



**LOUISIANA STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE  
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS – ROUND TWO  
EXECUTIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY**

*October 2, 2013 • 1:30PM to 3:30PM  
LA DOTD Headquarters Hotel, Baton Rouge, LA*

Last Name	First Name	Affiliation
<b>Advisory Council Members</b>		
Accardo, Jr.	Joe	Ports & Waterways AC Chair (Ports Association of LA)
Blackmon	Carmack	Freight Rail AC Chair (Louisiana Railroads Association)
Decker	Dennis	Regional Planning Officials AC Chair (LA DOTD)
Kalivoda (Chair)	Eric	LA DOTD
Latino	Vince	State Hwy Operations & Maintenance AC Chair (LA DOTD)
Rogers	Kent	Community Development & Enhancement AC Chair (NLCOG)
Bridges	Michael	LA DOTD
Jones	Phil	LA DOTD
Picard	Toby	LA DOTD
Wilson	Shawn	LA DOTD
<b>Other Attendees</b>		
Broussard	Dan	LA DOTD
Goodell	Dean	LA DOTD
Romeo	Robin	LA DOTD
Sholmire	Dawn	LA DOTD
Vary	Don	CDM Smith
Babineaux	Butch	CDM Smith
Goodin	Krista	CDM Smith
Nelson	Gordon	Fenstermaker
Nagura	Mikeila	Fenstermaker

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Second Round of Advisory Council meetings was to brief the Advisory Councils on the status of the Plan update, review previous issues and discuss newly proposed issues regarding each mode, and discuss policy recommendations and rank them according to high, medium or low priority.

*Note: This meeting summary is a compilation of the input received from the advisory council members and reflects the views expressed.*

## HANDOUTS

- Agenda
- Executive Advisory Council Presentation
- Handouts from Each Advisory Council

## MEETING SUMMARY

The agenda for the Executive Advisory Council meeting included:

- Update of the Statewide Transportation Plan
- Brief Overview of Last Two Days

*A copy of all materials will be posted on the web along with these meeting notes.*

### Statewide Transportation Plan Update

Don Vary, CDM Smith Project Manager, introduced himself and led a round of introductions. Mr. Vary presented the status of the Plan update. Highlights of the presentation included:

- Plan Status
  - Draft aviation and rail plans are complete. Draft freight plan due Fall 2014.
  - Tasks to be completed:
    - Identify preferred revenue scenario
    - Allocate preferred revenue scenario dollar amounts by mode across preservation and expansion needs
    - Finalize supporting policies and implementation strategies
    - Prepare economic impact analysis
    - Hold Round Three Advisory Council Meetings
  - Plan completion scheduled for mid-2014
- Megaprojects
  - 102 projects were presented in August 2013 and sorted into Priorities A through D
  - A total of \$44.5B in projects were submitted including 27 new projects, 10 non-highway projects and 31 interstate projects
- Needs Assessment
  - Needs assessment is being finalized
  - A total of \$42.7M of state system needs were identified for FY 2012-2044 (constant 2010 dollars)
- Financial forecast
  - Scenario 1 (Baseline revenues) will generate \$18.9B by 2044
  - Scenario 2 (Reduction) will generate \$16.4B by 2044
  - Scenario 3 (Modest Increase) will generate \$28.3B by 2044
  - Scenario 4 (Aggressive Increase) will generate \$35.3B by 2044
- Gap and Revenue Scenarios
  - How do we address the funding gap between revenues and needs?
  - Average Annual shortfall per mode:

- Roadway & Bridge: \$360M
- Transit: \$164M
- Freight & Passenger Rail: \$48M
- Waterways & Ports: \$204M
- Aviation: \$83.2M

### Brief Overview of AC Meetings

Kent Rogers presented the following highlights from the **Community Development and Enhancement AC** meeting:

- High Priority Previous Recommendations
  - SP-1: Educate elected officials on public transportation
  - SP-2: Implement Baton Rouge to New Orleans Passenger Rail
  - SP-10: Implement Human Services Transportation Coordination Work Group top 3 priorities
  - SP-22: (Changed) Develop transit master plans for all MPOs
  - BP-1: (Combining BP-1, BP-4 and BP-5) Planning, administration, design and implementation of Complete Streets policy
  - BP-3: Develop & implement statewide bicycle goals map (ongoing)
- High Priority **New** Recommendations
  - Conduct environmental study for Baton Rouge to New Orleans Passenger Rail Corridor(\$2M) – including individual projects along the corridor – Independent utility
  - Continue to fund transportation demand management (\$100K/year to MPOs)
  - Evaluate emerging issue of connection of rural & urban transit and job access
  - Work with congressional delegation to create wetland mitigation credits for preserving existing wetlands
  - Preserve buffers, preferably as wetlands mitigation, to provide separation or appearance of separation between adjacent communities
  - Establish a program to fund local comprehensive plans to include land use, public buildings/facilities, public infrastructure including stormwater mgmt, transportation, drainage, utilities, etc.
  - State agencies should convene annually to identify, coordinate, and prioritize state infrastructure investments including LED, DOTD, LHC, DEQ, DHS, DSS, CRT, DOA, Homeland Security

Krista Goodin presented the following highlights from the **Aviation AC** meeting:

- High Priority Previous Recommendations
  - A-4: Upgrade General Aviation infrastructure identified in the Louisiana Airport System Plan to minimum standards.
  - A-5: Develop aviation marketing program, using General Fund monies, to attract additional air service and air cargo[add aerospace industry].
  - A-6: Continue program of land acquisition/aviation easements for obstruction removal (state funds only).
  - A-8: Study challenges/opportunities of rotary wing industry in support of Louisiana business, industry and economic growth.

