

Regional Planning Commission

Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard and St. Tammany Parishes

January , 2011



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Transportation Enhancement Program

The Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP) is a federally funded program, administered by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, with the goal of working toward building a more balanced transportation system that includes pedestrians and bicyclists as well as the motoring public. Projects eligible for this program can include safety and educational activities for pedestrian and bicyclists, landscaping and other scenic beautification, historic preservation, acquisition of scenic easements or scenic sites, preservation of abandoned railway corridors, scenic historic highway programs, archaeological planning and research, control and removal of outdoor advertising, environmental mitigation and the establishment of transportation museums.

If the proposed TEP project is to be located within the New Orleans region, project sponsors are encouraged to contact the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) as early as possible. A letter of support from the RPC is required as part of the TEP application process and RPC staff must review potential projects before this letter can be provided.

The window for applications to the Transportation Enhancement Program will be between Wednesday, June 1 and Friday, July 29, 2011. For additional information please contact Ms. Lynn Dupont or Ms. Karen Parsons at (504) 483-8500.

Monumental Task Committee Working to Restore New Orleans' History

For more than 20 years there has been a group of faithful volunteers working to preserve New Orleans' culture and history through maintenance, restoration and preservation of monuments: the Monumental Task Committee (MTC). Founded in 1989, the MTC is a volunteer-based, fully incorporated 501(c)(3) organization that uses restoration techniques practiced by qualified professional conservators to document, preserve, and restore monuments in the city of New Orleans. Examples of their preservation efforts can be seen at the Henry Clay Monument, the Benjamin Franklin Monument, the Jefferson Davis Monument, and the Ninth Ward Victory Arch.

Restoration of the previously mentioned Jefferson Davis Monument was the project that brought the original MTC volunteers together. Their success in that endeavor, coupled with a recognition of other neglected monuments within the city, led them to stay together to undertake more restorations. However, it quickly became apparent to them that their work in preserving

monuments was a service very much in need.

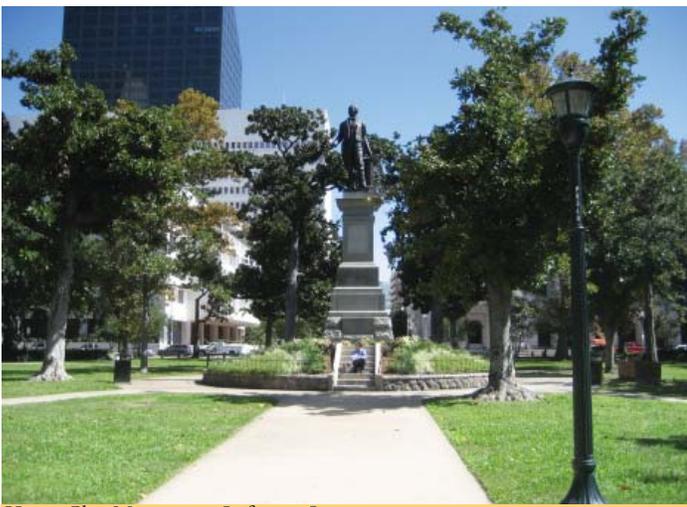
In a short time, the MTC grew in size and reputation. Their hard work and knowledge of approved monument restoration methods fostered positive relationships with several city agencies and neighborhood organizations. These relationships, along with an unwavering resolve to preserve their city, allowed the MTC to successfully organize after Hurricane Katrina and complete a city-wide survey of all monument locations and their condition. Before this survey, there were approximately 88 identified monuments within the city limits, and afterwards it was revealed that there are actually more than 200 monuments. In addition to the traditional statue and pedestal type pieces, the MTC survey uncovered stone markers, inscribed flagpoles, plaques and other types of monuments.

Currently, as the MTC enters its third decade of service, it plans to undertake a newer and more comprehensive city-wide monument restoration plan. They



World War I Victory Arch, Burgundy St., Ninth Ward

also will continue to seek out professionals with specific education and experience to aid them in their restoration and preservation projects. If you or someone you know would like to help preserve the glorious monuments of New Orleans, please email MTC President Mr. Pierre "Pete" McGraw, at info@monumentaltask.org. Visit their website at www.monumentaltask.org.



