

Appendix A – Public Involvement

Public Involvement Plan

Subcommittee Rosters

Summary of Interviews with Parish Officials & Senior Staff

Newsletters

Summaries of Individual Visioning Workshops & Visioning Survey Results

This page was intentionally left blank for two-sided printing.



Plaquemines Parish
COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN
**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
PLAN**

MARCH 2013



Page left blank for 2-sided printing

Table of Contents

Contents

Table of Contentsi

1 Introduction1

 1.1 Purpose.....1

 1.2 Objectives.....1

 1.3 Scope 2

2 Stakeholders 2

 2.1 Parish Departments3

 2.2 Boards, Councils and Commissions 4

 2.3 Community Stakeholder Groups5

 2.4 Regional Planning.....5

 2.5 Additional Stakeholders5

3 Project Administration and Oversight..... 6

 3.1 Project Management Team..... 6

 3.2 Steering Committee7

 3.3 Sub-Committees 8

 3.4 Focus Groups 8

4 Public Participation Techniques..... 8

 4.1 Interviews with Parish Officials, Staff, and Community Stakeholders 9

 4.2 Public Meetings10

 4.2.1 Visioning Logistics Plan10

 4.2.2 Visioning Workshop10

 4.2.3 Virtual Online Workshop.....11

 4.2.4 Community Visioning Summary12

 4.2.5 Open House12

 4.2.6 Public Hearings12

 4.3 Outreach to Plaquemines Parish Youth12

5 Public Communication.....13

 5.1 Website13

 5.2 Newsletters.....13

 5.3 Media13

5.4 Online Resources 13

5.5 Local Events 14

6 Schedule..... 14

1 Introduction

Communities that have a high level of public involvement during a Comprehensive Master Planning process will reach a better understanding of the values and desires of community members. Capturing this vision is a critical element to designing a comprehensive plan that meets the needs of Plaquemines Parish; both parish-wide and in each of its unique communities. With a clear understanding of what is needed and expected from the community, the most appropriate resources, policies, and programs can be established and pursued by the best means possible. This plan ensures that a cross-section of citizens as well as a diverse group of community stakeholders are actively involved in the process of defining these critical policies and tools for the Parish's future growth.

On April 20, 2010, the Deepwater Horizon Oil Disaster and the months of uncertainty that followed resulted in changes to the original scope of work for the Comprehensive Master Plan. Plaquemines Parish staff's priorities were focused on the oil spill and the public's attentions were as well. This revised public involvement plan addresses some of the additional techniques that have been used as the project progressed. Please note that this Public Involvement Plan is intended to be a fluid document and can and will change to best meet the needs of the planning process, staff and community.

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Public Involvement Plan is two-fold:

1. To establish:
 - The roles of stakeholders and citizens
 - Various participation techniques
 - Communication strategies
 - Project Schedule
2. To guide the education efforts of the master planning process. These efforts are designed to educate and engage stakeholders and the public based on sound planning principles such as quality of life, sense of place, appropriate economic development, transportation alternatives and improvements, strategic infrastructure investment, environmental protection, and effective development processes.



By fully outlining this approach in advance, the most inclusive tactics can be prepared and established by identifying key elements at the start of the planning process.

1.2 Objectives

Community participation is much more than informing the public of plans that are already established. The participation process shapes the plans that are being constructed. Success in informing the public about the future of Plaquemines Parish is only one measure of the effectiveness of the public involvement program. Two other important measures are that 1) the public has meaningfully contributed to making final decisions, and 2) the public understands that, while each participant may not have had his or her recommendations adopted, the final product is in the best interest of the Parish as a whole.

With this philosophy in mind, the objectives of the public participation process for the Plaquemines Parish Comprehensive Master Plan are to:

- Identify and engage the key stakeholders in the parish from Belle Chasse to Venice and on both the east bank and the west bank;
- Identify the community's issues related to a variety of issues and their vision;
- Engage the community in the process of preparing the comprehensive master plan; and
- Foster a sense of ownership throughout the Parish.

These objectives have played a fundamental role in the development of the Public Involvement Plan outlined in this document.

Implementation are most effective when diverse members of the community not only provide support but are chief champions of the new policies, programs, and regulations. To create this sense of ownership, community input must be reflected in the drafting of the regulations. By doing so, the process will accomplish the following objectives:

- Provide greater public understanding of overall goals and objectives
- Improve the quality of decisions
- Increase ease of implementation

Creating an effective community input program begins by identifying the key stakeholders to involve in that process, which is discussed in Section 2.

1.3 Scope

This Public Involvement Plan outlines the approach that was used through the life of the project, and was updated from time to time to reflect changing conditions, such as project schedule and participating stakeholders

2 Stakeholders

Stakeholders are defined as those individuals and groups that have a "stake" or investment in the community. The group of relevant stakeholders ranges from an individual resident of the community to homeowner associations, civic organizations, developers, homebuilders, realtors, contractors, business-owners, and the formal planning agencies such as the Regional Planning Commission and Louisiana Speaks. The following list identifies a comprehensive group of stakeholders in Plaquemines Parish. It should be noted that not all stakeholders are invested to the same degree in the Comprehensive Master Plan process. The public participation strategy and the outreach menu reflect the different levels of involvement expected from the various stakeholders (e.g., involving developers and neighborhood associations in focus groups and providing flyers or handouts to member of community organizations).

2.1 Parish Departments

Name	Position	Department
Janice Acosta	Director	Administration
Raymund Ferrer	Superintendent	Animal Control/Health Department/ Code Enforcement
William L. Paradelas	Director	Civil Service
Jiff Hingle	Sheriff	Sheriff's Office
Othella Hughes	Superintendent	Community Action Agency
Larry Ducombs	Computer Manager	Data Processing
Gina Meyer	Superintendent	Ambulance Department
Wanda Buras	Manager	Human Resources
Lori Meyers	Manager	Finance Department
Christopher Denney	Supervisor	Mosquito Control Department
Alan Vaughn		Farm and Home Economics
Scott Lott	Director	Operations
L. V. Cooley, IV	Special Asst. Parish Attorney	Oil, Mineral and Gas Department
Mike Metcalf	Superintendent	Permits, Planning & Zoning
Byron Williams, Jr.	Director	Public Service
Angie Barthelemy	Supervisor	Water Department
Joel Horton Jr	Ferry Manager	Ferry Department
Toni Martinez	Superintendent	Buildings Department
Todd J. Schouest	Librarian	Libraries
Jeffrey Boone	Communications Manager	Telecommunications
Robert Means	Superintendent	Maintenance Department
Corey Buie	Superintendent	Recreation Department Fort Jackson Museum Port Sulphur Golf Course
Scott Rousselle	Superintendent	Solid Waste North Department
Narry Sylve	Foreman	Solid Waste South Department
Chief Joel Frederick	Fire District 1: Pointe-a-la-Hache	Volunteer Fire Department
Chief Roy Robichaux	Fire District 2: Belle Chasse	
Chief Douglas Marange	Fire District 3: Port Sulphur	
Chief A.B. Croft	Fire District 4: Buras	
Chief Ray Carter	Fire District 5: Boothville-Venice Fire	
Chief Donald Durr	District 6: Lake Hermitage	
Chief Urban Treuil	Fire District 7: Woodlawn/ Braithwaite	
Blair Rittiner	Land Superintendent	Land Department
Michael L. Mullin	Assistant Parish Attorney	Legal Department
Ken Dugas		Engineering
Mario A. Arteaga, Jr.	Assistant Parish Attorney	Legal Department
P.J. Hahn	Director	Coastal Restoration
Kurt Fromherz	Media Specialist	Public Awareness
Stan Mathes	Director	Economic Development
Robert Spears	G.I.S. Manager	Geographic Information System
Michelle Tassin	Director	Emergency Management
Bobby Gravolet	Assessor	Personal Property Department

Name	Position	Department
Yvette Glass		Council on Aging
Angelo Alimia		Drainage Department
Benny Puckett	Administrator	Grants
Joey Horton		Ferry Department
Kristi Savoie		Finance Department
Fran Martinez		Soil and Water Conservation

2.2 Boards, Councils and Commissions

Parish Leadership

Billy Nungesser - Parish President

Plaquemines Parish Council

Don Beshel - Council Chairman	District 1
Keith Hinkley - Council Member	District 2
Jerry Hodnett - Council Chairman	District 3
Dr. Stuart J. Guey, Jr. - Council Member	District 4
Anthony Buras - Council Member	District 5
Burghart Turner - Council Member	District 6
Jay Friedman - Council Member	District 7
Lynda Banta - Council Member	District 8
Marla Cooper - Council Member	District 9

Plaquemines Parish School Board

Reverend Michael W. Jiles, Sr.	District 1
Nancy LaHaye	District 2
Anthony St.Philip	District 3
Joyce Lamkin	District 4
Sharon Branan	District 5
Carlton Lafrance	District 6
Paul W. Lamaire, Jr.	District 7
Helen Barrois	District 8
William Mertz Jr.	District 9

Zoning Board

Steve Bledsoe	District 1
Rodney Gunnell	District 2
John Lacour	District 3
James "Sonny" Honea	District 4
Jeff DiMarco	District 5
Anthony Duplessis	District 6
Edward J. Derouen	District 7
VACANT	District 8
Benny Bacas	District 9
Jerome Robinson	At-Large
Dan Musmanno	At-Large

2.3 Community Stakeholder Groups

Zion Travelers Cooperative Center
Plaquemines Parish Aging Agency
Plaquemines Association of Business and Industry (Robert Thomas, Executive Director)
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
French American Chamber of Commerce
Project Rebuild Plaquemines
Plaquemines Parish Economic Development
Plaquemines Parish Tourism (<http://www.plaquemines tourism.com/>)
Plaquemines Medical Center
Plaquemines Community CARE Centers Foundation Inc. (<http://www.pcccf.org/>)
LSU AG Center
Millennium Port Authority
Mississippi River Bank
Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program
Nunez Community College
Plaquemines Parish Oyster Association
Venice Marina
Venice Port Complex
Commercial and Recreational Fishing Business Leaders
Louisiana Shrimpers Association
Shell Pipeline Company
Port Association of Louisiana
Women of the Storm

2.4 Regional Planning

The local Regional Planning Commission (RPC) has agreed to be a data resource for this project, and they want to be a part of public outreach efforts and regional planning coordination issues. The primary RPC contact for this project is:

Lynn E. Dupont, ASLA, GISP
Principal Planner/GIS Coordinator
Regional Planning Commission for Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard and
St. Tammany Parishes

2.5 Additional Stakeholders

Business community	Local trade organizations
Churches	Media (local)
Community service organizations	Property owners
Healthcare agencies and hospitals	Residents
Libraries	Schools
Local service organizations	Students

3 Project Administration and Oversight

Project administration and oversight will play an integral role in the completion of the Plaquemines Parish Comprehensive Master Plan. The Project Management Team and the Steering Committee, as well as Parish Officials and staff, will lead these efforts. They are discussed in more detail below.

3.1 Project Management Team

The successful execution and overall effectiveness of the community involvement segment requires strong leadership and guidance. The Project Management Team (PMT) will carry out this role throughout the implementation of the public participation process and subsequent development of the Plaquemines Parish Comprehensive Master Plan. Members of the PMT consist of key consultant staff and parish officials and include:

Plaquemines Parish

Benny Puckett – Grants Administrator
Stephanie Armstrong – Staff Liaison
Kurt Fromherz – Public Media

Consultant Staff

Tom Roberts, Jacobs
Jim Summerbell, Jacobs
Jeff Rader, Jacobs
Amanda Hatton, Jacobs
Troy Loetzerich, JJG
H Davis Cole, HDC

Role

New Orleans Project Manager
Deputy Project Manager
Senior Planner
Senior Planner
Project Engineer
Project Planner

3.2 Steering Committee

The Comprehensive Master Plan Steering Committee (Steering Committee) was formed at the beginning of the process to offer guidance to the Parish and JJG on the work in progress. The Steering Committee will have monthly communications on the progress of the plan and for information sharing. The committee will plan to meet as a group five (5) times during the process. The Steering Committee is comprised of a small group of 23 people representing the local and regional government, local civic groups, development interests, businesses leaders, and concerned citizens. The members of the Steering Committee were asked to make a full commitment to the process.



Steering Committee Members

Name	Location
Diana Alfortish	Belle Chasse
Ed Theriot	Belle Chasse
Dr. Stuart Guey	Belle Chasse
Irvin Juneau	Belle Chasse
Laurie Soileau	Belle Chasse
Rev. Michael Jiles	Braithwaite
Rev. Theodore Turner	Boothville
Keith Hinkley	Belle Chasse
Bonnie Buras	Belle Chasse
Stanley Gaudet	Belle Chasse
Benny Bacas	Buras
Guy Lagaist	Belle Chasse
Warren Lawrence	Port Sulphur
John Barthelemy	Braithwaite
Lynn Perez	Braithwaite
Rose Jackson	Belle Chasse
Lisa Flair	Belle Chasse
Lynda Banta	Buras
John Carlton	Belle Chasse
Nancy Fridge	Belle Chasse
Jeff White	Belle Chasse
Rev. Jim Woodward	Belle Chasse
Rev. John Riley	Pointe -a- la- Hache

Addition of High School Leadership:

Student leaders from each of the Parish's three public high schools (Phoenix High School, Belle Chasse High School and South Plaquemines High School) were asked to join the Steering Committee. Because the school year is coming to a close at the initiation of public involvement activities, these individuals

were to join at the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year, in the period between the completion of the Community Assessment/Visioning Process and development of the Community Agenda.

Meeting #1: The first meeting was held on **April 13, 2010** and included brief presentations by the staff and consultants to provide an overview of the process and to review the consultant's recommended strategy in the format and goals of the upcoming visioning workshops.

Meeting #2: The second meeting was held on **May 12, 2010**. The Steering Committee reviewed the presentation and materials for the visioning workshops.

Meeting #3: The third meeting was held on **August 24, 2010** and the committee worked with staff and consultants to develop the strategic plan.

Meeting #4: The fourth meeting was held on **June 4, 2012** to review work accomplished in the development of the Community Assessment and Community Agenda, which form the basis of the Action Plan and Short Term Work Program. Action Plan priorities were reviewed, and the Top Ten priorities for each area of the Action Plan were identified.

Meeting #5: The fifth meeting was held on **July 30, 2012** to review Subcommittee input to the Master Plan. Subcommittee comments on previously completed plan elements, the Action Plan Top Ten, and the role of the Short Term Work Program were discussed.

3.3 Sub-Committees

Four (4) Sub-Committees were formed to support the Steering Committee. Sub-committees were comprised of a Steering Committee member, one or more Parish staff and up to six citizens who are stakeholders or experts in the subject area of the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committees focus on key elements of the plan such as Transportation, Infrastructure and Utilities (drainage, water, sewer etc.), Businesses and Economic Development (including Fishing and Marine Infrastructure), Education, Parks, Recreation and Tourism, and Housing. The Sub-Committees were formed after the 3rd Steering Committee Meeting. Once formed, the Sub-Committees were in communication with the committee head and the PMT through electronic notifications and updates and met four (4) times during the project.

3.4 Focus Groups

Focus Groups were formed after the 3rd Steering Committee meeting to provide guidance for the community agenda related to specific elements in the plan. The specific topics and participants for the focus groups were determined in part by the steering committee. It is anticipated that the focus groups would include individuals or stakeholders who may be influential in the implementation of policies as the plan moves forward. Having these stakeholders present and their concerns and ideas addressed during the development of the policies benefits the overall policies and goals of the CMP. The focus groups will meet one time in the same timeframe as the subcommittee meetings. Communication with focus group members will continue through the project. As the planning process concludes the focus group participants will be invited to the open house and adoption hearings.

4 Public Participation Techniques

A variety of participation techniques are utilized to ensure that public involvement extends into all aspects of the community. The participation techniques outlined below are jointly designed to create a community involvement program that logically builds upon itself from the first stakeholder interview to the last public hearing. These techniques will create community awareness, excitement, and support for the Comprehensive Master Plan. The major elements that will complete a full circle of the successful

participation are project oversight, public hearings, interactive community meetings, and targeted communication outreach strategies.

4.1 Interviews with Parish Officials, Staff, and Community Stakeholders

The consultant team has and will conduct interviews or small group meetings with Parish officials and staff to solicit ideas and insights into the current issues that must be dealt with in the near future, and interview them regarding the nature of existing intergovernmental agreements and coordination mechanisms in place to deal with those issues. Originally, ten interviews were scoped, but in part due to the Deepwater Horizon Disaster, it was determined that additional interviews were necessary to gather additional information and to help garner the stakeholder support and buy-in that will be critical to CMP implementation. The following are the list of those interviewed or are to be interviewed:

1. Othella Hughes, Superintendent (Community Action Agency, PPG)
2. Janice Acosta, Director (Administration, PPG)
3. Scott Lott, Director (Operations, PPG)
4. Mike Metcalf, CBO, CFPM, Superintendent (Permits, Planning & Zoning, PPG)
5. Byron Williams, Director (Public Service, PPG)
6. Blair Rittiner, Land Superintendent (Land Department, PPG)
7. Todd Schouest, Director (Libraries, PPG)
8. P.J. Hahn, Director (Coastal Zone Management, PPG)
9. Corey Buie, Superintendent (Recreation, PPG)
10. Kurt Fromherz, Media Specialist (Public Awareness, PPG)
11. Stan Mathes, Director (Economic Development, PPG)
12. Lori Meyers, Chief Financial Officer (Finance Manager, PPG)
13. Tommy Serpas, Assistant Finance Director (Finance, PPG)
14. Lynda Banta (Council – District 8)
15. Keith Hinkley (Council – District 2)
16. Dr. Stuart Guey (Council – District 4)
17. Burghart Turner (Council – District 6)
18. Jerry Hodnett (Council – District 3)
19. Anthony Buras (Council – District 5)
20. Marla Cooper (Council – District 9)
21. Don Beshel (Council – District 1)
22. John Pennison (Plaquemines Port Authority)
23. Dr. Suhayda
24. Wendy Buckel (Chevron Oronite)
25. John Tesvich, Oyster Industry Representative (President, AmeriPure)
26. L.V. Cooley (Oil and Minerals Legal Counsel to PPG)
27. Betsy Brien, Public Affairs Director (Conoco Phillips Alliance Refinery)
28. Denis Rousselle, Superintendent (Plaquemines Parish Schools)

29. George Gefrich, VP Transportation Planning (Trident Holdings)
30. Ruth Meyers (United Way)
31. George Pivach II (Venice Port)
32. Lynn DuPont (Regional Planning Commission)
33. Walter Brooks (Regional Planning Commission)
34. Bruce Keller(NAS JRB Belle Chasse)
35. Joey Horton, Jr. Manager (Ferry Department, PPG)
36. Bobby Thomas, Executive Director (Plaquemines Association of Business and Industry)

These discussions will help the consultant team build a statement of the community's values and to identify the kinds of issues to be addressed in the visioning process.

4.2 Public Meetings

Public meetings constitute key decision points in the public involvement process that have a great deal to do with the direction of guidance and policies for the Comprehensive Master Plan. Public meetings along with other participation techniques can educate, generate support and understanding of the project, and allow for interaction between the client, consultants and members of the community. The guiding documents and events described below will help build consensus for the development of the Plaquemines Parish Comprehensive Master Plan.

4.2.1 Visioning Logistics Plan

The consultant team developed a specific plan for conducting the Community Visioning Workshop including a detailed agenda and a logistical plan for the community visioning workshops. The consultant team developed the materials for the Visioning Workshop including:

- ◆ Base maps
- ◆ Agendas and handouts
- ◆ Meeting materials (directional signs, sign in sheets, name tags, etc.)
- ◆ Questionnaire
- ◆ Website updates
- ◆ Graphic boards (Boards with photographs and maps to help visualize the communities)
- ◆ Interactive exercise materials and tools

4.2.2 Visioning Workshop

In May 2010 and June 2010, a series of six (6) visioning workshops were held in different parts of the parish. Each community visioning workshop was approximately three (3) hours and included a variety of activities designed to engage the participants in identifying key issues to be addressed in the plan and in defining a vision statement for the community and the Parish as a whole.

PLANNING AREA 3**Phoenix – Bohemia Planning Area**

Phoenix/ Davant/ Pointe a la Hache/ Bohemia/Nestor/ Ostrica/ Beshel/ Nero/ Bellvue/ Harlem/ Olga/
Fort Saint Phillip/ Martin/ Pilot Town/ Burbridge/ Monsecour

Meeting May 22

St. Thomas Church Office, Pointe a la Hache, LA

PLANNING AREA 2**Braithwaite – Bertandville Planning Area**

Braithwaite/ Scarsdale/ Dalcour/ Bertrandville/ Carlisle/ English Turn/ St. Clair/ Port Nickel/ Stella/
Promised Land/ Belair/ Greenwood/ Linwood/ Woodlawn/ Wills Point

Meeting May 22

St. John Baptist Church, Bertrandville, LA

PLANNING AREA 4**Jesuit Bend – Lake Hermitage Planning Area**

Jesuit Bend/ Myrtle Grove/ Ironton/ Lake Hermitage/ Naomi/ Sarah/ Live Oak/ Ollie/ Gloria/
Becnelville/ La Russite/ Alliance

Meeting June 5

Belle Chasse Middle School Gym, Belle Chasse, LA

PLANNING AREA 1**Planning Area – Belle Chasse Planning Area**

Belle Chasse/ Noble Manor/ Augusta/ Cedar Grove/ Oakville

Meeting June 5

Belle Chasse High School Cafeteria, Belle Chasse, LA

PLANNING AREA 6**Diamond – Home Place Planning Area**

Diamond/ Port Sulphur/ Homeplace/ St. Rosalie/ Deer Range/ Point Celeste/ Woodland/ West Pointe
a la Hache/ Magnolia/ Grandbayou Village/ Happy Jack/ Encalade/ Potash

Meeting June 12

South Plaquemines High School Gym, Port Sulphur, LA

PLANNING AREA 5**Empire – Venice Planning Area**

Boothville/ Venice/ Buras/ Empire/ Nairn/ Triumph/ Tidewater/ Bremond/ Hesperides/ Tropical Bend/
Sunrise/ Gulf Town/ Fort Jackson/ Duvic/ Orchard

Meeting June 12

Boothville School Gym, Boothville, LA

4.2.3 Virtual Online Workshop

In order to offer the visioning workshop opportunity to additional citizens in Plaquemines Parish, a virtual online workshop was launched on the project website. The workshop was intended to offer 24/7 access to meeting materials and the opportunity to provide input to the future needs and issues of the Parish. The virtual online workshop page walked participants through the presentations, materials and interactive questionnaires that were presented at the Visioning Workshops. The site also referenced links to other documents and websites.

Virtual Welcome Table (Step 1)
Get Oriented - Welcome, Introductions (STEP 2)
Watch Overview Presentation (STEP 3)



Provide Input - Interactive Exercise & Break-out Session Questions (STEP 4)
Overall Conditions, Vision and Needs for the future of your community
How do we make our Visions the Reality? Implementation Strategies (STEP 5)
Presentation & Discussion
Wrap Up and Next Steps

The Virtual Online Workshop page was available from early June 2010 through July 31, 2010.

4.2.4 Community Visioning Summary

After the completion of the meetings, the consultant team summarized the results of the community visioning workshops in an illustrated summary report that describes the process, who attended, and the key issues discussed during the workshops, results of the surveys and opinion polls, and the key conclusions from the information that was collected.

4.2.5 Open House

After draft copies of the Comprehensive Master Plan have been reviewed by the Parish staff and Steering Committee and made available to the public through the public website and in public libraries, a series of Open Houses will be held. The consultant team will prepare a brief presentation of the recommendations of the plan, including a series of large map displays. The open houses will be held in the same six (6) areas of the parish where the Community Visioning Workshops were held to ensure easy public access to the meeting. At each open house, the consultant team will make a brief presentation, and then members of the team will distribute themselves around the room to meet with members of the public on a one-on-one basis to discuss aspects of the plan and answer questions without a “public hearing” atmosphere.