- A-13: Increase the level of funding to accommodate needs of Louisiana's aviation system.
- A-14: Support an ongoing annual appropriation to support the General Aviation and Reliever Airport Maintenance Programs.
- A-15: Support a reauthorization of the Federal Airport Improvement Program that best benefits Louisiana aviation.
- A-16: Provide state support for commercial service airport development in accordance with approved master plans
- High Priority **New** Recommendations (LASP)
  - A-19: Recommend limiting state airport funding to state system airports
  - A-22: Update LASP 5 to 10 years
  - A-24: Support funding of air traffic control towers (both federal and contract)
- New Recommendations from Issues List
  - Support advancement of NexGen technologies.
  - Develop and implement a pavement management system that predicts pavement needs and costs.
  - Support statewide aviation education and job promotion.
  - Support military operations within the state.
  - Support safety and improved lighting at airports.

Don Vary presented the following highlights from the **Trucking AC** meeting:

- High Priority Recommendations
  - T2: Develop seamless electronic credentialing; one-stop shop for permitting, registrations, license plates, etc.
  - T6: Work with DECD to address peak hour congestion by providing incentives for extending hours of port operations
  - T-12: Ensure trucking representation and participation by private sector in MPO planning processes
- High Priority **New** Recommendations
  - Voice concern over increasing Federal weight limits
  - Improve quality of incident management at local level
  - Increase supply of truck parking
  - Revise/improve roadway design and accommodations for large trucks at intersections and roundabouts
  - Improve quality of connectivity to ports and rail yards
  - Increase funding for roadway maintenance and construction
  - Policy within DOTD which allows freight projects to be considered on par with all transportation projects

Dennis Decker presented the following highlights from the **Regional Planning Officials AC** meeting:

- AC members generally supportive of initial priorities (A thru D) however there were suggested changes in priorities and edits to some of the project including project limits, descriptions and costs.

- Policy Recommendations:
  - Most recommendations addressed by new State Highway Operations AC
  - RPO AC supportive of all previous policy recommendations
  - Recommended wording change to H-10 (Local Option Gas Tax) – “Coordinate with local governments to identify and study alternative funding sources.”

Dean Goodell presented the following highlights from the **Freight Rail AC** meeting:

- High priority recommendations:
  - Conduct freight rail economic impact analysis for Louisiana; assess need for federal funding for the state’s railroads
    - To educate Congressional delegation and State legislators
    - Coordinate with LED
- Help railroads secure federal grant and loan assistance
- Provide state funding for rail infrastructure improvements
- Fund highway/rail grade separation program
- Add 2 program managers to the DOTD Rail Program
- Research incentive program for closures of public and private grade crossings. Funding for study: \$150K
- Provide state funding sources for the New Orleans Rail Gateway project
- Continue funding for active warning devices at highway/rail crossings
- All of the above 8 recommendations were awarded HIGH priority

Vince Latino presented the following highlights from the **State Highway Operations and Maintenance AC** meeting:

- High Priority Previous Recommendations
  - H-4: Increase funding for Pavement Preservation to meet established goals.
  - H-5: Increase funding for Bridge Preservation to meet established goals.
  - H-6: Increase funding for Highway Safety. (See overview of 2006 Strategic Highway Safety Plan)
  - H-7: Increase funding for Highway Operations (to be broken out).
  - H-14: Increase funding for District Operations and Contract Maintenance.
  - H-21: Implement Highway Megaprojects in Priority A and B.
  - ITS-3: Support the implementation of the LA Commercial Vehicle Information and Systems Network (CVISN) plan.
- High Priority New Recommendation
  - Use of federal funds for preservation repairs by DOTD work forces

Joe Accardo, Jr. presented the following highlights from the **Ports and Waterways AC** meeting:

- High Priority Recommendations
  - M-1: Increase funding for Port Priority Program.
  - M-4: Establish a central ports and waterways office that will fund a Statewide Maritime Marketing Program and study the economic competitiveness of ports. (added M-13 and reworded)

- M-5: Implement the recommendations of the LA DOTD's MTS Plan with funding from State General Fund.
- M-10: (re-worded) Multi-state coordination of infrastructure improvements to the mutual benefit of all for support of Mississippi River deepening (compliment the LA goals).
- M-12: Support the full appropriation in the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund for maintenance of navigation channels and other maritime infrastructure.
- High Priority New Recommendations
  - Support and implement all ports and waterways megaprojects as identified in the Louisiana Statewide Transportation Plan Update.
  - Develop a comprehensive ports and waterways policy or rule to influence federal legislation.