

ATTACHMENT A

OSP TASK FORCE DRAFT REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

I. Structural and Administrative Characteristics

A. Establishment and Authority

RECOMMENDATIONS:

An office of state planning should

- 1. Be established in Louisiana;*
- 2. Be called the Office of Coordinated Planning;*
- 3. Be empowered to implement RS 39:21, except insofar as such authority is already being carried out by OPB; and*
- 4. Not be given new regulatory powers related to environmental or other reviews.*

B. Location within the Executive Branch

RECOMMENDATION:

The Office of Coordinated Planning should be located at the Deputy Commissioner level within DOA, with future evaluation of the desirability of independent department status.

C. Budget and Staffing

RECOMMENDATION:

The Office of Coordinated Planning should be sufficiently funded for: adequate staffing, administration of program activities, and provision of grant assistance.

D. Oversight and Public Accountability

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Office of Coordinated Planning should be overseen by a public-private commission that would

- 1. Be titled the Louisiana State Coordinated Planning Commission;*
- 2. Have an advisory role to OCP and represent public and private stakeholders' concerns to it;*
- 3. Have both gubernatorial appointees and at-large members;*
- 4. Have members serve staggered terms;*
- 5. Have 30 or fewer members, including individuals representing government agencies and private sectors whom are responsible for or are stakeholders in the following areas: economic development, environment, education, land use planning, agriculture, transportation, risk management, and health care, but not limited to:*
 - o One representative of the Louisiana Association of Planning and Development Districts,*
 - o One representative of the Louisiana Municipal Association,*

- One representative of Police Jury Association,
 - Two representatives, on a rotating basis, selected from the Louisiana chapters of: the American Planning Association, the American Society of Landscape Architects, the American Institute of Architects, the American Society of Civil Engineers,
 - One representative from the Louisiana GIS Council,
 - One representative from the Louisiana Housing Finance Authority,
 - One representative from the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority;
 - One representative from the Urban League, NAACP or other representative(s) of equity issues,
 - One representative of the Louisiana Landowners Association, Farm Bureau, or other of rural/agricultural interests,
 - One representative of the Louisiana Home Builders, Louisiana REALTORS, Associated General Contractors, or other development-industry interests,
 - One representative of the Louisiana Chemical Association, Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, or other business interests
 - One representative of the Ports Association of Louisiana,
 - One representative of the Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land or other conservation interests,
 - One representative, on a rotating basis, from an institution or system of higher education, and
 - One representative from Louisiana Speaks, Inc. and/or the Center for Planning Excellence; and
6. To have as its suggested mission: “The Louisiana State Coordinated Planning Commission will ensure that the Louisiana Office of Coordinated Planning works effectively to
- ‘Coordinate and add capacity to existing state agencies, regional planning, and local planning by favoring incentives over regulation’ (HCR 229),
 - Record, coordinate, and distribute plans and data at a statewide level,
 - Provide technical and direct support to assist local and regional jurisdictions in developing and implementing plans that both respond to local priorities and support state goals,
 - Provide a means to coordinate state plans and policies with broadly accepted statewide goals,
 - Develop benchmarks and criteria for evaluating progress towards state goals,
 - Support the three Louisiana Speaks goals: recover sustainably, grow smarter, and think regionally, and
 - Otherwise implement RS 39:21.”

II. Institutional Relationships of OCP

A. Relationships with Local Jurisdictions and Regional Planning Entities

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Office of Coordinated Planning should

1. Facilitate the funding and implementation of local, regional and state plans;
2. Provide incentives, through direct grant funding, to local communities in support of planning activities;
3. Evaluate local and regional plans for consistency with Louisiana Speaks Regional Plan and/or statewide goals;¹
4. Provide resources for regional planning entities to act as coordinators between municipal, parish, and regional plans;² and
5. Assess and analyze laws and other issues pertaining to land use (especially those applicable to coastal issues, redevelopment issues, transportation-oriented-development, and comprehensive planning) and recommending legislative or administrative reforms, as necessary.³

B. Relationship with Executive and Legislative Branches

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Office of Coordinated Planning should

1. Prepare and distribute an annual report on its activities to the state Legislature and otherwise establish communication mechanisms to educate the public on planning issues;
2. Coordinate and centralize of information exchange between state agencies and legislative committees, so as to ensure that all recommendations, appropriations, policies, and incentives having infrastructure or land-use implications are consistent with state goals;⁴
3. Provide information to state officials so that they will be able to make informed decisions;⁵
4. Participate in the scoring process conducted by DOA during the capital outlay process;⁶
5. Coordinate state budget priorities so that they support state goals; and
6. Establish a state Coordinating Cabinet Committee for purposes of program/policy coordination and information/data sharing, including high level representation potentially including, but not limited to the following (members deemed absolutely essential are marked with an asterisk):
 - o Deputy Commissioner for Coordinated Planning (chair)—Division of Administration*
 - o Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority*
 - o Department of Natural Resources*

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¹ This item is consistent with RS 39:21.3-4.

² Cf. RS 39:21.3 and .15.

³ Cf. RS 39:21.14.

⁴ Cf. RS 39:21.1-2, .9, and .11.

⁵ Cf. RS 39:21.7, .9, and .10.

⁶ Cf. RS 39:21.7, .9, and .11.

- Department of Transportation and Development*
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- Louisiana Economic Development*
- Legislative Liaison to the State Senate and State [House of Representatives](#)*
- Policy Advisor to the Office of the Governor*
- Department of Agriculture and Forestry
- Department of Education and/or the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education
- Department of Environmental Quality
- Department of Health and Hospitals
- Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
- Louisiana Bond Commission
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- Louisiana Recovery Authority *or its successor (including the State Hazard Mitigation Officer—Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness*)*
- Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism *(eg. Office of Historic Preservation)*

III. Core Functions of OCP

A. Data Management and Plan Recording

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Office of Coordinated Planning should

1. *Maintain and provide data (including up-to-date demographic data, GIS mapping, and forecasting) and existing planning (including state and local hazard mitigation plans, transportation plans, and others) to local, regional, and state entities for use during normal planning and policy-making cycles and during post-disaster recovery;⁷ and*
2. *Establish (in cooperation with LaGIC and other efforts) a GIS and data portal for use as a resource by local, regional, and state-agency planning.*

B. Technical Support, Best Practices, Education, and Outreach

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Office of Coordinated Planning should

1. *Provide technical assistance, education, outreach, and informational resources to local entities;⁸*
2. *Support the Model Development Code as a tool to implement local planning goals; and*

⁷ Cf. RS 39:21.5 and .8.

⁸ Cf. RS 39:21.4 and .14.

3. *Collaborate with universities and others to provide education and resources to local governments.*

C. Disaster Recovery

RECOMMENDATION:

The Office of Coordinated Planning should coordinate disaster recovery by functioning as repository for local mapping and demographic information and updated local hazard mitigation plans.⁹

D. Trust Funds

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Office of Coordinated Planning should

1. *Administer a new Community Reinvestment Trust Fund to support redevelopment and reinvestment in existing communities; and*
2. *Coordinate with DNR and CPRA in their roles as overseers and administrators of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Fund, and/or administer of a new and broader Conservation and Mitigation Trust Fund in coordination with other mitigation and restoration tools.*

E. State Planning

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Office of Coordinated Planning should

1. *Use the Louisiana Speaks Regional Plan as initial guiding resource for activities of OCP; and*
2. *Expand visioning and strategic planning efforts comparable to the Louisiana Speaks Regional Plan to include the entire state.*

⁹ Cf. RS 39:21.5 and .8.