



Metropolitan Planning
Organization

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

FISCAL YEAR 2027

SPN H.972642.1

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NEW ORLEANS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

FISCAL YEAR 2027

APPROVED BY THE RPC TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE:

REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

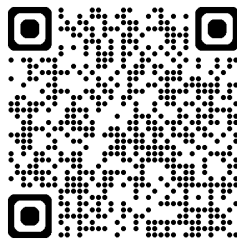
for Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard,

St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa Parishes

10 VETERANS BOULEVARD

NEW ORLEANS, LA 70124

www.norpc.org



Scan or click below for an online map of the FY 27 UPWP Metropolitan Planning Area

[MPA_location_UZAnamed2024_final.pdf](#)

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INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW

PURPOSE OF THE UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

The Regional Planning Commission's (RPC) Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) describes the transportation planning activities that a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) will conduct and the products that will be created in the upcoming fiscal year.

The products and activities described herein refer to those that are funded by federal transportation funding and are exclusively for the purposes of Metropolitan Transportation Planning as described in 23 USC Section 134 and 49 USC Section 5303. References to the Regional Planning Commission should therefore be construed as specific to the RPC's Transportation Policy Committee's role as the MPO for the New Orleans, Mandeville-Covington, Slidell, and South Tangipahoa urban areas.

FY 27 CHALLENGES AND PRIORITIES

The Infrastructure Investment and Job Acts (IIJA), passed by Congress in 2021, defines the framework under which the agency will operate in the coming fiscal year. Priorities identified in the bill are in-line with those already underway at the MPO: maintaining the existing system, decreasing greenhouse gas emissions by increasing mode share of non-single occupancy vehicle travel and facilitating electrification of the system, hardening and adapting infrastructure against climate impacts, improving transportation safety, better integration with housing and land use, and doing all of these things through a lens of equity and universal accessibility.

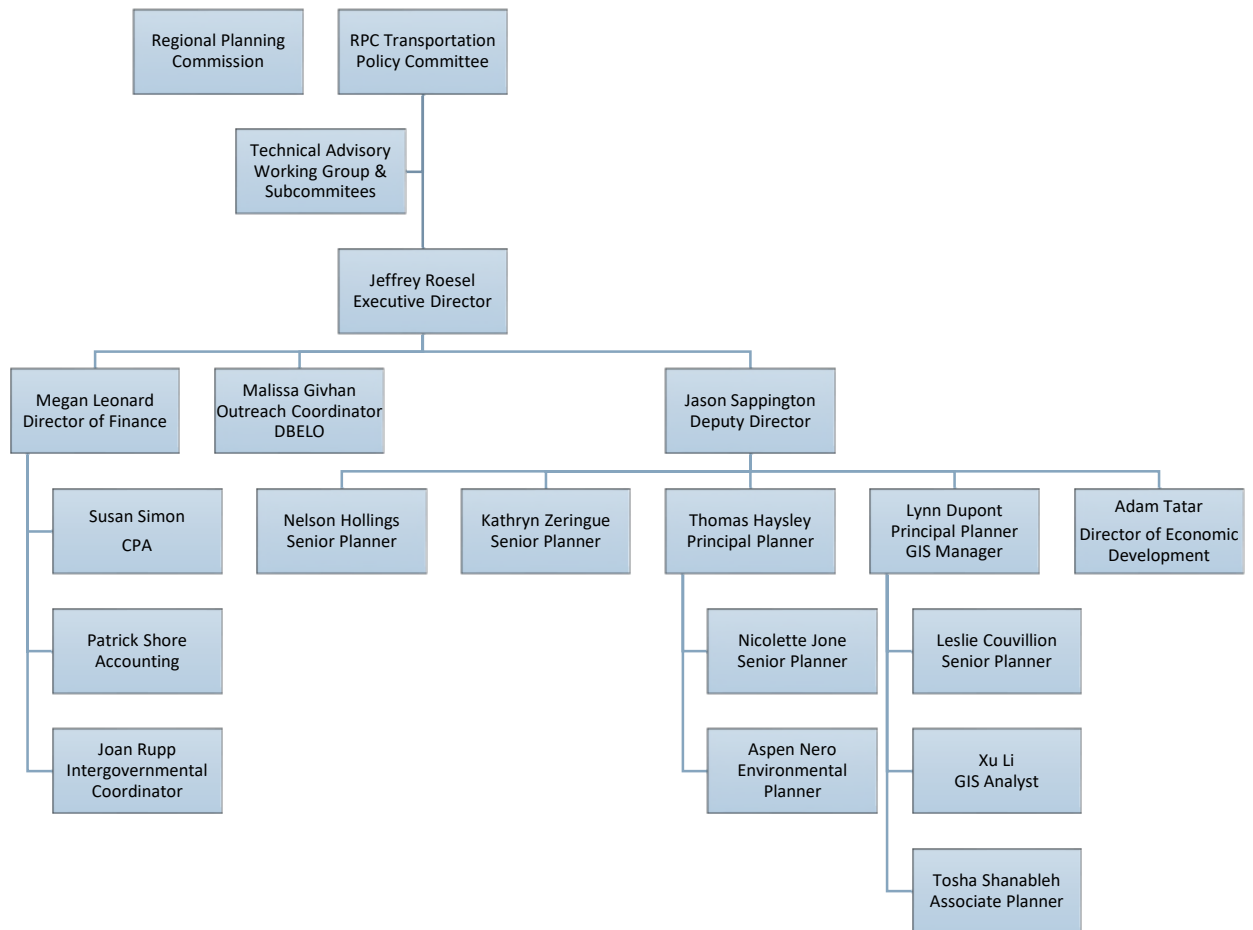
WHO WE ARE

The Regional Planning Commission (RPC) is a board of local elected officials and citizen members from Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, and Tangipahoa Parishes. The group deliberates and collaborates on matters of regional importance, including economic development, environmental planning, and transportation. Membership of the RPC can be found in Appendix A.

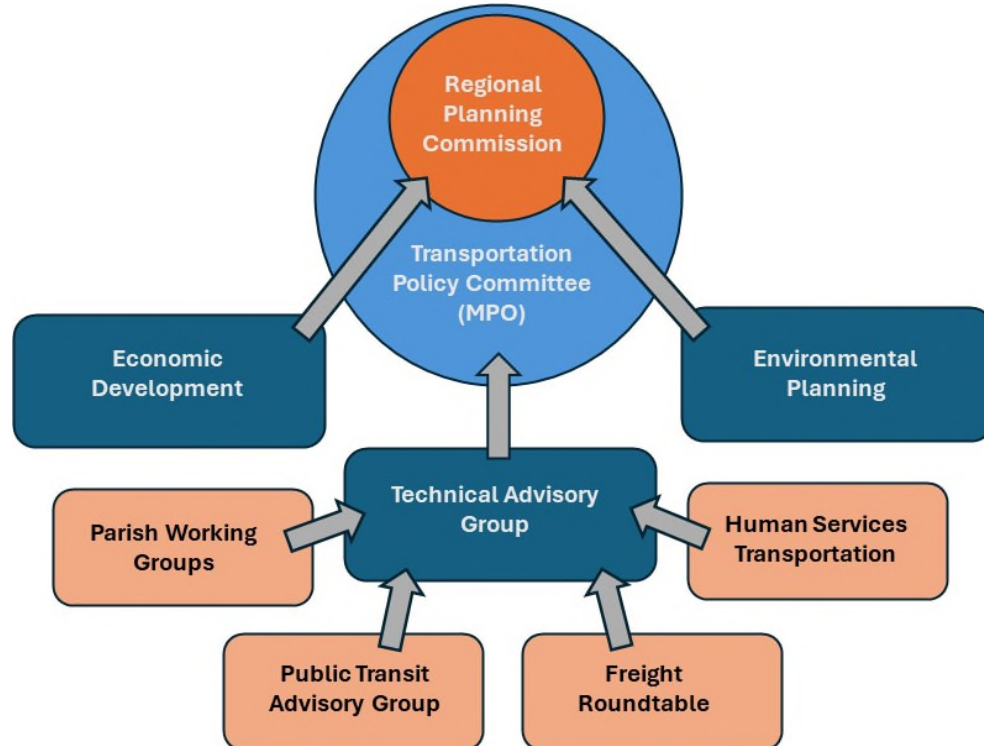
The Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) of the RPC is the MPO for the Metropolitan Planning Area (see map on page 8). As the MPO, the TPC is the decision-making body regarding Federal transportation planning and programming. The TPC is made up of the membership of the RPC, plus representatives from the region's major transportation modal interests and other elected officials. Membership of the TPC can be found in Appendix B.

