

September 12, 2023 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

Committee Members:

Officers:

Parish President Matt Jewell, Chairman- St. Charles Parish

Parish President Jaclyn Hotard, 1st Vice Chairwoman- St. John The Baptist Parish **Designee:** Kali Price

Parish President Cynthia Lee Sheng, 2nd Vice Chairwoman- Jefferson Parish **Designee:** Gregory Giangrosso

Parish President Robby Miller, 3rd Vice Chairman- Tangipahoa Parish

Parish President Guy McInnis, 4th Vice Chairman – St. Bernard Parish **Designee:** Jason Stoupa

Mayor LaToya Cantrell, 5th Vice Chairwoman- Orleans Parish **Designee:** Daniel Jatres

Parish President Keith Hinkley, Secretary- Plaquemines Parish

Jefferson Parish:

Councilmember At-Large Scott Walker **Designee:** Brian Grenrood

Mayor Michael J. Glaser (Kenner) **Designee:** Jose Gonzales

Lee Giorgio

Jack Stumpf

Plaquemines Parish:

Robert Hopkins

Allen Hero

St. Bernard Parish:

Councilmember At-Large Kerri Callais

Susan Klees

St. Charles Parish:

Councilmember Dick Gibbs

Garret C. Monti

Pastor Thomas Hines

St. John the Baptist Parish:

Councilmember Robert Arcuri

Councilmember Tammy Houston

Jonathan Perret

St. Tammany Parish:

Councilmember Mike Lorino

Christopher Abadie

Tangipahoa Parish:

Mayor Bob Zabbia (Ponchatoula)

DOTD:

Secretary Eric Kalivoda **Designee:** Scott Boyle

TPC Members:

Mayor Greg Cromer (Slidell) **Designee:** Daniel W. McElmurray
Kevin Dolliole (Aviation Director) **Designee:** Ronaldo Nodal
Brandy Christian (Port) **Designee:** Anthony Evett
Lona Hankins (RTA)
Carlton Dufrechou (GNOEC)
Ninette Barrios (JeT)
Mayor Pete Panepinto (Hammond)

Attendance: 32

Consultants:

Staff: Mr. Jeff Roesel, Mr. Jason Sappington, Ms. Megan Leonard, Mrs. Joan Rupp et al

TPC Agenda

- 1. Consideration: Approval of the August 8, 2023 minutes
- 2. Consideration: Amendment to the New Orleans Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements
- 3. Consideration: Amendment to the Mandeville-Covington Transportation Improvement Program, Highway and Transit Elements
- 4. Consideration: Amendment to the Slidell Transportation Improvement Program, Highway and Transit Elements
- 5. Consideration: Amendment to the South Tangipahoa Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements
- 6. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Travel Demand Model Support Services
State Project Number: H.972501.1
RPC Task: C-1.24TDM
- 7. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
South Range Road Safety and Operational Enhancements
State Project Number: H.972501.1
RPC Task: T-1.24RR
- 8. Resolution: Agreement with Federal Highway Administration—Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division’s Federal Lands Access Program Project Grant
- 9. Consideration: Public Comment Period
- 10. Consideration: Other Matters

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

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

1. Consideration: Approval of the August 8,2023 minutes

Mr. Jeff Roesel asked the Board for a motion for the approval of the August 8, 2023 minutes. Carlton Dufrechou made a motion to approve the August 8, 2023 minutes, seconded by Lona Hankins and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy Committee members in attendance, as noted by the Chairman.

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

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 3 of the meeting packet for the New Orleans TIP, Highway and Transit Elements and provided a brief explanation.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the New Orleans TIP amendments for the Highway and Transit Elements. It was so moved by Daniel Jatres and seconded by Susan Klees and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy Committee members in attendance, as noted by the Chairman.

3. Consideration: Amendment to the Mandeville-Covington Transportation Improvement Program, Highway and Transit Elements

Mr. Jeff Roesel explained there were no Mandeville-Covington TIP amendments this month and we could proceed to the next item.

