



Long Term Community Recovery Program

Please complete the following four questions. A copy of the Parish Council or Police Jury Ordinance or Resolution approving the Parish Recovery Plan must be attached. Failure to attach the ordinance or resolution will result in the application being upheld until a certified ordinance or resolution is received.

- t.c.; EIVED

Parish: Washington

NOV 30 2007

Name of Submitting Official: M.E. "Toye" Taylor, Parish President

UUI-icifa

Recovery

AuthOrity

Contact information: Thomas Thiebaud, Washington Parish Director of Homeland Security (985) 839-0434

Date: 12/3/2007

1. Please provide details on the following elements of your recovery plan.

a) How does this plan address long term community recovery and rebuilding in the aftermath of the 2005 hurricanes?

The Plan outlines the priorities and the needs for Washington Parish recovery and rebuilding, in addition to future needs that relate to increased population growth. The Plan establishes a committee to set objectives and strategies for building Washington parish and its municipalities.

b) If all essential services are not restored, what measures does the recovery plan outline to restore essential services and associated infrastructure damaged by the storms?

All pre-storm essential services have been restored throughout Washington parish or are being worked on at this time. There are several essential services that are going through upgrading as a result of Hurricane Katrina. This includes building an animal shelter, the 911 Communications District office, and further repair of several fire stations.

c) How are future economic development and post-storm population changes addressed in this plan?

The Plan describes the needs that the Parish has for further economic development and for serving the increasing population. It is also important to know that the Washington Parish Planning Commission is now working on a Comprehensive Plan. This plan will play a role in preparing for population change, but is not expected to be completed until 2008. Also, the Parish is working with Bogalusa and Franklinton to market the business and industrial parks that they have available. The Plan also proposes a tourist marketing plan and new technical school training opportunities, which are being planned at this time.

The Plan is proposing that all emergency response prepared will be completed through a standardized, satellite driven radio system, that back-up generators will be purchased, and that a new communications district-homeland security office be built by the Parish. The Plan has also set up a long term recovery task force, whose role is to help prepare for disaster and recovery.

e) Describe the risk mitigating aspects of this plan?

Our 700 MHZ radio project is designed to mitigate the risk of again loosing communications in the future. By implementing this new system we will add a layer of redundancy to the parish capabilities. Our planning commission will assist with mitigation by directing where and how future growth takes place. The fire station construction and hardening projects will help to mitigate future damages to these structures caused by wind. Bogalusa and Franklinton water improvements would assist in mitigating well sites from both wind and high water risk.

ij Describe how this plan addresses the following five principles for recovery and rebuilding adopted by the

- LRA: i) Create infrastructure that supports recovery by restoring confidence, enhancing quality of life, and withstanding future disasters;
- ii) Promotes economic growth that benefits everyone;
- iii) Provides public services that enhance quality of life for everyone;
- iv) Pursues policies that promote a healthy environment and healthy people;
- v) Planning and design of communities that advances livability.

i) By planning and building up a better inter-communications system in Washington Parish, the parish will create greater public confidence in withstanding future disasters.

ii) It is believed that the parish planning involved with the Long Term Recovery Plan will benefit all groups of people in Washington Parish because the plan calls for projects in 1) economic development; 2) workforce and affordable housing; 3) new workforce training opportunities; 4) improved recreational opportunities; 5) public health; 6) human services; and 7) transportation.

iii) The public services that will enhance quality of life for parish citizens includes public transit planning, a housing assistance counseling program, a community center for the Varnado and Angie areas, recreational improvements, improvements to parish libraries, coordination of a mental health care network, and health care jobs training.

iv) The Plan promotes a healthy environment and healthy people by proposing improvements to the parish health units, creating a mental health care network, advocating development of the parish Comprehensive Plan, and improving upon outdoor recreational infrastructure.

v) The development of a parish-wide Comprehensive Plan, an on-going process at this time, is designed to foster smart growth, livable and green communities, and proper planning for growth. This plan is already funded and is being developed with an appointed citizens committee.

2. From the issues addressed in your plan, please provide a ranked list of top priority projects for your Parish recovery. Include a description of each project (attach additional sheets if necessary). If your parish has familiarity with the traditional CDBG program administered by the Office of Community Development, please highlight the projects in the plan that you believe to be CDBG eligible.

- Construct Hwy 3241 four lane access to St Tammany Parish
- Construction of a Central Office of Emergency Preparedness/Communications District building (CDBG eligible)
- Complete construction of the Parish Health Unit in Franklinton (CDBG eligible)
- Purchase of new portable radios for 700 MHz emergency response system
- Creation of a Housing and Credit Counseling Program for enhanced home ownership opportunities (CDBG eligible)
- Establish Health Care Training Center (CDBG eligible)
- Establish Florida Parishes Workforce Training Network (CDBG eligible)

3. Are any of the projects contained in this plan currently on the State of Louisiana capital outlay list or in line for funding from other local, state, federal, or private sources?

The Animal Shelter project included in this plan has been funded in large part by State Capital Outlay. A very small portion of the funding needed for construction of a central OEP building has been funded by State Capital Outlay. No other projects have secured funding from federal, state, local, or private sources.

4. Describe the process(es) that parish government utilized to garner community input and support in the creation of this plan. Please provide at a minimum 2.3 examples of community directed ideas and input that became part of the plan as submitted to the LRA. (Note: local governments must conform to the Office of Community Development's "Citizen Participation Requirements for Local Governments" for CDBG funding approval.)

The recovery planning process has been very open to the public and to the ideas from many sectors of the parish. A WashinQton Parish LonQ Term Recoverv Task Force was appointed in 2005, which engaged the public in many public forums. The Task Force included representatives from all communities in the Parish, alonQ with persons from private business, school boards, faith based groups, community organizations, and law enforcement aQencies, amonQ others. Activities of the committee were covered in front page stories in local newspapers. There was also a Louisiana Planning Day on January 21, 2006 in the Parish and many citizens were involved with the Louisiana Speaks planninQ program, the ideas of which are included in this Plan. During the Louisiana Planning Day, the participants were asked their preference for changes in Washington Parish. There was a overwhelming response to the development of better emergency preparedness, better health care, and for parish planning. All of the items have been incorporated in the Plan.

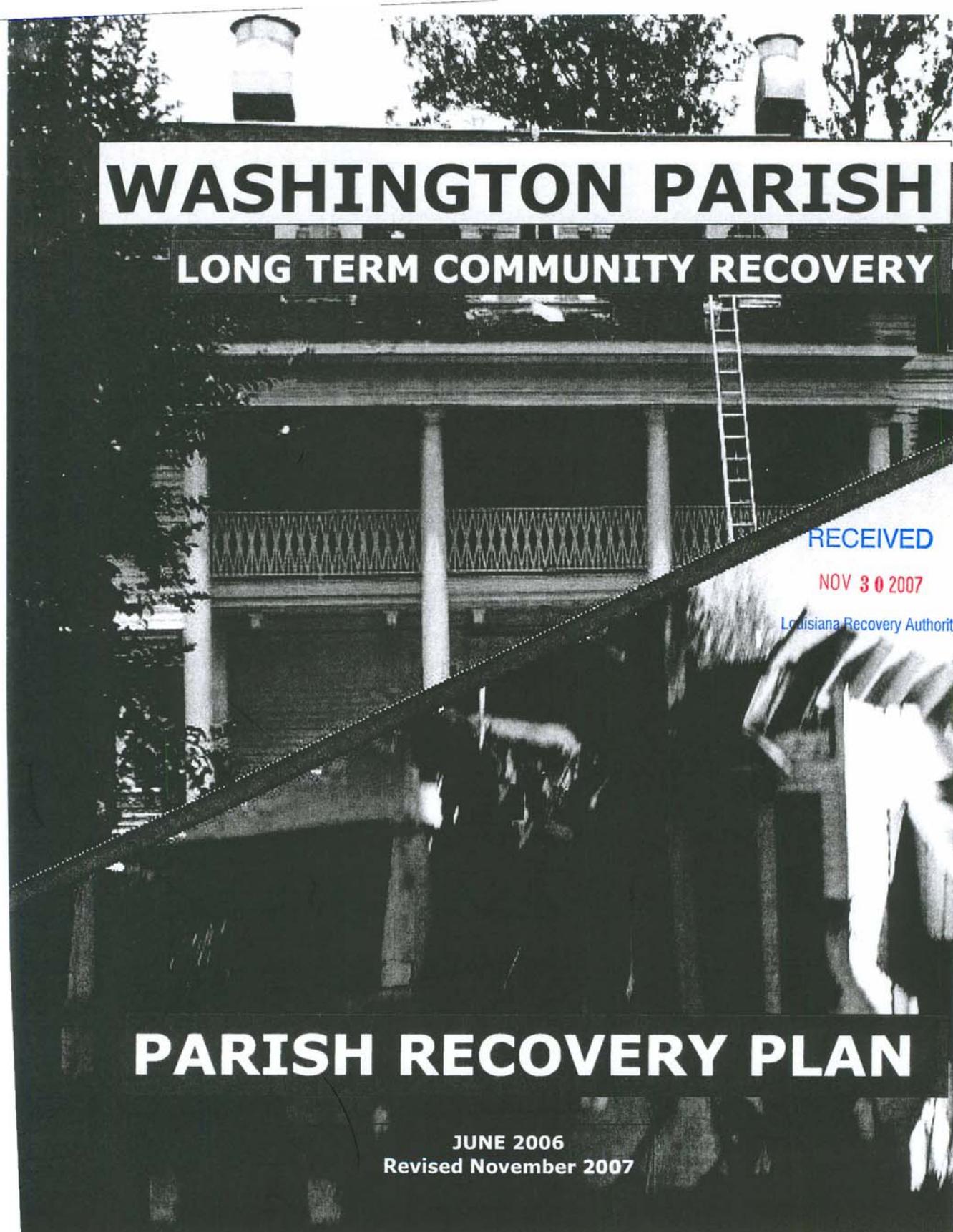
5. Describe the official process(es) that Parish government used to approve the plan as submitted (attach copy of Parish Council or Police Jury ordinance or resolution).

At the Parish Council's November 13th public meeting, the Council discussed the Plan, possible priorities, and opened the discussion to public comment. The Plan was posted on the Washington Parish web site for public review. Another public meeting, hosted by Thomas Thiebaud, was held prior to the Council Meeting of November 26, 2007, as advertised, which served to receive additional public input. A number of local residents attended the meeting to review the plan and the priorities before it was to be presented to the Council for adoption. The Parish Council adopted the Long Range Recovery Plan in open public session at their November 26th, 2007 meeting in the form of a resolution which included the Plan and a list of project priorities. (see attached resolution).

Please forward this form together with a certified copy of the Parish Council or Police Jury Resolution or Ordinance and the parish approved Recovery Plan to:

Louisiana Recovery Authority
Attn: L TCRP
150 Third Street, Suite 200
Baton Rouge, LA 70801

For more information or assistance contact Lynn Bankston at 225-342-1802.



WASHINGTON PARISH

LONG TERM COMMUNITY RECOVERY

RECEIVED

NOV 30 2007

Louisiana Recovery Authority

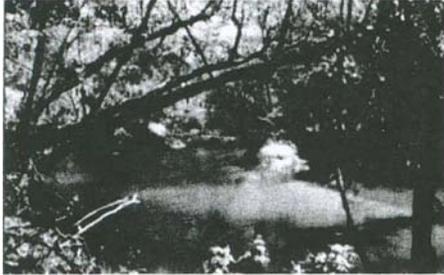
PARISH RECOVERY PLAN

JUNE 2006
Revised November 2007

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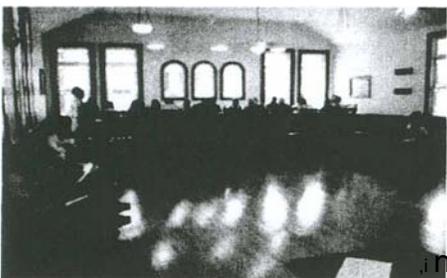
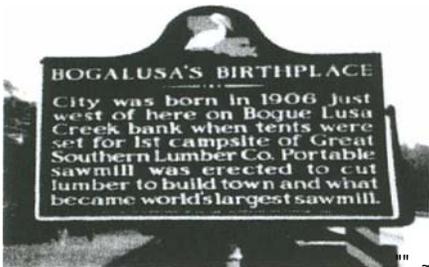
WASHINGTON PARISH: OUR EXCITING TOMORROW



Bounded on the east by the quiet southern waters of the Pearl River, on the west by the heartland of Louisiana and sitting just north of the clamoring world of the bustling north shore communities, Washington Parish is waking from a cold sleep brought by panoply difficulties. Years before Hurricane Katrina poured her 125 plus miles an hour wrath on us, the parish was struggling to find new breath. Some feared the devastation of the hurricane might bring about our last gasp for air, but it didn't. Rather, the winds, while terrifying our hearts and shattering our structures, are giving rise to that new breath for which we have longed. Since the storm the population increased, not radically but modestly and certainly. Businesses of all kinds are working hard to keep up with the demands of this new day. Many thought the insurgence in business would be short lived, but it is proving to have a greater life than many imagined.



In the middle of these stirrings, our small cities and rural woodlands retain a charm that cannot be understood until you spend a while here. Ours is a home town place; a place where names are known and histories shared. Faith runs deep in our communities and churches are pivotal in the dynamics of the parish. The people rise to the waving of our country's flag and send its young adults into military service with pride. Ours is not a plastic patriotism, but a real and honest one. In our small towns and woodlands the people are the focus. Men and women from every community and every walk of life come together in religious, civic, economic, and cultural groups to meet needs and determine our future.



We celebrate all these things, and more, while at the same time we believe a revitalization of Washington Parish is greatly needed, and now possible, if we join together in a spirit of grace and confidence.

THE TASK FORCE: A COMMUNITY AT WORK



Original ESF-14 Storefront, Franklinton, LA.

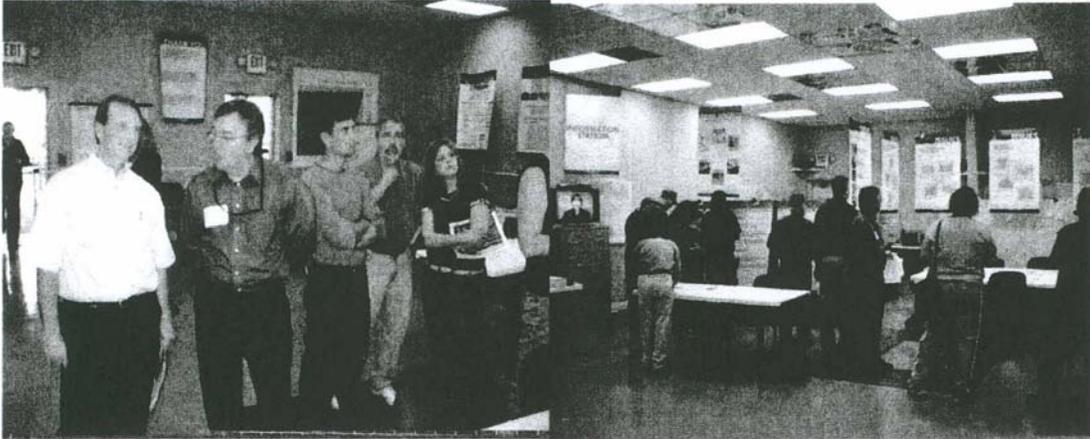
The Washington Parish Long Term Community Recovery (L TCR) Task Force is taking an aggressive approach to involving the local stakeholders in the longterm community recovery process. The Task Force is made up of representatives from the following areas: Washington Parish Government; the municipalities of Angie, Bogalusa, Franklinton, and Varnado; law enforcement agencies; school boards; private companies, agricultural, dairy, forestry and timber interests; local and regional nonprofit organizations; a citizen's group, community organizations, and faith-based groups. The Task Force members meet once a week to oversee the planning process and report back to their respective organizations.

The overall support from elected officials for the L TCR process has been outstanding, as demonstrated by the number of officials who have chosen to participate as members of the Task Force.

The issues and strategic recovery goals have been developed largely through the public participation process; including the scoping meeting, the government officials outreach meeting and Louisiana Planning Day on January 21, 2006. Local press coverage of L TCR planning in Washington Parish has been extensive, including two consecutive front-page headline stories in the *Bogalusa Daily News* and *Franklinton Era-Leader* Sunday Newspapers (Feb. 5 and Feb. 12). Both stories were highly favorable.