The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) is made up of engineers, planners, advocacy organizations, and other transportation officials who meet quarterly with RPC staff to discuss best practices and local planning priorities, and to assist in selecting and scoping future planning efforts. The TAG also may also make recommendations to the TPC regarding approval of the UPWP, the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, and other major policy publications created by MPO staff.

MPO & STAFF ORGANIZATION



MPO STRUCTURE



Transportation Policy Committee	The TPC is the MPO board
Technical Advisory Group	The TAG provides technical input into the metropolitan planning process.
Parish Working Groups	The Working Groups are coordination teams with the staff of each of the region's parishes.
Public Transit Advisory Group	The PTAG includes representatives from the region's public transit providers.
Freight Roundtable	The Roundtable includes representatives from the region and state's freight interests.
Human Services Transportation Group	The HSTG includes representatives from human services transportation providers and community.
Other	Other work may be formed by the TAG, the TPC, or MPO staff, as needed for emerging initiatives or projects.

Scan the QR Code on the title page (p. iii) for a larger version of this map.

The New Orleans Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA) is in southeast Louisiana. It includes nine parishes: Orleans, Jefferson, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, and Tangipahoa. The MPA contains four Urban Areas (UAs): New Orleans, Mandeville-Covington, Slidell, and South Tangipahoa.

Within the New Orleans MPA there are 2,545 miles of Federal Aid roadways, including four primary interstate highways and three auxiliary interstates. There are seven transit providers that, in 2024, provided over 16 million trips to passengers on demand response vehicles, buses, streetcars, and ferries.

Two of the four seaports in the MPA, the Port of South Louisiana, and the Port of New Orleans, are among the largest in the world. There are six Class I railroads, providing access to over 132,000 miles of track across North America. The Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport is in the city of Kenner and operates as a Class B airspace.

While the region is growing, on the southshore the rate of growth is not high enough to necessitate substantial new, single occupant vehicle-oriented capacity increases on the highway system. These circumstances require a managed approach to existing assets and a focus on providing multi-modal transportation options. On the northshore, where growth is higher, planned improvements should not exacerbate congestion that planned development may cause.

On both the northshore and the southshore improvements to the transportation should include hardening against extreme weather events (including raising road elevations).

PLANNING FACTORS

This UPWP is undertaken pursuant to and in compliance with the provisions of 23 USC 134(h)(1) and regulatory authority of 23 CFR 450.308. It has been developed with consideration of the planning factors for metropolitan transportation planning, as described in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

1. Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
2. Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
3. Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
4. Increase the accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
5. Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and state and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
6. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
7. Promote efficient system management and operation.
8. Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
9. Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate impacts of surface transportation.
10. Enhance travel and tourism.

The following table demonstrates how the tasks defined in the UPWP contribute to these planning factors in the New Orleans MPA.

	A-1	A-2	A-3	A-4	A-5	B-1	C-1	D-1	E-1
Economic Vitality	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*
Safety	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		
Security	*	*	*	*		*	*		
Accessibility and Mobility	*		*	*	*	*		*	
Environment	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Modal Connectivity	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Efficiency	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*
Preservation	*			*		*	*	*	*
Resilience	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*
Travel and Tourism	*	*	*	*	*		*		

FUNDING TABLE 1: BY SOURCE

Budgets are based on the estimated cost of work performed.

Task	Description	FHWA PL	PL Match	FHWA Total	FTA 5303	FTA Match	FTA Total	Total
A-1.27	Accessibility, Mobility, and Safety	1,024,095	256,024	1,280,119				1,280,119
A-2.27	Resiliency & Land Use	299,418	74,855	374,273				374,273
A-3.27	Freight and Intermodal	471,120	117,780	588,900				588,900
A-4.27	Core Metropolitan Planning	394,350	98,588	492,938				492,938
A-5.27	Complete Streets	325,000		325,000				325,000
B-1.27	GIS and Data Management	222,962	55,741	278,703				278,703
C-1.27 PS**	Public Transit PS				256,175	64,044	320,219	320,219
C-1.27 LRP**	Public Transit LRP				273,695	68,424	342,119	342,119
C1C27	Coord. Human Services Transportation				15,000		15,000	15,000
D-1.27	Public Outreach and Civil Rights				212,384	53,096	265,480	265,480
E-1.27	UPWP Management	181,010	45,253	226,263				226,263
	Total	2,917,955	648,239	3,566,196	757,254	185,564	942,818	4,509,014

* A-1.27 excludes \$332,500 from LADOTD, contributing to the development of the travel demand model update (A-1F)

** C-1.27 Subtasks are divided into Program Support (PS) and Long Range Planning (LRP). Within the task subtasks will be noted as PS or LRP.

Notes:

No non-FHWA or non-FTA funds are used for planning for other modes.

All FHWA and FTA grants are provided at 80%, with 20% matching local funds except for A-5 (Complete Streets) and C1C26 (Coordinated Human Services Transportation) which do not require a local match.

FUNDING TABLE 2: STAFF VS CONTRACTED FUNDING

The “By Recipient” funding table shows the amount of total funding (local + federal), per task, assigned to RPC staff and staff support versus how much will be contracted to a consultant.

Task	Description	RPC Staff	Contractual/Consultant				Total
			Cont. PL*	New PL	Cont. FTA*	New FTA	
A-1.27	Accessibility, Mobility, and Safety	441,119	114,000	725,000			1,280,119
A-2.27	Resiliency & Land Use	374,273					374,273
A-3.27	Freight and Intermodal	175,000	113,900	300,000			588,900
A-4.27	Core Metropolitan Planning	492,938					492,938
A-5.27	Complete Streets	75,000		250,000			325,000
B-1.27	GIS and Data Management	278,703					278,703
C-1.27 PS	Public Transit PS	320,219					320,219
C-1.27 LRP	Public Transit LRP	342,119					342,119
C1C27	Coord. Human Services Transportation	15,000					15,000
D-1.27	Public Outreach and Civil Rights	215,480			50,000		265,480
E-1.27	UPWP Management	226,263					226,263
	Total	2,956,114	227,900	1,275,000	50,000		4,509,214

**Continuing PL and 5303 funds are dedicated to complete contractual work started in the previous FY using funding from the current FY. Per LADOTD Policy, PL and 5303 Funds are ineligible for carryover from the previous fiscal year*

A-1.27 ACCESSIBILITY, MOBILITY, & SAFETY

GOAL

A regional surface transportation system that is safe, well maintained, dependable, and useful for all users.

OBJECTIVES

- Streets that are safe to use by the most vulnerable members of our community
- Streets that are platforms for community wealth building and neighborhood vitality
- Streets, roads, and bridges that are maintained at levels commensurate to their value to the community
- Models that reasonably forecast conditions in a proposed transportation system
- Reliable methodologies for measuring conditions in the existing transportation system
- Accountability and guidance derived through consistent goal setting and performance measurement

FY 26 MAJOR PRODUCTS

- Demand model updates

SUBTASKS

A-1A: SAFETY

- **Safety Data:** Staff will work with partner agencies and stakeholders in the use/analysis of safety data. Staff will continue to work with the LADOTD Safety Section in best practices with these data.
- **Performance Measures:** Pursuant to 23 USC 150, the MPO will either concur with LADOTD Highway Safety Improvement Program's five safety performance targets or will set its own targets by February of 2027.
- **Planning:** Staff will assist local governments and agencies in their implementation of safety improvements through programs such as the Highway Safety Improvement Program, Safe Streets to Public Places, Safe Streets for all, etc.

Task A-1A Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
Safety Data Assessment				
FHWA Performance Measures				

A-1B: MULTIMODAL PLANNING

- **Bike/Ped Counting and Safety Assessments:** Bike/Ped counts will be taken in studies except in cases where their travel is restricted. An assessment will be made of developing a regional bike/ped counting program. Safety assessments will include measures affecting safety of vulnerable users (such as observed vehicle speeds).
- **Regional Active Transportation Database:** In coordination with Task B-2, staff will work with our member parishes to maintain geospatial data for existing and proposed bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
- **Technical Assistance:** Staff will provide assistance to stakeholders with multimodal planning.

Task A-1B Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
Multimodal Planning				

A-1C: PARISH COORDINATION

- **Meetings:** Staff liaisons have been assigned to each parish in the MPA. In addition to serving as a point of contact for local government, these liaisons will meet at least quarterly with parish officials to:
 - o Review upcoming (TIP) and ongoing projects to ensure readiness and progress.
 - o Develop future studies and projects.
 - o Collaborate on and coordinate on other MPO efforts.

Task A-1B Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
Quarterly Meetings				

A-1D: SUB-AREA & CORRIDOR STUDIES

- **Identification:** Potential studies will be identified through the TAG, through public input derived through local governments, or through RPC's own public participation process, and/or via other coordination with Parish officials.
- **Study Format:** Studies will be conducted in accordance with the RPC Project Management Guide.