4. Consideration: Amendment to the Slidell Transportation Improvement Program, Highway and Transit Elements

Mr. Jeff Roesel explained there were no Slidell TIP amendments this month and we could proceed to the next item.

5. Consideration: Amendment to the South Tangipahoa Transportation Improvement Program, Highway & Transit Elements

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 3 of the meeting packet for the South Tangipahoa TIP, Highway and Transit Elements and provided a brief explanation.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the South Tangipahoa TIP amendments for the Highway and Transit Elements. It was so moved by Parish President Robby Miller and seconded by Mayor Bob Zabbia and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy Committee members in attendance, as noted by the Chairman.

**6. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
Travel Demand Model Support Services
State Project Number : H.972501.1
RPC Task : C-1.24TDM**

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 4 of the meeting packet for a list of respondents and explained this is specialized software work to support staff with travel demand modeling and programming tasks throughout the year on a task-order basis.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the Consultant Selection: Travel Demand Model Support Services State Project Number: H.972501.1 RPC Task C-1.24TDM with Alliance Transportation Group, LLC. It was so moved by Susan Klees and seconded by Garret C. Monti and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy Committee members in attendance, as noted by the Chairman.

**7. Consideration: Consultant Selection:
South Range Road Safety and Operational Enhancements
State Project Number: H.972501.1
RPC Task: T-1.24RR**

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 4 of the meeting packet for a list of respondents and explained the purpose of this study is to conduct a corridor analysis along this portion of Range Road in the Hammond area of Tangipahoa Parish. This study will examine the specific operation conditions of the intersection of Old Covington Highway and Range Road, land uses and operations or nearby trip generating land uses, and to identify conceptual, feasible improvements at and adjacent to the intersection that would enhance the safety and operations of all roadway users of said corridor.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the Consultant Selection: South Range Road Safety and Operational Enhancements State Project Number: H.972501.1 RPC Task: T-1.24RR with Vectura Consulting Services, LLC. It was so moved by Mayor Bob Zabbia and seconded by Mayor Pete Panepinto and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy Committee members in attendance, as noted by the Chairman.

8. Resolution: Agreement with Federal Highway Administration—Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division’s Federal Lands Access Program Project Grant

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 5 of the meeting packet for the Resolution: Agreement with Federal Highway Administration—Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division’s Federal Lands Access Program Project Grant. Mr. Jeff Roesel explained the purpose of this grant is to conduct feasibility, environmental, and project development for improving recreational access to, and within, the Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge, with an emphasis on bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The total federal funds for this will be \$300,000 with a non-federal share of \$0 and runs through January 2025.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve Resolution: Agreement with Federal Highway Administration—Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division’s Federal Lands Access Program Project Grant. It was so moved by Councilmember Mike Lorino and seconded by Parish President Robby Miller and approved unanimously by the Transportation Policy Committee members in attendance, as noted by the Chairman.

9. Consideration: Public Comment Period

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

10. Consideration: Other Matters

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

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Regional Planning Commission
For

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Councilmember Tammy Houston

Jonathan Perret

St. Tammany Parish:

Councilmember Mike Lorino

Christopher Abadie

Tangipahoa Parish:

Mayor Bob Zabbia (Ponchatoula)

DOTD:

Secretary Eric Kalivoda **Designee:** Scott Boyle

Attendance: 25

Consultants:

Staff: Mr. Jeff Roesel, Mr. Jason Sappington, Ms. Megan Leonard, Mrs. Joan Rupp et al

RPC Agenda

1. Consideration: Approval of the August 8, 2023 minutes
2. Consideration: Committee Reports:
 - (a) Budget and Personnel Committee
 - (b) Other Committee Reports
3. Consideration: Financial Report
 - (a) Balance Sheet of Local Activities
 - (b) Monthly Budget Report
4. Presentation: Southeast Louisiana Clean Fuel Partnership Strategic Plan Update
By: Aspen Nero, RPC Environmental Planner
5. Consideration: Travel Request
6. Consideration: Contract Extensions
7. Consideration: Consultant Billings
8. Consideration: Public Comment Period
9. Consideration: Other Matters

1. Consideration: Approval of the August 8, 2023 minutes

Mr. Jeff Roesel asked the Board for a motion for the approval of the August 8, 2023 minutes. Jonathan Perret made a motion to approve the August 8, 2023 minutes, seconded by Christopher Abadie and approved unanimously by the Regional Planning Commission members in attendance, as noted by the Chairman.

