

# REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION NEWS



## 150 Planners Attend RPC Mobile Workshops at APA's NPC18!



The Regional Planning Commission (RPC) led three mobile workshops with over 150 participants at the American Planning Association's National Planning Conference held in New Orleans on April 21-24, 2018. The specialized workshops included: Exploring the Potential of Brownfield Sites by Brownfield Redevelopment Program Coordinator Rebecca Otte; Katrina Retrospective by Principal Planner Lynn Dupont; and the New Orleans Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) by Sustainability Planner Alison Maulhardt. Thanks for touring and exploring some of the City's most significant land-use and transportation projects with us!

## Upcoming Meetings

[Transportation Policy Committee & RPC Meeting](#)  
June 12, 2018 | 12:30 pm

[Greater New Orleans Clean Air Coalition](#) (Garyville)  
June 14, 2018 | 12:30 pm

[Emergency Preparedness Public-Private Partnership](#)  
June 15, 2018 | 10:00 am

[Green Infrastructure Lunch & Learn Series](#)  
June 19, 2018 | 12:00 pm

[North Shore Regional Traffic Safety Coalition](#) (Mandeville)  
July 5, 2018 | 11:30 am

[Clean Fleet Leader Awards in Conjunction with Transportation Policy Committee & RPC Meeting](#)  
July 10, 2018 | 12:30 pm

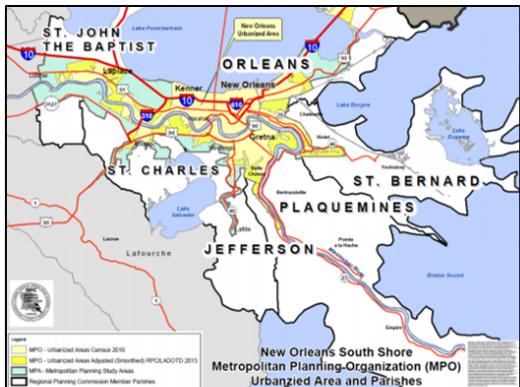
[Urban League of Louisiana Entrepreneurship Training](#)  
July 11, 2018 | 1:00 pm

[New Orleans Regional Traffic Safety Coalition](#)  
July 19, 2018 | 11:30 am

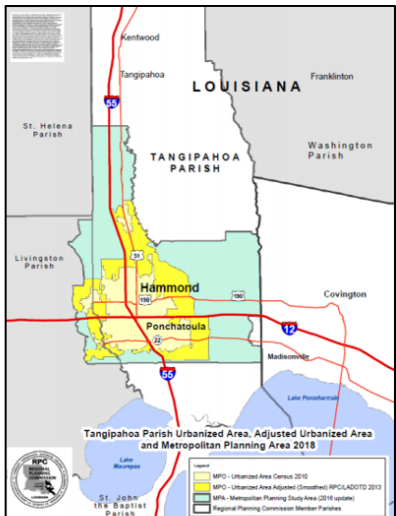
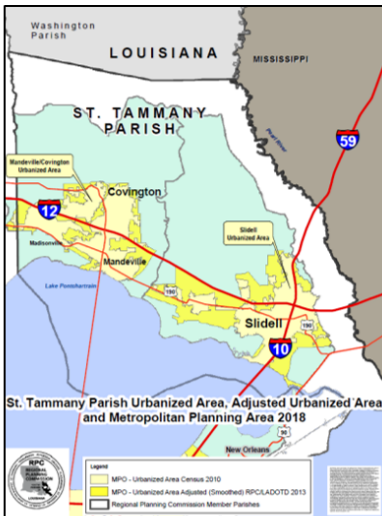
[Freight Roundtable](#)  
July 25, 2018 | 8:30 am



# RPC Adopts Fiscal Year 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program for Urbanized Areas



(Left to Right) Urbanized Area of New Orleans, St. Tammany, and Tangipahoa parishes



The FY-19-22 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the New Orleans, Slidell, Mandeville-Covington, and Tangipahoa Parish urbanized areas were adopted at the RPC Meeting on May 8, 2018 and are now [available online](#). TIPs consist of a priority list of projects (both highway and transit) which are being advanced toward construction over the four-year period. Projects have evolved through the transportation planning process and are contained in the region's long-range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). Five priorities guide the development of the MTP and TIP including: 1) Safety; 2) Preservation of the existing transportation system; 3) Livable Communities where transportation is coordinated with land use, housing, and environmental policies to foster transit and the use of alternative transportation modes to encourage place-based communities; 4) Economic Competitiveness where transportation investments are used to enhance the nation's and region's overall economic position; and 5) Environmental Sustainability to reduce transportation-related energy consumption and pollution, promote sustainable transportation modes, and enhance quality of life.

