



# OUACHITA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Monroe

West Monroe

Ouachita Parish

3000 KILPATRICK BLVD●MONROE, LOUISIANA 71201

OUACHITA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
MONROE GOVERNMENT PLAZA  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
**NOVEMBER 27, 2023**  
**12 NOON**

## **AGENDA**

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

*Action Item*

RECESS OCOG

*Action Item*

TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMITTEE

A. TIP AMENDMENT – INTRODUCE

*Action Item*

1. **MONROE TRANSIT SYSTEM OPERATING PROGRAM INCREASE**

RECONVENE OCOG

*Action Item*

RATIFY ACTIONS OF TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

*Action Item*

BUDGET TO ACTUAL REPORT

*Action Item*

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

*Mrs. Mary Stringfellow*

NELA HIGHWAY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP REPORT

*Ms. Susan Mitchell*

SAFE STREETS FOR ALL REPORT

*Ms. Shelby Rybicki*

ADJOURNMENT

*\*HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS REPORT\**

**An Equal Opportunity Employer**

Ouachita Council of Governments  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
November 27, 2023

Members Present:	Mayor Friday Ellis City of Monroe	Mayor Staci Mitchell City of West Monroe
	Shane Smiley Ouachita Parish Police Jury	Thom Hamilton City of West Monroe
Staff Present:	Doug Mitchell Executive Director	Shelby Rybicki Planner I
	Jeff Maxwell CPA	Susan Mitchell Regional Safety Coordinator
	Celine Flores-Robinson Planner I	Jeffrey Tyler Planner I
	Tyler Burdeaux GIS/Planner II	

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 Thom Hamilton and seconded by Friday Ellis to approve the September 25, 2023, 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 Friday Ellis and seconded by Shane Smiley to approve the Monroe Transit System Operating Program increase TIP Amendment for advertisement. Motion carried unanimously.

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

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

A motion was made by Thom Hamilton and seconded by Friday Ellis to accept the Budget to Actual Report as presented by Jeff Maxwell. Motion carried unanimously.

**Federal Highway Administration**

Mary Stringfellow, Asset Program Team Leader for the FHWA Louisiana Division, traveled from Baton Rouge to check-in with the Monroe MPO. She is over the planning section and is looking to hire a new planner to be over Northeast Louisiana.

**NELA Highway Safety Report**

Susan Mitchell gave a recap of the 2023 NELA Highway Safety Program.

- Total Miles Traveled 6,953
- Provided 51 Free Child Safety Seats
- 338 Child Safety Seats Checked
- 12 Car Seat Check Events
- Completed all Emphasis Area Action Steps at 100%
- Held an educational event or safety initiative in 9 of the 12 parishes.

**Safe Streets for All Report**

Shelby Rybicki gave an update on the Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. There will be three survey pop-up events in November. The online survey will be live until December 21, 2023.

**Ambulance Advisory Board**

No report.

**Long Term Recovery Board**

No report.

**Northeast Delta Human Services Board**

No report.

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



Doug Mitchell  
Executive Director, OCOG

1 / 22 / 24  
Date

NEW

CITY OF MONROE - OPERATING PROGRAM

	Recipient of Applicant	Fiscal Year	Federal Source	Federal Funding Source	Project Description
Operating	City of Monroe	FY 2023-2024	Federal 5307	\$1,600,000.00	2024 Operating Assistance
Operating	City of Monroe	FY 2024-2025	Federal 5307	\$2,200,000.00	2025 Operating Assistance
Operating	City of Monroe	FY 2025-2026	Federal 5307	\$2,300,000.00	2026 Operating Assistance
Operating	City of Monroe	FY 2026-2027	Federal 5307	\$2,300,000.00	2027 Operating Assistance
Operating	City of Monroe	FY 2027-2028	Federal 5307	\$2,400,000.00	2028 Operating Assistance

GLD

CITY OF MONROE - OPERATING PROGRAM					
	Recipient of Applicant	Fiscal Year	Federal Source	Federal Funding Source	Project Description
Operating	City of Monroe	FY 2022-2023	Federal 5307	\$1,600,000.00	2018 Operating Assistance
Operating	City of Monroe	FY 2023-2024	Federal 5307	\$1,600,000.00	2019 Operating Assistance
Operating	City of Monroe	FY 2024-2025	Federal 5307	\$1,700,000.00	2020 Operating Assistance
Operating	City of Monroe	FY 2025-2026	Federal 5307	\$1,700,000.00	2021 Operating Assistance
Operating	City of Monroe	FY 2026-2027	Federal 5307	\$1,800,000.00	2022 Operating Assistance

## Budget to Actual November 27, 2023

	<u>Contract Budget</u>	<u>Y-T-D Budget</u>		<u>October 2023</u>	<u>Y-T-D October 2023</u>		<u>September 2023</u>	<u>Prior Year</u>
Local	35,613	11,871	33.33%	-	8,903	25.00%	-	35,613
FTA	72,437	24,146	33.33%	2,223	12,744	17.59%	1,769	86,615
Human Svcs	15,000	5,000	33.33%	2,289	8,852	59.01%	2,946	15,000
FHWA	373,260	124,420	33.33%	39,559	124,230	33.28%	29,109	371,275
Safety	<u>1,020,170</u>	<u>906,818</u>	88.89%	<u>21,118</u>	<u>978,681</u>	95.93%	<u>16,727</u>	<u>901,250</u>
TOTAL	1,516,480	1,072,254	75.10%	65,189	1,133,410	74.74%	50,551	1,409,753

DOTD now want us to show the budget by the contract totals and not the yearly totals.