4.2.6 Public Hearings

Once complete, the Plaquemines Parish Comprehensive Master Plan will enter a round of up to five (5) public hearings leading to adoption by the Plaquemines Parish Council. Once the final draft is prepared, additional comments or revisions received after that point will be compiled into an errata sheet listing the revision, source, and date of origin.

4.3 Outreach to Plaquemines Parish Youth

The Plaquemines Parish Government, Plaquemines Parish Schools, CMP Steering Committee, and Project Management Team sought the involvement of the Parish’s youth in the development of the Comprehensive Plan. Possible opportunities for the youth’s involvement included representation on the Steering Committee, presentations to classrooms, and drawing or essay contests on the Parish’s future. Due to the schedule of the project and school schedules, an effort to coordinate the details for youth involvement with Plaquemines Parish Schools’ leadership was attempted in late summer/early fall 2010, but other important curricular priorities made it infeasible for students to devote time to this effort.

5 Public Communication

5.1 Website

The consultant team will create, host and maintain a project website during the course of the project to aid in project communication and public information. The website was crafted to be interactive and informative and will be linked with the Parish's website. Included within the website will be project information, documentation, monthly newsletters, reports, photographs, maps and other project related documentation. The website will be updated as new information becomes available.

www.plaqueminesmasterplan.com

5.2 Newsletters

Monthly updates have been created and sent to steering committee members and others who sign up for the project emails. The newsletters will also be posted on the website and was distributed through the Plaquemines Parish list serv. The newsletters will update the Parish on the status of the project, pertinent information, meeting notices, and other project highlights.

5.3 Media

- *Times Picayune*
- *The Plaquemines Gazette* – online at www.plaqueminesgazette.com
- *Plaquemines Watchman*
- Plaquemines Cablevision
- Radio Stations
 - KNOU 104.5FM Empire (<http://www.hot1045no.com/>)
 - KAGY 1510 AM Port Sulphur
 - KMLR 91.9 FM Buras

5.4 Online Resources

The Parish utilizes a number of online resources for both information sharing and data gathering. News sites as well as social networking sites can be useful sources for connecting with additional members of the community, advertising the public meetings, and keeping in touch with the big issues in the communities of Plaquemines Parish.

- www.plaqueminesparish.com – Plaquemines Parish government website
- www.topix.net/city/belle-chasse-la/
Local news for Belle Chasse, LA updated from thousands of sources on the web through Topix.net.
- www.BayouBuzz.com
Online news source – primarily for New Orleans area, but some stories come out of Plaquemines Parish.
- www.Facebook.com
Social network site with focused on specific groups/events. Followers are “Friends”
 - Plaquemines Parish - Buras Louisiana - DTR
 - Plaquemines Parish Heritage & Seafood Festival
 - Orange Fest Plaquemines Parish

- Southern Plaquemines Parish

5.5 Local Events

Organizations in the Parish hold a number of events throughout the year. Using these public events to meet and talk to members of the community can be used gather additional information on the vision and future of the Parish.

- Buras Fire Department Boil-off (April 17, 2010) – Fort Jackson Ball Field – Buras
- Plaquemines Parish Seafood Festival (May 28-30, 2010) Metal of Honor Park – Belle Chasse
The Seafood Festival took place in between the first two and last four visioning workshops. Flyers about the remaining Visioning Workshops were handed out at the festival to remind and inform the public about the upcoming meetings.
- Empire South Pass Fishing Rodeo (August 12-14, 2010) The Delta Marina – Empire
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help Fair (October 8-10, 2010) – OLPH School – Belle Chasse
- Orange Festival (December 3-5, 2010) Historic Fort Jackson - Boothville

6 Schedule

Schedule of Project Phases, by Month	2010												2011					2012					2013						
	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan-Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
PHASE 1: PROJECT INITIATION	█	█										█																	
PHASE 2: COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT		█	█	█	█							█																	
PHASE 3: VISIONING			█	█	★	█						█																	
PHASE 4: COMMUNITY AGENDA							█	█	█	█	█	█																	
DEEPWATER HORIZON DISASTER IMPEDES LOCAL ENGAGEMENT				█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█													
PHASE 5: ACTION PLAN/STWP												█			█	█	█	█	█										
PHASE 6: DOCUMENTATION AND ADOPTION												█									█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
Steering Committee Meetings			★	★			★			★		█								★	★							★	

- ** Visioning Workshops:** ★
- #1 - 5/22/2010
 - #2 - 5/22/2010
 - #3 - 6/5/2010
 - #4 - 6/5/2010
 - #5 - 6/12/2010
 - #6 - 6/12/2010

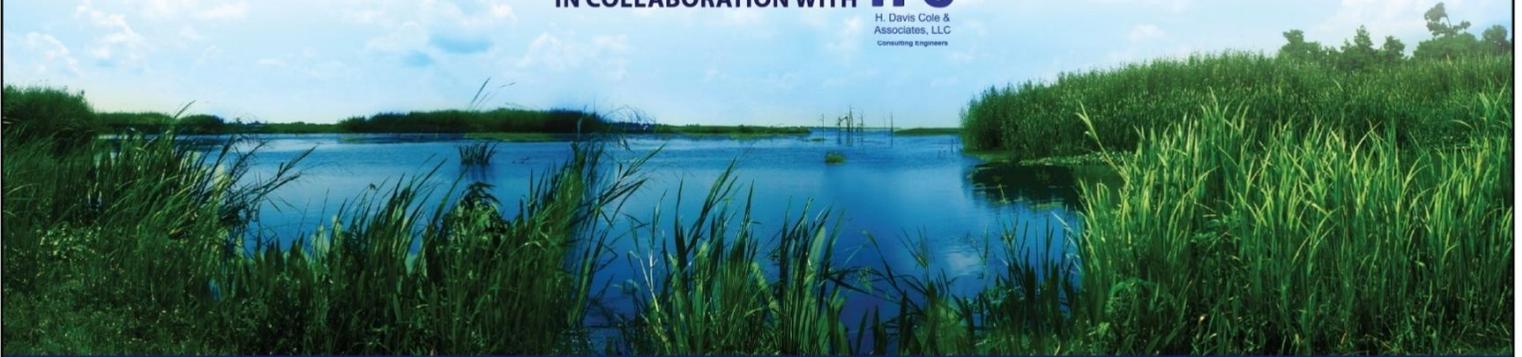
- *** Steering Committee Meetings:** ★
- #1 - 4/13/2010
 - #2 - 5/11/2010
 - #3 - 8/24/2010
 - #4 - 6/4/2012
 - #5 - 7/30/2012

- *** Open Houses:** ★
- Spring 2013



PREPARED BY **JACOBS**™ 

IN COLLABORATION WITH **HPC**
H. Davis Cole &
Associates, LLC
Consulting Engineers



Subcommittee Rosters

Five subcommittees, organized around key content themes of the CMP, were convened during the Action Plan phase of the planning process to assist the project team in crafting the Short Term Work Program. The subcommittee members lent a unique expertise and community perspective to the process, helping ensure the Short Term Work Program captured the priorities of the community and were crafted with a keen understanding of the realities that each recommendation would encounter during implementation. The subcommittees met four times. The work of the subcommittees was overseen by the CMP Steering Committee.

Transportation, Infrastructure & Utilities Committee	
<i>CMP Element Assignments: Transportation & Water and Waste Water</i>	
Byron Williams, Jr.	PPG Director Public Service
Ken Dugas	PPG Engineering
Dr. Stuart Guey, Jr.	CMP Steering Committee
Benny Bacas	CMP Steering Committee
Keith Hinkley	CMP Steering Committee
Michael Callegari	Severn Trent Environmental Services
Coastal Restoration, Levees, Natural Resources, & Environment Committee	
<i>CMP Element Assignments: Coastal Protection and Restoration & Stormwater and Drainage</i>	
P.J. Hahn	PPG Director Coastal Restoration
Fran Martinez	PPG Soil and Water Conservation
Blair Rittiner	PPG Land Superintendent, Land Dept.
Marla Cooper	PPG Council
Dr. Joseph N. Suhayda	LA Water Resources Research Institute
Jack Bohannon	Delta National Wildlife Refuge
Kerry St. Pe'	Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program
D. Scott Lott	PPG Director Operations
John Tesvich	AmeriPure Oysters
Todd Baker	Wildlife and Fisheries
Business, Economic Development, and Tourism Committee	
<i>CMP Element Assignments: Economic Development, Government Organization & Government Finance</i>	
Stan Mathes	PPG Director of Economic Development
Benny Puckett	PPG
Janice Acosta	PPG Director of Administration
Diana Alfortish	CMP Steering Committee
Jim Woodard	CMP Steering Committee

Bobby Thomas	Exec Director PABI
Bruce Keller	Naval Air Station, Joint Reserve Base,
George Pivach II	Venice Port (Shipping Rep.)
Melissa Kirsch	LA Workforce Comm. (Workforce Training
Allen Hero	Harvey Canal Industrial Association
Quality of Life Committee (Housing, Aging, Health, Education, Parks & Recreation)	
<i>CMP Element Assignments: Public Facilities and Services, Population/Demographics, & Parks & Recreation</i>	
Hilda Lott	PPG
Corey Buie	PPG Superintendent Recreation
Guy Laigast	PPG Office of Emergency Preparedness
Othella Hughes	PPG Superintendent of Comm. Action agency
Laurie Soileau	CMP Steering Committee & Homeowners Rep.
Rev. Theodore Turner	CMP Steering Committee
Bonnie Buras	CMP Steering Committee
Stanley Gaudet	CMP Steering Committee
Yvette Glass	Director, Council on Aging
Rev. Tyrone Edwards	Zion Travelers
Mena Marinovich	Citizen Representative
Bonnie Thomas	School Representative
Brenda Puckett	Citizen Representative
Burghart Turner	PPG Council
Land Development Committee	
<i>CMP Element Assignments: Land Use</i>	
Phyllis DiFebbo	Superintendent of Planning & Zoning Department
Allen Hero	Harvey Canal Industrial Association
Jody Coyne Sr.	Byou Road Civic Association
Steve Bledsoe	Development and Zoning Board
Rodney Gunnell	Development and Zoning Board
John Lacour	Development and Zoning Board
James "Sonny" Honea	Development and Zoning Board
Jeff DiMarco	Development and Zoning Board
Nerissa Antoine Miller	Development and Zoning Board
Frank Frelich	Development and Zoning Board
Mike Damico	Development and Zoning Board
Bernard (Benny) Bacas	Development and Zoning Board
Leo Palazzo	Development and Zoning Board
Todd Eppley	Development and Zoning Board

Summary of Interviews with Parish Officials & Senior Staff

1 Overview

As a part of the project initiation and fact-finding phase of the Master Plan, consultant staff interviewed several Plaquemines Parish officials and senior staff. Project staff held interviews during March 2010 in the Parish and over the phone when in-person interviews were not feasible.

The purpose of these interviews was to accomplish the following:

1. Solicit the ideas and insights of parish leaders regarding the current issues that must be dealt with in the near future and long-term;
2. Help build a statement of the Parish's values; and
3. Identify the kinds of issues to be addressed in the visioning process.

Section 2 of this report provides an overview of all interviews held, and Section 3 compiles information received into bullet points under topical headings. This summary does not associate specific comments with any individual in order to protect anonymity and reflect the combined views of all stakeholders interviewed.

2 Interviews Held

1. Community Action Agency (Othella Hughes, Superintendent)
Emergency Assistance, USDA Commodities, Low Income Energy Assistance, Public Transportation
2. Administration (Janice Acosta, Director)
EMS, Health Department, Animal Control, Code Enforcement, Community Action Agency, Human Resources, Finance Department, Mosquito Control, Farm & Economics
3. Operations (Scott Lott, Director)
Permits, Planning & Zoning, Drainage/Pumping, Engineering & Public Works, Flood Control, PROWM Public-Right-of-Way-of-Maintenance, Safety, Sign Shop
4. Permits, Planning & Zoning (Mike Metcalf, CBO, CFPM, Superintendent)
5. Public Service (Byron Williams, Director)
Water Department, Ferry Department, Buildings Department, Libraries, Telecommunications, Maintenance Dept, Solid Waste, Fort Jackson Museum, Port Sulfur Golf Course
6. Land Department (Blair Rittiner, Land Superintendent)
Levees, Land, Hunting
7. Libraries (Todd Schouest, Director)
8. Coastal Zone Management (P.J. Hahn, Director)
9. Recreation (Corey Buie, Superintendent)
10. Public Awareness (Kurt Fromherz, Media Specialist)
11. Economic Development (Stan Mathes, Director)

3 Interview Summary

This interview summary reflects information collected by interviews held with Plaquemines Parish stakeholders identified in Section 2. Data is organized as succinctly as possible. Information collected is organized under the following sections, starting with existing conditions and recent trends and ending with short-term and long-term needs:

3.1 Plaquemines Parish Organizational Structure	Page 2
3.2 Parish Infrastructure and Programs	Page 4
3.3 Greatest Post Storm Achievements	Page 8
3.4 Greatest Lost Opportunities since Storms	Page 9
3.5 General Vision and Role of Master Plan	Page 10
3.6 Biggest Challenges	Page 11
3.7 Parish Needs	Page 13

To gain a comprehensive perspective on the information collected, it is recommended that all sections be reviewed.

3.1 PLAQUEMINES PARISH ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

AN IMPORTANT PART OF EACH INTERVIEW INCLUDED GAINING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF PARISH OPERATIONS, INTERACTIONS AND DAY-TO-DAY ACTIVITIES. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION SUMMARIZES SUCH INFORMATION THAT WAS COLLECTED.

- The parish has a very large (plotted) organizational chart. Staff is working on putting it into a book and will forward us a copy when they finalize it.
- P.J. Hahn [Coastal Zone Management] and Blair Rittiner [Land Development] are not Directors but do report directly to the Parish President. Together they cover Coastal Lands for the parish; Blair Rittiner handles the levees while P.J. Hahn leads the restoration efforts.
 - Since Mr. Hahn has been working for the Parish, the dollar volume of coastal projects has increased ten fold to the largest amount ever.
- Although levees are Blair Rittiner's [Land Development's] major work area, he is also responsible for coordinating the process of permitting for hunting on parish lands. Fish and Wildlife actually provides the permits, but Blair Rittiner's office completes [Land Development] and turns in the applications for nutria and alligator hunting.
 - Albertine Kindall and Lonnie Serpas work for Blair Rittiner [Land Development]. Lonnie handles diversions. Blair Rittiner's main responsibilities: quarterly levee reports/inspections and coordination of levee projects.
 - PROM – "grass cutting department" - Handles the heavy equipment side of levee work and application of herbicides; this department is separate from the Land Department but it should be reorganized into one department, as levee maintenance should take priority.
- Permits, Planning & Zoning Department:
 - 2 main areas – off shore permitting and building permitting
 - Building permitting – electrical, plumbing, mechanical, etc.
 - Off shore – issues "construction permits" for new flow lines, well heads, coordinates with state/feds, ACOE, DOT, DNR

- Port Sulphur government building will be ready in April, planning and zoning is moving in there as a satellite office, Belle Chasse is the main office, 13 to 14 people total, including 10 to 12 inspectors
- Economic Development - The Economic Development Board is chartered by the state. There are 11 members; 9 members are selected by the Council and 2 members are at large. The Economic Development Department, however, is funded by the Parish, and the Economic Development Director is appointed by the Parish President. There are two additional staff in the economic development department: one's focus is marketing and the other's is tourism.
 - The Economic Development Department has a working relationship with the Plaquemines Business Association.
 - They also work with Greater New Orleans Inc., which represents 10-county region and with the Louisiana Department of Economic Development.
- The Community Action Agency's (CAA) primary roles include administering the LIHEAP Utility Assistance, Homeless Prevention Program, Utility, Rent/Mortgage Assistance, Public Transportation, and USDA Food Assistance.
 - Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
 - funding provided September through December, includes light and gas assistance
 - Emergency Shelter assistance is provided by the Parish.
 - The CAA has a relationship with 2nd Harvest Food Bank.
 - Had program that provided demolition assistance to people at 150% of poverty level
- Libraries. The library was run by one family for the past 60 years. First by the mother, then by the daughter each overseeing the library for 30 years each. The libraries have been wiped out twice – Buras was headquarters, now it is in Bell Chasse.
 - The Library has less than \$1 million budget. Including salaries, technology, books, and facilities.
 - Rotary help and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation helped pay for Port Sulphur staffing for a while.
- Public Media.
 - Organize projects – coastal, recovery – the ability to access information and to bring media attention to the parish
 - Email updates to residents, currently have 1,300 email addresses

3.2 PARISH INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROGRAMS

INTERVIEWERS COLLECTED DETAILS REGARDING EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROGRAMS IN THE PARISH. THIS INFORMATION WILL HELP ESTABLISH BASELINE CONDITIONS BEING OUTLINED IN THE COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT.

Coastal Management

- The Parish modeled its Coastal Zone Management Plan on the state's plan.
- The Parish expects the new federal levee from Venice to New Orleans to be completed in 2011.
- The Mississippi River is going to be at an unusually high level this year [2010] due to spring floods upstream. This could increase the risk of flooding in Plaquemines if there were hurricanes this summer.

Levee Information

- Plaquemines' levee system is a combination of Federal, Parish and Private levees
 - WBV – West Bank and vicinity
 - 100 year / 1% levee from W. Jefferson Parish to Belle Chasse, scheduled to be complete by June 2011
 - South of the 100yr/1% levee the parish has requested a 50yr/2% levee from ACOE
 - NOV – New Orleans to Venice levee system – runs along both sides of Mississippi – all Federal
 - Back Levee
 - W. Bank
 - Oakville to W. Pointe a la Hache - 8 miles of Parish levee & 16 miles of Private levee (1 owner)
 - Diamond to Venice – Federal levee
 - East Bank
 - East Bank - Braithwaite to White Ditch - 18 mil Parish Levee
 - East Bank - Phoenix to Bohemia – 16 mil Federal levee
- All levees scheduled to be Federal by Q4 2013 except the Braithwaite to White Ditch, which needs to be placed into the Federal system. However, projects are stalled.
- ACOE is now using the Method of Planes versus Spencer Method for design, which requires a 400 foot footprint rather than the current 150 foot footprint.
- Nothing along the NOV is under construction yet – all is still in design phase.
- Emergency repairs were completed 8 months post Katrina. Permanent repairs are needed now but are being pushed back continually, mostly due to lack of funds.

Developing Industries – Renewable Energy

Wind Power

- Putting at State Pass (bottom of the Parish) and at Port Sulphur
- Investors would put the wind energy into the Parish. After five year period, the investors would turn the infrastructure over to the Parish.
- There are no community concerns about windmills.

Hydrokinetic

- Using the Mississippi River for freeflow power.

- Structures are 4 to 6 feet wide.
- The company has identified 55 sites for their structures.
- Anticipated implementation of this project is 12-18 months.

Recreation

- The Recreation Department offers football, basketball, baseball/softball programs. The Parish's soccer fields were converted to football fields, so the Department has partnered with the Naval Base to use their fields to provide soccer for kids.
- All areas of the Parish are served equally.
- Belle Chase has greater parent sponsorship, so there is the perception that facilities in South Plaquemines are not maintained as well as those in North Plaquemines.
- Plaquemines Parish has been to the World Series in Baseball and has also excelled in football and basketball. This has brought a lot of attention to the Parish's recreation department.

Transportation

Public Transportation Program

- Includes 5 mini-buses (vans)
- Seating capacity includes 20 passenger, 6 passenger, 12 passenger
- Public transportation will take people anywhere they need to go, from New Orleans south (do not go to Metairie – too much traffic)
- Users must schedule a trip 24 hours in advance.
- One van (each) leaves from Venice and Bohemia each morning at 6:30 am, returning by 2:30 pm

Administration

Health Department

- 9 staff members and a registered nurse
- Clinic has sufficient capacity
- The Department runs a homebound pick-up service that brings residents to W. Jefferson

Animal Shelter

- Anticipated to open in October 2010
- \$3 million facility
- Free rabies shots offered in April/May
- PAWS helps run program.

Code Enforcement

- Two staff go out and review alleged code violations
- After the notice of violation is submitted, person has 30 days to rectify problem.
- Major issues include high grass, debris from storms, maintaining property, rat-infested areas, etc.

Human Resources

- Department has full plates right now. All issues with staff go through them.

EMS

- Parish wants to be sure that there's a paramedic on each EMT.

- EMS has a 3-8 minute response time.
- There are 6 stations.

Finance

- Rollover money - \$1 million for each district.
- In mid 2009, Department budgets were cut in half.
- Any money over \$19/barrel goes into Bond Indebtedness Fund for sewer system.
- Issue with having to ask for rollover money from districts to pay for Parish-wide needs.

Farm & Economics

- This program is run by LSU. There offices are in the same building as the Community Action Agency.

Mosquito Control

- 24 staff
- Spray all the ditches – 8000 miles in total
- Aerial spraying

Intergovernmental Coordination

- The sheriff's office has intergovernmental agreement with other parishes.
- The RPC is very important to the Parish as many projects are submitted through and coordinated by them. Currently, Billy is the Chairman of the Parish. Plaquemines Parish also has a good working relationship with Saint Bernard.

Tourism

What is the status of Fort Jackson?

- Fort Jackson was historically the focal point for South Plaquemines – including festivals, football games, etc.
- If Fort Jackson becomes a National Park, it will draw people to the south end of the Parish.
- The Fort had a \$50 million budget prior to the storm?
- The National Park is currently being studied.
- The Parish has met with legislatures in Washington DC regarding the project.

Discussion Regarding Other Eco-Tourism Initiatives

Floating hotel near Fort Jackson

Wetlands Discovery Center (education)

- Has a 501 C3; will cost \$8-9 million

Woodland Trails

- 400 (x) of trail on north end of Parish
- Hardwood, native forest
- Has its own 501 C#

Birders are a big group in Plaquemines

- One resources is the Delta National Wildlife Refuge
- <http://www.fws.gov/delta/>

Nine Fishing Piers

- Venice is one of the most important piers

***All ecotourism facilities can piggy-back off of New Orleans Convention Sector.

Lodging

- Currently there are approximately 7 lodging options in Plaquemines.
- Lodging rates at Lighthouse Lodge in Venice (South Plaquemines) are down 50 percent.

Zoning and Development Regulations

- The Parish does have some “cool” zoning classifications [like Ag], reflective of the diverse heritage
- No need for overlay districts.
- Mixed use development happens by default in some areas, more open to it in the south than in the Belle Chasse area
- Mixed-use here might mean a home based fish processing operation
- *What is/has been the role of development regulations in encouraging economic development in the parish?*
 - Antiquated growth model for Belle Chasse
 - Small piecemeal updates to codes but nothing major in years
 - Need new/updated growth model
 - [unclear what’s meant by “growth model”, referring to codes or land use plans, either way both need updating/changes]

3.3 GREATEST POST STORM ACHIEVEMENTS

THE PARISH HAS MADE MANY STRIDES SINCE HURRICANES KATRINA AND RITA HIT IN 2005. THE POST STORM ACHIEVEMENTS PROVIDE MOMENTUM FOR CONTINUED RECOVERY EFFORTS AND PROVIDE IMPORTANT INSIGHTS INTO SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS AND STRATEGIES.

General Achievements

- Workers! The resiliency to come back, the camaraderie.
 - Personnel – giving staff what they need to get their jobs done, boosting morale
 - Accountability of workforce – not just coming to work and sitting under a tree
- Storms washed away boundary lines - people saw Plaquemines as a whole.
- There's been strong leadership - everyone has been coming together
- But everyone is not whole again; need to make people whole so it feels like home.
- YMCA in Belle Chasse

Operations

- Better facilities at the lower end of the Parish

Permits, Planning & Zoning

- Software to implement Act 12
- New hard copy filing system

Community Action Agency

- The Department has received additional funding for Public Transportation that was covering 100 percent of the cost of the program.

Recreation

- The Parish has seen a major surge in demand for its programs. Non-residents want to use its facilities.
- The Department has been running a Recreation website for about a year; it's update two times a day.
- A big accomplishment of the Department is being a feeder system into State recognized teams (e.g. state champions in football). The Department has maintained strong relationships with area schools, the Naval Base, and the state agency.

