

Scope of Work
Slidell: Transportation Plan Refinement
(RPC Task SL-5.10; FY-10 UPWP)

Olde Towne Parking & Enhancement Study

The purpose of this study is to identify areas of Olde Towne Slidell where parking problems exist and recommend alternatives to improve the situation. In addition, the study will look for sites or areas within the study area that can be enhanced by sidewalk treatment, landscaping, street furniture, signage improvements and lighting, separately or in combination, that will improve the function and look of the area, making it more attractive to pedestrians and business growth without adversely impacting parking needs or traffic flow.

1. **Parking Inventory:** Collects information about the location, number, and other relevant characteristics of existing parking spaces at the curb and in off-street areas, including alleys (if any) and spaces behind buildings (if any). Every available legal public and private parking space is identified. The inventory collects the following information:
 - Number of parking spaces;
 - Time limits and hours of operation;
 - Type of ownership; such as public, private, or restricted to employees or customers of a particular building;
 - Rates (if any) and method of fee collection;
 - Type of regulation at curb spaces, such as loading, passenger, handicapped, taxi, or bus zones, as applicable. To the extent possible, curbside distances for each zone is provided;
 - Type of facility: lot or garage;
 - Probable degree of permanency; many informal and/or poorly maintained parking facilities are temporary and may be expected to be replaced with new construction in the foreseeable future;
 - All information collected in the inventory will be mapped on a block by block basis;

2. **Sidewalk/Street Conditions Inventory:** Collects information on the condition of sidewalk pavement in each block face, as well as street data, including the following:
 - Broken/cracked areas, holes and hazardous sections;
 - Special pavement treatments (if any);
 - Handicapped/wheelchair ramps (if any);
 - Width of sidewalks; width of adjacent streets;
 - Sidewalk furnishings, such as benches, trash receptacles, street trees/landscaping , etc. (if any);
 - Parking meters (number and approx. location);
 - Street lighting standards and treatment;
 - Signage (official, such as Speed Limit, Parking regulations, etc.; and unofficial, such as private advertising and movable advertising signs placed in the sidewalk areas);

- Street pavement condition; identification of paving surface material (concrete; asphalt, brick pavers, etc.);
 - Direction of travel on the street (one-way; two-way); number of travel lanes in each direction;
 - Width of travel lanes;
 - Determination of likely traffic volume ranges on Olde Towne interior streets using existing information to the extent possible or agreed upon ranges in discussion with City officials, after eastern boundary of Olde Towne is agreed upon;
 - Determination of traffic volumes on boundary Streets (Fremaux Avenue, Front Street, and Old Spanish Trail) using existing traffic data supplied by others;
3. Enhancement Alternatives Development
- Identify “Gateway” intersections for Olde Towne; determine if sufficient right-of-way exists to add gateway-type improvements to help give Olde Towne better visibility and identity. Consultant will engage local DOTD District Traffic Operations Engineer to determine the scope and type of improvements permitted in state ROW;
 - Based loosely on an interpretation of the history of Slidell and Olde Towne, provide sketch plans or renderings of suggested (and allowed) gateway improvements;
 - Provide cross-section renderings/sketches of possible interior improvements both at selected intersections and at mid-block locations. Improvements could include such enhancements as landscaping/street trees, lighting, signage, street furniture, widened sidewalks in appropriate areas, applied alone or in combination, depending on the characteristics of the intersection or block face.
4. Evaluation and Recommendations
- Evaluate and present the data collected and developed in Tasks 1 and 2, highlighting problem areas relative to parking issues and other public surface conditions in Olde Towne;
 - Develop alternative solutions to these issues, with particular emphasis on positive and negative aspects of alternative, as well as potential costs of implementation and maintenance;
 - Evaluate and present gateway and enhancement alternatives, with discussion of best practices in urban enhancement;
 - Develop alternative solutions to issues, providing positive and negative aspects of each, as well a potential implementation and on-going maintenance costs.
 - Present and discuss all alternatives developed with RPC, Slidell City Administration and LA DOTD, as appropriate.
 - Develop preferred parking and enhancement alternative(s) in greater detail;
 - Submit draft report.

Estimated cost: \$75,000

Skills: Planning prime, with landscape architecture sub.