It is important to note that this Long Term Community Recovery Plan is not intended to be exhaustive, stating all the various efforts now under way to renew our parish. Many important things are not found here; things that need to be done. However, the goals and actions set forth here are meant as a starting place for this important task. This document will only be important if it 1) becomes reality, and 2) serves as a foundation for a greater work to follow. It is an exercise in futility to draw up plans that remain un-built. It is also of no use to build a foundation and never continue with the rest of the structure.

OUR RECOVERY VISION



It is our vision that Washington Parish facilitates an intensive program of economic and industrial development in an effort to create new job opportunities for our people. For those who live in this special place and have grown to love it, there is inner sense of this place beneath its exterior roads, houses, buildings, businesses, etc. We see used up roads, aging buildings, struggling businesses - but we know the parish is much more than these things. We know this is a place of belonging, of neighbors helping neighbors. Of pride in what we do together. We are not a cutting edge, glitzy parish, and we do not care to be. We know our neighbors, are familiar with our leaders, celebrate our home grown fairs and festivals, gather as bodies of believers in our churches, sorrow together in our funerals, and tell one another laughing stories about our odd peculiarities. We have no desire to be like someplace else, but to fully be this wonderful place called "Washington Parish."

One of the steps in developing the Washington Parish Long-Term Recovery Plan was an invitation for our parish residence to identify the qualities they believe should mark the parish. The citizens see their future as a community that:

- . Takes pride in its beauty and heritage
- . Provides economic opportunities for all its residents .
- Provides a quality education for its children
- . Respects historic buildings, places and forested areas .
- Development remains constant with rural lifestyle
- . Promotes the agricultural and timber industries
- . Provides quality health care to all its residents

OUR RECOVERY VISION (continued)

- . Offers expanded facilities for its senior citizens
- . Is a safe community that features governments agencies that are responsive to its citizens, especially in emergencies
- . Revitalizes its neighborhoods and offers quality affordable housing
- . Strives to remain attractive to tourists
- . Provides outdoor amenities and access for parish residents
- . Has modern, safe highways that will spur economic development while offering evacuation routes for all

HURRICANE KATRINA: A DEVASTATING STORM

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina struck Washington Parish, Louisiana as a strong Category 4 storm. Katrina's eye traveled on a northerly path through neighboring Mississippi from the Gulf Coast region towards Jackson; this brought the center of the eye to within 20 miles of Bogalusa, Washington Parish's largest city. The storm's western eye wall traveled across our parish.

Residents and businesses began losing electrical power, water, telephone, cable television and internet service early that morning. Gale force winds were experienced in the parish by mid-morning. Hurricane force winds lasted eight hours, with peak gusts recorded at 127 mph at Bogalusa. Tornadoes were reported throughout the parish, bringing further damage to homes, businesses, and extensive damage to the region's timber industry. Hurricane conditions subsided approximately twelve hours after the storm arrived.

A small percentage of the population voluntarily evacuated before the storm. There was a limited mandatory evacuation for those who lived in mobile trailers mandated by the parish. In the aftermath of the storm many fled the area as there was no electricity, phones or basic necessities due to extensive damage. All forms of communications, except for amateur ham radio and citizens band (CB), were out for weeks. Some power outages lasted up to 60 days. The early immediate aftermath created critical situations for medical facilities and emergency personnel operating from short-term generators that eventually ran out of fuel. More than 100 nursing home residents from outside the parish were evacuated to shelters in parish schools. These shelters turned out to be ill-prepared and inadequate in terms of medical and treatment facilities.

To date, more than 22,000 parish residents, over one-half of the population, have registered for federal assistance. 2,200 citizens registered from out of state. 66% of residential, commercial, and agricultural properties in Washington Parish received major damage, with over 10 percent of the residences being totally destroyed, the majority of which are in low-income areas.

HURRICAN DAMAGE: THE PARTICULARS

The damage Washington Parish sustained was due to wind, tornadoes, and the subsequent falling of trees. Some specific effects of the storm are:

Economic and Workforce Development

- . Sales tax receipts for August and September 2005, dipped by over \$547,000 from the year previous. In October and November, tax collected was up by \$751,000, reflecting to some extent the increase in population from evacuees.
- . Job loss is estimated at 1,500, which pushed the unemployment rate to 17.2 percent from 7.2 percent.
- . Timber losses are estimated to be \$146.9 million, the second largest loss in the state due to the storm.
- . Dairy losses are estimated to be \$8.2 million, and livestock losses are \$1.8 million.

Environmental Management

- . Fallen trees and other debris blocked roads and drainage network throughout the parish.

Human Services

- . Almost all the school buildings owned by the Washington Parish School System sustained some damage; 4 were severely damaged. All buildings have roof damage. Some textbooks were destroyed. Losses ran to \$2 million. The system reports that 250 new students were enrolled
- . Bogalusa Schools report that 99 new students were enrolled
- . Louisiana State University HSC - Bogalusa Medical Center sustained some damage: water in the building; lost some bricks. Essential services were knocked out as there was no power or generators. Repairs estimated to cost \$1 million
- . There was a lack of shelters, particularly for evacuated nursing home patients
- . Seven Acres Substance Abuse Center closed due to hurricane damage

Transportation and Infrastructure

- . Evacuation routes proved inadequate
- . Since the storm, traffic has increased substantially throughout the parish due in part to refugees and new residents. Traffic is up by between 13 percent - 40 percent in the west, while the Bogalusa area in the east showed an astonishing 71 percent increase

HURRICAN DAMAGE: THE PARTICULARS (continued)

- . Washington/St. Tammany Electric Cooperative (WST) had 1,967 miles of power lines down.
- CLECO and Entergy lost all lines
- . BellSouth replaced 57 miles of telephone cable
- . Charter Communications repaired 500 miles of cable
- . Communications for First Responders was limited to radio

Housing and Community Development

- . 66% of homes and businesses sustained significant damage while 15% of homes and businesses were destroyed
- . An undetermined number of houses in the Parish had minimal insurance, if any
- . Utility companies report 215 new residential hookups n~t of disconnects since the storm, a 15 percent increase

LONG TERM RECOVERY PLAN: AN OVERVIEW

The Long Term Recovery Plan is developed in eight general areas. Each of these areas has specific projects, some more developed than others, that will strengthen the recovery and growth of the parish. It is understood that no one of the categories, nor even any particular project, stands alone. Each affects the strength or weakness of the others. Each of the areas identifies Project Participant Champions, Funding Requested, an assigned Recovery Value, Project Scope and Project Purpose.

The general areas are:

Emergency Preparedness

The projects in this area are of utmost importance to Washington Parish to minimize the amount of damage and suffering in future disasters.

- . Assist in acquiring (17) 200kw Generators to maintain sewer and water systems, as well as other critical parish facilities
- . Assist in acquiring upgraded emergency communication facilities
- . Create Parish-wide Emergency Broadcast System'
- . Construct a combined Emergency Operations/9-1-1/Multi-Agency Communications Center to provide the ability to direct and control resources throughout Washington Parish.

Economic Development

The projects in this area are to supplement an intensive program of economic and industrial development in an effort to create new job opportunities for the people of Washington Parish.

- . Pay attention to and support agricultural and timber industry
- . Attract higher paying jobs to the parish
- . Help replace displaced workforce
- . Zero-interest loans to help reopen businesses
- . Provide technical training appropriate to workforce and recovery needs

Housing and Community Development

We want to create affordable housing for the citizens of Washington Parish in communities that are safe, hospitable, and foster a positive environment conducive to family values.

- . Control potential rapid, non-conforming growth through zoning and planning . Assess cost/benefit of repairing houses vs. rebuilding
- . Address health and safety risk of damaged homes
- . Affordable housing other than trailers
- . Downtown beautification/renovation - protect historical buildings

Human Services

This area provides a cohesive and comprehensive support structure for the citizens by providing services necessary for their improved well being.

- . Promote the parish public welfare
- . Improve emergency response for the elderly
- . Build family oriented activity center
- . Build animal shelter

LONG TERM RECOVERY PLAN: AN OVERVIEW (continued)

Education

This area seeks to foster a positive learning environment by using the latest technology to give our students the best possible chance to succeed in life's endeavors.

- . Evaluate school systems

Public Safety

This area seeks to provide and upgrade the network of units and services tasked with protecting the welfare of the citizens of Washington Parish.

- . Increase presence of law enforcement officers
- . Improve evacuation facilities, especially for special needs people

Transportation and Infrastructure

Transportation and infrastructure directly support economic growth, quality of life and a better physical environment. Washington Parish and its incorporated areas will have improved transportation services, safe roads that connect people and places, and an infrastructure that is modern and has a capacity for future growth and the continued well being of our citizens.

- . Improve transportation capacity for evacuation and economic development, linking to Interstate highways in neighboring parishes . Widen rights-of-way to reduce potential tree damage during storms . Build up and repair infrastructure utilities, emergency systems, roads and schools
- . Improve coordination between government entities

Public Health and Healthcare

This area seeks to facilitate an upgrade in the quality of care and the opportunities available for quality employment for the citizens of the parish.

- . Provide parish residents with quality health care
- . Provide parish residents with quality mental health care
- . Complete construction of the Health Unit in Franklinton

Environmental Management

- . Remove debris from watershed that could impede drainage
- . Protect air and water quality
- . Replace lost forestry with storm-resistant trees of appropriate species

THE PROCESS USED TO DETERMINE PROJECTS

The process of determining the projects to become part of this Parish Recovery Plan came from:

- . Community Needs Assessment
- Public Outreach
- Long Term Community Recovery Task Force

We asked the project champions for any and all information relevant to the projects requested, and the information was submitted to us. We then created summaries for use in this report.

The projects contained here are a comprehensive list, in various stages of design and execution. Information on funding is also included, if known.

Where applicable, we have also included much of the original material to attempt to answer as many questions as possible.

The projects were submitted and scored using the system implemented by the Louisiana Recovery Authority. The scoring system is as follows:

A score of **2.2 and above** indicated a High Value Recovery Project

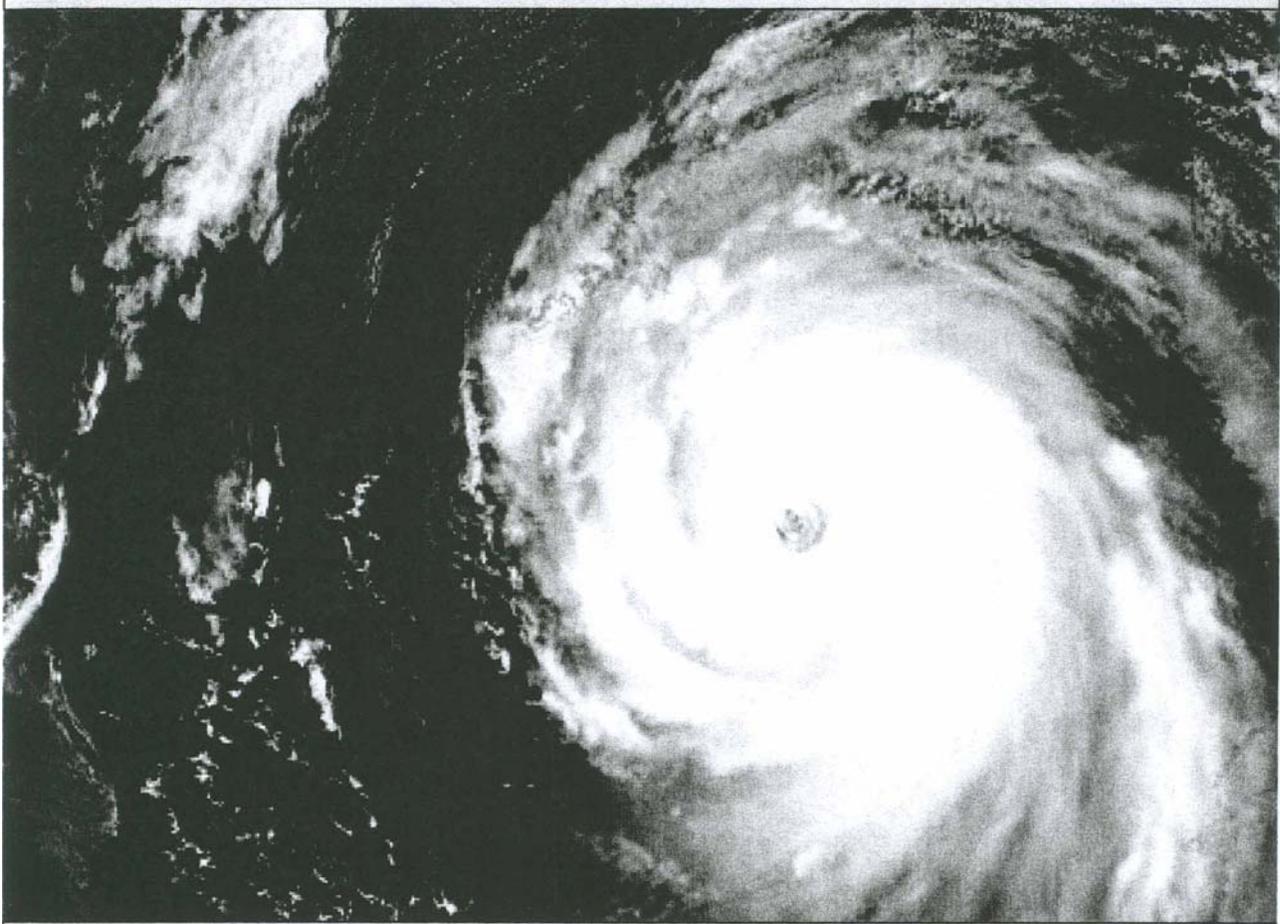
A score of **1.9 to 2.19** indicates a Medium Value Recovery Project

A score of **1.5 to 1.89** indicates a Low Value Recovery Project

Any projects **below 1.49** are considered Community Interest Projects

This plan has created a list of projects Washington Parish can look to for guidance in determining the future of this Parish.

The projects listed are of the utmost importance to Washington Parish to minimize the amount of damage and suffering in future disasters.



- Combined Emergency Operations Center, Multi-Agency, Communications Center
- 700 mhz Radio System



Combined Emergency Operations/9-1 1/Multi-Agency Communications Center

Project Participant Champions:

Funding Requested:

Partners:

Louisiana State Police; Washington Parish
President M.E. "Toye" Taylor 909 Pearl Street
Franklinton, LA 70438 (985) 839-7829 fax: (985)
839-7827 ttaylor@wpgov.org; **Stakeholders:**

Local police, fire departments, sheriff's office,
EMS, emergency management, 9-1-1 personnel
and communities of Washington Parish; Mayor
John Dawsey, Village of Angie, (985) 986-2440
fax: (985) 986-2889 angiela@i-55.com; Sand'y
Bloom, Director of Personnel, City of Bogalusa, P.
O. Box 1179 Bogalusa, LA 70429, sbloom@i-55.com; Mayor Earle R. Brown, Town of
Franklinton, (985) 839-3560 fax: (985) 839-3552
faveboyd@townoffranklinton.com; Mayor Paris
C. Sumrall, Village of Varnado, (985) 732-4217
fax: (985) 986-5515 pariscs@netzero.com

Local Champions:

James Coleman, Communications Chairman WP
911 (985) 839-5625, e-mail
Wpcde911@itsfast.net;
Tommy Thiebaud, Washington Parish OHSEP
Director (985) 839-0434 tthiebaud@wpgov.org

Louisiana Capital Appropriations \$
7,800,000.00 **Possible**

FEMA- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
HMGP, Pre Disaster Mitigation, Floodshare
Mitigation Asst
\$710,000.00 **Possible**

USDA Rural Development Loan/Grant
\$500,000.00 **Possible**

RECOVERY VALUE: 2.3

Appears in the Louisiana SDeaks Plan

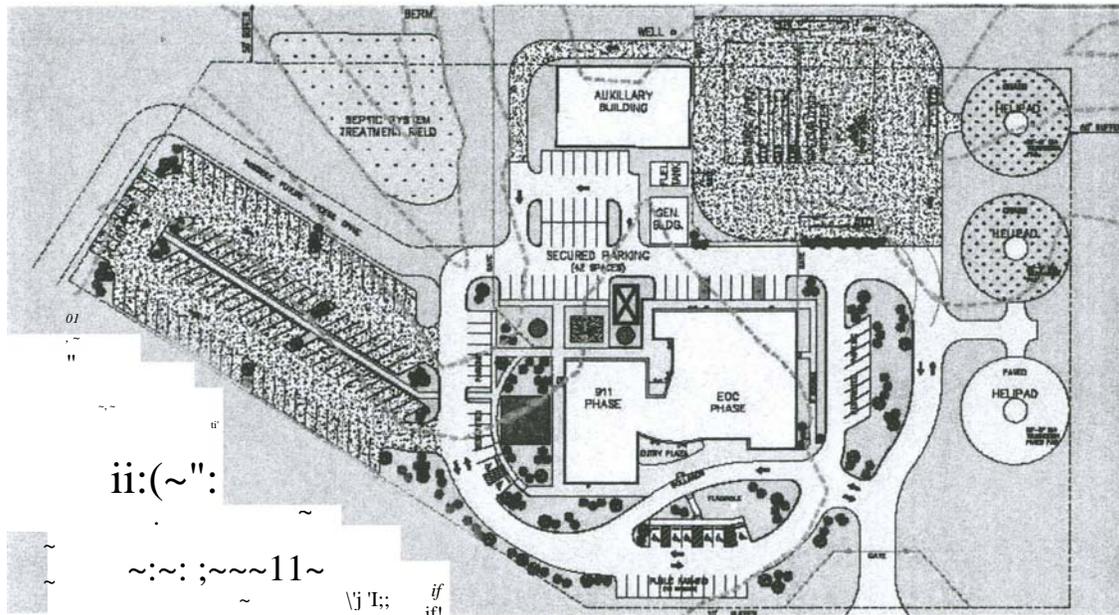
Project Scope:

Current Washington Parish Emergency Operations Center proved to be inadequate during and immediately after Hurricane Katrina. The current EOC is located southwest of the City of Bogalusa in the District 7 fire station, which was shown to be ill-suited to accommodate Parishwide emergency operations, and was rendered inaccessible due to debris and with no incoming or outgoing communications during Hurricane Katrina.

