Call to Order

Mr. Altimus called the meeting to order and asked Mr. Petro to call the roll. A quorum was present.

Public Comments

Mr. Altimus called for public comments and reminded those in attendance to limit their comments to three (3) minutes. No Cards Submitted

Old Business

No Old Business
New Business

1. Approval of Minutes
The next item on the agenda was for approval of the minutes of the August 18, 2017 meeting. Mr. Altimus asked the committee to look over the minutes as provided. Mayor Walker asked for clarification on Alternatives Selection for the I-49 Inner City Corridor and the variation of 4-lane and 6-lane options. Mr. Petro stated that the process is to clear for a maximum of 6-lanes the options are provided for cost variances between constructing 4-lanes or 6-lanes. Mayor Tyler asked if we would need to vote again at later date on 4-lanes or 6-lanes. Mr. Petro reiterated that we are doing environmental clearance for 6-lanes if funding was only available for 4-lanes they could build that but have clearance for future 6-lane facility. Mayor Walker asked if FHWA makes that determination. Mr. Petro state that is correct. Mr. Altimus stated that that was the procedure used on many projects. He noted they cleared Swan Lake Road for 5-lanes yet only constructing 3-lanes initially but can come back at later date to expand without having to do environmental clearance again. Mayor Walker motioned to approve the minutes with Mayor Tyler seconding, the motion was approved.

2. Shreveport Regional ITS Architecture
Mr. Altimus stated that the next item for discussion was the Shreveport Regional ITS Architecture Plan. Mr. Petro described the process of the ITS Plan for the area. He described that it included the inventory of current ITS projects and future projects for the area. These include the traffic signal systems, the dynamic message boards, and the traffic centers at the City of Shreveport and DOTD District 04 offices. Mr. Petro noted that federal regulations require an update of the regional plans in order to qualify for future funding. Mayor Walker asked if the cameras at the intersections included red-light enforcement. Mr. Petro stated no they did not they were for timing and system regulation only and that we have no desire to move into red-light enforcement with these systems. Mr. Petro stated that the Technical committee had been involved in the process of updating that plan and has recommended adoption. Mr. Washington motioned to approve the Shreveport Regional ITS Architecture Plan for public comment with Mayor Walker seconding, the motion was approved.

3. MPO Certification Review
Mr. Altimus stated that the Certification Review had been postponed previously due to hurricanes/weather in south Louisiana. Mr. Petro that was correct. He stated the new dates are Tuesday November 7 – Thursday November 9, 2017. The Public Listening Session will be held at the Bossier Parish Community College on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 at 6:30 pm. The remainder of the schedule is for review of internal procedures and policies.

Presentations

4. Northwest Louisiana Regional Thoroughfare Plan
Mr. Petro introduced Mr. Derek Chisholm from AECOM, he noted that a Technical Committee Meeting was held the previous day and had a great input from them. Mr. Chisholm started out by saying he doesn’t necessarily like to call this a plan as much as it is an implementation tool. We have great plans in place and have had great public engagement and input into those plans. The purpose of this planning effort is to help better preserve right-of-way for corridor and to provide some legal mechanisms for preserving those corridors and to provide some cross sections based on functional class and land use. Mr. Chisholm noted that they have held several technical meetings and individual interview and will be holding some additional individual interviews in the future. The team has looked a lot at the existing
conditions and a review of existing ordinances of the various jurisdictions. He noted that both sides of
the river have some very good sets of tools but there is some tightening up the would help and they are
working to put those recommendations together. He noted that there will be 4 public meetings soon to
review the proposed functional classifications, future corridors, and cross sections.

Mayor Walker asked if this would help with preservation of corridors such as I-69 once a ROD or
Environmental clearance was given. Mr. Tyler Comeaux stated that once a project has environmental
clearance the respective jurisdictions should update their masterplans with those corridors. When a
developer comes in either for a subdivision plat or for a permit the respective departments should
reference these maps when issuing permits or plats. Mayor Tyler expressed concerns as to whether the
Caddo side has updated their maps and who was responsible for that. Mr. Comeaux described that
was the team is looking at is NLCOG wide or Caddo and Bossier Parish. The team has been working with
the MPC’s, engineering offices, and others to make sure all projects are accounted for. Mr. Jean
reiterated that he had been in close contact with city engineering throughout this process. Mr.
Comeaux stated that once this process is completed that NLCOG should adopt the plan and have each
MPC and respective jurisdictions adopt the plan as well.

