



Office of Multimodal Planning
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Bobby Jindal, Governor
Sherri H. LeBas, P.E., Secretary

March 10, 2015

Mr. Alfred W. "Butch" Speer
Clerk of the House of Representatives
Louisiana State Capitol
Post Office Box 44281
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Subject: House Resolution No. 2

Dear Mr. Speer:

This is in response to House Resolution No. 2 of the 2014 Regular Session requesting the Department of Transportation and Development to make recommendations relative to a hurricane evacuation route for and economic development of Louisiana Highway 330 south of Abbeville through Henry, as well as providing a turning lane at the major economic development site.

Existing Louisiana Highway 330 from south of Abbeville, Louisiana to the unincorporated community of Henry in Vermilion Parish consists of approximately 10 miles of two lane roadway. The pavement condition of this section of roadway is currently classified as Fair. Pavement condition classifications range from Very Good, which is defined as "new or almost new pavement that will not require improvements for some time" to Very Poor, defined as "needs improvement to restore serviceability." A pavement condition classification of Fair is defined as "will likely need improvement in the near future, but depends on traffic use."

The Department of Transportation and Development is currently working on two projects to overlay the existing roadway along the limits of this request. Both of these projects are currently scheduled to be let in 2017. In addition a third project will extend the improvements for an additional two and a half miles to the east. This project is currently scheduled to be let in 2018.

Through its National Response Framework (NRF) the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides guidance for communities at all levels when faced with a potentially catastrophic event such as a hurricane. The NRF outlines a number of Emergency Support Functions (ESF) which were developed to provide the structure for coordinating interagency support in response to an incident. Relative to evacuations (ESF-1) bus transportation out of a disaster area is provided by the Department of Transportation and Development for people in need.

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The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) developed the "Louisiana Citizen Awareness & Disaster Evacuation Guide Southwest" which provides important information about how to evacuate safely and efficiently if the need should arise; including:

- The State's Phased Evacuation Plan which is based on geographic location and time in which tropical storm winds are forecasted to reach an effected area
- Agency Contact Information (American Red Cross, Louisiana State Police, National Weather Service, etc.)
- Emergency Shelter Information Points
- Radio Stations participating in the Louisiana Emergency Alert System
- What to include in a disaster supply kit
- Contraflow Plan for Southwest Louisiana

On the parish and local level the Vermilion Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (VPOHSEP) has developed an emergency operations plan to coordinate with other parishes and local governments in the region. The plan also requires updates to the community through media outlets and alerts to residents through the Vermilion Parish First Call Emergency Alert System.

During our preliminary evaluation of existing traffic volumes along and in the vicinity of LA 330 we did not identify any location that would warrant the construction of a left turn lane at this time.

The LADOTD is committed to serving the transportation needs of the state and gives serious consideration to input from the public. We appreciate your concern for improving highway operations and safety in Louisiana.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact our office.

Sincerely,



Dennis A. Decker
Assistant Secretary

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cc: Senator Robert Adley, Chairman, Senate Highways, Transportation and Public Works
Committee
Representative Karen Gaudet St. Germain, Chairwoman, House Highways,
Transportation and Public Works Committee
Representative Bob Hensgens (HR 2 sponsor)
Representative Simone B. Champagne (HR 2 sponsor)
Brandon Brown (DOTD General Counsel)
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DAD/cpb