Washington Parish requests funding to build a state-of-the-art 20,000 sq. ft. building on an nine acre site to house a combined Emergency Operations/9-1-1/Multi-Agency Communications Center to provide the ability to direct and control resources throughout Washington Parish.

Project Purpose:

The improved building and equipment will allow the automation of processes and methodologies, assign and track tasks, and efficiently communicate real-time emergency management information for the citizens of Washington Parish. The proposed site is centrally located, thus providing a secure location for command and control support of regional emergencies, while being away from heavily traveled interstate highways and metropolitan population centers. The proposed facility will have the capability of supporting multiple parishes. During times of normal operations, parish wide agencies including law enforcement, fire, and EMS will utilize the facilities for their dispatch functions. All incoming 911 calls from the parish will be answered at this facility. The facility will be available for planning and training functions for all agencies and volunteer groups including ARES, RACES, and Citizen Corps.



Project Progress:

Subsequent to Hurricane Katrina, the Washington Parish Communications District secured a nine acre land parcel, appropriately located at the geographic center of the parish, to be used as the site for the proposed project. In addition, architectural programming has been completed to the preliminary building and site layout stage.

A capital appropriations approval (Project 50-J59) by the Louisiana bond commission in the form of a cash letter of credit for \$ 500,000 will allow additional progress to be made on this project during the 2007 fiscal year.

INSTALL 700 MHZ RADIO EQUIPMENT

Project Participant Champions:

Partners:

Louisiana State Police; Washington Parish
President M.E. "Toye" Taylor 909 Pearl Street
Franklinton, LA 70438 (985) 839-7829 fax: (985)
839-7827 ttaylor@wpgov.org; **Stakeholders:**

Local police, fire departments, sheriff's office,
EMS, emergency management, 9-1-1 personnel
and communities of Washington Parish; Mayor
John Dawsey, Village of Angie, (985) 986-2440
fax: (985) 986-2889 angiela@i-55.com; Sandy
Bloom, Director of Personnel, City of Bogalusa, P.
O. Box 1179 Bogalusa, LA 70429, sbloom@i-
55.com; Mayor Earle R. Brown, Town of
Franklinton, (985) 839-3560 fax: (985) 839-3552
fayeboyd@townoffranklinton.com; Mayor Paris C.
Sumrall, Village of Varnado, (985) 732-4217 fax:
(985) 986-5515 pariscs@netzero.com

Local Champions:

James Coleman, Communications Chairman WP
911 (985) 839-5625 e-mail Wpcde911@itsfast.net;

Tommy Thiebaud, Washington Parish OHSEP
Director (985) 839-0434 tthiebaud@wpgov.org

Funding Requested:

DHS HMGP; Homeland Security
\$2,236,000.00 Possible

RECOVERY VALUE: 2.2

Project Scope:

Establish a new interoperable communication system for Homeland Security, Emergency Preparedness and all First Responders (law enforcement, fire, EMS, public works, etc.) within 12 months. To complete the 700 MHZ Communications System and to provide more up-to-date and a more reliable service for Washington Parish.

Washington Parish needs the radios to complete the system: 584
Portables; 325 Mobiles; and 11 Consoles.

Project Purpose:

During and for three months after Hurricane Katrina, Washington Parish's only forms of communication with the State Office of Emergency Preparedness or anyone else was with HAM, CB radios, and sending National Guard personnel via wheeled vehicles, (a runner), from Washington Parish to the State Office located in Baton Rouge. The network is in place (provided by FEMA), and only the equipment is required to complete the 700 MHZ

I Communications System to provide a more reliable service for Washington Parish citizens.

Project Update

A combination of grants received by the Franklinton Police Department, the Washington Parish Office of Homeland Security, and the Washington Parish Sheriffs Office have led to the purchase of some \$900,000.00 in radios.

Radios Purchased	Radios Needed
Portables 240	Portables 344
Mobiles 107	Mobiles 218
Consoles 10	Consoles 1

The funds needed to complete the project are \$1.11 million.

ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The projects listed here are to supplement an intensive program of economic and industrial development in an effort to create new job opportunities for the people of Washington Parish.



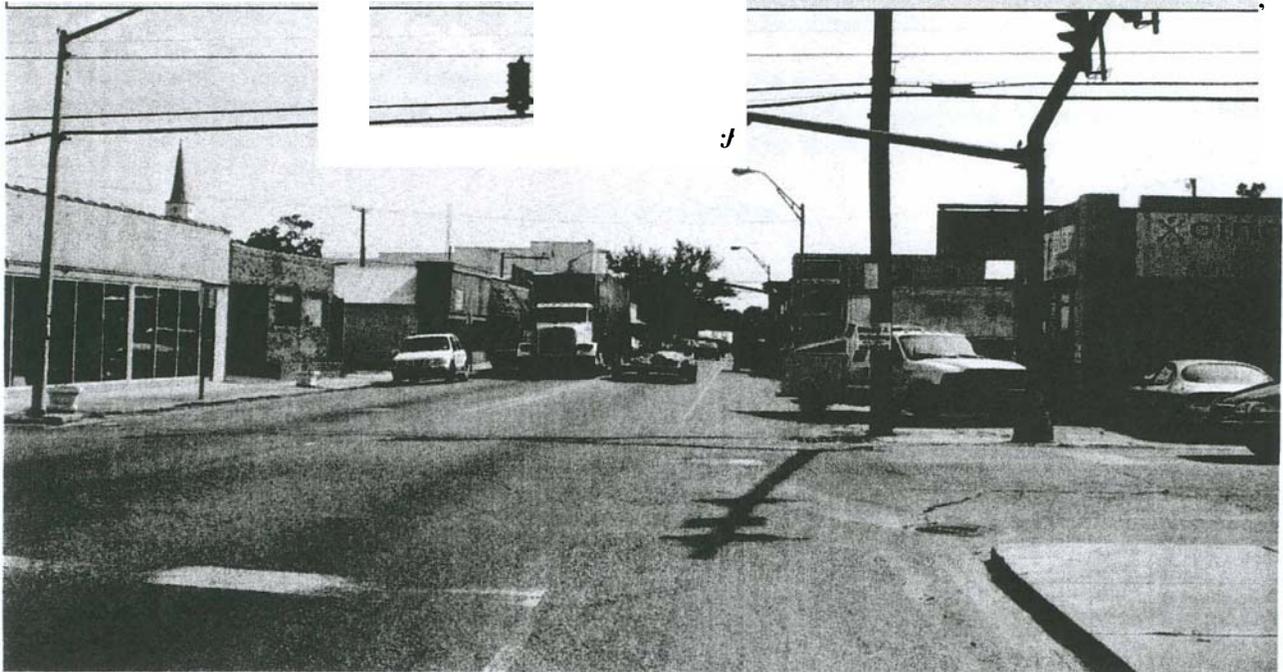
. Flgri(lil.Parishes Workforce, Training

Example of a project in the area of workforce development and training.

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. Bogalusa Economic Development Marketing Program



ESTABLISH FLORIDA PARISHES WORKFORCE TRAINING NETWORK

Project Participant Champions:

Partners Louisiana Technical College Sullivan Campus; Louisiana Technical College - Hammond Campus; Louisiana One Stops in St. Tammany, Tangipahoa and Washington Parishes; National Center for Construction Education and Research; and the National Electrical Contractors Association

Stakeholders Northshore residential construction companies and contractors; St. Tammany Home Builders Association (including members from Washington Parish); Tangipahoa Home Builders Association; Local Workforce Investment Boards LWIA#20 and LWIA#10; Washington Economic Development Foundation (WEDF); Franklinton Area EDF; St. Tammany EDF; Tangipahoa EDF; Northshore Chapter of the National Association of Women in Construction; Louisiana Workforce Commission; Plumbers and Steam Fitters Local 60; Electrical Workers Local 1077, National Electrical Contractors Association; Louisiana Heat Pump Association - S.E. Chapter

Local Champion:

Mickey Murphy, Executive Director of Louisiana Technical College-Sullivan Campus, 985.732.6640

Funding Requested:

State Dept. of Labor WIA-\$500,000.00

Non-Profit Tangipahoa HBA-\$10,000.00

State Department of Labor H1B-\$1.4 Million

RECOVERY SCORE: 2.1

Appears in Louisiana SDeaks Plan

Project Scope:

The scope of this project is to address employer needs on the Northshore Region of southeast Louisiana for a skilled workforce in the construction industry. Training will be offered in residential construction, residential wiring, HVAC, plumbing, construction quality control and survey technology. Training goals include the training and certification of 300 entry level employees and 150 advanced students in 3 years.

Curriculums used in developing workforce skills include certified training programs through the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER), Louisiana Technical College

(next page, please)

and the National Electrical Contractors Association. Certified training offered through the NCCER curriculum will include core construction skills, Residential Carpentry, HVAC, plumbing, and Residential Electrical. Training offered through the Louisiana Technical College Curriculum will include Construction Quality Control and survey technology. Unlike St. Tammany and Tangipahoa Parishes, Washington Parish will use the apprentice curriculum developed by the National Electrical Contractors Association to expand the number of licensed residential electricians.

Project Purpose:

Current job vacancies listed by the Louisiana Department of Labor for home construction, residential wiring, HVAC and plumbing number 136 on the Northshore. Over 190 vacancies in these occupations exist in Business Area 1 of southeast Louisiana (excluding St. Tammany Parish). According to the Louisiana Occupational Forecasting Conference, the post-hurricane incremental demand for Construction workers includes 6100 Construction laborers, 3300 plumbers, pipe fitters and steamfitters; 2800 electricians; 3500 carpenters; 4000 "helpers" for the various trades; 1500 first-line Construction trades Supervisors; 4500 heavy equipment operators and tractor trailer drivers. We anticipate that many of these skilled workers trained through this project will not only address the needs of the Northshore, but additional disaster areas, as well.

WASHINGTON PARISH TOURISM MARKETING

Project Participant Champions:

Local Champions:

Kathi Mayor, Washington Parish
Tourism Commission, (985) 839-5228

Funding Requested:

State Tourism Grant: \$350,000.00 (applied for)

RECOVERY SCORE: 1.7

Project Scope:

Obtain funding to create a strategic marketing plan for Washington Parish Tourism and ultimately, administer the marketing plan around Southeast Louisiana and Mississippi.

Project Purpose:

Washington Parish averages over 150,000 visitors annually, and this has been increasing for the last 4 years. Hurricane Katrina has created a void in the ability of the parish to communicate to the rest of the region that the attractions are back operational, or will be very soon. This Strategic Marketing Plan to include the plan of action necessary for Washington Parish to support a long term marketing plan with a 5 to 10 year lifespan, for a nominal cost of \$50,000.00. If the plan was completely funded, it would also implement an advertising campaign for one 6-month cycle to include:

- o Radio advertising
- o Print advertising in newspapers and magazines o
Billboards
- o Internet (website re-design, permanent change) o Flyers
- o Television Commercials

This marketing plan will also include individual attraction funding to these attractions:

- o Mile Branch Settlement
- o Varnado Country Store Museum o
Native American Museum
- o Pioneer Museum

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MARKETING PLAN - BOGALUSA

Project Participant Champions:

Funding Requested:

Partners:

Ryan Seal - Washington Economic Development Foundation (WEDF) Executive Director, 985.735.7565;

Marilyn Bateman - Bogalusa Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, 985.735.5731

\$65,000.00 first year (secured)

Local Champion:

Mayor Mack McGehee, City of Bogalusa
985.732.6200, 202 Arkansas Bogalusa, LA 70427;

Larry Miller, Bogalusa Main Street Manager,
985.732.4018;

Sandy Bloom, Director of Personnel, City of Bogalusa, P. O. Box 1179 Bogalusa ,LA 70429

RECOVERY SCORE: 1.6

Project Scope:

Sides and Associates of Lafayette, LA, has been commissioned to develop an Economic Development Marketing Plan for the City of Bogalusa. The plan is focused on developing a comprehensive strategy and implementation plan for marketing Bogalusa as a good place to locate a business.

Project Purpose:

This plan, once implemented, will bring economic development to Bogalusa and the Industrial Park. This will provide jobs and opportunities for local residents and instill pride in the community. The long-term benefit is to diversify the economy of Bogalusa and provide jobs for citizens, thus fueling the economy to transform the community.

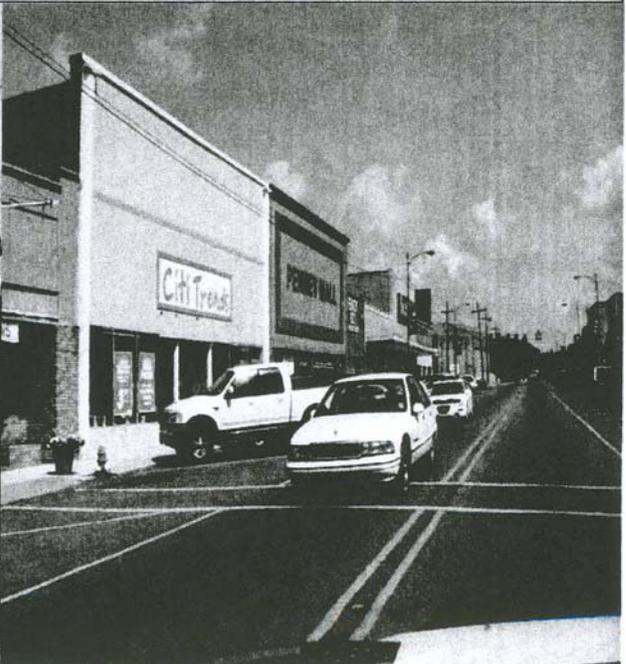
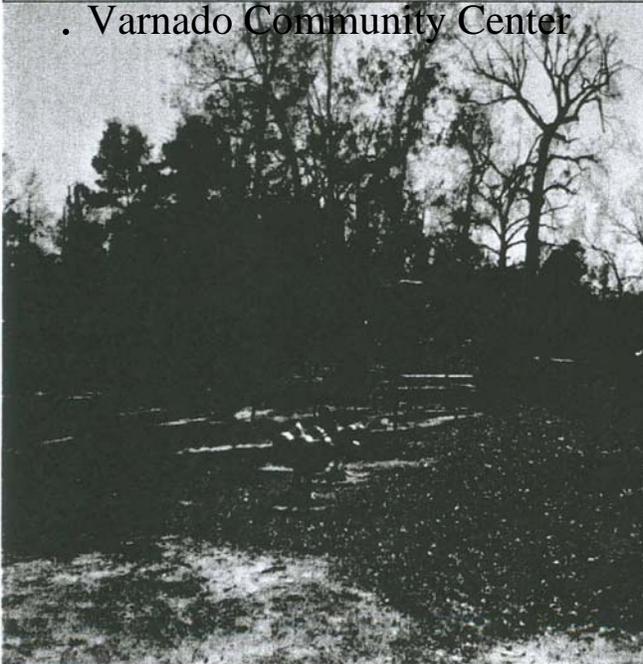
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RE-DEVELOPMENT

We want to create affordable housing for the citizens of Washington Parish in communities that are safe, hospitable, and foster a positive environment conducive to family values.