Henry Clay Monument, Lafayette Square



Jefferson Davis Monument, S. Jefferson Davis Parkway at Canal Street

Jefferson Parish Drainage Canal Design Competition

Jefferson Parish continues to focus on enhancing its quality of life in an effort to remain a competitive locus of housing and business investment. Recently, a number of smaller beautification initiatives have been undertaken and the success of these smaller initiatives has led to more ambitious projects. An example is the Jefferson Community Foundation's (JCF) sponsoring of a beautification competition for innovative ideas and designs to improve the aesthetics of the parish's exposed drainage canals. JCF is working in cooperation with the East Jefferson Business Association, the Louisiana Chapter of the American



Urban waterfowl at West Esplanade Canal

Society of Landscape Architects, the Regional Planning Commission and the Jefferson Parish Public Works Department.

All interested teams will have the opportunity to submit their qualifications. A competition selection committee will evaluate team qualifications and those selected will be asked to focus their design solutions on the West Esplanade Drainage Canal, located between Lake Avenue

and Causeway Boulevard, in Metairie, Louisiana. This portion of the canal is approximately 2.4 miles with two lanes of vehicular traffic on either side. It also includes elements typical of canals throughout the parish, such as bridges, drainage pipes, culverts, and residential and commercial areas.

Design solutions that can realistically be implemented and will make Jefferson Parish canals more visually appealing are the goal of this competition. The selection committee will be looking for qualified teams to provide designs, including landscaping elements, that will transform the

visual appearance, of the exposed drainage canals without compromising the functionality of the canal, culverts or pipes. Heavy emphasis will be placed on the feasibility of the design solution, including its compliance with municipal codes and conformity to economic realities.

Cash prizes will be awarded to the top four

teams in the competition. The winning proposal will receive a cash prize of \$30,000, the second, third and fourth place proposals will receive \$5,000 each.

If Jefferson Parish is to remain a community of choice at the regional level, it is imperative that its built environment be



Culvert on West Esplanade Canal

updated and improved on an ambitious scale. Precisely because the most difficult infrastructure issue needing to be addressed within the parish is how to beautify the open drainage canals, the business community has made a commitment to offer civic and political leaders a workable, attractive solution that will set the standard for other large-scale improvements.

If you would like more information about the Jefferson Drainage Canal Design Competition, please contact Ms. Patricia Besselman at canaldesign@OpportunityLivesHere.com. Visit the website at <http://www.opportunityliveshere.com/canal-design-contest.html>.



West Esplanade Canal drainage pipe

Southeast Travel Demand Model Update Complete

The RPC is very pleased to announce that the Phase 1 update to the Southeast Louisiana Travel Model (SELATRAM) is nearly complete. The update is largely a geographic expansion of the current southshore model, which consists of Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, Plaquemines and St. Charles parishes, to include four additional parishes: St. John, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa and Washington.

Travel demand modeling is the utilization of a computer software package to replicate the “real world” transportation system around us. It can be used to predict future travel patterns and demands based on changes in the transportation system.

An expansion of the existing RPC travel model was undertaken for several reasons. Among them, the current model

is a true four step, nested-logit model that accounts for transit, and allows for the testing of transit alternatives. After Hurricane Katrina, numerous fixed guideway proposals that sought to cross Lake Pontchartrain or involved longer distance commuter rail projects were promulgated. In response to this, and to make the RPC model more state of the practice, new mode choice nests were developed and included in the model. These include bus rapid transit (BRT), light rail and commuter rail transit, and highway managed lanes nests.

See the two charts below for a comparison of parameters for the 2004 and 2009 models

Additionally, with the inclusion of St. John and St. Tammany parishes, the model will provide complete coverage of the New Orleans Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). Although not part of the MSA, Tangipahoa and Wash-

ington parishes were also included for their significant daily journey-to-work volumes entering and leaving the MSA, as estimated by US Census Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics. RPC believes it is important to account for this trip-making to and from the MSA, as well as having the ability to assess long range planning initiatives that could directly impact St. Tammany Parish.

