As populations migrate to lower risk areas, it is important to preserve and promote historic assets and local cultures within receiving communities, enhancing quality of life. The four historic and cultural districts in LaPlace, Reserve, Garyville and Edgard represent the parish’s most culturally significant places. Their location on higher ground makes them ideal candidates for retaining stormwater in their street networks to help reduce flooding in lower lying areas. This project provides seed funding to install demonstration sections of green streets in all four districts, develop a complete streets design manual and create marketing materials to promote cultural awareness, investment and revitalization in the districts. Demonstration green streets include roadside bioswales with native plantings, upgraded sidewalks, street lighting and banners for improved safety and walkability.

**PROPOSAL**

Provides bioswales and other green infrastructure to detain and infiltrate water.

Serves as a ‘kick start’ for the development and administration of more creative placemaking projects.

Potential to reduce trips by creating more complete neighborhoods with housing, stores and services within walking distance.

Increases opportunities to market incentives (historic, sales tax credits) to property owners and businesses and to collaborate with nonprofits.

Increases public awareness and community engagement around cultural identity, the arts and stormwater management.

**Key Info**

- **Four Historic Districts**
- **LA SAFE Investment**: Up to $3M
- **Estimated Project Cost**: $3M

**Partners**

- St. John Cultural District Coalition
- St. John Parish, LA. Historic Preservation Office, Office of Cultural Development, Division of Historic Preservation
- Tax Incentives
- LA. Trust for Historic Preservation
- Garyville Timbermill Museum Association
- River Region Arts and Humanities Council
- River Parishes Tourism Commission
- St. John the Baptist Parish Historical Society
- Whitney Plantation

**Location**: Garyville, Reserve, Edgard, LaPlace

**Community Benefits**

- Provides bioswales and other green infrastructure to detain and infiltrate water.
- Serves as a ‘kick start’ for the development and administration of more creative placemaking projects.
- Potential to reduce trips by creating more complete neighborhoods with housing, stores and services within walking distance.
- Increases opportunities to market incentives (historic, sales tax credits) to property owners and businesses and to collaborate with nonprofits.
- Increases public awareness and community engagement around cultural identity, the arts and stormwater management.
As populations migrate to lower risk areas, development should be clustered in locations with existing infrastructure and amenities. The multi-modal transit station incentivizes economic and population growth in LaPlace’s town center, which is situated on a high-ground ridge along the Mississippi River. In addition to providing a centralized hub and transfer location for local and regional bus and automobile transportation in the near term, the station offers flexible space that can be used for rentals, public meetings, disaster staging and other civic uses. In the long-term, it will provide a hub for the proposed regional rail line between Baton Rouge and New Orleans. Quick rail service to these job centers will spur economic development on high ground with strong local and regional connections. Potential components include waiting and boarding areas, a solar energy system, a multi-purpose area, retail/concessions space to generate operating revenue and best practices on site for stormwater management in parking and green areas.