

Louisiana Statewide Transportation Plan Update



Freight Rail Advisory Council Meeting Baton Rouge, LA

March 21, 2013

**CDM
Smith**

Agenda

- Welcome/Introductions/Role of AC Carmack Blackmon, Chair
- Questions Before Starting All
- Presentation Justin Fox, CDM Smith
- Issue Discussion Justin Fox, Facilitator
- Draft Vision, Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures Justin Fox, Facilitator
- 2008 Review/Status Report Recommendations Carmack Blackmon, Chair

Role of Advisory Council

- Role
 - Review Plan materials such as goals, performance measures, needs, etc.;
 - Discuss and identify critical issues; and
 - Review and update recommendations related to your Advisory Council topic area, focusing on policies, programs, and in some cases high-cost “mega” projects.
- Anticipated Schedule
 - Round One – March 20-21, 2013 – this meeting
 - Round Two – Late Summer/Early Fall 2013 – review of modal needs and investment scenario analysis process, and first draft of updated policy recommendations; and
 - Round Three – Late 2013/Early 2014 – draft investment scenario results, policy recommendations and implementation of Plan elements.

Presentation

A presentation on the status of the Rail Plan will be given.

Issue Discussion

- Considerations
 - What is needed in the way of freight rail improvements/investments to achieve vision/goals?
 - What is going to change in the future that would impact freight rail needs in Louisiana?
- Initial list is for discussion purposes only – please add/remove/modify

Initial List of Freight Rail Issues

- Car Weights (286K) for the short lines
- Access to ports
- NO Rail Gateway
- New Orleans-Baton Rouge (w local support)
- Crossing improvements

Freight Rail Megaprojects

- Megaproject = requires new transportation revenues to be implemented
- Any Freight Rail megaprojects?

Vision and Goals Discussion

- Information presented is draft – developed from DOTD leadership interviews, legislative questionnaire, public telephone survey, and visioning workshop
- Review material through the lens of freight rail issues and comment on areas where changes may be required – especially related to performance measures

Draft Vision and Goals

- Vision:

- **Mostly small and medium-sized communities** with quality open space in-between
- But also **higher-growth, dense, compact urban areas** such as New Orleans
- Support **extractive and resource industries**, a major economic driver in the state
- Consider and support the potential for increased economic activity associated with **arts, entertainment, retirement and tourism as well as a research & technology** focus

- Goals:

- Infrastructure Preservation and Maintenance
- Safety
- Economic Competitiveness
- Community Development and Enhancement
- Environmental Stewardship

Draft Infrastructure Preservation/Maintenance Goal

Goal: Infrastructure Preservation and Maintenance

Preserve Louisiana's multimodal infrastructure in a state of good repair through timely maintenance of existing infrastructure

Objectives

- Keep Louisiana's highway pavement in good condition
- Keep Louisiana's bridges in good condition
- Keep Louisiana's other highway-related assets in good condition
- Assist modal partners in achieving state-of-good repair for transit, port, and aviation facilities

Performance Measures

DIRECT MEASURES

- Percent of State Highway System meeting pavement condition targets, by system tier
- Percent of structurally deficient bridges by system tier
- Condition/grade of traffic control devices, other assets
- Actual ferry operating hours vs. planned

INDIRECT MEASURES

- Percent of Public-Owned Airports meeting the State Standard for aviation facilities
- Percent of transit fleets meeting condition standard

Draft Safety Goal

Goal: Safety

Provide safe and secure travel conditions across all transportation modes through physical infrastructure improvements, operational controls, programs, and public education and awareness

Objectives

- Reduce number and rate of highway-related fatalities and injuries
- Reduce number of highway crashes
- Reduce number of pedestrian and bicycle accidents
- Assist modal partners in achieving safe and secure transit, port, and aviation facilities

Performance Measures

DIRECT MEASURES

- Highway fatalities and serious injuries
- Crashes/collisions involving trucks
- Crashes/collisions involving transit vehicles
- Crashes/collisions at rail crossings
- Possible safety-related freight measure to be determined by US DOT

INDIRECT MEASURES

- Crashes/collisions on waterways
- % of public airports meeting or exceeding PCI standards and state standard for lighting

Draft Economic Competitiveness Goal

Goal: Economic Competitiveness

Provide a transportation system that fosters diverse economic and job growth, international and domestic commerce, and tourism

Objectives

- Improve level of service of freight transportation throughout Louisiana
- Improve access to intermodal facilities and the efficiency of intermodal transfers
- Provide predictable, reliable travel times throughout Louisiana
- Improve connectivity between town centers and urban areas throughout Louisiana

Performance Measures

DIRECT MEASURES

- % of system with acceptable V/C ratios
- Annual hours of delay from incidents on freeways

INDIRECT MEASURES

- Number of freight bottlenecks addressed
- Possible freight transport efficiency measure to be determined by US DOT
- Percent of town centers served by arterial system
- Average travel times by specified origin/destinations in corridors
- Rate of return on state's investment in marine infrastructure

Draft Community Development/Enhancement Goal

Goal: Community Development and Enhancement

Provide support for community transportation planning, infrastructure and services

Objectives

- Cooperate with and support MPOs and other local agencies in development of plans, including comprehensive Plans, and programs to ensure consistency with statewide goals, needs and priorities
- Provide support to local governments to seek sustainable revenue for local transportation needs
- Reduce barriers to state and local collaboration
- Enhance access to jobs for both urban and rural populations
- Improve modal options associated with supporting the economy and quality of life

Performance Measures

DIRECT MEASURES

- Number of local comprehensive plans addressing land use and transportation needs, esp. mobility
- Anecdotal improvements to system accessibility

INDIRECT MEASURES

- Number of parishes with elderly and handicapped transit service

Draft Environmental Stewardship Goal

Goal: Environmental Stewardship

Ensure transportation policies and investments are sensitive to Louisiana's environmental issues

Objectives

- Minimize the environmental impacts of building, maintaining and operating the state transportation system
- Comply with all federal and state environmental regulations

Performance Measures

DIRECT MEASURES

- Annual tons of emissions due to mobile sources

INDIRECT MEASURES

- Percent of public fleets converted to alternative fuels OR gasoline consumption reduced by conversion of public fleets to alternative fuels

Homework Assignment

- Review Vision, Goals, Objectives, Performance Measures with your constituents or colleagues
- Email comments to Dan Broussard by April 15

Dan.Broussard@LA.GOV

Previous Plan Recommendations

- Handout shows the 2008 Review and Status Report Freight Rail Recommendations with initial update for current status
- Homework Assignment – review these with constituents and colleagues and be ready to review them at the next Advisory Council meeting in terms of:
 - Status – any changes you know of
 - Need for policy recommendation – is it still relevant
 - Need for additional policy recommendations based on today’s discussion and future needs that will be presented at the next meeting

Closing Remarks

- Any other business/questions
- Information available on web – will be updated soon with Advisory Council summaries
www.dotd.la.gov/study
- THANK YOU!