

Action Summary



LWI Region 5 CIP Subcommittee Meeting

10am-12pm, Thursday, September 30, 2021
 Rosa Parks Transportation Center
 Multipurpose Room 116
 101 Jefferson Street, Lafayette, LA 70501



AGENDA, NOTES AND DECISIONS

| AGENDA ITEM | DISCUSSION |
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| WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS | <p>Earl Garber, representative of Acadia Parish, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. He welcomed everyone in attendance virtually via Zoom and Facebook Live at facebook.com/AcadianaPlanningCommission. The meeting was made available to the public via live stream on Facebook Live. Due to technical difficulties the meeting was paused around 10:15 and resumed around 10:30. The recording of the full meeting is available at http://planacadiana.org/watershed/lwi-region-5/meeting-recordings/.</p> <p>“Opening Statement: Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to the LWI Region 5 Capital Improvement Program Subcommittee Meeting. I am Earl Garber, representative of Acadia Parish, and will lead the meeting today.</p> <p>Agendas are available at the room’s entrance and were made available through email and online at planacadiana.org.</p> <p>For our records to reflect your attendance please sign-in at the table or drop a message in the chat box listing your name and affiliation.</p> <p>The purpose of this public meeting is to consider items established by the agenda. Public input is welcome on these items. However, to ensure an orderly meeting, members of the public shall speak at the time designated. Each organization may be permitted one representative to speak for 3 minutes on its behalf and individual public members are permitted 3 minutes. For those wishing to speak in-person, complete a speaker card and present it to the APC staff. For members of the public participating online, please submit your comments and questions in the chat box. Comments/questions will be read aloud during the public comment period.”</p> |
| ROLL CALL & PUBLIC INTRODUCTIONS | <p>Ms. Kelia Bingham of Acadiana Planning Commission called roll for the steering committee members’ attendance. A quorum was present.</p> |
| APPROVE ACTION SUMMARY <i>(formal action)</i> | <p>A motion was made by Ralph Libersat and seconded by John Clark to approve the meeting minutes from the September 30, 2021 CIP Subcommittee Meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.</p> <p><i>VOTE: 6-0-2:</i> <i>Yea – 6;</i> <i>Nay – 0;</i> <i>Absent – 2</i></p> <p>Action summaries from the sub-committee meetings were distributed to the Region 5 Steering Committee members for their reference.</p> |

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| <p>REGION 5 UPDATES</p> | <p>Region 5 Round 1 Projects - Nicolette Jones of LA OCD provided project updates to the committee members. There are 6 Round 1 projects in Region 5 that were awarded both through the state and regional award processes. Award letters were issued. Some revisions are being made by applicants with guidance from LA OCD.</p> <p>Region 5 Round 2 Projects – LA OCD launched the Round 2 program in August titled the “Design Support Pilot Program.” LA OCD is working through a non-competitive program to provide technical and design support to applications that were deemed ineligible in Round 1. The state is doing assessments that involve reviewing applications and what technical assistance is needed and the cost involved. This program will fund both the technical assistance and the project. The state is expecting to make announcements about eligible projects by the end of 2021 and issue project awards in 2022.</p> <p>Working with Nature Training Series – LWI hosted the first Working with Nature Training series webinar with an introduction to working with nature and the Vermilion River case study on Oct. 20, 2021. A recording is available at https://vimeo.com/637983578. The second module in the series will be hosted on November 17, 2021.</p> |
| <p>UPPER BAYOU NEZPIQUE PROJECT</p> | <p>This is a project that can possibly be funded by FEMA’s BRIC (Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities). The Upper Bayou Nezpique Project involves the installation of retention ponds for watershed protection, flood prevention, agricultural water management and recreation. Three ponds have been built so far. The parishes (6 total) that can benefit from this project are: Evangeline, Rapides, Allen, Jeff Davis, Acadia, and Calcasieu. The watershed that is impacted is the Mermentau.</p> <p>The owners of Miller’s Lake in Evangeline Parish are open to the project application. They have provided a survey of the lake.</p> <p>Official approval for this project application will be needed by the Evangeline Parish Police Jury as they will be the project applicant. Support letters will also be needed from Allen Parish, Calcasieu Parish, Jeff Davis Parish, Acadia parish, Rapides Parish and their respective Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The amount of work for this application is being assessed by the EPPJ engineers. Pan American Engineers may be able to assist with grant application/management.</p> <p>BRIC funding criteria met (according to the Bayou Nezpique work plan):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Helps aid a community lifeline - improve flood conditions of nearby roads and damage to surrounding roads and bridges reduced; transportation improved especially for emergency response personnel 2. Protection for agriculture and general landowners 3. Recreational development 4. Nature Based Solution – Maximizing the floodplain <p>This project could also provide NFIP Community Rating System or CRS credit – this is a NBS (green infrastructure) with water quantity reduced and water quality improved</p> <p>The next steps are to have a meeting with the owners of Miller’s Lake and the projected amount of work for this project that the EPPJ engineer can provide.</p> |
| <p>COMPREHENSIVE PROJECT INVENTORY (GIS DEMO)</p> | <p>The Comprehensive Project Inventory GIS Application was displayed on screen. This project backlog will be added to and improved as Region 5 moves forward to becoming a state enabled watershed coalition.</p> <p>LWI Round 1 funding is complete, and there are now active (or soon to be active) projects in Region 5. This is a combined total of 7 LWI projects that have been funded (3 state selected and 4 regionally selected). There are also 3 retention ponds from the previously mentioned Bayou Nezpique project and</p> |