Task A-1D Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
Sub-Area & Corridor Studies				

A-1E: PRESERVATION

- **Coordination:** Staff will coordinate with state and local officials to identify segments of roadways and/or bridges that require overlays, rehabilitation, and other preservation methods.
- **Preservation Programs:** Staff will develop a methodology for assisting parishes in developing multi-year federal aid eligible roadway preservation programs

Task A-1E Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
Preservation Coordination				

A-1F: TRAVEL DEMAND MODELLING

- **Model Update (A1FTDM):** The existing travel demand model will undergo an extensive update. This update will be funded partially by A-1 contractual funds as well as by LADOTD (State Project number H.972627).
- **Execution:** Staff will use the model on a project-by-project basis to provide future travel demand scenarios based on projected demographics and network geometry. Staff may also provide model outputs to partner stakeholders and other requestors.

Task A-1F Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
TDM Update				
Travel Demand Modelling				

A-1G: CONGESTION MANAGEMENT

- **Congestion Management Process:** Staff will continue to implement the Congestion Management Process (CMP). The CMP is iterative and ongoing, and includes monitoring congestion on major roadways, identifying bottlenecks on the congestion management system, and proposing network improvements.
- **Transportation Demand Management:** Studies performed under all tasks will emphasize other transportation demand management and operational improvements to relieve corridor congestion, including geometric modifications and signal upgrades. Opportunities for corridor length or system-wide signalization plans will be pursued.

Task A-1G Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
Congestion Management Planning				

A-1H: SYSTEM SURVEILLANCE

- **Routine Traffic Counting Program:** Staff will conduct RPC's annual traffic counting program in Fall 2026 through Spring 2027, addressing roadway segments where counts are at or over 3 years old, or where conditions otherwise warrant a more up-to-date measurement.
- **Project Based:** Study scoping for projects under all tasks will include, as appropriate, the collection of average daily traffic, peak travel periods, vehicle speed, intersection level of service, and other traffic data.
- **Counting Methodology:** Staff will continue to work with state and Federal partners on documenting and implementing best practices in traffic counting and count reporting, particularly regarding non-motorized travel.

Task A-1H Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
Annual Counting Program				

A-1I: INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS & INCIDENT MANAGEMENT

- **ITS Architecture:** Staff will coordinate with the state to ensure that the regional ITS architecture is up to date. Updates requiring systems engineering reports, if any, will be conducted in coordination with LADOTD, FHWA, and local agencies.
- **Incident Management:** Staff will coordinate with local and national disaster management and emergency response stakeholders as needed to prepare for hazards and threats to the transportation system and identify strategies for incident response and recovery.

Task A-1I Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
ITS				

A-1J: STUDIES

- Through the TAG Call for Studies and through Parish and other intergovernmental collaboration, staff has identified the following subjects as meriting further study in FY 2027 under Task A-1. In some instances these projects began late in FY 26 and will continue into 2027, as noted. Start dates are anticipated only and may change depending on review by RPC grantors.

- o Barton Avenue (LA3060) Bicycle and Pedestrian Accessibility study began in FY 2026 and will continue into 27. It will be completed in 10 months from notice to proceed.
- o Mandeville Lakefront Parking and Complete Streets Study will begin in FY 2026 and will continue into 27. It will be completed in 8 months from notice to proceed.

Task A-1J Timeline & Deliverables

FY 27 Studies

Jul – Sep

Oct – Dec

Jan – Mar

Apr - Jun

A-1K: SUPPORT

- **Education:** Staff may attend workshops, training events, conferences, membership in relevant organizations, or other peer-to-peer exchanges or educational opportunities that will further capacity toward the conduct of the described work tasks.
- **Equipment:** Procurement of equipment, software, software services, or other materials that will further staff's ability to conduct the described work tasks.

A-1L: DISASTER MANAGEMENT

In the aftermath of a disaster event, such as a hurricane or extreme flooding, staff may be called upon to conduct certain activities to maintain continuity of operations and support emergency response and recovery actions. Staff will coordinate with LADOTD, FHWA, local governments, and emergency responders to determine and carry out appropriate roles and responsibilities consistent with this task.

DELIVERABLES

- o Barton Road Stage 0
- o Mandeville Lakefront Stage 0
- o Routine Traffic Count Report
- o Congestion Management Plan Updates

FUNDING

Staffing	Work Responsibility by Funding	Financial Responsibility		Responsible Agency
RPC *	441,119	FHWA`	1,024,095	RPC
Consultant **	839,000	State/Local	256,024	
Total	1,280,119			

STAFFING

Supervisor: Jeff Roesel, AICP

- *Does not Includes \$60,000 in staff time for the development of the Transportation Demand Model (A-1f)
- ** Excludes \$332,500 in contractual for the development of the Transportation Demand Model (A-1f)

A-2.27 RESILIENCY AND LAND USE

GOAL

Planning for transportation systems that will endure stress caused by natural disasters, and that will further support resilient communities through encouraging sustainable development, contributing to stormwater management, improving public health and, where necessary, providing safe evacuation facilities.

OBJECTIVES

- Transportation facilities that are resistant to chronic and acute hazards and stressors.
- Transportation or transportation adjacent facilities and features that contribute toward the public health of communities that face challenges from hazards and stressors.
- Incorporation of resilience considerations into the broader transportation planning process, including feasibility studies, short- and long-range plans.
- A unified land use and transportation planning approach that considers the impacts of transportation investments on accessibility to housing, services, and public health.

FY 26 MAJOR PRODUCTS

- Transportation Resiliency Improvement Program

SUBTASKS

A-2A: INFRASTRUCTURE RESILIENCE

- **Resilience Plan Implementation:** Staff will work to implement the recommendations of the Transportation Risk and Infrastructure Protection Plan (TRIP). Activities will include studying opportunities to implement resilience strategies and advancing specific projects identified in the plan through the project development process. Staff will work with federal, state, and local partners to identify funding sources, strategies, and priorities for the hardening or elevating of vulnerable infrastructure.
- **Scoping:** Study scopes developed under all tasks that include alternatives with potential rehabilitation or reconstruction of transportation facilities, particularly in locations identified as high risk in the Resiliency Plan, should consider the ability to harden, elevate, or otherwise increase the facilities' ability to resist flooding, heat, and other hazards.

Task A-2B Timeline & Deliverables

Study Scoping and Funding Coord.

Jul – Sep

Oct – Dec

Jan – Mar

Apr - Jun

A-2B: LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION LINKAGES

- **Sub-Area and Corridor Studies:** Staff will provide mapping, review, and analysis of land-use components on RPC work/studies developed through the UPWP and support similar efforts among stakeholder partners.

Task A-2C Timeline & Deliverables

Study Scoping

Jul – Sep

Oct – Dec

Jan – Mar

Apr - Jun

A-2C: AIR QUALITY

- **Low-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure:** Staff will coordinate with the state and with local governments on the funding and effective deployment of infrastructure to support low-emission vehicles and clean fuels in local communities and on regional corridors.

Task A-2D Timeline & Deliverables

EV Coordination

Jul – Sep

Oct – Dec

Jan – Mar

Apr - Jun

A-2D: SUPPORT

- **Education:** Staff may attend workshops, training events, conferences, membership in relevant organizations, or other peer-to-peer exchanges or educational opportunities that will further capacity toward the conduct of the described work tasks.
- **Equipment:** Procurement of equipment, software, software services, or other materials that will further staff's ability to conduct the described work tasks.

A-2E: EMERGENCY RESPONSE

In the aftermath of a disaster event, such as a hurricane or extreme flooding, staff may be called upon to conduct certain activities to maintain the continuity of operations and support emergency response and recovery actions. Staff will coordinate with LADOTD, FHWA, local governments, and emergency responders to determine and carry out appropriate roles and responsibilities consistent with this task.

DELIVERABLES

- None

FUNDING

Work Responsibility by Funding		Financial Responsibility		Responsible Agency
RPC	374,273	FHWA	299,418	RPC
Total	374,273	State/Local	74,855	

STAFFING

Supervisor: Thomas Haysley, AICP

A-3.27 FREIGHT AND INTERMODAL

GOAL

A comprehensive freight planning program that is responsive to the movement of goods at a regional, national, and global scale, and promotes safe and efficient interactions between freight and the rest of the region's transportation system.

OBJECTIVES

- Improved movement of national and international freight rail, passenger rail, truck, and waterborne transport in and through the New Orleans region.
- Improved safety through the removal and/or mitigation of conflicts and better integration of freight movement with regular motorized or non-motorized traffic.
- Communication with modal stakeholders and industries that fosters collaborative decision making regarding multi-modal planning and implementation.

