

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

HTMPO Policy Committee Meeting

Date: January 26th, 2023

Meeting Location: South Central Planning and Development Commission, Gray, LA.

In Attendance:

Committee:	<p>Present: Archie Chaisson, Lafourche Parish President – alternate John Warren Christopher Morvant, LA DOTD District 02 Danny Babin, TPCG Council Darrin Guidry, TPCG Dirk Guidry, TPCG Council Gordon Dove, Terrebonne Parish President – alternate Chris Pulaski John Amedee, TPCG Council (Chairman) Kevin Clement, Mayor City of Thibodaux (vice chairman) Terry Arabie, Lafourche Council</p> <p>Absent: Laura Phillips, Federal Highway Administration LA Division Ron Animashaun, Village of Napoleonville</p>
Staff:	<p>Jonathan Eastwood, SCPDC Josh Manning, SCPDC LeaAnn Rucker, SCPDC Shannon Edgerson, SCPDC Thomas Rhodes, SCPDC</p>
Others in Attendance:	<p>Beryl Amedee, House of Representative Chris Rogers, LA DOTD District 2 Evan Boudreaux, DDG Jacob Oncale, DOTD Sarah Arceneaux, City of Thibodaux Grants Director</p>

J. Amedee called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 pm.

Invocation: J. Amedee

Pledge of Allegiance: J. Amedee

Introductions took place.

Agenda Item #1

General Public Comment

Chairman J. Amedee opened the floor to receive public comments.

There were no public comments.

Agenda Item #2

Adoption of Meeting Minutes from September 22nd, 2022, HTMPO Policy Committee Meeting.

D. Guidry motioned to approve the meeting minutes of the HT-MPO Policy Committee Meeting held September 22nd, 2022. D. Babin seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #3

Project Updates

a. Current DOTD Project Updates

J. Oncale updated the Policy Committee on the following projects:

Lafourche Parish:

- LA-1 Phase 2, Leeville to Golden Meadow is 13% complete. Contractor is working on the levee.
- LA-648 Percy Brown Road overlay bid was awarded to Barriere Construction. Construction will not begin until the LA-20 job is complete.
- Acadian Road roundabout was awarded to LA Contractor. They will be contacting them soon.

Terrebonne Parish:

- LA-24 Company Canal Bridge Replacement project is 53% complete. Contractor is building the machinery deck.
- LA-24 overlay from Ducros Road in Schriever to St. Charles Street in Houma, is approximately 95% complete. Contractor is repairing some damage guardrail and some missing signage.
- LA-665 overlay from Oak Point Road to Point Au Chene Marina is 42% complete. Contractor is putting in guardrails and working on driveways.
- LA-24 Northbound from St. Charles Street to St. George Road, construction has begun. Contractor is putting in sidewalk ramps, curbs, and are patching concrete.
- LA-20 overlay from Ducros Road to LA-648 is 95% complete. Contractor is working on fixing some curb damage.
- LA-24 sidewalk rehab on the Park Avenue side from Williams to Central is 9% complete. Contractor is currently tearing out sidewalks and forming up handicap ramps. They will be shutting down by Mardi Gras.
- LA-308 from Golden Meadow Bridge to Galliano Bridge is scheduled to begin construction soon, possibly early summer.

T. Arabie wanted to know if LA-1 to LA-182 heading towards Raceland is in bad shape and may need to be repaired. T. Arabie also said that drainage on that road should be repaired before constructing the overlay. B. Amedee wanted to know the necessities for the Percy Brown Road project. D. Guidry wanted an update on the Robinson Canal bridge project and wanted to see if the bumps on LA-57 could be grinded out. J. Manning relayed and updated on the 3040-feasibility study. C. Pulaski asked about the Valhi extension project and if it will be tied to LA-311. B. Amedee wanted to know about the timetable on the resurfacing of Bayou Blue Road. B. Amedee also wanted to know about the complaints from Grand Caillou and Dulac about the surface of the Cedar Grove Road.

b. Locally Funded Project Updates

Terrebonne Parish:

J. Manning gave a brief update on locally funded projects in Terrebonne Parish:

- Valhi Multi-use Path Phase 1 is currently in design.
- Valhi Multi-use Path Phase 2 is currently in design.
- Bayou Blue Sidewalks is currently in design.
- Audubon Avenue overlay is currently in design.
- LA 648 at Acadia Road intersection improvement is waiting for funding for the project.
- Civic Center Roundabout intersecting Valhi Blvd is waiting for engineer selection.
- Government Center trailhead is currently in design.
- Williams Multi-use Path is in design. Construction will start in February.
- Twin span East side sidewalks phase 2 construction is complete. Currently working on closeout.

