



**Mississippi Gulf Coast**  
**Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)**  
**TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Thursday December 10, 2009 • 11:00 AM**  
**GRPC ANNEX • 1224-A PASS ROAD • GULFPORT • MS**

**MINUTES**

- I. Mayor A.J. Holloway called the meeting to order and proceeded with introductions

Voting Members Present

City of Bay St. Louis, Harold "Buz" Olsen  
City of Biloxi, Mayor A.J. Holloway  
City of D'Iberville, Jeff Taylor  
City of Gulfport, Wayne Miller  
City of Long Beach, Mayor Billy Skellie  
City of Pass Christian, Dayton Robinson  
GRPC, David Taylor  
Hancock County, Bill Johnson  
MDOT, Al Brantley

Non-Voting Attendees

GRPC, Jeff Loftus  
GRPC, Jason Zimmer  
GRPC, Mitzi Crystal  
GRPC, Beth Laninga  
MDOT, David Seyfarth  
MDOT, Mike Merry

- II. Approval of minutes from November 4, 2009 meeting

**Motion** to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Buz Olsen. Motion was seconded by Mayor Billy Skellie. **Motion passed unanimously.**

- III. Nondiscrimination Plan

*Consideration:* To adopt the Nondiscrimination Plan as recommended by the TCC. Nondiscrimination Plan covers Title VI requirements set forth in the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and other nondiscriminatory requirements.

Beth Laninga asked the TPC to adopt the current Nondiscrimination Plan which was sent to them for review, and as recommended by TCC. The Nondiscrimination Plan is compliant with Title VI and Environmental Justice requirements set forth by FHWA.

**Motion** was made by Buz Olsen to adopt the Nondiscrimination Plan. Motion was seconded by Bill Johnson. **Motion passed unanimously.**

#### IV. Old/New Business

##### A. Census 2010

Martha Faures explained the upcoming Census 2010 Workshop on January 6 at USM. The workshop is meant for those who work with data products from the Census. The workshop will be put on by the Census Bureau. There are 30 seats available, and seats may be reserved by contacting Martha Faures.

##### B. Long Range Transportation Update

Mitzi Crystal said the contract is close to approval to work with Wilbur Smith and Associates and Neel-Schaffer to update the Long Range Transportation Plan. This is an interim update, with a final Plan completed by December 2010. GRPC is working to schedule a Kick Off Meeting in January. These will be public meetings held in each of the 3 counties. GRPC will be scheduling a time to meet with each jurisdiction to update the Functional Class Maps. The last update was in the early 90's. David Taylor stressed the importance of having the correct roads designated on the map. Mitzi stressed to the group the importance of participating in the upcoming public meetings and giving input on updating the goals and objectives. David Taylor included that GRPC will be employing different activities to engage everyone to ensure participation. Mitzi also discussed the SAFETEA-LU bill. She said the bill would most likely be extended for an additional 6 months. The new bill will likely have performance based measures, reporting requirements similar to the ARRA projects, and more of a focus on safety projects.

Kevin Coggin told the group congress had recently signed the Omnibus bill. Mitzi discussed the projects that were to be included as earmarks. There was also discussion about the jobs bill being worked on in congress. As the legislation at this time, there is \$50 billion being set aside for infrastructure projects.

Buz Olsen thanked Sharpie Smith and David Seyfarth for their diligence in keeping the ARRA projects moving forward. Sharpie stated that 9 of the 84 projects for the state needed to be obligated, all of which are on the Coast. March 2, 2010 is the deadline for all projects. After March 2 the funds are no longer available. Sharpie reminded the group to reply to MDOT regarding the Executive Compensation reporting requirements for the ARRA funds. Letters were sent to each LPA requesting the top paid five executives of the LPA. A reply with the necessary information is required by December 24, 2009.

##### V. Election of Officers for the TPC

David Taylor informed the group that Mayor George Schloegel was nominated for Chairperson and Mayor Billy Skellie was nominated for Vice Chairperson of the TPC. The group may vote for the nominations or the current Chairperson, Mayor A.J. Holloway and Vice Chairperson, Mayor George Schloegel. David opened the floor to nominations. **Motion** was made by Jeff Taylor to close the nominating and proceed with a vote of the given nominations. Motion was seconded by Buz Olsen. **Motion passed unanimously.** **Motion** was made by Jeff Taylor to accept George Schloegel as Chairperson and Mayor Billy Skellie as Vice Chairperson of the TPC. Motion was seconded by Bill Johnson. **Motion passed with one objection from Mayor Billy Skellie.**

David Taylor asked the group to bring a resolution regarding the rescission of funds to each of their city council or county board to approve. The resolution states the impact of the rescission to the local projects and asks for the money to be reinstated. David will provide copies to each county and city. **Motion** was made by Mayor Billy Skellie to accept the resolution and have each jurisdiction sign the resolution in support of reinstating the funds. Motion was seconded by Mr. Buz Olsen. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In conjunction with the resolution from David Taylor, Sharpie Smith asked the group to call their legislatures as part of the Call Congress Day started by Transportation Construction Coalition. Sharpie asked they relay their concern regarding funding cuts and to restore funding.

- VI. Adjournment – **Motion** to adjourn was made by Mr. Buz Olsen and seconded by Mayor Billy Skellie. **Motion passed unanimously.**