

# LOUISIANA SPEAKS

Our Voice. Our Plan. Our Future.



July 30, 2007 Update

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## *Louisiana Speaks Updates*

- **Office of State Planning Study Resolution**
- **Status of *Louisiana Speaks* 501(c)3**
- ***Louisiana Speaks* Outreach Document**
- **Top 10 Priorities**
- **LA Rail Train Study**
- **Second Printing of *Louisiana Speaks***

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## Office of State Planning Study Resolution

### HCR 229

- Introduced by Representative Cheryl Gray
- Creates the Office of State Planning Taskforce
- Findings/Recommendations to be released prior to February 15, 2008

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## *Louisiana Speaks - 501(c)3*

- Institutionalizes the Champions Group into a planning advocacy group for La Speaks and a future Office of State Planning.
- La Speaks Transition Task Force meets regularly.
- IRS Forms underway.

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# *Louisiana Speaks* Outreach Document

Conversion of *Louisiana Speaks Regional Plan* into a citizen-friendly document

- Plans to contract with Wright Feigley Communications through the LRASF

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## *Louisiana Speaks* TOP 10 Priorities

- Enhance State Planning Capacity and Coordination and establish an independent, non-profit Louisiana Speaks leadership group
- Immediately Fund Priority Regional Projects, starting with LA Rail
- Coordinate Short-Term Implementation of the Louisiana Speaks Regional Plan with State Protection and Restoration Plans
- Extend the Louisiana Speaks Regional Plan North
- Support Local Recovery Plans
- Develop Model Codes for Community Development
- Use the *Louisiana Speaks Regional Plan* to Provide Guidance for the Transfer of Properties in the RHC
- Locate and Design Schools and Medical Facilities to Create Better Neighborhoods and Spur Community Development
- Clear Obstacles to Building Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)
- Create a Louisiana Location Index

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## LA Rail

- Feasibility study proposed for inter-city passenger service system between Baton Rouge and New Orleans
  - Ridership
  - Service Route and Stations/Terminals
  - Land Use and local feeder services
  - Acceptable travel times and creative financing
- RFP design in process

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## *Louisiana Speaks Reprint*

Updated Second Printing of Louisiana Speaks Regional Plan underway.

1,000 copies have been distributed locally, nationally, and internationally.

Over 1,000 copies have been downloaded from the website.

5,000 copies are currently being printed.

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