

#### October 2015



### Last Phase of Development for 2040 Long-Range Plans

Drafts of the Mississippi 2040 long-range transportation plans will be available for public review and comment into December with local meeting scheduled in November.

The MS Gulf Coast MPO has updated our region's long-range transportation plan. The plan demonstrates how we will spend available federal improvement dollars over the next 25 years. Members of the MPO, the general public and other stakeholders are invited to continue participating in the development process by reviewing the plan and providing feedback.

Did we capture what is important to you? Share your feedback on strategies to make our roads operate better, how the walking and biking network may be expanding, how transit service may grow, what new roads and streets may be built and what projects are needed to relieve congestion and improve safety.

Our local plan was developed consecutively with the other MPOs active in our state, as well as with MDOT planning staff who produce plans for all areas not included in an MPO urbanized area, as well as the development of statewide policies and programs. Once each individual plan is adopted, they are combined to make up one statewide vision called the MULTIPLAN.

Plans can be reviewed and submit your comments in numerous ways:



### **Next Safety Event:**

<u>Get To B Safety Series:</u> Incorporating Access Management into Existing Corridors (January 2016) <u>Click for Registration Info</u>



Congestion Managment

Air Quality Update

Traffic Counts

<u>Katrina +10</u>



- Online at <u>www.grpc.com</u> or at <u>mississippitransoirtationplan.mindmixer.com</u>
- By phone to 228-864-1167 or email to <u>contactus@grpc.com</u>

Or by attending one of three planned meetings:

- Pascagoula Senior Center, November 17th, 4-6pm
- Edgewater Mall near Dillards, November 18th, 4-6pm
- Bay St Louis Community Hall, November 19th, 4-6pm

To view more information about the long-range plan and the planning process, to download and view the planning brochure, to view the full event announcement and other related documents <u>CLICK HERE</u>

### **GRPC Leads Joint Land Use Study**

Gulf Regional Planning Commission (GRPC) has been awarded a grant from the US Department of Defense, Office of Economic Adjustment, to undertake a Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) for Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport, MS. NCBC Gulfport hosts numerous tenant commands and provides both facilities and training sites on the



main installation and at several Special Areas spread across Hancock and Harrison counties.

The purpose of the JLUS is to study the issues that commonly occur when military operations and training activities are in close proximity to civilian communities. As urban development encroaches on military areas there can be concerns related to safety and noise, as well as competition for water, land and air within a training area. The study will provide recommendations to mitigate or eliminate the compatibility issues that threaten the safety and welfare of civilians, while continuing to support the Navy's presence on the coast. The study will officially kickoff December 2015 and will finish by May 2017. The cities of Gulfport and Long Beach, Harrison and Hancock Counties as well as NCBC Gulfport, Mississippi Development Authority and other major stakeholders will be serving in an advisory and policy role on the study. Project deliverables will include a regional JLUS Final Report and Implementation Plan and a JLUS Project Overview for public distribution.

The City of Biloxi has been awarded a similar grant to undertake a JLUS for Keesler Air Force Base Biloxi, MS. GRPC will have the responsibility of co-managing the project with the city and supervising the development of the JLUS. The technical work of both projects will be performed by contractors that have experience and expertise in undertaking the JLUS planning process.

# Spotlight on Safety:

In 2014, the Get To B transportation safety program was launched as a regional effort to make our roads safer for all users. Using a three prong approach which includes 1) Professional Development, 2) Pubic Education and 3) Infrastructure Improvements, the program is expected to reduce crash occurrence and minimize injury severity.

The Get To B Safety Series is an ongoing opportunity for professionals to stay abreast of best practices, innovative designs and emerging safety standards. In FY 2014-2015 we hosted an innovative intersection design event, a 1/2 day workshop specifically addressing roundabout implementation and a 2-day event on reducing roadway departure incidents.

Currently planned in FY 2015-2016 is a workshop highlighting Access Management strategies that can be incorporated on new and existing corridors. We are also partnering with Bike-Walk Mississippi and the Heritage trails Partnership to bring the annual bike safety summit to the coast. This event will engage an even broader audience to promote non-motorized safety on our roadways.

LTAP, an educational program coordinated by MS DOT, also continues to bring course to the Gulf Coast. They have instructors ready to offer training events on a wide variety of topics.

For more infomration about planned events or to request an event, contact Stephanie at 228-864-1167 or email her at contactus@grpc.com.



### Location Affordability Index

### Mark Your Calendar

- <u>GRPC Board Every 4th</u> <u>Wednesday @ GRPC</u>
- Long-Range Plan Public
  Review Period, 10/26-12/10
- LTAP Course Designing <u>Accessible Facilities Nov.</u> 5th
- LTAP Course -Construction Mathematics, Nov. 12th
- Jackson County Public meeting, Nov. 17th
- <u>Harrison County Public</u> meeting, Nov. 18th
- <u>Hancock County Public</u> <u>Meeting, Nov. 19th</u>
- <u>FHWA Scenario Planning</u>
  <u>Workshop Dec. 1st and 2nd</u>
- 2015 MPO Annual Meeting
  December 10th-10:30am @
  Biloxi Visitor's Center

### **ADOPTED - Complete Streets Policy**

In September 2015, the MS Gulf Coast MPO voted unanimously to adopt a regional Complete Streets Policy. The Complete Streets initiative aims at designing and building roads that meet the needs of all road users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, users of mass transit, people with disabilities, older adults,



young children, motorists, freight providers, emergency responders, and adjacent land users. The MS Gulf Coast Policy requires that all federally funded road & bridge projects being added to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) include appropriate Complete Street measures. View the adopted policy <u>HERE</u>

## Gulf Regional Planning Commission MS Gulf Coast MPO

1635-G Popps Ferry Road Biloxi MS 39531 228-864-1167 contactus@grpc.com



Gulf Regional Planning Commission/MS Gulf Coast MPO contactus@grpc.com http://www.grpc.com

Copyright © 20XX. All Rights Reserved.