Library

- Caters to more of the greater population
- Technology for libraries has increased
- Now have programming
- Summer Reading programs
- Boothville – bookmobile brought performers – had 158 kids attend.

Public Media

- In the process of completing the Parish Annual Report – should be ready in the next 30 days.
- Focus on the positive.

GREATEST LOST OPPORTUNITIES SINCE STORMS

THE PARISH HAS EXPERIENCED SOME SETBACKS AND LOST OPPORTUNITIES SINCE THE STORM. THIS INFORMATION WAS COLLECTED TO HELP PROJECT STAFF IDENTIFY SOLUTIONS AND POTENTIAL STRATEGIES FOR AVOIDING SIMILAR OCCURANCES IN THE FUTURE, PARTICULARLY DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD OF THE MASTER PLAN.

General Lost Opportunities

- Did not capitalize on FEMA & LRA money by getting the most bang for the buck; hampered by Council wants, would have had more resources if it were not for local political red tape
- Staff can be too legalistic, need better PR from staff
- Lots of needless department interaction.

GENERAL VISION AND ROLE OF MASTER PLAN

WHILE THE MAJORITY OF THE INTERVIEWS FOCUSED ON THE SPECIFIC OPERATIONS, NEEDS AND ISSUES OF SPECIFIC PARISH DEPARTMENTS, INTERVIEWERS ALSO COLLECTED INFORMATION ON THE OVERALL VISION FOR THE PARISH AND LOGISTICS FOR CARRYING OUT THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.

General Vision

- One thing the storms did was unite the parish – no East Bank vs. West Bank, Belle Chasse vs. So. Plaquemines, but this is going away. The master plan should be a uniting force – One Parish.
- Need to locate facilities outside of Belle Chasse.
- If Parish can't get services to the citizens it needs to bring citizens to services – (transportation).
- Concern expressed over how redistricting would affect services and how it would be addressed in the Master Plan.
- Teens were not involved – they need an organized place to gather. Views the library as a potential location that is safe but teen friendly place.

Master Plan Logistics

- We will need to go to the residents/community members in South Plaquemines to get their input. They will not attend public meetings
- Refer to existing plans (i.e. Refer to the library study completed in September 2009)
- The Comprehensive Plan will help get more attention to the Parish.

BIGGEST CHALLENGES

THIS SECTION PROVIDES INPUT ON THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES THE PARISH HAS RECENTLY FACED OR IS LIKELY TO FACE IN THE FUTURE.

General Challenges

- Financing
- Shortage of staff
- Politics
- Need higher salaries to keep good employees
- The isolationist attitude of residents.
- There needs to be a buffer between staff and Council to help remove politics from staff's day to day duties

Finance Challenges

- Rollover money - \$1 million for each district
- In mid 2009, Department budgets were cut in half.
- Any money over \$19/barrel goes into Bond Indebtedness Fund for sewer system.
- Issue with having to ask for rollover money from districts to pay for Parish-wide needs.

Operations

- Need more professional employees
- Equipment – for example there is only 1 vacuum truck for the entire Parish, a new one would cost \$200,000, there's only 1 street sweeper for the Parish
- Has not been a smoke test of the water lines in ages

Permits Planning & Zoning (Operational Issues)

- Need training for staff
- Keeping up with the recovery process
- Educating the public about new building standards
- Regulation enforcement is difficult

Barriers to Development

- Parish maintenance of ditches on private property – services like this need to be handed over to the owners so limited staff/equipment can concentrate on maintaining Parish infrastructure
- Boat slips (docks) run in the red, too cheap, only \$15 to hoist a boat!
- Need to charge fair market value for services provided in Parish

Maintaining Infrastructure

- Spread out nature of Parish
- Need for more equipment, training for staff

Economic Development

- Hurricane protection, levees, insurance coverage, and erosion protection.
- Business retention is an issue. Belle Chase and Venice are doing well.

Community Action Agency

- Dealing with funding stream continuity between years has been the biggest challenge. Funding comes from the Federal Government and often gets delayed.

Libraries

- The rebuilding of Buras
- Port Sulphur – “The Matchbox”
- Dealing with Belle Chasse – way-finding, lack of children’s area, age of the facility, need to change the mindset and allow for new ideas and creative programs.

Public Media

- Media not showing up and the difficulty of getting others to understand the importance of positive media attention.

Attitude towards Planning and Regulation of Land Development in the Parish

- OK as long as they don’t apply to me, or my brother, or my brother in law, etc.
- Historically unequal enforcement
- Enforcement is difficult, everyone thinks the rules shouldn’t apply to them
- Changing post-storm state regulations – most don’t know, don’t understand them and why they can’t build back the way they built before
- More open to mixed use in the south than in the Belle Chasse area

Recreation

- Increased interest in programs and need for new facilities are the biggest challenge.

PARISH NEEDS

A KEY FOCUS OF THE INTERVIEW PROCESS WAS TO IDENTIFY EXISTING AND POTENTIAL NEEDS. THESE ITEMS WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE INITIAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT BEING OUTLINED IN THE COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT. NEEDS ARE LISTED BY AS SHORT AND LONG TERM NEEDS IF SO IDENTIFIED BY INTERVIEWEES AND THEN BY TOPIC. IN ADDITION, THESE TOPICS WILL LIKELY BE INTRODUCED BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS DURING THE VISIONING PROCESS.

Short-Term Goals/Needs

General

- Building barrier islands back (coastal restoration).
- Bringing Fort Jackson back.
- Redistricting in 2011.
- Public sewer in Jesuit Bend and portions on East Bank on 23; an area in Buras also needs sewer (money has been appropriated for this through the Bond Indebtedness Fund.)
- Building Hwy up by citrus land – this is a flooding area. Parish funded?
- Upgrade recreation facilities / programs
- Upgrade water / sewer infrastructure
- Update ferry fleet – Ferry Traffic Study
- Bring all Parish roads up to standards
- Provide the best possible drainage Parish wide
- Implement the Coastal Restoration Plan
- Drainage
- Programs for kids, young adults
- Get trained, qualified staff
- Better PR – public education about codes, regulations
- Level the playing field, greater professionalism
- The Parish expects the new federal levee from Venice to New Orleans to be completed in 2011.

EMS

- The West Bank needs a sprint truck.
- The East Bank needs another sprint truck and paramedic.
- Jesuit Bend needs an ambulance (EMS).
- The Health Department needs an additional, part-time staff to travel in person to people that cannot get to clinic. Currently, there is only one nurse, and she has to man the clinic during the day.
- South Plaquemines needs grocery store and a hospital. Pre-Katrina, Cypress Cove was where people went for dinner.

Public Outreach

- Develop the Parish email database – increase contacts
- 2010 – Recovery projects and the coastal plan should be completed and need to make sure that everyone knows what Plaquemines has done.
- Map the projects; keep the brochure of successes updated and current. Will update the most recent round of completions after the annual report.
- Nola.com - social media forum for Plaquemines

Long-Term Goals/Needs

- Parish should lead the movement towards green buildings
- Alternate energy sources – solar, implementation of wind turbines – could sell power back to the power companies
- More senior focused activities – they have few opportunities to enjoy life in Parish
- Seamless ferry system – best would be to consolidate into one ferry system
- Stronger development guidelines
- Equal enforcement of guidelines and stiffer penalties for violations
- Develop a sports complex – purchase by State School (10-15 year time frame).
- Be the number one recreation department in south Louisiana.
- A way-finding system (potentially billboards) for the Parish would be helpful – particularly for tourists to know where they are and why different locations are significant. Gateways to certain areas, such as Fort Jackson, would be helpful to the Parish.
- Library - Won a grant to complete a study – Completed September 2009. Findings – Buras will become a branch and Belle Chasse will be come the headquarters – however, it was built in -the 1960s and updated in the late 1970s. Currently the facility is inadequate. No study rooms, not shaped like a library. The study says to raze the building and redo.
 - East Bank – Woodlawn Building; Councilman Don XXX agreed to give space for a small branch library to at least provide computers, small collection, DVDs, copier, fax, and guidance and customer service.
 - Need a computer lab
 - Need continuing education opportunities
 - Offer free classes to the general public.
 - Wants to have a Library “System”. Not just a main library

Coastal Management Needs

- Would like to see Plaquemines have a levee district, like West Jefferson. This would include a dedicated staff with engineers, a staff attorney, etc. Most levee departments are run by the State. Plaquemines is the only Parish with a parish-run department.
- \$1 Billion is necessary to finish the [levee] projects in Plaquemines.
 - Parish is left w/ 3 options
 - fight for the funds
 - build to a lesser %
 - build less
- Only adopted ABFEs north of Walker Road on the west bank and Parish-wide outside of the levee system. Lived with this until Digital FIRMS ready, FEMA wants them enforced. Parish wants FEMA to realize they’re different; enforcing the ABFEs is a nuclear option. Parish has held off FEMA so far, but Mike knows Region 6 will be requiring them soon or will cut the Parish off from NFIP. Digital FIRMS need to be redone in light of the levee projects and coastal management plans.

Coastal Restoration Needs

- They had the state DNR’s ERDC model the impact of the state’s Coastal Restoration Plan for Plaquemines Parish. It is based on rebuilding the marsh outside the levee system. It would do a lot to protect biological habitat but would lessen the damage from hurricane force storm surge by only 1 foot, and that would not be enough.

- The crux of the proposed Coastal Restoration Plan is to build the levee higher on the western side, but then to locate an extensive ridge of soil outside the levee that would support a grove of cypress trees (or possibly mangroves). This ridge would cut down the storm surge before it reaches the levee system. The result will be to provide enough surge protection to provide 100-year protection for land between the levees. However, this will require more dredging and sediment diversions to obtain soil for the ridge.
- Any change in elevation of 4 ft or more (vertical) due to dredging will require mitigation under the requirements of the USACOE.
- There is a company in California with a much more efficient dredge and a more efficient contracting process that would reduce the cost of dredging to the Parish from \$12 per cubic yard to less than \$3 per cubic yard. It will require the Parish to enter a long term lease for a \$30 million dredge vessel that operates on electricity instead of diesel fuel. The vessel will have to be manufactured before it can go into action.
- Issue of long-term maintenance cost after the new coastal restoration plan and levees are complete, since future storms could damage the system. The Parish is going to use 2017 Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) dollars for a bond to cover O&M costs.
- Increasing the height of the levee increases the base width of the levee and that impacts the marsh.

Water Infrastructure Needs

Water and Sewer Needs

- Goal is to have entire parish on Parish water and sewer system – currently a few package plants/septic systems running.
- 2002 Water – Sewer Master Plan is the guide for system improvements; see the plan for project information, also check with Engineering for piecemeal projects/updates to plan since then; however, the Plan has not been updated to take current conditions into consideration.

Stormwater Needs

- Parish needs to have stormwater policies in place during the development process
- Need to look into retention ponds and reuse of water for landscaping etc.
- Problems with inundation of sewer system during storm events
- Pump stations should be standard sizes so they are easier to fix
- More equipment is needed to pursue non-structural flood protection/drainage control, need the “right” equipment

Storm Preparedness Needs

General

- Emergency Operations Center is needed
- An emergency management plan is in place for the Parish. There are no additional needs related to that.

Recreation

- An emergency plan is already in place. Everything is taken from south end of Parish and brought to Belle Chase, including Department trucks. After Katrina, this emergency evacuation plan was established. Because of this plan, they did not lose anything from Hurricane Gustoff.

Administration

- Nothing is needed. Things are working well. The auditorium is the emergency process center – everything goes through there before it leaves the Parish. Evacuees go to Coushatta, Louisiana. Janice and away team (including Laurie Myers, Finance Director) got to Baton Rouge when there's an emergency evacuation.

Libraries

- Will provide a safe haven in Buras – library construction is substantial.
- Already have a policy in place for emergency situations.
 - The EOC uses the bookmobile unit. It has wifi.
 - Police can use the mobile unit – park and use.

Development Codes for Infrastructure

- Minimal (if they even exist) and inadequate. Need better codes.

Public Facility Needs

Needs to ensure that public facilities are rebuilt in logical locations

- Need better site planning standards, and need to enforce/implement the standards equally
- Need soil erosion control ordinance
- Need storm water ordinance
- Need to require large residential developments to provide recreational amenities

Building Space

- Government buildings need more storage space – sand bags, records, sports equipment
- Need maintenance policies for facilities

Staffing Needs

- Better program management is needed for new facilities – from the Engineering Dept.
- Need more oversight, quality people
- Salaries are always an issue
- LA Act 12 – set a uniform state construction code, cannot be held to a higher standard by local ordinance, inspection personnel have to be certified and registered, it's challenging to get/retain registered/certified staff

Housing Needs

- Affordable housing assistance (Section 8) is only available for the disabled. There is a need for affordable housing or subsidy programs for other segments of the population. The Road Home Program was only available to property owners and not to renters. Apartments destroyed by the storms have not been replaced, particularly in the southern portion of the Parish, leading to a smaller supply of affordable rental housing. There are insufficient rental housing and limited affordable single family home options.

Operational Needs

- Need to fix and/or maintain what the Parish already has before expanding
- Ditches/erosion problems
- Roadways are beat up from heavy equipment

- Culverts need to be repaired/improved; between Port Sulphur and Venice there are 57 to 100 catch basins that need to be repaired, but DOT is unresponsive
- Land settlement is changing the grade on drains, this needs to be repaired so they work effectively
- Levee division should be separate – needs to have its own equipment
- Equipment
- Education
- Fair market salaries for Parish employees
- Need to take politics out of the process and make the best use of the Master Plan moving forward

Intergovernmental Coordination Needs

- Need better assistance from the state on their duties – DOT issues, Entergy for street lights
- Inter-jurisdictional coordination of economic development, in order of best relationship with nearby parishes:
 1. Saint Bernard
 2. Jefferson
 3. Orleans

Transportation Needs

Ferry Department

- Operating with antiquated equipment.
- Need grant funds to add ferries.
- Need to retrofit systems – engines, electronics.

Rail System

- Moving rail out of Belle Chasse to the Bypass Road, running all the way to Venice.

Roads

- Bypass Road – important because it cuts 30% of traffic out of Belle Chasse

Port

- Having a port near Port Sulphur is the fastest way to grow big business. The isolationist argument has kept it from happening.
- The Port Authority on the north side of the Parish has acquired some additional land.

Public Transportation

- Van service is sufficient public transportation for the Parish.
- Ways to extend public transportation services into evening hours. Currently, no service is provided from 6:30 pm to 6:30 am.
- Van service is sufficient public transportation for the Parish. The one improvement that could be made is providing evening public transportation services.

Recreation Needs

- Program managers are needed to run sports programs – ideally will pair local residents who can coach with YMCA to help run programs
- Should be a parks & recreation department – need to focus on keeping up facilities
- Adult and senior programs are needed – not just kids recreation/sports
- There is a need for gyms and more fields.
 - Include provisions for expanding existing fields and bringing in additional gym space.
- Parish primary focus in the near term (5 years)?
 - Buy on back side of Cypress Park;
 - Pursue grants to build two new gyms – one for lower.

Economic Development

- Need new/updated growth model
- [unclear what's meant by "growth model", referring to codes or land use plans, either way both need updating/changes]
- *What do you believe are the sectors with the most potential for growth?*
The major sectors that will fuel growth, in order of low hanging fruit to a hard sell, are the following:
 1. Tourism
 2. Naval Base
 3. Small Business
 4. Big Business
- *What are the needs for attracting and retaining existing industry? (infrastructure, trained workforce, services, transportation)*
 1. Coastal Restoration
 2. Missing levee threatens business retention in Parish
 3. Railroad
 - The railroad currently stops at Conico Phillips
 - A new rail alignment is needed and can be done in conjunction with the Peters Road bypass.
 - Need to get the railroad out of Belle Chase.
- *What, if any, incentives can the Parish offer to businesses?*
There are tax breaks from the state that are currently available, including a ten-year tax break for new businesses and enterprise zones. Right now, there is no need for additional, across-the-board incentives. The Economic Development Department prefers to offer incentives on a case-by-case basis.

Plaquemines Parish MASTER PLAN

ISSUE 1

MARCH 2010



▶ THE MASTER PLAN & THE BIG PICTURE & PROJECT GOALS 1

▶ WHAT TO EXPECT & PROJECT MILESTONES 2

THE MASTER PLAN

Plaquemines Parish has begun the important process of developing a Comprehensive Master Plan. The Plan will evaluate historic and current trends and lay the foundation for continued recovery and prosperity for the Parish through the year 2030 and beyond. This is an exciting time for the community to come together in crafting a vision for the future. The end result will be a coordinated and multi-disciplinary action plan for achieving the community's vision. Ultimately, it will better position the Parish for wise investment decisions and increase competitiveness for state and federal funding. A core goal of the Master Plan is to improve quality of life for current and future residents.

The Plan is being conducted by Plaquemines Parish in partnership with its consultant team, led by J.J.G.

What does the Master Plan Address?

- Demographics
- Economic Development
- Transportation System
- Water and Wastewater Systems
- Drainage and Stormwater Management
- Public Facilities and Services
- Parks and Recreation Facilities and Services

The Big PICTURE

Plaquemines Parish plays an important role in the regional economy, providing vital connections between mainland Louisiana, the Mississippi River, and the Gulf of Mexico. The same environmental attributes that help the Parish thrive also put it at high risk of natural disasters. Intelligent planning and land management decisions will help minimize the impacts of potential

storms and strengthen the area's economy and quality of life. Community participation and ownership of the Master Plan will make it successful by fostering collaboration and partnership. The Comprehensive Master Plan will provide the vision and overall framework for the Parish's recovery, renewal, and strengthening.



Project Goals

The Comprehensive Master Plan will accomplish many importance objectives. The following are some of the key goals of the Plan:

- Develop a plan that is comprehensive, strategic, and implementation-focused and is based on solid technical analysis and community input.
- Assist with continued recovery efforts from recent hurricanes.
- Help the Parish justify and acquire additional state and federal funding.
- Build community support and ownership in the Master Plan.

What to Expect

Stay involved and connected!

- **Project Website** - to be launched in April 2010 as a portal for important project information. The project website will contain facts, maps, pertinent documents, contact information, comment forms, and community questionnaires.
- **Visioning Workshop** - Six visioning workshops with the public to be held throughout the parish in May 2010.
- **Newsletters** - Sign up for the project newsletter – a source for project updates, meeting notices, and other information on how to get and stay involved. Sign up to receive your newsletter by emailing: kfromherz@plaqueminesparish.com

**For questions or more information please contact:
Kurt Fromherz, Media Specialist:
kfromherz@plaqueminesparish.com**

Project Milestones and Anticipated Dates



Winter 2010

Begin Project and Collect Data

Spring 2010

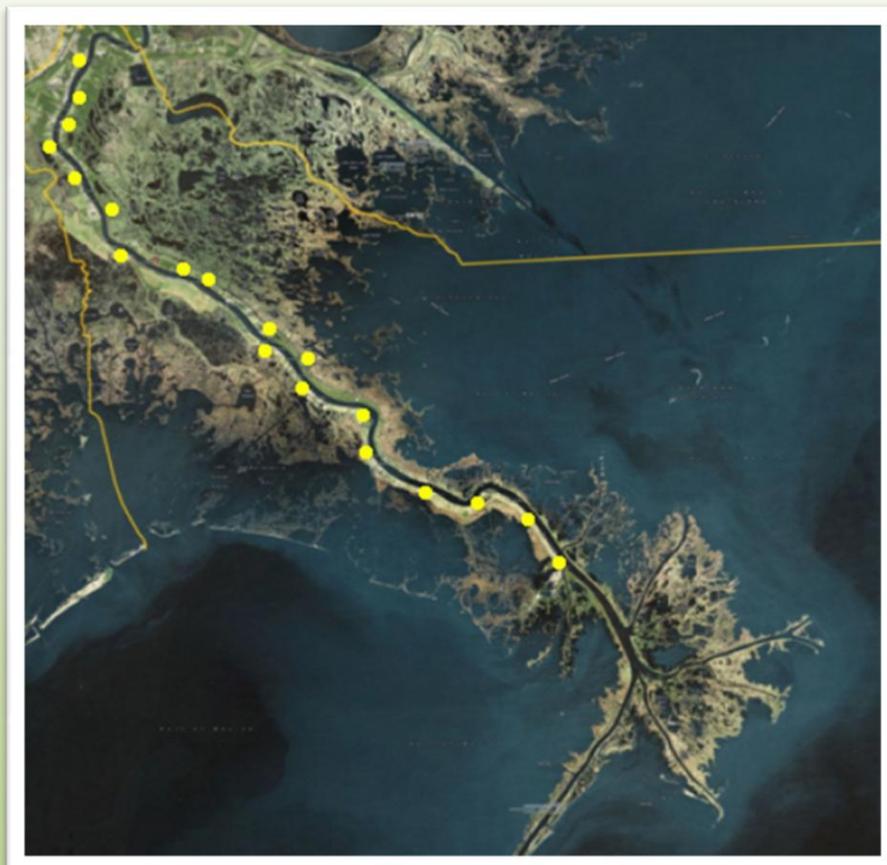
Hold Community Visioning Charrettes

Summer 2010

Complete Community Assessment

End of 2010

Draft Community Agenda;
Begin Action Planning Process



Plaquemines Parish MASTER PLAN

ISSUE 2

APRIL 2010



▶ MASTER PLAN PROGRESS & VISIONING WORKSHOPS..... 1

▶ RECAP OF INTERVIEWS & WHAT TO EXPECT..... 2

President Billy Nungesser

MASTER PLAN PROGRESS

Plaquemines Parish is moving forward in the development of its Comprehensive Master Plan. The Plan will evaluate historic and current trends and lay the foundation for continued recovery and prosperity for the Parish in the future.

March 2010 was an important month for the Plan. Progress was made in the following areas: completion of interviews with Parish senior staff, collection of past studies and base data, and initiation of the existing conditions document. The Community Assessment will be finished in April, and May 2009 will bring forth the most critical time for the Plan. Public Visioning Workshops will be held throughout the Parish for a two-week period to gather input from community members regarding their vision and goals for Plaquemines Parish.

What does the Master Plan Address?

- Demographics
- Economic Development
- Transportation System
- Water and Wastewater Systems
- Drainage and Stormwater Management
- Public Facilities and Services
- Parks and Recreation Facilities and Services
- Parish-owned Property
- Future Land Use
- Government

Visioning Workshops

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Master Plan Visioning Workshops this spring. Plaquemines Parish wants to hear from you! All community members are encouraged to attend. All meetings are on **SATURDAYS**.

May 15	9am-12pm	Diamond/Port Sulphur/Homeplace South Plaquemines High Gym
May 15	3pm-6pm	Boothville/Venice/Buras/Empire Boothville School Gym
May 22	9am-12pm	Phoenix/Davant/Pointe a la Hache/Bohemia St. Thomas Church Office
May 22	3pm-6pm	Braithwaite/Scarsdale/Dalcour/Bertrandville St. John the Baptist Church
June 5	9am-12pm	Jesuit Bend/Myrtle Grove/Ironton/Lake Hermitage Belle Chasse Middle Gym
June 5	3pm-6pm	Belle Chasse Belle Chasse High Cafeteria or School Auditorium

The workshops will include interactive exercises, facilitated conversations, and voting activities. You will be asked to roll up your sleeves and share your ideas. The format of these meetings will be very interactive. The goal of these workshops is to develop specific visions for your individual communities and a unified vision for the whole Parish as you move forward. These workshops are to help increase excitement about the future of the Parish.

The visioning process will be followed by development of an action plan for the future of the Parish.

Recap of Interviews

Consultant staff held one-on-one interviews with Parish senior staff to gather preliminary information on the goals, vision, and needs of Plaquemines Parish.

- Interviews were held with leaders from various departments, including Recreation, Public Service, Coastal Zone Management, Community Action, Administration, Permits, Planning & Zoning, Land Department, Economic Development, Libraries, and more.
- Transferring knowledge and experience from Parish staff is critical to developing a truly comprehensive, cohesive and implementable master plan.
- Among the findings of the interview process was the repeated feeling that the storms of 2005 led to “everyone coming together,” “resiliency,” and “camaraderie.” These are the sentiments that make communities succeed and empower them to implement long-term visions. This is the same energy that will be crucial to implementing the Master Plan!

