

TECHNOLOGY

eXchange

GROUCHY ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR NATIONAL LTAP ASSOCIATION



David Grouchy, Director of Louisiana's LTAP (Local Technical Assistance Program) Center, a program of the Louisiana Transportation Center (LTRC), has

been elected chairman of the executive committee of the National LTAP Association.

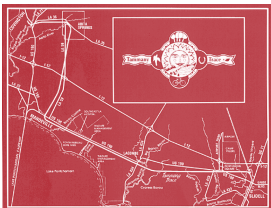
"This is a great honor for me personally and for Louisiana." Grouchy said recently. "I feel that the LTAP program as a whole is one of the most effective federal programs." Grouchy says his vision as chairman is to help the national program become even better, which will in turn benefit the people of Louisiana.

The LTAP Center serves to provide technical services and training opportunities to local governments. While the focus of LTAP is on city and parish workers, many state and federal employees as well as contractors and consultant personnel have taken advantage of the excellent training offered.

Training opportunities given by LTAP are numerous, including courses such as work zone safety, maintenance

of bridges and asphalt pavements, and the safe operation of maintenance vehicles. LTAP also makes video and printed material available through a lending library located in Baton Rouge. Anyone in need of library materials can call 800-256-1567, and requested materials are sent free of charge. According to Grouchy, LTAP offers services from "how to patch a pot hole to sophisticated management concepts." Through this program, engineers and land sur-

CONT. ON PAGE 2



THE TAMMANY TRACE WAS THE FIRST RAIL TO TRAIL PROJECT IN LOUISIANA FUNDED BY THE ISTEA TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM.

ENHANCING LOUISIANA

SOURCE: "ENHANCING LOUISIANA," ANN WILLS, P. E., LADOTD.

The LA LTAP Center recently expanded its Road Master Program to include a new workshop. The new course offering is titled "Dealing with the Government" (Road Master #6). One topic included is this new course is "The Transportation Enhancement

Program." Covered in detail through a series of workshops, this program will be of particular interest to local governments throughout the state. Other topics include the Highway Rail Crossing Signalization Program and Bridge Replacement and Repair Issues.

With the Intermodal Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), the Louisiana Department of Transportation and

CONT. ON PAGE 4

LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAMS SYMPOSIUM OFFERS PDH CREDIT

THE COASTAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION OF THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES WILL HOST THE THIRD ANNUAL LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAMS SYMPOSIUM ON OCTOBER 24 AND 25, 2001, IN LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA. THE PURPOSE OF THE SYMPOSIUM IS TO INFORM AND ASSIST LOCAL PARISH OFFICIALS AND ADMINISTRATORS IN EFFORTS TO PROTECT, RESTORE AND ENHANCE LOUISIANA'S VALUABLE COASTAL RESOURCES AND TO ENCOURAGE GREATER PARTICIPATION AT THE PARISH LEVEL IN LOUISIANA'S FEDERALLY APPROVED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM. VARIOUS TECHNICAL, LEGAL AND REGULATORY ISSUES WILL BE ON THE AGENDA.

THE RULES OF THE LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD INCLUDE FEDERAL, STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AS PRE-APPROVED SPONSORS FOR CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES. THE TECHNICAL AND REGULATORY PORTIONS OF THE SYMPOSIUM WILL QUALIFY FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT HOUR (PDH) CREDIT AS FOLLOWS: FIFTY (50) CONTACT MINUTES OF INSTRUCTION OR ATTENDANCE = ONE (1) PDH. CERTIFICATES WILL BE AVAILABLE.

IF YOU WISH TO MAKE OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS, THE BEST WESTERN HOTEL ACADIANA (337-233-8120) OR (800-826-8386) HAS A BLOCK OF ROOMS AT A SPECIAL RATE OF \$65 FOR OCTOBER 23RD AND 24TH UNDER THE NAME "LDNR: COASTAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION'S LOCAL COASTAL SYMPOSIUM 2001".

PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ACQUIRING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT HOUR (PDH) CREDIT Yes _____

NAME: _____ DAY PHONE: _____
 ADDRESS: _____ EVENING PHONE: _____
 CITY: _____ EMAIL: _____
 STATE: _____
 ZIP: _____

PLEASE REGISTER EARLY AS SPACE IS LIMITED. NO REGISTRATION FEE IS REQUIRED.

PLEASE MAIL REGISTRATION FORM TO: LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 COASTAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION
 ATTN: JON A. TRUXILLO
 P.O. BOX 44487
 BATON ROUGE, LA 70804-4487
 (225)342-3394 OR 800 267-4019

TO REGISTER VIA THE INTERNET:
[HTTP://WWW.SAVELAWETLANDS.ORG/CMDPAGE.HTML](http://www.savelawetlands.org/cmdpage.html)
 CLICK ON "INTERAGENCY AFFAIRS" AND THEN THE "HOT NEWS" BUTTON.