Once RPC, working closely with the model developer Parsons Brinckerhoff (lead developer: Bill Davidson), has put the finishing touches on the Phase 1 update, it can begin to focus on a Phase 2 update. RPC believes it is important to undertake a new travel survey as a Phase 2 model update, and will be considering the best way to approach this.

For more information about the SELATRAM please contact RPC Planning Director, Mr. Jeff Roesel at 504-483-8500.

SOUTHSHORE Model - 2004	
Zones	548
Externals	14
Links	8,585
Mileage	3,767.2
Geographic Area (Land)	2,081 Sq. Mi.
Estimated Regional VMT	20,896,306

SELATRAM Model - 2009	
Zones	1,043
Externals	34
Links	12,200
Mileage	5,635
Geographic Area (Land)	4,613 Sq. Mi.
Estimated Regional VMT	31,449,253

RPC Meetings

The Regional Planning Commission meets the second Tuesday of each month at 12:30 pm at its offices, 10 Veterans Boulevard, New Orleans. Agendas for the meetings are placed on RPC’s website, www.norpc.org, one week prior to the meeting.

Meeting schedule for 2011: January 11, February 8, March 15 (meeting moved due to Mardi Gras), April 12, May 10, June 14, July 12, August 9, September 13, October 11, November 8 and December 13.

New Orleans City Park Improvements

Tri-Centennial Place

In November 2005, Congress provided a \$1,000,000 earmark for New Orleans City Park roadway improvements. RPC assisted in the delivery of the funds by providing the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LaDOTD) with a Project Delivery - Stage 0 Feasibility Analysis for the project area so that the project could advance appropriately.

In the FY 2010 Omnibus Bill, Congress has provided a \$1,948,000 TCSP (Transportation and Community and System Preservation) earmark for the New Orleans City Park infrastructure improvements. RPC is again coordinating the delivery of the funds by acting as a liaison between LaDOTD and City Park, and by accomplishing an updated Project Delivery - Stage 0 Feasibility Analysis.

The earmarked funds will be used to provide parking and road improvements for the future Tri-Centennial Place, in the vicinity of the Pavilion of Two Sisters, Sculpture Garden, Peristyle, Storyland, and the new Mini-Golf Course and Splash Park.

For more information about this project please contact Mr. Chris Aghayan at RPC at 504-483-8500.



View down Tri-Centennial Place



Annual Obligated Projects - October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010

RPC is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the New Orleans urbanized area and the Mandeville/Covington and Slidell urbanized areas in St. Tammany Parish. The RPC, acting in its capacity as the MPO, has responsibility for planning, programming, and coordinating federal-aid transportation investments within the urbanized areas.

The Regional Planning Commission is statutorily mandated to assess the transportation and economic development needs and deficiencies of the region with direction from public officials, citizens, modal representatives, local planning departments, and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD). The RPC is assisted in its planning and programming efforts by a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) that is comprised of public works directors, planning directors, and transit operators.

In carrying out its transportation planning responsibilities, the RPC prepares an annual listing of federally funded projects that were obligated in the preceding fiscal year. An obligation refers to the funding commitment made by the federal grantor agency (FHWA or FTA) to pay the federal share of a project's capital or operating cost.

Below is a partial list of annual obligated projects for the period October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010. The list includes projects in RPC's member parishes – Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard and St. Tammany – and projects in St. Charles and St. John the Baptist parishes. A brief description is provided as to the nature of the project (i.e., pedestrian path, bike path, overlay, reconstruction, etc.), federal and state funding source, bid letting date, and construction cost.