What to Expect *Stay involved and connected!*

- **Project Website** – The project website contains facts, maps, pertinent documents, contact information, and comment forms. To be launched in late April 2010.
- **Newsletters** - Sign up for the project newsletter – a source for project updates, meeting notices, and other information on how to get and stay involved. Sign up to receive your newsletter by emailing: website@plaqueminesparish.com
- **To Hear from Steering Committee Members** – The Parish has put together a Steering Committee to help guide the Master Plan. This group is made up of community members representing local government, local civic groups, development interests, business leaders, and concerned citizens. These volunteers are charged with increasing awareness of the plan within their social network.

Project Milestones and Anticipated Dates



Beginning of 2010

Begin Project and Collect Data

Spring 2010

Hold Community Visioning Workshops

Summer 2010

Complete Community Assessment

End of 2010

Draft Community Agenda; Begin Action Planning Process

Winter/Spring 2011

Complete Action Planning; Hold Public Hearings; Adopt Master Plan

***More details on these milestones will be available on the project website in early spring 2010.**

What are your top 3 hopes for the Parish for the next 5 years?

How do you envision Plaquemines Parish in 2030 and beyond?

The same, different, a little bit of both . . .

Think about it, write it down, and then tell us what you think at the Visioning Workshops!



For questions or more information, please contact:
Charlotte Weber, Public Involvement Coordinator:
charlotte.weber@jig.com phone 678.836.4484

Plaquemines Parish MASTER PLAN

ISSUE 3

May 2010



▶ VISIONING WORKSHOPS1

▶ VISIONING SCHEDULE &
WHAT TO EXPECT.....2

President Billy Nungesser

Visioning

Plaquemines Parish is moving forward in the development of its Comprehensive Master Plan. Late May and June 2010 brings the planning process to its most critical time – VISIONING. The Public Visioning Workshops set the foundation for the Comprehensive Master Plan that will describe how the Parish should move forward in the future. Please check the dates for the Visioning Workshops for the location near you. Even if you cannot attend the Workshop, you can take part in the planning process. Be sure to visit the website www.plaqueminesmasterplan.com for details, including documents, PowerPoint presentations and maps. Also look for a set of questions for you to answer to help guide the direction of the planning process. Citizen input is the key to the success of the plan.

Late April and May 2010 have been a difficult time for the people of Plaquemines Parish. The Deepwater Horizon Well disaster in the Gulf has disrupted the minds, the hearts and the livelihood of many of the citizens in the area. There may never be a better time for citizens, Parish officials and professional planners to work together to find creative ways to make the Parish stronger, smarter, and safer for its future.

What does the Master Plan Address?

- Coastal Restoration
- Demographics
- Economic Development
- Transportation System
- Water and Wastewater Systems
- Drainage and Levees
- Public Facilities and Services
- Parks and Recreation
- Parish-owned Property
- Land Use
- Government

Check the project website at www.plaqueminesmasterplan.com for focus sheets on each of these topics.

Visioning Workshops May 22nd, June 5th & June 12th

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Master Plan Visioning Workshops. Plaquemines Parish wants to hear from you! All community members are encouraged to attend. All workshops are scheduled on **Saturdays**. The schedule is on page 2.

The workshops will include an overview presentation, an interactive exercise using keypad voting – instantly see how your fellow citizens feel about topics, and facilitated conversations. You will be asked to roll up your sleeves and share your ideas. The format of these meetings will be very interactive. The goal of these workshops is to develop specific visions for your individual communities and a unified vision for the whole Parish as we move forward. These workshops are to help increase excitement about the future of the Parish.



Wireless keypad voting...see the results instantly.

**What are your top 3 hopes for the Parish for the next 5 years?
How do you envision Plaquemines Parish in 2030 and beyond?**

How will it be the same? How will it be different?

Think about it, write it down, and then tell us what you think at the Visioning Workshops!

Visioning Workshop Schedule

Date	Time	Location
May 22	9am-12pm	Carlisle/ Burbridge/ Monsecour/ Phoenix/ Harlem/ Bellevue/ Nero/ DaVant/Pointe a la Hache/ Martin/ Beshel/ Bohemia/ Nestor/ Ostrica/ Fort Saint Phillip/ Olga/ Pilot Town St. Thomas Church Office 17605 Hwy 15, Pointe a la Hache, LA
May 22	3pm-6pm	Braithwaite/ English Turn/St. Clair/ Port Nickel/ Scarsdale/ Stella/ Dalcour/ Promised Land/ Linwood/ Greenwood/ Bertrandville/ Woodlawn/Wills Point/ Belair St. John the Baptist Church Hwy 39, Braithwaite, LA
June 5	9am-12pm	Sarah/ Live Oak/ Ollie/ Jesuit Bend/ Gloria/ Becnelville/ Naomi/ La Reussite/Alliance/ St. Rosalie/Ironton/ Myrtle Grove /Deer Range/Lake Hermitage/ Point Celeste/Woodland/ West Pointe a la Hache Belle Chasse Middle School Gym 13492 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, LA
June 5	3pm-6pm	Noble Manor/ Belle Chasse/ Augusta/ Cedar Grove/ Oakville Belle Chasse High School Cafeteria 8346 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, LA
June 12	9am-12pm	Magnolia/ Diamond/ Grandbayou Village/ Happy Jack/ Potash/ Port Sulphur/Homeplace South Plaquemines High School Gym 311 Civic Drive, Port Sulphur, LA
June 12	3pm-6pm	Bremond/ Hesperides/ Nairn/Tropical Bend/ Empire/ Sunrise/ Buras/ Gulf Town/ Triumph/ Fort Jackson/ Boothville/ Duvic/ Venice/ Ochar/ Tidewater Boothville School Gym 1 Oiler Drive, Boothville, LA

What to Expect *Stay involved and connected!*

Check out the project website: www.plaqueminesmasterplan.com

- **Project Website** – www.plaqueminesmasterplan.com The project website contains facts, maps, pertinent documents, contact information, and comment forms.
- **Newsletters** - Sign up for the project newsletter – a source for project updates, meeting notices, and other information on how to get and stay involved. Sign up to receive your newsletter by emailing: website@plaqueminesparish.com
- Talk to **Steering Committee Members** – The Parish has put together a Steering Committee to help guide the Master Plan. This group is made up of people representing local government, local civic groups, development interests, business leaders, and concerned citizens. These volunteers are charged with increasing awareness of the plan within their social network. For a list of members, please visit the project website.
- If have a special interest or expertise from the list of topics covered in the Master Plan, please contact our project team to discuss how you can help.
- An online **questionnaire** (*paper copies will also be available*) will be available fall 2010. Please be on the lookout, for it as it is another opportunity to voice your opinion on the direction of the master plan.

For questions or more information, please contact:
Charlotte Weber, Public Involvement Coordinator:
charlotte.weber@jig.com phone 678.836.4484

Project Milestones and Anticipated Dates



Beginning of 2010
Begin Project and Collect Data

May/June 2010
Hold Community Visioning Workshops

Summer 2010
Complete Community Assessment

End of 2010
Draft Community Agenda;
Begin Action Planning Process

Winter/Spring 2011
Complete Action Planning;
Hold Public Hearings; Adopt Master Plan

***More details on the Website**



Plaquemines Parish MASTER PLAN

ISSUE 4

June 2010



▶ MASTER PLAN PROGRESS & CALL FOR INPUT AND
CMP VOLUNTEERS.....1

▶ HIGHLIGHTS FROM
VISIONING WORKSHOPS,
PARISH PERSPECTIVE & WHAT
TO EXPECT2

President Billy Nungesser

Master Plan Progress

June 2010 is a transitional time for the Master Plan. While the Parish will continue to collect input for the Master Plan from the community during the summer of 2010, the project team will also begin assessing what the data collected thus far means. Existing conditions data gathered in early 2010 along with input received at the Public Visioning Workshops has begun to lay out the blueprint for the Comprehensive Master Plan. The results from these two efforts will be compiled into two concise documents: the Community Assessment and the Strategic Framework Summary Report.

The Community Assessment is technical in nature, looking back at what past trends and existing circumstances can tell us about issues and opportunities for the future. The Strategic Framework Summary Report is forward thinking – based on the Community Assessment and community input – it will outline the Parish-wide vision – including the big ideas, big decisions, goals and strategies to provide the structure for future growth, development, and investments in the parish. Later in the planning process, a more detailed implementation program will be created.

Call for Further Input & CMP Volunteers

Community participation is the **key** to the successful implementation of the Master Plan.

Virtual Workshop

Did you miss the May and June visioning workshops? No sweat! The visioning process will be open for the next several weeks. A Virtual Visioning Workshop will remain on the project website throughout the months of June and July. This Virtual Workshop offers those community members that could not attend the workshops in person an opportunity to review the information that was presented at the May/June workshops and also provide feedback. Be sure to visit the website for details, including documents, PowerPoint presentations, and maps. You can find us at www.plaqueminesmasterplan.com then click on the “**Virtual Workshop**” tab.

Subcommittees & Focus Groups

This summer the project team will be launching a group of Master Plan subcommittees and focus groups. If you have specialized knowledge in a particular field or would just like to participate in one of the groups when formed, please contact us (see contact information on back). *The specific focus group topics have not been finalized – check the website in July for more details.*

JLUS Study

Did you know that there is another very important planning process going on while Plaquemines Parish completes its Master Plan? The Military and Plaquemines and Jefferson Parishes are currently involved in a cooperative planning effort called a Joint Land Use Study (JLUS). The study examines how the NAS JRB New Orleans operates as well as how this operation may be impacted by growth in population and development in the surrounding community. The Parish is working closely with its partners to ensure that the recommendations of the JLUS are coordinated with the Comprehensive Master Plan. You can visit the JLUS website at <http://jlusneworleans.com/default.htm>.

DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL DISASTER

The past several weeks have been a difficult time for the people of Plaquemines Parish. The Deepwater Horizon disaster in the Gulf has disrupted the minds, hearts, and the livelihood of many of the citizens in the area. Now is the time for citizens, Parish officials/staff, and professional planners to work together to find creative ways to make Plaquemines Parish stronger, smarter, and safer for its future.

*For Questions or to Volunteer to help
with the oil disaster:*

Get updates on the oil spill in the Gulf
of Mexico at:
<http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/>

Oil Spill Hotline: 1-800-755-5175

Deepwater Horizon Response
Volunteer Request Line:
1-866-448-5816 or
<http://oilspillvolunteers.com/>

Highlights from the Visioning Workshops

East bank to west bank, north and south – the Master Plan project team was there over the last month to get input from community members. Participants were asked to share their view of the individual community assets and then worked to identify needs for the future.

Quality of Life was voted very high, as a reason that people live, work and play in Plaquemines Parish with participants stating “safe,” “friendly,” “clean,” “best fishing in the world,” and more. This high quality of life was seen as a major part of what the future of Plaquemines Parish should be. The Master Plan’s goal is to evaluate and identify policies and guidance to maintain and enhance Plaquemines Parish for its citizens today, tomorrow, and beyond.

When asked what the highest priority was for the Parish to focus on in the future, an overwhelming majority of citizens in every meeting stated that **Coastal Restoration** has to be addressed first. “Without coastal restoration, we will not be.” Other high priority items identified were **Economic Development and Job Creation** and solving the big **Transportation** problem of Hwy 23 in Belle Chasse.

Want to add your two cents? You still can, please visit the **Virtual Workshop** on the project website at www.plaqueminesmasterplan.com to share your ideas.

Perspective from the Parish – Diana Alfortish, Steering Committee Member

The residents of this parish have so many urgent, important issues facing them today as a result of the BP spill and the pending offshore drilling moratorium. Issues that affect if they’ll be able to put food on their table, so it is difficult for many to take the time to help plan what their communities will look like in 2, 5 or 10 years. Nonetheless, it is vital that we take whatever time we can to plan the future of our parish. We have never had a comprehensive plan put together by the residents that our elected officials can follow when making decisions. By participating in the process of creating a comprehensive master plan, each resident has an opportunity to help mold the future of the place we call home. The residents will be able to have a voice in determining what will be the short term and long term goals of their community and the parish. A plan will provide our elected officials with a “guide book” to follow. A plan allows the residents to hold the officials accountable when they decide to deviate from the “guide book.” We can no longer operate on a day to day basis reacting after someone else acts. We need a game plan to effectively build a parish that will not only survive but flourish. Recently it came to my attention that the first question that is asked when applying for grants is whether our parish has a master plan. Without a master plan, the organizations are hesitant to provide grants. This is one more reason that we need to prepare our master plan today. We need a game plan. With a game plan we can win at making Plaquemines Parish the best place to live and raise our families!

What to Expect *Stay involved and connected!*

Check out the project website: www.plaqueminesmasterplan.com

- **Project Website** – The project website contains facts, maps, pertinent documents, contact information, and comment forms.
- **Newsletters** - Sign up to receive your newsletter by emailing: website@plaqueminesparish.com.
- If have a special interest or expertise from the list of topics covered in the Master Plan, please contact our project team to discuss how you can help.
- An online **questionnaire** (paper copies will also be available) will be available Fall 2010. Please be on the lookout for it as it is another opportunity to voice your opinion on the direction of the Master Plan.
- **School Involvement** – The Master Plan will be reaching out to Parish schools this fall. If you would like to help coordinate, please contact us!

For questions or more information, please contact:
Charlotte Weber, Public Involvement Coordinator:

charlotte.weber@jig.com

Master Plan Hotline 504-849-2153

Project Milestones and Anticipated Dates



Beginning of 2010

Begin Project and Collect Data

May/June 2010

Hold Community Visioning Workshops

Summer 2010

Complete Community Assessment

End of 2010

Draft Community Agenda;
Begin Action Planning Process

Winter/Spring 2011

Complete Action Planning;
Hold Public Hearings; Adopt Master Plan

***More details on the Website**



Plaquemines Parish MASTER PLAN

ISSUE 5

July 2010



▶ MASTER PLAN PROGRESS, PLAQUEMINES PARISH
YOUTH & THE BIG PICTURE..... 1

▶ FOCUS ON DEMOGRAPHICS,
PARISH PERSPECTIVE & WHAT
TO EXPECT 2

President Billy Nungesser

Master Plan Progress

Although it is summer break for many, the Master Plan Steering Committee is still working hard! This coming August the Steering Committee will congregate with the Master Plan project team to define the guiding ideas for the Strategic Framework Summary Document. This document is forward thinking – based on the Community Assessment and community input – it will outline the Parish-wide vision, including the big ideas, big decisions, goals and strategies to provide the structure for future growth, development, and investments in the parish. It will provide the answers to the key questions that the parish needs to make, which in turn will guide the implementation program to be formed in the coming months.



PLAQUEMINES PARISH YOUTH NEEDED TO HELP PLAN FOR OUR FUTURE

The Master Plan will be reaching out to Plaquemines Parish schools this fall. If you have an idea for engaging Plaquemines youth in planning for the future or would like to help coordinate, please contact us! Or if you are a young Plaquemines Parish resident and you would like to become involved, please contact us!

Possible activities include guest speakers in classrooms, a mini planning workshop, an essay competition, or interactive voting to decide what's important to the community's youth.

Remember - Community participation is the key to the successful implementation of the Master Plan!

Contact:

Master Plan Hotline
504-849-2153

Public Involvement Coordinator
Charlotte Weber
charlotte.weber@jgg.com

The BIG Picture

The key conditions that are essential to the future of Plaquemines Parish, as identified through community input and the review of existing conditions, could be imagined in the shape of a pyramid, with coastal restoration and storm protection as the core need. A robust and healthy economy is the second most important need identified and it builds upon having a protected coast. These two conditions are essential to a high quality of life and ultimately, a sustainable future. Most residents of Plaquemines Parish choose to live here because of the area's high quality of life. Despite threats posed by hurricanes and other environmental conditions, the area's assets – including overall safety, sense of community and access to good schools and recreational activities, and other characteristics – make a desirable case for living in Plaquemines Parish.

3. High Quality of Life

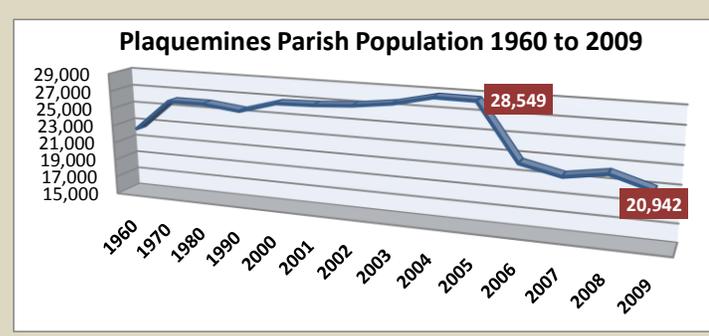
mobility, access to community and recreational facilities, housing options

2. Robust & Healthy Economy

1. Coastal Restoration & Storm Protection

Focus on Demographics

Shifts in the characteristics of the Plaquemines Parish population influence the livelihood of the parish and ultimately impact schools, water and sewer service, location of private businesses, and more. Having a thorough understanding of the resident population will help Parish leadership make decisions that improve the quality of life.



Source: (1960-2000) U.S. Census Bureau; (2001-2005, 2009) Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Louisiana Counties: July 2000 to July 1, 2009; (2006) 2006 Louisiana Health and Population Survey; (2007-2008) State of Louisiana Office of the State Treasurer.

The population was distributed among the following age groups in 2008:

- ◆ 30%, 19 years old or younger
- ◆ 17%, between 20 and 34 years old
- ◆ 30%, between 35 and 54 years old
- ◆ 11%, between 55 and 64 years old
- ◆ 12%, at or above 65 years old

Between 2000 and 2006, the percentage of Plaquemines residents with a Bachelor's degree or higher increased from 10.8% to 18.5%.

- ◆ How do the age and education levels of our population impact our housing needs and ability to attract new businesses?
- ◆ What will the 2010 Census tell us about our community? How will this influence service provision?
- ◆ As our population ages in line with the country, what new or expanded services are needed? Is Plaquemines Parish an accommodating location for the aging population?
- ◆ How will the Plaquemines Parish population be impacted by subsidence, rising sea levels, and other environmental uncertainties?

Perspective from the Parish – Dr. Stuart Guey, Council Member District 4

As an elected official, I have come to realize the importance a Comprehensive Master Plan as it relates to our ability to garner funding on both the State and Federal levels. This funding is always difficult to obtain, slow in coming, and it must be diligently pursued. We have been told on numerous occasions that an approved Master Plan is essential in the decision making process when it comes to whether or not any funding requests will be considered. This involves capital outlay appropriations as well as grants. As we crystallize our thoughts, put our plans on paper, debate and finalize them, we are taking steps that will have a profound impact in our ability to move this Parish forward. Realizing that adequate funding sources are needed to improve the quality of life in our parish makes us recognize the importance of this Master Plan and how it plays a significant role in making that happen.

Project Milestones and Anticipated Dates



- Beginning of 2010**
Begin Project and Collect Data
- May/June 2010**
Hold Community Visioning Workshops
- Summer 2010**
Complete Community Assessment
- End of 2010**
Draft Community Agenda; Begin Action Planning Process
- Winter/Spring 2011**
Complete Action Planning; Hold Public Hearings; Adopt Master Plan

***More details on the Website**



What to Expect

Stay involved and connected!

Check out the project website: www.plaqueminesmasterplan.com

- **Subcommittees & Focus Groups** – This summer the project team will be launching a group of Master Plan subcommittees as well as a series of focus groups. If you have specialized knowledge in specific issue area and would like to participate, please contact us through the hotline or email.
- **Newsletters** – Sign up to receive your newsletter by emailing: website@plaqueminesparish.com.

For questions or more information, please contact:
Charlotte Weber, Public Involvement Coordinator:
charlotte.weber@jjq.com

Master Plan Hotline 504-849-2153

Plaquemines Parish MASTER PLAN

ISSUE 6

September 2010



▶ FOCUS ON COASTAL RESTORATION.....1

▶ THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (RPC)
COORDINATES WITH PLAQUEMINES PARISH
MASTER PLAN & WHAT TO EXPECT2

President Billy Nungesser

Focus on Coastal Restoration

Coastal restoration in Plaquemines Parish must provide the proper balance to adequately protect the valuable wetland habitat while providing adequate flood protection for the residents of the parish.

– Billy Nungesser, Plaquemines Parish President



In the past 50 years, Plaquemines Parish has lost over 248 square miles of land due to sea level rise and land subsidence. Coastal restoration helps preserve wetlands while providing additional flood protection. It stands in the forefront of the multiple lines of defense to protect parish residents from flood damages by storm surges due to hurricanes. The existing Plaquemines Parish Coastal Plan combines levees with coastal restoration projects to achieve 100-year flood protection for all of Plaquemines Parish. A major objective of the plan is to use Mississippi River sediment to build wetlands and marsh barriers.

- Phase 1 involves building forested ridges adjacent to back levees and reinforcing naturally occurring ridges;
- Phase 2 involves marsh creation and enhancement by pumping sediments into areas that were previously healthy wetlands but have succumbed to erosion and subsidence; and
- Phase 3 involves construction of bay fringe barriers to protect against wetland loss.

Over \$700 million in coastal restoration projects have been committed to Plaquemines Parish, more than any time in the Parish's history.

Forested ridge improvements result in the reduction of the wave action on top of tidal surge to a level below levee height, helping achieve the 100-year flood protection for the protected area in the Parish.



Source: Parish, "Coastal Restoration in Plaquemines Parish" a PowerPoint presentation given by Billy Nungesser, 2010.

COASTAL RESTORATION/ FLOOD PROTECTION AS THE CORE NEED

Coastal restoration/ flood protection has been identified as the core need and foundation for Plaquemines Parish to have a high quality of life and sustain a robust & healthy economy. A protected coastal environment is the key to overall safety of the residents, business, facilities, and communities - critical to future parish growth. The CMP project team is working with Plaquemines Parish on various, possible development scenarios, including Mississippi River commerce enhancement, eco-tourism, green energy, etc., each demanding a unique focus in flood protection level and coverage. In each case, coastal restoration is a long-term endeavor that requires continuous efforts and support from local, state, and Federal governments.

The Regional Planning Commission (RPC) Coordinates with Plaquemines Parish Master Plan

– Lynn Dupont, ASLA, GISP, RPC Principal Planner/GIS Coordinator

The RPC works closely with each parish to produce local data that is relevant for planning purposes across the region. Presently, the RPC is in the midst of a smart growth initiative, which incorporates these data sets and will provide a tool for local and regional governments to examine alternative land use scenarios as projects are proposed. For this reason, Plaquemines Parish could not have chosen a better time for an in depth Master Plan Study. With more detailed existing and future land use information supplied by the Parish, the RPC will be better able to provide regional input that allows Parish proposals to be seen in a context of regional significance. This may lead to faster implementation and in some instances to supplemental funding, should a project meet federal funding standards.

It is an exciting time in the region as we move forward from post-Katrina and oil spill recovery. We have proven ourselves to be a resilient and tenacious people capable of dealing with the weaknesses and deficiencies at all levels of government that were exposed by both events. Population shifts throughout the region coupled with levee protection projects have created a more urgent need for updated information and analysis of development trends. The region is using these events as learning opportunities when preparing its long term planning.

... Plaquemines Parish could not have chosen a better time for an in depth Master Plan Study.

The RPC has re-written its procedures for determining proposed projects supporting a vision of place-based, people-based communities. This process includes evaluation of all options, including cross-modal transportation systems management and no-build alternatives with expanded public review.

Plaquemines Parish is home to transportation projects of regional significance such as the extension of Peters Road, which will ease traffic on Belle Chasse Highway and the future replacement of the Belle Chasse tunnel and drawbridge. The region, now more than ever before, has supported one another across parish lines as was exemplified in the resolution passed at an RPC meeting promoting solidarity as the oil lingered at our precious coastline.

The leadership of Plaquemines Parish has had significant impact as Plaquemines Parish becomes more nationally recognized for its irreplaceable wetland ecology, fertile land, abundant recreation areas, raw materials and a base for oil and gas industry.



What to Expect

Stay involved and connected!