FY 26 MAJOR PRODUCTS

- None

SUBTASKS

A-3A: PORT ACCESS

- **Port of New Orleans:** Staff will be assisting St. Bernard Parish and the Port of New Orleans in the planning of roadway/truck access to the proposed Louisiana International Terminal.
- **Port of New Orleans:** Staff will continue to assist the port in developing strategies for managing the ingress and egress of trucks.
- **Port of South Louisiana:** Staff will continue to assist the port in developing strategies for managing access to port facilities from I-10.
- **Port of St. Bernard:** Staff will continue to assist the port with access improvement projects.

Task A-3A Timeline & Deliverables

Port Access Studies

Jul – Sep Oct – Dec Jan – Mar Apr – Jun

A-3B: URBAN FREIGHT PLANNING

- **Safety:** Corridor studies funded under any task with identified truck or rail interaction will emphasize measures to decrease conflicts.
- **Truck Routes:** Staff will continue to work with local agencies on developing strategies for safely routing trucks through urban areas.
- **Intercity Rail:** As the state of Louisiana refines intercity rail planning, the MPO will assist on identifying last mile connections and complementary land use planning at existing and planned passenger rail terminals, and give input on the corridor redevelopment process.

Task A-3B Timeline & Deliverables

Urban Freight Planning

Jul – Sep Oct – Dec Jan – Mar Apr – Jun

A-3C: FREIGHT CONGESTION

- **Performance Metrics:** Staff will establish and report on performance targets for freight congestion in March of 2027.

Task A-3C Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
Freight Performance				

A-3D: STUDIES

- Westbank Riverfront Rail Crossing: A consultant led assessment of rail crossing improvements and potential complete streets modifications in Westbank Jefferson Parish, between the Harvey Canal and 9 Mile Point Road, primarily along LA 18 and LA 541. The study will be completed in 10 months from notice to proceed.
- Barriere Road: A consultant led exploration of the corridor in Plaquemines Parish as a potential primary access route to the Belle Chasse Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base and new east-west alternative corridor. This study began in FY 2026 and is anticipated to be completed in FY 27. The study will be completed in 8 months from notice to proceed.

Task A-3D Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
Barriere Road				
Westbank Rail Crossing Study				

A-3E: SUPPORT

- **Education:** Staff may attend workshops, training events, conferences, membership in relevant organizations, or other peer-to-peer exchanges or educational opportunities that will further capacity toward the conduct of the described work tasks.
- **Equipment:** Procurement of equipment, software, software services, or other materials that will further staff's ability to conduct the described work tasks.

A-3F: EMERGENCY RESPONSE

In the aftermath of a disaster event, such as a hurricane or extreme flooding, staff may be called upon to conduct certain activities to maintain continuity of operations and support emergency response and recovery actions. Staff will coordinate with LADOTD, FHWA, local governments, and emergency responders to determine and carry out appropriate roles and responsibilities consistent with this task.

DELIVERABLES

- Annual Performance Report – Freight Congestion
- Westbank Riverfront Rail Crossing Stage 0
- Barriere Road Stage 0

FUNDING

Work Responsibility by Funding		Financial Responsibility		Responsible Agency
RPC	175,000	FHWA	471,120	RPC
Consultant	413,900	State/Local	117,780	
Total	588,900			

STAFFING

Supervisor: Jeff Roesel, AICP

A-4.27 CORE METROPOLITAN PLANNING

GOAL

Creating, refining, and implementing the core MPO products, including the Transportation Improvement Program, the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, and the Unified Planning Work Program.

OBJECTIVES

- Develop and maintain the three primary planning documents for the New Orleans UZA Metropolitan Planning Area: Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Long Range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP), and Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).
- Foster constructive dialog with key stakeholders and the public that informs the priorities of the metropolitan planning process.
- Shepherd and track the progress of projects from prioritization to implementation.

FY 26 MAJOR PRODUCTS

- FY 2026 Unified Planning Work Program and Progress Reports
- FY 2026 Obligated Projects
- CY 2025 Annual Report

SUBTASKS

A-4A: TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP

- **Quarterly Meeting:** The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) will meet on a quarterly basis. The TAG will review and make recommendations to TPC regarding core metropolitan planning products as well as receive updates on MPO initiatives. RPC staff will be responsible for all meetings and materials.
- **Subcommittees:** Issue specific subcommittees may meet on a self-defined basis and will make regular reports to the TAG. The TAG may create temporary or permanent subcommittees.

Task A-4A Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
TAG Meetings				

A-4B: TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

- **Monthly Review:** Staff will conduct a monthly review of the TIP to ensure projects are progressing toward obligation at an expected rate.
- **Amendments:** Staff will recommend amendments to the TIP to the TPC as needed. Amendments will be incorporated into the TIP master document by staff and tracked in the project database.
- **TIP:** The FY 27-30 TIP, which was drafted in FY 26, will be adopted in FY 2027.
- **Stakeholder Coordination:** Staff will conduct regular outreach to LADOTD and local governments to ensure that the TIP still reflects state priorities and to assist local agencies in moving their programmed projects toward obligation.

Task A-4B Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
TIP Maintenance				
TIP Update				

A-4C: METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN

- **Amendments:** Staff will recommend amendments to the MTP to the TPC as needed, including integration of approved performance measures as needed. Amendments will be incorporated into the MTP master document by staff.
- **MTP Update:** Staff will be conducting extensive work to update the MTP, with an anticipated adoption date in FY 2027.
- **Certification Review:** Staff will continue to ensure internal policy practices that adhere to recommendations in the FY 23 Joint Certification Review.

Task A-4C Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
MTP Update				

A-4D: MPO ANNUAL REPORT

- **Annual Report:** Staff will create and distribute (via the website, TAG, subcommittees, and the RPC mailing list) an annual report summarizing:
 - o Progress in strategies identified in the MTP in CY 2026
 - o Tracking of demographic and transportation metrics during the calendar year.
 - o Planning Studies undertaken in CY 2026 and anticipated CY 2027 studies.

Task A-4D Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
Annual Report				

A-4E: UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM

- **Progress Reporting:** Staff will prepare monthly reports describing progress on tasks/sub-tasks in the FY 27 UPWP, for submission to LADOTD and FHWA. Staff will complete an annual P&E report at the conclusion of the fiscal year.
- **Internal Review:** Staff will conduct quarterly internal reviews of the UPWP to determine progress on subtasks and associated timelines and assess potential need for amendment.

- **FY 28 UPWP:** The draft FY 28 UPWP will be prepared in Q2 and Q3. The draft will be submitted to the TAG, FHWA, LADOTD for review in Q3. Pending favorable review and recommendation by the TAG, the draft will be submitted to the TPC in Q4 for final approval in May.
- **Modifications:** Staff will determine, in collaboration with LADOTD and federal partners, when changes to the UPWP during the fiscal year are appropriate. A TPC approved amendment to the UPWP will be needed if such changes include a budget change of 20% or more to any given task, or if significant changes to the text are required (such as the addition of a new task). Otherwise staff may modify the document as needed with LADOTD concurrence.

Task A-4E Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
Progress Reporting				
Internal Review				
FY28 UPWP				

A-4F: OBLIGATED PROJECTS

- **Documentation:** Projects obligated in FFY 2026 will be mapped and categorized by type and funding source to measure success toward a reasonable distribution of project types and modal emphasis areas. The report will be published on the website.

Task A-4F Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
Obligated Projects				

A-4G: INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

- **Agreement Updates:** Staff will update agreements with LADOTD, local parishes, and public transit agencies, defining roles, responsibilities, and deliverables.
- **Parish Working Groups:** Staff liaisons will be assigned to maintain communications with one or more parishes over the course of the year, to assist in defining local transportation needs and priorities. Meetings with Parish public works, planning departments, and other appropriate administrative entities will take place on at least a quarterly basis.
- **Joint Certification:** Staff will continue to work with FHWA and FTA to ensure compliance with Federal MPO requirements.

Task A-1G Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
Agreements				
Parish Working Groups				
Metro Planning Area Boundaries				

A-4H: PERFORMANCE BASED PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING

- **FHWA/FTA PBPP:** Staff will attend to all DOT requirements regarding the establishment of performance targets and measuring progress toward targets.
- **Target Setting:** Staff will coordinate with LADOTD on the establishment of performance metrics. Projects added to or amended in the TIP will be assessed for conformity with performance targets.
- **Report:** A report on performance measures will be prepared and distributed to the TPC and TAG.

