

## **Appendix P**

NOI, SOV letter, recipients,  
and responses

business on Wednesday July 13, 2016; written comments from members of the public for distribution at this meeting must reach Ms. Robinson by letter or email on this same date. A member of the public requesting reasonable accommodation should also make his/her request to Ms. Robinson by July 13. Requests received after that date will be considered but might not be able to be fulfilled.

The agenda of the meeting will include: Universal Postal Union Congress Preparations, Extraterritorial Offices of Exchange (ETOE), and Strengthening Global Capacity for Addressing.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Please contact Ms. Sherece Robinson of the Office of Specialized and Technical Agencies (IO/STA), Bureau of International Organization Affairs, U.S. Department of State, at tel. (202) 663-2649, by email at [RobinsonSA2@state.gov](mailto:RobinsonSA2@state.gov), or by mail at IO/STA, Suite L-409 SA-1; U.S. Department of State; Washington, DC 20522.

Dated: June 10, 2016.

**Joseph P. Murphy,**

*Designated Federal Officer, Advisory Committee on International Postal and Delivery Services, Office of Specialized and Technical Agencies, Bureau of International Organization Affairs, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 2016-14641 Filed 6-20-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4710-19-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee; Meeting

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee (ARAC) meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA is issuing this notice to advise the public of a meeting of the ARAC.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on July 19, 2016, starting at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Savings Time. Arrange oral presentations by July 12, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will take place at the Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20591, 10th Floor, MacCracken Conference Room.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Katherine Haley, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20591, telephone (202) 267- 3788; fax (202)

267-5075; email [Katherine.L.Haley@faa.gov](mailto:Katherine.L.Haley@faa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2), we are giving notice of a meeting of the ARAC taking place on July 19, 2016, at the Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20591.

The Agenda includes:

#### 1. Status Reports From Active Working Groups

- a. ARAC
  - i. Aircraft Systems Information Security/Protection Working Group
  - ii. Air Traffic Controller Training Working Group
  - iii. Rotorcraft Occupant Protection Working Group
  - iv. Rotorcraft Bird Strike Working Group
  - v. Load Master Certification Working Group
  - vi. Airman Certification Systems Working Group
- b. Transport Airplane and Engine (TAE) Subcommittee
  - i. Transport Airplane Metallic and Composite Structures Working Group—Transport Airplane Damage-Tolerance and Fatigue Evaluation
  - ii. Flight Test Harmonization Working Group—Phase 2 Tasking
  - iii. Transport Airplane Crashworthiness and Ditching Evaluation Working Group
  - iv. Engine Harmonization Working Group- Engine Endurance Testing Requirements—Revision of Section 33.87
  - v. Airworthiness Assurance Working Group

#### 2. Status Report From the FAA

Attendance is open to the interested public but limited to the space available. Please confirm your attendance with the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section no later than July 12, 2016. Please provide the following information: Full legal name, country of citizenship, and name of your industry association, or applicable affiliation. If you are attending as a public citizen, please indicate so.

For persons participating by telephone, please contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by email or phone for the teleconference call-in number and passcode. Callers are responsible for paying long-distance charges.

The public must arrange by July 12, 2016 to present oral statements at the meeting. The public may present

written statements to the Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee by providing 25 copies to the Designated Federal Officer, or by bringing the copies to the meeting.

If you are in need of assistance or require a reasonable accommodation for this meeting, please contact the person listed under the heading **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**. Sign and oral interpretation, as well as a listening device, can be made available if requested 10 calendar days before the meeting.

Issued in Washington, DC, on June 15, 2016.

**Dale Bouffiou,**

*Acting Designated Federal Officer, Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee.*

[FR Doc. 2016-14589 Filed 6-20-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Highway Administration

#### Environmental Impact Statement: Lafayette Parish, Louisiana

**AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The FHWA is issuing this notice to advise the public that a supplement to a final environmental impact statement will be prepared for a proposed highway project in Lafayette Parish, Louisiana.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Joshua Cunningham, Project Delivery Team Leader, Federal Highway Administration, 5304 Flanders Drive, Suite A, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808, Telephone: (225) 757-7600.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The

FHWA, in cooperation with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, and the Lafayette Consolidated Government, will prepare a supplement to the final environmental impact statement (EIS) on a proposal to upgrade route U.S. 90/U.S. 167 in Lafayette Parish, Louisiana. The original EIS for the improvements (FHWA-LA-EIS-00-01-F) was approved on January 8, 2003. The proposed improvements to U.S. 90/U.S. 167 provide a six-lane fully controlled access freeway from just south of the Lafayette Regional Airport north to the southern terminus of Interstate 49 at the Interstate 10/ Interstate 49 Interchange, generally along the existing U.S. 90/U.S. 167 corridor (Evangeline Thruway) with a portion on new alignment, in urban Lafayette, for a distance of approximately 5.5 miles. Improvements

to the corridor are considered necessary to provide for existing and projected traffic demand and system linkage.

A Reevaluation of the 2003 Record of Decision (ROD) had recently been initiated and was anticipated to include follow-up to the 21 Commitments in the ROD. In consideration of input from the community, various refinements to the approved alternative are being evaluated. Preparation of a supplement to the EIS has been determined to be the appropriate documentation of the potential refinements.

Considerations include (1) constructing the approved alternative as described in the ROD and (2) incorporation of refinements to the approved alternative. Updated information on the effects of the approved alternative will be incorporated into and studied with any refinements.

Letters describing the proposed action and soliciting comments will be sent to appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies and will be posted on the project Web site for public comment. Public involvement activities have been on-going, including two public meetings recently held. Additional public involvement activities, including a public meeting, will be held in Lafayette between June 2016 and the conclusion of this study. In addition, a public hearing will be held. Public notice will be given of the time and place of the meeting and hearing. The draft supplemental EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearing. No formal scoping meeting will be held.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this proposed action are addressed and all significant issues identified, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments or questions concerning this proposed action and the EIS should be directed to the FHWA at the address provided above. (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Research, Planning, and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program.)

Issued on: June 14, 2016.

**Charles Bolinger,**

*Division Administrator, Baton Rouge.*

[FR Doc. 2016-14583 Filed 6-20-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2015-0436]

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection Request: Financial Responsibility for Motor Carriers of Passengers and Motor Carriers of Property

**AGENCY:** Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, FMCSA announces its plan to submit the Information Collection Request (ICR) described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. The FMCSA and the public use the information (which is currently being collected) to verify that a motor carrier of property or passengers has obtained, and has in effect, the required minimum levels of financial responsibility. Statute mandates that motor carriers maintain proof of the required financial responsibility at their principal places of business, available upon request of an FMCSA safety investigator during compliance reviews. Insurance Endorsements and Surety Bonds are considered public information and must be produced by a motor carrier of passengers for review upon reasonable request by a member of the public.

**DATES:** Please send your comments on or before July 21, 2016. OMB must receive your comments by this date in order to act quickly on the ICR.

**ADDRESSES:** All comments should reference Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Docket Number FMCSA-2015-0436. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget. Comments should be addressed to the attention of the Desk Officer, Department of Transportation/Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and sent via electronic mail to [oir\\_submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:oir_submission@omb.eop.gov), or faxed to (202) 395-6974, or mailed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Docket Library, Room 10102, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Tura Gatling, Registration, Licensing,

and Insurance Division, Office of Registration and Safety Information, Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, West Building 6th Floor, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone: 202-385-2415; email: [tura.gatling@dot.gov](mailto:tura.gatling@dot.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** Financial Responsibility for Motor Carriers of Passengers and Motor Carriers of Property.

**OMB Control Number:** 2126-0008.

**Type of Request:** Extension of a currently-approved information collection.

**Respondents:** Insurance and surety companies of motor carriers of property (Forms MCS-90 and MCS-82) and motor carriers of passengers (Forms MCS-90B and MCS-82B).

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 8,004 [896 insurers for IC1 + 896 insurers for IC2 + 231 insurers for IC3 + 231 insurers for IC4 + 5,750 carriers for IC5 (Canada: 111 passenger carriers + 2,716 property carriers) + (Mexico & NNA: 2 passenger carriers + 2,921 property carriers)].

**Estimated Time per Response:** The FMCSA estimates it takes two minutes to complete the Endorsement for Motor Carrier Policies of Insurances for Public Liability or the Motor Carrier Public Liability Surety Bond; and one minute to place either document on board the vehicle [49 CFR 387.7(f)(property); 387.31(f)(passengers)]. These endorsements and surety bonds are maintained at the motor carrier's principal place of business [49 CFR 387.7(d); 49 CFR 387.31(d)].

**Expiration Date:** June 30, 2016.

**Frequency of Response:** Upon creation, change or replacement of an insurance policy or surety bond.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden:** 4,777 hours [4,065 annual burden hours for ICs 1-4 + 712 annual burden hours for IC-5 document replacement = 4,777].

