

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Metropolitan Planning Organization**  
**Transportation Policy Committee Meeting**

**Date: April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Meeting Location: Conference Room, Rapides Area Planning Commission,  
 Alexandria, LA**

**In Attendance**

<b>Committee</b>	Mayor Clarence Fields, CoP – Present (Alternate Rich Dupree) – Present Mayor Jacques Roy, CoA – Present (Alternate Delores Brewer) – Present Mayor Neil S. Kavanagh, Town of Ball – Absent Lee Rubin, CoA – Absent (Alternate Eric Duck) – Present James Villard, CoA – Absent (Alternate James Branch) – Present Nathan Martin, CoP – Present (Alternate Charlie Moore) – Present Craig Smith, Rapides Parish – Present Richard Vanderlick, Rapides Parish – Absent Murphy LeDoux, LADOTD – Present (Alternate Keith Sayer) – Present Blake Cooper, Regional Port Authority – Absent (Alternate Norman Welch) – Absent Charlie Weems, England Authority – Absent (Alternate David Broussard/Jon Grafton) – Present Carlos McCloud, FHWA – Absent (Alternate Chandra Bondzie) – Absent Ronisha Hodge, FHWA – Absent
<b>Staff</b>	Matt Johns, Sooraz Patro, Blake Powell, Jonathan Bolen
<b>Others in Attendance</b>	David Gill, CoA

### **Agenda Item # 1**

*Call to Order by Mayor Clarence Fields*

### **Agenda Item # 2**

*Roll Call*

### **Agenda Item # 3**

*Approval of Minutes from the previous TPC held on December 19, 2016.*

- Motion by Mayor Roy
- Second by President Smith

### **Agenda Item #4**

*MPO Housekeeping Projects for Approval*

*FY 2015-2018 TIP Amendments and Administrative Modifications*

Sooraz provided information on a DOTD HQ initiated TIP amendment for project H.012195, I-49; Cable Barriers Avoyelles & Rapides (Install Cable Barrier System) for FFY 2018 with HSIPPEN funding of \$8.1 million towards construction phase.

Sooraz provided information on the amendments to the transit element of the TIP initiated by projects approved and selected by Atrans.

TPC approved the TIP for both highways and transit elements pending public comments with the final resolution passed in the next meeting. The public comment period commences from April 14<sup>th</sup> through April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

- Motion by Mr. Jon Grafton
- Second by Mayor Roy

*Draft UPWP (FY 2017 – 2018)*

Sooraz introduced the funding breakdown for the Unified Planning Work Program, especially focusing on the sharp drop of total budget by \$226,000 largely due to the completion of one-time projects such as LRTP 2040, and BPP. The current forecast budget for FY 2017-2018 is at \$700,014.

TPC approved the Draft UPWP FY 2017-2018 pending public comment period commencing from April 14<sup>th</sup> through April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

- Motion by Mayor Roy
- Second by President Smith

### **Agenda Item #5**

*Federal Rulings*

Sooraz provided a brief synopsis of the various House and Senate Bills currently under consideration in the current session. The bills focused on transportation planning topics ranging from MOVE Act; Drones; repeal of MPO coordination and Planning Area reform; TIGER grant etc. with special emphasis on bills which affect A/P MPO directly.

### *LA State Legislature Bills*

Sooraz provided a brief synopsis of the various House and Senate Bills currently under consideration in the current session. The bills focused on transportation planning topics ranging from PPP financing mechanism; Ignition Interlock device for DWI repeat offenders; establishing Speed Limits for school bus, truck-tractor, semi-trailer etc.

### *Aerial Imagery*

Matt informed TPC that aerial imagery is available on RAPC website and staff can provide copies upon request to member entities. The last part of the contract which included LIDAR is almost completed and due delivery within the next month or so. The imagery will help in better analysis of beltway and other big tickets projects of member entities.

### *Member Entity Updates*

Sooraz informed TPC that RAPC received a supplementary contract extending the TDM program for \$100,000. Jonathan Bolen briefed TPC on receiving four applications under the HSCP.

### **Agenda Item #6 Other Business**

Matt informed the Committee that RAPC is trying to get ahead of the curve and looking into the possibility of taking advantage of the Pilot program to prepare small area transportation plans as encouraged by the State. Matt informed the Committee that A/P MPO won the State APA Award for Planning Process with primes the agency to seek work in the mold of small consulting firms. Although, these projects which are based beyond our urbanized area, but they will provide financial relief to maintain staffing and functioning of the MPO in between larger funding cycles (LRTP).

Sooraz responded to Councilman Martin and informed that the Motorist Assistance Patrol program is on track for deployment starting next FY 2018.

Mayor Roy explored the possibility of using RAPC for identifying waste water siting project in the near future.

### **Agenda Item #7 Adjournment**

- Motion by Councilman Nathan Martin
- Second by Mr. James Branch