

Houma – Thibodaux  
Metropolitan Planning Organization (HTMPO)

South Central Planning and Development Commission Office  
5058 West Main Street, Houma, LA 70360  
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**M E E T I N G M I N U T E S**

**HTMPO Technical Advisory Committee & Safety  
Coalition Infrastructure & Operations  
Subcommittee Meetings**

**Date:** December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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

**In Attendance:**

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Present:</b> Gary Gisclair, LADOTD Chris Pulaski, TPCG Dawn Sholmire, LADOTD Laura Phillips, FHWA Tracey Wang, LADOTD
<b>Staff:</b>	Tim Bourcier, SCPDC Pat Gordon, SCPDC Josh Manning, SCPDC Cassie Parker, SCPDC Emma Bergeron, SCPDC
<b>Others in Attendance:</b>	Kristen Farrington, Buchart Horn, Sgt. Neil Abbott, Houma Police Department Angela Murrell, LADOTD Chris Rogers, LADOTD Stephanie Bruning, St. Charles Parish Katherine Theriot, TEDA David Rome, TPCG Joan Schexnayder, TPCG <i>Jay C. Theriot, agency unknown</i>

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.

**Agenda Item #1**

***Roll Call & Introductions***

J. Manning thanked everyone for joining the meeting via teleconference. He reviewed meeting instructions and requested each person present online to please introduce themselves.

**Agenda Item #2**

***Adoption of September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Meeting Minutes.***

***It was motioned by D. Rome to approve the minutes from the September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 TAC/IO Meeting Minutes. C. Rogers seconded. There being no objections, motion carried.***

**Agenda Item #3**

***LA DOTD Project Update***

C. Rogers gave the LA DOTD Project Update.

Lafourche Parish

- LA3235 Improvement Project has been completed.
- US90 Overlay Project from the east end of the barrier wall to Des Allemands Bridge is about 50% complete.
- LA1 Overlay from the Leeville Bridge to Falgout Lane in Golden Meadow is approximately 30% complete. The contractor is paving in Leeville heading north and working on drainage in Golden Meadow area.
- A Pre-Construction Meeting on the LA308 McCloud Bridge Approaches Project was held in November. Construction to begin soon.
- US90 Overlay from Hwy 308 to the east end of the barrier wall project contract was awarded to Huey Stockstill.
- LA3197 Overlay from Barrow Street to LA182 goes to bid on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
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Terrebonne Parish

- LA182 Roundabout at Hollywood Road is complete.
- LA311 Left Turn Lane into Ellendale is nearly complete.
- LA24 Company Canal Bridge preconstruction meeting was held in November; roadwork along Hwy 316 is expected to begin in January with the bridge closure not set until March.
- Overlay of Hwy24 from Ducros Road in Schriever to St. Charles Street in Houma is 10% complete. The contractor is currently paving the crossover bridges.
- The Hansen Canal Bridge Replacement Project has begun. Contractor in the process of demolishing the older bridge.
- LA55 Emergency Concrete Panel Repairs expected to begin first week of January.
- Approach Slab Leveling Projects for the Dularge Bridge, Flatbed Bridges on Prospect Blvd, Hwy 24 in the Larose area, and LA 20 between Donner/Gibson was awarded to Huey Stockstill.
- LA1 Overlay from the Valentine Bridge to Larose goes to bid on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- LA1 Overlay from Elson Lane to LA182 goes to bid on March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

D. Rome relayed that Terrebonne Parish plans to implement a parish-wide road striping project. The Parish is interested in partnering and combining resources with LADOTD on this project.

**Agenda Item #4**

**Local Project Updates**

J. Schexnayder provided an update on Local Projects within Terrebonne Parish

Terrebonne Parish

- East Side Sidewalk Phase 2 Environmental Clearance has expired. Currently working on the renewal.
- Civic Center Sidewalks Final Plans have been submitted to LADOTD; awaiting Letting date.
- Currently working on the utility certification for the Hwy 24 Sidewalk Rehab.
- Williams Avenue Multi-Use Path is in the environmental approval process.
- Industrial Blvd Bridge Replacement is under construction.
- Hollywood Extension Bridge is in design.
- Parish Wide Pavement Markings is in the study phase.
- In the process of executing engineering contracts for the Brady Road Bridge.
- The Entity/Statement Agreements for the Bayou Blue Sidewalks and the Valhi Multi Use Path Phase 1 are awaiting Council's approval.

J. Manning reviewed a spreadsheet which depicted the status of TIP projects. The Village of Napoleonville has requested to remove their Sidewalk projects due to budget shortfall. Lafourche Parish requested five of

their TIP projects to be postponed. Terrebonne Administration has requested the removal of the Prospect Sidewalk project. However, Terrebonne Parish Council has yet to pass a resolution agreeing the removal the Prospect Sidewalk project; therefore, the Policy Committee will not remove the project from the TIP without Council Resolution.