Check out the project website: www.plaqueminesmasterplan.com

- **Subcommittees & Focus Groups** –Very soon the project team will be launching a group of Master Plan subcommittees as well as a series of focus groups. If you have specialized knowledge in specific issue area and would like to participate, please contact us.
- **Newsletters** – Sign up to receive your newsletter by emailing: website@plaqueminesparish.com.

For questions or more information, please contact:
Charlotte Weber, Public Involvement Coordinator:
charlotte.weber@ijg.com

The RPC's Important Role in the Region



The RPC is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the urbanized area of greater New Orleans. The Planning Horizon Area for the south shore of Lake Pontchartrain extends from St. John the Baptist Parish in the west to St. Bernard Parish in the east and includes Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, and St. Charles Parishes.

Through its federally funded Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), the RPC works cooperatively with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and local governments to carry out a comprehensive transportation planning program. UPWP activities promote the development of land use and transportation policies and projects that encourage accessibility and livable and sustainable communities for all residents throughout the region.

Master Plan Hotline 504-849-2153

Plaquemines Parish MASTER PLAN

ISSUE 7

July 2012



▶ MASTER PLAN PROGRESS & NUTS & BOLTS OF THE STWP 1

▶ UPCOMING MEETINGS & PERSPECTIVE FROM THE PARISH 2

President Billy Nungesser

www.plaqueminesmasterplan.com

Master Plan Progress

Plaquemines Parish is nearing the end of the development of its Comprehensive Master Plan. Visioning was completed in 2010, followed by development of the preliminary Community Agenda during 2011.

The study process is now entering its final stages. As summer 2012 gets underway, an Action Plan of recommendations is being vetted by subcommittees of technical experts to prioritize the top recommendations to be included in a Short Term Work Program for the next five years. A similar process was pursued with Plaquemines Parish Government staff. The final work product that will complete the Master Plan is a five-year Short Term Work Program for the future.

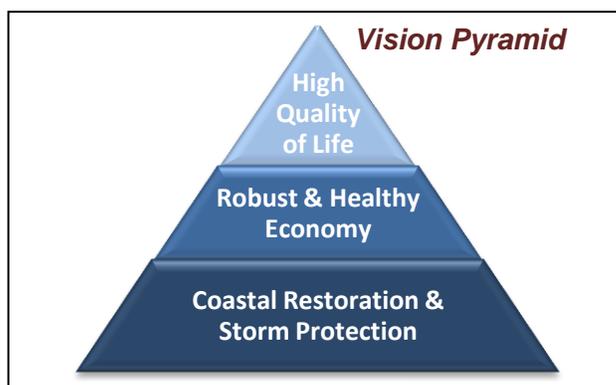


What Elements does the Master Plan Address?

Nuts & Bolts of the Short Term Work Program

- A detailed implementation plan that covers the **first 5-year interval** of the **20-year Master Plan** and addresses top priorities for each major element of the plan:
 - Major steps to achieve project, policy, study, or program
 - Costs estimates for each step
 - Identification of implementation leaders and partners
- **The STWP includes** any ordinances, administrative systems, investments, financing arrangements, or programs and initiatives that must **be immediately established in order to implement the Action Plan** and the Master Plan.
- The intent of the STWP is that it be realistic, implementable, supported by public and private sectors, and is a steward of the community's vision.

- Coastal Protection and Restoration
- Demographics
- Economic Development
- Transportation System
- Water and Wastewater Systems
- Drainage and Levees
- Public Facilities and Services
- Parks and Recreation
- Parish Owned Properties
- Land Use
- Government (Finance and Organization)



Upcoming Meetings

Steering Committee Meeting

Monday, July 30 6:00 pm Lions Club, 308 Ave. J, Belle Chasse

Subcommittee Meetings

Monday, August 6 6:00 pm Lions Club, 308 Ave. J, Belle Chasse

Tuesday, August 7 6:00 pm Lions Club, 308 Ave. J, Belle Chasse

The goal of the Steering Committee Meeting is to confirm the top Action Plan priorities for each element of the Master Plan. Draft Action Plan priorities have been compiled based on a prioritization methodology of all Master Plan recommendations and the additional input of the Parish staff and subcommittee technical experts.

The Subcommittee meetings will help establish a realistic Short Term Work Program for the top Action Plan priorities. The subcommittee meeting goals will primarily be accomplished in small group work sessions. There are five subcommittees:

1. Transportation, Infrastructure, and Utilities Committee
2. Coastal Restoration, Levees, Natural Resources and Environmental Committee
3. Business, Economic Development and Tourism Committee
4. Quality of Life Committee (Housing, Aging, Health, Education, Parks & Recreation)
5. Land Development Committee

Perspective from the Parish

We are in the home stretch of our Comprehensive Master Plan and our goal is to keep the unique feeling of our community while allowing for growth changes the future will bring. Over the course of its life we believe the Parish's economy will steadily improve, and we want to attract the necessary resources to rebuild our natural and public works infrastructure. Our growing momentum makes the Master Plan an essential tool in helping to make wise decisions about new development, and public services, while preserving the unique quality of life that is Plaquemines Parish. Other Parish staff and I have been working with other community leaders and technical experts on Master Plan Subcommittees to help refine recommendations and design a roadmap in the form of a Short Term Work Program to give us direction for the next five years and beyond.

Phyllis DiFebbo, Superintendent of Zoning & Planning Department

Project Milestones and Anticipated Dates



Beginning of 2010
Begin Project and Collect Data

May/June 2010
Hold Community Visioning Workshops

Summer 2010
Complete Community Assessment

2011
Draft Community Agenda; Begin Action Planning Process

Spring-Fall 2012
Complete Action Planning; Hold Public Hearings; Adopt Master Plan

***More details on the website**

What to Expect *Stay involved and connected!*

Visit the project website: www.plaqueminesmasterplan.com

- **New Information Posted to Website** – The Summer Workshop page contains several documents and presentations given to the Steering Committee and subcommittees in late spring and early summer 2012.
- **Talk to Steering Committee Members** – The Parish has a Steering Committee to help guide the Master Plan. This group is made up of people representing local government, local civic groups, development interests, business leaders, and concerned citizens. These volunteers are charged with increasing awareness of the plan within their social network. For a list of members, please visit the project website.



For questions or more information, please contact:
Troy Loetzerich, Project Engineer
troy.loetzerich@jacobs.com
504-258-8169

**Summaries of Individual Visioning Workshops &
Visioning Survey Results**

Plaquemines Parish Comprehensive Master Plan

This page was intentionally left blank for two-sided printing.

Location:

- St. Thomas Church – Pointe a la Hache

Agenda:

Welcome & Introductions

Benny Puckett

- Mr. Puckett began the meeting by welcoming participants and thanking them for their desire to make a difference in Plaquemines Parish's future.
- Mr. Puckett explained the importance of the Comprehensive Master Plan, stating that in order for the Parish to receive funding for improvement projects, a master plan must be completed.
- Mr. Puckett introduced, Jim Summerbell, the JJG Deputy Project Manager.



Project Overview Presentation Jim Summerbell, JJG

- Jim introduced the rest of the project team to participants. (Charlotte Weber, JJG; Amanda Easoz, JJG; Troy Loetzerich, JJG; and Al Kesler, HDC). He explained the basic principles a Comprehensive Master Plan.
- Jim explained that the plan addresses both short-term and long-term goals and strategies. To put the long-term timeframe into perspective, Jim asked participants to think back 20 years to what they were doing and where they were in life. Responses included the following:
 - The Parish really changed in 2005 because of Hurricane Katrina.
 - Pointe a la Hache was the center of Plaquemines Parish years ago – the hub. The east bank had a gas station, grocery store, the old Court house, and government services.
 - There were services/activities.
 - Starting with Hurricanes Betsy and Camille and culminating with Hurricane Katrina, services moved northward to Belle Chasse. Belle Chasse was very rural prior to these storms.
 - Port Sulphur, prior to 1990, was another parish hub: had many people, employment (sulphur processing), movie theatre, etc.
 - There was no infrastructure planning 20 years ago, which resulted in dead-end and under-sized lines.
 - The east bank was more active than other parts of the parish because it had best accessibility to New Orleans.
- Charlotte Weber talked about the role of public involvement in the Master Plan.

Note: See the Appendix for a copy of the PowerPoint presentation used in conjunction with each presentation.

Interactive Exercise..... Charlotte Weber, JJG

Please see the full results of the interactive survey from the workshop participants at the end of this summary.

Highlights from the interactive exercise for this workshop include the following.

- **Coastal restoration** was seen as the top priority for the Master Plan (75%).
- The second highest priority for the Master plan from this community was split evenly between **Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy** and **Quality of Government Services**.
- 100% of participants stated that they leave the Parish for **shopping** needs.
 - Grocery shopping
 - Participants go to Saint Bernard for bulk and major purchases
 - Have to get gas at the marina
 - Go out of the parish for construction, marina needs, food
- The participants on the southern end of the east bank all disagreed or strongly disagreed that the Parish Government **supports their needs**.
 - Temporary post office put in Port Sulphur – inconvenient
 - Locating resources out of the area, in another part that's inconvenient to residents
 - We need the Parish to think about the community as a whole.
- **Coastal Restoration** was seen as the higher priority for the Parish Government in the future along with **Economic Growth** and **Creating a Stronger Sense of Community**.
- The highest priority for **transportation** needs was to repair existing roads (50%)
- 75% of the community voted that **Vocation Tech** be the priority for support and development.
 - Mechanics
 - Nursing
 - Oil industry technicians
 - Craftsmanship
- Although participants voted either Medium or low priority, they all agreed that some level of **tourism** should be supported. Pumpkin patches brought in quite a bit of tourism last year. Fishing and hunting are important tourism sectors. Otherwise, there has not been much tourism.

Other discussions:

What brought you here?

- Security and police protection (relatively good compared to other communities).
- Schools were good.

- Family and friends are here.

What's needed?

- Jobs; jobs drive education.
- Education drives better citizens.
- We need other industry.
- The road from Pointe a la Hache to Bohemia needs to be repaired.
 - Put bike lanes on top of levees (on east and west side of parish).
 - Pointe a la Hache and Jesuit Bend areas would be best for trails because these communities have an active population.
 - Another suggestion is to start bike lanes at both ends of the Parish and gradually build toward each other until both paths meet.

Recovery Efforts since Hurricane Katrina

- Note: There was a concern about the wording of the question. "Very well" is too strong; it needs to read "well."
- Nothing against how the Parish addressed recovery efforts
Note: Question regarding recovery efforts was revised to be Parish specific, not federal efforts for the remainder of the workshops.
- The Corp of Engineers and FEMA have not managed recovery well.
- People are still in Baton Rouge because they have no where to live.
 - There's no affordable, local housing.
 - Need rental housing.
- Young people are not coming back.
- People did not come back because of jobs.
- Jobs first, then housing

Group ExerciseJJG Facilitating

Attendees met in one group to discuss east bank specific and Parish-wide priorities, needs, issues, and visions. Top priorities discussed by the group are listed first and are followed by general comments.

Priorities

- Increase population.
- Keep business here.
 - For example, why can't we process things on the east bank that's where much of our seafood comes from? There are no processing facilities on the east bank.
 - Fishing charters
- Focus on housing.

May 22, 2010

- Renters have not been able to come back.
- People do not want trailers on their property.
- Public housing, individual units – not multi-family – this is a concern in all areas of the parish.

What's going to stay the same?

- School property on north end of the east bank will contain all the schools for this side of the parish.
- Plaquemines prison will house 500 or 600 people.

To Preserve:

- Church
- Court house
- Ferry
- Boat Harbor
- Davant Park & Percy M. Griffin Community Center
- Old art deco school

Needs to change:

Delivery of mail can only come out of Braithwaite

Right now, if your mail comes to Pointe a la Hache, you have to pick it up

What is Missing?

Facilities

- Real post office building
- Public library
- Medical services
- A Farmers market is a good idea for supporting local produce and reducing trips out of parish.
- Gas station
- Convenience store
- Stores in general

Public and Private Services

- High-speed Internet connections - There's a limited network that does not serve all properties.
- Communications about community services to public - One of attendees did not know about the on-call transit service.
- Natural gas connections to homes
- Cannot get newspaper delivered here

May 22, 2010

(Times Picayune needs at least 250 people in area [subscribers] to trigger service.)

- Cable television

Implementation Presentation Jim Summerbell, JJG

- The final presentation for the workshop focused on implementation, facilitating discussion of next steps beyond visioning. The need for public/private partnerships, funding sources, and placemaking.

Next Steps and Final ThoughtsCharlotte Weber, JJG

- Charlotte and the rest of the team thanked the citizens for their attendance and reminded them of additional meetings in other parts of the parish and that summaries of this meeting would be available on the website soon.
- Charlotte also reiterated the need to stay involved and that if anyone wanted to have a bigger role in the planning process to see one of team members to learn how.

Interactive Voting Results:

Choice #	Statement/Question	All Participants
Statement 1: I've lived in Plaquemines Parish...		
1	All my life	50.0%
2	20+ years	25.0%
3	6-20 years	25.0%
4	0-5 years	0.0%
5	I do not live in Plaquemines Parish	0.0%
		N 4
Statement 2: I work....		
1	Inside the Parish	75.0%
2	Outside the Parish	0.0%
3	Inside the Parish but travel outside for my job	0.0%
4	Not applicable - I am retired or do not work	25.0%
		N 4
Question 3: What matters the most to you (what should be the top priority for this Master Plan)?		

Visioning Workshop #1 - Meeting Summary

May 22, 2010

Choice #	Statement/Question	All Participants
1	Coastal Restoration & Safety from Storms and Flooding	75.0%
2	Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy	0.0%
3	Quality & Availability of Government Services (parks, libraries)	25.0%
4	Quality & Availability of Commercial Services	0.0%
5	Better Transportation	0.0%
6	Community/Long-Term Sustainability	0.0%
7	Other	0.0%
		N 4
Question 4: What should the second highest priority be for this Master Plan?		
1	Coastal Restoration & Safety from Storms and Flooding	0.0%
2	Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy	50.0%
3	Quality & Availability of Government Services (parks, libraries)	50.0%
4	Quality & Availability of Commercial Services	0.0%
5	Better Transportation	0.0%
6	Community/Long-Term Sustainability	0.0%
7	Other	0.0%
		N 4
Statement 5: Recovery Efforts after Katrina in Plaquemines have gone very well.		
1	Strongly Agree	0.0%
2	Agree	0.0%
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	0.0%
4	Disagree	75.0%
5	Strongly Disagree	25.0%
		N 4
Question 6: What is your primary reason for living/owning property in Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Job	0.0%
2	Family/Friends	25.0%
3	Property Interest	50.0%
4	Overall Quality of Life	25.0%
5	Other	0.0%
6	Not Applicable – I do not live here	0.0%
		N 4
Statement 7: Other than for work, I travel outside Plaquemines Parish mostly for...		

Visioning Workshop #1 - Meeting Summary

May 22, 2010

Choice #	Statement/Question	All Participants
1	Entertainment/Dining	0.0%
2	Shopping	100.0%
3	Visit Family and/or Friends	0.0%
4	Other	0.0%
5	Not Applicable (I do not live in Plaquemines Parish)	0.0%
		N 4
Statement 8: I travel outside Plaquemines Parish...		
1	4+ days a week	0.0%
2	1 or 2 times a week	75.0%
3	Only 1 or 2 times a month	25.0%
4	Never	0.0%
5	Not Applicable (I do not live in Plaquemines Parish)	0.0%
		N 4
Statement 9: Plaquemines Parish Government generally supports our community's needs.		
1	Strongly Agree	0.0%
2	Agree	0.0%
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	0.0%
4	Disagree	50.0%
5	Strongly Disagree	50.0%
		N 4
Statement 10: Plaquemines Parish Government needs to focus on _____ for the future of its communities.		
1	Coastal Restoration	50.0%
2	Transportation Initiatives	0.0%
3	Economic Growth & Job Opportunities	25.0%
4	Educational Opportunities	0.0%
5	Creating a Stronger Sense of Community	25.0%
		N 4
Question 11: Which of the following transportation needs should be a priority for Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Reduce Traffic Congestion	25.0%
2	Repair Existing Roads	50.0%
3	Add New Sidewalks and Bike Lanes	25.0%
4	Improve Access Across the River	0.0%
5	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Water Travel	0.0%

Visioning Workshop #1 - Meeting Summary

May 22, 2010

Choice #	Statement/Question	All Participants
6	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Air Travel	0.0%
		N 4
Question 12: Which of the following education sectors needs the greatest support or development within Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Vocational Tech	75.0%
2	Primary	25.0%
3	Secondary	0.0%
4	Community College	0.0%
5	Other	0.0%
		N 4
Question 13: What priority would you give to promotion of tourism in Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Very High	0.0%
2	High	0.0%
3	Medium	75.0%
4	Low	25.0%
5	Very Low	0.0%
		N 4

Location:

- St. John Baptist Church – Bertrandville

Agenda:

Welcome & Introductions

Benny Puckett

- Mr. Puckett began the meeting by welcoming participants and thanking them for their desire to make a difference in Plaquemines Parish's future.
- Mr. Puckett explained the importance of the Comprehensive Master Plan, stating that in order for the Parish to receive funding for improvement projects, a master plan must be completed.
- Mr. Puckett introduced, Jim Summerbell, the JJG Deputy Project Manager.

Project Overview Presentation

Jim Summerbell, JJG

- Jim introduced the rest of the project team to participants. (Charlotte Weber, JJG; Amanda Easoz, JJG; Troy Loetzerich, JJG; and Al Kesler, HDC). He explained the basic principles a Comprehensive Master Plan.
- Jim explained that the plan addresses both short-term and long-term goals and strategies. To put the long-term timeframe into perspective, Jim asked participants to think back 20 years to what they were doing and where they were in life. Responses included the following:
 - The east bank was better off before. Water was not coming over the levees.
 - Newspaper was delivered to the east bank.
 - Gas was very accessible.
 - There was no bickering among elected officials.
 - Government was different.
 - There was more marsh land then.
 - Since then . . .
 - There's a foot and a half less protection from flooding.
 - There's been a loss of jobs.



- ABFE is now 20 to 21 feet in some locations.
- A greater percentage of the population is aging.
- Insurance has become too costly (since Hurricane Katrina).

Note: See the Appendix for a copy of the PowerPoint presentation used in conjunction with each presentation.

Interactive Exercise..... Charlotte Weber, JJG

- Please see the full results of the interactive survey from the workshop participants at the end of this summary.
- Highlights from the interactive exercise for this workshop include the following:
 - **Coastal restoration** was seen as the top priority for the Master Plan (90%).
 - The second highest priority for the Master plan from this community included 50% of the participants voting for **Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy** and 30% voting for **Community and Long-Term Sustainability**.
 - When asked the reason for leaving the parish, most stated that it was for **shopping** such as groceries, clothes and other dry goods (70%). Other activities that were not listed but were discussed, including going to school, the doctor, and the dentist. All participants noted that they left the Parish at least once a week.
 - When asked whether the Parish Government supports the needs of residents on the east bank, the results were mixed. In a follow up question, when asked what the Plaquemines Parish Government should focus on, 100% chose **Coastal Restoration** and then asked for a re-poll to determine the second highest priority which 72.7% voted that **Economic Growth and Job Opportunities**.
 - The highest priority for **transportation** needs was to improve access across the river (80%)
 - Although most participants thought tourism should be a medium or lower priority, they all agreed that some level of **tourism** should be supported with suggestions such as ecotourism and fishing related tourism.
 - Attendees also travel outside Plaquemines Parish for activities that were not listed, including going to school, the doctor, and the dentist.
 - Attendees believe that the Parish Government does not serve them well because they do not have ANYTHING on the east bank.

Implementation PresentationJim Summerbell, JJG

- Before breaking out into smaller groups, Jim gave a brief presentation to discuss next steps beyond visioning. The need for public/private partnerships, funding sources, and place-making was discussed.
- One community member noted that “sometimes it’s better to do nothing.”

Group ExerciseJIG & HDC

Attendees met in two small groups to discuss east bank specific and Parish-wide priorities, needs, issues, and visions. After meeting, attendees joined back together in one group to present the highlights from their respective group discussions. Input received is grouped under the appropriate break-out group.

Break-out Group 1

Facilitated by Charlotte Weber and Troy Loetzerich

Summary: Break-out Group 1 decided after discussions to create a priority list of needs based on time frames. Certain items were identified as being a short term need within the first year. Therefore the time frames for priorities were Short Term = 1 year, Mid Term – 2-3 years and Long Term 3+ years.

Priorities for Short Term (1 year)

1. Levee (“if we don’t have the levees, we will not have a future”)
2. Ferry (Add additional ferry as a back up so two are running continuously. Eventually increase to 24 hours a day.)
3. Woodlawn – renovate to accommodate library, healthcare, government services in building and the recreation area behind.
4. Healthcare – need additional services in multiple locations.
5. Parks/Recreation – update in Braithwaite, Woodlawn, English Turn
6. Drainage
7. Borrow Pits need to be filled (“if you dig... you fill”)

Priorities for Mid-Term (2-3 years)

1. Sewer (from Braithwaite to Phoenix)
2. Small scale retail – located just south of the Ferry (including a small local owned bank, store, and other needed retail services)
3. AMEX (important to generate jobs)
4. Job creation

Priorities for Long-Term (3+ years)

1. Housing

Parish-wide Priorities

1. Courthouse
2. Sense of Community

Other Comments:

- Bookmobile or other library services need to be provided on weekends.
- A housing development in South Bernard Parish could have impacts to Plaquemines Parish by drawing larger numbers of people there.

May 22, 2010

- East bank forgotten often – want to learn from west bank growth, but want to do it smarter and be able to maintain the rural, natural character of the east bank.
- Community Transportation on east bank – to provide public transportation services to citizens on east bank. Participants noted that it did not need to be an hourly bus, but if there were some type of way for people to move up and down the east bank, it would be beneficial.
- Strong desire to bring back the community names. Post office dictates the name currently. Citizens want their individual community identity.
- Question was raised, when ditches are cleaned (in the marsh area behind residents houses), is there any way to make sure it is done correctly?
- Courthouse renovation in Pointe a la Hache could revive the community. There is a prison attached to the back. Discussion of uses included... library, healthcare, court services, etc.
- The stretch of Highway 39 from Belair to north of Phoenix floods when rains. Highway needs to be raised. Another part that floods is a small portion north of Promised Land.
- Need natural gas pass at White Ditch (between Belair and Carlisle)
- Need gas station/store in Phoenix.
- Parish as a whole could benefit from a housing authority. Not just for public housing but to offer more.

Break-out Group 2

Facilitated by Al Kesler, Jim Summerbell, and Amanda Easoz

Summary: Break-out Group 2 discussion was initiated by identifying buildings, land use, and facilities that will stay the same or change on the east bank – including what should be preserved, what is missing, and what needs to change. This information was captured in part on the planning area map.

Participants pointed out that the planning area map does not accurately capture the amount of land and water in the east bank. The map should better reflect the area within the east bank that is considered water.

One participant pointed out that coastal restoration efforts have an overwhelming impact on the long-term viability of the east bank. The group's opinion is that current diversions from the Mississippi River are not effective. There is a need for a new, higher levee in the northern portion of the east bank. The cost-benefit analysis completed by the Corps of Engineers has shown that the costs are too high compared to the benefits to make the project viable. This conversation transitioned into a discussion on assets and liabilities of the east bank (particularly the northern portion). The group then prioritized needs and changes for the east bank and the parish.

May 22, 2010

Some members of the group are part of an organization called Citizens of Plaquemines East (COPE). This group was very active following Hurricane Katrina, but because participants continued to see no results, the membership has significantly diminished.

What should be Preserved?

- Woodlawn property
 - Mixed feelings about building
 - Land is valuable – It is the highest point in the Parish.
 - Some would like to preserve building; others would like to replace building with a new facility.
- There is another historic, 1800s building next to the church that they would like to see preserved
- Recreational and commercial fishing and recreational hunting environments

What's Missing?