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

Mr. Jeff Roesel explained there were no committee reports and we could proceed to the next item.

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

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 7 of the meeting packet for the balance sheet for the month ending July 31, 2023. He indicated that the RPC's Total Assets and Liabilities, which include the Fund Balance in the amount of \$2,393,087.98.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the balance sheet. Parish President Keith Hinkley made a motion to approve the balance sheet, seconded by Councilmember Robert Arcuri and approved unanimously by the Regional Planning Commission members in attendance, as noted by the Chairman.

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred the members to page 7 of the meeting packet for the monthly budget report ending July 31, 2023. He explained there were no budget amendments at this time. No motion is needed for this item.

**4. Presentation: Southeast Louisiana Clean Fuel Partnership Strategic Plan Update
By: Aspen Nero, RPC Environmental Planner**

Mr. Jeff Roesel introduced RPC staff planners, Aspen Nero and Tom Haysley, director and co-director of the hosted Clean Cities coalition, the Southeast Louisiana Clean Fuel Partnership who presented their four-year strategic plan for the coalition. The strategic plan is a deliverable of the Department of Energy grant and will outline the general goals and guide the coalition's activities. Staff will provide the plan on the coalition's website, <https://cleanfuelpartnership.weebly.com/> and request stakeholder feedback on the plan through the end of September with a draft incorporating comments submitted to Department of Energy on October 30.

5. Consideration: Travel Request

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred members to page 8 of the meeting packet for two travel requests for Aspen Nero and Jeff Roesel to attend the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations Conference September 26-29, 2023 in Cleveland, OH, two travel requests for Megan Leonard and Susan Simon to attend the Government Finance Officers Association Conference October 4-6, 2023 in Baton Rouge, LA, one travel request for Lynn Dupont to attend National Geospatial Advisory Committee Meeting October 11-12, 2023 in Washington D.C., and three travel requests for Tom Haysley, Adam Tatar, and Karen Parsons to attend the American Planning Association State Conference October 11-13, 2023 in Alexandria, LA.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the Travel Requests. It was so moved by Councilmember Dick Gibbs seconded by Councilmember Kerri Callais and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

6. Consideration: Contract Extensions

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred members to page 8 of the meeting packet for the contract extensions. There is one extension for time only.

There being no questions or objections, the Chairman called for a motion to approve the Contract Extensions. It was so moved by Robert Hopkins seconded by Jack Stumpf and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

7. Consideration: Consultant Billings

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred the members to a summary list of the consultant bills on page 8 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 Chairman called for a motion to approve the consultant billings. It was so moved by Parish President Robby Miller and seconded by Kali Price and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.

8. Consideration: Public Comment Period

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

9. Consideration: Other Matters

Mr. Jeff Roesel referred the board to the handout regarding the agenda for the upcoming meeting regarding the Broadband Challenge Process. The purpose of the meeting is to address the crucial issue of securing BEAD (Broadband Equity Access and Deployment) funding for the state by challenging the FCC map of underserved areas. The goal is to raise awareness about this challenge and provide guidance on how to initiate and submit challenges effectively. This challenge will not include locations that have already been addressed in previous efforts. The meeting will be held September 27th at 9AM at the Regional Transportation Management Center. Local governments and economic development agencies are encouraged to send someone from their administrations.

The Chairman called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was so moved by Parish President Keith Hinkley and seconded by Councilmember Dick Gibbs and approved unanimously by the members of the Regional Planning Commission, as noted by the Chairman.