	Project No.	Route & Description	Improvement	Funding Source	Let Date	Total Cost (\$)
Orleans Parish	713-36-0101	Harrison Ave. (Bridge over St. John)	Harrison Ave. (Bridge over St. John)	FBROFF, STP ENH	Oct-09	1,376,975
	410-01-0034	LA 428 (Gen. DeGaulle @ Wall Blvd.)	LA 428 (Gen. DeGaulle @ Wall Blvd.)	Other, Local	Dec-09	20,160,135
	450-34-0096	I-610 at St. Bernard Ave.	I-610 at St. Bernard Ave.	SATRANS	Mar-10	319,276
	450-90-0230	I-10 Fencing, Safety, Beautification	I-10 Fencing, Safety, Beautification	ARRA	Apr-10	1,544,308
	737-36-0007	City Park (Tricentennial Park)	City Park (Tricentennial Park)	DEMO	Apr-10	1,087,742
	450-43-0080	I-510 (N. End of ICWW Br. - I-10)	I-510 (N. End of ICWW Br. - I-10)	IM	Jun-10	29,356
				Fiscal Year 2010		24,517,792
Plaquemines Parish	062-02-0120	LA 23 - Belle Chasse Tunnel	Electrical & Mech. Repairs	St. Gen.	Oct-09	2,134,438
	570-39-0006	Ostrica Lock	Dewatering / Repairs	FEMA	Oct-09	2,995,913
	838-03-0024	LA 406 - Woodland Hwy. Improve. Phase	Asphalt Widen and Overlay	ARRA	Mar-10	1,145,996
					Fiscal Year 2010	6,276,347
St. Bernard Parish	046-03-0076	LA 46 - St. Bernard Hwy.	Drainage/Safety Improvements	STP FLEX	Mar-10	1,695,906
	046-03-0076	LA 46 - St. Bernard Hwy.	Drainage/Safety Improvements	ARRA, DEMO, St. Gen.	Mar-10	2,088,000
				Fiscal Year 2010		3,783,906

Jefferson Parish

Project No.	Route & Description	Improvement	Funding Source	Let Date	Total Cost (\$)
062-01-0026	LA 23 (US 90B - Lapalco)	AC Overlay of PCC Pavement	NHS	Oct-09	3,848,850
063-04-0039	LA 18 (Avondale - St. Charles Parish Line)	Drainage Improvements	St. Cash	Mar-10	263,865
450-15-0137	I-10 (Clearview to Causeway & Clearview)	Joint Repair & Overlay	IM	Mar-10	1,097,297
742-26-0053	Lapalco (Manhattan Blvd. - B. Fat)	Overlay	ARRA	Mar-10	1,209,673
826-05-0016	LA 541 (E. Jct. LA 18 - Bridge City)	Cold Plane & Overlay	NFA	Mar-10	1,589,115
283-09-0137	US 90 (1.25 HW of LA 45 - US 90B E)	Patch, Cold Plane & Overlay	ER100, NHS	Jun-10	4,082,229
283-09-0141	US 90 (US 990B Service Rds. At Farrington)	Intersection Improvements	NHS	Jun-10	428,686
430-01-0024	LA 3139 - Earhart Drainage Improvements	Subsurface Drainage Improv.	St. Cash	Jun-10	85,255
450-15-0140	I-10 (E. End Bonnet Carre - Orleans)	Pavement Markings Replace.	IM	Jun-10	91,908
Fiscal Year 2010					12,696,878

St. Charles Parish

428-03-0013	LA 3127 (E.B.L. LM 9.7 - I-310)	Cold Plane and Overlay	ARRA	Nov-09	807,486
282-02-0048	LA 48 - near Schexnaydre Lane	Turn Lane Improvement	STP FLEX	Feb-10	193,622
450-37-0023	I-310	Pavement Markings	IM	Feb-10	9,680,000
450-38-0025	I-310	Pavement Markings	IM	Feb-10	48,346
450-36-0036	I-310	Pavement Markings	IM	Feb-10	253,657
005-08-0052	US 90 (E of B. Del All. - I.31 M E LA 3)	Patch, Cole Plane & Overlay	ER100, St. Gen	Jun-10	4,704,085
005-08-0054	US 90 (E. End of Del Allemands)	Extend Turn Lanes & Related	St. Gen.	Jun-10	177,399
005-09-0036	US 90 (E. End of Del Allemands)	Add Turn Lane & Cold Plane & Overlay	St. Gen.	Jun-10	318,515
Fiscal Year 2010					16,183,110