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- Pari~hPI~nning" Department
- Varnado Community Center

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CONSTRUCT AND RENOVATE AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Project Participant Champions:

Partners:
Washington Habitat for Humanity (the
Affiliate/WHFH)
Washington Emergency Relief Ongoing Cadre
(WE-ROC)
Triangle of Hope Ministries (TOHM)
Local Champion:
Steven Orr, Executive Director Washington
Habitat for Humanity, 913.522.9000

Funding Requested:

Habitat For Humanity:
New Construction Annual Budget: \$8,445,000
Total 3-Year Funding Request: \$25,335,000

Triangle of Hope Ministries:
Repair and Reconstruction Annual Budget:
\$1,480,000 Total 3-Year Funding Request:
\$4,440,000

RECOVERY SCORE: 2.1

Appears in Louisiana SDeaks Plan .

Project Scope:

To address the housing needs of families who:

- o Live or lived in Washington Parish and were affected by the storms Katrina and Rita
- o Had homes were significantly damaged or destroyed
- o Qualify for assistance thru the criteria outlined by fund sources, Washington Parish Unmet Needs Committee, and/or as low income thru HUD requirements.

Champion's Objective Collaboration:

Triangle of Hope Ministries shall focus on repair and re-construction of damaged homes. Washington Habitat for Humanity shall focus on building new homes for storm-affected families. New homeownership will be based on WHFH, HFHI, & HUD standards and criteria of need, willingness to partner with Habitat and the ability to repay a no profit, no interest mortgage. Encouraging and supporting initiatives that allow increased sustainable capacity in the community served. Cooperating with local and remote groups whose mandate overlaps, in-order to build more homes in new and broader collaborative ways. Re-construction / restoration of homes of un-insured or under-insured to pre-storm condition, and other small projects as directed by funding source requirements, ie. Handicapped ramps, clean up, roof repair. Develop a model frame work-in WE-ROC for case management of best practices to maximize responsiveness to individual needs.

Project Purpose:

WHFH and the TOHM shall mutually collaborate on the repair and construction of houses for hurricane affected families and all associated activities to enhance the overall strategic plan developed by the Washington Parish Unmet Needs Committee. Using a single source of case management to identify need, qualify participants, eliminate duplication of effort, and maximize cost effectiveness.

Please consult Appendix 2-A for original proposal.

BUILD HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CAPACITY

Project Participant Champions:

Funding Requested:

Partners:

Washington Habitat for Humanity (the Affiliate)jWHFH)
Washington Emergency Relief Ongoing Cadre (WE-ROC)
Triangle of Hope Ministries (TOHM)
Neighborhood Housing Services, New Orleans
Neighborworks
City of Bogalusa

Local Champion: Sandy Bloom

Director of Personnel, City of Bogalusa

Phase 1

\$50K for 2 years of homeowner counseling and training to create pool of eligible homebuyers

Phase 2

Complete a housing needs assessment. Develop a comprehensive housing plan. Establish a coalition of organizations promoting home ownership for working people.

Expand approach to housing to a regional scale.

RECOVERY SCORE: 2.1

Appears in Louisiana SDeaks Plan

Moderately priced housing is one of the attractive qualities of our parish, especially for young families and retirees. Increasing this commodity will support the growth of our parish. Inadequate and substandard housing is one of the detriments. It is our goal to be a parish filled with a wide range of choices in housing, with a predominance of that housing being for middle income families. It is also our goal to have adequate, safe housing available for all members of our community. In addition, our neighbors to the south, St. Tammany Parish, is rapidly becoming too expensive for many working families to purchase homes. Washington Parish is an attractive place for many of those families to live. In order to address the current and future housing issues, a comprehensive plan is needed.

Project Purpose:

The purpose of this project is to assess and improve the housing stock in Washington Parish and increase the number of homeowners by providing counseling and homebuyer training. Triangle of Hope Ministries, Washington Habitat for Humanity and WEROC (Washington Emergency Recovery Ongoing Cadre) are active in building and repairing homes already. Neighborhood Housing Service from New Orleans is affiliated with Neighborworks and is actively working to expand their service to the North Shore. Discussions are being held with the housing coalition in St. Tammany Parish to find ways to cooperate for a more effective organization. The end state is to create homes and communities which citizens can be proud to call home.

HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Project Participant Champions:

Funding Requested:

Stakeholders:

Washington Emergency Recovery Ongoing
Cadre (WEROC);
Community Development Corporations

N/A

RECOVERY SCORE: 1.4

Appears in the Louisiana 5Deaks Plan

Project Scope:

Create a scope of work for new and repaired housing in Washington Parish. The Needs Assessment will communicate with city and parish entities to create a unified plan and timeline for restoring parish housing. Create Community Development Corporations to ensure the long-term viability of the neighborhoods and communities restored under this plan.

Project Purpose:

The entities re-building the housing stock in Washington Parish need a scope of work for areas to concentrate on for reconstruction efforts. The end state is to create homes and communities which citizens can be proud to call home.

SUSTAIN PARISH PLANNING COMMISSION

Project Participant Champions:

Local Champions:
Dr. Gerald Foret, Chairman, Washington
Parish Planning Commission

Funding Requested:

\$20,000.00 **Annual Budget**

RECOVERY SCORE: 2.0

Project Scope:

Sustain the Washington Parish Planning Commission by providing necessary staff to assist in the daily operations related to the Planning Commission.

Project' Purpose:

The Washington Parish Planning Commission is a legal entity created by the Washington Parish Council under authority of appropriate State of Louisiana Statute.

Its mission is:

- 1) To establish standards and guidelines for the orderly development of the unincorporated areas of the parish in order to promote the safety, comfort, health and economic well being of its citizens.
- 2) To preserve and enhance the beauty of our area and natural resources through appropriate land use.
- 3) To encourage and assist economic development and growth through cooperation and planning with new and existing entities to include but not limited to the following categories: industrial, farming, forest management, retail and wholesale establishments, education, health care, tourism, etc.
- 4) To communicate with other jurisdictions in our area in order to coordinate our efforts to reach our common goals.

ESTABLISH ANGIE AND VARNADO COMMUNITY CENTER

Project Participant Champions:

Partners:

Mary Chapel U.M.C
Mount Zion B.C
New Zion B.C
Washington Parish Government

Funding Requested:

Private Donations \$1,000.00 per month

Stakeholders:

Citizens of Varnado and Washington Parish

Local Champions:

William and Ella Foster
63342 Hwy 438, Angie, La 70426
985.750.4118, ellamfoster@aol.com.

RECOVERY VALUE: 1.9

Project Scope:

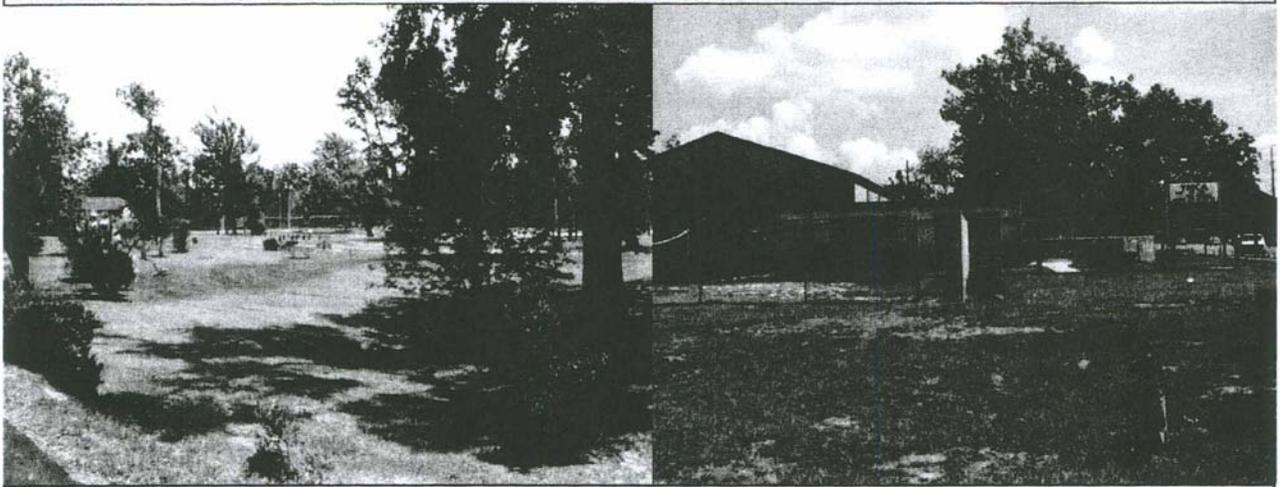
First to provide after school and summer recreation programs for Varnado children. Secondly to renovate an existing 800 square foot building at 64300 Recreation Center Rd. (phone number 985.732.7334) in Varnado, LA, and expand the facility to 2,500 square feet to provide a multi-function facility for children's recreation and meeting space with an estimated cost of about \$100,000.00.

Project Purpose:

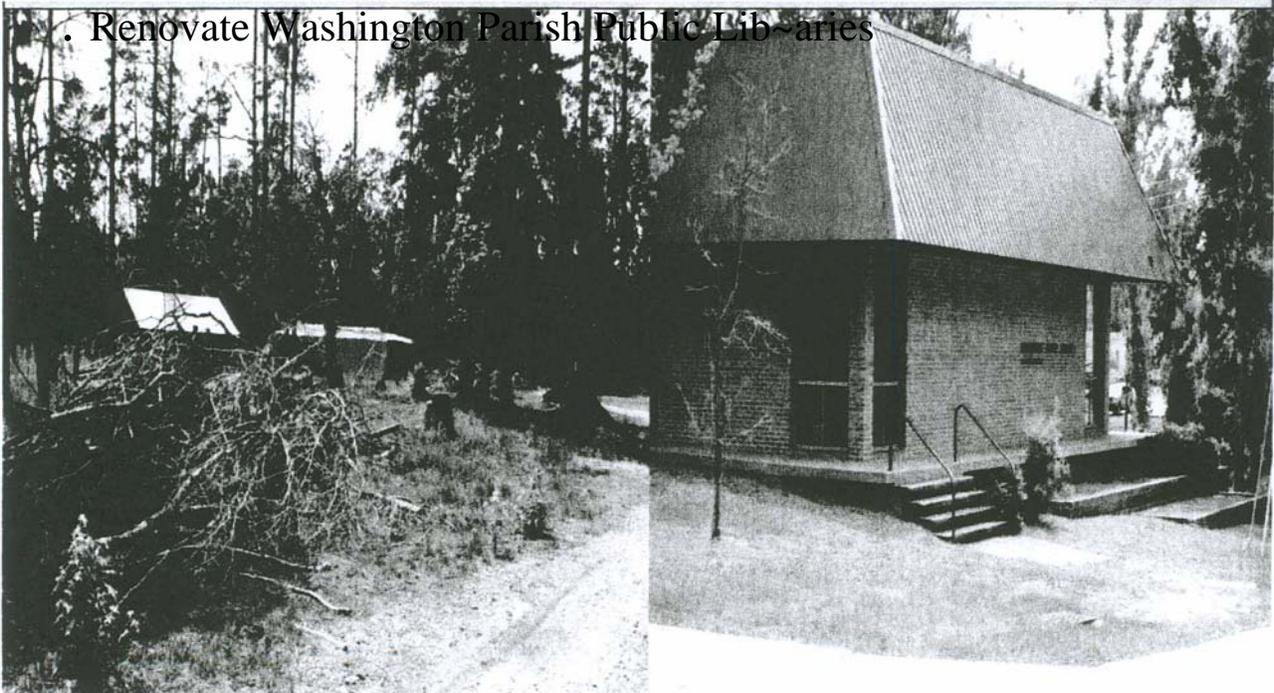
The communities of Angie and Varnado were hard-hit after the storm, and displaced hundreds of residents. Based on Washington Parish crime statistics, nearly 150 children are arrested annually for committing a misdemeanor or felony. These towns are now re-building, and are also dealing with a new influx of population to the area. This project is strongly supported by the business community and will function in the following roles:

- o After-school care for children
- o Activity Center for Senior Citizens
- o Recreation Center for children
- o Meeting place for various community organizations

To provide a cohesive and comprehensive support structure for the citizens of Washington Parish by providing services necessary for their improved well-being.



- . Consolidate YMCA
- . Cassidy Park Improvements .
- . Renovate Camp Te Ca Towazi,
- . Parish Human Services Department
- . Washington Emergency Recovery On-going Cadre.



- . Renovate Washington Parish Public Libraries

ESTABLISH DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Project Participant Champions:

Funding Requested:

Partners:

None

M.E. 'Toye' Taylor (Parish President)
Administrative and Legislative Offices 909
Pearl Street Franklinton, LA70438; Linda
Crist - United Way, 985.732.2305;

Stakeholders:

Parish residents, Parish government

Local Champions:

Dr. A.J. Luter, Washington Parish Department of
Human Services, 432 Sullivan Dr, Bogalusa, LA
70427, 504.495-5839, e-mail aluter@netscape.net;
Merlin Duke, Washington Commission on Human
Services, 1318 Colorado St, Bogalusa, LA 70427,
985.735.0160, e-mail merli nd
uke2004@Yahoo.com

RECOVERY VALUE: 2.0

Project Scope:

This will be a year-long pilot project to develop the parish department of Human Services, to coordinate nonprofit, faith-based, and agency services after disasters and for ongoing wellbeing of parish residents. Services to be coordinated include long-term disaster relief, health care, job training, education, and other programs already provided. During the pilot project it is anticipated that the Department will do four things:

- a Identify current non profits/faith-based organizations and human service organizations working in the parish
- a Assess needs in the parish and whether they are being met
- a Make proposals to partnering organizations to meet the needs
- a Identify next steps for the Parish following the pilot project

Project Purpose:

After the hurricane, there was a lack of coordination among agencies to provide longer-term services and resources to residents affected by the storm. The desire for an organization to provide such coordination has been expressed by several community organizations, as well as the City of Bogalusa, and the Parish President. Unfortunately, Washington Parish is not able to fully fund this department in the aftermath of the hurricane.

See Pg. 33

RENOVATE CASSIDY PARK AREA, BOGALUSA, LA

Project Participant Champions:

Partners:

Ms. Jimmy Canter (Museums only), Cassidy
Park museums, (985) 732-9752

Stakeholders:

City of Bogalusa, residents of parish and
surrounding areas, Native American
community members ;State Department of
Archaeology

Local Champions:

Sandy Bloom, Director of Personnel, City of
Bogalusa, P. O. Box 1179 Bogalusa ,LA 70429
.

Funding Requested:

Private-Multiple \$7,000.00 Committed

State Tourism Grant: \$10,000.00 Applied For

Choctaw Indians grant, museums only, \$0.00
Possible

Village of Pleasantville, NY, tree replacement,

Katrina Relief Grant: \$5,000.00 Applied For

RECOVERY VALUE: 1.9

Appears in the Louisiana SDeaks Plan

Project Scope:

Park:

- o Clean park of storm damage, including fallen trees/debris (lost 65% of existing trees) o Replace vegetation to control erosion
- o Enhance park for increased use
- o Repair existing damaged buildings and park audio speaker system
- o Cultural Demonstrations and Native American-themed Outdoor Exhibits

Bogue Lusa Pioneer Museum:

- o Remove 20 logs
- o Repair central heat and air conditioning, tables, archival preservation and audiovisual equipment.

Museum of Indian Culture:

- o Replace glass windows and door
- o Refurbish floor scoring concrete using Indian design o
- Renovate purchase display and storage
- o Upgrade handicap accessibility

Project Purpose:

Thousands of years of local culture and history of the local area is in jeopardy. Committed funding to re-build these museums will bring an additional 100 tourists annually to Washington Parish and serve to give the citizens of Washington Parish a deeper understanding of the cultures and heritage which made this area what it is today.

City of Bogalusa-Main Street Town Square

Project Participant Champions:

Stakeholders:

Citizens of Bogalusa; Bogalusa Businesses

Champion:

Larry Miller, Main Street Manager
338 Columbia Street
Bogalusa, La 70427 985.732.4018
Idmiller@bellsouth.net

Funding Requested:

Budget: \$450,000.00

HUD \$300,000.00 Approved

Private Donations \$5,000.00 Received

State of Louisiana \$250,000.00 Priority 2

\$300,000.00 Priority 3

RECOVERY VALUE: 2.2

Project Scope:

The Town Square project will be a safe, quite, convenient space for people to relax and enjoy the atmosphere of the historic downtown area of Bogalusa. The facility will include a walking trail for exercise, pavilions for picnics and family gatherings as well as a place for outdoor concerts or event for the public. The Town Square Park will be a public green space for the entire community and region to enjoy.