Task A-1H Timeline & Deliverables

Report

Jul – Sep

Oct – Dec

Jan – Mar

Apr - Jun

A-4I: SUPPORT

- **Education:** Staff may attend workshops, training events, conferences, membership in relevant organizations, or other peer-to-peer exchanges or educational opportunities that will further capacity toward the conduct of the described work tasks.
- **Equipment:** Procurement of equipment, software, software services, or other materials that will further staff's ability to conduct the described work tasks.

A-4J: DISASTER RESPONSE

In the aftermath of a disaster event, such as a hurricane or extreme flooding, staff may be called upon to conduct certain activities to maintain continuity of operations and support emergency response and recovery actions. Staff will coordinate with LADOTD, FHWA, local governments, and emergency responders to determine and carry out appropriate roles and responsibilities consistent with this task.

DELIVERABLES

- o TIP/UPWP/MTP Amendments as needed
- o FY 28 Unified Planning Work Program
- o Metropolitan Planning Annual Report
- o MTP 2056
- o TIP 27-30
- o Obligated Projects Documentation

FUNDING

Work Responsibility by Funding		Financial Responsibility		Responsible Agency
RPC	492,938	FHWA	394,350	RPC
Total	492,938	State/Local	98,588	

STAFFING

Supervisor: Jason Sappington, AICP

A-5.27 COMPLETE STREETS

GOAL

Preparation for region-wide Complete Streets Planning that will account for the roadway needs of all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transit, motorists, and freight.

OBJECTIVES

- Development of a regional Complete Streets Policy Guide

FY 26 MAJOR PRODUCTS

- Complete Streets regional literature and policy review
- Complete Streets Working Group

SUBTASKS

A-5A: STAKEHOLDER GROUP

- **Hosting:** Staff host a stakeholder committee to guide the development and eventual implementation of the Complete Streets policy and guide. The meetings will be held as needed to guide development of the guidebook (see below).
- **Local Government Survey:** A survey of local agencies will be conducted to determine the status and needs for complete streets planning in the region.

Task A-5A Stakeholder Group

Meetings

Local Government Survey

Jul – Sep

Oct – Dec

Jan – Mar

Apr - Jun

A-5B: COMPLETE STREETS GUIDEBOOK AND POLICY UPDATE

- **Guidebook Development:** Staff will prepare a Complete Streets guide and policy that provides a framework for identifying opportunities to fund and implement complete streets improvements on the region's roadways, both for MPO use and for use by local governments. It is anticipated that this work will be completed in FY 27.

Task A-5B Plan Development

Scoping

Guidebook

Jul – Sep

Oct – Dec

Jan – Mar

Apr - Jun

A-5C: REGIONAL ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

- **Scoping:** Staff will prepare a scope of work to guide the development of a Regional Active Transportation Plan, which will be developed under A-5. The plan will establish a shared vision for a safe, connected, and

highly functional network of pedestrian and bicycle facilities throughout RPC's nine-parish service area. The scope will be subject to LADOTD final approval before plan is undertaken.

- **Plan Format:** The plan will be conducted in accordance with the RPC Project Management Guide.
- **Stakeholder Coordination:** Staff will collaborate with Parish officials, local governments, and partner agencies to:
 - o Compile a comprehensive inventory of existing facilities.
 - o Identify barriers and key network gaps.
 - o Undertake public engagement.
- **Plan Development:** Staff and a consultant will work with key stakeholders to review relevant best practices and case studies, assess public input, and conduct a data-driven needs assessment. These components will support the creation of an unconstrained regional active transportation network and a tiered priority network that will guide future Complete Streets investment and implementation. Completion of the plan is anticipated in FY 28.

Task A-5C Plan Development	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
Scoping				
Plan Development				

A-5D: SUPPORT

- **Education:** Staff may attend workshops, training events, conferences, membership in relevant organizations, or other peer-to-peer exchanges or educational opportunities that will further capacity toward the conduct of the described work tasks.
- **Equipment:** Procurement of equipment, software, software services, or other materials that will further staff's ability to conduct the described work tasks.

FUNDING

Staffing	Work Responsibility by Funding	Financial Responsibility		Responsible Agency
RPC	75,000	FHWA	325,000	RPC
Consultant	250,000	State/Local	0	
Total	325,000			

DELIVERABLES

- o Complete Streets Policy and Guidebook
- o Regional Active Transportation Plan

STAFFING

Supervisor: Kathryn Zeringue

B-1.27 GIS AND DATA MANAGEMENT

GOAL

Responsible stewardship of the region's geographic and demographic data resources, including storage, security, analysis, and distribution.

OBJECTIVES

- Up-to-date analysis of socio-economic data that will support travel and land-use modelling, economic development planning, and Title VI/Environmental Justice activities.
- A database of transportation related data for use in identifying new projects, informing existing projects, and in the development of the miscellaneous planning products
- Coordination with local, state, and federal partners on prioritization of large and/or costly data acquisitions, policy, and procedures
- Maintenance of the MPO's internal information technology systems and safeguarding of nonpublic or proprietary data

FY 26 MAJOR PRODUCTS

- FY 23-26 Transportation Improvement Program data layers, amendments
- Metropolitan Transportation Plan data layers
- FFY 26 Obligated Projects data layers
- Social Vulnerability Index
- FY 26 Let to Construction data layers

SUBTASKS

B-1A: DATA DEVELOPMENT

- **Development:** Staff will coordinate the development and calibration of various demographic, land-use, employment, environmental, and transportation (i.e., transit, roadway network) datasets in support of other tasks in the UPWP and of studies conducted through the MTP, including the development of the TIP and the MTP.
- **Coordination:** Staff will enter contracts to foster partnerships and administer sharing agreements with data-producing entities to ensure access to the most accurate available data and up-to-date knowledge of data management best practices.
- **Census Data:** Staff will continue to process 2020 decennial and ACS census data for local transportation and land use planning purposes. B-1 will include mapping and data assessments.

Task B-1A Timeline & Deliverables

Ongoing Data Development

Jul – Sep

Oct – Dec

Jan – Mar

Apr - Jun

B-1B: PROJECT SUPPORT

- **General:** Staff will continue analyses and geo-processing of datasets for internal project development and prioritization, performance metrics, emergency preparedness, environmental planning, local and regional land use planning, and consultant activities.
- **Applications:** Processed data will be used to populate the Travel Demand Model and used as inputs into the Social Vulnerability Index, resiliency planning, the Congestion Management Process, and other project support as needed.
- **Visualization:** Custom visualization of geo-data will be produced for internal analysis, presentation to the TAG and the TPC, publication in the Annual Report, the MTP, and as needed for other MPO products.

Task B-1B Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
Ongoing Project Support				

B-1C: GIS COORDINATION

- **Meetings:** Staff will host a quarterly meeting of GIS users from throughout the region and from various stakeholders to discuss data needs and availability, policy, best practices, and opportunities for collaboration.

Task B-1C Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
Consortium Meetings				

B-1D: PROJECT TRACKING & OBLIGATED PROJECT MAPPING

- **Tracking:** Staff will track projects in a database throughout their study, development, and implementation. Staff will continue to customize the project tracking database for use by staff, including further addition from study archives.
- **Mapping:** Projects in the database will be mapped. They will be modified as TIP and/or MTP documents are amended.
- **Obligated Projects Mapping:** Mapping of obligated projects will be take place annually, concurrently with A-4D.

Task B-1D Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
Obligated Projects Maps				

B-1E: IT & AV EQUIPMENT, DATASET ACQUISITION

- **Inventory:** Staff will work with the IT Consultant to ensure the IT equipment used for MPO planning is adequate for agency needs.
- **Needs Assessment:** Staff will assess any data needs for upcoming or ongoing initiatives, including distribution to local partners, and identify/prioritize means for acquisition.

B-1F: SUPPORT

- **Education:** Staff may attend workshops, training events, conferences, GIS meetings at local, state and federal levels, memberships in relevant organizations, or other peer-to-peer exchanges or educational opportunities that will further capacity toward the conduct of the described work tasks.
- **Equipment:** Procurement of equipment, software, software services, or other materials that will further staff's ability to conduct the described work tasks.

B-1G: EMERGENCY RESPONSE COORDINATION

In the aftermath of a disaster event, such as a hurricane or extreme flooding, staff may be called upon to conduct certain activities to maintain continuity of operations and support emergency response and recovery actions. Staff will coordinate with LADOTD, FHWA, local governments, and emergency responders to determine and carry out appropriate roles and responsibilities consistent with this task.

DELIVERABLES

- o Obligated Projects Mapping
- o TIP Mapping

FUNDING

Work Responsibility by Funding		Financial Responsibility		Responsible Agency
RPC	278,703	FHWA	222,962	RPC
Total	278,703	State/Local	55,741	

STAFFING

Supervisor: Lynn Dupont, ASLA, GISP

C-1.27 PUBLIC TRANSIT PLANNING

GOAL

Planning for the region's public transit systems, with focus on improving connectivity within and between systems, maintaining and modernizing transit infrastructure, fostering transit supportive land use, and identifying associated transportation infrastructure enhancements that would increase access to and efficacy of the system.

