

Houma – Thibodaux
Metropolitan Planning Organization
Regional Transit Committee
(CHSTP)

Terrebonne Parish North Branch Library
4130 West Park Avenue,
Houma, LA 70359

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

Regional Transit Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, November 15th, 2023, 10:00 AM

Meeting Location: Terrebonne Parish North Branch Library

In Attendance

Committee:	<u>Assumption ARC</u> Sarah Olivo	<u>St. James Parish</u> Shanitra Jasmin Melvin Moses
	<u>Assumption COA</u> Angelle Authement	<u>Arc of St. Mary</u> No Representative Present
	<u>Lafourche ARC</u> Anita Webb	<u>St. Mary COA</u> No Representative Present
	<u>Lafourche COA</u> Marilyn Collins	<u>Terrebonne ARC</u> Trudy Bergeron
	<u>SED #1</u> Mona Danos	<u>Terrebonne COA</u> Jessica Fitch
		<u>Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government Transit</u> Gayle Vaughn
Other Attendees:	Karen Harris, LADOTD Sherry Wilmore, Goodwill	
Staff:	Jonathan Eastwood, SCPDC Josh Manning, SCPDC Thomas Rhodes, SCPDC	

Agenda Item #1

Roll Call and Introductions

J. Manning called the meeting to order.

Roll call took place.

Agenda Item #2

Adoption of the August 16th, 2023, Meeting Minutes

S. Olivo motioned to adopt the August 16th, 2023 meeting minutes, seconded by G. Vaughn. All were in favor, motion passed.

Agenda Item #3

Opportunity for Public Comment

J. Manning opened the floor to accept Public Comment. There were no comments received from the Public.

Agenda Item # 4

LA DOTD Project Updates

- Upcoming trainings were cancelled.
- Drug and Alcohol training will take place in January.
- If members are currently using pert, they will need to get their files checked.
- Members need to turn in all pertinent information for their applications.
- Reimbursement will not be awarded.
- Dispositions will not be done until December.
- Inspections should be done by December.
- Stars 2.0 will be coming on January 1.
- Training at DOTD office on November 28.

T. Bergeron wanted to know if the office of motor vehicles has a grace period when putting in drivers' information.

K. Harris responded saying there is no deadline, just to make sure they get the proper information.

Agenda Item # 5

Transit Agency Reports

ARC of St Mary: There was no update.

Assumption ARC: S. Olivo relayed they have received two new buses. They are still having AC problems. The 2018 and 2019 models have gone out.

SED#1: M. Danos relayed they are having some AC issues and electrical problems. They are waiting on new vehicles.

Terrebonne COA: J. Fitch relayed they have received three new buses.

Terrebonne ARC: T. Bergeron discussed they are still trying to hire more staff.

Lafourche ARC: A. Webb discussed they still have a driver shortage.

Lafourche COA: M. Collins relayed they are having issues hiring, AC complications, and one of their vehicles' engines went out.

Good Earth Transit: G. Vaughn relayed they are still short staffed. Their shuttle buses have had some AC problems.

Assumption COA: A. Authement relayed they are having some AC and lift issues. Their biggest issue is hiring more drivers.

St. James Parish Government: S. Jasmin relayed they have received nine buses. They are not able to keep drivers. M. Moses relayed that the molding on a few of the buses is coming loose.

Some members claimed that the drivers are disconcerted by the responsibilities of the job that are more than just opening and closing the door. P. Gordon wanted to know if the state would have a set salary for the position.

Agenda Item # 6 ***Other Partner Updates***

S. Whilmore discussed that the Salvation Army is open and will be accepting gifts to be given to **. They must be submitted by Friday. She also discussed that Toys for Tots will be due until November 30.

Agenda Item # 7 ***HTMPO Updates***

J. Manning discusses the new MPO Updates. The bicycle/pedestrian plan is still being worked on. Alliance Transportation has taken the plan and is anticipating completion sometime next year. The Safe Streets for All action plan has been taken on by Neil Shaffer. There will be a virtual stakeholder meeting on Microsoft Teams on November 30. There is also a survey that the public will be able to take to list what their public safety concerns are. The Long Range Plan will be due May 2025. Looking to include a PROTECT grant to assist other MPO's in developing resiliency grant.

Agenda Item #8 ***Adjournment***

Next Meeting Date: November 21st, 2024

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.