Funding Source Glossary

- ARRA - American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Stimulus)
- DEMO - Congressional High Priority or Demonstration Project
- ER - FHWA Emergency Relief (street restoration monies)
- FBR - Federal Bridge Replacement
- IM - Interstate Maintenance
- LRSP - Local Road Safety Improvement Program
- NHS - National Highway System
- OLY - Overlay
- St. Gen. - State general fund monies appropriated by the Louisiana Legislature
- STP -Surface Transportation Program Funds selected by an MPO for projects located inside its metropolitan area on federal aid eligible routes.
- STP<200K - Federal funds the formula for large urban areas with population less than 200,000
- STP ENH - Transportation Enhancements
- STP FLEX - Federal funds programmed statewide through DOTD needs assessment process
- STP HAZ - Federal funds for hazard elimination and safety improvements
- TIMED - Transportation Infrastructure Model for Economic Development (state gas tax funds)

St. Tammany Parish

Project No.	Route & Description	Improvement	Funding Source	Let Date	Total Cost (\$)	
059-02-0035	LA 25 @ LA 1078	Pavement Widening, Overlay, Striping	St. Gen.	Nov-09	185,803	
713-52-0102	Lake Road Bridge	Bridge Replacement	FBROFF	Feb-10	1,085,765	
852-26-0023	LA 1090 (0.15 MI N. Jct US 190 - Jct I-59 RA)	Overlay	ARRA	Mar-10	1,056,699	
013-10-0043	US 190X (W. Jct. LA 21 to US 190)	Cold Plane, Patch & Overlay	ARRA	Mar-10	842,513	
018-30-0025	LA 433 @ Voters Rd.	Intersection Improvements	ARRA	Mar-10	1,488,301	
059-01-0029	LA 21 @ Brewster Rd.	Intersection Improvements	ARRA	Mar-10	1,483,995	
013-11-0038	US 190 @ Northpark	Intersection Improvements	ARRA	Mar-10	356,954	
852-26-0017	LA 1090 @ Brownsitch Rd.	Intersection Improvements	ARRA	Mar-10	650,993	
013-10-0044	US 190 (3.14 Mi. E. of LA 1077-W. Jct. US 19)	Mill and Overlay	ER100	Mar-10	269,387	
058-01-0027	LA 41 (LA 36 - North 1.2 Mi. of Jct. LA 3)	Mill and Overlay	ER100	Mar-10	200,304	
453-01-0060	I-59 (I-10 - S.W. End of Pearl River Br.)	Pavement Marker Replacement	IM	Mar-10	27,272	
453-02-0006	I-59 (I-10 - S.W. End of Pearl River Br. - MS)	Pavement Marker Replacement	IM	Mar-10	2,522	
852-21-0046	LA 433 (3.40 MI S. of US 1990 - I.06 MI N. US)	Mill and Overlay	ER100	Mar-10	342,434	
852-21-0047	LA 433 (Jct. US 190 - Jct. US 11)	Asphalt Overlay	ARRA	Mar-10	1,984,152	
852-26-0022	LA 1090 (0.15 MI N. of US 190 - I-59 Ramp)	Mill and Overlay	ER100	Mar-10	714,943	
852-05-0007	LA 1077 (LA 25 - LA 1078)	Chip Seal Single	St. Cash	Apr-10	107,022	
852-25-0017	Brownsitch @ LA 1091	Intersection Improvements	ARRA	Apr-10	1,010,393	
281-04-0025	Abita Sidewalks	Pedestrian Improvements	ARRA	Apr-10	260,283	
454-04-0082	LA 21 @ I-12	Interchange Improvements	ARRA	Apr-10	4,995,995	
013-12-0058	US 190 (Corridor Landscaping/ Sidewalks)	Landscaping/Sidewalks	STP ENH	Jun-10	242,200	
737-52-0007	Pearl River Signing & Marking PR	Install Signing & Pavement Markings	LRSP		13,926	
					Fiscal Year 2010	17,321,856

St. John Parish

848-07-0013	LA 628 - Turn Lane	Intersection Improvements	St. Gen.	Apr-10	492,372	
452-01-0052	I-55 (I-10 - Tangipahoa Parish Line)	Pavement Marking Replace.	IM	Jun-10	191,086	
					Fiscal Year 2010	683,458

Pat Denton

A Fond Farewell



Pat Denton, a valued employee with the RPC since 1968, is retiring. Ms. Denton began her career at the RPC as a graphic designer producing hand-drawn maps, charts and graphics in various media which were of legendary high quality.