GROUCHY ELECTED CHAIRMAN, CONT. FROM PAGE 1

veyors can even receive professional development credit hours necessary for their registration.

In addition to these services, LTAP Center personnel take an active role in other programs including Operation Lifesaver, ATSSA certification training, and the Louisiana Parish Engineers and Supervisors Association.

On a national level, LTAP is comprised of 59 j3 centers, one in each state in the U.S., one in Puerto Rico, and eight Native American Tribal Centers. Each center is an independent entity; some are based in state DOTs, and some are in universities. Each center works to fulfill the unique needs of its respective local government. The strength of the program, however, is the sense of cooperation

among centers that generously share ideas, teaching materials, and even teachers.

Federal funding is provided by the Federal Highway Administration, and many states, including Louisiana, give more than the required 50 percent funding to the program. The Louisiana LTAP Center has received stable funding as a result of the efforts of its parent organization, LTRC. Joe

Baker, Director of LTRC says, "The obvious benefits of this program to our local government customers well justify our strong support."

"Stable funding is critical to the program and one of the objectives we most want to attain for all LTAP centers through the national association in the next couple of years." Grouchy said. "Many centers don't have the great support we get from LTRC."

McFarland Named to National Review Committee



David McFarland, Louisiana's LTAP Circuit Rider and nationally recognized safety trainer since 1993, was recently named to an oversight committee for the review and recommendation of National Highway Institute safety courses. The intent of the committee is to make the courses more accessible to people working for local governments. McFarland is the sole representative of local government on the committee.

Since the start of his time with LTAP, McFarland has taught 402 courses with an attendance of over 12,000 trainees. He teaches *Safety for Public Works Employees*, *Coaching the Maintenance Vehicle Operator*, *Tractor*

and Mower Operation and Safety, *Basic Flagging*, *Flagging*, *Traffic Control Devices and Traffic Control Procedures*, *ATSSA Certification Training* upon request. McFarland also teaches *Work Zone Safety*, *Safety: A Common Sense Approach for the Public Worker*, and *Equipment Operation and Worker Safety* as part of the Louisiana Roads Scholar Program.

David Grouchy, Director of the Louisiana Technology Transfer Center and Chairman of the National LTAP Association said, "We are very proud of David McFarland. He's one of the best trainers in the country and an excellent representative of not only the Louisiana

Center, but of the LTAP program as a whole."

While this oversight committee focuses on NHI safety classes, NHI also offers classes in the following areas:

Mathematical Sciences, Structures, Materials, Pavements and Base Design, Geotechnical, Design and Traffic Operations, Construction and Maintenance, Hydraulics, Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS), Real Estate, Environment, Statewide Planning, Metropolitan Planning, Financial Management, Corporate Management, Civil Rights, Highway Safety and Public Affairs.

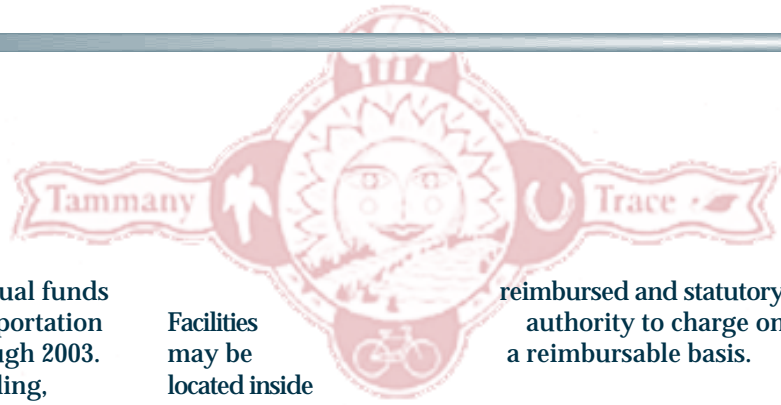
This effort is part of the NHI Affiliates Program. The mission of the Affiliates Program is to promote education, training, and technology sharing among local, national, and international transportation partners. These programs will enhance existing partnerships

and develop new partnerships to create a continuous learning environment for the transportation community. The Affiliates Program is an umbrella office encompassing three programs: the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP), International Program, and Partnerships Program.

The importance of all this to Louisiana is to make high quality training available to all sectors of government, including state, parish and local governmental units, at a reasonable price.



For more information about these and other courses offered by the Louisiana LTAP Center, call Bob Breaux at 800-256-1567, or 225-767-9117.



