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## **Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Policy Committee**

### **MINUTES**

**Friday, November 18, 2022 (9:00 AM)**

#### **NLCOG**

625 Texas Street, Suite 200  
Shreveport, LA 71101

#### **Members Present**

Mrs. Carlotta Askew-Brown – MPC City of Bossier City  
Mr. Alan Clarke – MPC City of Shreveport  
Mr. Bruce Blanton – Webster Parish  
Mr. Steven Brown – DeSoto Parish  
Mayor Tommy Chandler – City of Bossier City  
Mr. Eric England – Port of Caddo-Bossier  
Mr. Butch Ford – Bossier Parish  
Mr. David North – LaDOTD District 04  
Dr. Woodrow Wilson – Caddo Parish

#### **Members Absent**

Mayor Adrian Perkins – City of Shreveport  
Mr. Dinero' Washington – SporTran

#### **Others Present**

Mr. Kent Rogers – NLCOG  
Mr. Josh Chevallier – BMKS, legal counsel  
Mr. Chris Petro – NLCOG  
Dr. Shelly Barrett – NLCOG  
Ms. Savannah Williams – NLCOG

#### **Call to Order**

Mrs. Askew-Brown called the meeting to order and asked Mr. Rogers to call the roll. A quorum was present.

#### **Public Comments**

Mrs. Askew-Brown stated there was one public comment request, Mr. Adam Sistrunk. Mr. Sistrunk was just wanting an update on the I-49 project. He stated he knew the Governor had been in a few a weeks ago and that the Governor said it was all in the federal agencies hands and didn't want to contradict him but wanted to verify the current status of the project. Mr. Rogers informed him that they were trying to get Ms. Kerry Oriol, Project Manager from Providence Engineering and LaDOTD staff here in January to provide a more comprehensive update. He explained that they are still working a few issues with the 106 process dealing with cultural and historical environment. Mr. Rogers stated that the main premise is to Avoid, Minimize and Mitigate. Mr. Rogers wanted to let everyone know that NLCOG doesn't actually get the cultural reports. The reports go to SHPO (State Historic Preservation Officer).

## **Business**

### **1. Approval of Minutes**

The next item on the agenda was for approval of the minutes of the September 30, 2022, meeting. Dr. Wilson motioned, and Mr. Clarke seconded to approve the minutes as provided. Mrs. Askew-Brown called for questions or comments having none the chair called for a vote and the motion passed.

### **2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) FY 2023-2026**

Mr. Rogers stated at the last meeting the TIP (Transportation Improvement Program) was approved and that NLCOG had received a series of questions and comments from Federal Highway that they would be addressing. Those questions and comments did not affect any of the project specifics, any individual projects or any funding that went along with any of the projects. He directed them to their packets where he had put together the questions and comments and wanted to go over them briefly in a generic sense. Mr. Rogers pointed out that there were several comments that related to questions regarding the project selection and how they're related to the National Goals, our goals/objectives from MTP, and TIP project selection. He informed them that we had completely revamped chapters 4 and 5 to add additional verbiage and how that process works. The primary question NLCOG received was how they're related to the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Mr. Rogers stated that this verbiage was in the original TIP and has remained consistent. He also stated that before a project can be included in the TIP it is required to be in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan.

Mr. Rogers said there were also some questions in terms of phasing and funding of each project. He stated that there's an individual project sheet that identifies the project phasing, funding for each phase and capital vs non-capital expenses. The MPO has included performance target and ranking for each project.

The next series of questions/comments were related to financial constraint and the new IJJA funding. Mr. Rogers stated that staff broke out the overall funding into the three primary categories (STBG, Transportation Alternatives, and Carbon Reduction) from IJJA and also all categories of previous funding sources for the urban systems program.

Also included in the TIP revision is an appendix showing the status of previously authorized projects from the last TIP along with several other appendices that are documents previously just referenced within the document.

Mrs. Askew-Brown asked if there were further questions. Having none Mrs. Askew-Brown entertained a motion to Accept the NLCOG 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program revisions. Dr. Wilson motioned, and Mr. England seconded. Mrs. Askew-Brown called for questions or comments. Having none the chair called for a vote and the motion passed.

### **LA 511 Jimmie Davis Bridge**

Mr. Rogers reviewed the status on the LA 511 Jimmie Davis Bridge project from DOTD's Presentation of Short-List. He stated that as of October 28, 2022, American Bridge Company, A Southland Company, James Construction Group, LLC, and Thalle Construction Co., Inc. were those on the list. The general schedule from DOTD is that the final proposals are due at the end of January, the cost proposals opened publicly at the end of February, the contract award in late March, and NTP in early April.

### **I-69 Service Road Project**

Mr. Rogers then updated the board on the I-69 Service Road project. He stated that the Caddo-Bossier Port received the entity state agreement for execution early November and is in the process of reviewing and executing on their behalf. LaDOTD is preparing the advertisement for design and survey. Upon full execution of the entity state agreement, LaDOTD will advertise the RFQ for design and survey. Mr. England stated they received the agreement from the state and said they are to start within 90 days.

### **Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement (CRISI) Grants**

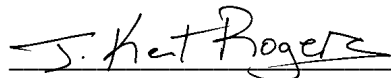
Mr. Rogers stated that NLCOG received the request for letter of support for LaDOTD's CRISI Grant Application of 15 million dollars for preliminary engineering and environmental. Mr. Rogers presented a brief overview of the CRISI program. Mrs. Askew-Brown asked if there were further questions. Having none, Mrs. Askew-Brown entertained a motion to approve the letter of support for LaDOTD's CRISI Grant Application. Mr. England motioned, and Mr. Clarke seconded.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Rogers stated there were no announcements but wanted wish everyone Happy Holidays. Reminded everyone of the next meeting that will be on January 6, 2023 unless an additional one is needed or requested before then.

## **Adjourn**

With no remaining agenda items, The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Clarke moved to adjourn; Mr. England seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.



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J. Kent Rogers, Secretary