

Capital Area Road and Bridge District Meeting Minutes

Time/Date: 2:00 PM, May 13, 2019

Location: Room 136C, Claiborne Building

Members Present: Chairman J. H. Campbell, Jr., Governor's Appointee
Parish President Kenny Matassa, Ascension Parish
Mr. Fred Raiford (representing Mayor Sharon Broome), East Baton Rouge Parish
Parish President Riley Berthelot, West Baton Rouge Parish
Mr. Hank Grace (representing Parish President Mitchell Ourso), Iberville Parish
Dr. Shawn Wilson, Secretary, DOTD

Members Absent: Parish President Layton Ricks, Livingston Parish

Minutes:

- ❖ Chairman Campbell called the meeting to order.
- ❖ Minutes from the April 9, 2019 meeting were approved.
- ❖ Scott Kirkpatrick provided an overview of the activities of the Technical Working Group
 - The Working Group discussed which public entity would be in a public-private partnership (P3). After subsequent consultation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the designated public entity would likely be DOTD although DOTD could enter into a contract with a third party, although DOTD would remain accountable for any federal funds. However, FHWA would not support CRPC as a third party due to their function as a planning organization.
 - The Working Group also discussed which public entity would advertise and select a consultant for any additional enhanced planning work, the required environmental work, and the requisite staff support for CARB-D. East Baton Rouge Parish, CRPC, and DOTD each have federally-approved consultant selection procedures and are capable of administering a consultant contract for these services. After subsequent consultation with the FHWA, if CARB-D desires its own P3 advisor, it will need to be through a separate contract and will have to be paid for with state, local, or private funds. FHWA stated their view that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) cannot commence until a reasonable expectation for project funding can be demonstrated; therefore, additional planning work will be necessary to narrow the number of facility alternatives and gather the information needed to properly evaluate any remaining alternatives as part of the EIS.
 - The Working Group further discussed the progress being made on the DOTD/CRPC evaluation of a Full Freeway Facility versus a Conventional Highway/Expressway Facility

Chairman Campbell stated his expectations for the June meeting. CARB-D would make decisions regarding (1) the P3 procurement entity, (2) the public entity that will advertise and select a consultant for additional planning work, environmental work, and CARB-D staff support, (3) the Working Group outline of an RFP/RFQ for the consultant contract, and (4) the Capital Area Road and Bridge District Working Group recommendation for either a Full Control-of-Access Freeway or a Conventional Highway Facility.

- ❖ Chairman Campbell recognized Congressman Garret Graves. Congressman Graves expressed his appreciation of the project and spoke about the need for a federal infrastructure bill and the federal role in infrastructure. He also stated his desire to see improvements in the project development process continue and offered his assistance in resolving any environmental or other regulatory issues that may arise concerning this project.
- ❖ Secretary Wilson provided an overview of public private partnerships in Louisiana (copy attached). He outlined the procurement model employed on the Belle Chasse Bridge and Tunnel Replacement project and a potential procurement model that could be used for a New Mississippi River Bridge.
- ❖ Scott Kirkpatrick gave an update on CARB-D funding options which include State Surplus, State Capital Outlay, and State General Fund appropriations. He indicated that Senator Rick Ward is running point on the CARB-D funding options.
- ❖ Chairman Campbell informed the members and the audience that CARB-D has a website: www.capitalareabridge.org He indicated the next meeting will either be Monday, June 10 or Monday, June 17 at 2:00 PM at the Capitol. Post meeting, the June 17 date was selected after polling members.
- ❖ Chairman Campbell opened the floor for public comment. There were no public comments.
- ❖ The meeting was adjourned.

Secretary

Attest By: _____