

MEETING MINUTES

Annual Meeting of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Policy Committee & Technical Coordinating Committee



Thursday, December 8, 2016 at 10:00am
Great Southern Golf Club • 2000 Beach Blvd, Gulfport, MS



I. Call to Order

Name		Organization	Name		Organization
Billy Skellie (TPC Chair)		Long Beach	Kris Riemann (TCC Chair)		Gulfport
Kevin Coggin		CTA	Win Ellington		Sen. Cochran's office
Jacquelyn Davis		Moss Point	Camille Peno		Sen. Wicker's office
Geneva Dummer		Heritage trails	Todd Stennis		Amtrak
Paula Fairconnetue		Bay St Louis	Clovis Reed		Diamondhead
Brian Fulton		Jackson County	Jeff Taylor		D'Iberville
April Havens		Gautier	Stephanie Plancich		GRPC
Paula Yancey		Gautier	Elaine Wilkinson		GRPC
			David Taylor		GRPC
	Carolyn Martin	Ocean Springs	Kenneth Yarrow		GRPC
	Jody Spires	Harrison County			
	Patrick Bonck	Harrison County			
	Danny Boudreaux	Harrison County			
	Joe Huffman	Pascagoula			
	Bill Cork	Hancock Port & Harbor			
	Beau Gex	Hancock Port & Harbor			
	Greg Holmes	Gulfport			
	Jeremy Harrison	Gulfport			
	Ron Magee	NASA – Stennis			
	Ed Shambra	Biloxi			
	Jerry Creel	Biloxi			
			Ken Holland		GRPC
			Jason Zimmer		GRPC
			Steve Burton		GRPC
			Ashley Skellie		GRPC
			Kelly Castleberry		MDOT
			David Seyfarth		MDOT
			Chuck Starita		MDOT
			Jeff Altman		MDOT
			Nicole Baker		MDOT

		Perry Brown	MDOT
		Sedrick Durr	MDOT
Amy Rishel	Pass Christian	Adam - BKL	Guest
Sue Wright	Moss Point	Doug – Garner/Russel	Guest

II. Introductions -

Two new representatives at this meeting; April Havens represented Gautier and Wade Morgan is the new planner and TCC member for Ocean Springs

III. Public Comment - none

IV. Approval of Minutes

MOTION to adopt the February 25th TCC meeting minutes made by Brian Fulton. Second by Wade Morgan. No Comments. Passed.

V. Transportation Improvement Program(TIP) (David & Kenneth)

Proposed TIP Amendments

David Seyfarth discussed the MDOT request that we amend our TIP to include a new project.

MOTION to amend the FY2015-2019 TIP to include: *Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) TIP/STIP Amendment: Add New Project: Bridge Group #107213-10100 (FY2016) I-10 Widening from Hwy 57 to the Alabama State Line. Funding for preliminary engineering phase – total \$750,000 (\$600,000 Federal, \$150,000 State/Local)* made by Clovis Reed. Second by Brian Fulton. No Comments. Passed.

Kenneth Yarrow provided an overview of the 6 proposed CTA amendments.

MOTION to amend the FY2015-2019 TIP to include: *Coast Transit Authority (CTA) Amendment(s):*

- a) *Funding Increase: Sec 5307 Preventive Maintenance – Increase to total \$1,663,000 (federal \$1,330,400, local \$332,600)*
- b) *Funding Increase: Sec 5307 JARC Purchased Transportation – Increase to total \$380,000 (federal \$380,000, local \$0)*
- c) *Funding Increase: Sec 5310 New Freedom Services – Increase to total \$840,000 (federal \$672,000, local \$168,000)*
- d) *Funding Increase: Sec 5307 Mobility Manager – Increase to total \$75,000 (federal \$60,000, local \$15,000)*
- e) *Funding Increase: Sec 5307 Expand Gulfport Transit Center Intermodal Hub – Increase to total \$8,345,000 (federal \$6,676,000, local \$1,669,000)*
- f) *Add New Project: Sec 5339 Gulfport Hwy 90 Tram Bridge Project – total \$9,856,000 (federal \$7,884,800, local \$1,971,200)*

made by Ed Shambra. Second by Vic Johnson. Suggestion to as CTA to provide an overview presentation on plans for Gulfport intermodal station, tram bridge, etc. Passed.

