

COMPLETE STREETS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECORD OF MEETING

Complete Streets Advisory Council
December 12, 2024
10:00am – 12:00pm
VIA Zoom and In-Person 102C DOTDHO

Council Members Present

Alan Krouse
Ruijie (Rebecca) Bain
Tara Tolford
Laurence Lambert*

Jessica Stroope
Chris FaKouri
Lynn Maloney-Mújica*
Jamie Gaines*

Cheri Soileau
John Broemmelsiek
Louis Haywood*

Others Present

Shane Caldwell
Tanya Moore
Nellie Catzen*
Ashifur Rahman
Annabelle Owens*
Frida Sierra

Jessica DeVille*
Joy K. Sims
Laura Harris*
Laura Riggs
Derek Chisholm*

Laura Riggs
Carrie Wiebelt
Allene La Spina*
Laurence Lambert*
Myandra Gildon

*attended via ZOOM

Call to Order

Alan Krouse called the meeting to order, and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Approve Previous Minutes

Alan entertained a motion to approve the minutes. It was so moved by Cheri Soileau and seconded by Joy Sims. The minutes were approved.

General Discussion

New Orleans Complete Streets Coalition Updates/Initiatives

Nellie Catzen provided an update on the Better Bus Stops campaign, funded by a \$100,000 grant from the Greater New Orleans Foundation. The project aims to improve transit stop infrastructure, with a goal of adding shelters to 80-90% of stops. Challenges include setback requirements on state highways, leading to efforts to create standardized exceptions and urban standards. A federal funding proposal to construct about 200 shelters is being prepared for submission in early 2025.

Laura Harris discussed Bike Easy's collaboration with the New Orleans Coalition to enhance intersection visibility through daylighting, focusing on the 7th Ward and other neighborhoods. Efforts include identifying high-risk intersections, preventing illegal parking, and advocating for Complete Streets improvements on the St. Claude Corridor, where bike lanes are frequently blocked by parked cars. Discussions included integrating design elements like trees and fencing to improve pedestrian safety and aesthetics, while addressing concerns such as illegal parking and pedestrian crossings. They aim to work with the LA DOTD to address these issues.

The Safe Streets for All Action Plan was also highlighted, with Tool Design as the contractor. The plan is set to be completed by summer 2025 to apply for construction funding in 2026.

LTRC Research Updates

Presentation by Rebecca Bain and Tara Tolford titled: LTRC Planning Project Overview (2021-2024)

Completed: Evaluate the Impacts of Complete Streets Policy in Louisiana

- DOTD Complete Street Steering Committee reconvened
- Key action items integrated into current LTRC studies
- Continue to reference as a guide for next steps

Completed: Analyzing Human Mobility for Active Transportation Planning in Louisiana

- An information webinar regarding dashboard use will be held in Spring 2025

Ongoing: Statewide Non-Motorized Traffic Monitoring Study

- Data are up to date (and posted on the DOTD ArcGIS Portal)
- A series of webinars to be held in Spring 2025
- A lectern presentation at TRB 2025

Ongoing: Statewide Lane Reconfiguration “Road Diet” Screening for Louisiana

- Develop K-12 education materials with external funding support to explain “road diet” in interactive activities

Pending: Complete Streets Means Trucks, Too: Integrating Freight Traffic Needs with Active Transportation Planning and Policy

- The project will start January 2025

Other Business:

Joy K. Sims will take Kathy Stites’ position on the Complete Streets Advisory Council. A motion to add Joy as a member was made by Jamie Gaines and seconded by Lynn Maloney-Mújica, which was approved.

Cheri Soileau mentioned that CATS would like to host a bus tour to showcase the city’s transit system and discuss challenges faced in providing services.

Joy K. Sims announced that the Statewide Rural Transit Work Group Meeting will take place in January 2025. This group focuses on addressing transit challenges in rural communities.

AASHTO has released the 5th Edition of the Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities.

Future Meetings:

- Thursday, March 13, 2025 – 1:30pm to 3:30pm
- The agenda will focus on technical discussions and Complete Streets Performance Metrics

Adjourned

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Alan Krouse.