In those years --- a time when the RPC received funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for regional mapping --- regional data was not just an asset, but a requirement. Ms. Denton was the lead in the graphics department for this important work, heading up a staff which at times had up to five employees. Largely in part to her natural talent and well-honed artistic skills, along with attention to detail and expertise in photography, her group was able to prepare products which have not been matched to this day. The RPC publication, "The History of Regional Growth," is one notable example of this achievement.

Ms. Denton has also worked to pass on her knowledge to another generation of RPC employees, serving as a mentor to present staff, who strive to produce the quality of mapping and graphic products that were created in those early years. During her last decade at the RPC, Ms. Denton served as RPC's webmaster with the same attention to detail.

For all her wonderful work, the RPC is most grateful to Ms. Denton for her years of public activism promoting the rights of women and working against discrimination. As noted in the book, *Feminists Who Changed America*, Pat was a member of the National Organization for Women (NOW) from 1973-1986. She was also a member National Women's Political Caucus (NWPC) from 1979-1984 and served as president of the Louisiana Chapter of the NWPC for the 1982-1983 term.

As part of the local Women's Movement, Pat participated in efforts to give women in New Orleans the same standing for eligibility for jury duty as men had at that time, and spoke in favor of a resolution in support of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) before the New Orleans City Council. (The resolution passed unanimously.) She also found time to help organize and participate in the first New Orleans women's photography exhibit in 1975, "From a Woman's Darkroom." At that time, female photographers were not included in local photography shows.

Pat also wrote, videotaped, directed, edited and produced a video in 1983, "Feminist! Are you One?" The video included interviews with U.S. Sena-

tor Lindy Boggs, Louisiana Governor Edwin Edwards, U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu, and NAACP President Rupert Richardson, along with on-the-street interviews of citizens of New Orleans. In these interviews they were asked what the word "feminist" meant to them and if they considered themselves to be a feminist.

Another notable accomplishment was being selected to participate in a photography exhibit in 1998 at the Royal Street Hanson Gallery, whose theme was, "Come Out, Come Out, Wherever You Are." Pat was also a founding member and board member of the Louisiana Gay Political Action Caucus (LAGPAC), an organization that is still active today.

Obviously, her talents, her wit, her insight and professionalism will be sorely missed, but we wish her the best in her well deserved retirement and future in Portland, Oregon.

Pat Denton, a fond farewell!



Pat at Armstrong Park during formation of the July 3, 1983 march, ERA A New Day, which was organized by the LA WPC.

Several Transportation Studies Completed in the Region

Over the past several months, work was completed on several planning studies funded by the Regional Planning Commission. The results are summarized below.

LA 21 (Boston Street) Covington, Louisiana St. Tammany Parish

The purpose of this study was to evaluate traffic signal operations and develop traffic signal upgrade plans at four intersections on LA 21 (Boston Street) in Covington, Louisiana. The intersections are at Lee Lane, N. Florida Street, N. Columbia Street and N. New Hampshire Street. The corridor is highly congested during peak periods due to the presence of a major regional hospital and several schools in the area.

The proposed recommendations emphasize upgrading the study area intersections with new signal timing and coordination, crosswalks and decorative mast arm signal poles. New handicap ramps and sidewalks are proposed in areas where the existing would be impacted by the installation of the proposed signal equipment.

The estimated cost to upgrade the four intersections is \$666,656.00.

LA Highway 434 Corridor Study St. Tammany Parish

The purpose of this study was to identify transportation deficiencies and evaluate a range of improvements to increase capacity of an 8.3 mile section of LA 434 which connects US 190 to LA 36 crossing over Interstate 12 in St. Tammany Parish.

Large scale commercial and residential developments, including a new Folg-



ers Plant and the St. Tammany Heart Hospital, have drawn attention to the need for enhanced traffic safety and operational improvements in the corridor. Both short and long-term recommendations for traffic safety, operational and capacity improvements were formulated. Some of the objectives of the project included:

- Providing better access to the area's primary care hospital for emergency vehicles;
- Replacing an aging, rural roadway and bridge crossing the Lacombe Bayou;
- Identifying viable alternatives and securing required right-of-ways for improvements prior to the adjacent area's full development;
- Providing improved access to the Abita Springs Airport; and
- Preparing for an increase in trip generation caused by proposed developments.