**Background:** The Secretary of Transportation is responsible for implementing regulations which establish minimal levels of financial responsibility for: (1) For-hire motor carriers of property to cover public liability, property damage and environmental restoration, and (2) for-hire motor carriers of passengers to cover public liability and property damage. The Endorsement for Motor Carrier Policies of Insurance for Public Liability (Forms MCS-90/90B) and the Motor Carrier Public Liability Surety Bond (Forms MCS-82/82B) contain the minimum amount of information necessary to document that a motor

July 20, 2016

STATE PROJECT NO. H.004273.5  
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. H004273  
I-49 CONNECTOR  
LAFAYETTE REGIONAL AIRPORT TO I-10/I-49/US 167 INTERCHANGE  
LAFAYETTE PARISH

SUBJECT: Solicitation of Views

In the planning stages of a transportation facility, views from federal, state and local agencies, organizations, and individuals are solicited. The special expertise of these groups can assist the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) with the identification of possible adverse economic, social, or environmental effects or concerns. On behalf of the DOTD, the consultant team, Lafayette Connector Partners (LCP), requests your assistance in this regard.

Attached is a Vicinity Map showing the general location of the project, along with a preliminary project description, to assist in your review.

It is requested that you review the attached information and furnish us with your views and comments by August 20, 2016. Replies should be addressed to Louis Costa at Lafayette Connector Partners, P.O. Box 3136, Lafayette, LA 70502. Please reference the captioned project in your reply.

Sincerely,  
Lafayette Connector Partners

Louis Costa  
Environmental Task Manager  
Attachments



## **PRELIMINARY PROJECT DATA**

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) proposes to construct the Lafayette Connector, which is one component of Interstate 49 (I-49), to connect I-49 from I-10 in Lafayette, LA to I-10 in New Orleans, LA.

In 2000, DOTD, in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Lafayette Connector and a Final EIS in 2002. In 2003, FHWA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) for the selected alternative, RR-4 Elevated with MPO Subalternative and Subalternative H.

This approved alternative generally extends along the Evangeline Thruway corridor, with a portion on new alignment, from the Lafayette Regional Airport to the I-10/I-49/US 167 Interchange, a distance of approximately 5.5 miles.

In the central area of Lafayette, the Evangeline Thruway is routed along a one-way couplet and has three 10-foot lanes with no shoulders in each direction; to the south of Pinhook Road and to the north of the railroad spur crossing, the Thruway has three 12-foot lanes in each direction with shoulders and a median.

The Purpose and Need for the project includes:

- System linkage,
- Relieve congestion in Evangeline Thruway Corridor,
- Implement long-standing plans for freeway in the Evangeline Thruway Corridor,
- Meet intent of federal enabling legislation,
- Provide beneficial intermodal connections,
- Improve safety,
- Provide for hurricane evacuation, and
- Improve regional mobility.

In 2015, DOTD initiated the conceptual design phase to advance the project into design. This phase was anticipated to include a Reevaluation of the EIS and ROD to determine whether there have been changes to the scope of the project or project area since the ROD and to follow-up on the 21 commitments in the ROD.

In consideration of input from the community, Potential Refinement Concepts to the Selected Alternative are now being assessed. FHWA and DOTD have agreed that a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), in lieu of a Reevaluation, will be appropriate for assessing and documenting these possible changes along the approved alignment. A Notice of Intent to prepare an SEIS was published in the Federal Register on June 21, 2016.

Potential Refinement Concepts include:

- The Selected Alternative identified in the 2002 FEIS and the 2003 ROD, and
- Eighteen (18) potential Refinement Concepts that have been identified for modification of the Selected Alternative in the central area of Lafayette, generally between Pinhook Road in the south and the railroad spur crossing in the north.

Other modifications to the Selected Alternative, designated Potential Design Modifications Based on Input also are being assessed. These modifications are located in various areas of the corridor and do not necessarily apply to a specific Refinement Concept.

On the project website, [lafayetteconnector.com](http://lafayetteconnector.com), under Project Library, sketches of the Potential Refinement Concepts are in the Tier 1 Refinement Concept and Evaluation Framework tab, and a list of the Potential Design Modifications Based on Input is in the Potential Design Modification Based on Input tab.

It is anticipated that the number of concepts will be narrowed down to a smaller number for more detailed study through a tiering process, and that one of the concepts will be incorporated into the Selected Alternative.

Level 1, the Selected Alternative Right-of-Way and Level 2, the area within 500 feet of the Right-of-Way within the Area of Influence, developed as part of the Corridor Preservation and Management Plan in 2002, are shown on the enclosed Vicinity Map.

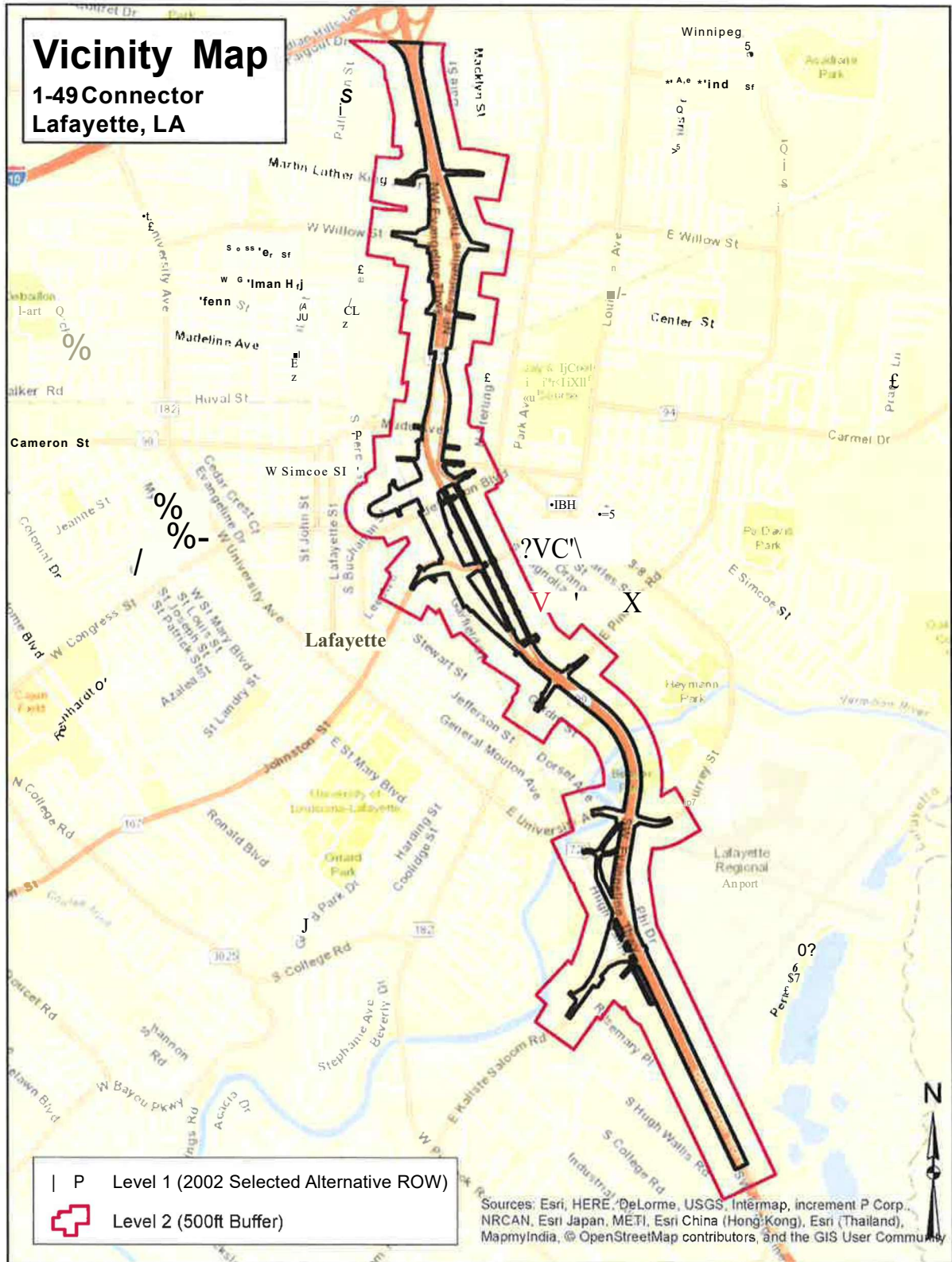
The 2002 Selected Alternative will require additional right-of-way and associated residential and business relocations. The Potential Refinement Concepts and Potential Design Modifications may require different quantities of additional right-of-way and associated relocations.

In addition to the study of the Potential Refinement Concepts and the Potential Design Modifications, the SEIS will include updated information on the effects of the Selected Alternative.

One of these updates will be a Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act process to identify and assess effects on historic properties in the project area that are, or may be eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, including the recently listed Freetown-Port Rico Historic District.

The SEIS process is anticipated to include at least one Public Meeting, distribution of a Draft SEIS, a Public Hearing, distribution of a Final SEIS, and a Supplemental Record of Decision.

