



625 Texas Street, Suite 200 | Shreveport, LA 71101
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Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Policy Committee

MINUTES

Friday, June 7, 2024 (9:00 AM) NLCOG
NLCOG

625 Texas Street, Suite 200
Shreveport, LA 71101

Members Present

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

Members Absent

Mr. Dinero' Washington – SporTran
Ms. Erica Bryant – Caddo Parish

Others Present

Mr. Kent Rogers – NLCOG
Mr. Chris Petro – NLCOG
Ms. Savannah Williams – NLCOG
Mr. Adam Driskill - NLCOG
Ms. Rita Arnold – NLCOG
Mr. Josh Chevallier – NLCOG Legal Council

Call to Order

Mr. Clarke called the meeting to order. He stated that we generally have an invocation, roll call and a pledge at the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Clarke said that he was going to ask Mr. Johnson to lead us in prayer and Mr. Ford to lead us in the pledge. He asked if those that cared to join them to please stand. Mr. Johnson began the invocation followed by Mr. Ford leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Clarke asked Mr. Rogers to begin a roll call. Mr. Rogers began the roll call. A quorum was present.

Public Comments

Mr. Clarke stated they had two public comments. He stated that the comments are to be held for three minutes.

Mr. Sims was the first to comment. Mr. Sims stated that he was coming there today to say that no consideration was given to pedestrian accommodation. And also, that the proposed bicycle improvements aren't really improvements. Those still aren't finalized yet.

Mr. Rogers stated that he was going to get Mr. Sims some contact information. We are in the process of doing an Active Transportation Plan now and they're looking for public input and public comments on the proposed plan. Mr. Rogers said that he would get him in contact with the group that's most helpful.

Mr. Hackney was next to comment. Mr. Hackney stated he had just a few comments on the minutes that were going to be approved at today's meeting. He said that at the April meeting in the announcement section, he noticed that there were a lot of comments from Mr. Rogers, Mr. Clarke, and Mr. England talking about the Tim James project. Mr. Hackney said he wasn't sure who made the contact or comment with William Bradford, the attorney for Tim James, about contacting the neighborhood and having some community engagement. He stated that these minutes are two months old and to his knowledge there has been no community contact since that time. Under some advice of talking with different people there around that table, he's going to contact his City Councilman. He's not sure about the split between Shreveport and Caddo and who's doing what. Mr. Hackney said that a lot of people there are involved in it. He spoke with Mr. North about control of access, and he had no new information to share. He's spoken with Mr. Clarke about some of the MPC/PUD requirements that have to be integrated with the control of access and things like that. He stated there's a lot of complexity and thinks that a community meeting of some sort between the developer and the various entities would be useful and prevent future delays, litigation, hard feelings, etc.

Business

1. Approval of Minutes

The next item on the agenda was for approval of the minutes of the April 12, 2024, meeting. Mayor Chandler motioned, and Mr. Norton seconded to approve the minutes as provided. Mr. Clarke called for questions or comments. Having none, the chair called for a vote and the motion passed.

2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) – TIP Amendments and Modifications

Mr. Rogers stated they had only one item under the TIP program, and it was for the final adoption and the amendment to remove the Audrey Lane project. The City of Shreveport has elected to do that project with their own funding. Mr. Rogers stated they had to go through the formal process to remove that project and it was submitted for public comment and they didn't receive any. He said they feel there's no reason not to remove it and to move forward.

Mr. Clarke asked if there were any further questions. Having none, Mr. Clarke entertained a motion for the Approval of the MPO Surface Transportation Programing Update – Amendment(s) for Adoption for the Removal of the Audrey Lane Project per the City of Shreveport. Mr. Ford motioned, and Mayor Chandler seconded. Mr. Clarke called for questions or comments. Having none, the chair called for a vote and the motion passed.

3. Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – Draft Fiscal Year 2025 UPWP

Mr. Rogers stated at the last meeting they had a brief overview of the task items required for Fiscal Year 2025 Work Program. With the agenda that was sent out, they had a link for the full document. Mr. Rogers said that what he had in packets today was a synopsis of some of the tasks for them. The purpose of the work program is to outline the projects and programs the MPO will be working on for the next fiscal year. Mr. Rogers went over some of the tasks following his slides. One thing he wanted to point out from Task B-1 was that during the November-December timeframe, they will have an amendment to this task item. They will need to be scoping out an update for their current long-range transportation plan because it's done every five years. Mr. Rogers said it will be roughly during that time that they will need to be scoping out to get that work underway which will be end of this calendar year, early of the next calendar year. Mr. Rogers continued to review the remaining tasks for the UPWP – Draft Fiscal Year 2025.