Safety is a 5 year contract plus a one year extension (6 years). Should have the current contract spent by Dec 2023.

1 Budgeted amounts remaining on contract per month:

Local	26,710	8	3,338.75
Safety	41,489	8	5,186.13
FTA	59,693	8	7,461.63
Human Svcs	6,148	8	768.50
FHWA	<u>249,030</u>	8	<u>31,128.75</u>
	383,070		47,883.75

Four months into the year we should be around 33% in our programs.

The new safety contract has been approved and we should have this contract spent by December.

We need to spend aproximately 50k in costs in our programs combined to stay on budget for the year.

We are on track and where we need to be through October. Not including safety we are at 32% year to date.





## Comprehensive Safety Action Plan

Ouachita Council of Governments



- ◆ The Ouachita Council of Governments is developing a plan to make **streets and roads** safer for all users in Ouachita Parish.
- ◆ Please take a five-minute survey to share your priorities.

Visit: [northdelta.org/survey](https://northdelta.org/survey) or scan the QR code above.



- ◆ Your input will help reduce fatalities and serious injuries for motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit riders.

This Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Safety Action Plan is funded with a grant from the US Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

## JOIN OUR OUTREACH TEAM AT THESE LOCATIONS TO SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS DIRECTLY:

### Monday, November 27, 2023

12:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Ouachita Main Public Library 1800 Stubbs Avenue Monroe, LA 71201

### Tuesday, November 28, 2023

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Ouachita Valley Public Library 601 McMillan Road West Monroe, LA 71291

5:00 pm to 6:00 pm

West Monroe City Hall 2305 North 7th Street West Monroe, LA 71291  
(Prior to West Monroe Tree Lighting)



Tentative Schedule			
PHASE	DATE	EVENT	FORMAT/LOCATION
<b>1 Visioning</b> <b>(Sept 2023 – Jan 2024)</b>	October 25	Technical Committee Meeting 1	In Person
1	November 27 <sup>th</sup> , November 28 <sup>th</sup> December TBD	Stakeholder Workshop/Public Meeting 1	Virtual
1	October and November	Three in person public outreach via popup events	(events pending)
1	September, October, and November	MetroQuest Survey	
<b>2 Strategies</b> <b>(Feb 2024 – April 2024)</b>		Technical Committee Meeting	Virtual
2	Third week of February	Stakeholder Workshop 2/Public Meeting 2	Virtual
2	February and March	Two in person public outreach via popup events	(pending identification)
2	February and March	Metro Quest Survey	
<b>3 Review</b> <b>(May 2024 – July 2024)</b>	Second week of May	Technical Committee Meeting 3	Virtual
3	30-day comment period (date pending)	Draft plan placed on website and other typical plan review locations	
3	Following public review period (date pending)	Stakeholder Workshop 3/Public Meeting 3	Virtual



DATE: **November 27, 2023**

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	✓	
✗ Ms. Gretchen Ezernack	318-366-1675	gretchen.ezernack@ci.monroe.la.us		✓
✓ w Mr. Scotty Robinson	318-235-0672	srobinson@oppj.org		✓
w Mr. Shane Smiley	318-267-8659	ssmiley@oppj.org	✓	

**November 27, 2023**  
**12 NOON**

**(Print Please)**

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**PROOF OF PUBLICATION**

GOVERNMENT OUACHITA COUNCIL OF  
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:

11/08/2023

and that the fees charged are legal.  
Sworn to and subscribed before on 11/08/2023

The regular meeting  
of the Ouachita  
Council of Govern-  
ments is scheduled  
for Monday, Novem-  
ber 27, 2023, at 12  
noon, in the Council  
Chambers of the  
Monroe Government  
Plaza.  
Monroe, LA  
11/8/23

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8-21-26

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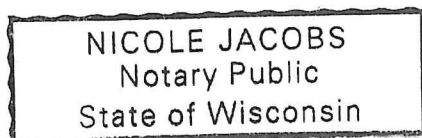
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12/01/2023

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Sworn to and subscribed before on 12/01/2023

Notice is hereby  
given that a public  
hearing will be held  
Monday, January 22,  
2024, at 11:30 a.m. in  
the Council Cham-  
bers of the Monroe  
Government Plaza to  
hear comments on a  
Transportation  
Improvement Plan  
Amendment. Draft  
amendment can be  
found at  
[www.northdelta.org](http://www.northdelta.org)  
12/1/23 #9572108

Legal Clerk

Notary, State of WI, County of Brown

My commission expires

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