C. Parker inquired on whether available funding could be used on a State Highway Project which would benefit the community; such as, safety improvements along MLK Blvd and if so, who would have to make those decisions to move forward with that initiative. J. Manning stated that would be a really good discussion to have going into the 2023 TIP cycle. D. Rome stated he believed there would be an overwhelming amount of support from both Parish Administration and Council to have those safety measures along MLK Blvd done with TIP funding because there is such a need and demand for it. Discussion ensued.

#### **Agenda Item #5**

##### ***Amtrak Working Group Update***

No update was given.

#### **Agenda Item #6**

##### ***Transportation Improvement Program Proposed Amendments***

- a. ***H.002244 LA 56: Boudreaux Canal MB Replacement: Add Engineering Phase @ \$25K of STPFLEX at 80/20 in FFY 2021. Also, add Construction Phase @ \$23,703.690.00 of STPFLEX at 80/20 in FFY 2022.***
- b. ***H.013940 LA 648 & Acadia Rd Intersection Improvement: Add ROW Phase @ \$575 of STP<200K at 80/20 in FFY 2022.***
- c. ***H.013493 Washington Street Sidewalks: H.013500 Dr. Martin Luther King Sidewalks Ph. 1; H.013501 Dr. Martin Luther King Sidewalks Ph. 2: Remove projects from TIP.***
- d. ***Lafourche Parish Projects Postponement***
  - i. ***H.013402 – LA1 & LA308 Ped & Multiuse Path***
  - ii. ***H.013403 – LA20 & LA304 Sidewalk Imp (Chackbay)***
  - iii. ***H.013404 – LA 1 Sidewalks***
  - iv. ***H.013490 – Central Lafourche Multi-Use Path***
- e. ***Discussion on Prospect Blvd Sidewalks***

J. Manning reviewed the proposed TIP Amendments, he stated most of these items were discussed under the Local Project Update. As discussed, at the moment no action will be needed on the Prospect Blvd Sidewalk project. ***It was motioned by C. Pulaski to recommend to the HT-MPO Policy amend the TIP to include the proposed amendments as written on the agenda. D. Rome seconded. There being no objections motion carried.***

#### **Agenda Item #7**

##### ***The Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP)***

J. Manning displayed on the screen the Draft CHSTP. He gave a brief historical overview of the CHSTP. Since its first adoption, the plan was required to be updated every five years. Presently, DOTD now requires the plan to be updated every two years and for the HT-MPO Policy Committee to adopt the CHSTP. However, the HT-MPO does not have a specific process in place as far as their Public Participation Plan when it comes to adopting the CHSTP. J. Manning suggested the HT-MPO follow the same process it has in place for all other plans: present proposed plan to the HT-MPO TAC for endorsement and the HT-MPO Policy Committee for adoption. He opened the floor to receive public comments from anyone online who would like to comment. There being none, J. Manning then reviewed a public comment received by email in regards to the CHSTP. J. Theriot, a disabled private citizen, made a public comment online. He stated public involvement is key to the CHSTP's success; as well as having a mobility impaired person as a team member.

After receipt of Mr. Theriot's comment, J. Manning relayed the Regional Transit Committee has already adopted the CHSTP and is in need of the TAC's endorsement and Policy Committee's adoption. ***It was then motioned by D. Rome to recommend adoption of the CHSTP to the HT-MPO Policy Committee. J. Schexnayder seconded. There being no objections motion carried.***

#### **Agenda Item #8**

##### ***TAC Membership: Trucking Representative***

DOTD has recommended that the HT-MPO add a Trucking Representative to the HT-MPO TAC Committee. C. Parker suggested Cully Frisard of Frisard Trucking in St. James Parish, who even though they are not in the MPO Region, they are however, an active private partner of the South Central Regional Safety Coalition. She also suggested Representative Ken Brass who sits on a State Transportation Committee. C. Pulaski suggested reaching out to Fletcher Technical College as they offer a CDL program. K. Theriot offered reaching out to a local trucking education coalition.

#### **Agenda Item #9**

##### ***Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update***

- a. Presentation from Katherine Gilbert-Theriot to discuss ADA Sidewalks Compliance in Terrebonne Parish.***

J. Manning gave a brief update on the Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan process. He stated staff was continuing to proceed with data collection. Currently, staff is conducting sidewalk and curb ramp inventory in the seven SCPDC parishes. This data will help with providing a baseline of existing conditions for their pedestrian network. Staff hopes to begin consultation with parish officials during the first quarter of 2021; however, that is contingent on data analysis having been completed.

