

MEETING AGENDA

Mississippi Gulf Coast Metropolitan Planning Organization



Transportation Policy Committee (TPC)
 Thursday, September 24, 2015 at 10:30-1:00



I. Call to Order – Mayor Skellie, TPC Chair, called the meeting to order

Hancock Co.		D'Iberville		Bus. Council	
	None		Jeff Taylor		None
Harrison Co.				Other Parties	
	Patrick Bonck	Ocean Springs			Jim Wilkinson
	Joseph Spires		Carolyn Martin		Ed Elam
		Gautier			Cindy Lamb
Jackson Co.					
	None			FTA	
		Pascagoula			None
			Jaci Turner	FHWA	
Waveland			Joe Huffman		Randy Jansen
		Moss Point		Rep. Cochran	
Bay St Louis			Jackie Davis		None
	None			Rep. Wicker	
Diamondhead		Coast Transit			Camille Peno
Mayor Schafer	Clovis Reed		None		
		Intern'l Airport		Rep. Palazzo	
Pass Christian			None		None
	None	MS State Port			
			None	MDOT staff	
Long Beach		Port Pascagoula		Jeff Altman	Kelly Castleberry
	Mayor Skellie		None	Necole Baker	David Seyfarth
				Sedrick Durr	Perry Brown
Gulfport		Port Bienville			
	Kris Riemann		None		
		NASA/Stennis			
			None	GRPC staff	
Biloxi		Keesler & NCBC		David Taylor	Ken Holland
	Dan Gaillet		None	Kenneth Yarrow	Jeff Loftus
				Jason Zimmer	
		CSX, KCS, Amtrak			
			None		

II. Introductions - none

III. Public Comment – none

IV. Approval of Minutes from March 26th Joint TCC/TPC meeting

MOTION to approve previous minutes made by Jaci Turner. Second by Kris Riemann. No Comments. PASSED

V. GRPC Informational Report (Elaine Wilkinson)

Elaine reviewed the GRPC FY16 budget and the diverse planning work undertaken by the GRPC staff. She referred the TPC to the organizational chart of the agency to explain how MPO activities related to the organization and administration of the regional agency. She raised the topic of creating leverage to compete for funding and that a regional consensus on projects, plans and programs would carry weight in discussions with state and federal leaders.

Upon discussion, the TPC agreed that a meeting of the TPC and other key stakeholders to discuss how a package of regionally significant projects, plans and programs could send a strong message of cohesion and could help to position the Gulf Coast counties to compete more effectively within the state and at the federal level for limited resources. MS Wilkinson will try to schedule the meeting in October.

I. MPO Complete Streets Policy (Kenneth Yarrow)

A copy of the draft complete street policy was reviewed and discussed with the TPC members. Based on TCC discussion, Kenneth reiterated that this policy will apply to all functionally classified roadways. He noted that the policy is flexible to meet the needs of individual projects, but requires consideration of bicyclist and pedestrian accommodations in all MPO projects.

The concept of “exemptions” was discussed among the group and the membership found the current wording within the draft acceptable.

MOTION to adopt the MS Gulf Coast Complete Street Policy to the TPC made by Patrick Bonk. Second by Jeff Taylor. No Comments. Resolution signed by TCC Chair Kris Riemann and TPC Chair Mayor Skellie saved as part of the Complete Street program and TPC meeting files. PASSED

II. Metropolitan Transportation Plan – (Kenneth Yarrow & Jim Wilkinson)

Jim provided an overview of the long-range planning process, specifically the modeling process to the TCC. He explained that the modeling process is based on the most realistic projection of our community make-up 25 years into the future. The model is congestion focused and the corridors identified as potential hazards in the future were highlighted on the map he provided the group.

He provided several handouts and discussed them with the TC members.

1. Proposed Project Selection Process for the MTP
2. A map showing a project area in D'Iberville. It showed traffic counts before the new I-110 overpass is built and shows the projected traffic patterns once the new facilities open. It clearly showed, how one project can mitigate or exasperate the need for others.
3. He showed an Existing plus Committed (E+C) statistics worksheet which compared driving conditions in 2013 (our base year) with those projected in 2040.
4. He provided a list of planned projects included in the E+C evaluation. These mainly include MDOT STIP projects, our TIP projects.
5. With the map discussed, we also received a list version of the identified road deficiencies expected across the region. This can be used to identify and plan future improvement projects.

Kenneth then provided a brief overview of his work updating our congestion management plan and Stephanie outlined the rest of the planning schedule.

Over the next month additional pieces will be finalized for review. The TPC will review the component materials at their meeting Sept. 24th. A final draft will be completed near the end of October and a 45 day public review period will begin October 25th. The updated MTP (Long-range plan) is set to be discussed and adopted at our annual meeting (joint TCC and TPC) on Dec. 10th. Please mark your calendars now.

VI. Transportation Improvement Program (David Taylor)

For the past year or so, we have been hosting a quarterly project progress meeting after the regularly scheduled TCC meetings. These meetings are led by FHWA and MDOT to ensure that projects listed on our TIP are progressing smoothly and to help identify and resolve any barriers quickly. Typically, the participants include the project managers of the current year's projects. However, as we approach the end of the 2014-2015 FY we reviewed the entire TIP to identify any needed changes.

During the August 27th meeting, FHWA and MDOT informed the MPO that additional TIP funds were being made available for projects ready to obligate in 2015. We are grateful and fortunate for their support.

David explained that with this allowance, we were able to move several projects, especially those in advanced construction, from 2016 up to 2015. These included the Biloxi River Bridge and the Poppo Ferry Road Phase IV projects. In turn this opened up room in 2016, which moved several other projects forward as well. For example, Courthouse Road was able to move into 2016.

David acknowledged the efforts of the project managers and consultant staff in getting their projects rolling and keeping them moving forward. By working the LPA process, participating in the progress meetings and submitting monthly project reports, we are putting our program in a position to be eligible for any available funds in the future as well.

VII. CTA Update

VIII. MDOT Update

Kelly Castleberry – Altmann (See KY notes)

IX. FHWA Update

Randy discussed with the TPC the concept of Mega regions.....

He also talked with us about performance measures that will be imposed at the MPO level in this next Fiscal year.

X. Old/New Business

- **Development of a scheduling matrix for TIP projects** – In an effort to continue to support forward momentum of TIP projects, several MPOs are developing a scheduling matrix that will allow for easier tracking and management of projects listed in each year. The Jackson MPO adopted their matrix earlier this summer, and our MPO staff have been looking into this as a possible option on the gulf coast as well.

In short, the matrix will be used to develop each TIP projects timeline from adoption onto the TIP through obligation. The timeline will incorporate the milestones which make up the table on the back of the project progress worksheets. There is no additional effort required of the jurisdictions, except that, if a matrix is developed and approved by the MPO, then the time line would be developed before or as part of the project kick-off event.

We expect to have more information and open the idea to more discussion in the next couple of MPO meetings.

- Hancock County Hazardous Waste Day is scheduled for Oct 10th 8am-1pm at Coast Electric (Kiln)
- Harrison County citizens have a regular drop off opportunity the 2nd Saturday of each month

XI. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn by _____. Second by _____. No comments. PASSED Next MPO meeting

2015 MS Gulf Coast MPO Annual Meeting

Joint TCC/TPC participation

Seating limited – RSVP required
Biloxi Visitor's Center, 2nd Floor
10:30-1:00pm – Lunch Provided

Pulled this one out - Whew! 😊

It's saved in the TPC mtg folder on the L Drive. The yellow areas I did not touch or update. They are yours to tweak/add to.

When you're done I'll send to David to tweak his sections too.