- Community center (Woodlawn and RiverLane Plantation)
 - Should meet the needs of all ages, including senior facilities, meeting space, recreational facilities (including tennis)
- Walking areas
- Services, bank & grocery
- Effective government
- Sewer
- Good water pressure
- Cable – access to Parish Council meetings
- Communications – newspaper, phone/Internet service is weak
- Natural gas (from White Ditch, south)
- More control over coastal restoration efforts (such that it's sustainable)
- Coastal restoration over flood facilities in Parish
- Public computer facilities

What Needs to Change?

- Getting things done (right now, nothing gets done for the east bank)
- It makes sense to move the ferry further south, particularly if the Peters Road extension goes in
- The ferry needs a two-way, load/unload ramp to increase efficiency.
- The east bank needs a permanent, small library facility. The book mobile comes to the east bank, but it is unreliable (sometimes does not come due to ferry issues) and has

May 22, 2010

inflexible hours. The book mobile is on the east bank during the day, but residents and students need to access it at night.

East Bank Assets

“Close to city but doesn’t have city issues”

1. Low crime
2. Fishing/hunting
3. Farming
4. Plantation homes
5. Oil and gas
6. Garbage collection
7. Drainage ditches
8. Levee grass cutting is kept up
9. Swimming pool

East Bank Liabilities

1. Ferry schedule
2. Lack of basic services

East Bank Priorities

1. Levees, coastal restoration, marsh, barrier islands
2. Community center
3. Ferry
4. Parish government (organizational reform)
5. Economic development/jobs

Parish-wide Priorities

1. Levees/etc. (barrier islands #1 priority right now due to oil spill)
2. Traffic – tunnel & bridge
3. Jobs/economic development
 - Ports
4. Parish government (sheriff, school board, PPG)
5. Education

Other Comments

- Need to have yearly benchmark for CMP.
- East bank is better connected to St. Bernard than the west bank of Plaquemines. St. Bernard Parish is an important partner of the east bank, although St. Bernard is still rebuilding from Hurricane Katrina.

- There are mixed opinions on expanding the east bank port. Although the land is appropriate for port facilities, its expansion will exacerbate safety, environmental, and congestion issues.

Next Steps and Final ThoughtsCharlotte Weber, JJG

- Charlotte and the rest of the team thanked the citizens for their attendance and reminded them of additional meetings in other parts of the parish and that summaries of this meeting would be available on the website the following week.
- Charlotte also reiterated the need to stay involved and that if anyone wanted to have a bigger role in the planning process to see one of team members to learn how.

Interactive Voting Results:

Choice #	Statement or Question	All Participants
Statement 1: I've lived in Plaquemines Parish...		
1	All my life	40.0%
2	20+ years	20.0%
3	6-20 years	30.0%
4	0-5 years	10.0%
5	Not Applicable (I do not live in Plaquemines Parish)	0.0%
		N 10
Statement 2: I work....		
1	Inside Plaquemines Parish	40.0%
2	Outside Plaquemines Parish	10.0%
3	Inside Plaquemines Parish but travel outside for my job	0.0%
4	Not Applicable (I do not work or am retired)	50.0%
		N 10
Question 3: What matters the most to you (what should be the top priority for this Master Plan)?		
1	Coastal Restoration & Safety from Storms and Flooding	90.0%
2	Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy	0.0%
3	Quality & Availability of Government Services (parks, libraries)	0.0%
4	Quality & Availability of Commercial Services	0.0%

Visioning Workshop #2 - Meeting Summary

May 22, 2010

Choice #	Statement or Question	All Participants
5	Better Transportation	0.0%
6	Community/Long-Term Sustainability	10.0%
7	Other	0.0%
		N 10
Question 4: What should the second highest priority be for this Master Plan?		
1	Coastal Restoration & Safety from Storms and Flooding	10.0%
2	Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy	50.0%
3	Quality & Availability of Government Services (parks, libraries)	10.0%
4	Quality & Availability of Commercial Services	0.0%
5	Better Transportation	0.0%
6	Community/Long-Term Sustainability	30.0%
7	Other	0.0%
		N 10
Statement 5: Recovery Efforts after Katrina in Plaquemines have gone very well.		
1	Strongly Agree	10.0%
2	Agree	30.0%
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	20.0%
4	Disagree	20.0%
5	Strongly Disagree	20.0%
		N 10
Question 6: What is your primary reason for living/owning property in Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Job	20.0%
2	Family/Friends	60.0%
3	Property Interest	20.0%
4	Overall Quality of Life	0.0%
5	Other	0.0%
6	Not Applicable – I do not live here	0.0%
		N 10
Statement 7: Other than for work, I travel outside Plaquemines Parish mostly for...		
1	Entertainment/Dining	10.0%
2	Shopping	70.0%
3	Visit Family and/or Friends	0.0%

Visioning Workshop #2 - Meeting Summary

May 22, 2010

Choice #	Statement or Question	All Participants
4	Other	20.0%
5	Not Applicable (I do not live in Plaquemines Parish)	0.0%
		N 10
Statement 8: I travel outside Plaquemines Parish...		
1	4+ days a week	45.5%
2	1 or 2 times a week	54.5%
3	Only 1 or 2 times a month	0.0%
4	Never	0.0%
5	Not Applicable (I do not live in Plaquemines Parish)	0.0%
		N 11
Statement 9: Plaquemines Parish Government generally supports our community's needs.		
1	Strongly Agree	0.0%
2	Agree	36.4%
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	18.2%
4	Disagree	27.3%
5	Strongly Disagree	18.2%
		N 11
Statement 10: Plaquemines Parish Government needs to focus on _____ for the future of its communities.		
1	Coastal Restoration	100.0%
2	Transportation Initiatives	0.0%
3	Economic Growth & Job Opportunities	0.0%
4	Educational Opportunities	0.0%
5	Creating a Stronger Sense of Community	0.0%
		N 11
Statement 10: Plaquemines Parish Government needs to focus on _____ for the future of its communities. (Re-poll for second priority)		
1	Coastal Restoration	0.0%
2	Transportation Initiatives	0.0%
3	Economic Growth & Job Opportunities	72.7%
4	Educational Opportunities	0.0%
5	Creating a Stronger Sense of Community	27.3%
		N 11
Question 11: Which of the following transportation needs should be a priority for Plaquemines Parish?		

Visioning Workshop #2 - Meeting Summary

May 22, 2010

Choice #	Statement or Question	All Participants
1	Reduce Traffic Congestion	18.2%
2	Repair Existing Roads	0.0%
3	Add New Sidewalks and Bike Lanes	0.0%
4	Improve Access Across the River	81.8%
5	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Water Travel	0.0%
6	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Air Travel	0.0%
		N 11
Question 12: Which of the following education sectors needs the greatest support or development within Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Vocational Tech	36.4%
2	Primary	27.3%
3	Secondary	18.2%
4	Community College	18.2%
5	Other	0.0%
		N 11
Question 13: What priority would you give to promotion of tourism in Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Very High	9.1%
2	High	9.1%
3	Medium	36.4%
4	Low	36.4%
5	Very Low	9.1%
		N 11

Location:

- Belle Chasse Middle School – Jesuit Bend

Agenda:

Welcome & Introductions

Laurie Soileau, Steering Committee

- Ms. Soileau was asked to represent the parish in the opening and welcome in Mr. Puckett's absence (*Mr. Puckett was working on pressing issues regarding the Deepwater Horizon disaster and was unable to attend*).
- Ms. Soileau explained the importance of the Comprehensive Master Plan stating that in order for the parish to receive funding for improvement projects, a master plan must be completed.
- Ms. Soileau then introduced, Gary Cornell, the JIG project manager.



Project Overview Presentation

Gary Cornell, JIG

- Gary introduced the rest of the project team to participants. (Charlotte Weber, JIG; Megan Will, JIG; Troy Loetzerich, JIG; and Al Kesler, HDC). He explained the basic principles a Comprehensive Master Plan.
- Gary explained the elements and phases of the plan and walked the participants through a short presentation on what a comprehensive plan is and how the plan addresses both short term and long term goals and strategies.

Note: See the Appendix for a copy of the PowerPoint presentation used in conjunction with each presentation.

Interactive Exercise..... Charlotte Weber, JIG

- Please see the full results of the interactive survey from the workshop participants at the end of this summary.
- Highlights from the interactive exercise for this workshop include.
 - **Coastal restoration** was seen as the top priority for the Master Plan.
 - The second highest priority for the Master plan from this community included 43% of the participants voting for **Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy**.

June 5, 2010

- When asked what the primary reason was for living/owning property in Plaquemines Parish, the majority (71%) of the community chose “**Overall Quality of Life**”.
- The highest priority for **transportation** needs was to reduce traffic congestion (71%)
- 71% of the community voted that **Vocation Tech** be the priority for support and development.
- All participants agreed that some level of **tourism** should be supported with suggestions such as fishing, charters, and festivals.

Implementation PresentationGary Cornell, JJG

- The final presentation for the workshop was an implementation presentation to discussed next steps beyond visioning. The need for public/private partnerships, funding sources, and placemaking.

Group ExerciseJJG Facilitating

One group was formed and a number of topics were discussed using facilitated discussions and maps. The following are the priorities identified through the discussions, followed by a detailed list of all issues.

Priorities

Levees/coastal restoration ARE the priorities, without out coastal restoration nothing else will matter.

1 – 2 years

- Traffic
 - Rush hour traffic. The synchronization of the lights has made matters worse
 - Could put well trained sheriff’s deputies at Woodland Hwy and Belle Chasse Hwy from 4 to 6 pm to help clear out the intersection.
 - Truck traffic creates safety issues when turning into subdivisions, there should be deceleration lanes for subdivisions.
- Parks
 - Community centers are needed at a central location in the community, especially for children. Since land has already been designated for a community center [verify location] this should be doable in the short term
- Sewer upgrades for which funding (grants) have already been secured
 - Upgrades in Belle Chasse Plant, going to Orleans Parish plant.
- EMS running out of the fire stations
- Government office operating more than one day a week locally
- Hotel will be by new church in lower Jesuit Bend
- Localized drainage issues

3 – 5 years

- Sewer upgrades for which funding has not been secured
- New development codes

June 5, 2010

5+ years

- Urgent care facility, this depends on having enough population to support

Group Comments:

COASTAL RESTORATION – has to come first or “we’re not here”

Parks/Recreation

- Judge Perez Park needs to be utilized as a park. The community doesn’t know what’s going on w/ the property. There are private houses located off of Ollie Drive behind the park.
- The community is unaware of park planned for across the street from the Middle School. That tract may be bigger than the footprint of Perez Park. Ball fields are needed.
- What is needed in parks? Walking tracks, playgrounds like the one at Herbert Park (community sees that as a very nice park). Tennis courts with lights. Pavilions and an amphitheater.
- Bike path along levee, the River is an asset that is not being used.
- A dog park would be nice.
- The ATV park off of Walker Road is not well known. This is a parish owned property [need to verify] by the old landfill. Pavilions are supposed to be added to the park. The park gives kids a safe place to ride.
- There is no community center located between Belle Chasse and Port Sulphur. If there were one in the Jesuit Bend area it would be best located near the Scottville Fire Station. The center should include spaces that could be used for private parties.
- A Croatian Heritage Center is being built around Becnelleville (at the “old doctor’s house”).
- Need to make use of the river. Pier fishing and bank fishing. The Ollie Canal is/could be used for fishing. This part of Plaquemines has freshwater fishing, need to make use of it.
- Facilities should be Parish owned to get away from liability issues

Government Services

- What’s needed
 - DMV is needed more than the one day a week it’s in Port Sulphur.
 - Tax was passed for staffing the Fire Stations.
 - Would be nice to have an urgent care facility (doc in a box) in Jesuit Bend.
 - Ambulance service is needed.
 - More police are needed in the area; they’re all up on Belle Chasse.
 - Possibility of co-locating EMS, Fire and Police at fire stations was seen as a good idea

Levees

- Need 100 yr protection! – area is scheduled for 50yr protection now
- Goal is to bring back levees into federal system

Miscellaneous

June 5, 2010

- Myrtle Grove Marina is a great area, would like to see it developed further. There is a Phase 2 [verify this] Plans for hotel/restaurant eventually, but need to have the population to support these uses.
- Proposed airport in Point Celeste area. There has been a study to determine what sites can physically support an airstrip, but there hasn't been a study [yet?] to see what is economically feasible.
- Port: need rail to support it.
- Landfill is a big issue. It smells things fall of trucks going there onto the Parish roads; the landfill is accepting trash from outside the Parish. Residential development has occurred too close to the landfill.

Commercial Services what's needed?

- A little grocery
- A small scale Wal-mart
- Fresh produce is available
- Some type of weekly or biweekly farmers market. Would need to be located above Becnell's, as people are used to driving that far down in the Parish, The Westwego market is a good model. The market could be tied into the park area and other community services consolidated in this area.
- Maybe this could be done at Perez Park.

Infrastructure

- This area doesn't have city sewer. Adams drive is stinky. People need to put chlorine tablets into their systems.
- Sewer is issue in the area. About \$2,000 to hook up to city sewer.
- Drainage is an issue in this area; the pipe is too small and not installed correctly. Yards are starting to flood now that Parish put in culverts.

Zoning/Code Enforcement

- Most of the area is zoned agricultural so there are some issues related to where mobile homes are being located, especially when they are placed in neighborhoods. The area needs to have residential zoning; too much is allowed in the Agricultural district.
- New developments should be responsible for installing necessary infrastructure.
- Selective enforcement of development rules is an issue.
- Council doesn't want to be hard on individuals – those who elect them.
- New development needs rules, example tree planting/ordinances
- Need better notification of variances and rezonings. Need to go beyond the letter of the law, need to let people know what you're doing. Need transparency in government communication.
- Affordable Housing is a fear in Belle Chasse and is needed in the southern end of the Parish.
- Say "zoning issue" not mobile home
- Borrow Pits. Need to be filled in. Parish doesn't enforce code that they have! No plans for refilling the pits the USACE built. USACE won't allow pits w/ in 1,500 ft of levee, but they themselves did this from Port Sulphur down.

June 5, 2010

- UNIFORM ENFORCEMENT of CODES/REGULATIONS IS NEEDED.

Next Steps and Final ThoughtsCharlotte Weber, JJG

- Charlotte and the rest of the team thanked the citizens for their attendance and reminded them of additional meetings in other parts of the parish and that summaries of this meeting would be available on the website soon.
- Charlotte also reiterated the need to stay involved and that if anyone wanted to have a bigger role in the planning process to see one of team members to learn how.
- The Virtual Meeting, located on the Project Website was discussed as a way for citizens unable to attend the meeting to participate. Charlotte asked the participants to pass the information along.

Interactive Voting Results:

Choice #	Question/Statement	All Participants
Statement 1: I've lived in Plaquemines Parish...		
1	All my life	57.1%
2	20+ years	0.0%
3	6-20 years	42.9%
4	0-5 years	0.0%
5	I do not live in Plaquemines Parish	0.0%
		N 7
Statement 2: I work....		
1	Inside the Parish	28.6%
2	Outside the Parish	28.6%
3	Inside the Parish but travel outside for my job	14.3%
4	Not applicable - I am retired or do not work	28.6%
		N 7
Question 3: What matters the most to you (what should be the top priority for this Master Plan)?		
1	Coastal Restoration & Safety from Storms and Flooding	85.7%
2	Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy	14.3%
3	Quality & Availability of Government Services (parks, libraries)	0.0%
4	Quality & Availability of Commercial Services	0.0%
5	Better Transportation	0.0%
6	Community/Long-Term Sustainability	0.0%
7	Other	0.0%
		N 7

Visioning Workshop #3 - Meeting Summary

June 5, 2010

Choice #	Question/Statement	All Participants
Question 4: What should the second highest priority be for this Master Plan?		
1	Coastal Restoration & Safety from Storms and Flooding	14.3%
2	Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy	42.9%
3	Quality & Availability of Government Services (parks, libraries)	0.0%
4	Quality & Availability of Commercial Services	14.3%
5	Better Transportation	14.3%
6	Community/Long-Term Sustainability	14.3%
7	Other	0.0%
		N 7
Statement 5: Local (not Federal) recovery efforts after Katrina in Plaquemines Parish have gone...		
1	Very Well	42.9%
2	Well	28.6%
3	Neutral	28.6%
4	Poorly	0.0%
5	Very Poorly	0.0%
		N 7
Question 6: What is your primary reason for living/owning property in Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Job	14.3%
2	Family/Friends	0.0%
3	Property Interest	14.3%
4	Overall Quality of Life	71.4%
5	Other	0.0%
6	Not Applicable – I do not live here	0.0%
		N 7
Statement 7: Other than for work, I travel outside Plaquemines Parish mostly for...		
1	Entertainment/Dining	28.6%
2	Shopping	57.1%
3	Visit Family and/or Friends	14.3%
4	Other	0.0%
5	Not Applicable – I do not live in Plaquemines Parish	0.0%
		N 7
Statement 8: I travel outside Plaquemines Parish...		
1	4+ days a week	85.7%
2	1 or 2 times a week	14.3%
3	Only 1 or 2 times a month	0.0%
4	Never	0.0%
5	Not Applicable (I do not live in Plaquemines Parish)	0.0%
		N 7

Choice #	Question/Statement	All Participants
Statement 9: Plaquemines Parish Government generally supports my community's needs.		
1	Strongly Agree	0.0%
2	Agree	57.1%
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	28.6%
4	Disagree	14.3%
5	Strongly Disagree	0.0%
		N 7
Statement 10: Plaquemines Parish Government needs to focus on _____ for the future of its communities.		
1	Coastal Restoration	57.1%
2	Transportation Initiatives	14.3%
3	Economic Growth and Job Opportunities	28.6%
4	Educational Opportunities	0.0%
5	Creating a Stronger Sense of Community	0.0%
		N 7
Statement 11: Plaquemines Parish Government needs to focus on _____ for the future of my community.		
1	Coastal Restoration	42.9%
2	Transportation Initiatives	28.6%
3	Economic Growth and Job Opportunities	14.3%
4	Educational Opportunities	14.3%
5	Creating a Stronger Sense of Community	0.0%
		N 7
Question 12: Which of the following transportation needs should be a priority for Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Reduce Traffic Congestion	71.4%
2	Repair Existing Roads	0.0%
3	Add New Sidewalks and Bike Lanes	0.0%
4	Improve Access Across the River	28.6%
5	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Water Travel	0.0%
6	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Air Travel	0.0%
		N 7
Question 13: The following transportation needs should be a priority for Plaquemines Parish in my community?		
1	Reduce Traffic Congestion	57.1%
2	Repair Existing Roads	42.9%
3	Add New Sidewalks and Bike Lanes	0.0%
4	Improve Access Across the River	0.0%

Visioning Workshop #3 - Meeting Summary

June 5, 2010

Choice #	Question/Statement	All Participants
5	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Water Travel	0.0%
6	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Air Travel	0.0%
	N	7
Question 14: Which of the following education sectors needs the greatest support or development within Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Vocational Tech (trade school that provides job-specific skills)	71.4%
2	Primary (kindergarten through 8 th grade)	0.0%
3	Secondary (9 th through 12 th)	0.0%
4	Community College (2-year degree)	14.3%
5	Other	14.3%
	N	7
Question 15: What priority would you give to the promotion of tourism in Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Very High	28.6%
2	High	42.9%
3	Medium	28.6%
4	Low	0.0%
5	Very Low	0.0%
	N	7

Location:

- Belle Chasse High School Cafeteria

Agenda:

Welcome & Introductions

Benny Puckett, Plaquemines Parish

- Mr. Puckett began the meeting by welcoming participants and thanking them for their desire to make a difference in Plaquemines Parish’s future.
- Mr. Puckett explained the importance of the Comprehensive Master Plan, stating that in order for the Parish to receive funding for improvement projects, a master plan must be completed.
- Mr. Puckett introduced, Gary Cornell, the JIG Project Manager.



Project Overview Presentation

Gary Cornell, JIG

- Gary introduced the rest of the project team to participants. (Charlotte Weber, JIG; Megan Will, JIG; Troy Loetzerich, JIG; and Al Kesler, HDC). He explained the basic principles a comprehensive master plan.
- Gary explained the elements and phases of the plan and walked the participants through a short presentation on what a comprehensive plan is and how the plan addresses both short term and long term goals and strategies.

Note: See the Appendix B for a copy of the PowerPoint presentation used in conjunction with each presentation.

Interactive Exercise..... Charlotte Weber, JIG

- Please see the full results of the interactive survey from the workshop participants at the end of this summary.
- Highlights from the interactive exercise for this workshop include.
 - **Coastal restoration** was seen as the top priority for the Master Plan (85%).
 - The second highest priority for the Master plan from this community included 35% of the participants voting for **Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy**, 25%

June 5, 2010

identified **Community / Long-Term Sustainability**, and 20% saw **Better Transportation** as a priority.

- When asked what the primary reason was for living/owning property in Plaquemines Parish, the majority (70%) of the community chose “**Overall Quality of Life**”.
 - Nicest people
 - Low crime/safe
 - Good place for kids/grandkids
 - Good fishing (used to be)
 - Country atmosphere
- The highest priority for **transportation** needs was to reduce traffic congestion (100%) both parish-wide and Belle Chasse specific.
- 70% of the community voted that **Vocation Tech** be the priority for support and development.
 - School board needs to be made aware of need for vocational/technical education: welders, engineers, etc to work in oil industry and on boats
- The majority of participants voted Very High, High, or Medium priority that **tourism** should be supported.
 - History, especially w/ school children
 - Citrus
 - Fishing
 - Wildlife (prior to oil spill), birding

Other topics discussed

What Belle Chasse travels outside of the Parish for . . .

- Primary shopping destination: North!
- What kind of shopping, what goods? Just about everything, limited shopping in the Parish.
 - Less stuff we have the less traffic we'll have
 - Actually, I'd say the opposite – we need more here
 - Population couldn't support the type of shopping we commute out for
- Have to travel outside of the parish for medical care

What questions were expected that weren't in survey?

- Oil spill
- Bridge issue. Not another draw bridge! Parish needs a TALL bridge, that doesn't move.

Implementation PresentationGary Cornell, JJG

- The final presentation for the workshop was an implementation presentation to discussed next steps beyond visioning. The need for public/private partnerships, funding sources, and placemaking.

Participants had a discussion on what benchmarking meant and had the following comments.

- Who does the monitoring in the future? We need to know if we are meeting our benchmarks. Gary gave the example of the 501c3 created in Jacksonville Fl to monitor the community's progress on an annual basis.

June 5, 2010

- The first step is to put the benchmarks together in a manner that's understandable to the community.
- Community needs to see that there is someone on this task; the CMP needs to outline a process for monitoring, identify who will do this.
- Charlotte mentioned Baltimore's web based benchmarking systems.
- CMP team needs to provide information/examples on benchmark monitoring the Steering Committee so they have some idea of where things can go and then tailor them to the local community.
- Monitoring could take the form of some type of chart, graph, or matrix system.

Group ExerciseJIG Facilitating

Attendees met in three small groups to discuss Belle Chasse specific and Parish-wide priorities, needs, issues, and visions. After meeting, attendees joined back together in one group to present the highlights from their respective group discussions. Input received is grouped under the appropriate break-out group.

Group #1:

Facilitator: Megan Will

Community Assets

- Safety
- Good police protection
- Good schools
- Low taxes
- Good income levels (of residents)
- Beautiful/quiet area
- Clean roadway/drains

Other Comments

- Need standards for businesses

Community Needs/Priorities

1 – 2 years:

- Gateway improvements, make the entrances to the parish more aesthetically inviting
- Have DMV services in Belle Chasse 1 day a week
- Restrict small lots/implement large lot zoning in Belle Chasse
- Develop a parish plan for drainage – system for bringing private ditches into the Parish system where the parish doesn't currently have a servitude
- Enhance code enforcement
- Create bike paths on top of the levee
- Expand business hours for retailers in the parish, specifically need a pharmacy open in the evening
- A full-service grocery in Belle Chasse
- More "white table cloth" restaurants

June 5, 2010

- Overhaul of rezoning and permitting process. Needs to be a fair/impartial process, not a who knows who/my granddaddy knew your granddaddy system
- More playgrounds in Belle Chasse
- More parks in Belle Chasse
 - Developers should be required to put parks in new communities – however some communities would rather have larger lots than a “public” greenspace that could attract outsiders
- Improved government communication
 - Using the Gazette (as the only outlet) isn't working
 - Need better communication from district council member as to what's happening (monthly updates or something like that)
 - Need to create a system of communication for government happenings in the Parish (Gave example of Atlanta's NPU system)

3 – 5 years:

- Create better drainage between Hwy 23 and the levee
- Address sewer capacity issues in Belle Chasse
- Clean up the Belle Chasse tunnel
- Peter's Rd/Walker Rd by-pass
- Connect levee bike paths (see 1 -2yr list) to adjacent parishes
- A full-service hardware store in Belle Chasse
- One stop shop type community center that could include
 - Recreation amenities
 - Government services – DMV (others)
 - Meeting rooms / rental spaces
 - Class rooms for continuing education

5+ years:

- A stationary bridge
- Industrial Canal
- Permanent courthouse (not in a trailer)
- North/South Canal – drainage canals at Woodland Hwy.