Both of these projects are Stage 0 Feasibility Studies which is the first stage in the Department of Transportation and Development's project delivery process. The purpose of a Stage 0 study is to reach a decision regarding the project's feasibility and whether it should continue further through the project delivery process. As part of the process, a base of information must be developed so that rational decisions can be made regarding the allocation of available funds among competing projects. The information gathered from the Stage 0 will be used to determine if the project will proceed forward to Stage 1, Planning and Environmental.

LA 23 Corridor (Lapalco Boulevard to Engineers Road)

Jefferson and Plaquemines Parishes

The purpose of this project was to evaluate adding capacity to a .65 mile segment of Louisiana Highway 23 (Belle Chasse Highway) from Lapalco Boulevard (LA 428) in Jefferson Parish to Engineers Road (LA 3017) in Plaquemines Parish.

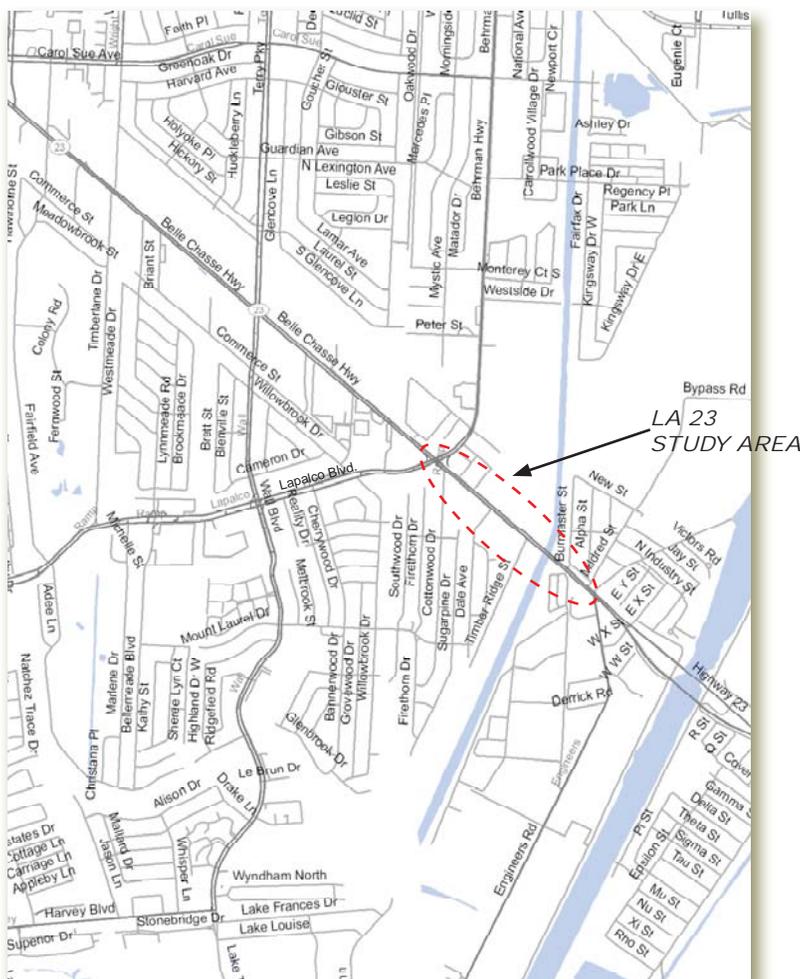
The improvement will add a through lane in the southbound direction which will drop as a right turn lane at Engineers Road (LA 3017). A through lane will also be added in the northbound direction which will continue through the Lapalco Boulevard intersection.

Intersection improvements at both Engineers Road (LA 3017) and Lapalco Boulevard are also included. The project will include signal upgrades at the following intersections: Behrman Hwy./Lapalco Blvd., Rouse's Entrance, and Engineers Rd./Planters Canal Rd. These upgrades will include the realignment and addition of signal heads, relocation of mast arm signal poles, and the relocation of required signal cabinets and conduit.