Lafourche Parish:

J. Warren gave a brief update on locally funded projects in Lafourche Parish:

- Safe route to school program is completed. They are in the refurbishing phase.
- Lafourche/Terrebonne Scenic Overlook is completed. The ribbon cutting phase is complete. It is now open to the public.
- The Lafourche parish school zones is in phase 0 of the feasibility study.

c. STP<200K Projects Update

J. Manning gave an update on the STP<200K Projects. J. Manning relayed the LA-24 Sidewalk Rehab is moving forward with construction. J. Manning relayed the Bayou Blue Sidewalk is currently in design. J. Manning relayed the City of Thibodaux's Audubon Ave Overlay Project is currently in design. Downtown Thibodaux Sidewalks are currently in design. The Acadian Road Roundabout has been awarded for construction.

Agenda Item #4

Committee Reports

a. Technical Advisory Committee

J. Manning relayed the meeting minutes from the previous meeting are located in the meeting packet.

b. Transit Committee

S. Edgeron relayed the updates for the Transit Committee. The Assumption ARC had no major issues. The Special Education District #1 reported that two vans were down and did not have any catalytic converters stolen since the cage installation. S. Edgeron relayed the Terrebonne Council of Aging, and the Terrebonne ARC had no new reports. Lafourche ARC had another catalytic converter stolen and had a hard time replacing the catalytic converter. Lafourche Council of Aging hired more drivers. Good Earth Transit has replaced their entire fleet of heavy-duty buses with newer thirty-five-foot buses. The fair collection unit is supposed to operate everything including signage. Good Earth transit is considering developing an app that helps people of the public to locate the buses and when the arrival time will be. Assumption Council of Aging hired two additional drivers and have reopened the senior center.

c. TDM Program Update

L. Rucker relayed that she is researching some programs that will be beneficial to the region.

d. Safety Coalition

J. Eastwood reported on recent Safety Coalition initiatives. J. Eastwood and C. Parker attended the Satellite Center School in Luling and awarded a student for their distracted driving awareness video. J. Eastwood put out the South Central Regional Safety Coalition quarterly report. J. Eastwood attended an observational survey at Nicholls State checking for seatbelt and phone usage while driving. J. Eastwood also attended the Law Enforcement expo and the occupant protection checkpoint, both held at Nicholls State University. J. Eastwood joined Tracey LeMaire with the SADD organizations.

Agenda Item #5

Houma-Thibodaux MPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- a. Proposed 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment:
 - i. City of Thibodaux--- Pedestrian Improvements: LA 1, Audubon Ave. Bowie Road: Increase funding from \$200K to \$300K for an additional sidewalk connection.

D. Guidry motioned to amend the Houma-Thibodaux MPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), seconded by T. Arabie. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Update on Stage 0s

J. Manning updated the Policy Committee on the progress of the Stage 0 reports for Pedestrian Improvements for LA-1, Audubon Avenue, Bowie Road, Canal Blvd Overlay, Lafourche School Zones, and Tiger Drive Overlay.

Agenda Item #6

Metropolitan Transportation Plan

J. Manning updated the Committee on the status of the upcoming Transportation Plan.

Agenda Item #7

Census 2020 Urban Boundaries

J. Manning discussed the 2020 census urban boundaries and how they will affect various programs in which they are eligible. J. Manning explained how MPO money can be spent in the MPO planning area and in urbanized areas. J. Manning discussed smoothing our urban boundaries and updating the Planning area to make it less indirect and curvy. J. Manning relayed about the highway functional classification network to see what roads are eligible for federal funding. J. Manning also discussed how the New Orleans urban area will no longer be in the northeastern boundary of Lafourche parish and the northwestern side of Assumption will no longer be in the Donaldsonville area.

Agenda Item #8

MPO Annual Report & 2023 Tasks

J. Manning presented the MPO Annual Report and stated copies were available in the meeting packet.

Agenda Item #9
Adjournment

T. Arabie motioned to adjourn, seconded by D. Guidry. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting Adjourned.