OBJECTIVES

- Assisting transit agencies with maintaining fleets and facilities and infrastructure
- Facilitating coordination between transit agencies and planning and public works departments, to foster relationships that will accelerate first-last mile access, transit priority road treatments, and communication about respective projects that potentially impact roadway function.
- Roadways and facilities that incorporate the needs of public transit.
- Management and oversight of FTA grants and other transit associated financial and civil rights obligations

FY 26 MAJOR PRODUCTS

- Program of Projects, Annual Distribution

SUBTASKS

(NOTE: LRP = LONG RANGE PLANNING; PS = PROGRAM SUPPORT)

C-1A: INTERAGENCY COORDINATION (LRP)

- **Meetings:** Staff will convene quarterly meetings of representatives from public transit operators, to discuss funding, opportunities for collaboration, and policy.
- **Stakeholder Coordination:** Staff will regularly meet with other partner stakeholders, including LADOTD, transit providers, local governments, and advocacy groups, to coordinate on ways to improve transit service in the region.
- **Other:** Staff will participate in the Surface Transportation Working Group in respect to roadway use of public transit and associated infrastructure

Task C-1A Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
Committee Meetings				

C-1B: CORRIDOR PLANNING (LRP)

- **Coordination:** Staff will coordinate with transit agencies and local public works and planning departments to improve pedestrian and bicycle access to transit via infrastructure and land use planning.
- **Project Identification:** Staff will work to identify corridors for further study, based on high public transit usage, safety issues for transit access and operations, future land use planning, and/or other opportunities to improve corridor mobility. Studies may include recommendations on streetscaping, street geometry, pedestrian and bicycle improvements, transit lanes, signal priority, etc. Identified studies may be conducted using 5303 funding.
- **Modelling:** In coordination with Task A-1, staff may use the travel demand model and/or it's outputs to forecast travel on transit corridors.

Task C-1B Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
Coordination and Identification				

C-1C: TRANSIT ASSET MANAGEMENT (LRP)

- **Funding:** The Transit element of the TIP will be monitored for adherence to strategies that will assist the region in achieving regional Transit Asset Management performance targets.
- **Monitoring and Reporting:** Staff will continue to monitor individual agency asset management plans. Staff will report on progress toward identified transit asset management targets in the annual performance report.

Task C-1C Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
Transit Asset Monitoring				

C-1D: TRANSIT METRICS (LRP)

- **Collection and Tracking:** Staff will utilize the National Transit Database and the assistance of the members of the Public Transit Advisory Committee to collect and track regional public transit metrics. These metrics will be used for internal analysis, project identification, and as study inputs.
- **Reporting and Visualization:** Staff will share regional metrics, with longitudinal comparisons and visualization, with the Public Transit Advisory Committee on an ongoing basis. The Metropolitan Planning Annual Report (A-4C) will include these metrics.
- **Demographics:** Staff will assess various socio-economic demographics related to transit propensity and transportation disadvantaged communities.

Task C-1D Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
Transit Metric Monitoring				

C-1E: TRANSIT FUNDING (LRP)

- **Annual Apportionments:** With the guidance of the Public Transit Advisory Committee, staff will develop the annual Program of Projects for FTA formula funds, following the public outreach methodology described in the MPO Public Participation Plan.
- **Discretionary Funding:** Staff will continue to monitor for opportunities for grants that would fund projects directly or indirectly contributing to public transit mobility. Assistance will be offered to agencies applying for funding.
- **Revenue Stabilization:** Staff will work with operators to identify strategies to maintain continuity of operations through stabilization of local/state/federal funding or inter-agency cooperation.
- **Agency Support:** Staff will assist local agencies in identifying potential funding avenues for identified programs or projects.

Task C-1E Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
Annual Apportionments and POP				

C-1F: ADMINISTRATION (PS)

- **Grant Requirements:** Staff will conduct the activities required of a designated recipient of transit funds including progress and financial reporting, National Transit Database reporting, Disadvantaged Business Enterprise reporting and Title VI compliance.
- **Procurement:** Staff will ensure that any MPO procurements using FTA funds will follow RPC's FTA approved procurement manual.
- **Federal Coordination:** Staff will continue to coordinate with FTA Region VI to ensure compliance with federal regulations regarding funding eligibility and assistance to direct recipients.

Task A-C1F Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr - Jun
NTD Reporting				
DBE Semiannual Reporting				

C-1G: SUPPORT (PS)

- **Education:** Staff may attend workshops, training events, conferences, membership in relevant organizations, or other peer-to-peer exchanges or educational opportunities that will further capacity toward the conduct of the described work tasks.
- **Equipment:** Procurement of equipment, software, software services, or other materials that will further staff's ability to conduct the described work tasks.
 - The MPO intends to continue its annual subscription to the REMIX software platform, for use in collaborative transit planning with agency partners.

C-1H: EMERGENCY RESPONSE COORDINATION (PS)

In the aftermath of a disaster event, such as a hurricane or extreme flooding, staff may be called upon to conduct certain activities to maintain continuity of operations and support emergency response and recovery actions. Staff will coordinate with LADOTD, FHWA, FTA, local governments, and emergency responders to determine and carry out appropriate roles and responsibilities consistent with this task.

DELIVERABLES

- Annual Program of Projects

FUNDING

Program Support				
Work Responsibility by Funding		Financial Responsibility		Responsible agency
RPC	320,219	FTA	256,175	RPC
Total	320,219	State/Local	64,044	
Long Range Planning				
Work Responsibility by Funding		Financial Responsibility		Responsible Agency
RPC	342,119	FTA	273,695	RPC
Total	342,119	State/Local	68,424	

STAFFING

Supervisor: Jason Sappington, AICP

C1C27 COORD. HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION

GOAL

To improve coordination of transportation services and provision of accessible transportation infrastructure for individuals with disabilities, older adults, and low-income populations.

OBJECTIVES

- Provide a forum for non-profit providers of human services transportation to coordinate and share best practices and information.
- Assist the state in the apportionment of FTA 5310 and 5311 funds.
- Identify other barriers in the transportation system for individuals with disabilities, older adults, rural, and low-income populations.

FY 26 MAJOR PRODUCTS

- Quarterly Meetings of the Coordinated Human Services Transportation Committee

SUBTASKS

C-1CA: WORKING GROUP

- **Meetings:** Staff will convene quarterly meetings of representatives from public transit operators, to discuss funding, opportunities for collaboration, and policy.
- **Other Coordination:** Staff will coordinate with LADOTD and with non-profit advocates for disadvantaged populations to inform activities and potential coordination opportunities.

Task C-1C24A Timeline & Deliverables

Working Group Meetings

Jul – Sep

Oct – Dec

Jan – Mar

Apr – Jun

C-1CB: PLAN UPDATE

- **Stakeholder Coordination:** Staff will work with key stakeholders to:
 - o Update inventory of human services providers in the region
 - o Identify Barriers
 - o Provide updates to MPO partners.

Draft presentations will be provided to the Coordinated Working Group, the Public Transit Advisory Group, the Transportation Advisory Group, and the Transportation Policy Committee.

- **Preparation:** Staff will work with LADOTD and their contractor in updating the region's Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan.

Task C-1C24B Timeline & Deliverables

Coordination

Jul – Sep

Oct – Dec

Jan – Mar

Apr – Jun

C-1CC: FUNDING

- **Application Review:** Staff will review applications for 5310 funding, as submitted to the MPO by LADOTD. Staff will fill out LADOTD score sheets for each application.
- **Applicant Support:** Staff will provide technical assistance if requested to 5310 and 5311 funding applicants. Staff will also provide support letters, as appropriate, to applicants.

Task C-1C24A Timeline & Deliverables

Application Review

Jul – Sep

Oct – Dec

Jan – Mar

Apr – Jun

C-1CD: SUPPORT

- **Education:** Staff may attend workshops, training events, conferences, membership in relevant organizations, or other peer-to-peer exchanges or educational opportunities that will further capacity toward the conduct of the described work tasks.
- **Equipment:** Procurement of equipment, software, software services, or other materials that will further staff's ability to conduct the described work tasks.

DELIVERABLES

- o Committee Meetings
- o Plan Update

FUNDING

Work Responsibility by Funding		Financial Responsibility		Responsible Agency
RPC	15,000	LADOTD	15,000	RPC
Total	15,000	State/Local	0	

STAFFING

Supervisor: Tosha Shanableh

D-1.27 PUBLIC OUTREACH AND CIVIL RIGHTS

GOAL

To ensure that the agency's planning and policy is guided by public input, particularly from those that are traditionally underrepresented. Further, ensuring that no person, on the grounds of race, color, sex, age, disability, or national origin, is excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any MPO program or activity.