Mayor Tyler asked about research on litigation and taking of properties. Mr. Chisholm replied that
through their research the state enabling legislation and local ordinances are very tight and noted that
the most important thing is consistent administration and enforcement of those ordinances.

Mayor Walker asked how we could do Future Corridor signs similar to those that Texas has done with I-
69, specifically along the I-69 SIU 14 and 15 Corridors. Mr. Comeaux noted that we would need to work
with DOTD. Mrs. O’Neal commented that Lafayette has also done some future corridor signs but that
we would need to be sure to work with DOTD on the regulations regarding these signs. Mayor Walker
asked staff to reach out to Dr. Kalivoda at DOTD to see what could be done.

Mr. England stated that the Port has concerns on these future corridors and has experience a need to
preserve them in some fashion. He stated that they have heard from several neighbors about the time
frame for development of such corridors and their concerns with developing their property. Mr.
England asked if there was a way we could get some estimates on cost for preserving these future
corridors. Mr. England stated that he felt the port and the cities and parishes would take the blunt on
this. He asked if we could look at expanding the scope of the project to include some valuations on the
corridors possibly breaking them down into time lines such as 1 – 5 years, 5 – 10 years, and 10 years out.
He would like to see if there is a way we can begin to set aside some funding to purchase these corridors
and we need to understand just what those cost might be.

Mayor Tyler asked if there was a need for action on this item at this time. Mr. Petro stated that the
presentation was informational and no need for action.

5. LA-3132 Inner Loop Extension

Mr. Petro asked Mr. Comeaux to provide a brief update on the project to date. Mr. Comeaux stated
that the team has moved forward with the technical analysis and documents along the corridor
including line and grade, noise, and cultural resources. BKI has received comments back on these
studies and have been addressing them as appropriate. They hope to resubmit the ling and grand and
hydrology on Monday. The plan is to provide a Draft EA to DOTD/FHWA/NLCOG for review and
comments prior to Thanksgiving. This includes assembling the technical documents along with all other
work. Following review and comments by the resource agencies they will address the comments and prepare the Final Draft EA for public comments. This includes advertisement, a public comment period, the formal public hearing and then address the comments received. The public hearing should occur sometime in February. The EA should be ready for adoption in April of 2018.

Mayor Walker asked to clarify the extents of this project. Mr. Comeaux stated that it would begin at its current terminus with Flournoy Lucas Road and terminate at the Future I-69. He reminded the group that they had previously recommended Build Alternative B2. The project could be staged in segments, Flournoy Lucas Road to Leonard Road and then Leonard Road to I-69. The cost is being broken down into these segments in order to stage the project.

6. Northwest Louisiana MEGA Projects

Mr. Petro stated that the document includes a synopsis of the MEGA Projects in the area. It provides a quick synopsis of the projects for our federal delegation. Mr. Petro stated that Mr. Rogers is in DC this week presenting this information to the delegation during the CC to DC trip. Mr. England asked if these were presented in any order. Mr. Petro stated no they are not in specific order. Mayor Walker asked about the Jimmie Davis Bridge project. Mr. North stated that since no one was willing to take up on the states generous offer to take over the existing bridge that the state is once again looking at construction and new sister span along with rehab of the existing. The intent is to build the new bridge and then a second phase would be to rehab the existing. Mr. North stated that he had been asked if we would consider tolling. He stated that if that was the only way to get this done then yes, we would consider it but that would not be the preferred route. He stated that he believed any bike ped component would be included on the new bridge. Mr. Washington asked to clarify the intent is to do new bridge first or rehab existing first. Mr. North stated that the intent is to build the new bridge first.

Mr. Altimus asked if there were any further comments on this subject. Having none he asked if there were any further business or comments for the group. Mr. Altimus recognized a gentleman from the audience.

My name is Bob Bass (?) I live just outside the city limits. I have lived in the area since 1953. I want to know what the plans are for I-49 South. The project is under construction at I-220. I want like to know if the right-of-way has been purchased from I-220 south to Murphy Street. This section needs to be completed. We need the interchange at Hearn Avenue so people north of town can more readily access Willis Knighton and the LSU hospital. The ex mayor states that the funds are in place for I-49 and need to be done. Mr. Altimus stated that the MPO recommended a corridor to DOTD and FHWA last month. He stated that further study needs to be completed. Mr. Altimus stated that no right-of-way has been purchased and that no funding has been allocated as of yet to the project. He stated that we have been told that funding would be forth coming once the environmental analysis has been completed.

Adjourn

With no remaining agenda items, Mr. Altimus entertained a motion to adjourn, Mayor Walker moved and Mayor Tyler seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

J. Kent Rogers, Secretary