Project Purpose:

This proposed Town Square is the heart of redevelopment for the downtown area specifically and the entire City of Bogalusa in general. This project will be the anchor for redevelopment and revitalization of this mid-size city. Since hurricane Katrina we have experienced an increase in population and expect this trend to continue for the next five to ten years. The City of Bogalusa has high unemployment and high poverty and this facility will be located in an area that will be available to the undeserved youth and citizens who are not likely to have access to the services that will be provided at this Town Square Park. This facility will help citizens in their continued *efforts* to return to neighborhood pride, community involvement, job opportunities, recreation, and educational opportunities.

Project Update:

This project has been funded by the Louisiana Legislature Capital Outlay Budget. Construction should begin first quarter 2008.

RENOVATE AND CONSOLIDATE YMCA

Project Participant Champions:

Partners:

City of Bogalusa; LSU Medical Center

Stakeholders:

Residents of Bogalusa;

Sen. Ben Nevers, LA Sate Senator District 12,
985.732.6863;

Mayor Mack McGeHee, City of Bogalusa,
985.732.6200, 202 Arkansas Bogalusa, LA
70427;

Councilwoman-at-Large Johnni Miles, City of Bogalusa, 985.732.6202 fax:985.735.6245,
e-mail shejohni@aol.com

Local Champion:

Stuart Parker, Bogalusa YMCA CVO
411 Ave B, Bogalusa, La 70427
985.735.5302, sapjwb@aol.com

Funding Requested: State

Funding 2006 \$100,000.00 Pending

State Funding 2007 \$2,000,000.00 Pending

American Legion \$20,000.00 Committed

Donations \$40,000.00

YMCA Committed \$500,000.00

Private Multiple Possible

Capital Building Fund Drive \$440,000.00
Possible

RECOVERY VALUE: 2.1

Appears in the Louisiana 5Deaks Plan

Project Scope:

The renovated building would provide better facilities and more programs for the community. The facility will also be modified to be used as a shelter in disasters. The Board of Directors reflects the community's diversity, and has long planned to build a new YMCA to meet the community needs. The newer facility would also provide childcare. One of the primary needs of our community, an indoor heated pool, will assist our aging older adult population by providing physical therapy facilities through a collaborative effort with LSU Medical Center, and coordinate recreational programs with the City of Bogalusa and Washington Parish. The newer building would also provide shelter for citizens in future disasters. Planning for this expansion began approximately 2 years ago, but the hurricane diverted our campaign.

Project Purpose:

Before Katrina, the Bogalusa YMCA was working to bring together two older YMCAs and unify what had been seen as separate "white" and "black" facilities. Katrina, however, interrupted these plans, damaged both YMCA buildings, and now they are looking to possibly sell or lease the land and renovate the National Guard armory (an historic site) as it would be less money (\$4.7M) instead of trying to build a new building (\$7M).

The YMCA, Bogalusa, was founded in 1909 and over the years has evolved and changed to meet the needs of the community. The two current facilities were segregated until the 1960's when the White and Black Y's combined. Both facilities are fully integrated reflecting the composition of the community and its values.

Today the YMCA's programs include aerobics, fitness center, art classes for Youth and other sports activities. The Board of Directors of the YMCA, Bogalusa is prepared to begin again with renewed vigor to make this a reality.

REPAIRS TO CAMP TE CA TOWAZI

Project Participant Champions: Partners:

Boy Scouts, Vaughn Gibson, 619 Elm Street, Bogalusa; 985.735.7512;

American Legion, Frank Gerald, American Legion Post 24, 63349 HWY10, Bogalusa, LA; 985.735.3791;

Bogalusa Civic League - Martha Moak, 1504 Military Road, Bogalusa, LA, 985.735.1285;

Triangle of Hope, Rev. Bob Adams, First Baptist Church, Bogalusa, LA, 985.732.3756;

Linda Crist, United Way; 716 Avenue F, Bogalusa La., 70427, 985.732.2305,

fundraising and awareness raising in the community

Stakeholders:

Residents of Washington Parish and St. Tammany Parish;

Approximately 600 campers annually

Local Champion:

Tamara Augustine, Executive Director, Camp Fire USA Towazi Council; 208-B Georgia Ave.

Bogalusa, LA 70427, 985.732.9831;

I
RECOVERY VALUE: 1.9

Project Scope:

This project proposes to rebuild and restore the main group shelter and 5 primitive shelters. The project has a low estimate cost because of the generous amount of volunteer labor that has been donated and committed to the camp from partner agencies. The estimated cost to repair the shelters is \$50,000.00.

Originally this project included \$70,000.00 worth of debris removal. Due to the dedication of Tamara Augustine and the generous help provided by IED (debris removal contractors for Washington Parish) and FEMA, the debris was removed at no cost to the camp.

Project Purpose:

Camp Te Ca Towazi is a 13-acre regional campground that was established in 1958. The camp is centrally located within Washington Parish between Bogalusa and Franklinton on Louisiana Highway 439. The camp offers a variety of camping options including an indoor common area and open air shelters. Camp Te Ca Towazi is operated by Camp Fire U.S.A and is the only regional camp that accepts unaffiliated camping applications, regardless to whether or not they belong to the Campfire organization. The camp services primarily to the low to lowmoderate income camper. The camp staff also conducts an anti-violence program for Washington Parish in the public schools and on the campground, however, due to the storm damaged shelters the campground segment has become impossible. During Hurricane Katrina many of the trees in the park fell leaving a large amount of debris and damaging many of the shelters and buildings.

Washington Emergency Recovery Ongoing Cadre (WE-ROC)

Project Champions:
Stakeholders:

Residence of Washington Parish

Local Champions:

Rev. Stan Stratham, President of Washington
Emergency Recovery Ongoing Cadre (WE-
ROC), 985.839.3705;

Rev. R.L. Palmer, Co-President (WE-ROC),
985.732.9326

Funding Requested:

Church World Services

RECOVERY VALUE: 2.0

Project Scope:

The Washington Emergency Recovery Ongoing Cadre (WEROC) is a private not for profit agency that will establish and maintain a network within and on behalf of the faith communities and secular organizations in order to provide a coordinated recovery from emergencies and disasters in Washington Parish.

Project Purpose:

The Washington Emergency Recovery Ongoing Cadre (WEROC) will provide coordinated management of disaster recovery resources for residents of Washington Parish and will facilitate preparedness for future events. WEROC will evaluate and coordinate for additional assistance to individuals affected by a disaster who do not have adequate personal resources for basic needs that have not been or cannot be met by national governmental agencies.

See Pg. 29

RENOVATE WASHINGTON PARISH LIBRARIES

Project Participant Champions:

Local Champion:

Gabriel Morley, Director of Libraries,
Washington Parish

Funding Requested:

National Library Association
Gates Foundation

RECOVERY VALUE: 1.8

Project Scope:

As the library rebuilds following damages sustained from Hurricane Katrina, we also plan to move forward making improvements and updates to the system that will better align us to meet the needs of our citizens in the 21st Century. We are constantly positioning the library to be the leader in technology issues because we realize our parish is rural, and often the citizens are too poor to afford the advanced technology on their own.

The library has a three-year technology plan in which we have elected to add four new public access computers with Internet capabilities each year along with providing a myriad of other more traditional library services. We recently installed a free public access scanner at the Franklinton branch for individuals to print or email digital or 35 mm photos. We are currently partnering with two other groups to ascertain the potential for digitizing all the old local newspapers for quick search in our database or online.

More importantly, the library board has recently formed a strategic planning task force that is charged with formulating a plan that will shape and guide the future of the library system over the next 10 to 20 years. Some ideas we are entertaining are the potential for building expansion, physical improvements to the grounds of our facilities, an increase in the numbers of books added to the collection each year, and more community outreach efforts targeting specific groups within the community, especially groups that do not historically utilize the library.

Project Purpose:

The Washington Parish Library system suffered approximately \$350,000 worth of damage to facilities and equipment as a result of Hurricane Katrina on August 29, 2005.

More specifically, in Franklinton a pine tree in excess of three feet in diameter severed the headquarters portion of the building from the main branch of the library. Because all utilities entered the building from the rear, the library had no electricity, telephone service or Internet capabilities; nor did we have any method of heating or cooling the building.

The Army Corps of Engineers and several contractors assessed the damage to the structure and the flat roof and concluded no tarp or repairs could alleviate the situation. Major

(next page, please)

reconstruction was the only solution. Eight months later, we are still, we have been unable to completely stop the library from flooding during heavy rain. We have installed a sump pump, caulked the walls at the floor and sandbagged the entire length of the building. Nevertheless, water still finds its way into the library on days of heavy flow.

Presently, we are awaiting architectural blueprints and specifications for repair in order to put the project out for bids. We have an estimate of payment from our insurance company, which we believe will make our building whole again. The process, however, is slow as libraries have been deemed non-essential services by FEMA despite the valuable role libraries all over the state played in the hours and days after the storm.

Fortunately, the damage done by the tree was confined to a small area and we lost only a handful of computers, desks and office supplies and furniture. Our yard will also need to be repaired once the heavy construction is completed. We believe the insurance estimate of payout will cover these losses as well.

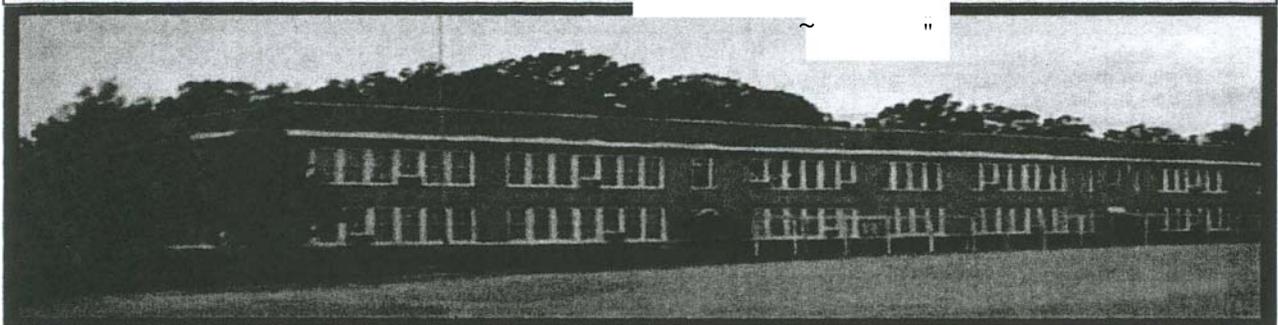
In order to facilitate reopening as soon as possible, we engaged the assistance of the Washington Parish public works director, who is a civil engineer and spearheaded re-routing the electrical services and heating and cooling duct work around the damaged administrative portion of the building to the front of the building where the library is located. We built a new wall inside the library and moved a downsized administrative staff behind the wall. All of this work allowed us to reopen the Franklinton library to the public in mid-January, albeit in cramped quarters.

In Bogalusa, an oak tree fell against the building and one or two limbs pierced the rubberized roof causing a leak, which allowed about 10-20 gallons of water to enter the building during the hurricane. We have already met with the insurance company (separate from Franklinton) and settled with that insurer. We are awaiting estimates from roofers on the Bogalusa project in order to determine if the damage is significant enough to warrant going out for bids.

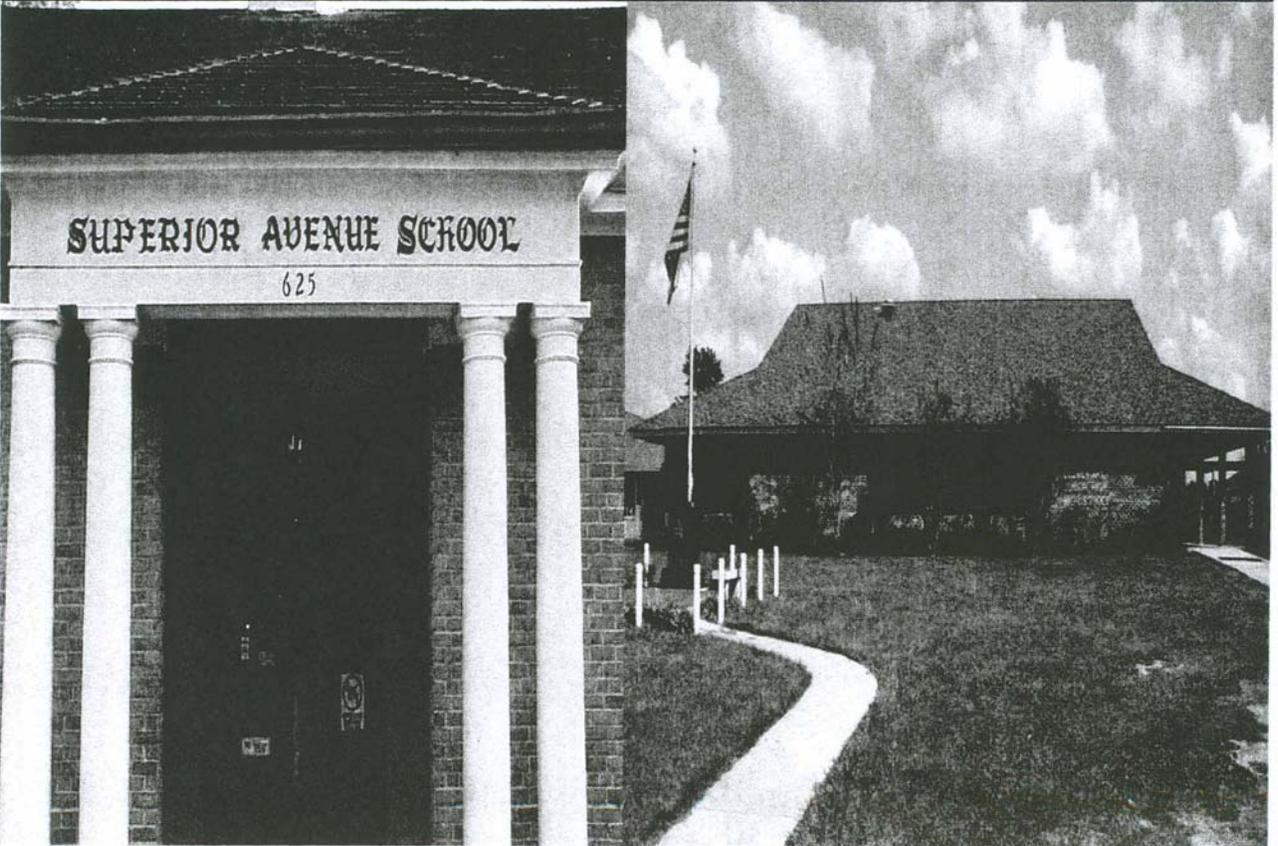
We were able to reopen the Bogalusa branch as soon as power was restored and our computers were up and running sometime near October 1.

Our other facilities were undamaged and some have subsequently been closed due to circumstances unrelated to the storm.

Foster a positive learning environment using the latest technology to give our students the best possible chance to succeed in life's endeavors.



Assess School Systems



ASSESS SCHOOL SYSTEMS

Project Champions:

Local Champions:

Rev. Bob Adams, First Baptist Church,
Bogalusa, LA, 985.732.3756; Washington
Parish School Board; Bogalusa City
School System;

Funding Requested:

Has not been determined.

RECOVERY VALUE: 1.7

Project Scope:

Education is a foundational piece in the strength and health of the parish. At the present time there is no entity seeking to address the educational life of the parish on a parish wide basis. The Education Task Force will seek to fill this need. It will have no authority over any present educational system in Washington Parish. The only authority it will have is that derived from hard work and studied facts that result in recommendations supported by the communities and parish. The Education Task Force will be a complementary body to the presently functioning educational institutions and boards in the parish. The Task Force will work as a partner with these institutions and boards to bring about meaningful growth in this most critical area.

Funding will be needed to allow the Task Force to perform assessments, research, planning and resource recommendations. Funding requests will come from the Education Task Force once it is established.