Development was presented the opportunity to administer federal funds for transportation enhancement projects.

These projects represent a distinct change of vision by the U.S. Department of Transportation in that the focus is placed on developing a more modally balanced transportation system by encouraging projects that are more than asphalt, concrete, and steel. The ultimate goal is a balanced system that would consider environmental, cultural, economic, and social conditions. This system, encompassing pedestrians and bicyclists, as well as the motoring public, will provide Louisiana citizens with not only a choice in the type of transportation they use but also a richer experience while traveling.

Since the introduction of the Transportation Enhancement (TE) program in 1991, more than \$2.4 billion has been invested in facilities for walking and bicycling, historic preservation, scenic beautification, land acquisition, and environmental mitigation across the country. In 1998, the TE program was re-authorized by Congress making available approximately \$620

million in annual funds for state transportation agencies through 2003. With this funding, LaDOTD is committed to enhancing Louisiana.

Local sponsors are required for enhancement projects — governmental agencies (local, regional, parish, state, or federal) as well as state universities. In general, the sponsor is responsible for supplying the matched share, managing/maintaining the project, and assuming legal liability for the project.

There are certain federal requirements to determine eligibility for funding included in the TE Program:

- Does the proposed project fit in one of the 12 enhancement categories?
- Does the proposed project relate to surface transportation?
- Does the project have a sponsor that complies with program guidelines?

Surface transportation refers to all elements of the intermodal transportation system except aviation. It includes water transportation features such as canals, lighthouses, and docks or piers connecting to ferry operations.

Facilities may be located inside or outside of a highway right-of-way; the project does not have to be located along a state or federal highway, but must be transportation oriented (not recreational). Also, they should connect activity centers such as businesses, schools, libraries, shopping areas, recreational areas, etc. Some amenities that make these facilities more popular or attractive, such as landscaping or street furnishings for pedestrians, are also eligible.

Sponsors of enhancement projects should note that by sponsoring the project they are agreeing to supply the match share, to manage and maintain the project, and to assume legal liability for the project. Sponsors will be asked to provide a resolution to that effect. LaDOTD will not advance the project until this requirement is met.

Transportation enhancement funds are reimbursable federal-aid monies, not up-front grants. The sponsor must have the financial resources to carry project expenditures until

reimbursed and statutory authority to charge on a reimbursable basis.

The transportation enhancement program normally involves an 80 percent federal share/20 percent local share match rate based on the total eligible costs of the project. If the sponsor elects to pay all design and construction engineering/supervision/inspection/testing costs or if they are donated, the project may be funded on a 95 percent/5 percent basis.

LaDOTD selects projects for funding based on the goals of the Transportation Enhancement Program. Applications for projects requesting funding under this program will only be accepted during the application-call process. Potential sponsors may look on the LaDOTD website at www.dotd.state.la.us to check on the application cycle status, which, at this time, is set on an annual cycle.

Further details of the Enhancement Program are available through the LTAP workshop. Watch for course brochure or call Bob Breaux at (225) 767-9117, (800) 256-1567 (in-state) or email him at bbreaux@ltrc.lsu.edu for more information.

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING ROAD MASTER COURSES: OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2001



Road Master #6 - **DEALING WITH THE GOVERNMENT:** Many state and federal agencies have permitting and regulatory authority over activities performed by local government. Some of these agencies also have money to spend on local projects and programs. This course will present useful information on several programs related to transportation. Topics include: Highway-Rail Crossing Signalization Program, Bridge Replacement and Repair Issues, and the Transportation Enhancement Program. Instructors will come from the offices directly responsible for these programs. Future presentations are planned to cover such topics as: Grant

Writing, Parish Road Funding, GASB-34. 404 Permits, Emergency Response, Hazardous Materials, Superfund Sites, OSHA, EPA, The Corps of Engineers, DNR, and The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

October 29 - Lafayette
 October 30 - Bossier City
 October 31 - Ruston



RS #13 - **BRIDGE MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY INSPECTION:** Techniques of minor bridge maintenance including structural elements of a bridge, the importance of safety bridge inspections, and who should perform inspections.

November 15 - Lafayette
 November 27 - Bossier City
 November 28 - Ruston

November 6 - Jefferson
 November 7 - Baton Rouge
 November 13 - Alexandria
 November 14 - Sulphur

OTHER CONFERENCES/COURSES TO BE HELD

Operation Lifesaver Level 1 Presenter Course

October 24-25, 2002 - Allen, LA
 LA Technical College, 3233 Rosedale Rd.

Advanced Grade Crossing Collision Investigation Course

November 5-6 - Monroe

IS YOUR PARISH TRAFFIC SAFE?