## VICINITY MAP



8TH COAST GUARD DISTRICT (NO)  
DISTRICT COMMANDER  
HALE BOGGS FEDERAL BUILDING  
500 POYDRAS ST  
New Orleans LA 70130

ACADIANA MPO  
MELANIE BORDELON, MPO MANAGER  
PO BOX 568  
Carencro LA 70520

ACADIANA PLANNING COMMISSION  
DIRECTOR  
PO BOX 568  
CARENCRO LA 70520

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
LAFAYETTE  
PO BOX 51307  
LAFAYETTE LA 70503

CHITIMACHA TRIBE OF LA.  
KIMBERLY WALDEN, CULTURAL DIR.  
P.O. BOX 661  
CHARENTON LA 70523

CITY OF LAFAYETTE  
TRANSIT AUTHORITY  
P O BOX 4017-C  
LAFAYETTE LA 70502

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT  
C/O KAREN CLEMENT, COMPLETED WK  
P.O. BOX 60267  
NEW ORLEANS LA 70160-0267

HON. ELBERT L. GUILLORY  
LOUISIANA STATE SENATE  
(DISTRICT 24)  
633 EAST LANDRY ST  
OPELOUSAS LA 70570

HON. FRED H. MILLS JR.  
LOUISIANA STATE SENATE  
(DISTRICT 22)  
1010 MARTIN ST  
PARKS LA 70582

HON. JACK MONToucET  
LA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
(DISTRICT 42)  
112 E. HUTCHINSON AVE.  
CROWLEY LA 70526

HON. JOEL C ROBIDEAUX  
LA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
(DISTRICT 45)  
102 WOODVALE AVE, STE B  
LAFAYETTE LA 70503

HON. JOEY DUREL  
LAFAYETTE CITY-PARISH PRESIDEN  
P O BOX 4017-C  
LAFAYETTE LA 70502

HON. JONATHAN PERRY  
LOUISIANA STATE SENATE  
(DISTRICT 26)  
P.O. BOX 100  
KAPLAN LA 70548

HON. NANCY LANDRY  
LA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
(DISTRICT 31)  
109 SOUTH COLLEGE RD  
LAFAYETTE LA 70503

HON. PATRICK PAGE CORTEZ  
LOUISIANA STATE SENATE  
(DISTRICT 23)  
101 W. FARRELL RD.  
BLDG. 5, STE. 100  
LAFAYETTE LA 70508

HON. STEPHEN J. ORTEGO  
LA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
(DISTRICT 39)  
P. O. BOX 625  
CARENCRO LA 70520

HON. STUART J. BISHOP  
LA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
(DISTRICT 43)  
P. O. BOX 80993  
LAFAYETTE LA 70508

HON. TAYLOR BARRAS  
LA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
(DISTRICT 48)  
800 S. LEWIS ST., STE.206  
NEW IBERIA, LA 70560

HON. TERRY LANDRY SR.  
LA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
(DISTRICT 96)  
800 S. LEWIS ST., STE 201-B  
NEW IBERIA LA 70560

HON. VINCENT J. PIERRE  
LA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
(DISTRICT 44)  
800 W. CONGRESS ST., STE. A  
LAFAYETTE LA 70501

LAFAYETTE AIRPORT COMMISSION  
CHAIRMAN  
222 TOWER DR  
LAFAYETTE LA 70508

LAFAYETTE CITY-PARISH COUNCIL  
P O BOX 4017-C  
LAFAYETTE LA 70502

LAFAYETTE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT  
FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR  
C/O PLANNING, ZONING & DEVELOPMENT  
P.O. BOX 4017-C  
LAFAYETTE LA 70502

LAFAYETTE CONVENTION &  
VISITORS COMMISSION  
P O BOX 52066  
LAFAYETTE LA 70505

LAFAYETTE PARISH  
CIVIL DEFENSE DIRECTOR  
P O BOX 3286  
LAFAYETTE LA 70502

LAFAYETTE PARISH  
SCHOOL BOARD  
P O DRAWER 2158  
LAFAYETTE LA 70502

LAFAYETTE PARISH  
SHERIFF  
916 LAFAYETTE ST  
LAFAYETTE LA 70501

LAFAYETTE SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION DIST OF LA  
905 JEFFERSON BLVD  
STE 310  
WHITNEY NATIONAL BANK BLDG  
LAFAYETTE LA 70505

LEDA  
MR GREGG GOTHREAU  
211 DEVALCOURT ST  
LAFAYETTE LA 70506

LOUISIANA STATE POLICE  
TROOP I  
121 EAST PONT DES MOUTON  
LAFAYETTE LA 70507

ST. MARTIN IBERIA LAFAYETTE  
SMILE COMMUNITY ACTION AGCY.  
P.O. BOX 3343  
LAFAYETTE LA 70502

COALITION TO RESTORE  
COASTAL LOUISIANA  
KIMBERLY REYHER, EXEC. DIR.  
6160 PERKINS RD STE 225  
BATON ROUGE LA 70808

COUSHATTA TRIBE OF LOUISIANA  
DR. LINDA LANGLEY, THPO  
P O BOX 818  
ELTON LA 70532

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
& FORESTRY  
OFFICE OF FORESTRY  
5825 FLORIDA BLVD. SUITE 6000  
Baton Rouge LA 70806

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
& FORESTRY  
OFFICE OF SOIL/WATER CONS  
5825 FLORIDA BLVD., SUITE 7000  
Baton Rouge LA 70806

DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE  
RECREATION & TOURISM  
DIVISION OF ARCHAEOLOGY  
P O BOX 44247  
Baton Rouge LA 70804

DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE  
RECREATION & TOURISM  
OFFICE OF STATE PARKS  
P O BOX 44426  
Baton Rouge LA 70804

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION  
P O BOX 66336  
Baton Rouge LA 70896

DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
EMAIL LETTERS SOV'S TO  
LINDA.HARDY@LA.GOV  
EMAIL: LINDA.HARDY@LA.GOV  
Baton Rouge LA 70802

DEPT OF HEALTH AND HOSPITALS  
TENNEY SIBLEY  
CHIEF SANITARIAN  
P O BOX 629  
Baton Rouge LA 70821-0629

DEPT OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES  
LA. NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM  
P O BOX 98000  
BATON ROUGE LA 70898

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HOSPITALS  
OPH ENGINEERING SVCS (BIN 10)  
ATTN: YUANDA ZHU  
628 NORTH 4TH STREET  
Baton Rouge LA 70802

DEPT.OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT  
P O BOX 94185  
Baton Rouge LA 70804

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION  
FACILITY PLANNING & CONTROL  
P O BOX 94095  
BATON ROUGE LA 70804

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION  
STATE LAND OFFICE  
P O BOX 44124  
BATON ROUGE LA 70804

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
AGENCY  
SOURCE WATER PROTECTION (6WQ-S  
1445 ROSS AVE  
DALLAS TX 75202-2733

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMIN. REGION  
819 TAYLOR ST RM. 8A36  
FORT WORTH TX 76102

FEMA REGION VI  
FRC 800 NORTH LOOP 288  
DENTON TX 76209

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM  
DOTD SECTION 64  
INTRADEPARTMENTAL MAIL  
DOTD LA 70802

INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL  
OF LOUISIANA, INC.  
DIRECTOR  
991 GRAND CAILLOU RD  
HOUMA LA 70363-5705

JENA BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS  
ALINA SHIVELY, DEPUTY THPO  
EMAIL:  
ASHIVELY@JENACHOCTAW.ORG  
JENA LA 71342

LA. DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION  
P O BOX 94275  
BATON ROUGE LA 70804-9275

LA. DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
OFFICE OF MINERAL RESOURCES  
P O BOX 2827  
BATON ROUGE LA 70821

LA. GOOD ROADS ASSOCIATION  
P O BOX 3713  
BATON ROUGE LA 70821

LOUISIANA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION  
ATTN: MR. BUCK VANDERSTEEN  
P O BOX 5067  
ALEXANDRIA LA 71307

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
SEA GRANT LEGAL ADVISORY SVC.  
JAMES G WILKINS  
227B SEA GRANT BUILDING  
Baton Rouge LA 70803

MISSISSIPPI BAND OF  
CHOCTAW INDIANS  
E-MAIL TO KCARLETON@CHOCTAW.ORG  
KCARLETON@CHOCTAW.ORG  
Philadelphia MS 39350

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
SOUTHEAST REGION  
ATTN: ANITA JACKSON  
100 ALABAMA ST, SW, 1924 BLDG.  
ATLANTA GA 30303

NATURAL RESOURCES  
CONSERVATION SERVICE  
KEVIN D. NORTON  
3737 GOVERNMENT ST  
ALEXANDRIA LA 71302

SEMINOLE NATION OF OKLAHOMA  
EMAIL LETTERS TO NATALIE HARJO  
AT HARJO.N@SNO-NSN.ORG  
HARJO.N@SNO-NSN.GOV  
Wewoka OK 74884

