



## LAFORCHE PARISH MEETINGS 4 & 5 SUMMARY



## MEETING 4 OVERVIEW

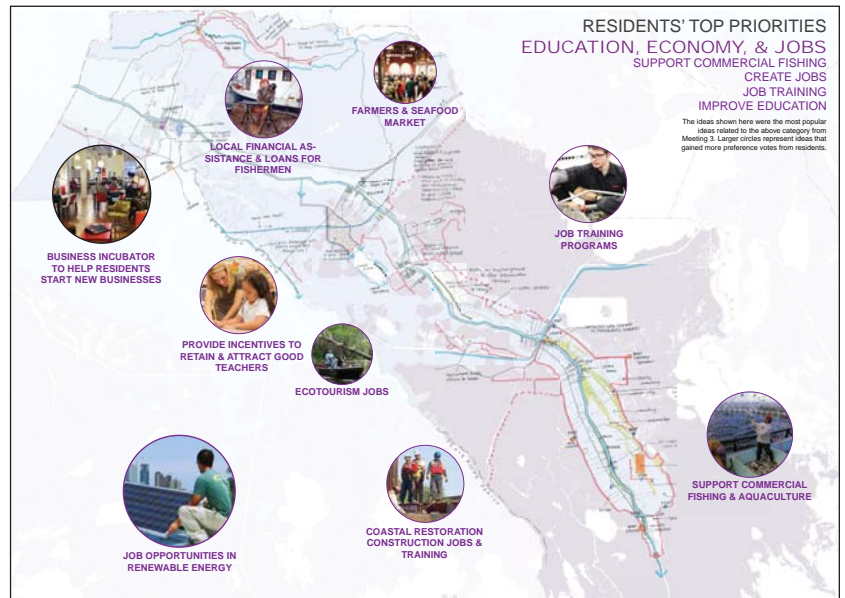
In October, LA SAFE conducted two types of meetings in Lafourche Parish: round table discussions with parish officials and community open houses.

The LA SAFE team met with leaders and potential partners at the city and parish level in order to learn how the proposed projects could align with existing related efforts. This also helped the team identify potential hurdles in implementing certain projects, so they could plan with those obstacles in mind.

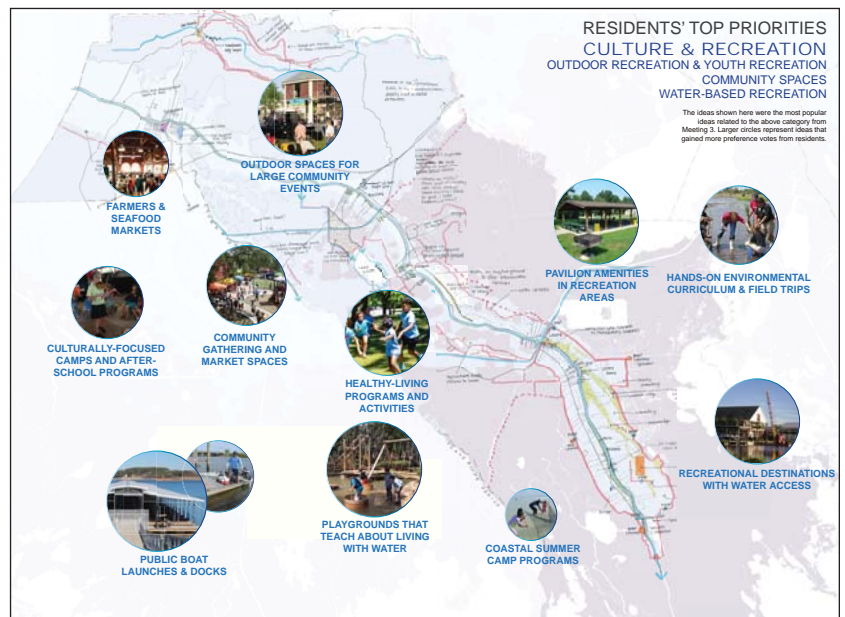
The Lafourche parish meeting began with a stakeholders round table, after which the LA SAFE team opened the doors to the community for a larger open house. Meetings in Round 4 helped hone the ideas residents generated in the previous three rounds of meetings into final proposals to be evaluated during Round 5.

### Round 4 Meeting Events in Lafourche

- Stakeholders Round Table & Community Open House  
Tuesday 11.07.17



*Vision Board*



*Vision Board*



## MEETING 5 OVERVIEW

In the fifth and final round of meetings, residents reviewed six potential demonstration proposals for their parish, and voted for their preferred projects at a polling station. The meeting was a gallery-style exhibit with boards set up around the room, so that the residents could understand the LA SAFE process. The boards included a summary of previous meetings; future flood risk, land loss and subsidence maps; a 50-year vision map for the parish; and a policy proposal board that covered a range of issues expressed by residents in earlier meetings.

Demonstration proposal boards (shown in the Appendix) illustrated six different projects and programs that LA SAFE could fund. The boards included detailed descriptions, concept drawings and example images along with information on cost, location, area, and potential partners to give residents an idea of each project. Each proposal highlighted multiple community benefits, using the five categories that emerged in the previous meetings: Culture & Recreation, Stormwater Management, Housing & Development, Transportation, and Education, Economy & Jobs. This provided residents with a complete understanding of each project, in order to help them decide on their preferred proposals.



*LA SAFE team member discussing proposal policies with residents*



*Meeting 5 participant casting his preference for the six demonstration proposals*



*LA SAFE Team and residents prior to revealing poll results*

## MEETING 5 PROPOSALS

Below are summary descriptions of each of the 6 demonstration proposals that residents evaluated at the meeting. The full description of all these proposals can be found in the appendix.



### **A EMERGING INDUSTRY BUSINESS INCUBATOR**

This business accelerator will help diversify the economy by supporting new small businesses in alternative energy, hospitality, coastal restoration, and eco-tourism. The building will house shared working space and the accelerator program will partner entrepreneurs with mentors in their field to help them start and grow their business.