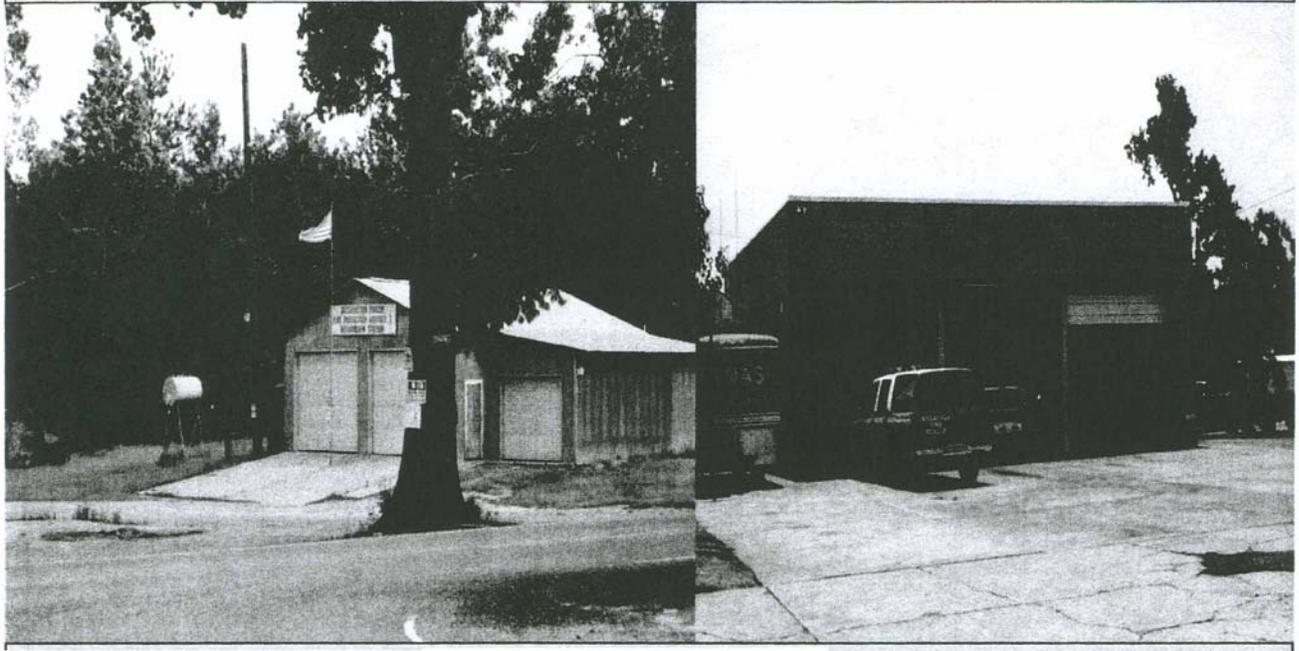
Project Purpose:

The Education Task Force will evaluate the present educational status of our parish, seek to envision its future, create recommendations to bring about that vision, and discover resources needed to implement the recommendations.

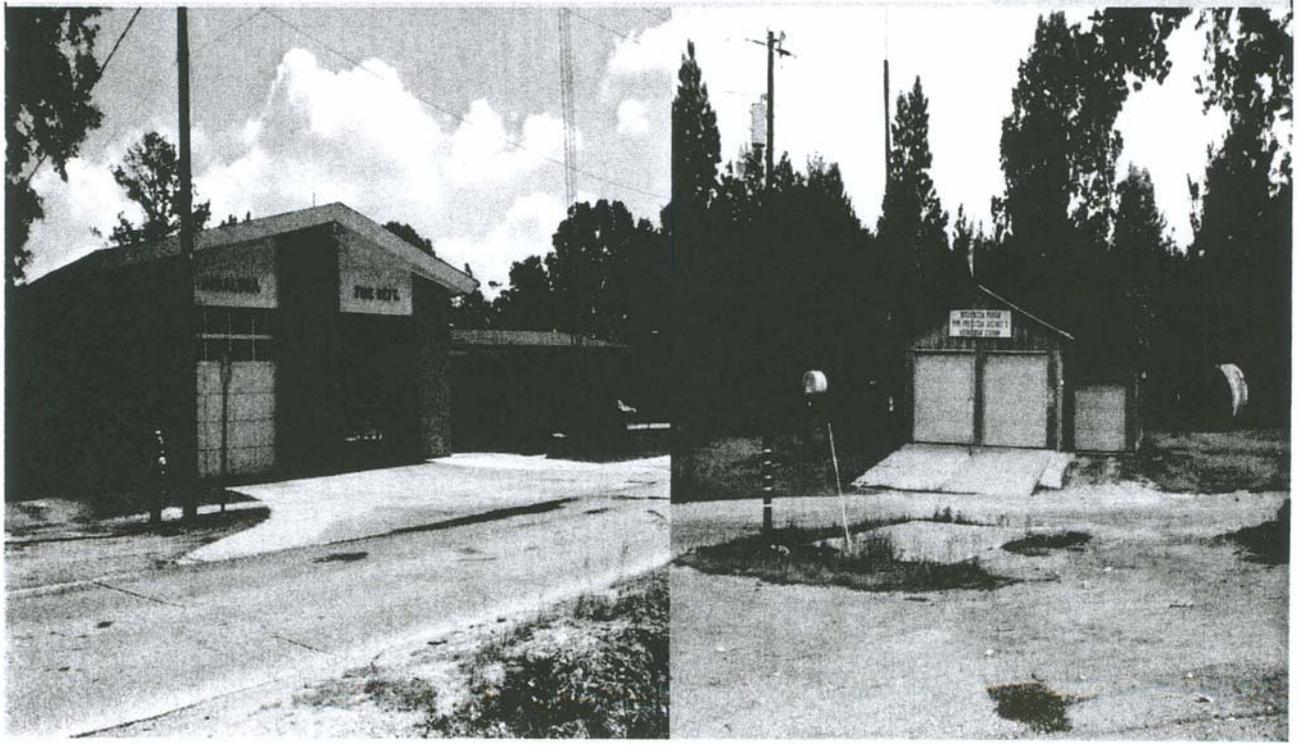
Please consult Appendix 5-A for Statement of Organization

Washington Parish Fire Station

Provide and upgrade the network of units and services tasked with protecting the welfare of the citizens of Washington Parish.



liep~irs to Bogalusa, Fir~t!H~u~~, '-
epaJrs to Richardson: Fire Ho'LISE\$
Washington Parish Allimal Shelter



REPLACE 2 FIREHOUSES IN BOGALUSA

Project Participant Champions:

Partners

Bogalusa Industrial Park

Stakeholders City
of Bogalusa

Local Champions

Mayor Mack McGeHee, City of Bogalusa
985.732.6200, 202 Arkansas Bogalusa, LA
70427

Funding Requested:

Federal USDA Rural Development Grant/Loan
\$1,490,000.00 Possible

Local City of Bogalusa extra millage
\$54,000.00 Possible

Governor's Office of Homeland Security
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

State of Louisiana Capital Outlay Budget

RECOVERY VALUE: 2.2

Appears in Louisiana SDeaks Plan

Project Scope:

This project would build two new buildings and harden one existing fire station. The proposed new buildings would upgrade one building to a Main station. Property has been purchased on Columbia Street for the substation and preliminary plans have been drawn. One building would include a training facility and housing. The main station would be about 3000 square feet, and the new substation would be 2000 square feet, with a total cost of \$2 million. The estimate is based on preliminary designs done several years ago at 1.2 million, with 2 million representing an increase due to inflation and increase cost of materials. The hardened building would be upgraded to withstand hurricane force winds. The city is also requesting funding to pay for features in the two new stations that would harden the facilities against natural disasters. \$1.5 million was budgeted by the state in the Capital Outlay Budget, but has not been voted on by the bond commission.

Project Purpose:

During the hurricane, two older fire stations in Bogalusa were irreparably damaged, and there were not adequate numbers of firefighters to respond to the disaster. In order to increase capacity to respond to disasters, the City of Bogalusa is seeking to replace the damaged firehouses, expanding one of them, which will allow them to hire three new firefighters.

REPAIR AND REBUILD 2 FIRE HOUSES IN RICHARDSON

Project Participant Champions:

Stakeholders:

Residents of Washington Parish Fire District 2;
Washington Parish Office of Emergency
Preparedness;
Thomas "Tommy" Thiebaud, Washington Parish
OHSjEOC, 17380 Bill Booty Rd, Bogalusa, LA
70427, 985.732.5200

Funding Requested:

At this time state plans for funding sources have been limited to a state CDBG grant. We are searching for other avenues of funding.

Champions:

Robert Stafford, Fire Chief Washington Parish
Fire District #2, 41280 Hwy 10
Franklinton, LA70438 (985) 839-2376

RECOVERY VALUE: 2.1

Project Scope:

- Wish to construct a new firehouse to serve multiple purposes including firehouse, voting precinct, community center, and disaster center not only for District 2, but for the western half of Washington Parish's unincorporated areas.
- A heliport will be part of the long-term plan for this firehouse. At this time there is no fixed landing area for a plane or helicopter west of the Bogue Chitto River in Washington Parish. In the event of another major catastrophe in our area, we feel a heliport could be vital to a rescue and supply chain to this area of the parish.

Project Purpose:

Washington Parish Fire District 2 serves this community as well as another smaller one known as Stoney Point. Address for existing substation damaged by Katrina is 41280 La. Highway 10, Franklinton, LA. Provide a new fire substation that would also serve as a community center and disaster needs shelter to replace existing damaged substation. Existing structure, which was damaged by Hurricane Katrina, was built by volunteers on property provided by landowner. New owners require rental on site where structure now exists. Washington Parish Fire Department District 2 is a total volunteer organization that protects approximately 62 square miles of Western Washington Parish. We had approximately 2800 taxpayers in our District prior to Hurricane Katrina and believe that number has increased by about 15%. Our main fire station in the Richardson Community was damaged by the hurricane and being a small wood frame building that is 30 years old has lead us to consider upgrading to a new metal building that can withstand stronger winds. We also plan to move away from our current location to improve access not only for fire protection but to ensure the safety of our citizens as the firehouse is also serving as our local voting precinct. We also see the construction as a benefit to the growth of our area since we will include a large meeting room to service other volunteer organizations in our area. We plan to set up our firehouse as a staging area in the event of any emergency or catastrophic event and work closely with other departments, both fire and governmental, to assist our citizens in any way possible.

ESTABLISH PARISH ANIMAL SHELTER

Project Participant Champions:

Partners:

Dr. Darren Schilling, DVM, Franklinton, LA;
Washington Parish Government
Stakeholders:
Citizens of Washington Parish and surrounding communities; Veterinarian Society of Louisiana;
Washington Parish Government

Local Champions:

Dr. Darren Schilling, DVM, Franklinton, LA.

Funding Requested:

Capitol Outlay 2005 \$25,000.00 Received
Capitol Outlay 2006 \$75,000.00 Received
Legislative Appropriation 2007 \$40,000.00 Received

Capitol Outlay 2008 \$50,000.00 Requested

RECOVERY VALUE: 1.5

Appears in Louisiana Speaks Plan

Project Scope:

Project proposes to secure land at the Washington Correctional Institution, design and construct a parish-wide animal shelter, and fulfill the parish requirement to provide an animal shelter in accordance with R.5. Statute 32774. This project will provide a new building and grounds to house both small and large animals in emergency or disastrous situations. The shelter would also serve as a location along the Louisiana northern evacuation route to provide shelter for evacuated animals from southern regions of the state.

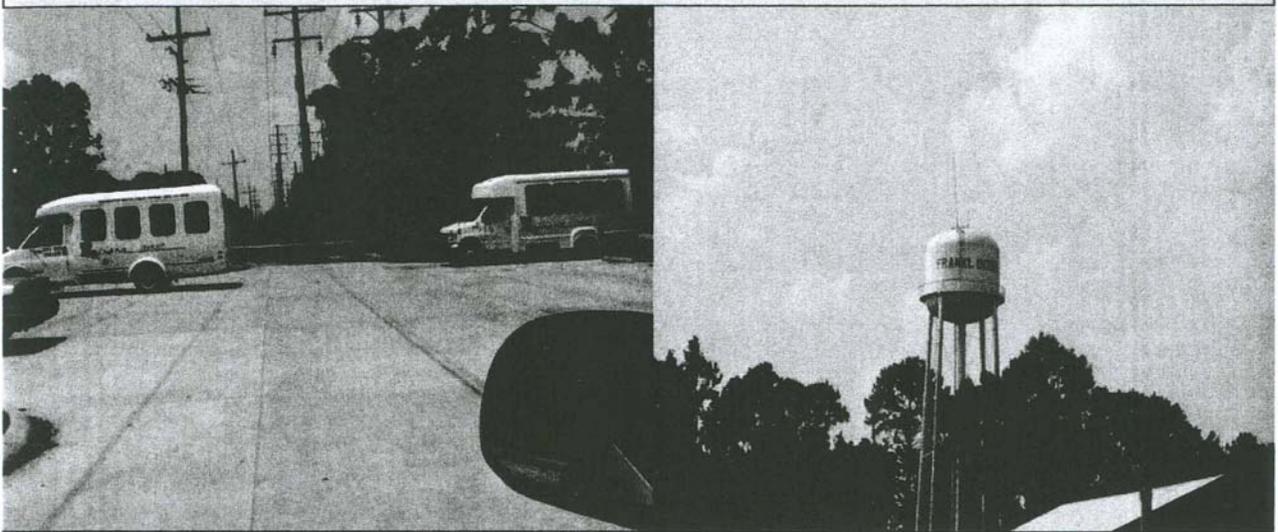
Completion of project will meet the recovery goal to provide shelter in Washington Parish for both large and small animals. Shelter would serve as evacuation location for displaced animals, both privately owned and those involved in patrol units such as the police and other first-responders.

Project Purpose:

A desperately needed parish-wide shelter is needed in Washington Parish to be able to house both small and large animals in emergency or disastrous situations. This became abundantly clear post-Katrina. Along with family displacement among residents, there were displaced animals belonging to residents of the parish, but there were a greater number of evacuated displaced animals from southern parishes that were brought to Washington Parish for shelter. The smaller animals could not be sheltered in the parish because of power outage and it was necessary for the animals to be taken to sites in Baton Rouge. The Franklinton Pound was able to accept only about 10 animals at its facility because of the lack of electrical power due to storm damage. Surrounding parish storm impact severely affected Washington Parish. Per conversation with local veterinarian, Dr. Darren Schilling, DVM, an estimated 400 police horses and carriage mules from New Orleans were evacuated north and placed in Washington Parish temporary locations. Approximately 35 to 50 NOPD horses were housed at the Franklinton Fair Grounds which had an electrical generator. Approximately 150 to 200 animals, including dogs, cats, and horses were housed at the Franklinton Fair Grounds; animals primarily belong to other parishes.

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Transportation and infrastructure directly support economic growth, quality of life and a better physical environment. Washington Parish and its incorporated areas will have improved transportation services, safe roads that connect people and places, and infrastructure that is modern and has capacity for future growth and the continued well being of our citizens.



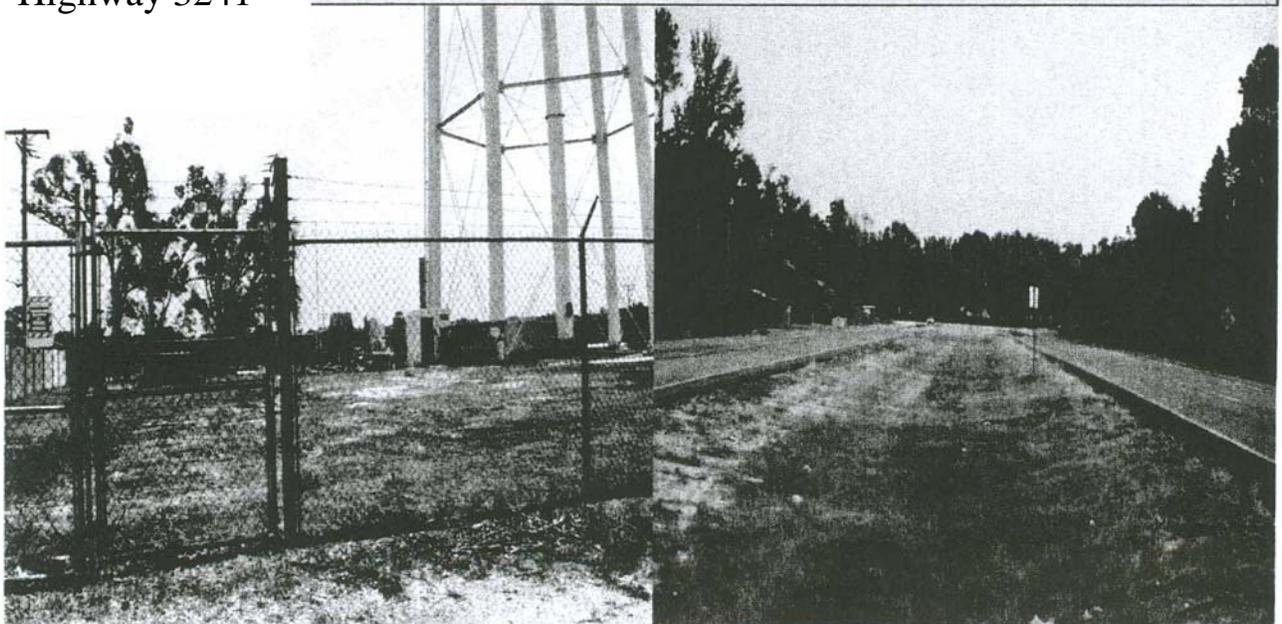
Repairs to Unincorporated Sewer and Water:

Repairs to Bogalusa Sewer and Water, IJR,

Repairs to Franklinton Sewer and Water

Regional Rural Transportation

Highway 3241



IMPROVE RURAL SEWER AND WATER

Project Participant Champions:

Partners:

Washington Parish Council
909 Pearl Street - Courthouse Bldg Franklinton,
LA 70438, 985.839.7825 **Stakeholders:**
Washington Parish Government, 909 Pearl Street
Courthouse Annex, Franklinton, LA 70438,
985.839.7825; rural unincorporated communities
within Washington Parish; Rural Franklinton
Water Corporation, 422 11th Avenue, Franklinton,
LA 70438; Mount Hermon Water District; Bogue
Lusa Water Works District; Varnado Water Works
District, 26070 La Hwy 21, Angie, LA 70426

Local Champions:

Jerry Binninger, US EPA, Bldg 1103, Room 202,
Stennis Space Center, MS 39529-6000, Phone
228.688.1104 or 228.688.7073, FAX
228.688.2709, CELL 228.342.2333, e-mail
binninger.jerry@epa.gov

Funding Requested:

Federal USDA Rural Dev \$0.00
Federal HUD CDBG \$0.00
Federal EPA PWSS \$0.00 Federal
DRA Grant \$0.00 State HUD
CDBG SA \$0.00

Recovery Value: 1.9

Appears in Louisiana Speaks Plan

Project Scope:

PHASE 1

Water System Upgrades - rural Franklinton Water:

New generator for an existing booster station. New well site and water mains to serve an area southeast of Franklinton that does not have a community potable water system - estimate \$4,000,000; Timeline 3/1/2006 12 months.