TUNICA-BILOXI TRIBE OF LA.  
EARL J. BARBRY, JR., THPO  
P.O. BOX 1589  
MARKSVILLE LA 71351

U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE  
ONLINE USFWS SOV  
WWW.FWS.GOV/LAFAYETTE  
Lafayette LA 70506

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
3535 S SHERWOOD FOREST STE 120  
BATON ROUGE LA 70806

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HON. CEDRIC RICHMOND  
(DISTRICT 2)  
2021 LAKESHORE DR., STE 309  
NEW ORLEANS LA 70122

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HON. CHARLES BOUSTANY, JR. MD  
(DISTRICT 3)  
800 LAFAYETTE ST., STE 1400  
LAFAYETTE LA 70501

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HON. GARRET GRAVES  
(DISTRICT 6)  
2351 ENERGY DRIVE, STE 1200  
BATON ROUGE LA 70808

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HON. JOHN FLEMING  
(DISTRICT 4)  
6425 YOUREE DRIVE STE 350  
SHREVEPORT LA 71105

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HON. RALPH ABRAHAM  
(DISTRICT 5)  
426 DESIARD ST  
MONROE LA 71201

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HON. STEVE J. SCALISE  
(DISTRICT 1)  
110 VETERANS BLVD., STE. 500  
METAIRIE LA 70005

UNITED STATES SENATE  
SENATOR BILL CASSIDY M.D.  
5555 HILTON AVENUE, STE 100  
BATON ROUGE LA 70808

UNITED STATES SENATE  
SENATOR DAVID VITTER  
2800 VETERANS MEMORIAL BLVD ST  
METAIRIE LA 70002

USEPA  
REGION 6  
1445 ROSS AVE, STE 1200  
DALLAS TX 75202-2733





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APC Vice-Chairman

Joel Robideaux  
Lafayette Mayor-President  
APC Treasurer

Ryan M. Ardoin  
Evangeline Police Jury President  
APC Secretary

Ronald Darby  
Vermilion Police Jury President

M. Larry Richard  
Iberia Parish President

David Savoy  
Acadia Police Jury President

Dr. E. Joseph Savoie  
University of Louisiana President

Monique B. Boulet  
APC CEO

101 Jefferson St.  
Lafayette, LA 70501  
PO Box 3705  
Lafayette, LA 70502

377-806-9368  
www.planacadiana.org

Louis Costa  
Environmental Task Manager  
Lafayette Connector Partners  
PO Box 3136  
Lafayette, La. 70502

STATE PROJECT NO.: H.004273  
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO.: H004273  
1-49 CONNECTOR  
LAFAYETTE REGIONAL AIRPORT TO I-10/I-49/US 167 INTERCHANGE  
LAFAYETTE PARISH

SUBJECT: Solicitation of Views

Mr. Costa:

The Acadiana Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is in full support of the above referenced project. Prior to July 1, 2015 the Lafayette MPO was the MPO for the Acadiana region. On October 21, 2008 the Lafayette MPO identified the project as its top priority through Resolution R-003-2008 (MPO) of the Lafayette Consolidated Government Council acting as the governing board of the Lafayette MPO.

The Acadiana MPO and the Lafayette MPO has been a partner in the development of multiple studies, the FEIS and the Record of Decision. The Acadiana MPO is working with the Lafayette Connector Partners, Lafayette Consolidated Government (LCG), DOTD and FHWA throughout the SEIS process.

The proposed project connects 1-49 through the Acadiana MPO area. In addition, it is projected to relieve congestion along the Evangeline Thruway Corridor as well as along multiple corridors in the MPO region. This is the single most impactful project analyzed by the MPO's Long Range Plan having the greatest effect on the regional MPO road network.

The proposed project is along a major hurricane evacuation and freight route. It will allow a higher capacity during hurricane evacuations with less impact on the local roadway network. The proposed design should improve intermodal connectivity along the corridor providing a safer roadway network for all travelers. In addition to positive traffic and congestion issues, building the Lafayette Connector has the potential to fundamentally improve the quality of life for the entire community.

The 1-49 Connector is consistent with all plans within the Acadiana MPO planning area.

Sincerely,

Monique B. Boulet  
Chief Executive Officer



**From:** [Jan Grenfell](#)  
**To:** [Costa, Louis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Solicitation of Views -- I-49 Lafayette Connector  
**Date:** Friday, September 2, 2016 3:07:15 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Lou,

Another SOV response and my response to it.

Jan

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**From:** Jan Grenfell  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2016 2:43 PM  
**To:** 'ashively@jenachoctaw.org'  
**Subject:** RE: Solicitation of Views -- I-49 Lafayette Connector

Ms. Shively,

Thank you for your response. We hope you received the August 3, 2016, letter from FHWA inviting the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians to participate in the SEIS process. We also anticipate initiating the Section 106 process for this project soon.

If we can be of further assistance at this time, please let me know.

Jan

Jan Grenfell  
Environmental Impact Manager  
Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development  
(225) 242-4509  
[jan.grenfell@la.gov](mailto:jan.grenfell@la.gov)

---

**From:** Alina Shively [<mailto:ashively@jenachoctaw.org>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2016 2:44 PM  
**To:** Jan Grenfell  
**Subject:** RE: Solicitation of Views -- I-49 Lafayette Connector

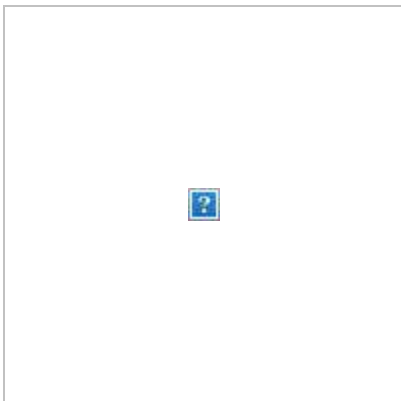
Dear Jan Grenfell:

This project has great potential to affect Archaeological and Historic sites and Cultural Resources, due to the increased amount of Right of Way needed to complete this project. Please remember that Section 106 consultation with all Tribes with interest in this areas should occur in the planning stages of a project, and should seriously be considered in the Environmental Impact Statement. Identification by the agency of all sites and Cultural Resources must be provided to all Tribes for comment and consultation, if necessary.

Please understand that an EIS does not preclude the Section 106 process prior to ground disturbing activities.

Sincerely,

Alina J. Shively  
Jena Band of Choctaw Indians  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
P.O. Box 14  
Jena, LA 71342  
(318) 992-1205  
[ashively@jenachoctaw.org](mailto:ashively@jenachoctaw.org)



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**From:** Jan Grenfell [<mailto:Jan.Grenfell@LA.GOV>]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2016 10:46 AM  
**To:** Alina Shively <[ashively@jenachoctaw.org](mailto:ashively@jenachoctaw.org)>  
**Subject:** Solicitation of Views -- I-49 Lafayette Connector