## Community Revitalization Begins in New Claiborne Corridor Cultural Innovation District



On April 20th, residents, community partners, and champions of the [Claiborne Corridor Cultural Innovation District](#) (CID) celebrated its first demonstration project with food, music, and a special ribbon cutting ceremony. William Gilchrist, Director of Planning and Building for the City of Oakland and Former Director of Place-





Based Planning for the City of New Orleans made a special appearance. Gilchrist was the Project Director for the [Livable Claiborne Communities Study](#), published in 2014, which resulted in the idea for the current CID. The Network for Economic Opportunity gave appreciation to RPC Economic Development Director Maggie Woodruff for her guidance in seeking and applying for grant funding which resulted in an Economic Development Association (EDA) award of \$820,000 to begin construction of the CID. "Most essentially, [Maggie] has helped us to view and plan our project in alignment with regional initiatives and strategies," said Ashleigh Gardere, Director of The Network. EDA expects the fully completed CID to create spaces for 50 small and micro businesses and eight anchor businesses.

For more information, please contact Maggie Woodruff at [mwoodruff@norpc.org](mailto:mwoodruff@norpc.org) / 504.483.8502.



(Left to Right) Maggie Woodruff, RPC Economic Development Director; William Gilchrist, Director of Planning and Building for the City of Oakland; and Brenda Breaux, Executive Director of the New Orleans Redevelopment Authority



## RPC's Emergency Preparedness Public-Private Partnership Talks Tall Ships and PODs



RPC's Emergency Preparedness Public-Private Partnership (EPP) met three times this Spring to discuss emergency management matters in the Gulf South. In February, Steve Sutch, Security Planner/Consultant for Pearsco Solutions, who is also the Event Safety Coordinator for Tall Ships New Orleans, highlighted some of the key security parts for NOLA Navy Week (April 19-22) including information related to Maritime Transportation Safety and Security.





**PROTECTING YOUR ORGANIZATION DURING PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES**

Are you ready to become a Closed POD partner?

In March, Bridget Gardner, LA Sudden Impact Programs Director and Angelle Bonura, Director of the Burn Center at the UMC in New Orleans presented on the new center's innovative features and technologies noting that, of the 66 verified burn centers in the United States, this will be the only Burn Center and Level 1 Trauma



Aaron Godbey, Area Commander for the Federal



(Burn-Trauma) Center located between Houston and Mobile. In addition, Jovan Bernard, Public Health Emergency Response Coordinator for Region 1 Office of Public Health, presented on POD (Points of Dispensing) logistics for dispensing medications during a public health emergency. An Open POD is publicized for the community whereas a Closed POD is for a business or organization and is not publicized. Interested in hosting a Closed POD? Contact Ms. Bernard at [Jovan.Bernard@la.gov](mailto:Jovan.Bernard@la.gov).

Protective Service (FPS), addressed facility security, safety, and risks at April's meeting. The FPS is the primary agency responsible for the protection of all buildings, grounds, and property owned, occupied, or secured by the federal government. **The next EPP meeting will take place June 15th at 10:00 am at the RPC.** Representatives from the National Weather Service and Louisiana State Police will provide the annual Hurricane Briefing with the latest on storm season and evacuation/reentry measures.

For more information, please contact EPP Director Chris Laborde: [claborde@norpc.org](mailto:claborde@norpc.org).

## RPC and Parish Partners Promote Actions to Reduce Local Emissions

During "Ozone Season" (May - October), harmful ground-level ozone is most prevalent from sources like vehicles, industries, power plants, solvents, and paints. Air Quality Awareness Week (AQAW), designated April 30 - May 4, promotes the sharing of important air quality information and voluntary actions that can help mitigate ground-level ozone. This year, St. Bernard Parish and Jefferson Parish both signed AQAW Proclamations to declare their dedication to cleaner air and programs that reduce local emissions and promote quality of life. Businesses and community members were also encouraged to reduce their contribution to air pollution by exploring ways to reduce vehicle miles traveled, reducing vehicle idling, replacing older, less efficient vehicles, and refueling vehicles in the evening when it's cooler outside.



