

House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works

Minutes of Meeting
2024-2025 Interim
September 20, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Ryan Bourriaque, chair of the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. in Room 3, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Ryan Bourriaque, chair
Representative Chad Michael Boyer
Representative Jacob Braud
Representative Tehmi Jahi Chassion
Representative Kellee Hennessy Dickerson
Representative Bryan Fontenot, vice chair
Representative Steven Jackson
Representative Tammy T. Phelps
Representative Rodney Wayne Schamerhorn
Representative Phillip Eric Tarver
Representative Joy Walters
Representative Jeffrey Fons "Jeff" Wiley

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative C. Travis Johnson
Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Allison Williams, attorney
Jennifer Winkler, legislative analyst
Darcas Deverteuil, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Rebecca Marshall, sergeant at arms

III. BUSINESS

To consider the use of the Construction Management at Risk (CMAR) method for The Shrine on Airline Reconfiguration and Renovation in Metairie, LA

Daniel Burke, LSED, 305 Magnolia Dr., Metairie, LA 70005, spoke for information only on the CMAR request for The Shrine on Airline reconfiguration and renovations in Metairie, LA.

Representative Fontenot offered a motion to approve the use of the CMAR method for the Shrine on Airline reconfiguration and reconstruction. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Schamerhorn, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

To consider the use of the Construction Management at Risk (CMAR) method for expansions, renovations, and infrastructure improvement to the training facility for the Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office

Representative Wiley offered a motion to approve the use of the CMAR method for expansions, renovation, and infrastructure improvements to the training facility for the Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Schamerhorn, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

To receive an update from the Department of Transportation and Development regarding the status of transportation projects funded during the 2024 Regular Session

On behalf of the committee, Chair Bourriaque, commended Secretary Donahue and DOTD for the progress and commitment that they have shown by being present for the monthly meetings and providing updates to keep members and the legislature up to date on the LTIF project funds.

Joe Donahue, LA DOTD, 1201 Capitol Access Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only and presented a PowerPoint presentation, Exhibit A, the status of transportation projects funded during the 2024 Regular Session, which is included in the committee records.

Barry Keeling, DOTD, 1201 Capitol Access Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only and provided an update on the status of transportation projects funded during the 2024 Regular Session.

Representative Walters expressed to Secretary Donahue that in the future, when there are extra road project funds, that the representative of that area should be included in the conversation of how the funds are distributed. Secretary Donahue informed her that the allocation of funds is done on a district level and encouraged Representative Walters to reach out to her district administrator to make that happen.

Secretary Donahue and Mr. Keeling answered questions from the committee on different projects that they were interested in from the Louisiana Transportation Infrastructure Funding (LTIF).

To receive information on the I-49 Connector Project.

J. Kent Rogers, NLCOG, 625 Texas St., Suite 200, Shreveport, LA, 71101, spoke for information only on the I-49 Connector Project and provided a handout, Exhibit B, which is included in the committee records.

Tim Magner, Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce, 400 Edwards St., Shreveport, LA 71106, spoke for information only on the I-49 Connector Project.

Representative Phelps thanked Mr. Magner and Mr. Rogers for representing Shreveport and expressed to the committee how important the I-49 Connector project was to the entire state of Louisiana. Representative Phelps also referenced a letter that was received via committee email, Exhibit C, which is included in the committee record.

Representative Horton asked Mr. Magner and Mr. Rogers questions about how long they have been deciding on a route for the Connector as well as a breakdown of cost delay due to the project being put off year after year. Mr. Rogers informed Representative Horton that the process has been ongoing for 16 years and that the long process does accumulate a hefty price tag as different factors contributes to delays in the potential alternative routes for the Connector. He stated that price ranges from about 1 Billion to 1.8+ Billion dollars between alternative routes.

Joe Donahue, LA DOTD, 1201 Capitol Access Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only the I-49 Connector project to provide clarity to the criteria that needs to be met in major projects such as the I-49 Connector project.

William Doshen, Allendale Strong, 425 Slattery Blvd., Shreveport, LA 71104, spoke for information only as a representative of Allendale Strong.

Representative Fontenot thanked Secretary Donahue for working on his complaint of grass cutting in his district mentioned at a previous meeting in July.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

The minutes from the 2022-2023 Interim dated March 20, 2023 were presented to the committee for approval. Representative Schamerhorn offered a motion to approve the minutes. Without objection, the minutes were approved by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Chassion, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Tarver, Walters, and Wiley voted yea.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Dickerson offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bourriaque, Boyer, Braud, Dickerson, Fontenot, Jackson, Phelps, Schamerhorn, Tarver, and Walters voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Ryan Bourriaque
House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works

Date adopted: