

# 2014 Annual Meeting of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Metropolitan Planning Organization

*Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) and Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)*



Thursday, December 11, 2014 at 10:30am  
MSU Extension Center, 1815 Poppo Ferry Road, Biloxi MS



**I. Call to order: Joint Meeting of the Policy and Technical Committees**

Attendees: 2014 MPO Annual Meeting					
<b>Hancock Co.</b>		<b>D'Iberville</b>		<b>Business Council</b>	
	Vic Johnson		Jeff Taylor		Jack Norris
<b>Harrison Co.</b>			Leslie Robertson	<b>Other Parties</b>	
	Danny Boudreaux	<b>Ocean Springs</b>		Neel-Schaffer	Robert Walker
	Patrick Bonck		Mayor Moran	Neel-Schaffer	Jim Wilkinson
	Jody Spires	<b>Gautier</b>		BKI	Paul Waidhas
<b>Jackson Co.</b>			Samantha Abell	BKI	Ed Elam
	Brian Fulton		Chad Jordan	<b>Federal Transit</b>	
	Butch Loper		Chandra Nicholson		None
	Joe O'Neal	<b>Pascagoula</b>		<b>Federal Highway</b>	
<b>Waveland</b>			Jaci Turner		Randy Jansen
	Mayor Smith	<b>Moss Point</b>		<b>Rep. Cochran</b>	
<b>Bay St Louis</b>			Cathy Keeton		Win Ellington
	Buz Olsen		Russell Davis	<b>Rep. Wicker</b>	
<b>Diamondhead</b>		<b>Coast Transit</b>			Camille Peno
	Clovis Reed		Kevin Coggin	<b>Rep. Palazzo</b>	
	Ernie Knoblock	<b>Intern'l Airport</b>			TJ Moran
<b>Pass Christian</b>			None	<b>MDOT staff</b>	
	Mayor McDermott	<b>MS State Port</b>			Jeff Ely
	Britt Bantz		Carlos Bell		Jeff Altman
<b>Long Beach</b>		<b>Port Pascagoula</b>			Necole Baker
	Mayor Skellie		Mark McAndrews		David Seyfarth
	Alderman Leonard Carrubba		Michael Smith		Sammy Holcomb
<b>Gulfport</b>		<b>Port Bienville</b>			Lindsey Netherland
	Kris Riemann		None	<b>GRPC staff</b>	
<b>Biloxi</b>		<b>NASA/Stennis</b>			Elaine Wilkinson
	Damon Torricelli		Ron Magee		David Taylor
	Ed Shambra	<b>Keesler &amp; NCBC</b>			Kenneth Yarrow
	Councilman Felix Gines		Keesler		Stephanie Plancich
			NCBC		Ken Holland
		<b>CSX, KCS, Amtrk</b>			Jeff Loftus
			None		Lorraine Nations

- II. Introductions - None
- III. Public comment - None

#### IV. Approval of Minutes

1. Mr. Olsen: From the May (TCC) meeting  
**Motion by Elaine Wilkinson Second by Ed Shambra. No Discussion. Passed.**
2. Mayor Skellie: From the September (TPC) meeting  
**Motion by Mayor McDermott. Second by Elaine Wilkinson. No Discussion Passed.**

#### V. Selection of Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs for FY 2015 (Stephanie)

There were several nominations provided on the worksheets submitted.

1. Buz Olsen was nominated to remain as the TCC Chair.  
**Motion by Mayor McDermott. Second by Damon Torricelli. No Discussion. Passed**
2. Damon Torricelli was nominated to remain the TCC Vice-Chair.  
**Motion by Elaine Wilkinson. Second by Ed Shambra. No Discussion. Passed**
3. Mayor Skellie was nominated to remain the TPC Chair.  
**Motion by Elaine Wilkinson. Second by Mayor McDermott. No Discussion. Passed**
4. Supervisor John McKay was nominated to become the TPC Vice Chair.  
**Motion by Elaine Wilkinson. Second by Samantha Abell. *Through Stephanie, Mr. McKay thanked the group for his nomination, apologized for having a scheduling conflict this day and assured the group it would be the exception not the rule. He is looking forward to participating more fully in the MPO process.* Passed**

#### VI. Signed Self –Certification(Stephanie)

Each year, as a part of our reporting process, the MPO self-certifies that we are conducting MPO business in accordance with applicable rules and regulations. Before today's meeting Mayor Skellie signed the form for the MPO and Jeff Ely signed for MDOT. It will replace the previously signed copy in the PPP before it is finalized and published. A copy will be submitted to FHWA and MDOT for their records.