Jefferson Parish's 2018 Air Quality Awareness Week Proclamation was signed at the April Council Meeting; Photo by Sarah McKnight

 **Greater New Orleans  
Clean Air Coalition**

***FREE Lunch and Facility Tour!***



You are invited to participate in the next Greater New Orleans Clean Air Coalition meeting, held in the format of a Lunch n' Learn with a **FREE** lunch generously provided by Marathon Petroleum!

**DATE:** Thursday, June 14th

**TIME:** 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Lunch and Presentation

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm Marathon Facility Tour

**LOCATION:** Marathon Administration Building - [4663 West Airline Highway, Garyville, LA 70051](#)

**SPEAKER:** Bart Fredrick, Energy and Special Projects Technologist will discuss Marathon's Recent ENERGY STAR Plant Certification and Emissions Reductions Projects

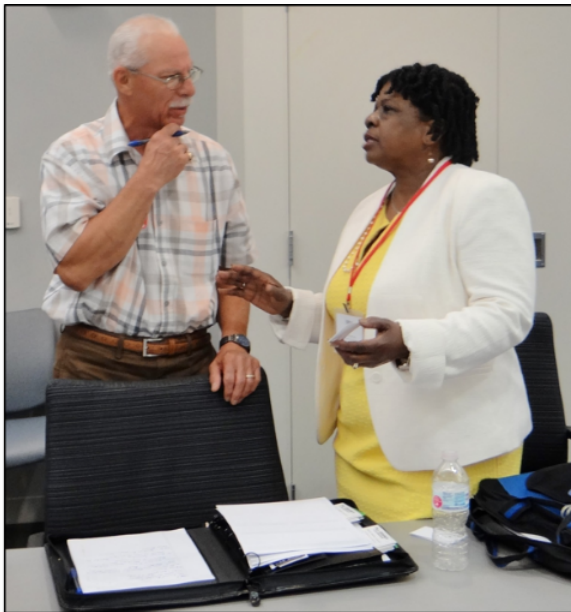
**DRESS CODE REQUIREMENTS:** No open-toed shoes or shorts!

**REGISTRATION:** Because of the logistics required for organizing food, scheduling transportation within the facility as well as addressing facility security requirements, ***each attendee is required to register for this meeting no later than June 6, 2018.*** To register, please send an email to [cleanairneworleans@norpc.org](mailto:cleanairneworleans@norpc.org) with the following information:

- Name:
- Organization:
- Attend Facility Tour (Yes/No):

## 2018 New Orleans Disadvantaged Business Enterprises "Let's Get Social" Event at RPC

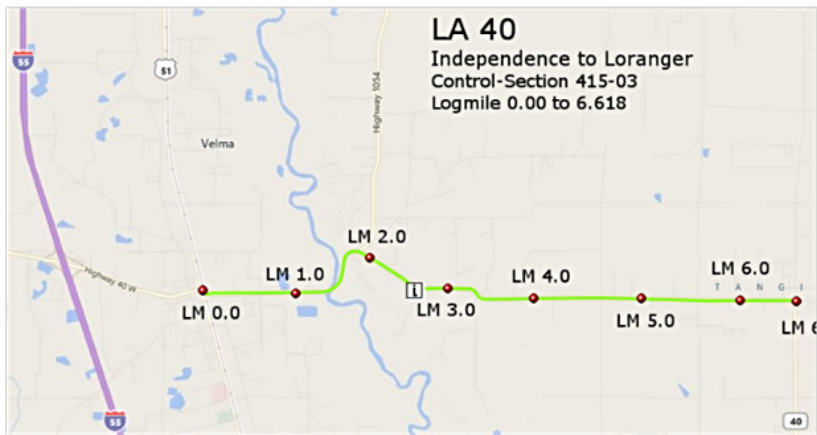
LADOTD and SJB Group sponsored the 2018 New Orleans Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) "Let's Get Social" event held on May 8th. Attendees included DBEs, prime contractors, engineering firms, DOTD, and RPC. This successful event provided DBEs an opportunity to network with prime contractors and business leaders to market their company and services for future business projects.



Photos by: Kenyatta Sparks, SJB Group

## Data-Driven Road Safety Audit Helps Identify Potential Improvements on LA-40





(Top) Location of LA-40 Safety Audit (Right) Left to right: Corporal Michael S. Russell, Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office; Penny Lala, LADOTD 62; Cristine Gowland, LADOTD 62 Traffic Operations Engineer; James Chapman, LADOTD Highway Safety

As a part of the ongoing [Stop the Knock](#) program, LADOTD, Louisiana State Police, Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office, and the RPC conducted a Road Safety Audit on LA-40 to identify potential safety concerns and improvements. The decision to focus on LA-40 was based on a data-driven network screening process. A multidisciplinary team of experts helped generate a report that encompasses observations and suggestions aimed to help inform future safety improvements on the roadway. RPC is committed to working with the many agencies involved in highway safety to help create a safer transportation network. For more information, please contact Nelson Hollings at [nhollings@norpc.org](mailto:nhollings@norpc.org).