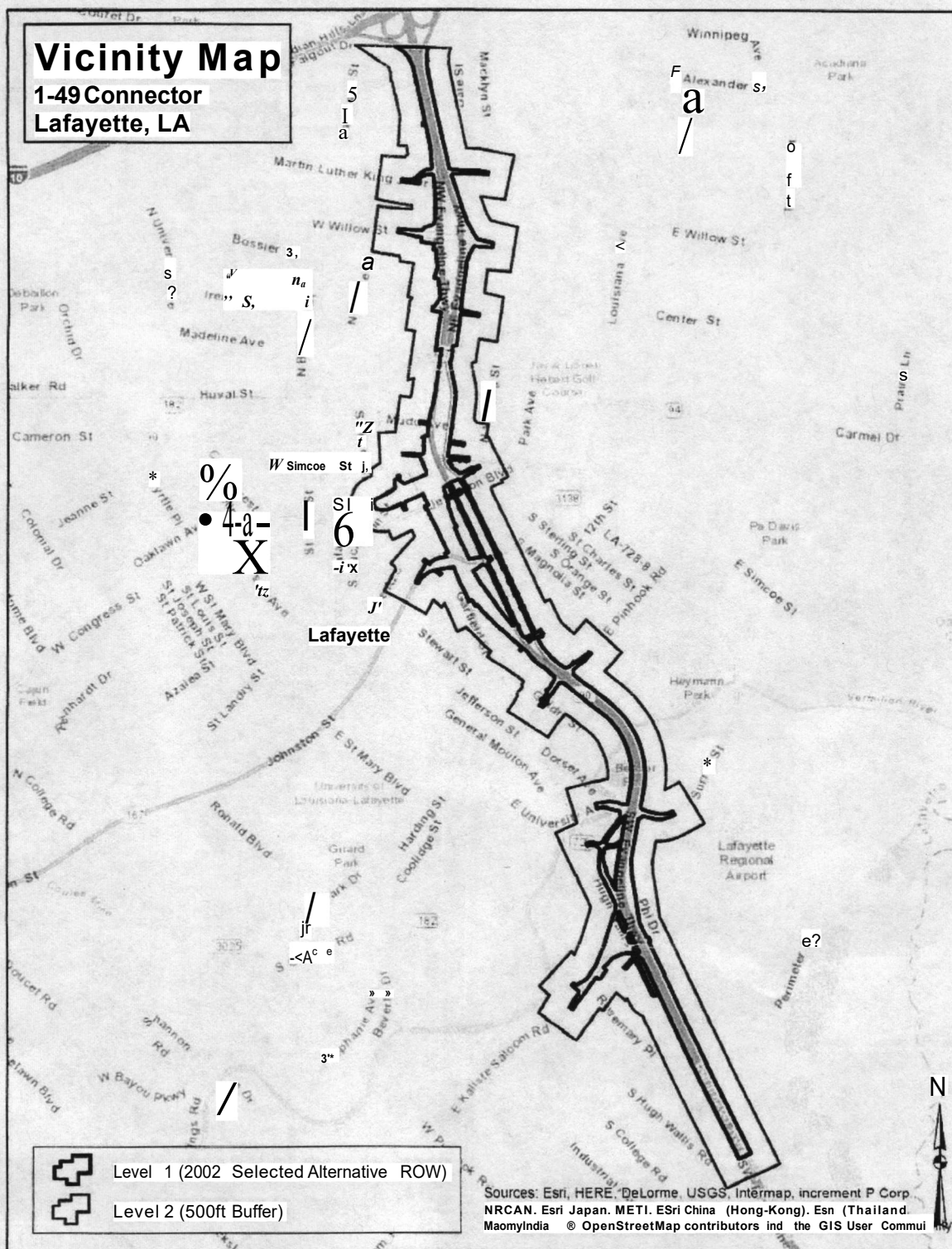
Ms. Shively,

Attached is a Solicitation of Views for the I-49 Lafayette Connector project. If we can be of further assistance, please contact me by email or telephone below.

Sincerely,

Jan Grenfell  
Environmental Impact Manager  
Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development  
(225) 242-4509  
[jan.grenfell@la.gov](mailto:jan.grenfell@la.gov)

# VICINITY MAP





On the project website, [lafaYetteconnector.com](http://lafaYetteconnector.com), under Project Library, sketches of the Potential Refinement Concepts are in the Tier 1 Refinement Concept and Evaluation Framework tab, and a list of the Potential Design Modifications Based on Input is in the Potential Design Modification Based on Input tab.

It is anticipated that the number of concepts will be narrowed down to a smaller number for more detailed study through a tiering process, and that one of the concepts will be incorporated into the Selected Alternative.

Level 1, the Selected Alternative Right-of-Way and Level 2, the area within 500 feet of the Right-of-Way within the Area of Influence, developed as part of the Corridor Preservation and Management Plan in 2002, are shown on the enclosed Vicinity Map.

The 2002 Selected Alternative will require additional right-of-way and associated residential and business relocations. The Potential Refinement Concepts and Potential Design Modifications may require different quantities of additional right-of-way and associated relocations.

In addition to the study of the Potential Refinement Concepts and the Potential Design Modifications, the SEIS will include updated information on the effects of the Selected Alternative.

One of these updates will be a Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act process to identify and assess effects on historic properties in the project area that are, or may be eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, including the recently listed Freetown-Port Rico Historic District.

The SEIS process is anticipated to include at least one Public Meeting, distribution of a Draft SEIS, a Public Hearing, distribution of a Final SEIS, and a Supplemental Record of Decision.



## PRELIMINARY PROJECT DATA

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) proposes to construct the Lafayette Connector, which is one component of Interstate 49 (I-49), to connect I-49 from I-10 in Lafayette, LA to I-10 in New Orleans, LA.

In 2000, DOTD, in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Lafayette Connector and a Final EIS in 2002. In 2003, FHWA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) for the selected alternative, RR-4 Elevated with MPO Subalternative and Subalternative H.

This approved alternative generally extends along the Evangeline Thruway corridor, with a portion on new alignment, from the Lafayette Regional Airport to the I-10/I-49/US 167 Interchange, a distance of approximately 5.5 miles.

In the central area of Lafayette, the Evangeline Thruway is routed along a one-way couplet and has three 10-foot lanes with no shoulders in each direction; to the south of Pinhook Road and to the north of the railroad spur crossing, the Thruway has three 12-foot lanes in each direction with shoulders and a median.

The Purpose and Need for the project includes:

- System linkage,
- Relieve congestion in Evangeline Thruway Corridor,
- Implement long-standing plans for freeway in the Evangeline Thruway Corridor,
- Meet intent of federal enabling legislation,
- Provide beneficial intermodal connections,
- Improve safety,
- Provide for hurricane evacuation, and
- Improve regional mobility.

In 2015, DOTD initiated the conceptual design phase to advance the project into design. This phase was anticipated to include a Reevaluation of the EIS and ROD to determine whether there have been changes to the scope of the project or project area since the ROD and to follow-up on the 21 commitments in the ROD.

In consideration of input from the community, Potential Refinement Concepts to the Selected Alternative are now being assessed. FHWA and DOTD have agreed that a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), in lieu of a Reevaluation, will be appropriate for assessing and documenting these possible changes along the approved alignment. A Notice of Intent to prepare an SEIS was published in the Federal Register on June 21, 2016.

Potential Refinement Concepts include:

- The Selected Alternative identified in the 2002 FEIS and the 2003 ROD, and
- Eighteen (18) potential Refinement Concepts that have been identified for modification of the Selected Alternative in the central area of Lafayette, generally between Pinhook Road in the south and the railroad spur crossing in the north.

Other modifications to the Selected Alternative, designated Potential Design Modifications Based on Input also are being assessed. These modifications are located in various areas of the corridor and do not necessarily apply to a specific Refinement Concept.



July 20, 2016

STATE PROJECT NO. H.004273.5  
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. H004273  
I-49 CONNECTOR  
LAFAYETTE REGIONAL AIRPORT TO I-10/I-49/US 167 INTERCHANGE  
LAFAYETTE PARISH

SUBJECT: Solicitation of Views

In the planning stages of a transportation facility, views from federal, state and local agencies, organizations, and individuals are solicited. The special expertise of these groups can assist the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) with the identification of possible adverse economic, social, or environmental effects or concerns. On behalf of the DOTD, the consultant team, Lafayette Connector Partners (LCP), requests your assistance in this regard.

Attached is a Vicinity Map showing the general location of the project, along with a preliminary project description, to assist in your review.

It is requested that you review the attached information and furnish us with your views and comments by August 20, 2016. Replies should be addressed to Louis Costa at Lafayette Connector Partners, P.O. Box 3136, Lafayette, LA 70502. Please reference the captioned project in your reply.

Sincerely,  
Lafayette Connector Partners



Louis Costa  
Environmental Task Manager

Attachments





REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT  
7400 LEAKE AVENUE  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA 70118-3651

Operations Division  
Regulatory Branch

9/21/2016

Mr. Louis Costa  
Lafayette Connector Partners  
Post Office Box 3136  
Lafayette, Louisiana 70502

Dear Mr. Costa:

Reference is made to your solicitation of views request for a portion of the I-49 Connector, **State Project No. H.004273.5**, located in Lafayette, Lafayette Parish, Louisiana (enclosed map). More specifically, the project proposes to construct additional lanes along the Evangeline Thruway from the Lafayette Regional Airport north to its intersection with 1-10.

Information and signatures obtained from recent maps, aerial photography, information provided with your request, and local soil surveys concerning this site are indicative of the occurrence of waters of the United States, including wetlands. Department of the Army (DA) permits are required prior to the deposition or redistribution of dredged or fill material into jurisdictional wetlands or waters. If an approved delineation is needed, please furnish us with the detailed field data concerning vegetation, soils, and hydrology that we require for all jurisdictional decisions. The fact that a field wetland delineation/determination has not been completed does not alleviate your responsibility to obtain the proper DA permits prior to working in jurisdictional wetlands or waters occurring on this property. Additionally, the Vermilion River is a navigable waterway and subject to Corps' jurisdiction under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. A DA Section 10 permit will be required prior to any work in the Vermilion.

Additionally, federal projects are known to exist in this area that may require further engineering review prior to the initiation of any activities on this site. For more information, please contact Ms. Tracy Falk of our Operations Division at (504) 862-2971.

Should there be any questions concerning these matters or questions specific to the permit process, please contact Mr. Stephen Pfeffer at (504) 862-2099 and reference our Account No. MVN 2016-01226-MS.

Sincerely,

PFEFFER.STEPHEN.  
DAVID.1368987812

Digitally signed by  
PFEFFER.STEPHEN.DAVID.136898781 2  
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=DoD,  
ou=PKI, ou=USA,  
cn=PFEFFER.STEPHEN.DAVID.136898781 2  
Date: 2016.09.21 15:29:48 -0500

Stephen Pfeffer  
Environmental Resources Specialist

Enclosure



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6  
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200  
DALLAS TX 75202-2733

January 23, 2017

Ms. Noel A. Ardoin  
Environmental Engineer Administrator  
LADOTD  
Section 28  
P.O. Box 94245  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

We have received your May 10, 2016, letter requesting our evaluation of the potential environmental impacts which might result from the following project:

**1-49 Lafayette Connector**  
**Construct the 1-49 Lafayette Connector from the Lafayette Regional**  
**Airport to the I-10/I-49/US 167 Interchange in Lafayette**  
**STP No. H.004273 FAP No. H004273**  
**Lafayette, Lafayette Parish, Louisiana**

The project, proposed for financial assistance through the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development funds, is located on the Chicot aquifer system which has been designated a sole source aquifer (SSA) by the EPA. Based on the information provided for the project, we have determined that the project, as proposed, should not have an adverse effect on the quality of the ground water underlying the project site.