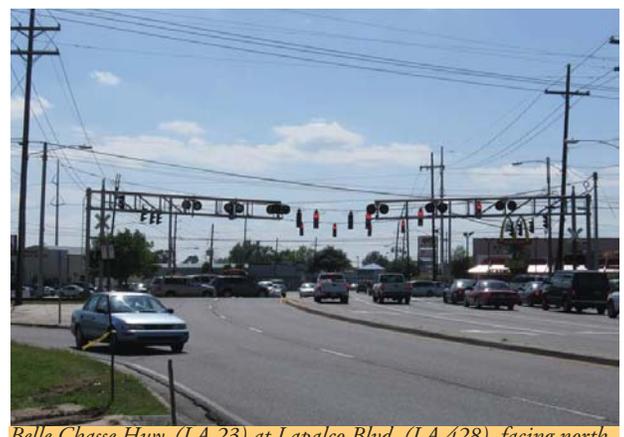
In July 2006, a Stage 0 Feasibility Study of the corridor was completed by the RPC. That study found that the majority of this widening project could be accomplished within the existing right-of-way, and that there were no adverse

environmental impacts anticipated. The need for the project as identified in the Stage 0, demonstrated the following:

- There is currently inadequate roadway capacity;
- Traffic volumes on the corridor are anticipated to continue to increase;
- There is a need to improve traffic operations;
- The widening will sustain known economic development decisions, such as the expansion of the Naval Air Station/Joint Reserve Base in Belle Chasse;
- The project will provide a link to the future replacement of the Belle Chasse tunnel and bridge.



Belle Chasse Hwy. (LA 23) at Engineers Rd. (LA 3017), facing north



Belle Chasse Hwy. (LA 23) at Lapalco Blvd. (LA 428), facing north

The RPC is a 26-member board of local elected officials and citizen members of the greater New Orleans metropolitan area. The RPC provides an open forum where elected officials and community leaders of the five member parishes (Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard and St. Tammany) come together, in partnership, to discuss how regionalism can promote the general welfare and prosperity of the entire region.

Officers: Kevin Davis Craig Taffaro John Young Mitchell Landrieu Billy Nungesser
 Chairman 1st Vice Chairman 2nd Vice Chairman Secretary Treasurer

Jefferson Parish	Orleans Parish	Plaquemines Parish	St. Bernard Parish	St. Tammany Parish
John Young <i>Parish President</i>	Mitchell Landrieu <i>Mayor, City of New Orleans</i>	Billy Nungesser <i>Parish President</i>	Craig Taffaro <i>Parish President</i>	Kevin Davis <i>Parish President</i>
Thomas Capella <i>Councilmember-at-Large</i>	Arnie Fielkow <i>Councilmember-at Large</i>	vacancy <i>Council Chairman</i>	Frank Auderer, Jr. <i>Councilmember at Large</i>	Steve Stefancik <i>Councilmember</i>
Michael S. Yenni <i>Mayor, City of Kenner</i>	Jacquelyn B. Clarkson <i>Councilmember-at Large</i>	Keith Hinkley <i>Councilmember</i>	Ray Lauga, Jr. <i>Councilmember</i>	R. Reid Falconer <i>Councilmember</i>
John F. Stumpf, Jr. Lee Giorgio	vacancy E. Eean McNaughton	Bill Bubrig James Hufft	Charles Ponstein David Munn	Richard P. Kelley James Smith

La. Dept. of Transportation and Development: Sherri LeBas, *Secretary*

Transportation Policy Committee:

John Morrow <i>N.O. Public Belt Railroad</i>	Barbara Major <i>Regional Transit Authority</i>	Cathy Gautreaux <i>La. Motor Transport Assoc.</i>	Freddy Drennan <i>Mayor, City of Slidell</i>
Carlton Dufrechou <i>Greater N.O. Expwy. Comm.</i>	Iftikhar Ahmad <i>N.O. International Airport</i>	V.J. St. Pierre, Jr. <i>St. Charles Parish President</i>	Donald Villere <i>Mayor, City of Mandeville</i>
Ryan Brown <i>Jeff., Dept. of Transit Adm.</i>	Pat Gallwey <i>Port of New Orleans</i>	Natalie Robottom <i>St. John Parish President</i>	

Executive Director: Walter R. Brooks



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