

Transportation Policy Committee Meeting
December 3, 2025
Rapides Area Planning Commission Conference Room & Online (Zoom)
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Attendees:

Councilman Nathan Martin	Becky Edwards (for Mayor	Ben Russo
Mayor Jacques Roy	Wilking)	Jonathan Bolen
Juror Olli Overton	David Broussard (for Ralph	Nick Blackstone
	Hennessy)	Matt Johns

Summary:

The Transportation Policy Committee meeting on December 3, 2025, focused on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment No. 7, focusing on budget constraints due to LA Act 380, capping federal STP50-200K funds at \$3 million annually (FFY). Key projects affected include the Jones Street rehabilitation, which increased from \$900,000 to \$2.7 million, and the COA asphalt improvements, now over budget at \$3.5 million. The committee proposed using a \$300,000 surplus for a three-area drainage project to address critical infrastructure needs. The meeting also covered updates on various transportation projects, including the Masonic Drive project and the Atrans' (Alexandria Transit) preventative maintenance.

Item 1 & 2: Call to Order & Roll Call

- Mayor Roy called the meeting to order, and Mr. Bolen confirmed attendance, and checked for a quorum.
- Opening blessing and remarks for the current season and ongoing challenges.
- Online attendance checked.

Item 3: Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Minutes reviewed.
- Mayor Roy entertained a motion to approve minutes from June 11, 2025, TPC meeting.
- Motion to approve by Mr. Overton, seconded by Mr. Russo; approved by affirmation.

Item 4a: Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Amendment No. 7

- Update on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), with focus on financial constraints and new federal funding caps (Act 380).
- Discussion of project readiness, plan specification and estimation status.
- Status updates on England airport, Sonic Drive, and other transportation projects.
- Explanation of the need to move certain projects (e.g., Jones Street Rehabilitation) into future years due to budget and eligibility constraints.
- Emphasis on not deleting projects, but shifting them in the schedule.

- Updates on preventative maintenance and changes in the transit program.
- Noted increases in cost for certain projects (e.g., England Air Park), changes in project timelines, and updates to MPA aerial photography and transit elements.
- Mayor Roy entertains a motion to amend the TIP Amendment No. 7 to include specific use of any overage for a three-area drainage project for Bayous Roberts, Maria, And Flagon.
- Motion to approve by Mr. Overton, seconded by Mr. Martin; approved unanimously, pending public comment.

Item 4b: MPO Highway Safety Performance Measures & 2026 Target Setting

- Mr. Bolen mentions the need to update annual safety performance targets as required by FHWA.
- Update on federal performance targets, with decision to defer until next meeting.
- Discussion moved to the February 4 TPC meeting due to time constraints.

Item 4c: Development of Project Evaluation Rubric

- Discussion on creating a rubric/scoring system for evaluating and prioritizing projects in the next four-year TIP.
- Criteria discussed include readiness, need, safety improvement, congestion relief, multimodal connectivity, economic access, and regional priorities.
- Emphasis that input is needed from the policy group for final approval.
- Discussion moved to the February 4 TPC meeting due to time constraints.

Items 5 & 6: Additional Items & Adjournment

- Brief introduction of new RAPC team member, Jay McBride.
- Next meeting to address outstanding items, including safety targets and further TIP project rubric discussion.
- No other business was discussed and there were no comments from the public online or in person.

A motion to adjourn by Ben Russo, seconded by Nathan Martin. On vote the motion unanimously passed.