This approval of the proposed project does not relieve the applicant from adhering to other State and Federal requirements, which may apply. This approval is based solely upon the potential impact to the quality of ground water as it relates to the EPA's authority pursuant to Section 1424(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

If you did not include the parish, project description, project location, area map, plat or the federal funding agency, please do so in future SSA correspondence.

If you have any questions on this letter or the SSA program please contact me at (214) 665-8485.

Sincerely yours, xzL4-7 -X

Omar T. Martinez, Coordinator  
Sole Source Aquifer Program  
Ground Water/UIC Section

cc: Ms. Jan Grenfell, Environmental Impact Manager  
Jesse Means, LDEQ





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6  
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200  
DALLAS TX 75202-2733

August 10, 2016

Mr. Louis Costa  
Environmental Task Manager  
Lafayette Connector Partners (LCP)  
P.O. Box 3136  
Lafayette, LA 70502

Dear Mr. Costa:

We have received your July 20, 2016. letter requesting our evaluation of the potential environmental impacts which might result from the following project:

**1-49 Connector  
Lafayette Regional Airport To 1-10 / 1-49 / US 167 Interchange  
STP No. H.004273.5 FAP No. H004273  
Lafayette Parish  
Lafayette, Louisiana**

The project, proposed for financial assistance through the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development funds, is located on the Chicot aquifer system which has been designated a sole source aquifer (SSA) by the EPA. Based on the proposed new changes and the additional information provided for the project, we have determined that the project, as proposed, should not have an adverse effect on the quality of the ground water underlying the project site.

This approval of the proposed project does not relieve the applicant from adhering to other State and Federal requirements, which may apply. This approval is based solely upon the potential impact to the quality of ground water as it relates to the EPA's authority pursuant to Section 1424(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

If you did not include the parish, project description, project location, area map, plat or the federal funding agency, please do so in future SSA correspondence.

If you have any questions on this letter or the SSA program please contact me at (214) 665-8485.

Sincerely yours,

Jim T. Martinez, Coordinator  
Sole Source Aquifer Program  
Ground Water/UIC Section

cc: Jesse Means, LDEQ



FEMA

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
REGION VI  
MITIGATION DIVISION

## NOTICE REVIEW/ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTATION

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☐ We have no comments to offer. ☒ We offer the following comments:

**WE WOULD REQUEST THAT THE COMMUNITIES' FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATORS' BE CONTACTED FOR THE REVIEW AND POSSIBLE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS PROJECT. IF FEDERALLY FUNDED, WE WOULD REQUEST PROJECT TO BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH EO11988 & EQ 11990.**

---

REVIEWER:

*Mayra Q. Diaz*  
Floodplain Management and Insurance Branch  
Mitigation Division  
(940) 898-5541

DATE: July 27, 2016

**From:** [Jan Grenfell](#)  
**To:** [Costa, Louis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: DEQ SOV 161011/1155 I-49 Connector Lafayette Regional Airport to I-10/I-49/US 167 Interchange  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2016 7:25:43 AM

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**From:** Linda (Brown) Hardy  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 10, 2016 10:51 AM  
**To:** Jan Grenfell  
**Cc:** Yasoob Zia  
**Subject:** DEQ SOV 161011/1155 I-49 Connector Lafayette Regional Airport to I-10/I-49/US 167 Interchange

November 10, 2016

Noel Ardoin, Environmental  
Engineering Administrator  
LA DOTD  
PO Box 94245  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245  
[jan.grenfell@la.gov](mailto:jan.grenfell@la.gov)

RE: 161011/1155 I-49 Connector Lafayette Regional Airport to I-10/I-49/US 167 Interchange  
DOTD Funding  
Lafayette Parish

Dear Ms. Ardoin:

The Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ), Business and Community Outreach Division has received your request for comments on the above referenced project.

After reviewing your request, the Department has no objections based on the information provided in your submittal. However, for your information, the following general comments have been included. Please be advised that if you should encounter a problem during the implementation of this project, you should immediately notify LDEQ's Single-Point-of-contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640.

- Please take any necessary steps to obtain and/or update all necessary approvals and environmental permits regarding this proposed project.
- If your project results in a discharge to waters of the state, submittal of a Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) application may be necessary.
- If the project results in a discharge of wastewater to an existing wastewater treatment system, that wastewater treatment system may need to modify its LPDES permit before accepting the additional wastewater.
- All precautions should be observed to control nonpoint source pollution from construction activities. LDEQ has stormwater general permits for construction areas equal to or greater than one acre. It is recommended that you contact the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219-9371 to determine if your proposed project requires a permit.
- If your project will include a sanitary wastewater treatment facility, a Sewage Sludge and Biosolids Use or Disposal Permit is required. An application or Notice of Intent will be required if the sludge management practice includes preparing biosolids for land application or preparing sewage sludge to be hauled to a landfill. Additional information may be obtained on the LDEQ website at <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2296/Default.aspx> or by contacting the LDEQ Water Permits Division at (225) 219- 9371.
- If any of the proposed work is located in wetlands or other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army

Corps of Engineers, you should contact the Corps directly regarding permitting issues. If a Corps permit is required, part of the application process may involve a water quality certification from LDEQ.

- All precautions should be observed to protect the groundwater of the region.
- Please be advised that water softeners generate wastewaters that may require special limitations depending on local water quality considerations. Therefore if your water system improvements include water softeners, you are advised to contact the LDEQ Water Permits to determine if special water quality-based limitations will be necessary.
- Any renovation or remodeling must comply with LAC 33:III.Chapter 28, Lead-Based Paint Activities; LAC 33:III.Chapter 27, Asbestos-Containing Materials in Schools and State Buildings (includes all training and accreditation); and LAC 33:III.5151, Emission Standard for Asbestos for any renovations or demolitions.
- If any solid or hazardous wastes, or soils and/or groundwater contaminated with hazardous constituents are encountered during the project, notification to LDEQ's Single-Point-of-Contact (SPOC) at (225) 219-3640 is required. Additionally, precautions should be taken to protect workers from these hazardous constituents.

**Currently, Lafayette Parish is classified as attainment with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards and has no general conformity determination obligations.**

Please send all future requests to my attention. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (225) 219-3954 or by email at [linda.hardy@la.gov](mailto:linda.hardy@la.gov).

Sincerely,

*Linda M. Hardy*

Louisiana Dept. of Environmental Quality  
Office of the Secretary  
P.O. Box 4301  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4301  
Phone: (225) 219-3954  
Fax: (225) 219-3971  
Email: [linda.hardy@la.gov](mailto:linda.hardy@la.gov)



**From:** [Jan Grenfell](#)  
**To:** [Costa, Louis](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Solicitation of Views -- I-49 Lafayette Connector  
**Date:** Friday, September 2, 2016 3:06:49 PM

---

Lou,

Please see the SOV response and my response to it.

Jan

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**From:** Jan Grenfell  
**Sent:** Friday, August 26, 2016 2:32 PM  
**To:** Bryant Celestine (histpres@actribe.org)  
**Subject:** RE: Solicitation of Views -- I-49 Lafayette Connector

Mr. Celestine,

Based on input, mostly from the Lafayette community, proposed changes to the selected alternative are being evaluated. Any changes to the original proposed ROW will depend on which of the 18 Potential Refinement Concepts and 23 Potential Design Modifications are selected through the evaluation process. The Concepts and Modifications can be found on the project website at [www.lafayettconnector.com](http://www.lafayettconnector.com) under Project Library.

We hope you received the August 3, 2016, letter from FHWA inviting the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe to participate in the SEIS process. We also anticipate initiating the Section 106 process for this project soon.

If we can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Jan

Jan Grenfell  
Environmental Impact Manager  
Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development  
(225) 242-4509  
[jan.grenfell@la.gov](mailto:jan.grenfell@la.gov)

---

**From:** Bryant Celestine [<mailto:Celestine.Bryant@actribe.org>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 24, 2016 5:09 PM  
**To:** Jan Grenfell  
**Subject:** RE: Solicitation of Views -- I-49 Lafayette Connector

Ms. Grenfell:

I am not sure I understand the renewed inquiry. Is the DOT looking to expand the original ROW for improvement considerations of the 5.5 mile route? How is any new ROW proposal different from the original, other than the 500 buffer? Thank you!

