

MEETING MINUTES

Mississippi Gulf Coast Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Policy Committee Meeting

December 9, 2022

1. Call to Order: 10:33 a.m.; Quorum confirmed-Kenneth Yarrow-GRPC

William Andrews- (Virtual Room)	Wayne Miller- City of Gulfport (Virtual Room)
Necole Baker-FHWA	Armendia Pierce-GRPC
Mayor George Bass – City of Long Beach	Jace Ponder-Hancock County Port & Harbor
Teresa Bridges-FHWA (Virtual Room)	Mayor Jimmy Rafferty – Pass Christian (Virtual Room)
Wendy Broussard- Jackson County	Mike Reso-Bay St. Louis
Perry Brown III-MDOT, MPO Coordinator	Garrick Rose-BKI
Kelly Castleberry – MDOT, District 6 Engineer	David Seyfarth- MDOT, District 6 (Virtual Room)
Kevin Coggin-CTA	Chuck Starita- MDOT, District 6 (Virtual Room)
Brian Fulton-Jackson County	Jaclyn Turner- Harrison County
Jeremy Harrison-Gulfport	Kim Thurman – FHWA (Virtual Room)
Ken Holland-GRPC (Virtual Room)	Bobby Weaver-D’Iberville
Lindsey Killebrew-MDOT	Paula Yancey- Gautier (Virtual Room)
Jeff Loftus – GRPC	Kenneth Yarrow - GRPC
Carolyn Martin-Ocean Springs	Jason Zimmer-GRPC

2. Public Comment

No public comment was given.

3. Approval of the Minutes from the August 4, 2022 meeting

The minutes of the Mississippi Gulf Coast MPO Policy Committee meeting on August 4, 2022 were read before the Policy Committee with no corrections or comments received. A motion to approve the minutes was given by Mayor George Bass, seconded by Bobby Weaver. The motion passed unanimously and the minutes were approved.

4. Approval of the FY 2023-2026 Mississippi Gulf Coast MPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Proposed Amendments:

Discussion was facilitated by Kenneth Yarrow-GRPC regarding the specific proposed amendments to the 2023-2026 TIP.

A motion was made by Jaclyn Turner and seconded by Mayor Bass to approve the 2023-2026 Gulf Coast MPO Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) Amendments that receive MS Gulf Coast MPO Funding:

MPO Funding:

- Modifications – Move projects from FY 2022 to FY 2023
- Remove Project – Gulfport’s US 49 Pathway (Creosote Road to Turkey Creek) - \$2,162,720
- Remove Project – Ocean Springs’ Hanshaw Road @ Cabildo Place Ped Signal - \$82,680
- Remove Project – Moss Point’s Macphelah Road @ Jefferson Avenue - \$921,000
- Add Study – Long Beach Traffic Study - \$80,000
- Add Study – Airport Connector Feasibility Study - \$80,000
- Add Project – Moss Point Dantzler Street Realignment - \$260,000



- Add Project – Pascagoula Railroad Crossing Improvements (Pascagoula Street, Magnolia Street, and Frederic Street - \$1,200,000
- Split Project – Gulfport Dedeaux Road (Hwy 605 to Jessica Lane) Split into two phases: Phase I: Hwy 605 to 1320ft west, Phase II: End of Phase I to Jessica Lane.

The motion passed unanimously and the MPO-funded TIP amendments were approved.

Discussion was facilitated by Kenneth Yarrow-GRPC regarding the proposed 2023-2026 TIP amendments that will receive non-MPO funding. A motion was made by Bobby Weaver and seconded Mayor George Bass to approve the 2023-2026 Gulf Coast MPO Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) Amendments that receive funding from non-MPO sources:

Other Funding:

- Add Project – D Iberville’s Lamey Bridge Road/Mallet Road (Engineering Phase and ROW Phase)
- Add Project – Gautier’s CSX Railroad Overpass at Dolphin Drive - \$15,000,000
- Add Funding Source – Moss Point’s I-10 Corridor Improvements – \$4,500,000 Congressional Earmark
- Add Funding Source – Beatline Parkway – \$150,000 Congressional Earmark
- Add Funding Source – Popp’s Ferry Road Extension – \$2,163,000 Congressional Earmark

The motion passed unanimously and the non-MPO-funded TIP amendments were approved.

5. TIP Discussion, Functional Road Classification, Census UZA-Kenneth Yarrow, GRPC

- A discussion was held regarding the status of current TIP projects and the importance of completion of the project in the anticipated fiscal year, or before the fiscal year. (If the project is completed early, TIP adjustments can be made by the GRPC staff.)
- The U.S. Census Bureau has indicated that the new Urbanized Area population numbers will be released in December. This information will initiate a change in the boundaries of the two urbanized areas in the Gulf Coast region: Gulfport UZA and Pascagoula UZA. The GRPC staff will create a map with the new boundaries and, also, the formula funding amount received by the MPO will change according to the population count.
- In addition, the GRPC staff will update the status of the UZA roads on the Functional Classification System (FCS), which makes the roads eligible for federal funding for roadway projects.

6. USDOT Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs) -Armendia Pierce, GRPC

A summary of the the Civil Rights laws that govern recipients and sub-recipients of transportation grant funding was presented by Armendia Pierce. The presentation, along with resource information, will be emailed to the MPO members.

7. TCC-Complete Streets Policy update-Jeff Loftus, GRPC

Jeff Loftus gave information to the MPO members on the impending update on the MPO Complete Streets Policy, which was first created in 2015. The purpose of the policy is to ensure the safety and access of all road users by designing streets in a new way. New federal guidance has been published including: the Safe System Approach-USDOT, Vulnerable Road Users guide-FHWA, Challenges and Opportunities for Complete Streets-FHWA Report to Congress, Bikeway Selection Guide-FHWA, etc. The MPO will need to include all of these new standards into the policy update to encourage mobility for all roadway users when selecting TIP projects. The draft of the new policy will be sent to the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) to review and the TCC will review the document in January to make recommendations on this matter to the Policy Committee.



8. New Business

There were no items of new business for this meeting

9. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Bobby Weaver and was seconded by Mayor George Bass; the meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