K. Theriot gave a presentation on ADA Sidewalks Compliance in Terrebonne Parish. She stated since her husband has been bound to a wheel chair the past three years it has given both her and him a new perspective of the needs within the community for those who are mobility impaired.

Online connection froze for the meeting hostess, C. Parker.

#### **Agenda Item #10**

##### ***Safety Coalition Infrastructure/Operations Subcommittee***

While C. Parker was trying to reconnect, J. Manning inquired if anyone was online who could speak on the LA3040 Feasibility Study. K. Farrington of Buchart-Horn stated she was knowledgeable on the study. Additional data needed to be collected due to a discrepancy found in the data collection. Currently, Buchart-Horn is trying to determine how to move forward with the calibration of data collected pre-covid. Hopes are to have the analysis completed and approved in early 2021. They are studying both long term and short term improvements. The Final Analysis is expected to be completed by summer of 2021 with Public Meeting and final Stage 0 submittal in the fall of 2021. P. Gordon inquired if there were any immediate actions SCPDC can take to address the safety concerns. K. Farrington stated when meetings begin in the spring conversations on immediate actions will take place.

Due to the meeting's online connection failure it was suggested to take a 10 minute recess. ***It was motioned by C. Pulaski to take a recess. C. Rogers seconded. There being no objections, motion carried. Meeting will resume at 11:20am.***

At 11:20am J. Manning called the meeting back to order. K. Theriot resumed her presentation on ADA Sidewalks Compliance in Terrebonne Parish. She relayed how her husband and she conducted their own inventory/assessment of Downtown Houma sidewalks. She shared the hazards and all data collected with

both the Parish and HT-MPO staff. K. Theriot stated she and her husband would be happy to assist in the evaluation of sites. They can provide insight from different levels: caregiver, as well as a mobility challenged individual. J. Theriot requested when the HT-MPO TAC moves forward with ADA recommendations and accommodations that members not think of it as a structural thing but as a way of giving people freedom. C. Parker extended an invite to both K. Theriot and J. Theriot to join in future road assessments.

At this point, J. Manning closed the TAC portion of the meeting and turned over the meeting to C. Parker for the SCRSC IO Subcommittee.

**a. 2020 Regional Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) IO Action Plan Status**

C. Parker stated the IO Action Plan status was at a 93% completion mark for 2020. On the screen she shared a spread sheet which depicted the strategy action step details of the IO Action Plan. She briefly reviewed a few regional efforts. She explained how a few action steps efforts were deferred due to Covid-19.

**b. Local Road Safety Program, Transportation Alternatives Program, Safe Routes to Public Places Program Updates.**

Deadline for the Transportation Alternatives Program Grant Application is December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020. DOTD hopes to open Safe Routes to Public Places Application process in the spring of 2021.

**c. Safety Concern Updates**

**i. LA 3040 Feasibility Study**

Discussed earlier.

**ii. New Concerns Submitted**

C. Parker stated a request for caution lights along Hwy 316 has been received. T. Wang stated she sent an email on a study from two years ago. A request from Representative Zeringue was received in regards to the Bayou Gardens Blvd and Hwy 316. DOTD is putting out tubes, conducting turning move counts, and running the crash data, to see if it meets the warrant for either a caution light or traffic signal. J. Manning stated officials with Lafourche Parish is also concerned about the Hwy 316 and Bayou Gardens Blvd intersection. T. Wang relayed that the Country Estates and Hwy 316 intersection was observed; however, DOTD will not be putting tubes out but will run the crash data. T. Wang also reported a speed study was done on Hwy 20 at the Chackbay Elementary area. She stated she will share with C. Parker the speed study results. DOTD sent the school the application for flashing lights. It is the schools responsibility to fill out and submit application.

D. Rome suggested for RSAs to be conducted on intersections in Terrebonne that are limited on traffic flow to help get configurations changed or improved at those intersections.

J. Manning shared with the Subcommittee the app he which he created for constituents to utilize for submitting a traffic safety concern. He gave a brief tutorial of its features.

**d. 2021 Regional SHSP Action Plan Development – what regional action steps should we include that will save lives and reduce injuries on our roadways?**

C. Parker reviewed Intersection data from 2013-2017, the new data has not yet been released. She stated the data shows a need for intersection safety. She inquired if this is an action step which the subcommittee would like to implement and to partner with DOTD on RSA. D. Rome stated he thought the Safety Coalition should. C. Parker requested members to reflect on any proposed action steps they would like to see implemented that would save lives and reduce

injuries on roadways within the Region.

**Agenda Item # 11**

***Next Meeting Date: March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021***

***J. Schexnayder motioned to adjourn the meeting. D. Rome seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.***