#### VII. Public Participation Plan and Civil Rights Program Update(Stephanie)

PPP Update (Includes our Civil Rights Compliance Program)

The participation plan is a federal required document maintained by the MPO. It details how we conduct our outreach and education activities within the community. The revisions have been open for public comment since October 27<sup>th</sup>.

There were five major changes to the plan including:

1. We added a transit chapter that introduces additional engagement strategies to the plan. These strategies are specific to the work we do with CTA. For example; we are starting to conduct regularly monthly ridership surveys and we help ride the bus to talk about proposed changes with the riders if/when CTA enters public review and comment periods.
2. We updated the MPO membership pages to reflect the prospectus changes you adopted at the September Policy Committee meeting. Mainly, we updated the member roster to mirror the boxes you have all seen that list the members of the TPC and TCC.
3. We updated the language of the plan to be in-line with MAP-21 requirements and to better meet FHWA and FTA compliance standards. This is a terminology update, but does not require a major change in our processes.
4. Our Civil Rights Program was made more robust by including additional non-discrimination requirements in this one document. Where previously we included chapters on Title VI, Environmental Justice and Limited English Proficiency, we have now added chapters to meet our Americans with Disabilities Act and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise compliance requirements.
5. In the civil rights chapters, the regional maps depicting the location of our traditionally underserved populations were updated to reflect the newest available data.

**Motion to adopt the draft Public Participation Plan/Civil Rights Program with the newly signed self-certification form made by Damon Torricelli. Second by Ed Shambra. No Discussion. Passed**

**VIII. Selection of Member Representatives**(Stephanie)

A form was emailed to each MPO member to identify who will be representing your jurisdiction/organization on the TPC and/or TCC. For example, in the event that your Mayor is unable to attend a TPC meeting, he/she can identify alternates to attend and vote in their place. Of the 32 participating entities, we received 22 completed forms. Stephanie will be following up with the remaining 10 representatives in the next week or so.

**IX. Who we are and how we impact the community?** (David) (Presentation printed as a handout. Copy in File.)

The MPO is a united voice working to address transportation infrastructure and policy issues important to the MS Gulf Coast region. It serves 15 jurisdictions by providing a wide variety of planning support activities as well as by identifying issues, determining investment priorities, allocating available resources and developing policy to meet regional goals.

**X. Long-Range Planning Process**

1. Robert Walker of Neel-Schaffer: An overview of the Statewide long-range planning purpose and process. (Presentation printed as a handout. Copy in File.)
2. David Taylor: Highlighting our successes since the last LRTP was completed – Kicking off the local long-range planning process. (Ledger sized regional project map and presentation printed as handouts. Copies in file.)

**XI. EPA Air Quality Standards** (Elaine)

Elaine discussed new air quality standards proposed by the EPA this Month and how the change can possibly affect us and what we can do to continue local efforts to keep our air clean. A meeting with elected officials was recommended to better discuss possible impacts and share ways in which the jurisdictions and organizations within can help ensure we remain in attainment. (Presentation printed as a handout. Copy in File.)

**XII. MDOT Update** (David Seyfarth)

Status of projects across the Gulf Coast region

**XIII. Old/new business**

1. 1<sup>st</sup> round dates for the long-range planning meetings are listed on the back of the agenda. There will be three public meetings the last week of February. In addition, the MPO is creating advisory groups in several transportation focus areas including: freight movement, bicycling and walking, air quality, livability and development and multimodal safety.

**Adjournment – Motion by Damon Torricelli. Second by Jaci turner. No Discussion. Passed**

Next MPO meetings are at the GRPC offices at 10:30am.

- Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)  
Thursday, February 26, 2015

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- Transportation Policy Committee (TPC)  
Thursday, March 26, 2015