

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREATER NEW ORLEANS
EXPRESSWAY COMMISSION, WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 2019, 10:00 A.M., VOA
BUILDING, 3939 NORTH CAUSEWAY BLVD, SUITE 400, METAIRIE, LA 70002

PRESENT: Patrick W. Fitzmorris, Chair; Joy Zainey, Vice Chair; Tim Coulon,
Treasurer; P. Lindsey Williams, Member

ABSENT: Donald Sharp, Secretary

OTHERS: Carlton Dufrechou; Melissa M. Phillpott; Robert Graham; Lt. Mike Kelly;
Stacie Heffker; Eileen Barthe; Crystal Scott; Georgie Bagnetto; Kaye
Rogers; Craig Watson, Blue Williams; Liz Lambert, Riess LeMieux;
Johnny Bradberry, Cary Bourgeois, GEC; Jim Martin, DEI Engineering;
Jan Evans, Hossein Ghara, Volkert and Associates; General John
Basilica, HNTB; Babak Naghavi, Hardesty and Hanover, LLP; Rene
Chopin III, Burke-Kleinpeter, Inc.; Faimon Roberts, the Advocate; Bob
Schmidt, Huval and Associates; Harry Delaune, Dennis Melancon, and
Glenn M. McGovern, A.B.A.T.E. of Louisiana, Inc.; Lorrie Werden, NOLA
Elolements; Samantha Caldwell, UMC; Scott Halener; Callan Johns;
Shelby LaSalle

The Chairman called the meeting to order.

**On the motion by Mr. Coulon, seconded by Mr. Williams, the minutes of the
regular meeting held on June 26, 2019 were accepted as written. Mr. Fitzmorris,
Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Coulon, and Mr. Williams voted in favor of the motion.**

Mr. Glenn M. McGovern, attorney, motorcycle rider, and motorcycle safety instructor,
and Head of Legislation and Advocacy for American Bikers Active Toward Education
(A.B.A.T.E.) of Louisiana, addressed the Commission regarding the motorcycle
restrictions on the Causeway Bridge.

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – July 31, 2019**

Mr. Dennis Melancon, instructor and Chapter President of American Bikers Active Toward Education (A.B.A.T.E.) of Louisiana, read a prepared statement regarding the motorcycle restrictions on the Causeway Bridge.

Mr. Harry Delaune, member of the American Bikers Active Toward Education (A.B.A.T.E.) of Louisiana, addressed the Commission regarding the motorcycle restrictions on the Causeway Bridge.

Ms. Lorrie Werden, motorcycle passenger, also addressed the Commission regarding the motorcycle restrictions on the Causeway Bridge.

Jan Evans and Hossein Ghara, with Volkert and Associates, presented GNOEC with four commemorative photographs depicting construction in 1960 and 2019 on the Causeway Bridge.

Mr. Dufrechou presented a PowerPoint updating significant events since the last Commission meeting.

Mr. Dufrechou reported in June the Drawbridge operations included 21 vessel openings, 0 test openings and 0 incidents.

Mr. Dufrechou reported, since the last GNOEC meeting, there were no fog days.

Mr. Dufrechou reported there were 308 breakdown responses in June on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 184 of those breakdowns were due to mechanical problems and 124 were caused by debris on the Causeway Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou reported 24 breakdowns on the Huey P. Long Bridge. He stated 21 of those breakdowns were due

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – July 31, 2019**

to mechanical problems and 3 were caused by debris on the Huey P. Long Bridge. Mr. Dufrechou reported a total of 332 breakdown responses for both bridges in June.

Mr. Dufrechou reported in the month of June there were a total of 12 accidents on the Causeway Bridge. He stated 6 occurred Northbound and 6 Southbound. Mr. Dufrechou reported 3 were caused by breakdowns on the Causeway Bridge. He also there were 4 accidents that occurred on the Huey P. Long Bridge in June. He reported 2 Eastbound and 2 Westbound. Mr. Dufrechou reported none were caused by breakdowns on the Huey P. Long Bridge.

On June 30, 2019, Mr. Dufrechou reported the Northbound span, on the Causeway Bridge, was closed from 5:56 am to 7:23 am for a vehicle and motorcycle crash with injuries.

Mr. Dufrechou reported the Causeway Bridge's Northbound span closed on July 10, 2019 from 11:50 am through 12:43 pm due to a vehicle crash and fire.

On July 27, 2019, Mr. Dufrechou reported both spans of the Causeway Bridge were closed from 4:05 pm to 5:45 pm due to drawbridge failure.