Group 2

Facilitator: Gary Cornell

Assets – “hard”- areas not likely to change

- The Quality of Life of our Community
- Education -Belle Chasse Primary School
- Safe schools -No violence in schools
- High level of personal safety and security
- Established neighborhoods
- Good recreational facilities and recreational opportunities
- Walking trails
- Louisiana Medal of Honor Park

June 5, 2010

- Air base – economic benefit is questionable – soldiers don't spend money here
- Air base adds noise and traffic
- Good location – New Orleans is 15 minutes away, and so is the country
- Close knit community – people friendly
- Quality Nursing Home

Changing Areas – “soft”- likely to change

- Springwood – Parks of Plaquemines along Woodland Highway
- Myrtle Grove
- Venice/Boothville (before oil spill)

Problems/Concerns

- Lack of Infrastructure- infrastructure is overloaded (need specific projects)*
- Traffic congestion – system is overloaded (need specific projects)*
- Zoning ordinance allows informal subdivisions up to 5 houses without infrastructure but Parish eventually has to come in and provide the infrastructure
- Port – lack of infrastructure
- Ferries paid for by Parish money – need state and federal assistance
- Citrus Lands II- back levee would result in another Terrytown
- Landfill accepts garbage from other Parishes, such as St. Charles- results in trash on road
- Construction and demolition debris
- Highways are inadequate and dangerous
- Some people are not familiar with the way to turn across Belle Chasse Highway (narrow median)
- High tension powerlines being constructed across Intracoastal Waterway near Peters Road extension, past West Closure Complex and Walkers Road – (there is a large tract of Parish owned property along the north side of Walker Road)

Missing Elements

- Need condominiums
- Need to address need for affordable housing
- Too many travel trailers
- Will need housing for temporary workers
- Money
- Intergovernmental cooperation by different levels of government
- A Master Plan*
- Opportunity to build at your own risk rather than to conform to FEMA requirements
- Sewer Improvements (need to set specific project priorities)*
- Drainage (need to set specific project priorities)*
- Image problems on the highway (aesthetics)*

June 5, 2010

- Zoning Code Revisions*
- Code enforcement*
- Recreation for children

Barriers

- Overgrowth
- Hurricanes
- Oil Spills

*- indicates 1-2 year priority

Group 3

Facilitator: Charlotte Weber

1 – 2 years:

- Signage
 - Wayfinding in key locations
 - Woodland Trails (show the services provided)
 - Perez Park (when built)
 - Ordinance needs re-write
 - Roundabout (difficult to navigate due to lack of appropriate signage)
- Conceptual Plan for Government Complex in Belle Chasse
 - Government
 - Sports (complex needed for all types of levels, ages, and sports types)
 - Recreation
 - Road Improvements
 - Open air structure
 - Farmers market/festivals
 - Amphitheater
- Conceptual Plan for open space (north of Naval base)
- Planning for gateways (off Woodlawn and on Hwy 23 after tunnel)
- Decision on Belle Chasse Bridge
- Laser gauge for anticipating height of antennas so bridge doesn't open unnecessarily.
- Electronic signage for bridge stats (to warn when up and anticipated amount of time)
- Perez Park – make it useful
- Better transition lanes for tunnel/bridge
- Signs on canal showing clearance for watercraft

2-4 years and beyond

- Bike and pedestrian path on levee plan
- Library in Belle Chasse

June 5, 2010

- Bridge construction – at least start it
- Funding to start construction on government complex in Belle Chasse

Discussion

- For the Belle Chasse Fire Department, if larger paid staff in the future, will the station need to expand? Answer: yes, in the long term, could make building two-story on same site.
- The timing of Peters Road and the naval base moving its front gate will be critical.
- Intersection improvements needed or new road for base access (when new front gate is moved to back).
- Woodlawn highway
 - safety issue (turning lane)
 - increase in traffic with future development – may need widening
 - roundabout potential problem during evacuation
- Does tunnel have emergency power?
- Gates at tunnel – to prevent water from going into the tunnel (planned)
- If new school is needed in the future – potential site could be near the proposed government complex.
- F. Edward Hebert Blvd may need to be widened in future because of increased traffic to and from the government complex and other activities on the site.
- Suggestion to develop revenue generating assets to the new government complex area by having theater, concert facility, sports tournament facilities.
- Belle Chasse Library
 - New high tech facility
 - Larger
 - More services
- Freeport – potential development site – need turn lanes (off Hwy 23)

Next Steps and Final ThoughtsCharlotte Weber, JIG

- Charlotte and the rest of the team thanked the citizens for their attendance and reminded them of additional meetings in other parts of the parish and that summaries of this meeting would be available on the website soon.
- Charlotte also reiterated the need to stay involved and that if anyone wanted to have a bigger role in the planning process to see one of team members to learn how.
- The Virtual Meeting, located on the Project Website was discussed as a way for citizens unable to attend the meeting to participate. Charlotte asked the participants to pass the information along.

Interactive Voting Results:

Choice #	Statement/Question	All Participants
Statement 1: I've lived in Plaquemines Parish...		
1	All my life	40.0%
2	20+ years	25.0%
3	6-20 years	35.0%
4	0-5 years	0.0%
5	I do not live in Plaquemines Parish	0.0%
		N 20
Statement 2: I work....		
1	Inside the Parish	35.0%
2	Outside the Parish	20.0%
3	Inside the Parish but travel outside for my job	5.0%
4	Not applicable - I am retired or do not work	40.0%
		N 20
Question 3: What matters the most to you (what should be the top priority for this Master Plan)?		
1	Coastal Restoration & Safety from Storms and Flooding	85.0%
2	Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy	10.0%
3	Quality & Availability of Government Services (parks, libraries)	0.0%
4	Quality & Availability of Commercial Services	0.0%
5	Better Transportation	5.0%
6	Community/Long-Term Sustainability	0.0%
7	Other	0.0%
		N 20
Question 4: What should the second highest priority be for this Master Plan?		
1	Coastal Restoration & Safety from Storms and Flooding	20.0%
2	Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy	35.0%
3	Quality & Availability of Government Services (parks, libraries)	0.0%
4	Quality & Availability of Commercial Services	0.0%
5	Better Transportation	20.0%
6	Community/Long-Term Sustainability	25.0%
7	Other	0.0%
		N 20
Statement 5: Local (not Federal) recovery efforts after Katrina in Plaquemines Parish have gone...		

Visioning Workshop #4 - Meeting Summary

June 5, 2010

Choice #	Statement/Question	All Participants
1	Very Well	50.0%
2	Well	35.0%
3	Neutral	10.0%
4	Poorly	5.0%
5	Very Poorly	0.0%
		N 20
Question 6: What is your primary reason for living/owning property in Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Job	5.0%
2	Family/Friends	20.0%
3	Property Interest	0.0%
4	Overall Quality of Life	70.0%
5	Other	5.0%
6	Not Applicable – I do not live here	0.0%
		N 20
Statement 7: Other than for work, I travel outside Plaquemines Parish mostly for...		
1	Entertainment/Dining	20.0%
2	Shopping	35.0%
3	Visit Family and/or Friends	30.0%
4	Other	15.0%
5	Not Applicable (I do not live in Plaquemines Parish)	0.0%
		N 20
Statement 8: I travel outside Plaquemines Parish...		
1	4+ days a week	70.0%
2	1 or 2 times a week	30.0%
3	Only 1 or 2 times a month	0.0%
4	Never	0.0%
5	Not Applicable (I do not live in Plaquemines Parish)	0.0%
		N 20
Statement 9: Plaquemines Parish Government generally supports my community's needs.		
1	Strongly Agree	25.0%
2	Agree	45.0%
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	20.0%
4	Disagree	10.0%
5	Strongly Disagree	0.0%
		N 20
Statement 10: Plaquemines Parish Government needs to focus on _____ for the future of its		

Visioning Workshop #4 - Meeting Summary

June 5, 2010

Choice #	Statement/Question	All Participants
communities.		
1	Coastal Restoration	75.0%
2	Transportation Initiatives	10.0%
3	Economic Growth & Job Opportunities	10.0%
4	Educational Opportunities	0.0%
5	Creating a Stronger Sense of Community	5.0%
		N 20
Statement 11: Plaquemines Parish Government needs to focus on _____ for the future of my community.		
1	Coastal Restoration	30.0%
2	Transportation Initiatives	20.0%
3	Economic Growth & Job Opportunities	35.0%
4	Educational Opportunities	0.0%
5	Creating a Stronger Sense of Community	15.0%
		N 20
Question 12: Which of the following transportation needs should be a priority for Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Reduce Traffic Congestion	100.0%
2	Repair Existing Roads	0.0%
3	Add New Sidewalks and Bike Lanes	0.0%
4	Improve Access Across the River	0.0%
5	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Water Travel	0.0%
6	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Air Travel	0.0%
		N 20
Question 13: The following transportation needs should be a priority for Plaquemines Parish in my community?		
1	Reduce Traffic Congestion	100.0%
2	Repair Existing Roads	0.0%
3	Add New Sidewalks and Bike Lanes	0.0%
4	Improve Access Across the River	0.0%
5	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Water Travel	0.0%
6	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Air Travel	0.0%
		N 20
Question 14: Which of the following education sectors needs the greatest support or development within Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Vocational Tech	70.0%
2	Primary	15.0%
3	Secondary	5.0%
4	Community College	10.0%

Visioning Workshop #4 - Meeting Summary

June 5, 2010

Choice #	Statement/Question	All Participants
5	Other	0.0%
		N 20
Question 15: What priority would you give to promotion of tourism in Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Very High	25.0%
2	High	30.0%
3	Medium	35.0%
4	Low	10.0%
5	Very Low	0.0%
		N 20

Location:

- South Plaquemines High School Gym – Port Sulphur

Agenda:

Welcome & Introductions

Benny Puckett

- Mr. Puckett welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview on what a comprehensive plan is and its importance to the future of the parish in terms of federal funding and the priority of its projects.
- Mr. Puckett then gave an update on the latest from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill disaster.
- He then introduced the attending steering committee members and Councilman Burghart Turner and asked Mr. Turner to say a few words.

Burghart Turner, Parish Council

- Welcomed everyone and shared his perspective on how important this plan will be to Plaquemines Parish.

Project Overview Presentation

Gary Cornell, JJG

- Gary introduced the rest of the project team to participants. (Charlotte Weber, JJG; Troy Loetzerich, JJG; and Al Kesler, HDC). He explained the basic principles a Comprehensive Master Plan.
- Gary explained the elements and phases of the plan and walked the participants through a short presentation on what a comprehensive plan is and how the plan addresses both short term and long term goals and strategies.

Note: See the Appendix B for a copy of the PowerPoint presentation used in conjunction with each presentation.

Interactive Exercise..... Charlotte Weber, JJG

- Please see the full results of the interactive survey from the workshop participants at the end of this summary.



- Highlights from the interactive exercise for this workshop include.
 - **Coastal restoration** was seen as the top priority for the Master Plan 60% along with 30% seeing **Community and Long-Term Sustainability** as a top priority because several participants during the discussion chose it because they felt it was all encompassing.
 - The second highest priority for the Master plan from this community included 40% of the participants voting for **Community and Long-Term Sustainability** and 30% said that **Economic Development and Job Creation** was the second highest priority.
 - When asked what the primary reason was for living/owning property in Plaquemines Parish, the majority (60%) of the community chose "**Overall Quality of Life**".
 - Natural Environment
 - Safe
 - Utilities
 - Sense of community
 - Knowing your neighbors & community as a whole
 - The highest priority for transportation needs parish-wide was to **reduce traffic congestion** (60%), when asked about local needs; the highest priority locally was to **fix existing roads** also at 60%.
 - Hwy 23 has patches over patches
 - 4-lane is not continuous. It is 2 lane through Port Sulphur (some discussion on whether this was a disadvantage or an advantage – 2 lane slows people down. If facilities, maybe some would stop on their way south or north.
 - Heavy traffic is damaging roads – some appear to be beyond weight limit.
 - 60% of the community voted that **Vocational Tech** be the priority for support and development.
 - All participants agreed that some level of **tourism** should be supported with suggestions such as fishing and the development of Fort Jackson.

Other discussions

- After Hurricane Katrina, the participants felt in general that Plaquemines Parish did a good job cleaning up and with security. They also felt that there was a quick return of utilities except gas and cable. What they felt did not go well is the pace of rebuilding; it has been slow. In addition, access out is difficult during flooding.
- Some expressed frustration at the government's issues of coming to consensus on things.
- There was discussion that the levees have to be fixed or nothing else that this comprehensive master plan addresses will matter.
- Code Enforcement was seen as a priority for some.

Implementation PresentationGary Cornell, JJG

- The final presentation for the workshop was an implementation presentation to discussed next steps beyond visioning. The need for public/private partnerships, funding sources, and placemaking.

Group ExerciseJJG Facilitating

Two groups were formed Group 1 was made up of primarily residents of Port Sulphur and surrounding communities and Group 2 was formed primarily of residents from the northern part of Plaquemines Parish. The group from Port Sulphur Group 1 focused more on community specific topics whereas Group 2 focused on more parish-wide issues and topics. Both groups discussed a number of topics were discussed using facilitated discussions and maps. The following are the priorities identified through the discussions, followed by a detailed list of all issues.

Group 1

Facilitators: Charlotte Weber and Troy Loetzerich

Assets

- St. Patrick's Catholic Church
- Health Center
- Learning Center
- Community Center
- Land available for development
- Beginnings of a recreational site
- River and River Bank

1-2 years

- Begin filling borrow pits
- Auto service facility (brake tag station, tire shop, auto parts)
- Beautify walking trail near Empire Bridge – recreation park
- Expand residential site in Port Sulphur
- Develop a conceptual plan for Diamond Park – track, arena, sports complex
- Complete demolitions/code enforcement/property maintenance
- Start School (New South Plaquemines High School)
- Roads need repair – there are patches on patches
- Weigh station needed – roads impacted by increase in heavy trucks
- Lighting for Grand Bayou
- Paved Road for Lake Hermitage – also a bridge
- Doctors (add more)

2-3 years

- Hotels/Apartments in Port Sulphur

June 12, 2010

- More crossroads from Hwy 23 to Hwy 11
- Paved Road for Grand Bayou
- Sewer on the four-lane highway (Hwy 23)

5+ years

- Vocational School (begin skills classes sooner)
- Community College (begin classes sooner)
- Grocery store – competitive prices possibly in Triumph – retail outlets or small strip commercial with dry goods, clothes, etc.
- Make canals more attractive – take advantage of having restaurants etc. on the canal
- Resort RV park (Yogi-bear) *attraction to bring more families along with recreational fisherman.*
- Community center to add services such as theater, bowling alley, etc.

Additional Discussion

- Insurance too expensive
- Could open borrow pits be reused for “lake front” property sites or to stock with fish?
- Sidewalks
- New library needs to be built
- The Learning Center will have GED, Alternative school and Administration.

Group 2

Facilitators: Gary Cornell and Al Kesler

Theme for Vision

- No crime – good schools
- Clean and attractive community
- History environment – tourism
- Courtesy – neighbors – small town friendly

Assets

- River
- Port
- Industrial base
- Rail system?
- Location – proximity to New Orleans
- Fishing charter trips – fins and shells
- Commercial fishing
- Agriculture – citrus, row crops
- Cooperation between sheriff and administration (unique)

June 12, 2010

- 911 system
- History

Issues

1. Parish government accountability
 - a. Need citizen input
2. Growth shifted
 - a. The Navy Base started growth in Belle Chasse.
 - b. Before, most of the population was in Buras.
3. Entrance to Parish 23/Woodland
 - a. The gateway should be landscaped and attractive.
 - b. Industrial image now – ugly
4. Sense of civic identify – civic responsibility
 - a. People should do better maintenance – clean-up
 - b. Appearance of public right of way sends negative message

Threats

- Flooding US Highway 23 – drainage and levees
- Insurance rates – residential property
- Cost of business
- Hurricane
- Rental house neighborhood
- Homelessness
- Oil spill
- Demographic change
- Loss of coast line
- Orange weevil impacts citrus crop
- Labor insurance – harvesting crop
- Population loss
- Tax revenue?

Problems

- Affordability of goods/services
- Government systems/structure
- Zoning/code enforcement
- Mass transit system needed – people without cars need mobility
- No major parks like in Belle Chasse
- Coastal erosion
- Traffic congestion
- Roadway flooding in Point Celeste
- Telecommunications – cable/Internet
- No natural gas service in S. Plaquemines – lines exist but no service (franchise)
- No cable TV service in S. Plaquemines – need franchise
- Temporary houses

Visioning Workshop #5 - Meeting Summary

June 12, 2010

- Roadway flooding – pre Celeste
- US 23 needs to be 4 lanes in Port Sulphur – there is a lot of truck traffic. There should be a weigh station for trucks on 23 to ensure that they are not overloaded.
- The Parish needs a community college/ Vo-tech school
- Need oyster processing plants in Plaquemines

Actions

- Government involvement
 - Communication – town halls
 - Awareness of what Government decisions are being made- how to get information and how to get involved.
- Fast tracking construction of ports
- Transportation upgrades – widen 23
- Improvements to non-federal levees
- Farmers markets/multi-use/multi-purpose
- Accept grant of Perez property for park
- Promote tourism- Ft. Jackson, recreational fishing

Interactive Voting Results:

Choice #	Question or Statement	All Participants
Statement 1: I've lived in Plaquemines Parish...		
1	All my life	60.0%
2	20+ years	10.0%
3	6-20 years	30.0%
4	0-6 years	0.0%
5	Not Applicable (I do not live in Plaquemines Parish)	0.0%
		N 10
Statement 2: I work....		
1	Inside Plaquemines Parish	50.0%
2	Outside Plaquemines Parish	0.0%
3	Inside Plaquemines Parish but travel outside for my job	0.0%
4	Not Applicable (I do not work or am retired)	50.0%
		N 10
Question 3: What matters the most to you (what should be the top priority for this Master Plan)?		
1	Coastal Restoration & Safety from Storms and Flooding	60.0%

Visioning Workshop #5 - Meeting Summary

June 12, 2010

2	Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy	10.0%
3	Quality & Availability of Government Services (parks, libraries)	0.0%
4	Quality & Availability of Commercial Services	0.0%
5	Better Transportation	0.0%
6	Community/Long-Term Sustainability	30.0%
7	Other	0.0%
		N 10
Question 4: What should the second highest priority be for this Master Plan?		
1	Coastal Restoration & Safety from Storms and Flooding	10.0%
2	Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy	30.0%
3	Quality & Availability of Government Services (parks, libraries)	20.0%
4	Quality & Availability of Commercial Services	0.0%
5	Better Transportation	0.0%
6	Community/Long-Term Sustainability	40.0%
7	Other	0.0%
		N 10
Statement 5: Local (not Federal) recovery efforts after Katrina in Plaquemines Parish have gone...		
1	Very Well	20.0%
2	Well	40.0%
3	Neutral	10.0%
4	Poorly	30.0%
5	Very Poorly	0.0%
		N 10
Question 6: What is your primary reason for living/owning property in Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Job	0.0%
2	Family/Friends	20.0%
3	Property Interest	20.0%
4	Overall Quality of Life	60.0%
5	Other	0.0%
6	Not Applicable – I do not live here	0.0%
		N 10
Statement 7: Other than for work, I travel outside Plaquemines Parish mostly for...		
1	Entertainment/Dining	30.0%
2	Shopping	60.0%
3	Friends and/or Family	10.0%

Visioning Workshop #5 - Meeting Summary

June 12, 2010

4	Other	0.0%
5	Not Applicable (I do not live in Plaquemines Parish)	0.0%
		N 10
Statement 8: I travel outside Plaquemines Parish...		
1	4+ days a week	10.0%
2	1 or 2 times a week	60.0%
3	Only 1 or 2 times a month	20.0%
4	Never	10.0%
5	Not Applicable (I do not live in Plaquemines Parish)	0.0%
		N 10
Statement 9: Plaquemines Parish Government generally supports my community's needs.		
1	Strongly Agree	0.0%
2	Agree	50.0%
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	30.0%
4	Disagree	20.0%
5	Strongly Disagree	0.0%
		N 10
Statement 10: Plaquemines Parish Government needs to focus on _____ for the future of its communities.		
1	Coastal Restoration	70.0%
2	Transportation Initiatives	0.0%
3	Economic Growth and Job Opportunities	10.0%
4	Educational Opportunities	10.0%
5	Creating a Stronger Sense of Community	10.0%
		N 10
Statement 11: Plaquemines Parish Government needs to focus on _____ for the future of my community.		
1	Coastal Restoration	50.0%
2	Transportation Initiatives	0.0%
3	Economic Growth and Job Opportunities	10.0%
4	Educational Opportunities	30.0%
5	Creating a Stronger Sense of Community	10.0%
		N 10
Question 12: Which of the following transportation needs should be a priority for Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Reduce Traffic Congestion	60.0%
2	Repair Existing Roads	30.0%

Visioning Workshop #5 - Meeting Summary

June 12, 2010

3	Add New Sidewalks and Bike Lanes	10.0%
4	Improve Access Across the River	0.0%
5	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Water Travel	0.0%
6	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Air Travel	0.0%
		N 10
Question 13: The following transportation needs should be a priority for Plaquemines Parish in my community?		
1	Reduce Traffic Congestion	30.0%
2	Repair Existing Roads	60.0%
3	Add New Sidewalks and Bike Lanes	0.0%
4	Improve Access Across the River	0.0%
5	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Water Travel	10.0%
6	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Air Travel	0.0%
		N 10
Question 14: Which of the following education sectors needs the greatest support or development within Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Vocational Tech	60.0%
2	Primary	0.0%
3	Secondary	10.0%
4	Community College	30.0%
5	Other	0.0%
		N 10
Question 15: What priority would you give to promotion of tourism in Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Very High	0.0%
2	High	20.0%
3	Medium	50.0%
4	Low	30.0%
5	Very Low	0.0%
		N 10

Location:

- Boothville-Venice Elementary School Gym

Agenda:

Welcome & Introductions

Marla Cooper, Parish Council

- Ms. Cooper was asked to represent the parish in the opening and welcome in Mr. Puckett's absence (*Mr. Puckett was working on pressing issues regarding the Deepwater Horizons disaster and was unable to attend*).
- Ms. Cooper thanks everyone for coming and introduced Gary Cornell, the JIG project manager.

Project Overview Presentation

Gary Cornell, JIG

- Gary introduced the rest of the project team to participants. (Charlotte Weber, JIG; Troy Loetzerich, JIG; and Al Kesler, HDC). He explained the basic principles a Comprehensive Master Plan and its importance for Plaquemines Parish's future in receiving funding for projects and for prioritizing the parish needs in terms of a variety of issues and elements.
- Gary explained the elements and phases of the plan and walked the participants through a short presentation on what a comprehensive plan is and how the plan addresses both short term and long term goals and strategies.

Note: See the Appendix for a copy of the PowerPoint presentation used in conjunction with each presentation.

Interactive Exercise..... Charlotte Weber, JIG

- Please see the full results of the interactive survey from the workshop participants at the end of this summary.
- Highlights from the interactive exercise for this workshop include.
 - **Coastal restoration** (40%) and **Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy** (40%) were seen as the top and second highest priorities for the Master Plan.
 - When asked whether or not they felt the **recovery efforts after Hurricane Katrina** by Parish Government went well or poorly. Most voted neutral, poor or very poorly.
 - Individuals did not recover as well as government contractors.
 - Clean up went well.