Development of the FY2017-2020 TIP

David Taylor discussed each of the proposed changes for the FY2017-2020 TIP update. Members were provided a handout that showed proposed projects for STP funds, proposed projects for TAP funds, projects slated to be removed from the TIP as well as three projects that are requesting additional funding support.

MOTION to recommend that the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) approve the proposed additions and changes as part of the FY2017-2020 TIP made by Clovis Reed. Second by Vic Johnson. No Comments. Passed.

Project scheduling update for new and existing projects

David then reminded the MPO members that we are instituting a project scheduling and tracking process as we update the TIP this summer. He informed each of the new project holders, that they are required to have their projects obligated by the end of this calendar year in order to meet the first scheduling milestone of activation. Then, when they have secured the project consultant, FHWA, MDOT and the MPO will be present at the kickoff meeting to develop the rest of the scheduling to obligation of funds. He also reminded existing project holders that they will be contacted to set a scheduling meeting over the next month.

Stephanie noted that the next TIP progress meeting is set for June 30th, immediately following the TPC meeting. All project holders with project set to obligate in 2016, 17, 18 or 19 should plan to attend or request that their consultants attend to speak on the project status.

VI. Presentation: Hancock County Resurfacing Program (Mickey Lagasse)

Mickey provided a comprehensive presentation on the new resurfacing program being implemented in Hancock County. In short, the County is working to reduce road maintenance costs by reducing base erosion as road surfaces decay. Instead of letting roads wear until a full overlay is required, they are using a sealant system to fill cracks and refresh the road surface. The cost to do the seal process is 30% less than an overlay, can be done in a matter of hours instead of days and weeks, reduces traffic disruption, dust and noise concerns and extends the life of the roadway.

The treatment is relatively new but is being done all over the country with positive community feedback. Three high traffic, high speed roads have been coasted so far and look great. They have learned a few lessons along the way that Mickey discussed with us. Now, it is a waiting game to see how the treatment holds up over time. Many ideas and possible applications were discussed among the group and Mickey or Vic Johnson are willing to take anyone interested out in the field to take a look at the product.

The PowerPoint presentation is saved in the meeting file for anyone interested in more details.

VII. Get To B: Safety Program Update (David Taylor)

1. County Safety Project Updates

- i. Harrison County has broken ground on their projects, Jackson County is still in the rebidding phase for their projects and Hancock County is very close to breaking ground. We too have learned some lessons in trying to get these projects off the ground. One of the biggest hurdles has been getting the asphalt elements bid within the budget. First we removed friction treatment elements, because no one locally knows how to do it, so the cost became prohibitive when a company had to be mobilized from a long distance. Then the general paving proved a challenge because of the contractor's mobilization fees since these are several projects occurring at multiple sites within each county. In future, the MPO will evaluate alternative to remove or reduce the paving so that the projects will not take so long to bring to construction. Exploring ways in which the seal discussed by Mickey is one option, allowing the jurisdiction to do the paving under their current contracts instead of hiring elsewhere could be an options, etc. Specific will be determined down the road.

2. Upcoming Workshops

- i. Access Management Workshop – June 15&16 – 8:30-5pm – Free
A registration form was provided while David highlighted why this workshop is relevant and important for the local planners and engineers. We have two industry leaders, Neil Spiller and Phil Demosthenes, conducting the workshop and hope that each jurisdiction will send someone to participate. Registration is online at <http://www.grpc.com/mpo-programs/get-to-b/events-activities/>

- ii. Get To B Bike Walk Summit – (Stephanie) August 9th -11th - \$50 with Registration for the 2016 Statewide Bike Walk Summit is open and other event information can be found at WWW.BIKEWALKSUMMIT.COM. Sponsor and vendor options are available as well. It is being held at the Biloxi Civic Center and offers two keynote addresses. The first is from John Robert Smith, Former MS Mayor and current chair of transportation for America, and the Second is Caron Whitaker, Policy Director for The League of American Bicyclists. Attendees will be able to get continuing education credits for 7 topic sessions. We know that elected officials and many enforcement officers cannot attend all three days, so we have set-up special sessions just for them.