Water System Upgrades - Mount Hermon Water District:

New well site and water mains to serve areas within the district that do not have potable water. Not all roads and residences have a water main by their homes - estimate \$2,000,000; Timeline 3/1/2006 12 months

PHASE 2

Water System Upgrades - Bogue Lusa Water Works District:

New generators, booster stations, well site, and water mains to serve rural areas which are not served by a community potable water system - estimate \$4,000,000 Timeline 4/1/2006 12 months

(next page, please)

PHASE 3

Water System Upgrades - Varnado Rural Water:

Construct deep water wells (200') to replace existing aging wells (28 plus years old) - estimate \$1,500,000 Timeline 1/1/2007-8 months

Based on information from the Washington Parish Task Force Team, some of the lift stations in the rural areas of the parish sustained damage as a result of Hurricane Katrina.

Project Purpose:

Repair and improve water and sewerage treatment facilities in the next two years.

UPGRADE BOGALUSA CITY SEWER AND WATER SYSTEMS

Project Participant Champions:

Partners:
City of Bogalusa, P. O. Box 1179, Bogalusa, LA 70429; US Department of Environmental Quality (Jerry Binninger), 228.688.1104/7073, e-mail binninger.jerry@epa.gov

Funding Requested:

\$3.3 million Budget
Letters of intent submitted to State HMGP program on 5/1/06

Local Champions:

James Hall, Jr., Public Works Director, City of Bogalusa, P. O. Box 1179, Bogalusa, LA 70429 985-732-6213

RECOVERY VALUE: 2.2

Appears in Louisiana SDeaks Plan

Project Scope:

Cost estimates from Professional Engineering Consultants include:

- o Civil/mechanical emergency well site improvements include to include a total of six well sites
- o Chlorination equipment and new block building (including materials, equipment, labor, and installation) per bids received 11/9/05)
- o Electrical emergency well site improvements to 5 well sites electrical equipment (lighting, conduits, MCC installations, etc.)
- o Engineering
- o Resident inspection
- o Contingency

Project also consists of miscellaneous repairs and the construction of new chlorination/electrical buildings at each of the city's six well and elevated storage tank sites. The intent is to provide a brick building that will better house the chlorination equipment, ton cylinders, and MCC panels. Improved buildings would also house new fluoride systems.

PHASE 1 - Water Well Site Improvements The existing gas chlorination systems and electrical controls are very vulnerably located. This project consists of relocating and consolidating the chlorination and electrical systems into a safer, more protected building estimate \$2,000,000

PHASE 2 -New Water Well Construction New water well construction estimate of \$900,000

PHASE 3 - New Waste water Pump Stations Generator. Four new generators to be installed at city's major sewer lift stations, estimate \$400,000.

(next page, please)

Project Purpose:

Water System was damaged during Hurricane Katrina. Chlorinators and generators were damaged when trees fell on them. Chlorinators have been run manually since that time. Personnel have been required on-site 24 hours per day since storm to manually operate chlorinators. Sewer system damage also occurred from Katrina. Generators at pump sites suffered tree damage.

Both sewer and water systems suffered tree damaged as a result of Hurricane Katrina. Completion of project will provide necessary repairs and upgrade to 1950's era system. An estimated one-third of the parish population lives in Bogalusa. The water and sewer systems serve the population of the city which is a vital part of the parish. New water well construction will help to provide a consistent and safe potable water system for the residents of the City of Bogalusa. Installation of new generators to four of the city's major sewer lift stations will provide a consistent and safe sewer service to residents in the City of Bogalusa.

UPGRADE FRANKLINTON TOWN SEWER AND WATER SYSTEMS

Project Participant Champions:

Partners:

Dennie Fowler, Washington Parish School System Superintendent, 985.839.3436

Stakeholder:

Residence of the Town of Franklinton; Franklinton High School

Local Champion:

Mayor Brown, Town of Franklinton, 985.839.3569

Funding Requested:

\$5.2 million Budget

USDA Rural Development \$900,000.00 Committed

LRA CDBG \$500,000.00 Possible

Wash Parish Schools Franklinton \$100,000.00 Committed

Loan \$900,000.00 Committed

Gap in funding: \$2.8 million

RECOVERY VALUE: 2.3

Appears in Louisiana SDeaks Plan

Project Scope:

This \$5.2 million project, in five phases, will repair and upgrade the water and sewerage system in Franklinton, servicing the new school buildings being built by the Washington Parish School Board to handle the new residents coming into the parish as a result of Hurricane Katrina.

Phase A: \$245,000 Sewer System Evaluation Survey.

Phase B: Section Line Road/Industrial Park Sewer Improvements - will install several new mains and lines, costing \$660,000.

Phase C: is a Rehabilitation of the Sewer System - \$2,545,000.

Phase D: a new water well, costing \$700,000.

Phase E: the construction of a new elevated water tank - \$1,160,000.

Project Purpose:

The Franklinton Sewer & Water system needed upgrades before Katrina. The system was not damaged by the storm, though lack of power affected the system. Since the hurricane, the local electric utility reports new electric meters in the area have increased by 15%. The population is growing and the sewer/water system serving the schools is inadequate.

UPGRADE REGIONAL RURAL TRANSIT SYSTEM

Project Participant Champions:

Partners:

Tangipahoa Council on Aging, (St. Tammany)
COAST, LADOTD, US DOT FTA Region 6

Stakeholders:

employers, retailers, recently displaced
transit dependent residents of Florida
parishes

Local Champion:

Nancy McBeth, Washington Parish Council on
Aging- (985) 839-4535

Funding Requested:

\$40,000.00 to recoup losses sustained from
Hurricane Katrina.

RECOVERY VALUE: 2.1

Appears in Louisiana SDeaks Plan

Project Scope:

Increase funding to Washington Parish Council on Aging to allow for increased operating costs from the expansion of adding trips between St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Washington Parish. This organization is currently operating in a deficit and has cut its routes by a third. Until normal operation is resumed a regional transportation plan is unfeasible.

Project Purpose:

Residents of more directly impacted parishes have relocated into these parishes, often without their cars. Existing rural public transportation trips can cross parish lines. This project will establish a regional network for rural trips beginning or ending in any of the three Florida parishes impacted by Hurricane Katrina.

HIGHWAY 3241

Project Participant Champions:

Partners:
LA DOTD

Funding Requested:

TIMED 4-cent gas tax \$148,000,000.00
Committed

Stakeholders:

Parish President Taylor, Washington Parish,
985.839.7825;
Parish President Davis, St. Tammany Parish 985-
898-2362

Local Champion:

Sen. Ben Nevers, LA Sate Senator District 12,
985.732.6863;
Ryan Seal, Washington Economic Development
Foundation (WEDF) Executive Director,
985.735.7565

RECOVERY VALUE: 2.1

Project Scope:

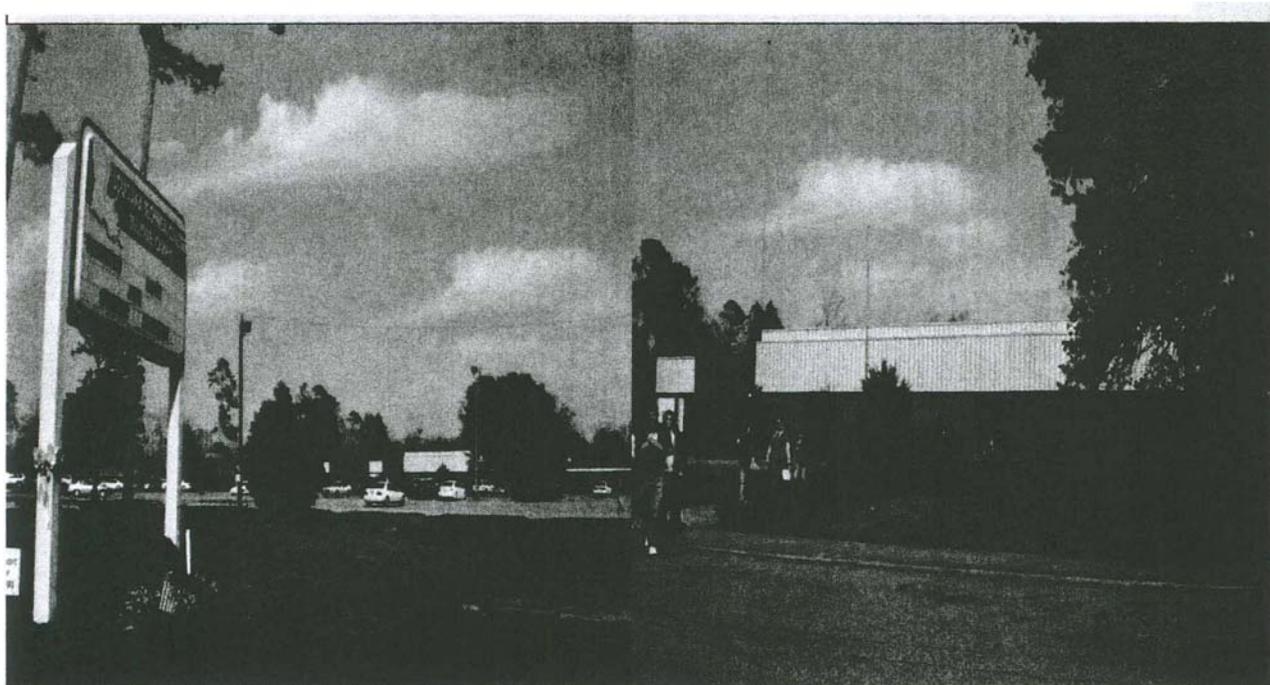
The 21-mile, \$148 million LA3241 TIMED project is divided into 5 segments that will be widened or build to 4 lanes. Each segment involves several phases, including strategic planning and design, right-of-way acquisition, utility relocation, environmental impact studies and construction. The \$148 million comes from a 4-cent tax on gas. The tax and TIMED was founded by an amendment in the Louisiana Constitution. The TIMED program was designed to enhance economic development in the communities that are served by the projects listed.

Project Purpose:

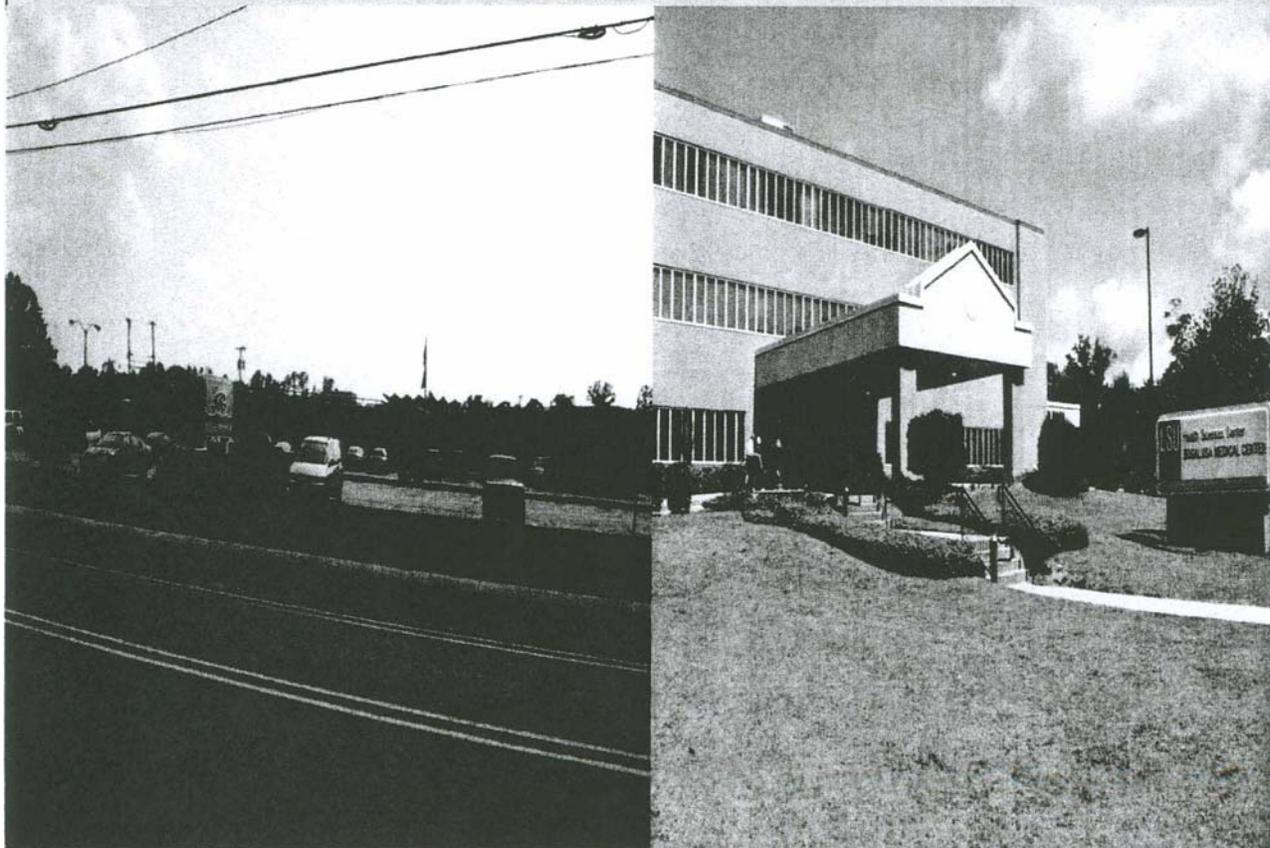
The storm damaged the parish's economic center, Bogalusa, more severely than any other part. Jobs are needed to move this parish forward. The LA3214 project is currently delayed waiting on environmental and other permitting procedures to be completed. This road project is the major economic development project in the parish. It is vital that the permitting process be expedited.

Since Hurricane Katrina, economic development has never been as important to Washington Parish as now. Bogalusa is the commercial capital of the parish - the largest private employers are located there. It is also the connector to neighboring Mississippi and Interstate 59. Traffic on LA21, the major route to Bogalusa from 1-12 and the south, is up 75% since the storm, showing that this road is needed now more than ever. Without this project, attracting new jobs to Bogalusa and Washington Parish will be difficult.

To facilitate an upgrade in the quality of care and the opportunities available for quality employment for the citizens of Washington Parish.



Health Care Training Center



ESTABLISH HEALTH CARE TRAINING CENTER

Project Participant Champions:

Partners:

Delgado Community College, Louisiana
Technical College, Healthcare Task Force

Local Champions:

Jan Robert
Covington City Council
covd istrict@bellsouth.net
David Guzan CEO,
Fairway Medical Center and chairman,
Healthcare Task Force

Funding Requested:

National Emergency Grant \$500,000.00
Received

Department of Labor \$2,000,000.00
Applied For

RECOVERY VALUE: 1.8

Appears in Louisiana Speaks Plan

Project Scope:

This regional project, in conjunction with St. Tammany and Tangipahoa parishes, will:

(1) Deliver immediate entry-level healthcare training based on survey of local needs through a systemic program which includes recruitment, in-take/WorkKeys assessment, foundations/workplace literacy, academic remediation, employment, mentor relationships, targeted allied health career training, and post-training employment.

