

**MINUTES**

**Transportation Policy Committee of the Regional Planning Commission For Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany and Tangipahoa Parishes**

December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Committee Members:

**Officers:**

**Mayor** LaToya Cantrell, *Chairwoman*

**Parish President** Kirk Lepine *1st Vice Chairman*

**Parish President** Mike Cooper *2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman*

**Parish President** Matt Jewell *3<sup>rd</sup> Vice Chairman*

**Parish President** Cynthia Lee Sheng *5<sup>th</sup> Vice Chairwoman*

**Parish President** Robby Miller, *Secretary*

**Parish President** Guy McInnis, *Treasurer*

**Jefferson Parish**

Lee Giorgio

**Orleans Parish:**

Sophie Harris Vorhoff

**Plaquemines Parish:**

**Councilmember** Benny Rousselle

**St. Bernard Parish:**

Roxanne Adams **Designee:** Jason Stopa

Susan Klees

**St. Charles Parish:**

**Councilmember** Julia Fisher-Perrier

**Councilmember** Dick Gibbs

**St. John the Baptist Parish:**

**Councilmember** Michael Wright

Jonathan Perret

**St. Tammany Parish:**

**Councilmember** Steve Stefancik

Chris Masingill

Christopher Abadie

**Tangipahoa Parish:**

**Mayor** Pete Panepinto (Hammond)

Michael Showers

**DOTD:**

**Secretary** Shawn Wilson **Designee:** Chris Morvant

**TPC Members:**

**Mayor** Greg Cromer (Slidell)

**Mayor** Clay Madden

Kevin Dolliole (Aviation Director) **Designee:** Ronaldo R. Nodal

Alex Z. Wiggins (RTA) **Designee:** Katherine Felton

GNOEC **Designee:** Carlton Dufrechou

Ninette Barrios (JeT)

**Mayor** Bob Zabbia (Ponchatoula)

Attendance: 29

Consultants:

Staff: Jeff Roesel, Jason Sappington, Megan Leonard, Malissa Givhan, et al



## AGENDA

1. Consideration: Approval of the November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 minutes
2. Consideration: Amendment to the New Orleans Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements
3. Consideration: Amendment to the St. Tammany Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements
4. Consideration: Amendment to the Tangipahoa Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements
5. Consideration: Amendment to the Unified Planning Work Program for FY21
6. Consideration: Public Comment Period
7. Consideration: Other Matters

Megan Leonard, RPC's Director of Management & Finance explained the virtual meeting using the platform GoToWebinar. She went over how to use the GoToWebinar platform and gave instructions for questions/comments and public comments. Once the motions for the agenda items are made, a poll will appear on your screen for the full Board to cast their vote on the item. All items, packet, minutes, handouts etc. were emailed to the Board and posted on the RPC website for public view. All items are listed under the handouts section on GoToWebinar.

Jeff Roesel, RPC's Executive Director led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following the roll call by Jason Sappington, RPC's Deputy Director, a quorum was established.

**1. Consideration: Approval of November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 minutes**

Jeff Roesel asked the Board for a motion for the approval of the November 10<sup>th</sup> minutes. Parish President Kirk Lepine made a motion to approve the November 10th minutes, seconded by Ms. Sophie Harris Vorhoff.

Based on the poll, this item is approved by the Transportation Policy members in attendance as noted by the Chairwoman.

**2. Consideration: Amendment to the New Orleans Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements**

Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 5 of the meeting packet for the amendments to the New Orleans TIP, Highway & Transit Elements, and provided a brief explanation of each item, Jeff also stated that FTA requested that the amount shown for HOPE Program Grant Connecting Communities – BRT Planning Project be lowered to reflect more of the grant amount which is the amount of \$611,000.00.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairwoman called for a motion to approve the New Orleans TIP amendments for the Highway & Transit Elements. It was so moved by Councilmember Julia Fisher-Perrier and seconded by Councilmember Benny Rousselle. Based on the poll, this item is approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

**3. Consideration: Amendment to the St. Tammany Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements**

Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 6 of the meeting packet for the amendments to the St. Tammany TIP, Highway & Transit Elements, and provided a brief explanation of each item.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairwoman called for a motion to approve the St. Tammany TIP amendments for the Highway & Transit Elements. It was so moved by Parish President Mike Cooper and seconded by Mayor Greg Cromer. Based on the poll, this item is approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

4. **Consideration: Amendment to the Tangipahoa Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements**

Jeff Roesel informed the members there were no amendments to the Tangipahoa TIP, Highway & Transit Elements.