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| | <p>9 HMGP projects (2017, LWI Non-Federal Cost-Share Assistance). This is a total of 19 active projects in Region 5.</p> <p>This Comprehensive Project Inventory is preliminary. This comprehensive tool can be also used for future flood mitigation/prevention projects as the steering committee collaborates within the region and neighboring watershed regions.</p> |
| SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING MEETINGS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Region 5 Steering Committee Meeting, Thursday, October 21st, 10am – 12pm • Next CIP Subcommittee Meeting, Thursday, November 4th, 10am – 12pm • Governance & Long-Term Sustainability Meeting, Thursday, November 9th, 10am – 12pm |
| MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES | LWI is expected to provide updates on the enabling of legislation. Any information provided will be shared with the steering committee during the November 9 governance subcommittee meeting. |
| PUBLIC COMMENT | There was no public comment. |
| MEETING ADJOURNMENT | <p>A motion was made by Donald Bergeron and seconded by Jessica Cornay to adjourn the meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.</p> <p><i>VOTE: 6-0-2: Yea –6; Nay – 0; Absent – 2</i></p> |
| MEETING DETAILS | |
| CONTACT | <p>Kelia Bingham, LWI Region 5 Watershed Coordinator, (337) 446-0807</p> <p>Rachel Godeaux, APC Meeting Facilitator, (337) 806-9373</p> <p>Kade Jones, APC Meeting Facilitator, (337) 806-9376</p> |
| NEXT REGION 5 STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING | December 9 at 10am |
| ADA/TITLE VI NOTICE | The Acadiana Planning Commission (APC) convenes public meetings in accessible locations. Meeting materials can be provided in accessible formats and in languages other than English upon request. If you would like accessibility or language accommodation, please contact the ADA/Title VI Coordinator via email at clacomb@planacadiana.org ; or by phone at 337-806-9370 (voice), 337-866-7081 (fax). If you wish to attend an APC function and require special accommodations, please provide at least 72 hours advanced notice. |
| ATTENDANCE RECORD | |

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| <p>ATTENDEES</p> | <p><u>Delegates Present:</u> Acadia Parish - Earl Garber Evangeline - Donald Bergeron Iberville - John Clark Lafayette – Jessica Cornay Pointe Coupee – Mark Ward Vermilion - Ralph Libersat</p> <p><u>Others Present</u> Rachel Godeaux, APC Kelia Bingham, APC Alicia Wiltz, APC Kade Jones, APC Garland Pennison, APC</p> <p><u>Others Present Virtually</u> Nicolette Jones, OCD-LWI Pam Granger – LWI Region 5 Steering Committee Kasey Courville – LWI Region 5 Steering Committee Ben Langlinais - LWI Region 5 Steering Committee Sara Gary, APC</p> |
| <p>ABSENTEES</p> | <p><u>Primary Delegates Absent:</u> Avoyelles – Jacob Coco St. Mary - Tim Matte</p> |