(2) Construct a 30,000-sq.-ft. Center for Excellence in Healthcare Training with elements necessary for offering coordinated and expanded training to support a growing healthcare industry for the entire Northshore region

Project Purpose:

Washington Parish lost many highly trained medical professions due to evacuation before and after the storm. Local hospitals report shortages in both physicians and other healthcare providers, such as nurses, technicians and the like.

Currently the partnership has received \$500,000.00 and is now offering a curriculum named Careers That Heal and services 140 students for St. Tammany and Washington Parish through Delgado Northshore. When the \$2,000,000.00 is received from the Department of Labor they will expand to include Tangipahoa and Orleans Parishes. This grant will allow them to operate for 3 years. The proposed center will be used by Delgado Community College and the Louisiana Technical College, as well as high schools, universities and healthcare providers for continuing education and sustained growth of a highly skilled healthcare workforce. This center is important not only for workforce development to fill employment needs, but also to sustain the healthcare industry.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COHESIVE MENTAL-HEALTH NETWORK FOR WASHINGTON PARISH

Project Participant Champions:

Partners:

Keely Collins, LPC, Louisiana Spirit, Catholic Charities; Susan Magee, RN and Kay Kay Warner, LCSW, Bogalusa School Based Health Center; Lisa Murray, RN, Magnolia Behavioral Healthcare; Paul Austin, LPC, LSU HSC Family Medicine Clinic and Residency

Funding Requested:

TO BE REQUESTED AT A LATER TIME

Stakeholders:

Citizens of Washington Parish; Professional Mental Health Providers

Local Champion:

Keely Collins, LPC, Louisiana Spirit, Catholic Charities, 985.750.2021

RECOVERY VALUE: 2.1

Project Scope:

Because mental health resources and services are scarce to non-existent in Washington Parish, coupled with the lack of communication and interaction between what resources there are, there is a vast need for:

- ∴ Formulation of a monthly meeting of mental health professionals in Washington Parish ∴. An out-patient mental health facility
- ∴ Additional mental health providers for the schools and community
- ∴ Reconstruction of space at Bogalusa High School Health Center for outside providers to utilize, and to accommodate the increasing number of students and parents seen as a result of the outside providers
- ∴ As a network, come together to reach parents and provide training and information for them
- ∴ Expansion of School Based Health Centers to the parish schools to provide comprehensive healthcare and mental healthcare
- ∴ Increased awareness of and attention to mental health issues included in the school day at all schools in Washington Parish i. e. prevention measures

Project Purpose:

Washington Parish is overcome with drug abuse, poverty, and apathy, and in the aftermath of Katrina, these problems have been significantly intensified. For example, since Katrina, there has been an increase in violence, suicide, teen pregnancy, and substance abuse in our community. Many in our parish feel as though Washington Parish has been abandoned by our state and government in the face of this destructive force called Katrina as well as in the arduous road to recovery. As people continue to seek help in rebuilding their lives and homes, their spirits slowly deplete, their bodies steadily weaken, and their hearts become increasingly fragile. Thus drawing great attention to the need for increased availability of mental health treatment for our community.

To ensure that our project will be successful, we first establish a foundation of mental health providers in Washington Parish to lead and guide our future endeavors. The Mental Health providers are professionals with degrees in counseling, social work, and nursing as well as other professionals. A monthly gathering of these professionals to discuss the ongoing projects will guarantee success.

To address needs of every population (children, adolescents, adults, and elderly) in our community, we propose to establish an intensive out-patient mental health facility managed by Magnolia Behavioral Health. This facility would allow for any member of the population to receive mental health treatment with many payment options including Medicaid, insurance, and sliding scale. Transportation of clients to and from this facility would also be provided if possible. Referrals for clients would be made from area hospitals and clinics as well as schools and churches.

To address the needs of students, we propose to increase the number of counselors/social workers at the existing schools as well as institute school based health centers or mental health professionals at each school in Bogalusa and Washington Parish. In addition, we propose that superintendents, teachers, administrators be more supportive of mental health professionals in the schools and allow for time necessary to prevent or treat mental health issues. It is also necessary that this same treatment and prevention is offered to administrators and teachers of the schools through workshops and in-services pertaining to their own mental health as well as recognizing mental health issues in their students. Furthermore, it is important to also include parents in this effort through parent training and meeting at schools or in the community. Finally, it is essential to provide space, which is already available at the Bogalusa High School Health Center, therefore we propose the reconstruction of one area in the Bogalusa High School Health Center and the addition of an air conditioner.

The establishment of the mental health network and the vast increase in mental health resources and services to Washington Parish will not only impact the community, school system, and parish, but will also be felt statewide as we attempt to assert ourselves as a thriving and blossoming parish.

- ∴ With easy and available access to mental health and substance abuse treatment, the citizens of the parish will be treated for their disorders or substance abuse problems, which will increase their self worth and responsibility, which will in turn increase their desire and ability to work, which will increase business and decrease crime.
- ∴ Many professionals will be brought to our area to treat our citizens and may have to move to our area, which will increase social status of area, which will draw more professionals, which will attract businesses, which will eventually increase property value.

Specifically regarding our students and schools, school based mental health centers have identified several factors that contribute to the need for mental health services specifically for the adolescent population. Those include but are not limited to:

- ~ Decreased ability to verbally express themselves
- ~ Increased inattention and hyperactivity
- ~ More *affected* by peer relationships
- ~ More aware of family stressors
- ~ High risk behaviors including sexual promiscuity and substance abuse

Because the health center is based in the schools, health care and mental healthcare is brought to the students where they are. Evidence has shown that students with access to these services in the school setting are more likely to access mental health services because they do not have to leave school and parents do not have to leave work and there are no transportation issues. Students receiving school based mental health care have improved academic performance, reduced disciplinary problems, had fewer absences from school, and decreased involvement in the juvenile court systems.

The addition of an intensive out-patient facility would only solidify the positive *effects*

of the school based health centers as the facility would work closely with the schools to provide counselors to come into the schools as well as be a referral source for students, their family, friends, and relatives. Not only students, but parents would benefit from these services as parenting groups could be held in the schools and out-patient facility. Studies indicate that parent involvement increases students' academic performance and attendance at school. Mental health professionals and school administrators and teachers would work closely to ensure the success of these endeavors.

Studies show that emotional or mental health problems also greatly affect physical health. Studies also indicate that when children feel good, emotionally and physically, they improve academically because they are able to concentrate and focus more and attend school more. Therefore the increase in comprehensive healthcare including but not limited to mental health providers and mental health awareness in schools suggests that students will improve grades and LEAP test scores, which will improve the school system in the Bogalusa City Schools and Washington Parish, which will improve chances for further funding for school, which will in turn attract teachers and students to the schools, which will eventually grow the population, which will increase business and property value, and decrease violence and substance abuse in our parish.

Construction of a new Health Unit on the West side of Washington Parish

Project Participant Champions:

Partners:

Washington Parish Government

Louisiana Department of Health And Hospitals I Parish Government Funds spent on land acquisition \$200,000.00

Local Champions:

Washington Parish President M.E. "Toye" Taylor
909 Pearl Street Franklinton, LA 70438 (985) 839-7829 fax: (985) 839-7827 ttaylor@wpGov.org;

Leo Lucchesi, Director of Public Works
Washington Parish Government (985)839-7825,(985)839-7862 Fax leolucchesi@i-55.com

Tommy Thiebaud, Washington Parish OHSEP
Director (985) 839-0434
tthiebaud@wpgov.org

Funding Requested:

I Total Project Estimated Cost \$2,280,000.00

Funds to come from Washington Parish Health Unit account \$1,800,000.00

Proposed from Long Term Recover Plan funding \$280,000.00 .

Project Scope:

The Current Health Unit in Franklinton proved to be inadequate during and immediately after Hurricane Katrina. Do to various construction features the existing building could not be utilized in support of the medical needs of our citizens.

We are in the process of remedying this situation with the construction of a new 9,700 sq. ft. self sustaining health unit. As you can see above the majority of funds will come from Parish accounts (\$2,000,000.00). We are seeking funds in the amount of \$280,000.00 to complete the project.

Project Purpose:

The new Washington Parish Health Unit will be a self-sustaining facility which will allow for the treatment of our citizens even in times of disaster. The facility which has been expanded to service our ever growing population after Hurricane Katrina will provide a safe place for people to receive care. With the addition of a kitchen, showers, emergency power, and a public health emergency operations (Incident Command room) this facility will remain open and serve as a beacon of hope and safety in times of need.

The Washington Parish Health Unit provides the following services: Adult Health Programs, Birth and Death Records, Child Health Services, Children's Special Health Services, Communicable Disease Control, Family Planning, Food and Drinking Water Protection, HIV/AIDS Services, Home Visiting, Hypertension, Immunizations, Immunizations, Laboratory Services, Lead Screening, Maternity Services, Nutrition, Pharmaceutical Services, Prenatal Care Education, Public Health Statistics, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Tuberculosis, Women, Infants and Children (WIC).

THE TASK FORCE

The Washington Parish Task Force is comprised of representatives from the Washington Parish, the mayors of Angie, Bogalusa, Franklinton, Varnado, the Washington Parish Commission on Human Service, LSU Ag Center, NAACP, WEDFjFAEDF, Bogalusa City Schools, Washington Parish Schools, Washington Parish OEP, Mt. Hermon Community, and faith-based organizations.

The Task Force meets weekly on Fridays at 11 am. The task force reviews parish activities, gives input in plans and projects, and reports back to the organizations they represent.

Input Events

Scoping Meeting (November 2005) Damage issues were assessed along with local needs and capabilities, on behalf of the Long-Term Community Recovery team. It was determined that local parish governments were in need of extensive planning assistance. The critical needs that were identified included structural damage, loss of critical infrastructure, housing for evacuees, and major damage to the local timber industry.

Governmental Workshop (December 2005) was held in Bogalusa, Louisiana with approximately 50 local and state governmental officials as well as school board representatives and faith-based community members. Others in attendance were members of the federal partners program along with FEMA staff from the Joint Field Operations Office.

Louisiana Recovery Planning Day (January 2006) - The Washington Parish Storefront exceeded its expectations by having approximately 100 citizens of Washington Parish attend. The Planning Day provided an opportunity for citizens of Washington Parish to voice their opinions and prioritize recovery efforts.

Task Force Day (February 2006) - The demobilization of the FEMA ESF-14 personnel in Washington Parish culminated with a transfer of authority of the recovery process to the Washington Parish Long Term Community Recovery Task Force. This event was open to the public and held in Bogalusa, Louisiana, to review the projects to be placed on the state's long-term recovery plan. This plan is accessible on the Internet at www.louisianaspeaks.org.

LIAISON OFFICERS

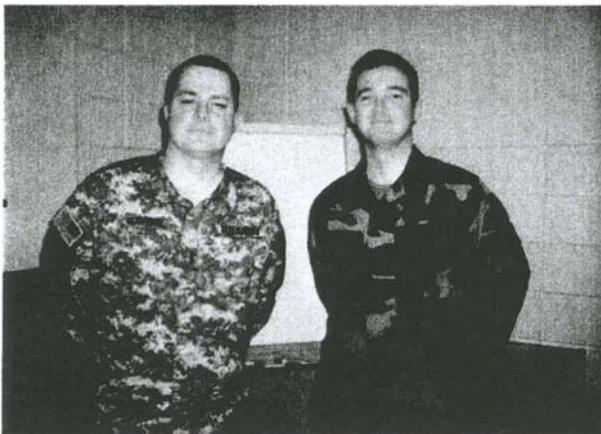
The Louisiana National Guard assigned representatives to Washington Parish in November of 2005 to assist city and parish leaders as well as the Washington Parish Long Term Community Recovery Task Force. These Guardsmen, referred to as Liaison Officers (LNO) provide support with information about upcoming state events of interest and to introduce Washington Parish to relevant state agencies, provide guidance on securing funding for desired projects vital to the successful recovery of Washington Parish, and coordinate with LNO's in adjacent parishes to complete the recovery efforts of the region.

The original mission of the Washington Parish LNO's was to assist FEMA in the determination of what happened during Hurricane Katrina. The abilities of the Louisiana National Guardsmen to assist in planning, organization, communication, and project management has been invaluable to the recovery efforts in the parish.

They have also been tasked with being the archivists of the recovery plans, as well as the development of this document.

The Washington Parish L TCR Liaison team was graciously provided office space by Gaylord Chemical Company of Bogalusa, Louisiana, upon the closure of the ESF-14 storefront in March of 2006. They attend and actively participate in most regularly scheduled government meetings, namely the Parish Council meetings and Parish Planning Commission meetings.

Nearly half of the day-to-day interactions consist of time meeting with local leaders and community members to assist with gathering information and providing support critical to the Washington Parish L TCR Plan. The team has been invited to several civic and stakeholder association meetings to present information compiled at the various planning and recovery meetings, as well as to answer concerns about the recovery process.



L to R: IL T David Haydel
SSGT Micah Collins

APPENDIX 5-A

Statement of Organization:

Education Task Force

Washington Parish Long-Term Community Recovery Task Force

June 2006

Origination and Authority:

The Education Task Force was formed in 2006 as one of the actions taken by the Washington Parish Long-Term Community Recovery Task Force. While the work of the Washington Parish Long Term Community Recovery Task Force was initially under the leadership of FEMA and related only to recovery from hurricanes Katrina and Rita, it soon became a full established, ongoing planning/visioning body for the future of Washington Parish.

The Education Task Force has no authority over any present educational system in Washington Parish, nor does it seek such authority. The Education Task Force works at the pleasure of the Long Term Community Recovery Task Force and is answerable to that body and to the citizenry of Washington Parish. The only authority it can possibly exercise over any educational institution is that which derives from hard work and studied facts that result in recommendations supported by the communities and the parish.

The Need:

Education is a foundational piece in the strength and health of our parish. Education either thrusts the community forward or holds it back. At the present time there is no entity seeking to address the educational life of our parish on a parish wide basis. There are several public and non-public school boards and groups diligently working to serve this area, but there is no group charged with seeing the entire picture and working from that advantage.

Further, Washington Parish has a much greater possibility of receiving help from public and non-public sources to rebuild and strengthen its educational life if it is appealing for help on a parish wide basis rather than from a segment of the parish.

Composition:

The Education Task Force shall be composed of eleven persons. These eleven persons may not be currently serving in a publicly elected community or parish position, not currently employed by any local educational system, and must have resided in the parish for at least one year.

In addition to the eleven members, the Education Task Force shall seek to include as fully participating but advisory members three persons from each of the following: Washington Parish School System (3), Bogalusa City School System (3), Sullivan Vocational Technical College (3), and persons representing non-publicly supported educational systems in the parish (3).

Partnership:

The Education Task Force must be viewed as a complementary body to the presently functioning educational institutions and boards in the parish. It shall diligently seek to affirm, support and respond to the insights and goals of these institutions and boards. It is here understood that adversarial relationships with these bodies will not serve to strengthen the educational life of our parish, and such relationships are to be avoided. The Education Task Force is to work as a partner with the institutions and boards to bring about meaningful growth in this most critical and exciting area.

Washington Parish Council Resolution 07- 396

The following resolution was offered for adoption on motion by

Councilman Brown ; seconded by Councilman Nassauer .

Resolution

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Recovery Authority has provided an allocation of recovery funds to Washington Parish based on storm damage from Hurricane Katrina as estimated by damage to public infrastructure and projects that speed the recovery; and

WHEREAS, the Long Term Recovery Committee of Washington Parish, which included input from local governments, agencies, and the general public; has assembled the Washington Parish Long Term Recovery Plan; .

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington Parish Council is hereby adopts the Washington Parish Long Term Recovery Plan as presented.

This resolution was considered section and as a whole and upon motion by Councilman Brown , seconded by Councilman Nassauer , adopted by (Sumrall, Thoma., Sharp, Wheat, Miley, Nasseaer, Brown)

The following vote on this 26th day of November 2007.

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Clinton Miley, Chairman
Washington Parish Council

Certification

I, Sharon Lyons, Clerk of the Council, Parish of Washington, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted at the regular meeting of the Washington Parish Council held on November 26, 2007 in Franklinton, Louisiana a quorum being present and voting.

Sharon Lyons, Clerk of the Council