked about the status of the Percy Brown Road widening and intersection project. K. Ghirardi stated that the Percy Brown intersection project as well as several other intersection projects were

submitted to the DOTD for funding consideration. K. Ghirardi stated that formal notification from the DOTD on these projects was pending. W. Thibodeaux asked about possible improvements on LA 316 to eliminate hazardous conditions. K. Ghirardi stated that it might be possible to obtain some safety funds to eliminate the hazards on LA 316. K. Ghirardi stated that DOTD engineers are currently pursuing this funding. K. Ghirardi added that he would report the status of this project at the next MPO meeting. P. Gordon asked if the Country Drive project had been split into two separate projects. K. Ghirardi stated that technically Country Drive has always been split into two separate projects, one being the reconstruction and the other being the bridge. B. Lafont asked if Mr. Ghirardi could explain the DOTD Statewide overlay program. Mr. Ghirardi stated that each parish in the state gets approximately 1 million dollars every year for overlay projects on state roads. Mr. Ghirardi stated that overlay projects are generated from the annual DOTD "roadshow" held throughout the state in each DOTD district. R Maurin added that these projects are planned at least a year in advance of the funding and that anything being requested now would have to be placed in the 2006-2007 fiscal year for funding.

7. Selection of official Houma-Thibodaux MPO representative on the I-49 Task Force

A motion was made by W. Thibodeaux to appoint Mr. Peter Rhodes as the official Houma-Thibodaux MPO representative on the I-49 Task Force. The motion was seconded P. Gordon and was passed.

8. Determine date of next MPO Policy Committee meeting

It was decided by the committee to hold the next MPO meeting on Thursday, January 13, 2004 at 12:00 P.M.

9. Other Business

P. Gordon inquired about the status of LADOTD studying the turning movements on Tunnel Blvd. P. Gordon asked if Mr. Ghirardi could send the study to committee members as soon as it was completed. Mr. Ghirardi stated that he could probably e-mail the report when completed.

10. Adjournment

W. Thibodeaux made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by P. Gordon and was passed.