## RPC Safety Coalitions Host Crash Data Workshops for Local Agencies



Steve Strength, Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) Infrastructure/Operations State Co-Emphasis Area Leader and LTAP Program Manager, leads an effective crash data workshop in Hammond.

Crash data is an invaluable tool that helps engineers and planners identify safety concerns and propose effective countermeasures to improve the safety of our transportation network. The RPC's transportation safety coalitions partnered with Louisiana's Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) to conduct a series of crash data workshops designed to teach local agencies how to utilize crash data to identify safety issues, generate safety projects, and create local road safety plans. By providing educational opportunities for our partner public agencies, RPC is working diligently to help improve the quality of our region's safety projects and help reach our ultimate goal of [Destination Zero Deaths](#).





## Work Zone Safety: Everybody's Responsibility

During National Work Zone Awareness Week (April 9-13), a safety cone memorial was displayed outside of RPC and LADOTD headquarters to recognize the lives lost in work zones. A total of 765 lives were lost nationwide in 2016 with 12 recorded in Louisiana. Staff participated in Go Orange Day 2018 to proudly show their support for work zone safety.

## RPC Launches Safe Streets For Everyone, Transportation Safety Campaign for Orleans Parish





**OVER 60**  **CRASHES**

**WITH**  **AND** 

**IN THE CBD PER YEAR**

**YOU'RE NOT ALONE ON THE ROAD**

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**CREATE SAFE STREETS FOR EVERYONE**

**DESTINATION ZERO DEATHS**




CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

On March 19th, the RPC, in partnership with LADOTD and the City of New Orleans began the roll out of a media campaign that reminds people driving, biking and walking to safely and courteously use the roadways in their daily travels. The theme of the media campaign is, *You're not alone on the road. Create safe streets for everyone.* The campaign is data-driven, focusing on the CBD, French Quarter and the surrounding neighborhoods, where a disproportionately large number of crashes occur between people



driving and walking, and people driving and biking. This specific geographic area was identified after extensive analysis of statistics that considered high-frequency crash locations, characteristics of people involved, and the basic causes of crashes. Results have allowed the sponsoring agencies to craft a safety campaign that targets specific crash behaviors, participants, and locations to encourage safe driving, walking and bicycling habits that people can identify with.

RPC staff have also begun distributing safety information and equipment at several public events. These include Jazz in the Park, the Crescent City Farmers Market, Bike Easy's Bicycle Second Line After Party, and Kids Bike Day. We are also reaching out to local organizations to distribute equipment to people who live or work in the area. **For more information, please contact Tom Haysley at [thaysley@norpc.org](mailto:thaysley@norpc.org).**

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# DRIVERS --- Clean Your Engines!



## Registration Open for the 2018 Clean Fuels Summit / Ride & Drive Event at NOLA Motorsports Park!

Calling all fleet managers, mechanics, drivers, and personnel! **[Get your tickets](#)** for the Southeast Louisiana Clean Fuel Partnership's Clean Fuels Summit on **October 24, 2018** featuring sessions from leading industry experts, a lunch buffet, door prizes, interactive exhibits, and alternative fuel vehicle test drives at NOLA Motorsports Park! We're also seeking **[Sponsors](#)**! If interested in being a Clean Fuels Summit Sponsor, Exhibitor or Session Speaker, please contact the Southeast Louisiana Clean Fuel Partnership at [slcfp@norpc.org](mailto:slcfp@norpc.org).

*Thank you to our Clean Fuels Summit Sponsors!*



**Executive Director  
Jeffrey Roesel**

The RPC is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, and Tangipahoa parishes. The **[Board of Directors](#)** is supported by a professional staff with broad experience in urban and regional planning, community development, economics, engineering, geography, and sustainable development among other disciplines. It is the job of RPC to develop a regional transportation vision, direct planning, allocate funds, and engage the public and other stakeholders in the transportation planning process.

This newsletter was prepared under State Project No. H.972275.1 (RPC Task D-1.18; FY-18 Unified Planning Work Program) and is also available on the **[RPC website](#)**. To sign up for our newsletter distribution list, please contact Courtney Young at [cyoung@norpc.org](mailto:cyoung@norpc.org).