

Ouachita Council of Governments
Special Meeting Minutes
April 29, 2024

Members Present:	Mayor Friday Ellis City of Monroe	Mayor Staci Mitchell City of West Monroe
	Gretchen Ezernack Monroe City Council	Shane Smiley Ouachita Parish Police Jury
	Thom Hamilton City of West Monroe	Toni Bacon Ouachita Parish Police Jury
Staff Present:	Doug Mitchell Executive Director	Shelby Rybicki Planner I
	Jeff Maxwell CPA	Celine Flores-Robinson Planner I

A public hearing was held on April 22, 2024, at the Council Chambers of the Monroe Government Plaza at 11:30 a.m. to hear comments from the public regarding the Draft FY 24-25 Unified Public Work Program and its supporting documents, the Draft Safe Streets and Roads for All Action Plan, and a Monroe Transit TIP Amendment introduced at the previous March 25, 2024, OCOG meeting. There were no comments.

The Ouachita Council of Governments meeting was called to order by Staci Mitchell. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers of the Monroe Government Plaza.

A roll call certified a quorum was present.

A motion was made by Shane Smiley and seconded by Gretchen Ezernack to approve the March 25, 2024, minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Shane Smiley and seconded by Friday Ellis to recess OCOG and enter into the Transportation Policy Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Transportation Policy Committee

A motion was made by Gretchen Ezernack and seconded by Shane Smiley to approve the Safe Streets and Roads for All Comprehensive Safety Action Plan for adoption. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Gretchen Ezernack and seconded by Toni Bacon to approve the *Monroe Transit System FY 25-29 Financial Plan* TIP Amendment for adoption. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Shane Smiley and seconded by Friday Ellis to adjourn the Transportation Policy Committee and reconvene OCOG. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Shane Smiley and seconded by Friday Ellis to ratify the actions of the Transportation Policy Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Toni Bacon and seconded by Shane Smiley to accept the Budget to Actual Report as presented by Jeff Maxwell. Motion carried unanimously.

Ambulance Advisory Board

Elmer Noah informed OCOG that on Thursday, April 25, 2024, the Board met to discuss Acadian Ambulance's request for a four-year contract extension. The Monroe Fire Department Chief requested a review of non-compliance reports before a decision on contract renewal is made. Acadian has agreed to provide additional information on the issues of non-compliance, as well as support their request for a four-year extension.

The Ambulance Advisory Board agreed to hold a special meeting on May 23, 2024, with the realization that if no action is taken, this year's contract will automatically be renewed for another year. The Board hopes to have a recommendation for OCOG in time for its June meeting.

A motion was made by Friday Ellis and seconded by Shane Smiley to cancel the May 13, 2024, special called meeting of OCOG. The next meeting of OCOG will be at its regularly scheduled time on June 24, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

Doug Mitchell informed OCOG that they will soon begin the process of updating the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP).

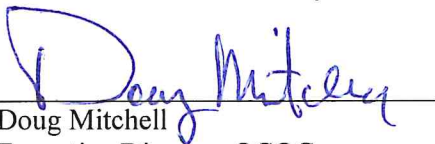
Long Term Recovery Board

No report.

Northeast Delta Human Services Board

No report.

There being no other business a motion was made by Shane Smiley and seconded by Friday Ellis to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.



Doug Mitchell

Executive Director, OCOG

6/25/2024
Date



OUACHITA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Monroe

West Monroe

Ouachita Parish

3000 KILPATRICK BLVD • MONROE, LOUISIANA 71201

OUACHITA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

MONROE GOVERNMENT PLAZA

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

SPECIAL MEETING

APRIL 29, 2024

12 NOON

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Action Item

RECESS OCOG

Action Item

TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

A. SAFE STREETS FOR ALL ACTION PLAN – ADOPT

Action Item

B. TIP AMENDMENT – ADOPT

Action Item

1. MONROE TRANSIT FY 25-29 FINANCIAL PLAN

RECONVENE OCOG

Action Item

RATIFY ACTIONS OF TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Action Item