*Bryant J. Celestine*

Historic Preservation Officer  
Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas  
571 State Park Road 56  
Livingston, Texas 77351  
(936) 563 – 1181 (office)  
(936) 933 – 7297 (cell)  
[Celestine.bryant@actribe.org](mailto:Celestine.bryant@actribe.org)

---

**From:** Jan Grenfell [<mailto:Jan.Grenfell@LA.GOV>]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 25, 2016 10:45 AM  
**To:** 'celestine.bryant@actribe.org'  
**Subject:** Solicitation of Views -- I-49 Lafayette Connector

Mr. Celestine,

Attached is a Solicitation of Views for the I-49 Lafayette Connector project. If we can be of further assistance, please contact me by email or telephone below.

Sincerely,

Jan Grenfell  
Environmental Impact Manager  
Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development  
(225) 242-4509  
[jan.grenfell@la.gov](mailto:jan.grenfell@la.gov)



July 28, 2016

Mr. Louis Costa  
Environmental Task Manager  
Lafayette Connector Partners  
P.O. Box 3136  
Lafayette, LA 70502

RE: State Project No. H.004273.5  
Federal Aid Project NO. H004273  
I-49 Connector  
Lafayette Regional Airport to I-10/I-49/US 167 Interchange  
Lafayette Parish

Dear Mr. Costa:

I have reviewed the above referenced project for potential requirements of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) and potential impact to Natural Resource Conservation Service projects in the immediate vicinity.

Projects are subject to FPPA requirements if they may irreversibly convert farmland (directly or indirectly) to nonagricultural use and are completed by a federal agency or with assistance from a federal agency. For the purpose of FPPA, farmland includes prime farmland, unique farmland, and land of statewide or local importance. Farmland subject to FPPA requirements can be forest land, pastureland, cropland, or other land, but not water or urban built-up land.

The project map and narrative submitted with your request indicates that the proposed construction areas is in an urban area and therefore are exempt from the rules and regulations of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)—Subtitle I of Title XV, Section 1539-1549. Furthermore, we do not predict impacts to NRCS work in the vicinity.

For specific information about the soils found in the project area, please visit our Web Soil Survey at the following location: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Please direct all future correspondence to me at the address shown below.

Respectfully,

ACTING FOR

Kevin D. Norton  
State Conservationist

Attachment

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
State Office  
3737 Government Street  
Alexandria, Louisiana 71302  
voice: (318)473-7751 Fax: 1-844-325-6947  
An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

## CORRIDOR - TYPE SITE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The following criteria are to be used for projects that have a linear or corridor - type site configuration connecting two distant points, and crossing several different tracts of land. These include utility lines, highways, railroads, stream improvements, and flood control systems. Federal agencies are to assess the suitability of each corridor - type site or design alternative for protection as farmland along with the land evaluation information.

- (1) How much land is in nonurban use within a radius of 1.0 mile from where the project is intended?

More than 90 percent - 15 points  
 90 to 20 percent - 14 to 1 point(s)  
 Less than 20 percent - 0 points

- (2) How much of the perimeter of the site borders on land in nonurban use?

More than 90 percent - 10 points  
 90 to 20 percent - 9 to 1 point(s)  
 Less than 20 percent - 0 points

- (3) How much of the site has been farmed (managed for a scheduled harvest or timber activity) more than five of the last 10 years?

More than 90 percent - 20 points  
 90 to 20 percent - 19 to 1 point(s)  
 Less than 20 percent - 0 points

- (4) Is the site subject to state or unit of local government policies or programs to protect farmland or covered by private programs to protect farmland?

Site is protected - 20 points  
 Site is not protected - 0 points

- (5) Is the farm unit(s) containing the site (before the project) as large as the average - size farming unit in the County ?

(Average farm sizes in each county are available from the NRCS field offices in each state. Data are from the latest available Census of Agriculture, Acreage or Farm Units in Operation with \$1,000 or more in sales.)

As large or larger - 10 points  
 Below average - deduct 1 point for each 5 percent below the average, down to 0 points if 50 percent or more below average - 9 to 0 points

- (6) If the site is chosen for the project, how much of the remaining land on the farm will become non-farmable because of interference with land patterns?

Acreage equal to more than 25 percent of acres directly converted by the project - 25 points  
 Acreage equal to between 25 and 5 percent of the acres directly converted by the project - 1 to 24 point(s)  
 Acreage equal to less than 5 percent of the acres directly converted by the project - 0 points

- (7) Does the site have available adequate supply of farm support services and markets, i.e., farm suppliers, equipment dealers, processing and storage facilities and farmer's markets?

All required services are available - 5 points  
 Some required services are available - 4 to 1 point(s)  
 No required services are available - 0 points

- (8) Does the site have substantial and well-maintained on-farm investments such as barns, other storage building, fruit trees and vines, field terraces, drainage, irrigation, waterways, or other soil and water conservation measures?

High amount of on-farm investment - 20 points  
 Moderate amount of on-farm investment - 19 to 1 point(s)  
 No on-farm investment - 0 points

- (9) Would the project at this site, by converting farmland to nonagricultural use, reduce the demand for farm support services so as to jeopardize the continued existence of these support services and thus, the viability of the farms remaining in the area?

Substantial reduction in demand for support services if the site is converted - 25 points  
 Some reduction in demand for support services if the site is converted - 1 to 24 point(s)  
 No significant reduction in demand for support services if the site is converted - 0 points

- (10) Is the kind and intensity of the proposed use of the site sufficiently incompatible with agriculture that it is likely to contribute to the eventual conversion of surrounding farmland to nonagricultural use?

Proposed project is incompatible to existing agricultural use of surrounding farmland - 10 points  
 Proposed project is tolerable to existing agricultural use of surrounding farmland - 9 to 1 point(s)  
 Proposed project is fully compatible with existing agricultural use of surrounding farmland - 0 points



FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING  
FOR CORRIDOR TYPE PROJECTS

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)

1 Name of Project | **g Connector**  
2 Type of Project **p oac** | **Construction**

3. Date of Land Evaluation Request  
**7/20/16**  
5. Federal Agency Involved

4. Sheet 1 of 1

6. County and state **Lafayette Parish, Louisiana**

PART II (To be completed by NRCS)

1. Date Request Received by NRCS  
**7/25/16**

2. Person Completing Form  
**M. Mouton**

3. Does the corridor contain prime, unique statewide or local important farmland?  
(If no, the FPPA does not apply - Do not complete additional parts of this form).

Yes ☒ No ☐

4. Acres Irrigated | Average Farm Size

5. Major Crop(s)

6. Farmable Land in Government Jurisdiction

7. Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA

Acres: %

Acres: %

8. Name Of Land Evaluation System Used

9. Name of Local Site Assessment System

10. Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS  
**7/28/16**

PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)

Alternative Corridor For Segment

Corridor A Corridor B Corridor C Corridor D

A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly  
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly, Or To Receive Services  
C. Total Acres In Corridor

PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information

A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland  
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland  
C. Percentage Of Farmland in County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted  
D. Percentage Of Farmland in Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value

PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information Criterion Relative value of Farmland to Be Selected or Converted (Scale of 0- 100 Points)

PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Corridor Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(c))

Maximum Points

1. Area in Nonurban Use
2. Perimeter in Nonurban Use
3. Percent Of Corridor Being Farmed
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government
5. Size of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average
6. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland
7. Availability Of Farm Support Services
8. On-Farm Investments
9. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services
10. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use

15  
10  
20  
20  
10  
25  
5  
20  
25  
10

TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSMENT POINTS

160

0

0

0

0

PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)

Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)

100

0

0

0

0

Total Corridor Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)

160

0

0

0

0

TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)

260

0

0

0

0

1. Corridor Selected:

2. Total Acres of Farmlands to be Converted by Project:

3. Date Of Selection:

4. Was A Local Site Assessment Used?

YES ☐ NO ☐

5. Reason For Selection:

Signature of Person Completing this Part:

DATE

NOTE: Complete a form for each segment with more than one Alternate Corridor

July 20, 2016

STATE PROJECT NO. H.004273.5  
FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. H004273  
I-49 CONNECTOR  
LAFAYETTE REGIONAL AIRPORT TO I-10/I-49/US 167 INTERCHANGE  
LAFAYETTE PARISH

SUBJECT: Solicitation of Views

In the planning stages of a transportation facility, views from federal, state and local agencies, organizations, and individuals are solicited. The special expertise of these groups can assist the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) with the identification of possible adverse economic, social, or environmental effects or concerns. On behalf of the DOTD, the consultant team, Lafayette Connector Partners (LCP), requests your assistance in this regard.

Attached is a Vicinity Map showing the general location of the project, along with a preliminary project description, to assist in your review.

It is requested that you review the attached information and furnish us with your views and comments by August 20, 2016. Replies should be addressed to Louis Costa at Lafayette Connector Partners, P.O. Box 3136, Lafayette, LA 70502. Please reference the captioned project in your reply.

Sincerely,  
Lafayette Connector Partners



Louis Costa  
Environmental Task Manager  
Attachments

## PRELIMINARY PROJECT DATA

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) proposes to construct the Lafayette Connector, which is one component of Interstate 49 (I-49), to connect I-49 from I-10 in Lafayette, LA to I-10 in New Orleans, LA.