The vast majority of traffic accidents and the injuries and deaths that result are predictable and preventable. The best way to approach this problem is to have groups and organizations working together in a partnership.

Locally based traffic safety programs have been and remain an effective means for identifying local crash problems and providing local solutions. By combining the interests and efforts of citizens, law enforcement, business, public health agencies, education, the courts, elected officials and the media solutions to traffic problems can be determined.

A program called "Safe Communities" has been developed throughout the country. Although sponsored and supported by the Federal government, it is local, citizen-based. Within the agencies and organizations in a community or parish exists a nucleus of people that are interested in reducing the toll of crashes, injuries and

fatalities in their area. These parishes and communities are in a unique position to go beyond traditional approaches to traffic safety problems by identifying their problems and implementing solutions.

Starting a Safe Community program in your parish is relatively easy. Initially, a list of possible participants is prepared. This list would include elected officials, law enforcement personnel, citizens, business people, government agencies and others that have an interest in solving the parish's traffic problems. State and Federal government traffic safety people are available to help and to participate in developing your program.

Then, an initial meeting would be called with all of the people on the list invited to participate. The initial meeting would provide an opportunity for everyone to meet and to establish what priorities the group feels need to be addressed. A list of

items of concern would be prepared and the individuals and agencies responsible for providing data or responses to

the items would be included. If any of the people or agencies that need to provide data or responses are not part of the initial group, someone in attendance should be assigned the responsibility of contacting those not present. At a subsequent meeting the results of the initial concerns would be reported.

Safe Communities programs are currently in operation covering

parishes in and around New Orleans and in the Houma-Thibodaux area. State and Federal traffic safety officials are anxious to develop programs throughout the state so that every parish has the opportunity to participate in traffic safety efforts.

For more information about this program or to get one started in your area contact Bob Canfield, Phone or fax (225) 293-9609 or email at JSTJKT@AOL.COM or contact David Grouchy at LTRC, 225-767-9184.

TECHNOLOGY *exchange*

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PUBLICATION STATEMENT

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Any findings, conclusions, or recommendations presented in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of LSU, DOTD, or FHWA.

PLANS PROGRESS FOR LADOTD'S 2002 TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING CONFERENCE



Plans are in full swing for LaDOTD's 2002 Transportation Engineering Conference

to be held February 17-20, 2002, at the Baton Rouge Radisson Hotel and Conference Center.

LTRC is coordinating the conference which provides a forum for members of the industry to relate innovative technologies and to discuss transportation policy, practice, and problems. More than 1,200 transportation professions are expected to attend representing the public, private and academic sections of the transportation industry.

the LTRC web site, www.ltrc.lsu.edu. In the near future, both the government and corporate registration forms may be downloaded, filled out, and faxed to the attention of Gordon Smith, 225-767-9156.

Further information on the conference can be found at

MUNICIPALITIES INVITED TO JOIN LOUISIANA PARISH ENGINEERS AND SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION



The Louisiana Parish Engineers Association (LPESA) has been offering training to city, parish, state and federal employees since 1972.

The Louisiana LTAP has been assisting LPESA in these efforts since 1989. During that time, thousands of people have benefitted from the two major seminars that LPESA conducts each year and from the additional training offered at the Louisiana Police Jury Convention. In the last two and a half years alone, LPESA has trained 337 municipal and parish employees in five seminars.

The Louisiana Parish Engineers and Supervisors Association Seminar was held on September 6 and 7 at the Holiday Inn in Houma. The agenda included the following interesting and important subjects:

- Emergencies, How to Handle Them,
- Aluminum Arch Pipe,
- The Clean Water Act,
- The Morganza to the Gulf Project,
- The Economics of Herbicides,

- The New MUTCD,
- Permitting in Flood Zones,
- A panel discussion on Solving Problems with No Money,
- Developments in Asphalt,
- The State Bid Law, and
- Total Station Surveying.

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◇ I have the following suggestion(s) for newsletter articles:

The Louisiana Local Technical Assistance Program was established at the Louisiana Transportation Research Center on the LSU campus in 1986. The purpose of the center is to provide technical materials, information, and training to help local government agencies in Louisiana maintain and improve their roads and bridges in a cost-effective manner. To accomplish this purpose, we:

- ✦ publish a quarterly newsletter,
- ✦ conduct seminars, workshops, and mini-workshops covering various aspects of transportation,
- ✦ provide a lending library service of audio/visual programs on a variety of transportation topics,
- ✦ provide technical assistance through phone and mail-in requests relating to transportation technology,
- ✦ and undertake special projects of interest to municipalities in Louisiana.

NEED TECHNICAL HELP?.....CONTACT OUR LTAP CENTER STAFF:

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