



MANCHAC GREENWAY COMMITTEE MEETING
October 2, 2019

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Come to Order
Maria Bernard Reid (ELOS Environmental) welcomed everyone and thanked the group for attending.
2. Minutes from Last Meeting (March 14, 2019)
Ms. Reid reminded the group of topics discussed at the March 2019 meeting:
 - a. Alternates and Options were identified, see attached table
 - b. Alternate 1 identified as the most cost efficient, but it is not a preferred solution for long-term project planning. Alternate 1 would not provide shade for bicyclists or pedestrians.
 - c. Concerns regarding cost of waterway crossings (large culverts and bridges)
- Ms. Holloway requested detours from the abandoned US 51 roadbed to Old US 51 for waterway crossings until funding is identified for bridges/culverts along old roadbed.
 - d. Mr. Dardis requested the inclusion of future phases of the Greenway project into the Concept Plan, such as Canoe/Kayak launches, improvements at Manchac boat launch, restroom facilities, lighting, and picnic facilities.

Ms. Reid gave a summary of progress since the last meeting, which included soliciting views and comments from federal, state, and local agencies, elected officials, citizen groups, and interested parties; and updates to the Concept Plan.

3. Comments received from Agencies and Interested Parties
 - a. Solicitation of Views letter sent to list of agencies, elected officials, special interest groups, and other interested parties on June 7, 2019.
 - b. Responses received from: Capital Region Planning Commission, DNR Office of Coastal Management, DOTD District 62, Turtle Cove Research Station, US Army Corps of Engineers, and Friends of the Manchac Greenway.
 - c. How each comment was incorporated into the Concept Plan is provided in the plan on pages 17 and 18.

Ms. Reid met with Bridget Bailey regarding comments received during the solicitation of views. Ms. Reid and Ms. Bailey discussed edits and inclusions in the Concept Plan including additional funding sources.

4. Request for inclusion of creative funding sources
 - a. Cost share opportunities
 - b. In-kind payment

- c. Encouraging partnerships

Ms. Reid reminded the group of the objectives that the Parish provided to the ELOS team.

5. Reminder of Project Objectives:

- a. Identify alternates to provide connectivity from Ponchatoula to Pass Manchac
- b. Identify and prioritize projects into phases for construction, and
- c. Identify costs for each phase.

- Concept Plan is not intended to get us to construction. It provides the basis to show an alternate that can be built; the priority of connectivity, and next steps towards design, funding, and construction.

6. What are our next steps?

- a. Begin design on area through the I-55/US 51 Interchange “problem area”
- b. Find funding sources, grant applications for Alternate 1 design and implementation
- c. Foster partnerships with local entities, commercial businesses, and other interested parties

Funding Discussion continued:

The group discussed the potential of using RESTORE or an amendment to RESTORE funding, Capital Outlay, or private donations for design and construction costs.

- Tangipahoa Parish Government’s RESTORE funds are currently allocated for the breakwater projects in lakes Pontchartrain and Maurepas.

- Capital Outlay is also an option.

Missy Cowart said that currently, Tangipahoa Parish is using Capital Outlay funds for Hoover Road improvements.

City of Ponchatoula may apply. Applications must be submitted by November 1.

Rhonda Sheridan reminded group of Mayors election in 2 weeks. She didn’t think we could meet the deadline this year.

Ms. Bailey requested that the private donation funding be channeled through a 501(c)(3) with a proven track record of managing contracts for design and construction.

Suggestions of the Lake Pontchartrain Foundation, Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Foundation, Tangipahoa Economic Development Foundation, or similar.

Ms. Bailey and Ms. Cowart requested ELOS and Meyer Engineers to develop a scope of services and cost estimate for design phase of the section of the Greenway from Pugh Road south to Joyce WMA Swamp Walk.

Ms. Reid thanked everyone in attendance for their generous help throughout the year-long process.

Meeting was adjourned.

Alternative/ Option	From Manchac Pass to Joyce WMA	Joyce WMA to Treatment Ponds	Treatment Ponds to Ponchatoula Trailhead
Alt 1	Required shared use shoulder on Parish Road 51 (Old 51) with separate 5-foot pedestrian sidewalk		
Alt 2	Required 10-foot multi-use path on abandoned US 51 roadbed. Culverts will be extended or bridges will be built to cross waterways along route.		
Alt 3		Required 10-foot multi-use path on existing gravel road/abandoned US 51 roadbed and fence for control-of-access Culverts will be extended or bridges will be built to cross waterways along route.	
Alt 4		Required 10-foot multi-use path east of railroad tracks or boardwalk onto Joyce WMA from railroad crossing Option 1 or 2 Culverts will be extended or bridges will be built to cross waterways along route.	Required 10-foot multi-use path east of railroad tracks with required right-of-way from Pugh Family between Ponchatoula wastewater treatment ponds and Pugh Drive.
Option 1		Required railroad crossing for bicycles and pedestrians at Pipeline	
Option 2		Required railroad crossing for bicycles and pedestrians at Marine Power driveway	

Alternative/ Option	From Manchac Pass to Joyce WMA	Joyce WMA to Treatment Ponds	Treatment Ponds to Ponchatoula Trailhead
Alt 5			From Pugh Drive to Magnolia Street: Required 5-foot sidewalk with curb on road & shared use road on SE Railroad Avenue
Alt 6			From Pugh Drive to Magnolia Street: Required 10-foot sidewalk with curb & culvert ditch between railroad tracks and SE Railroad Avenue From Pecan to Magnolia Street: Required 5-foot pedestrian sidewalk with curb on west side of road
Alt 7			From Magnolia Street to Pine Street: Required 5-foot sidewalk with curb on road and change SE Railroad Ave to one-way heading north
Alt 8			From Magnolia Street to Pine Street: Required 5-foot pedestrian sidewalk with curb on east side of road

Meeting Sign In Sheet

Project Manchac Greenway
 Day/Date: October 2, 2019

Meeting Location : Clausen Conference Room
 Meeting Time: 10:00 AM

Name	Company	Email
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