OBJECTIVES

- Diverse and innovative community outreach techniques and participation efforts reaching a wide cross-section of the region's population.
- Ensure involvement is inclusive when traditionally underrepresented populations are potentially impacted by studies and projects.
- Compliance with the requirements of the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and the agency's Title VI Plan
- RPC policy and procedures for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) consultant selection, negotiation, and administration of consultant contracts, and ample outreach to DBE firms.

FY 26 MAJOR PRODUCTS

- Updated Title VI Program
- Updated Title VI methodology
- Updated Public Participation Plan

SUBTASKS

D-1A: TITLE VI

- **Policy:** Staff will undertake planning activities per the Title VI Program, Americans with Disabilities Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act, as approved by FTA. Staff will conduct an annual review of the program to ensure compliance.
- **Demographics:** Staff will review and update demographic data using the most recent U.S. Census and American Community Survey (ACS) data. Attention will be given to identifying minority populations, low-income households, limited English proficiency (LEP) populations, older adults, and persons with disabilities in the region. This information will be used to evaluate whether transportation planning and programming efforts equitably serve all populations.
- **Applied Population Statistics:** Staff will apply demographic and socioeconomic statistics to planning studies, public engagement activities, and project evaluations. Data will be used to identify potentially underserved communities and support equitable decision-making within the metropolitan planning process.
- **Training:** Staff will host an annual Title VI training for staff and regional partners. Staff
 - Staff will participate in Title VI, ADA, and NEPA training opportunities provided by federal partners, professional associations, and other relevant organizations to ensure continued compliance with federal nondiscrimination requirements.

- **Project Scoping:** Staff will prepare demographic and Title VI data for project development to ensure compliance in planning and appropriate outreach efforts.

Task D-1A Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
Title VI Implementation				

D-1B: DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (DBE)

- **Outreach:** Staff will work to increase DBE participation, including through hosting or co-hosting workshops with DBE or potential DBE contractors.
- **Procurement:** Having established DBE goals, staff will ensure the goal is met through established procurement policies and best practices.

Task D-1B Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
DBE Implementation				

D-1C: METROPOLITAN PLANNING EDUCATION

- **Outreach:** Staff will attend and/or present at events to educate the public on the role of the MPO in transportation planning and inform how best to participate in the metropolitan planning process.
- **Public Participation Plan:** Staff will conduct its annual review of the public participation plan to guarantee consistency with current planning priorities and soundness based on national best practices. Any updates to the plan will be submitted to FHWA and FTA.
- **Newsletter:** Staff will produce and distribute a quarterly newsletter that will include: a summary of an ongoing study or studies, an educational brief on MPO practices, updates on other RPC/TPC initiatives, and a calendar of upcoming events.

Task D-1C Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
Branding Exercise				
Participation Plan Review				
Newsletter				

D-1D: PROJECT OUTREACH

- **Education:** Staff will deploy project specific outreach mechanisms, including neighborhood and stakeholder meetings, community workshops, pop-up events, and news media engagement, and others as appropriate.
- **Methodology:** The Social Vulnerability Index and coordination with citizen and advocacy groups will assist in determining appropriate methods and extent of outreach for a given project.

Task D-1D Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
Project Outreach				

D-1E: ONLINE PRESENCE

- **Website:** Standard maintenance of the website, social media, utilization of online surveys, and development/upkeep of online interactive data maps and dashboards.

Task D-1E Timeline & Deliverables

Website Maintenance

Jul – Sep

Oct – Dec

Jan – Mar

Apr – Jun

D-1F: SUPPORT

- **Education:** Staff may attend workshops, training events, conferences, membership in relevant organizations, or other peer-to-peer exchanges or educational opportunities that will further capacity toward the conduct of the described work tasks.
- **Equipment:** Procurement of equipment, software, software services, or other materials that will further staff's ability to conduct the described work tasks.
 - D-1 funding will support subscriptions to RPC website hosting, newsletter distribution platforms, and survey platforms.

D-1G: EMERGENCY RESPONSE COORDINATION

In the aftermath of a disaster event, such as a hurricane or extreme flooding, staff may be called upon to conduct certain activities to maintain continuity of operations and support emergency response and recovery actions. Staff will coordinate with LADOTD, FHWA, FTA, local governments, and emergency responders to determine and carry out appropriate roles and responsibilities consistent with this task.

DELIVERABLES

- Quarterly Newsletters

FUNDING

Work Responsibility by Funding		Financial Responsibility		Responsible Agency
RPC	215,480	FTA	212,384	RPC
Consultant	50,000	State/Local	53,096	
Total	265,480			

STAFFING

Supervisor: Malissa Givhan

E-1.27 UPWP MANAGEMENT**GOAL**

Conducting the day to day administrative, contract management, and financial planning activities that ensure that the MPO functions of the staff and the TPC, and its conformity to adopted policy, as well as state and federal requirements.

OBJECTIVES

- Coordination of the Transportation Policy Committee and all administrative and public requirements
- Preparation and management of contracts and agreements

- Fiscal responsibility and financial transparency
- Human resource functions which are necessary to ensure that staff have the wherewithal to conduct the everyday functions of the agency.

FY 26 MAJOR PRODUCTS

- Updated onboarding documentation
- Annual audits
- Updates to project management manual

SUBTASKS

E-1A: CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

- **Procurement:** Staff will prepare and oversee contracts and intergovernmental agreements, ensuring that the necessary legal and contractual provisions, and guarantee these provisions are followed through the lifetime of the contract or agreement.
- **Organization:** Project files and associated contractual documents will be archived in RPC's standard online filing system for ease of access later, as needed.

Task E-1A Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
Contract Management				

E-1B: TPC COORDINATION

- **Monthly Meetings:** Staff will coordinate with the local elected officials and citizen representatives, including those that make up the Committee, and conduct of the monthly TPC meetings themselves, including preparing agendas, minutes, meeting packets/material, scheduling guest speakers, preparing budget and financial reports, making provisions for public participation, and preparing public notices announcing the meetings.

Task E-1B Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
TPC Meetings and Docs				

E-1C: STAFF MANAGEMENT

- **UPWP:** Supervisors will oversee staff workflow, internal resource allocation, and staff development to fulfill the tasks of the UPWP and creation of its associated products within stated budgets and timelines.
- **Staff Meetings:** Planning staff will hold meetings every two weeks to better coordinate efforts and participate in agency decision-making.
- **Annual Reviews:** All staff will undergo annual performance reviews in the spring.
- **Employee Handbook:** Reviewed by attorney and management for compliance.

Task E-1C Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
Performance Reviews				

E-1D: FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT & HUMAN RESOURCES

- **Finances:** Staff will conduct the necessary activities to ensure the timely processing of invoices, including coordination with DOTD financial sections. Grant balances, per contracts with LADOTD, will be tracked throughout the year to ensure appropriate workflow distribution. Annual audits of the agency will take place. Monthly budget reports will be prepared.
- **Human Resources:** The Director of Management & Finance will oversee hiring/onboarding, employee benefits administration, employee trainings, payroll functions, retirement, safety and compliance.”
- **Onboarding:** New planning staff will undergo a comprehensive month-long onboarding process to familiarize them with roles and responsibilities, metropolitan planning functions, and standard operating procedure for common tasks.

Task E-1D Timeline & Deliverables	Jul – Sep	Oct – Dec	Jan – Mar	Apr – Jun
Financial Management				

E-1E: SUPPORT

- **Education:** Staff may attend workshops, training events, conferences, membership in relevant organizations, or other peer-to-peer exchanges or educational opportunities that will further capacity toward the conduct of the described work tasks.
- **Equipment:** Procurement of equipment, software, software services, or other materials that will further staff’s ability to conduct the described work tasks.

E-1F: DISASTER RESPONSE COORDINATION

In the aftermath of a disaster event, such as a hurricane or extreme flooding, staff may be called upon to conduct certain activities to maintain continuity of operations and support emergency response and recovery actions. Staff will coordinate with LADOTD, FHWA, FTA, local governments, and emergency responders to determine and carry out appropriate roles and responsibilities consistent with this task.

DELIVERABLES

- o TPC Meeting Packets
- o Annual Audits

FUNDING

Work Responsibility by Funding		Financial Responsibility		Responsible Agency
RPC	226,263	FHWA	181,010	RPC
Total	226,263	State/Local	45,253	

STAFFING

Supervisor: Megan Leonard

APPENDIX A – REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (3/11/26)

The Regional Planning Commission (RPC) meets the second Tuesday of every month at 10 Veterans Boulevard, New Orleans, LA 70124, immediately following the meeting of the Transportation Policy Committee (TPC). Meetings are open to the public.