BUDGET TO ACTUAL REPORT

Action Item

AMBULANCE SERVICE ADVISORY BOARD UPDATE

Mr. Elmer Noah

ADJOURNMENT

HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS REPORT

**A RESOLUTION OF THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION OF THE
MONROE URBANIZED AREA AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE
2024 COMPREHENSIVE SAFETY ACTION PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Ouachita Council of Governments (OCOG) is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Monroe Urbanized area; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Planning Organization has prepared a roadway serious-injury and fatality mitigation plan, hereby known as the 2024 Comprehensive Safety Action Plan in accordance with the Safe Streets and Roads for All grant program guided by the Safe System Approach; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 Comprehensive Safety Action Plan identifies the most significant roadway safety concerns affecting all roadway users in the Monroe Urbanized Area; and

WHEREAS, adoption by the Metropolitan Planning Organization demonstrates their commitment to the prevention of roadway fatalities and serious injuries through projects and strategies outlined in the 2024 Comprehensive Safety Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, OCOG, acting in its capacity as the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization, has given thorough review and consideration to the 2024 Comprehensive Safety Action Plan; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Transportation Policy Committee, acting in its capacity as the designated decision-making body for the Metropolitan Planning Organization, does hereby approve and adopt the 2024 Comprehensive Safety Action Plan for the Monroe Urbanized Area.

ADOPTED by a vote of 6 in favor and 0 against, and 0 abstaining, this 29th day of April 2024.

By: Staci Mitchell
Mayor Staci Mitchell, Chairperson

ATTEST:

By: Doug Mitchell
Doug Mitchell, Executive Director

MONROE TRANSIT PROJECTED FINANCIAL PLAN FOR 2025-2029

Section 5307-Capital

Project Description	Fed FY 24	Fed FY 25	Fed FY 26	Fed FY 27	Fed FY 28
Bus Rolling Stock	75,000.00		225,000.00		
Bus Engines	280,000.00	50,000.00		50,000.00	
Bus Stations Stops & Terminals					
Mobile fare Collection System	750,000.00				
Security Fence	160,000.00	160,000.00			
Parking Lot Extension	190,000.00	190,000.00			
Support Vehicle	160,000.00	30,000.00	60,000.00		
Install Solar Panels to Admin Fac	156,000.00	160,000.00			
Bus Transit Enhancements	50,000.00	760,000.00			
Other Capital Items (Bus)		280,000.00	250,000.00		
Metropolitan Planning	400,000		70,000.00		
Bus Support Equip/Facilities					
Federal Share	1,776,800.00	1,304,000.00	484,000.00	40,000.00	-
TOTAL PROJECT	2,221,000.00	1,630,000.00	605,000.00	50,000.00	-
City/Local Share	444,200.00	326,000.00	121,000.00	10,000.00	0.00

Section 5307-Operating	Fed FY 24	Fed FY 25	Fed FY 26	Fed FY 27	Fed FY 28
Federal Operating Assistance	1,600,000.00	700,000.00	800,000.00	900,000.00	900,000.00
City/Local Share	1,600,000.00	700,000.00	800,000.00	900,000.00	900,000.00
Total	3,200,000.00	1,400,000.00	1,600,000.00	1,800,000.00	1,800,000.00
Section 5307-Operating	Fed FY 24	Fed FY 25	Fed FY 26	Fed FY 27	Fed FY 28
Preventative Maintenance	900,000.00	400,000.00	500,000.00	600,000.00	600,000.00
City/Local Share	100,000.00	100,000.00	125,000.00	150,000.00	150,000.00
Total	1,000,000.00	500,000.00	625,000.00	750,000.00	750,000.00

Section 5307 TOTALS	Fed FY 24	Fed FY 25	Fed FY 26	Fed FY 27	Fed FY 28
Federal Share	3,376,800.00	2,004,000.00	1,284,000.00	940,000.00	900,000.00
Local Share	2,044,200.00	1,026,000.00	921,000.00	910,000.00	900,000.00
Total Eligible Project	5,421,000.00	3,030,000.00	2,205,000.00	1,850,000.00	1,800,000.00