Please help us reach the Supervisors, Council members, mayor, managers, and enforcement officers in your jurisdiction.

The elected official special session is scheduled for August 9th. They'll attend the welcome keynote with John Robert, then go to their breakout ballroom for a panel discussion and open Q&A on topics relevant to their role in infrastructure planning, funding strategies, national programs available to them, what similar communities are doing and talking about the economic impact of a walkable/bikeable community. The breakout session is from 2:15-4:30pm. A light lunch is provided from 12-1pm.

The Law Enforcement special session is on August 11th from 9am to noon. This is for all members of the law enforcement community interested in hearing from a panel of presenters on topics such as enforcement challenges and strategies, bike and pedestrian legal issues and new legal developments, enforcing the 3' passing law, responding to incidents that involve pedestrians and bicyclists, as well as how to help community planners and engineers plan the most effective improvement projects with limited available funds.

We encourage school officers to participate earlier in the conference in the school zone safe audit course, part 1&2, to learn the process of evaluating the existing infrastructure around their schools to determine where improvements are needed for their walking, biking students as well as for the young drivers in and around high schools. Additionally, several local police officers have registered to take the Traffic Safety 101 class. This course occurs immediately after the special session – from 1-5pm. It is a required pre-requisite for anyone who is looking toward becoming a bicycle safety instructor for their community, but the course will also prepare you to safely ride the roads in a personal or official capacity. The course is usually \$100+ per person. We are offering it for only \$40 as part of this conference. Sign up at www.bikewalksummit.com

VIII. CTA Update (Kenneth Yarrow)

Kenneth explained that in order for CTA to receive certain types of federal funds. They must be “designated recipients” of these funds. One component of the designation process, is the support of the MPO.

The TCC made a motion recommending that the Transportation Policy Committee sign and submit a drafted resolution supporting the designation of Coast Transit Authority (CTA) as the recipient of 5307 and 5339 funds for the Gulfport-Biloxi urbanized area. **MOTION** was made by Ed Shambra. Second by Clovis Reed. No Comments. Passed.

IX. MDOT Update (David Seyfarth)

David Seyfarth listed the progress of numerous projects being completed throughout the MS Gulf Coast region, as well as highlighted a couple that directly affect our region. These included the I-10 widening from Exit 50-57 in Jackson County, Hwy 63 and 614 signal upgrade, Camp Shelby-Hwy 49 project, I-10 projects completing in Hancock County, Upgrade of Hwy 67 – Stennis to I-10, the installation of ITS for message boards and cameras on I-10 in Jackson County and noted an upcoming Hwy 49 overlay project south of I-10.

X. FHWA Update - None

XI. Old/New Business

David Taylor revisited the MPO's offer of support for member jurisdictions who are working on completing their sign retroreflectivity evaluation. MDOT has offered to allow the MPO staff to borrow reflectometers they purchased for use on the Coast, but before the MPO staff work on coordinating the program, he wanted to gauge the interest of members. It was widely and enthusiastically received by many jurisdictions needing to complete their self-evaluations. The MPO will get the monitoring guns down to the coast, coordinate and/or provide training on the use of the guns to jurisdiction staff who'll be completing the assessments, and will develop a check out system allowing each jurisdiction the opportunity to complete the federally required reviews.

XII. Next MPO Meetings/Events

JOINT MEETING of the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) and Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) August 25th, 10:30am at GRPC.

The September TPC meeting will be cancelled – please adjust your calendars

2016 Annual Meeting of the MS Gulf Coast MPO, December 8th, Location TBD

XIII. Adjournment – MOTION