RPC Calendar: <https://www.norpc.org/calendar-2/>

Officers:

Robby Miller, Chairman - Tangipahoa Parish
Louis Pomes, 1st Vice Chairman- St. Bernard Parish
Helena Moreno, 2nd Vice Chairwoman – Orleans Parish
Keith Hinkley, 3rd Vice Chairman – Plaquemines Parish
Mike Cooper, 4th Vice Chairman - St. Charles Parish
Matt Jewel, 5th Vice Chairman – St. Tammany Parish
Jaclyn Hotard, Secretary - St. John The Baptist Parish
Cynthia Lee Sheng, Treasurer - Jefferson Parish

Jefferson Parish:

Councilmember At-Large Jennifer Van Vranken
Mayor Belinda Constant (Gretna)
Lee Giorgio
Jack Stumpf

Orleans Parish:

Councilmember At-Large JP Morrell
Councilmember At-Large Matthew Willard
Citizen Member (open)
Citizen Member (open)

Plaquemines Parish:

Councilmember Chris Schultz
Councilmember Patricia McCarty
Robert Hopkins
Allen Hero

St. Bernard Parish:

Councilmember Josh Moran
Councilmember Ryan Randall
Joe Montalbano
Susan Klees

St. Charles Parish

Councilmember Bob Fischer
Councilmember Michelle O'Daniels
Garret C. Monti
Thomas Hines

St. John The Baptist Parish

Councilmember Robert Arcuri
Councilmember Tammy Houston
Bonnie Dinvaut
Jonathan Perret

St. Tammany Parish:

Councilmember Jeff Corbin
Councilmember Pat Burke
Adam Acquistapace
Christopher Abadie

Tangipahoa Parish:

Council Chair Bridget Hyde
Mayor Pete Panepinto (Hammond)
Carlo Bruno
Citizen Member

DOTD

Secretary Glenn Ledet

APPENDIX B – RPC TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE (3/1/25)

The RPC Transportation Policy Committee meets the second Tuesday of every month at 10 Veterans Boulevard, New Orleans, LA 70124, at 12:30 PM. Meetings are open to the public.

The Transportation Policy Committee consists of the membership of the RPC (see Appendix A) plus:

Mayor Randy Fandal (Slidell)

Tomeka Watson Bryant (N.O. Public Belt RR)

Kevin Dolliole (Aviation Director)

Beth Ann Branch (Port)

Mayor Clay Madden, (Mandeville)

Lona Hankins (RTA)

Carlton Dufrechou (GNOEC)

Ninette Barrios (JP Transit)

Mayor Wesley Daniels (Ponchatoula)

Mayor Mark R. Johnson (Covington)

Renee Amar (LMTA)

APPENDIX C – RPC TECHNICAL ADVISORY WORKING GROUP

AARP

Senior Program Specialist

Advocacy Center

Director, Public Policy

Bike Easy

Executive Director

Education Programs Director

City of Covington

Assistant Director of Planning

City Engineer

Director, Public Works

Administrative Officer

City of Gretna

Director, Planning and Major Projects

Planning and Zoning Official

City of Hammond

Director, Administration

Director, Planning

City of Kenner

Director, Public Works

Director, Planning

City of Mandeville

Director, Planning and Development

Director, Department of Public Works

City of New Orleans

Manager, Policy and Programs, Mayor's Office of Transportation

Director, Department of Public Works

Traffic Engineer, Public Works

Director, City Planning Commission

City of Pontchatoula

Streets Supervisor

City of Slidell

Director, Engineering

Transportation Engineer

Director, Planning

Federal Transit Administration

Community Planner

Federal Highway Administration	Community Planner
Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission	General Manager
Greater New Orleans Foundation	Director Environmental Programs
Jefferson Parish	Director, Engineering Director, Planning Parish President's Office - Land Use and Development Director, Public Works Director, Ecosystem and Coastal Management Director, Transit Administration
LA DOTD	Highway Safety Manager MPO Urban Systems Coordinator Urban Transit Program Manager Planning Program Administrator Director of Planning District Administrator, District 02 District Administrator, District 62 Urban Systems >200k Program Manager Urban Systems <200K Program Manager
Lighthouse Louisiana	Director of Public Policy Citizen Advocate
Louisiana Motor Transportation Association	Renee Amar Executive Director
National Safety Council	President and CEO - South Louisiana Chapter
New Orleans Aviation Board	Executive Director Deputy Director
New Orleans Port Authority	President and CEO
New Orleans Public Belt Railroad	General Manager
Plaquemines Parish	Parish Engineer GIS Manager

Port of New Orleans	Chief Operating Officer
Plaquemines Port Harbor Terminal District	Assistant Port Manager
Ride New Orleans	Executive Director
Regional Transit Authority	Executive Director Director, Planning and Scheduling Director, Strategic Planning Senior Transportation Planner
St. Bernard Parish	Director, Community Development Director, Public Works Transit Manager Director, Community Development
St. Charles Parish	Director, Planning and Zoning Director, Public Works Grants Manager
St. John the Baptist Parish	Director, Public Works Manager, Planning and Zoning Manager Chief Administrative Assistant Coastal & Water Management Division
St. Tammany Parish	Chief Operating Officer Parish Engineer Grant Project Manager-Transit Director, Planning
Tangipahoa Parish	Parish Engineer Director, Community Development Parish Engineer Director, Parish Planning

APPENDIX D RECORD OF MODIFICATIONS AND AMENDMENTS

June 2026: Minor changes to text (clarification of estimated study length in A-1 and A-3). Addition of state project number to A-1(f)

Number: 26-2002

RESOLUTION

Transportation Policy Committee of the Regional Planning Commission for
JEFFERSON, ORLEANS, PLAQUEMINES, ST. BERNARD, ST. CHARLES, ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, ST. TAMMANY,
& TANGIPAHOA PARISHES

Authorization to Submit Unified Planning Work Program for FY-27

Introduced by Councilmember Van Vrancker seconded by Councilmember Randall,
on the 14th day of April, 2026.

WHEREAS, the Regional Planning Commission submits annually the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for Transportation Planning in the Greater New Orleans region to the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and the federal funding agencies for review and comment; and,

WHEREAS, the Unified Planning Work Program was developed cooperatively with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and represents a consensus on this region's transportation planning needs for the New Orleans, Mandeville-Covington, Slidell and South Tangipahoa Urbanized Areas (UAs) during 2026-2027; and,

WHEREAS, formal authorization by the Transportation Policy Committee is necessary prior to submitting applications for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds as follows:

FTA Section 5303
New Orleans
(containing of the 4 Urban Areas (UAs): \$ 757,254.00
New Orleans, Mandeville-Covington,
Slidell, and Hammond-Ponchatoula)

DOTD Human Services Transportation (Transit) \$ 15,000.00

FHWA PL
New Orleans UA \$2,917,955.00
(containing of the 4 Urban Areas (UAs):
New Orleans, Mandeville-Covington,
Slidell, and Hammond-Ponchatoula)

WHEREAS, the proposed Unified Planning Work Program has been made available by RPC staff for public input and review, the Transportation Policy Committee hereby reserves the right to modify and finalize said UPWP, based on the public comments received.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Transportation Policy Committee hereby endorses the proposed Unified Planning Work Program, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the staff is hereby authorized to submit the appropriate technical documents which constitute the Unified Planning Work Program to the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and appropriate federal agencies (FTA and FHWA) and that this UPWP submittal will be finalized working closely with the RPC Technical Advisory Working Group, the Transportation Policy Committee, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, and appropriate federal agencies in order to address the transportation needs of the region.

Whereupon, after discussion, the question was called and resulted in the following:

AYES: 34 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0

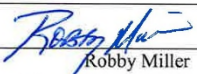
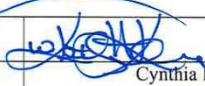
and the Chairperson declared the Resolution duly carried.


ROBBY MILLER
CHAIRPERSON


CYNTHIA LEE SHENG
TREASURER

Scan the QR code for a copy of the
Unified Planning Work Program for FY-27 for the New
Orleans Planning Area containing the 4 Urban Areas (UAs):
(New Orleans, Mandeville-Covington, Slidell, and
Hammond-Ponchatoula)



For board approval at the May 12, 2026 Transportation Policy Committee Meeting	
 Robby Miller Tangipahoa Parish President Chairman	 Cynthia Lee Sheng, Jefferson Parish President Treasurer

Keith Hinkley on behalf of