Section 5339 Capital

Project Description	Fed FY 24	Fed FY 25	Fed FY 26	Fed FY 27	Fed FY 28
Bus Rolling Stock - Electric Bus	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	
Bus Technology upgrades					
Electric Charging Station	200,000.00	200,000.00	250,000.00	250,000.00	
Terminal Replacement	1,300,000.00	2,500,000.00			
Totals	2,500,000.00	3,700,000.00	1,250,000.00	1,250,000.00	-
Federal	2,000,000.00	3,145,000.00	1,000,000.00	1,062,500.00	-
City	500,000.00	555,000.00	250,000.00	187,500.00	-

Budget to Actual April 29, 2024

	<u>Contract Budget</u>	<u>Y-T-D Budget</u>		<u>March 2024</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>		<u>February 2024</u>	<u>Prior Year</u>
Local	35,613	26,710	75.00%	-	17,807	50.00%	-	35,613
FTA	72,437	54,328	75.00%	6,002	47,852	66.06%	5,863	86,615
Human Svcs	15,000	11,250	75.00%	413	11,583	77.22%	651	15,000
FHWA	373,260	279,945	75.00%	29,029	264,026	70.74%	34,396	371,275
Safety	<u>1,373,022</u>	<u>45,767</u>	3.33%	<u>21,552</u>	<u>33,314</u>	2.43%	<u>11,762</u>	<u>901,250</u>
TOTAL	1,869,332	418,000	29.28%	56,996	374,582	20.04%	52,672	1,409,753

SS4A	January 31, 2024		
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>%</u>
	399,600	98,395	24.62%
Contracted	350,000	95,221	27.21%
North Delta	49,600	3,174	6.40%

Safety is a 5 year contract. Spent the prior contract in January 2024.
The new safety contract started February 1.

1	Budgeted amounts remaining on contract per month:			
	Local	17,806	3	5,935.33
	Safety	1,339,708	58	23,098.41
	FTA	24,585	3	8,195.00
	Human Svcs	3,417	3	1,139.00
	FHWA	<u>109,234</u>	3	<u>36,411.33</u>
		1,494,750		74,779.08

Nine months into the year we should be around 75% in our programs.

Not considering safety, we are at 69%. We are monitoring the final three months closely to get back on track.

Our budgets are close to where we should be through March.

DATE: **April 29, 2024**

ROLL CALL

	MEMBERS	PHONE #	EMAIL	PRESENT	ABSENT
✓	Mayor Friday Ellis	318-329-2227	lyndamcmahan@ci.monroe.la.us	✓	
✓	Mayor Staci Mitchell	318-396-2600	smitchell@westmonroe.la.gov	✓	
✓	Mr. Thom Hamilton	318-235-5998	thomhamiltonemail@gmail.com	✓	
✓	Mrs. Gretchen Ezernack	318-366-1675	gretchen.ezernack@ci.monroe.la.us	✓	
	Mrs. Toni Bacon	318-331-3188	toni.bacon@oppj.org	✓	
✓	Mr. Shane Smiley	318-267-8659	ssmiley@oppj.org	✓	

OUACHITA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS MEETING
MONROE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

APRIL 29, 2024

12 NOON

PLEASE SIGN IN:

(Print Please)

NAME	AGENCY REPRESENTING
Rodger McConnell	Ouachita OEP
Vijay Kunade	Neel-Schaffer, Inc
Elmer Noah	Attorney
Marc Keenan	Monroe Transit
Keisha Sparks	AASI
Jill Kennard	AASI
Colby Kennard	AASI
Cree Hardison	AASI
Jay Mitchell	OPPS
Tammy HWT	FWA

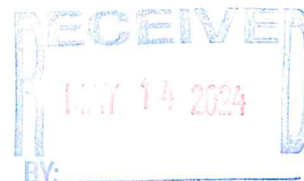
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Ouachita Council Of Government
3000 Kilpatrick BLVD
Monroe LA 71201-5166




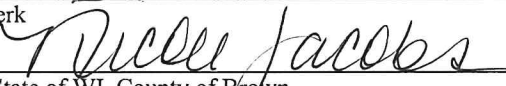
STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF BROWN


The News Star, a daily newspaper published in the city of Monroe,
in the Parish of Ouachita, State of Louisiana, and personal
knowledge of the facts herein state and that the notice hereto
annexed was Published in said newspapers in the issue:

04/25/2024

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Sworn to and subscribed before on 04/25/2024



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Notary, State of WI, County of Brown


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Notary Public
State of Wisconsin

OCOOG Special Meeting

A special meeting of the Ouachita Council of Governments is scheduled for Monday, April 29, 2024, at noon, in the Council Chambers of the Monroe Government Plaza.