### **B GALLIANO GREEN STREETS**

This project will provide street improvements near Galliano Elementary School that will incorporate green infrastructure to capture and store water, alleviating flooding in lower-lying areas downstream. The project will also add shared-use paths and street lights to increase safety for pedestrians and bikers.



### **C RESILIENT HOUSING PROTOTYPE**

This elevated medium-density housing prototype incorporates building techniques that resist flood and wind damage, supplements electrical generation with renewable energy, and manages stormwater in a shared green space and by using permeable materials. The development will serve as a model for resilient and affordable housing in moderate risk areas.



### **D GOLDEN MEADOW WETLAND PARK & OUTDOOR CLASSROOM**

This project will create a 20-acre park near Golden Meadow Upper Elementary School, combining recreational trails and educational opportunities with best stormwater management practices. The park will capture and store water during rain events, reducing nearby flooding and slowing subsidence by allowing water to enter back into the ground.



### **E OAK RIDGE SEAFOOD MARKET**

This project will create a seafood market in Golden Meadow's Oak Ridge Park, adjacent to an existing boat launch. The market will help promote the local seafood industry by providing a centralized location for direct sales of locally caught seafood.



### **F BAYOU LAFOURCHE HARBOR OF REFUGE**

Storm damage to commercial fishing vessels can significantly impact fishermen's ability to recover after a hurricane. This project will create a harbor of refuge in Golden Meadow to provide a low-cost option for commercial fishermen to shelter their vessels during disaster events.

## COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK

Residents left comments and feedback on the boards describing what they liked and disliked about each proposal. A summary of their feedback is below. All of the comments gathered are in the appendix.

### A: EMERGING INDUSTRY BUSINESS INCUBATOR

Stakeholders commented that this proposal would help small businesses to start up. It would create new jobs and grow industries, while also providing opportunities to host community events. There was concern that the proposal might not serve the whole community, and suggestions that the incubator provide computer training.

### B: GALLIANO GREEN STREETS

Residents commented that they liked the idea of improved stormwater management practices, and liked the proposal location. The main concern was the high cost and the small project area.

### C: RESILIENT HOUSING PROTOTYPE

Residents commented that this proposal would be great for any location within Lafourche Parish. They believed that the green infrastructure, elevated housing, and solar arrays could bring in more commerce to the area, and enjoyed the lowered cost of flood insurance. The residents pointed out that the parking was still vulnerable to flooding, and the solar panels would be damaged or destroyed in a storm event.

### D: GOLDEN MEADOW WETLAND PARK & OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

Stakeholders enjoyed the large scale of this proposal. They commented that it provides hands-on educational opportunities for students, while managing stormwater. Some residents were concerned with the cost, as well as the proximity to the nearby school.

*“Wonderful education possibilities. An idea of the way we should build in the future.”- Lafourche Parish Resident*

### E: OAK RIDGE SEAFOOD MARKET

Residents commented that they would like to have a place to buy local seafood. They also appreciated that the proposal would provide opportunities for fishermen to sell their catch, and contribute to the local economy. The only negative comment was about the location of the market.

### F: BAYOU LAFOURCHE HARBOR OF REFUGE

Stakeholders thought that the proposal was a good idea that would help commercial fishermen maintain their livelihoods, because it allowed them to dock their vessels during an extreme weather event. There was concern regarding the location of the harbor – that it may be too far south to be effective.