In 2000, DOTD, in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Lafayette Connector and a Final EIS in 2002. In 2003, FHWA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) for the selected alternative, RR-4 Elevated with MPO Subalternative and Subalternative H.

This approved alternative generally extends along the Evangeline Thruway corridor, with a portion on new alignment, from the Lafayette Regional Airport to the I-10/I-49/US 167 Interchange, a distance of approximately 5.5 miles.

In the central area of Lafayette, the Evangeline Thruway is routed along a one-way couplet and has three 10-foot lanes with no shoulders in each direction; to the south of Pinhook Road and to the north of the railroad spur crossing, the Thruway has three 12-foot lanes in each direction with shoulders and a median.

The Purpose and Need for the project includes:

- System linkage,
- Relieve congestion in Evangeline Thruway Corridor,
- Implement long-standing plans for freeway in the Evangeline Thruway Corridor,
- Meet intent of federal enabling legislation,
- Provide beneficial intermodal connections,
- Improve safety,
- Provide for hurricane evacuation, and
- Improve regional mobility.

In 2015, DOTD initiated the conceptual design phase to advance the project into design. This phase was anticipated to include a Reevaluation of the EIS and ROD to determine whether there have been changes to the scope of the project or project area since the ROD and to follow-up on the 21 commitments in the ROD.

In consideration of input from the community, Potential Refinement Concepts to the Selected Alternative are now being assessed. FHWA and DOTD have agreed that a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), in lieu of a Reevaluation, will be appropriate for assessing and documenting these possible changes along the approved alignment. A Notice of Intent to prepare an SEIS was published in the Federal Register on June 21, 2016.

Potential Refinement Concepts include:

- The Selected Alternative identified in the 2002 FEIS and the 2003 ROD, and
- Eighteen (18) potential Refinement Concepts that have been identified for modification of the Selected Alternative in the central area of Lafayette, generally between Pinhook Road in the south and the railroad spur crossing in the north.

Other modifications to the Selected Alternative, designated Potential Design Modifications Based on Input also are being assessed. These modifications are located in various areas of the corridor and do not necessarily apply to a specific Refinement Concept.



On the project website, [lafayetteconnector.com](http://lafayetteconnector.com), under Project Library, sketches of the Potential Refinement Concepts are in the Tier 1 Refinement Concept and Evaluation Framework tab, and a list of the Potential Design Modifications Based on Input is in the Potential Design Modification Based on Input tab.

It is anticipated that the number of concepts will be narrowed down to a smaller number for more detailed study through a tiering process, and that one of the concepts will be incorporated into the Selected Alternative.

Level 1, the Selected Alternative Right-of-Way and Level 2, the area within 500 feet of the Right-of-Way within the Area of Influence, developed as part of the Corridor Preservation and Management Plan in 2002, are shown on the enclosed Vicinity Map.

The 2002 Selected Alternative will require additional right-of-way and associated residential and business relocations. The Potential Refinement Concepts and Potential Design Modifications may require different quantities of additional right-of-way and associated relocations.

In addition to the study of the Potential Refinement Concepts and the Potential Design Modifications, the SEIS will include updated information on the effects of the Selected Alternative.

One of these updates will be a Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act process to identify and assess effects on historic properties in the project area that are, or may be eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, including the recently listed Freetown-Port Rico Historic District.

The SEIS process is anticipated to include at least one Public Meeting, distribution of a Draft SEIS, a Public Hearing, distribution of a Final SEIS, and a Supplemental Record of Decision.



# VICINITY MAP







**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Office of PubEc Health

July 29, 2016

Louis Costa  
Lafayette Connector Partners  
P.O. Box 3136  
Lafayette, LA 70502

**Re: Solicitation of Views; State Project Number H.004273.5; F.A.P. No.: H004273**  
**Name: 1-49 Connector**  
**Lafayette Regional Airport to 1-10/I-49/US 167 Interchange**  
**Parish: Lafayette Parish**

This office is in receipt of a Solicitation of Views regarding the above referenced project(s).

Based upon the information received from your office we have no objection to the referenced project(s) at this time. The applicant shall be aware of and comply with any and all applicable Louisiana State Sanitary Code regulations (LAC 51, as applicable). Furthermore, should additional project data become available to this office that in any way amend the information upon which this office's response has been based, we reserve the right of additional comments on the referenced project(s).

In the event of any future discovery of evidence of non-compliance with the Louisiana Administrative Code Title 51 (Public Health-Sanitary Code) and the Title 48 (Public Health-General) regulations or any applicable public health laws or statutes which may have escaped our awareness during the course of this cursory review, please be advised that this office's preliminary determination on this Solicitation of View of the project(s) shall not be construed as absolving the applicant of responsibility, if any, with respect to compliance with the Louisiana Administrative Code Title 51 (Public Health-Sanitary Code) and the Title 48 (Public Health-General) regulations or any other applicable public health laws or statutes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Yuanda Zhu".

Yuanda Zhu, P.G., Ph.D.  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Office of Public Health Engineering Services  
Telephone: (225) 342-7432  
Electronic mail: [yuanda.zhu@la.gov](mailto:yuanda.zhu@la.gov)





JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
GOVERNOR

g>tate of Louisiana  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION

THOMAS F. HARRIS  
SECRETARY

RICHARD P. IEYOUNG  
COMMISSIONER OF CONSERVATION

August 23, 2016

TO: Mr. Louis Costa  
Environmental Task Manager  
Lafayette Connector Partners  
P. O. Box 3136  
Lafayette, Louisiana 70502

RE: Solicitation of Views  
State Project No. H.004273.5  
1-49 Connector  
Lafayette Parish

Dear Mr. Costa:

In response to your letter dated July 20, 2016, concerning the referenced matter, please be advised that the Office of Conservation collects and maintains many types of information regarding oil and gas exploration, production, distribution, and other data relative to the petroleum industry as well as related and non-related injection well information, surface mining and ground water information and other natural resource related data. Most information concerning oil, gas and injection wells for any given area of the state, including the subject area of your letter can be obtained through records search via the SONRIS data access application available at:

<http://www.dnr.louisiana.gov>

A review of our computer records for the referenced project area indicates that there are no oil, gas or injection wells located in the vicinity of the project area. The DNR water well database indicates that there are registered water wells in the vicinity of the project area. Additionally, unregistered water wells may be located in the area

The Office of Conservation maintains records of all activities within its jurisdiction in paper, microfilm or electronic format. These records may be accessed during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, except on State holidays or emergencies that require the Office to be closed. Please call 225-342-5540 for specific contact information or for directions to the Office of Conservation, located in the LaSalle Building, 617 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. For pipelines and other underground hazards, please contact Louisiana One Call at 1-800-272-3020 prior to commencing operations. Should you need to direct your inquiry to any of our Divisions, you may use the following contact information:

| <u>Division</u>    | <u>Contact</u>   | <u>Phone No.</u> | <u>E-mail Address</u>   |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Engineering        | Jeff Wells       | 225-342-5638     | jeff.wells@la.gov       |
| Pipeline           | Steven Giambrone | 225-342-2989     | steven.giambrone@la.gov |
| Injection & Mining | Brad Bourgoyne   | 225-342-4286     | brad.bourgoyne@la.gov   |
| Geological         | Mike Kline       | 225-342-3335     | mike.kline@la.gov       |
| Environmental      | Gary Snellgrove  | 225-342-7222     | gary.snellgrove@la.gov  |

If you have difficulty in accessing the data via the referenced website because of computer related issues, you may obtain assistance from our technical support section by selecting Help on the SONRIS tool bar and submitting an email describing your problems and including a telephone number where you may be reached.

Sincerely,



Richard P. Ieyoub

 Commissioner of Conservation

RPI:MSK:msk





August 1, 2016

To: Louis Costa  
Lafayette Connector Partners  
P.O. Box 3136  
Lafayette, LA 70502

From: Sheriff Mark Garber  
Lafayette Parish Sheriffs Office  
316 W. Main Street  
Lafayette, LA 70501

**RE: STATE PROJECT NO. H.004273.5, 1-49 CONNECTOR, LAFAYETTE PARISH**

Mr. Costa,

I received your Solicitation of Views letter and have reviewed the Vicinity Map which you provided that shows the general location of the above referenced project.

At this time, my only concern relative to this project is that our Office of Internal Affairs, which operates out of the Clifton Chenier Center Complex located at 220 West Willow Street, Building "D", appears that it may be directly impacted by a Level 1 Selected Alternative ROW. If not in a Level 1 Selected Alternative ROW, it would definitely be located in a Level 2 Area of Influence buffer zone.

The substance of this concern is that this state project not place undue operational disruption upon our Office of Internal Affairs; that my agency staff have unimpeded access, within reason of course, to our Office of Internal Affairs; and that any concerned citizen needing to conduct business with our Office of Internal Affairs will continue to be allowed access during normal business hours.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Mark Garber  
Lafayette Parish Sheriffs Office