April 25 2024

LLOU0091871

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Ouachita Council Of Government
3000 Kilpatrick BLVD
Monroe LA 71201-5166

STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF BROWN

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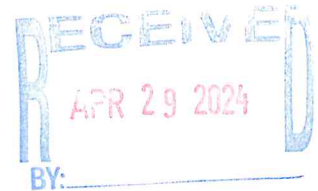
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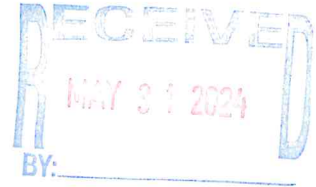
NICOLE JACOBS
Notary Public
State of Wisconsin



OCOOG Public Notice
The regular meeting of the Ouachita Council of Governments is scheduled for Monday, April 22, 2022, at noon in the Council Chambers of the Monroe Government Plaza. A public hearing will be held at 11:30 a.m. to hear comments from the public regarding the Safe Streets and Roads for All Action Plan and a TIP Amendment for the Monroe Transit FY 25-29 Financial Plan.
April 10 2024
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3000 Kilpatrick BLVD
Monroe LA 71201-5166




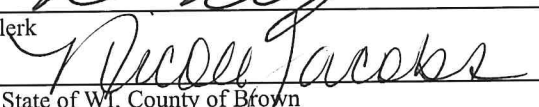
STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF BROWN

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knowledge of the facts herein state and that the notice hereto
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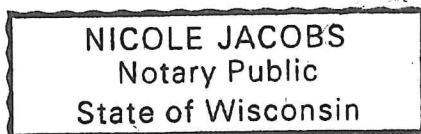
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Notice is hereby given that the Ouachita Council of Governments is requesting qualification statements for the following project:

Monroe
Transportation Plan
Update
State
Project No. H.972507
F.A.P.
No. H972507

An outline of the desired scope of work is available on the North Delta Regional Planning and Development and OCOG/MPO website (www.northdelta.org). Contract services are expected to commence after the contract is awarded at the Monroe MPO-Ouachita Council of Government's Transportation Policy Committee meeting and will be completed by August 1, 2025. All interested firms are invited to submit their qualifications for undertaking the above study. This project and OCOG Notice to Proceed are predicated upon federal funding authorization.

Interested firms shall furnish sufficient technical and supervisory personnel to ensure expeditious completion of the work. Firms with demonstrated experience, competence, and qualifications pertinent to the above project are being sought. Socially and economically disadvantaged firms are encouraged to submit qualifications for undertaking the above mentioned work.

OCOG has allocated a maximum consultant budget for the Transportation Plan Update which is a non-negotiable lump sum fee of \$500,000.

Qualification statements are to be submitted on the MPO Standard Submittal Form. Submit your qualifications on the MPO Standard Submittal Form on a CD or flash drive as a single PDF file (one copy) along with four hard (paper) copies of the completed MPO Standard Submittal Form. Experience, both firm and individual; past performance on Commission projects; current work load; location where work will be performed; and firm size will be the significant evaluation factors which will be used in selecting a firm for the above study. Failure to submit all of the information on MPO Standard Submittal Form, for the prime and each sub-consultant, will constitute a non-response. Letters of interest and qualification statements are to be identified by Project Title and Project Number and are to be submitted prior to the 12:00 noon deadline on June 3, 2024, by mail addressed as follows:

Mr.
Doug Mitchell
Ouachita Council of Governments
3000
Kilpatrick Blvd.
Monroe,
La. 71201

Or
hand-delivered to:
Ouachita Council of Governments
3000
Kilpatrick Blvd.
Monroe,
La. 71201

All inquiries should be sent in writing to:
doug@northdelta.org
May 13 2024
LLOU0100412