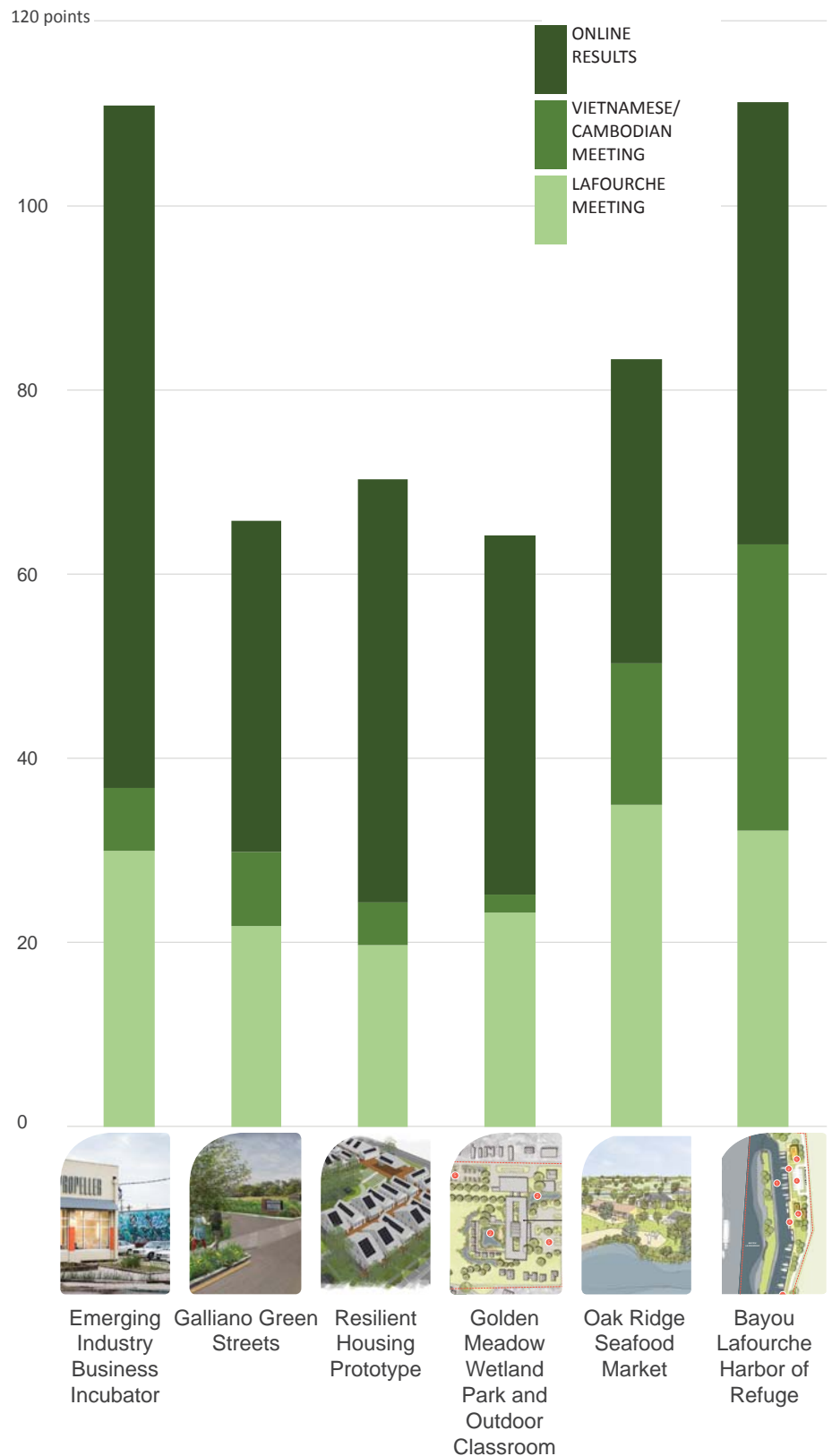
## MEETING 5 POLLING

After reviewing all of the 6 proposals, residents visited the polling station and reviewed the proposal selection criteria, which includes public preference as one of the six components. Residents were given tokens to mark their preference for each of the six proposals. They used their two gold tokens to select their favorite two proposals; green tokens for their 3rd and 4th favorite proposals, and blue tokens for their least favorite proposals. Gold tokens were worth two points, green tokens were worth 1 point and blue tokens were worth 0 points.

At the end of the evening, the results of the polling were revealed, giving the participants a general idea of the outcome. In order to make the polling accessible to residents throughout the parish, and to minimize geographic bias, residents not at the meeting could access an online poll for 3 weeks following the meeting.

The Lafourche Parish meeting was held on Monday, December 18th at the Mathews Government Complex. Twenty eight residents and stakeholders signed in and participated. An additional meeting for Vietnamese and Khmer-speaking (Cambodian) residents was held on December 20th. This meeting was open to residents of Plaquemines, Terrebonne, Jefferson, and Lafourche Parishes. Following these meetings, an online poll collected preference input from 46 additional residents. The graph on the right shows the results of the preference polling.

### POLLING RESULTS



## PROPOSAL SELECTION

Both the public preference results from Round 5 and the online poll will inform the proposal selection. Public preference is one of the six scoring criteria that the project team will use to select proposals for funding. The LA SAFE team will announce the proposal selection in the first quarter of 2018, when the LA SAFE planning document is released.

**1. Public Preference** - The result of the meeting preference polling and an online poll.

**2. Leverage Funds** - The level of matching funds from other sources.

**3. LMI Benefit** - Points awarded to projects that benefit low-to-moderate income populations.

**4. Public Benefit (Quantitative)** - The level of benefit to the public that can be measured. For example, the number of units created in a housing proposal, or the amount of water stored in a stormwater management proposal.

**5. Public Benefit (Qualitative)** - The degree to which the project addresses future flood risk in a unique way and/or improves quality of life for residents.

**6. CRS Score** - Awarded to projects that gain points in FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS), which utilizes floodplain management planning to lower flood insurance rates.



*A resident casting their preference*



*Residents casting their preferences*



*Residents reviewing one of the proposals*

## APPENDIX

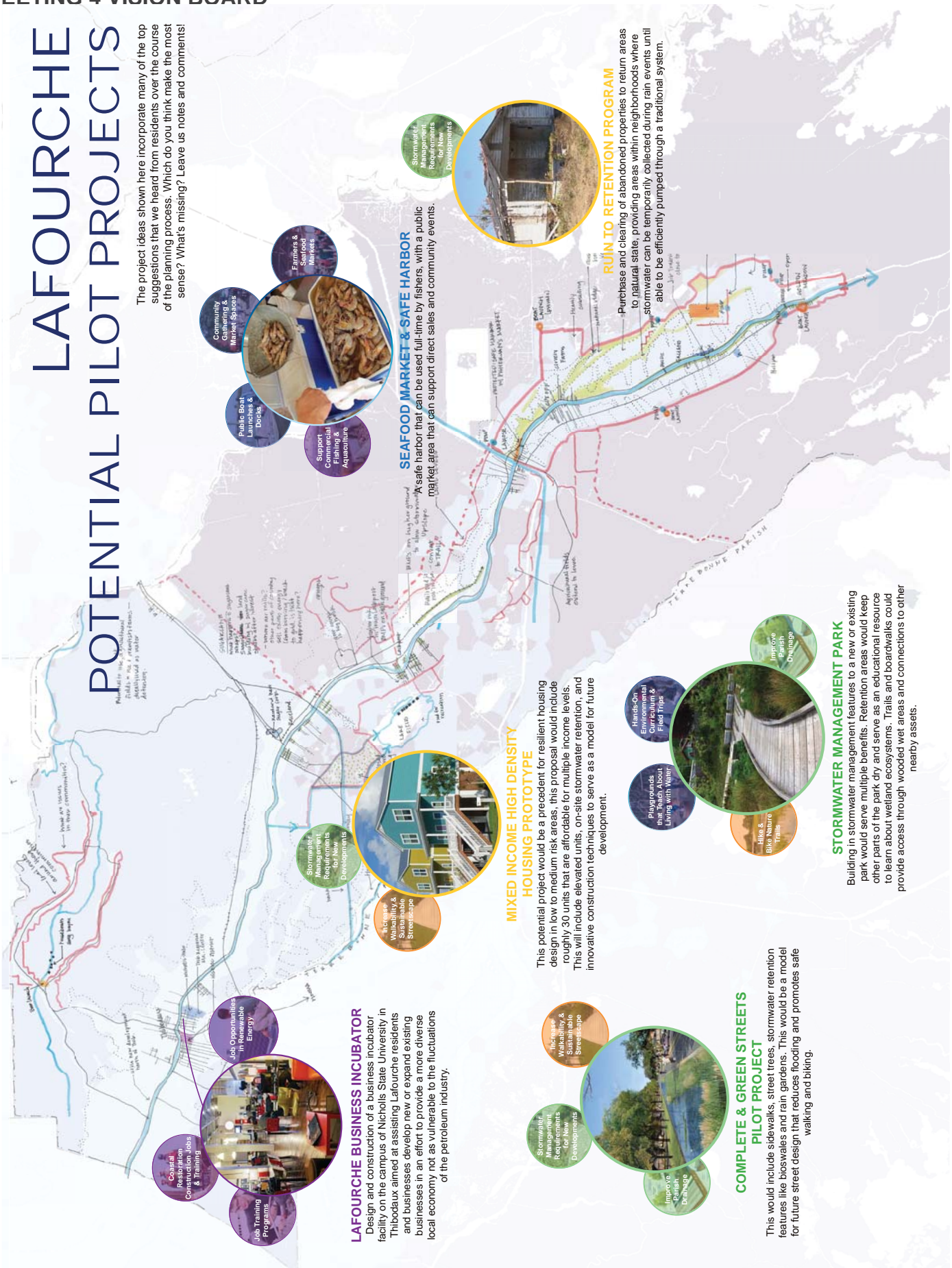
The following pages contain additional materials produced for the meetings, as well as comments gathered at the meetings.