5. **Consideration: Amendment to the Unified Planning Work Program for FY-21**

Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 7 of the meeting packet for the amendment to the Unified Planning Work Program for FY-21, and provided a brief explanation.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairwoman called for a motion to approve the Unified Planning Work Program for FY-21. It was so moved by Parish President Guy McInnis and seconded by Mayor Pete Panepinto. Based on the poll, this item is approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

6. **Consideration: Public Comment Period**

Jeff Roesel asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

7. **Other Matters**

The Chairwoman asked if there was any other matters. There was none.

There being no other matters to discuss, Jeff Roesel noted the quorum is still established, the Chairwoman proceeded to the Regional Planning Commission Meeting.

**MINUTES**  
**Regional Planning Commission**  
**For**  
**Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany and**  
**Tangipahoa Parishes**

December 8, 2020

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**Mayor** LaToya Cantrell, *Chairwoman*  
**Parish President** Kirk Lepine *1st Vice Chairman*  
**Parish President** Mike Cooper *2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman*  
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Lee Giorgio

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Sophie Harris Vorhoff

**Plaquemines Parish:**

**Councilmember** Benny Rousselle

**St. Bernard Parish:**

Roxanne Adams **Designee:** Jason Stopa  
Susan Klees

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Christopher Abadie

**Tangipahoa Parish:**  
**Mayor** Pete Panepinto (Hammond)  
Michael Showers

**DOTD:**  
**Secretary** Shawn Wilson **Designee:** Chris Morvant

Attendance: 22

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**AGENDA**

1. Consideration: Approval of the November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 minutes
2. Consideration: Committee Reports:  
(a) Budget and Personnel Committee  
(b) Other Committee Reports
3. Consideration: Election of Officers for 2021
4. Consideration: Financial Report  
(a) Balance Sheet of Local Activities  
(b) Monthly Budget Report
5. Resolution: Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire
6. Resolution: City of New Orleans Funding – Membership to the Regional Planning Commission for Calendar Year 2021
7. Consideration: Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between Adams & Reese and RPC for Calendar Year 2021
8. Consideration: Contract Extensions
9. Consideration: Consultant Billings
10. Consideration: Public Comment Period
11. Consideration: Other Matters:



**1. Consideration: Approval of November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Minutes**

The Chairwoman asked the Board for a motion for the approval of the November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 minutes. Ms. Susan Klees made a motion to approve the November 10<sup>th</sup> 2020 minutes, seconded by Mr. Mike Showers. Based on the poll, this item is approved by the Regional Planning Commission members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

**2. Consideration: Committee Reports:  
(a) Budget and Personnel Committee**

**(b) Other Committee Reports**

Jeff Roesel informed the members there were no committee reports at this time and no motion is needed.

**3. Consideration: Election of Officers for 2021**

Jeff Roesel explained the annual rotation of Officers and presented to the Board the Officers for 2021.

KIRK LEPINE, Chairman PLAQUEMINES PARISH	ROBBY MILLER, 5 <sup>th</sup> Vice Chairman TANGIPAHOA PARISH
MIKE COOPER, 1st Vice Chairman ST. TAMMANY PARISH	GUY McINNIS, Secretary ST. BERNARD PARISH
MATT JEWELL, 2nd Vice Chairman St. CHARLES PARISH	LaTOYA CANTRELL, Treasurer ORLEANS PARISH
JACLYN HOTARD, 3rd Vice Chairwoman ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH	
CYNTHIA LEE SHENG, 4 <sup>th</sup> Vice Chairwoman JEFFERSON PARISH	

There being no questions or objections, the Chairwoman called for a motion to approve the Election of RPC Officers for 2021. It was so moved by Councilmember Benny Rousselle seconded by Parish President Kirk Lepine and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairwoman.

**4. Consideration Financial Report**  
**(a) Balance Sheet of Local Activities**  
**(b) Monthly Budget Report**

Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 9 of the meeting packet for the balance sheet for the month ending October 31, 2020. He indicated that the RPC’s Total Assets and Liabilities, which include the Fund Balance in the amount of \$2,626,378.29.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairwoman called for a motion to approve the balance sheet of local activities. It was so moved by Mayor Greg Cromer\* seconded by Mr. Christopher Abadie. Based on the poll, this item is approved by the Regional Planning Commission members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

\*Mayor Cromer is a member of the Transportation Policy Committee, there was no objection to him making the motion.

Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 10 of the packet to show the Board the budget versus actual as of October 31, 2020. There are no amendments at this time and no motion is needed.

**5. Resolution: Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire**

Jeff Roesel explained the resolution and asked for a motion for the approval of the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire to the Regional Planning Commission. There being no questions or objections, the Chairwoman called for a motion to approve the Resolution. It was so moved by Mayor Bob Zabbia\* and seconded by Mayor Clay Madden\* and approved unanimously by the Regional Planning Commission members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

\* Mayor Zabbia and Mayor Madden are members of the Transportation Policy committee, there was no objection to them making this motion.

**6. Resolution: City of New Orleans Funding-Membership to the Regional Planning Commission for Calendar Year 2021**

Jeff Roesel explained the resolution and asked for a motion for the Approval of the City of New Orleans funding membership to the Regional Planning Commission. There being no questions or objections, the Chairwoman called for a motion to approve the Resolution. It was so moved by Ms. Sophie Harris Vorhoff and

seconded by Parish President Kirk Lepine and approved unanimously by the Regional Planning Commission members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

**7. Consideration: Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between Adams & Reese and RPC for Calendar Year 2021**

Jeff Roesel explained the resolution for the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between Adams & Reese and RPC for Calendar Year 2021.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairwoman call for a motion to approve the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between Adams & Reese and RPC for Calendar Year 2021. It was so moved by Councilmember Dick Gibbs, seconded by Mr. Jonathan Perret and approved unanimously by the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairwoman.

**8. Consideration: Contract Extensions**

Jeff Roesel informed the Board there are no extensions at this time.

**9. Consideration: Consultant Billings**

Jeff Roesel referred the members to a summary list of the consultant bills on pages 13 in the meeting packet, noting that staff had reviewed each of them and favorably recommended them for approval.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairwoman called for a motion to approve the consultant billings. It was so moved by Parish President Robby Miller seconded by Parish President Guy McInnis. Based on the poll, this item is approved by the Regional Planning Commission members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

**10. Consideration: Public Comment Period**

Jeff Roesel asked if there was any public comments. There was none.

**11. Consideration: Other Matters**

At this time Jeff Roesel presented Mayor LaToya Cantrell with a plaque expressing the RPC's appreciation for being RPC's 2020 Chairwoman.

Jeff Roesel stated that the RPC staff wanted to thank Mayor Cantrell for her leadership of this organization during an extremely tumultuous and challenging time. Jeff virtually presented Mayor Cantrell with a plaque for her 2020 service which states, "The membership of the RPC and TPC hereby express their grateful appreciation and gratitude to LaToya Cantrell, RPC Chairwoman 2020 for her experience, guidance, and commitment to building a more sustainable region and improving the quality of life for its residents" December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020".

The Chairwoman took a few minutes to thank Jeff Roesel the RPC staff and the entire RPC leadership and family for everything that is done for the region. Mayor Cantrell stated that "It's been a great time to serve, and that we keep her lifted up and that she was so glad to be with us in person in Jan. Feb. and March of 2020 and then moving on to virtual. It has been a challenging year as a state, a region and as a nation, and in Southeast Louisiana we have faced 9 months of covid19 and the most active hurricane season since 2005."

The Mayor also wanted to show a video to the members on the work we're doing. RPC had technical difficulty with the sound in the video and Megan Leonard, Director of Management and Finance said she would email the Board with a link to the video to be watched in full.

Parish President Kirk Lepine also wanted to personally thank Mayor Cantrell for her leadership and for tossing the baton to him to continue the work in 2021, he replied that he will do his best and thanked her for role of leadership.

Parish President Guy McInnis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Parish President Kirk Lepine seconded and based on the poll the motion to adjourn the meeting is approved unanimously by the Regional Planning Commission members in attendance, as noted by the Chairwoman.

Megan Leonard followed up with an email to the Board.

On Dec 8, 2020, at 1:16 PM, Megan Leonard <[mleonard@norpc.org](mailto:mleonard@norpc.org)> wrote:

All,

I apologize for the technical difficulties RPC had in showing Mayor Cantrell's video during today's Commission meeting. Please click the link below to watch the video in full.

[Advancing Cities New Orleans](#)

Happy holidays and cheers to a brighter 2021!

Thanks,

Megan Leonard

Director of Management & Finance

Regional Planning Commission

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