

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

**HTMPO Policy Committee Meeting**

**Date:** October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

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

**In Attendance:**

<b>Committee:</b>	<p><b>Present:</b> Archie Chaisson, Lafourche Parish President – proxy Terry Arabie 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 Michael Gros, LPG Council</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Jeff Naquin, APPJ President Mayor Ron Animashaun, Village of Napoleonville Darrin Guidry, TPCG</p>
<b>Staff:</b>	<p>Pat Gordon, SCPDC Adam Lafort, SCPDC Josh Manning, SCPDC Cassie Parker, SCPDC Emma Bergeron, SCPDC</p>
<b>Others in Attendance:</b>	<p>Gary Gisclair, LA DOTD Chris Rogers, LA DOTD Tracy Wang, LA DOTD</p>

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

Invocation: J. Amedee

Pledge of Allegiance: T. Arabie

The following proxy letters were submitted: None received

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

**Agenda Item #1**

***General Public Comment***

J. Manning read an email received from local business developer, Mr. Henry Richard. In Mr. Richard's email, he addressed his concerns of the bottle neck traffic along Hwy 24 at the MLK Blvd intersection.

**Agenda Item #2**

***Adoption of Meeting Minutes from July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 HT-MPO Policy Committee Meeting.***

***It was motioned by T. Arabia to approve the meeting minutes of the HT-MPO Policy Committee Meeting held July 23<sup>rd</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 LA3161, 3162, and 657 is at 90% completion.
- US 90 overlay from the east end barrier wall to the Des Allemands bridge is 40% complete; contractor is currently installing curbing.
- LA 1 Overlay from Leeville Bridge to Falgout Lane in Golden Meadow is 20% complete, contractor is paving from Leeville heading north; working on drainage in Golden Meadow.
- The McCloud Bridge Approaches preconstruction meeting will be held the last week of October. Work is expected to begin soon.
- US 90 / LA 308 to the east end of the barrier wall contract was awarded to HPS.
- Approach Slab Levelling LA 315, 2087, 24, 20 contract has been awarded to HPS.
- LA 3197 Overlay Project is set to go out for bid on December 9, 2020.
- LA 1/Valentine Bridge to Larose is set to go out for bid on January 13, 2021.

**Terrebonne Parish:**

- LA 182 Roundabout at Hollywood Road is approximately 80% complete.
- LA 24 Company Canal Bridge Preconstruction Meeting is expected to be held in November. Construction to begin in December.
- LA 311 left turn lane at Ellendale has been completed.
- LA 24 overlay from Ducros Road in Schriever to St. Charles Street in Houma, the contractor is currently working on patching.
- The Hansen Canal Bridge Replacement construction contractor is expected to begin mobilization.
- LA 55 Concrete Panel Repairs Project contract has been awarded to LA Contracting. Construction is expected to begin in November/December.

D. Babin relayed the concerns he received from local cane farmers in regards to overhang of trees and tall grass along the highways. P. Gordon stated years ago Terrebonne Parish Government maintained all the grass cutting within their parish. LADOTD would then reimburse Terrebonne Parish for cutting LADOTD's right of ways. This process was stopped because the administration at the time did not find it feasible.

M. Gros inquired for an update on the concerns Lafourche Parish Government had in regards to LA 3185. Lafourche Parish Government recently adopted/submitted two resolutions. First resolution addresses the ponding of water by the old tracks close to the parish road area. The second resolution addresses the issue of standing water on both sides of LA 3185 from St. Mary highway to the truck stops. C. Rogers responded he spoke to President Chiasson and they are to meet on sight to discuss the issue.

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

C. Pulaski provided an update on Local Projects within Terrebonne Parish.

**Terrebonne Parish:**

- Eastside Sidewalks Phase 2 and Civic Center Sidewalks final plans have been sent to DOTD for approval.

- LA 24 Sidewalk Rehabilitation final plans have been sent to LADOTD for approval, currently working on utility certifications.
- Civic Center Roundabout is still in Stage 0.
- Williams Multi-Use Path is in the Environmental Approval Process.
- The Industrial Blvd Bridge Replacement is under construction.
- Hollywood Extension Bridge is in the design phase.
- Parish-wide paving markings is currently in the study phase.

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

J. Manning gave a brief update on the STP<200K Projects and the ongoing Safe Routes/Transportation Alternatives/LRSP Projects. A chart depicting the status of each project was provided within the meeting packet for all to review. He relayed that the Village of Napoleonville plans to request the removal of Washington Street Sidewalks, Dr. MLK Phase 1 and 2 Projects from the TIP.

**Agenda Item #4**

**Committee Report**

**a. Safety Coalition**

C. Parker reviewed data received on current fatality stats. She stated that the Houma/Troop C Region seat belt use was the highest in the state. The Safety Coalition participated in the National Child Seat Check in September. 39 child safety seats were checked and 22 new ones were distributed.

**b. Transit/TDM Committee**

J. Manning announced M. Cazaubon was retiring that afternoon. Committee members requested staff relay their appreciation to M. Cazaubon for all her hard work over the years. Before M. Cazaubon left for retirement, she completed updating the Coordinated Human Transportation Service Plan. The Regional Transit Committee will be meeting the following week.

**c. Technical Advisory Committee**

J. Manning stated 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 the Amtrak Sub-Committee has not met in a while. The next Southern Rail Commission meeting will be held in December which he plans to attend. He relayed there was not anything new to report on the Schriever Station.

**Agenda Item #5**

**Transportation Improvement Program**

- H.013429 Downtown Thibodaux – Add Design Phase in FY21 for \$19,320 (80/20: STP<200K)**
- H.013940 LA 648 & Acadia Road Intersection Improvements – Remove Feasibility/State 0 Phase. Add ROW Phase in FY22 for \$100,000 (80/20; STP<200K)**
- Ratification of Administrative Modifications**

J. Manning reviewed the proposed TIP Amendments. **It was motioned by J. Amedee to recommend to the HT-MPO Policy to amend the TIP to include the proposed amendments. T. Arabie seconded. There being no objections motion carried.**

**Agenda Item #6**

***Local Transit Agency Grant Applications***

J. Manning explained included within the meeting packet was a list depicting the local Transit Provider TIP requests. Transit Providers are in need of a support letter from the HT-MPO so if their grants are approved the TIP will then be amended to include their requests. ***It was motioned by D. Babin to provide the local Transit Providers letters of support, T. Arabie seconded. There being no objections motion carried unanimously.***

**Agenda Item #7**

***Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update***

Unfortunately, J. Manning's presentation was unable to load, he promised to email it to Committee Members. Staff was currently conducting sidewalk inventory throughout the Region. This information will be included within the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Staff has been analyzing data received thus far. Once the analysis has been completed, they will create tiers of priorities to present to local officials. After the first of the year, staff plans to begin the consultation process of meeting with local officials and stakeholders.

**Agenda Item #8**

***Adjournment***

***It was motioned by T. Arabie to adjourn, seconded by J. Amedee. Motion carried unanimously.***

DRAFT