# MEETING 4 VISION BOARD

## LAFOURCHE POTENTIAL PILOT PROJECTS

The project ideas shown here incorporate many of the top suggestions that we heard from residents over the course of the planning process. Which do you think make the most sense? What's missing? Leave us notes and comments!





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## DEMONSTRATION PROPOSAL BOARDS

# A EMERGING INDUSTRY BUSINESS INCUBATOR



Alternative Energy  
Wind and Solar



Coastal Restoration



Hospitality



Lost Lands Tours; photo credit: Rush Jagoe  
Eco-Tourism

This proposed project is modeled after Propeller, a business incubator in New Orleans that offers a training program for starting new businesses, as well as office space and amenities for small-business owners. The Lafourche incubator would support businesses that address: alternative energy, coastal restoration, hospitality, and eco-tourism.



**A** Accelerator program to help grow new businesses



**B** Collaborative work stations



**F** One-on-one mentoring & career counseling



**C** Private meeting rooms



**D** Communal work area



**E** Technology center & fabrication space



## DEMONSTRATION PROPOSAL BOARDS

A

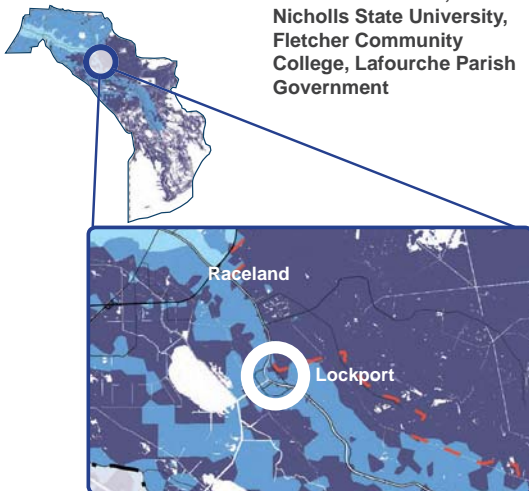


## PROPOSAL

Economic resilience is a cornerstone of LA SAFE. A business incubator will help launch new businesses, diversifying the economy with industries that will strengthen the region in the future. As part of the accelerator program, entrepreneurs will have access to a mentor in their field to help guide them through the program as they start their business. The incubator provides a co-working space with access to shared office equipment and a communal kitchen.

### Key Info

LA SAFE Investment	Up to \$4 million
Estimated Project Cost	\$2 million for accelerator program development; \$2 million for facility construction or renovation
Location	Lockport
Potential Partners	Propeller, Thibodaux Chamber of Commerce, Lafourche Chamber of Commerce, South Louisiana Economic Council, Nicholls State University, Fletcher Community College, Lafourche Parish Government



### Community Benefits



Incentivizes the development of new firms and emergent technologies in coastal restoration.



The development of this incubator will use smart building strategies that respond to the environment and mitigate stormwater on site.



The accelerator promotes small business development and economic diversity, creating jobs in growing industrial sectors.



Eco-tourism and the growth of small local businesses provide the opportunity to share and strengthen local culture.