- Design of construction no so good.
- When asked what the primary reason was for living/owning property in Plaquemines Parish, the majority (80%) of the community chose “**Overall Quality of Life**”.
 - Low crime
 - Low taxes
 - Good public services
 - Best fishing in the world
 - Good air
 - Good education system
- When asked what the parish should focus on as a whole, the voting was split with **Economic Growth** and **Coastal Restoration** each with 40% of votes. When asked about the focus for the local area, **Economic Growth and Job Creation** got 60%.
- The highest priority for transportation needs was to **repair existing roads** (60%)
 - Boothville Venice Road
 - Tidewater Road
 - Highway 11 – Empire Bridge
 - Woodlawn Highway
 - Locally, public boat launches are needed
 - Use barges for heavy shipping
- 60% of the community voted that **Vocational Tech** be the priority for support and development. Also in the discussion, one participant mentioned that having a marine biologist study center in the parish would be a benefit.
- All participants agreed that some level of **tourism** should be supported with 80% voting that it should be a very high priority with suggestions such as;
 - Sports fishing
 - Fort Jackson
 - Eco-tourism
 - Historic Plaquemines
 - Wetlands Discovery Center
 - Cultural Tourism
 - Recreational Tourism (kayak, canoes, etc.)

Implementation PresentationGary Cornell, JJG

- The final presentation for the workshop was an implementation presentation to discussed next steps beyond visioning. The need for public/private partnerships, funding sources, and placemaking.

Group ExerciseJIG Facilitating

One group was formed and a number of topics were discussed using facilitated discussions and maps. The following are the priorities identified through the discussions, followed by a detailed list of all issues.

Group 1:

Facilitated by Gary & Charlotte

Assets

- Fort Jackson
- Venice Port
- Crawfish boil
- Vocational tech school**
- Learning center
- Need boat/ riverboat captain's school
- Marine biology school
- Wetlands Discovery Center
- Building trades – carpentry, elect hurricane resistant structure, solar energy**
- Associates degrees
- Agriculture – citrus
- Nurseries for trees – high value landscape
- Good soil
- Empire pass should be improved and deepened to serve a potential port

Needs

- Borrow pits hurt Quality of Life
 - Safety
 - Aesthetics – overgrown
 - Poor sue of scarce land
 - Undermines levees
- Citrus City subdivision – borrow pit
- Pre-plan residential developments as a pre-condition for future borrow pit
- Sewer feasibility coordination with zoning
- Lack of natural gas service in south end of Parish-franchise needed
- Need cable TV – franchise by Parish
- Children of Plaquemines Parish
 - Schools, recreation, football field
 - Community centers can provide activities for youth. Need basketball courts
 - Two-worker households do not have time for kids.
 - Give kids opportunities to stay.
- Senior activities
- Venice port should be improved and made competitive with Fourchon. We need to talk with George Pivach.

June 12, 2010

Commercial Services Needs

- Grocery store in Buras
- Zoning
 - Agriculture and commercial intermixed
- Grocery store (population needed)
- Farmers Market
- Utilities for housing site owned by Faith Temple Ministries
- “Project Rise”
- Stephen Ballay Lane/ US 23 PUD
- There needs to be family-oriented recreation/shopping so when fishers come for their outings, they will bring their wives and kids to be entertained in other ways. This would allow fishers to stay longer and spend more money.

Public Needs

- Need high school
 - Central High School needs to be built – too much delay
 - Catalyst for recovery
 - School is over crowded
 - Long trips
 - Walk in rain within campus
 - Action* - Complete new South Plaquemines High School
- Plaquemines Parish does not offer family friendly activities. There could be a [quality of life] benefit and additional economic benefit to provide the following:
 - Wetlands Discovery Center
 - Fishing piers
 - Alligator tours
 - Airboat tours
 - Kayak/canoe trips
 - Camps
- Develop a port (dredging) – public/private partnership?
- Highway 23
- Need fishing pier, cabins and campground at Ft. Jackson
- Fishing Pier needed in Venice also kayak / canoe rental, alligator tours, airboat tours

Other Idea

- Economic recovery plan that is funded by BP
 - Link to vocational tech school
- Youth Focus Group (16-24)
- National Park Service has lots of forts but most are Civil War era. Ft St. Phillip and Ft. Jackson are older than Civil War forts so National Parks will be interested in preserving them.

Interactive Voting Results:

Choice #	Statement/Question	All Participants
Statement 1: I've lived in Plaquemines Parish...		
1	All my life	40.0%
2	20+ years	40.0%
3	6-20 years	0.0%
4	0-5 years	20.0%
5	I do not live in Plaquemines Parish	0.0%
		N 5
Statement 2: I work....		
1	Inside the Parish	100.0%
2	Outside the Parish	0.0%
3	Inside the Parish but travel outside for my job	0.0%
4	Not applicable - I am retired or do not work	0.0%
		N 5
Question 3: What matters the most to you (what should be the top priority for this Master Plan)?		
1	Coastal Restoration & Safety from Storms and Flooding	40.0%
2	Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy	40.0%
3	Quality & Availability of Government Services (parks, libraries)	0.0%
4	Quality & Availability of Commercial Services	0.0%
5	Better Transportation	0.0%
6	Community/Long-Term Sustainability	20.0%
7	Other	0.0%
		N 5
Question 4: What should the second highest priority be for this Master Plan?		
1	Coastal Restoration & Safety from Storms and Flooding	40.0%
2	Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy	40.0%
3	Quality & Availability of Government Services (parks, libraries)	0.0%
4	Quality & Availability of Commercial Services	0.0%
5	Better Transportation	0.0%
6	Community/Long-Term Sustainability	20.0%
7	Other	0.0%
		N 5
Statement 5: Local (not Federal) recovery efforts after Katrina in Plaquemines Parish have gone...		

Visioning Workshop #6 - Meeting Summary

June 12, 2010

Choice #	Statement/Question	All Participants
1	Very Well	0.0%
2	Well	20.0%
3	Neutral	40.0%
4	Poorly	20.0%
5	Very Poorly	20.0%
		N 5
Question 6: What is your primary reason for living/owning property in Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Job	0.0%
2	Family/Friends	0.0%
3	Property Interest	0.0%
4	Overall Quality of Life	80.0%
5	Other	20.0%
6	Not Applicable – I do not live here	0.0%
		N 5
Statement 7: Other than for work, I travel outside Plaquemines Parish mostly for...		
1	Entertainment/Dining	20.0%
2	Shopping	60.0%
3	Visit Family and/or Friends	20.0%
4	Other	0.0%
5	Not Applicable (I do not live in Plaquemines Parish)	0.0%
		N 5
Statement 8: I travel outside Plaquemines Parish...		
1	4+ days a week	20.0%
2	1 or 2 times a week	60.0%
3	Only 1 or 2 times a month	20.0%
4	Never	0.0%
5	Not Applicable (I do not live in Plaquemines Parish)	0.0%
		N 5
Statement 9: Plaquemines Parish Government generally supports my community's needs.		
1	Strongly Agree	0.0%
2	Agree	60.0%
3	Neither Agree nor Disagree	40.0%
4	Disagree	0.0%
5	Strongly Disagree	0.0%
		N 5

Visioning Workshop #6 - Meeting Summary

June 12, 2010

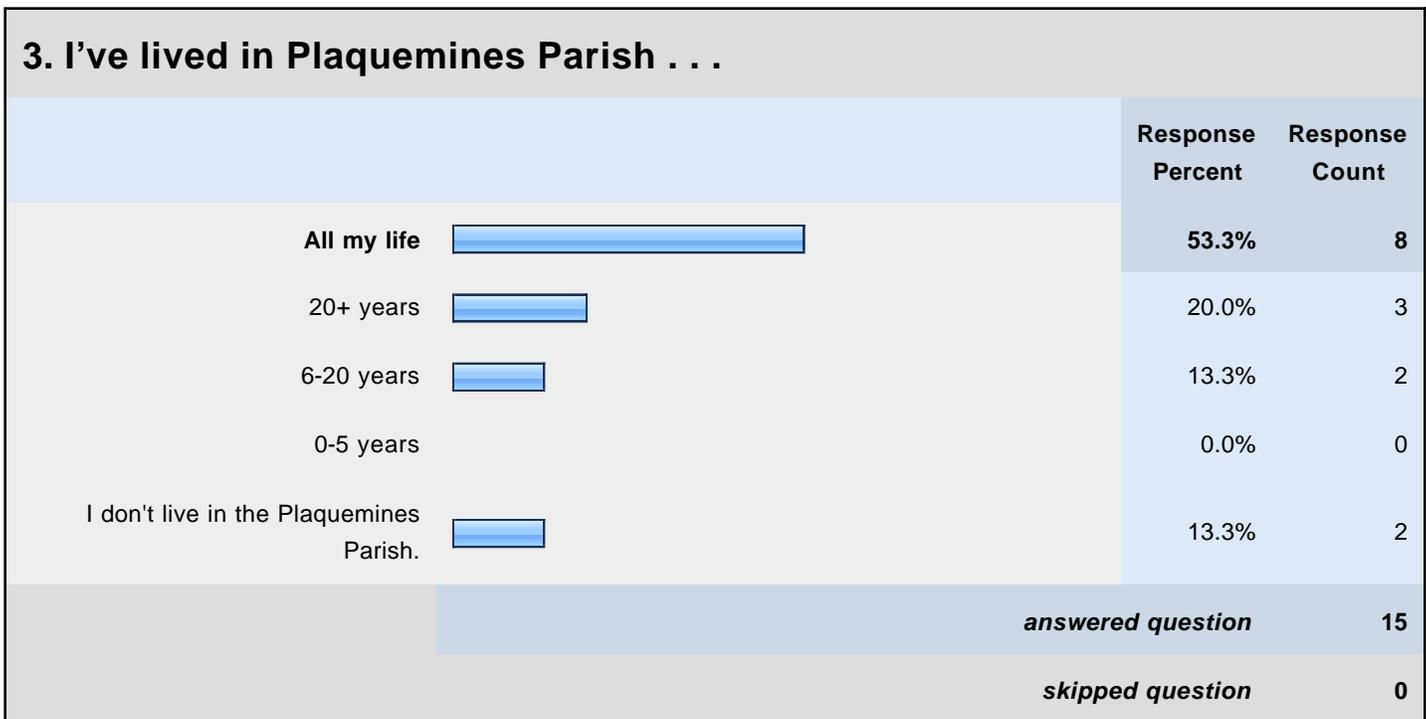
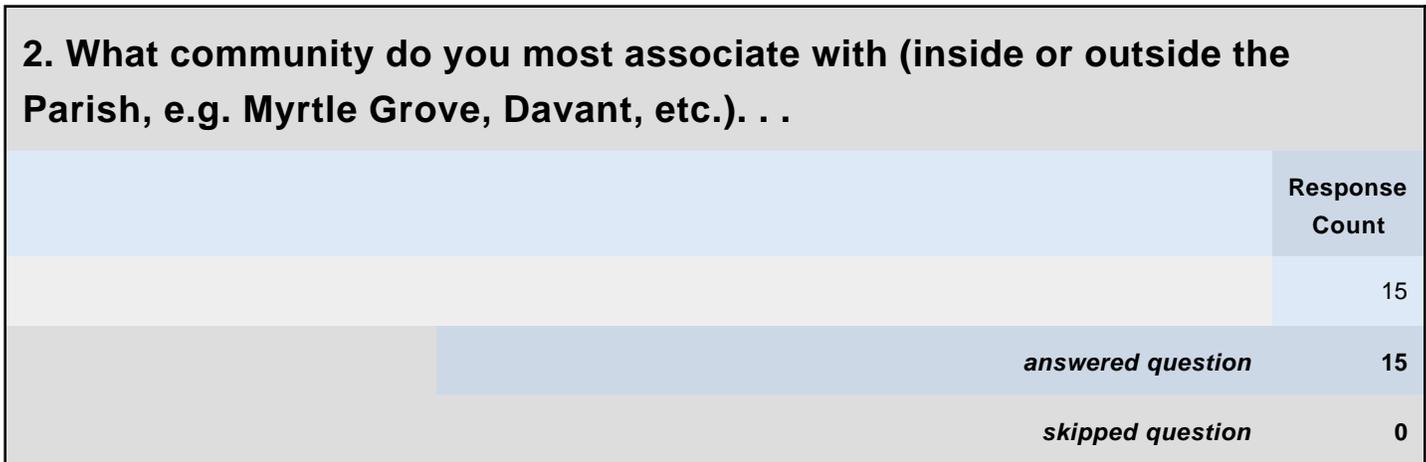
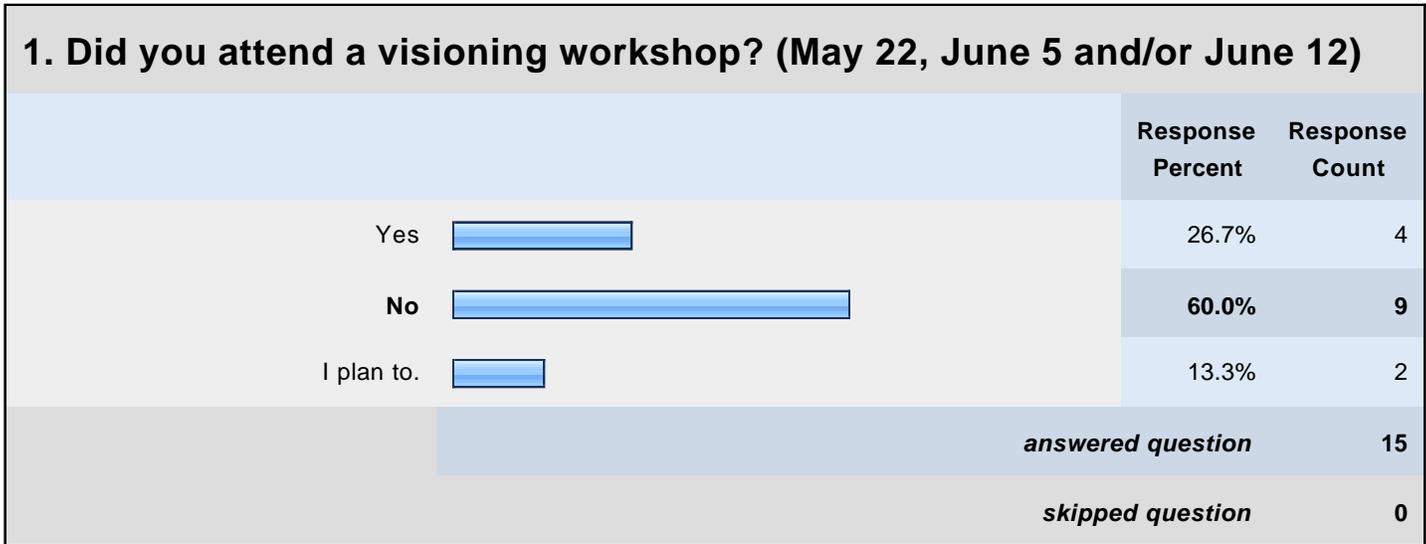
Choice #	Statement/Question	All Participants
Statement 10: Plaquemines Parish Government needs to focus on _____ for the future of its communities.		
1	Coastal Restoration	40.0%
2	Transportation Initiatives	0.0%
3	Economic Growth & Job Opportunities	40.0%
4	Educational Opportunities	20.0%
5	Creating a Stronger Sense of Community	0.0%
		N 5
Statement 11: Plaquemines Parish Government needs to focus on _____ for the future of my community.		
1	Coastal Restoration	20.0%
2	Transportation Initiatives	0.0%
3	Economic Growth & Job Opportunities	60.0%
4	Educational Opportunities	20.0%
5	Creating a Stronger Sense of Community	0.0%
		N 5
Question 12: Which of the following transportation needs should be a priority for Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Reduce Traffic Congestion	20.0%
2	Repair Existing Roads	60.0%
3	Add New Sidewalks and Bike Lanes	0.0%
4	Improve Access Across the River	0.0%
5	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Water Travel	20.0%
6	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Air Travel	0.0%
		N 5
Question 13: The following transportation needs should be a priority for Plaquemines Parish in my community?		
1	Reduce Traffic Congestion	0.0%
2	Repair Existing Roads	60.0%
3	Add New Sidewalks and Bike Lanes	0.0%
4	Improve Access Across the River	0.0%
5	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Water Travel	40.0%
6	Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Air Travel	0.0%
		N 5
Question 14: Which of the following education sectors needs the greatest support or development within Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Vocational Tech	60.0%
2	Primary	0.0%

Visioning Workshop #6 - Meeting Summary

June 12, 2010

Choice #	Statement/Question	All Participants
3	Secondary	20.0%
4	Community College	0.0%
5	Other	20.0%
		N 5
Question 15: What priority would you give to promotion of tourism in Plaquemines Parish?		
1	Very High	80.0%
2	High	20.0%
3	Medium	0.0%
4	Low	0.0%
5	Very Low	0.0%
		N 5

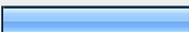
Plaquemines Parish Visioning Survey



4. I work . . .

		Response Percent	Response Count
Inside Plaquemines Parish		28.6%	4
Outside Plaquemines Parish		42.9%	6
Inside Plaquemines Parish but travel outside for my job		0.0%	0
Not applicable (I do not work or am retired)		28.6%	4
<i>answered question</i>			14
<i>skipped question</i>			1

5. What matters the most to you (what should be the top priority for this Master Plan)? *Please take a parish-wide perspective when answering.*

		Response Percent	Response Count
Coastal Restoration & Safety from Storms and Flooding		64.3%	9
Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy		7.1%	1
Quality & Availability of Government Services (parks, libraries)		0.0%	0
Quality & Availability of Commercial Services		0.0%	0
Better Transportation		0.0%	0
Community/Long-Term Sustainability		28.6%	4
Other (please specify)			0
<i>answered question</i>			14
<i>skipped question</i>			1

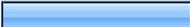
6. What should the second highest priority be for this Master Plan? *Please take a parish-wide perspective when answering.*

		Response Percent	Response Count
Coastal Restoration & Safety from Storms and Flooding		35.7%	5
Job Creation and Building a Healthy Economy		35.7%	5
Quality & Availability of Government Services (parks, libraries)		7.1%	1
Quality & Availability of Commercial Services		0.0%	0
Better Transportation		7.1%	1
Community/Long-Term Sustainability		14.3%	2
	Other (please specify)		1
answered question			14
skipped question			1

7. Local (not Federal) recovery efforts after Katrina in Plaquemines have gone . . .

		Response Percent	Response Count
Very well		7.1%	1
Well		50.0%	7
Neutral		21.4%	3
Poorly		7.1%	1
Very poorly		14.3%	2
answered question			14
skipped question			1

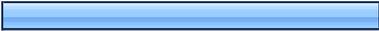
8. What is your primary reason for living/owning property in Plaquemines Parish?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Job 	7.1%	1
Family/Friends 	28.6%	4
Property Interest 	7.1%	1
Overall Quality of Life 	42.9%	6
Other	0.0%	0
Not applicable – I do not live here. 	14.3%	2
<i>answered question</i>		14
<i>skipped question</i>		1

9. Other than for work, I travel outside Plaquemines Parish mostly for . . .

	Response Percent	Response Count
Entertainment/Dining 	14.3%	2
Shopping 	35.7%	5
Visit Family and/or Friends 	21.4%	3
Other 	7.1%	1
Not applicable – I do not live in Plaquemines Parish. 	21.4%	3
<i>answered question</i>		14
<i>skipped question</i>		1

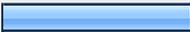
10. I travel outside Plaquemines Parish . . .

	Response Percent	Response Count
4+ days a week 	57.1%	8
1 or 2 times a week 	21.4%	3
Only 1 or 2 times a month 	7.1%	1
Never	0.0%	0
Not applicable – I do not live in Plaquemines Parish. 	14.3%	2
answered question		14
skipped question		1

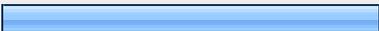
11. Plaquemines Parish Government generally supports my community's needs. *Please consider the area of Plaquemines you most associate with (see Question 2) when answering.*

	Response Percent	Response Count
Strongly Agree 	14.3%	2
Agree 	42.9%	6
Neither Agree nor Disagree 	21.4%	3
Disagree 	21.4%	3
Strongly Disagree	0.0%	0
answered question		14
skipped question		1

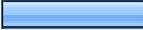
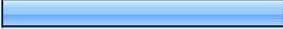
12. Plaquemines Parish Government needs to focus on _____ for the future of its communities. Please fill in blank space with one of the following responses. *Please consider the whole parish when answering.*

		Response Percent	Response Count
Coastal Restoration		57.1%	8
Transportation Initiatives		0.0%	0
Economic Growth & Job Opportunities		28.6%	4
Educational Opportunities		14.3%	2
Creating a Stronger Sense of Community		0.0%	0
<i>answered question</i>			14
<i>skipped question</i>			1

13. Plaquemines Parish Government needs to focus on _____ for the future of my community. Please fill in blank space with one of the following responses. *Please consider the community you most associate with (see Question 2) when answering.*

		Response Percent	Response Count
Coastal Restoration		57.1%	8
Transportation Initiatives		14.3%	2
Economic Growth & Job Opportunities		7.1%	1
Educational Opportunities		14.3%	2
Creating a Stronger Sense of Community		14.3%	2
<i>answered question</i>			14
<i>skipped question</i>			1

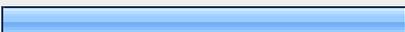
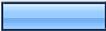
14. Which of the following transportation needs should be a priority for Plaquemines Parish? *Please take a parish-wide perspective when answering.*

		Response Percent	Response Count
Reduce Traffic Congestion		28.6%	4
Repair Existing Roads		21.4%	3
Add New Sidewalks and Bike Lanes		0.0%	0
Improve Access Across the River		42.9%	6
Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Water Travel		7.1%	1
Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Air Travel		0.0%	0
<i>answered question</i>			14
<i>skipped question</i>			1

15. Which of the following transportation needs should be a priority for Plaquemines Parish? *Please consider the area of the parish that you most associate with (see Question 2) when responding.*

		Response Percent	Response Count
Reduce Traffic Congestion		14.3%	2
Repair Existing Roads		21.4%	3
Add New Sidewalks and Bike Lanes		21.4%	3
Improve Access Across the River		35.7%	5
Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Water Travel		7.1%	1
Establish or Improve Facilities to Support Air Travel		0.0%	0
answered question			14
skipped question			1

16. Which of the following education sectors needs the greatest support or development within Plaquemines Parish?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Vocational Tech (trade school that provides job-specific skills)		61.5%	8
Primary (kindergarten through 8th grade)		23.1%	3
Secondary (9th through 12th grade)		15.4%	2
Community College (junior college offering two-year degrees)		0.0%	0
Other (please specify)			1
answered question			13
skipped question			2

17. What priority would you give to the promotion of tourism in Plaquemines Parish?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Very High 	21.4%	3
High 	28.6%	4
Medium 	14.3%	2
Low 	21.4%	3
Very Low 	14.3%	2
<i>answered question</i>		14
<i>skipped question</i>		1

18. What do YOU WANT Plaquemines Parish (as a whole) to be like in 10 years? Please express your vision in a few words or sentences.

	Response Count
	10
<i>answered question</i>	10
<i>skipped question</i>	5

19. What do YOU WANT the area of the parish you most associate with (see Question 2) to be like in 10 years? Please express your vision in a few words or sentences.

	Response Count
	10
<i>answered question</i>	10
<i>skipped question</i>	5

20. In reference to your response to Questions 18 and 19, what has to be enhanced or changed to make this happen?

	Response Count
	10
<i>answered question</i>	10
<i>skipped question</i>	5

21. Please prioritize your top five issues for the Parish to address in the Master Plan. Please list your # 1 issue first and # 5 issue last.

	Response Percent	Response Count
1. 	100.0%	11
2. 	100.0%	11
3. 	100.0%	11
4. 	90.9%	10
5. 	90.9%	10
<i>answered question</i>		11
<i>skipped question</i>		4