On the Southbound Bridge Rail Improvements project, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval to appoint Dr. William Williams and the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) as a subcontractor to GEC. **On motion by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mrs. Zainey, on January 10, 2018, the GNOEC and GEC, Inc. entered into Amendment No. 1 to the Professional Consulting Engineering Agreement for GEC to complete the final design, prepare the construction documents, and to act as the engineer of record for the Rail Project. In connection with GEC's services and as**

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – July 31, 2019**

contemplated in Amendment No. 1, GEC wishes to utilize Dr. William Williams and the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) for testing services as TTI developed and performed the MASH testing of the Rail System. The scope of services is to include testing of the posts on concrete rail that contains reinforcing steel that matches the field condition and control tests at a cost not to exceed \$150,000.00. Accordingly, after review, consideration, and upon recommendation from the GNOEC staff and legal counsel, the GNOEC hereby approves Dr. William Williams and the Texas A&M Transportation Institute as a subcontractor to GEC to perform testing in connection with the Southbound Bridge Rail Improvements, GNOEC Project No. 433. Mr. Fitzmorris asked the audience if anyone had comments or questions for the Commission regarding this resolution. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Coulon, and Mr. Williams voted in favor of the motion.

On the Segmented Shoulder Improvements project, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval for Plan Change 4. On motion by Mrs. Zainey, seconded by Mr. Coulon, Plan Change No. 4 provides for additional costs to refabricate the girder clip angles for each southbound cap. The Plan Change will increase the contract amount by \$31,065.82 and will add no additional days. Based upon the recommendations of Staff and the Engineers, the GNOEC approves the execution of Plan Change No. 4. Mr. Fitzmorris asked the audience if anyone had comments or questions for the Commission regarding this resolution. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Coulon, and Mr. Williams voted in favor of the motion.

**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – July 31, 2019**

On the Segmented Shoulder Improvements project, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval for Plan Change 5. On motion by Mr. Coulon, seconded by Mr. Williams, Plan Change No. 5 provides for labor and equipment to install 624 neoprene bearing pads on the existing northbound Causeway Bridge within the limits of the 6 new safety bays. The Plan Change will increase the contract amount by \$1,752,000.00 and will add no additional days. Based upon the recommendations of Staff and the Engineers, the GNOEC approves the execution of Plan Change No. 5. Mr. Fitzmorris asked the audience if anyone had comments or questions for the Commission regarding this resolution. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Coulon, and Mr. Williams voted in favor of the motion.

On the Segmented Shoulder Improvements project, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval for Plan Change 7. On motion by Mrs. Zainey, seconded by Mr. Coulon, Plan Change No. 7 provides for an additional sawcut at the end of each existing southbound roadway barrier. The Plan Change will increase the contract amount by \$187.14 for each sawcut, as authorized, up to a maximum amount of \$ 40,423.28 and will add no additional days. Based upon the recommendations of Staff and the Engineers, the GNOEC approves the execution of Plan Change No. 7. Mr. Fitzmorris asked the audience if anyone had comments or questions for the Commission regarding this resolution. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Coulon, and Mr. Williams voted in favor of the motion.

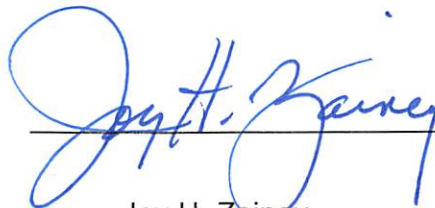
**Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Regular Meeting – July 31, 2019**

On the Segmented Shoulder Improvements project, Mr. Dufrechou recommended approval for Plan Change 8. **On motion by Mr. Coulon, seconded by Mr. Williams, Plan Change No. 8 provides for additional accumulated excessive adverse weather days from January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019. The Plan Change will add 21 additional days and will not increase the contract amount. Based upon the recommendations of Staff and the Engineers, the GNOEC approves the execution of Plan Change No. 8. Mr. Fitzmorris asked the audience if anyone had comments or questions for the Commission regarding this resolution. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Mr. Fitzmorris, Mrs. Zainey, Mr. Coulon, and Mr. Williams voted in favor of the motion.**

Mr. Fitzmorris reminded everyone the next meeting is tentatively scheduled August 28, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. at the VOA building on the South Shore. There being no further business, the meeting was be adjourned.



Patrick Fitzmorris
Chair



Joy H. Zainey
Vice Chair