## COMMENTS

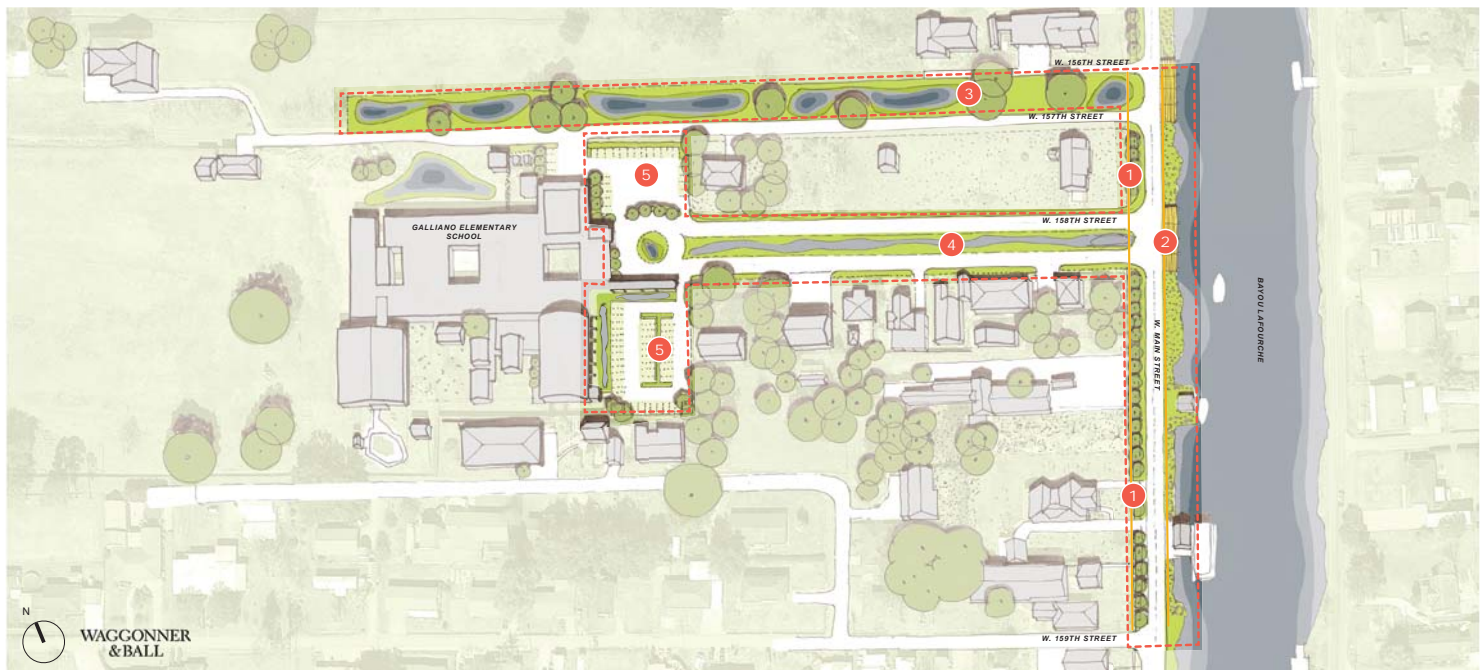
### What do you like about this proposal?

- Will grow businesses and create new jobs.
- Opportunities for community events (like the library!).
- Great to help small business starting up.

### What do you not like about this proposal?

- May not serve everyone.
- Would need to provide computers and computer training!
- May hurt existing solar business in Lockport.

## DEMONSTRATION PROPOSAL BOARDS

**B****GALLIANO  
GREEN STREETS**

Plan View

- 1 Streetside bioretention cell and shaded multi-use path



- 2 Boardwalk with overlooks and seating areas



- 3 Water Storage



- 4 Enhanced canal with landscape improvements



- 5 Permeable parking



Perspective View



## DEMONSTRATION PROPOSAL BOARDS

## B



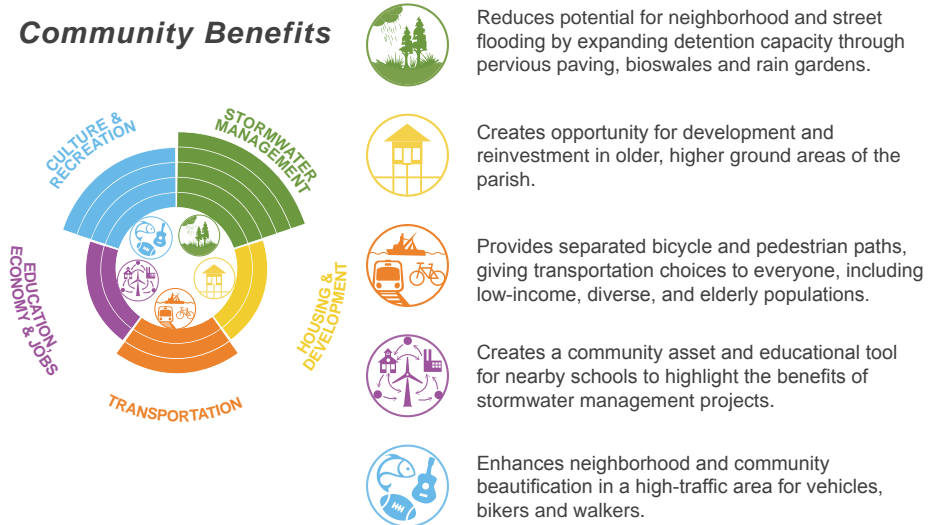
## PROPOSAL

Within existing and planned structural risk reduction systems, like the one protecting portions of Lafourche Parish, it is important to incorporate best stormwater management practices that mitigate local flooding conditions and subsidence rates. Employing established green street concepts helps local neighborhoods achieve this goal, while providing residents a safer and enhanced transportation experience. This project proposes approximately 2,500 linear feet of street improvements near Galliano Elementary School. Increasing stormwater capacity on high ground along the bayou alleviates flooding in lower-lying areas downstream. The proposed project includes green infrastructure components like detention ponds, an improved canal, bioswales with native plantings and permeable parking, as well as shared-use paths, shade trees and street lights.

## Key Info

Project Area	Approx. 4 acres
LA SAFE Investment	Up to \$3.5M
Estimated Project Cost	\$3.5M
Partners	Lafourche Parish
Location	Galliano

## Community Benefits



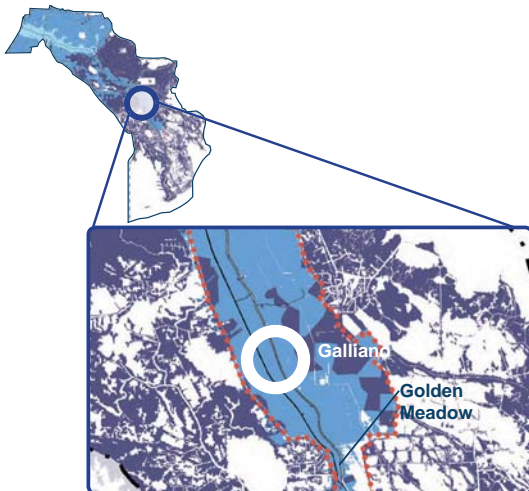
## COMMENTS

## What do you like about this proposal?

- The Idea.
- Great Idea for the area.
- Location.