Mr. Rogers asks to let the record show that Mayor Arceneaux is present.

Mr. Rogers stated that Task C is the GIS Data Development and Maintenance that is housed by NLCOG and administered by its staff. This is the task they use to work with the aerial photography that they collect from everyone every couple of years and then integrating that into existence and sharing that with the different data sets and coordination of the different data sets among the different agencies.

Mrs. Askew-Brown asked Mr. Rogers when it was anticipated for that to be completed?

Mr. Rogers stated that he thinks they have a draft out and he thinks that Mr. Reeves has sent some things out to various people on how to access the draft things. The final should be out any day now. Mr. Rogers said the last estimate they gave him had shown they anticipated the final to be out the middle of this month. He said that again that covers the four parish Metropolitan Planning Area that include the ortho imagery, the obliques, and the 360° walk around. That imagery was captured at a two-inch resolution. Mr. Rogers stated that he would make a point of having Mr. Reeves at one of the next meetings to do a presentation of the imagery work and also the 360 imageries to show them how it all works.

Mr. Rogers reviewed the remaining tasks for the UPWP – Draft Fiscal Year 2025.

Mr. Rogers stated that he had the preliminary budget, the associated work budget plan that goes with the UPWP outline for the Fiscal Year 2025. The overall income and the general expenses. One thing Federal Highways and DOTD expect them to put in the UPWP is proposed meeting dates for the next year. Mr. Rogers stated that if they recalled, previously up until a little after Covid, they were meeting every third Friday of the month. Then the timeframe got changed because of Covid and they started meeting every six weeks timeframe. They would like to go back to every third Friday of the month. There was one exception, and he believes it was the month Easter was in. He just shifted it slightly. Mr. Rogers said that again, this is an introduction for public comment and will be up for adoption at the next meeting.

Mr. Clarke asked if there were any further questions. Having none, Mr. Clarke entertained a motion for the Introduction of the Fiscal Year 2025 Unified Planning Work Program for Public Comment. Mr. England motioned, and Mrs. Askew-Brown seconded. Mr. Clarke called for questions or comments. Having none, the chair called for a vote and the motion passed.

Announcements

Mr. Rogers stated that he wanted to let them all know that the new LaDOTD Secretary, Donahue, along with Providence Engineering, and Stantec are scheduled to be at the next meeting to provide an overall, very detailed update on the I-49 Inner City Connector.

Mr. Clarke stated the next regularly scheduled MPO meeting is on Friday, June 28, 2024.

Adjourn

With no remaining agenda items, Mr. Clarke entertained a motion to adjourn. Mayor Arceneaux motioned, and Mayor Chandler seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Kent Rogers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

J. Kent Rogers, Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENT CARD

All cards must be returned to the Chair prior to the start of the meeting. Comments will not be accepted during the meeting. You will be called upon at the appropriate time to speak.

Please print:

Date: June 7th, 2024

Name: Giovannté Sims

Address: [REDACTED]

E-mail: sims.giovanntef@ycbaa.com

Phone: () _____

I am representing: myself business organization

Name of business / organization: _____

Comment on Agenda Items Only

Briefly describe your comment(s):

Currently, no consideration is given to
pedestrian accessibility and improvements;
and the proposed bicycle accommodations
do not improve bicyclist safety.

As a reminder, public comment is limited to three (3) minutes per speaker.

Comments relative to any issues that are in active litigation will not be heard in this meeting.

Speakers are to address the Chairman, not each other or the audience, and are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. The use of abusive or profane language shall not be allowed. No debate or argument between speakers and/or members of the audience shall be permitted.

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All cards must be returned to the Chair prior to the start of the meeting. Comments will not be accepted during the meeting. You will be called upon at the appropriate time to speak.

Please print:

Date: June 7, 2024

Name: Dave Hackney

Address: 9660 Rainspark Ridge 71106

E-mail: davehackney@gmail.com

Phone: (318) 210-1475

I am representing: myself business organization

Name of business / organization: Esplanade homeowner

Comment on Agenda Items Only

Briefly describe your comment(s):

Tim James Inc status
and community engagement

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