## What do you not like about this proposal?

- Who is responsible for accidents or injuries on the “dock” like structure along the bayou?
- Very expensive for small area.
- Just for a small area but large cost.



## DEMONSTRATION PROPOSAL BOARDS

# C RESILIENT HOUSING PROTOTYPE

## Moderate Risk Example near Lockport

Existing Housing Density: 2.1 units per acre | Proposed Density: 8 units per acre



## Low Risk Example Model based on another parish.



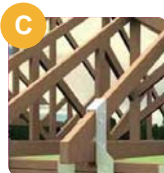
**Mixed-Use Buildings** in low-risk areas attract local businesses like coffee shops, restaurants and retail stores to neighborhoods. Multistory buildings accommodate more people while preserving green space for recreation and stormwater management. In turn, more residents are likely to patronize businesses within walking distance.



**Elevated Housing with space below for parking and gathering**



**Pier and Beam Foundations**



**Wind Resistant Design**



**Solar Power**



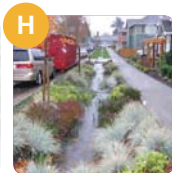
**Community Pavilion**



**Permeable Paving**



**Stormwater Park**

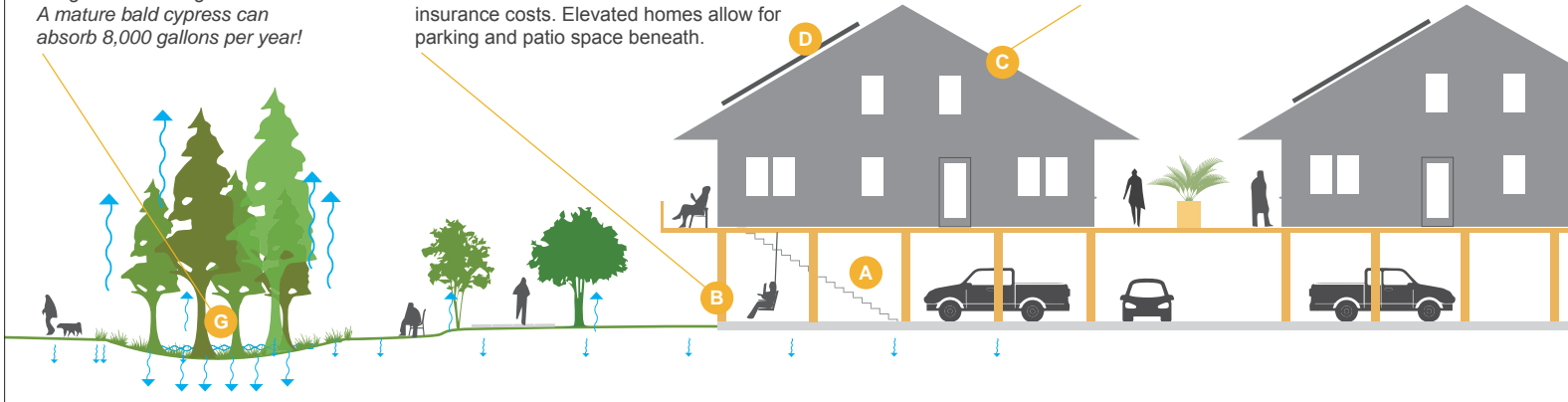


**Complete Streets with Bump-outs, Bioswales & Trees**

Stormwater is absorbed into the ground and vegetation. A mature bald cypress can absorb 8,000 gallons per year!

Pier and beam foundations raised above Base Flood Elevation reduces flood risk and insurance costs. Elevated homes allow for parking and patio space beneath.

Wind mitigation protects from hurricanes and reduces insurance costs.





## DEMONSTRATION PROPOSAL BOARDS

## C

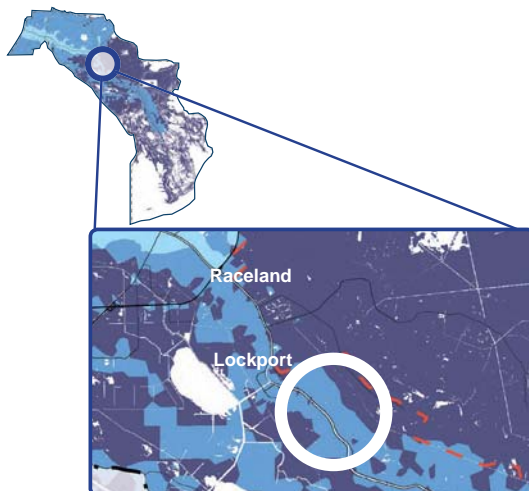


## PROPOSAL

As populations migrate northward from south and central Lafourche Parish, medium-density, affordable residential developments should be prioritized in these receiver communities. This housing prototype builds density on a reduced footprint and will be resilient to flooding and wind damage. It will incorporate clean energy practices and conservation-minded components. Landscaping and shared green space will manage stormwater while adding beauty to the surrounding neighborhood. Roughly half the units will be market rate and the rest will be affordable to residents earning 20%, 30% and 50% of area median income. This project will serve as a model for resilient construction practices as Lafourche adapts to its changing future.

## Key Info

LA SAFE Investment	\$4-6 million
Estimated Project Cost	\$7-10 million
Partners	Private Developer, Louisiana Housing Corporation
Location	East of Bayou Lafourche, near Lockport



## Community Benefits



Incorporates green infrastructure to manage all stormwater on site.



Provides quality, elevated affordable housing.



Locations will be chosen to take advantage of existing transportation networks to connect housing to jobs.



Includes public amenities such as a pavilion, park, and gathering space.

## COMMENTS

## What do you like about this proposal?

- Having stormwater park, elevation, solar power bringing businesses to the area.
- Great place anywhere in Lafourche Parish.
- Sound idea to eliminate need for very high flood insurance. Entire neighborhood elevated, so all residents can interact together.

## What do you not like about this proposal?

- U Parking, cars can flood in case of hurricanes, storms.
- Insurance companies discourage parking and fires under homes.
- Solar panels on roof can be damaged during storms. Maybe a solar space.
- Solar panels will come off during hurricane.
- High Cost.

## DEMONSTRATION PROPOSAL BOARDS

# D GOLDEN MEADOW WETLAND PARK & OUTDOOR CLASSROOM



Precedent images of pathways and seating areas in a wetland park



Precedent images of permeable parking and bioswales



Precedent image of stormwater management landscape at an entrance of a school



Precedent image of water storage area that doubles as terraced gathering space

## Plan View

- 1 Weir to divert water from existing drainage canal
- 2 Water Storage
- 3 Pathway Network with Educational Signage in Forested Wetland
- 4 Educational Pavilion
- 5 Permeable Parking and Bioswales

## DEMONSTRATION PROPOSAL BOARDS

D



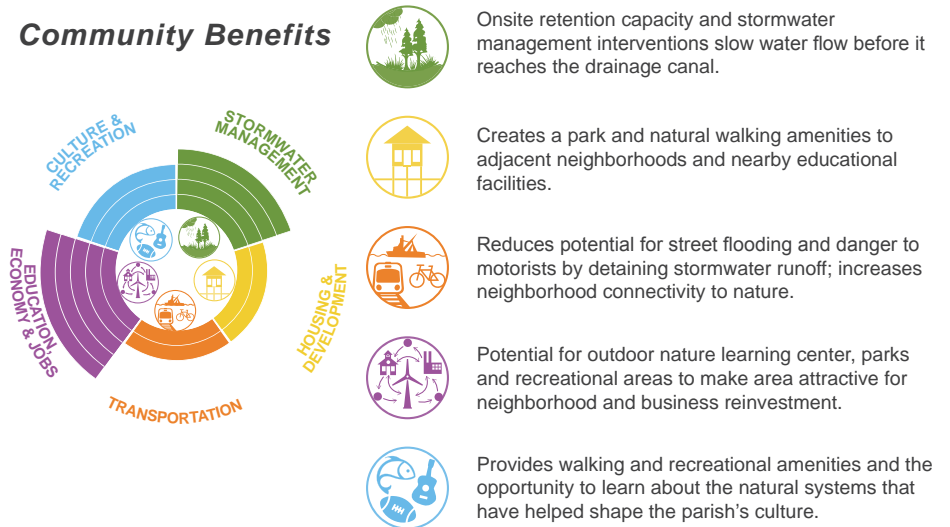
## PROPOSAL

Providing coastal residents with educational opportunities to learn more about environmental changes and holistic stormwater solutions is critical to planning for a sustainable future along our coast. The Wetland Park & Outdoor Classroom at Golden Meadow Upper Elementary School incorporates best stormwater management practices, reducing flooding in surrounding areas, while providing recreational and educational opportunities to local students and residents. Detaining water within natural landscapes as long as possible, before it gets pumped out of leveed areas, both reduces flood risk and helps manage subsidence in a location that has already subsided up to five feet below sea level.

## Key Info

Project Area	20 acres
LA SAFE Investment	Up to \$4.8M
Estimated Project Cost	\$4.8M
Partners	Lafourche Parish
Location	Golden Meadow

## Community Benefits



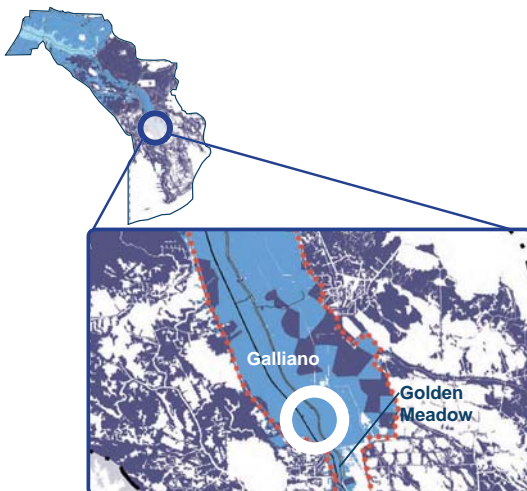
## COMMENTS

## What do you like about this proposal?

- It's about time we do something physically for educating our youth and at the same time stopping flood water to 3235.
- Wonderful education possibilities. An idea of the way we should build in the future.
- Large 20 acre development to hold water.

## What do you not like about this proposal?

- Too close to the school.





## DEMONSTRATION PROPOSAL BOARDS

# E OAK RIDGE SEAFOOD MARKET



Perspective View



Plan View



Precedent image of bioswales



Precedent image of permeable parking

Precedent image of seafood market stalls  
Westwego Fish Market

Precedent images of seafood market

- 1 Seafood Market Stalls and Fishing Dock
- 2 Permeable Parking and Bioswales
- 3 Picnic Pavilion with Restrooms and Storage
- 4 Existing Oak Ridge Boat Launch
- 5 Existing Pump Station - Future upgrades can include windows & signage retrofits for educational purposes
- 6 Future opportunities for water storage

## DEMONSTRATION PROPOSAL BOARDS

E



## PROPOSAL

Lafourche Parish is a Sportsman's Paradise with some of the world's best commercial and recreational fishing areas. The seafood industry is one of the leading employers in Louisiana, producing millions of pounds of shrimp, oysters, crabs and fish annually. However, as flood risk increases and land loss continues to occur, this industry faces significant threats to its viability. Located in Golden Meadow's Oak Ridge Park, adjacent to an existing boat launch and pump house, the South Lafourche Seafood Market provides a centralized location for buying and selling locally caught seafood, promoting the long-term sustainability of the fishing industry. The project includes market stalls, a covered open-air pavilion, and restroom facilities.

## Key Info

Project Area	6.5 acres
LA SAFE Investment	Up to \$6.0M
Estimated Project Cost	\$6.0M
Partners	Lafourche Parish
Location	Golden Meadow

## Community Benefits



Reduces potential for neighborhood and street flooding by expanding detention capacity through pervious paving, bioswales, rain gardens.



Supports residents and businesses by providing access to needed goods and services.



Grows the direct seafood to consumer market and provides fishermen and farmers with a permanent location to sell and market goods.



Enhances community recreational opportunities through access to water and trails; creates new event spaces and a cultural hub.

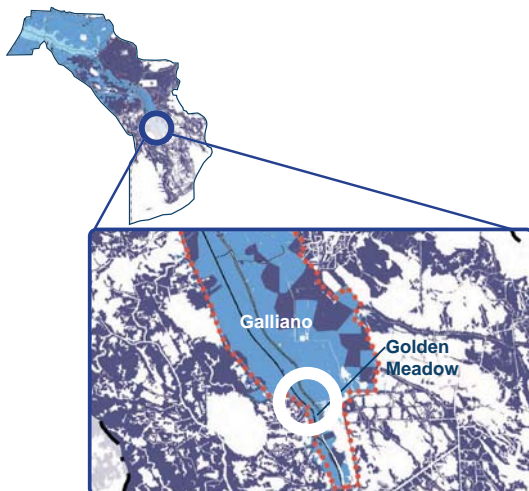
## COMMENTS

## What do you like about this proposal?

- Place to sell seafood.
- The best proposal of the evening. I have personally driven down the bayou, only to find no one selling shrimp. This would help shrimpers get more for their catch.

## What do you not like about this proposal?

- Location.





F

# BAYOU LAFOURCHE HARBOR OF REFUGE



Plan View



Perspective View

- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1 Harbor of Refuge and Boat Docks | 5 Picnic Pavilion / Seafood Market (Optional)       |
| 2 Pathway                         | 6 Raised Convenience Store and Restrooms (Optional) |
| 3 Boat Dock                       |   |
| 4 Permeable Parking and Bioswales |   |



Precedent images of harbor of refuge  
Delcambre, LA





## F

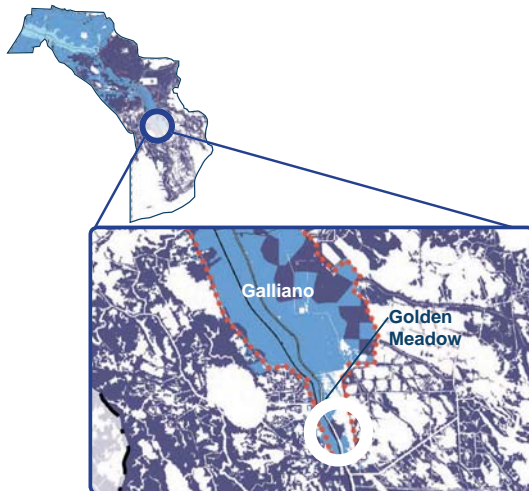


## PROPOSAL

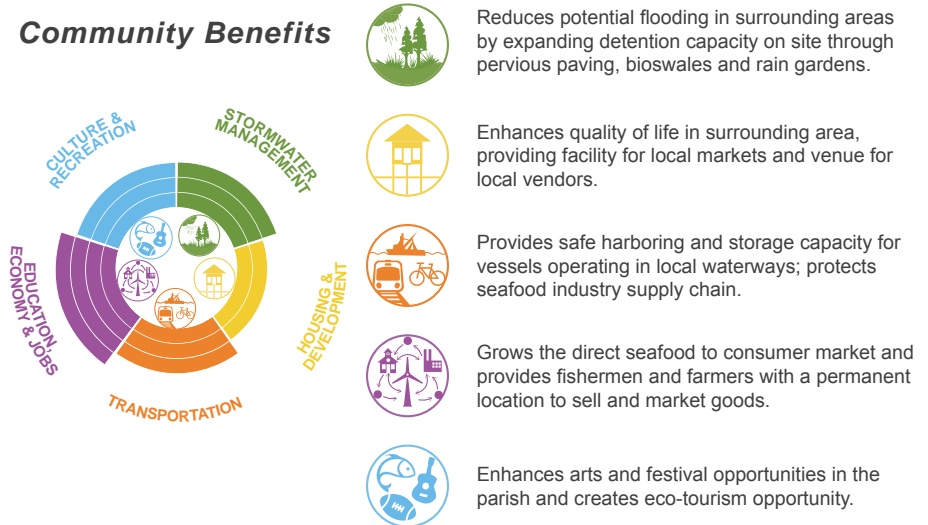
Lafourche Parish is a Sportsman's Paradise with some of the world's best commercial and recreational fishing areas. The seafood industry is one of the leading employers in Louisiana, and produces millions of pounds of shrimp, oysters, crabs and fish annually. However, as flood risk increases and land loss continues to occur, this industry faces significant threats to its viability — specifically to vital equipment and infrastructure. This proposal would create a harbor of refuge for vessels to shelter in place during disaster events. The parish-operated harbor would be a low-cost option for those commercial fishermen who do not own bayou-side property, making docking safe and convenient.

### Key Info

Project Area	6 acres
LA SAFE Investment	Up to \$6.3M
Estimated Project Cost	\$6.3M - \$7.6M
Partners	Lafourche Parish, Louisiana SeaGrant
Location	Golden Meadow



### Community Benefits



## COMMENTS

### What do you like about this proposal?

- Good idea to help commercial fisherman.
- Great for shrimpers docking.

### What do you not like about this proposal?

- Golden Meadow seems too far south to be effective.
- Location end of 308.

ADDITIONAL MEETING 5 MATERIALS

LAFOURCHE PARISH 50-YEAR RESILIENCE VISION

