Even in higher ground locations, natural systems must be maximized to retain stormwater in response to current and heightened future flood risk. French Branch Pond will be converted to a high-capacity stormwater detention area in 2018, providing 324 acres of floodplain storage in a critical drainage area. This proposal adds a suite of recreational and educational amenities transforming the traditional detention pond into a community asset. Proposed amenities include educational signage throughout, a walking/biking path surrounding the pond, floodable boardwalks within the pond, and a new trail under I-10 connecting to the City of Slidell’s existing trail network.

**Key Info**
- **Project Area**: Approx. 55 acres
- **LA SAFE Investment**: Up to $3.7M
- **Estimated Project Cost**: $3.7M
- **Partners**: St. Tammany Parish, FEMA, City of Slidell
- **Location**: Slidell

**Community Benefits**
- Reduces surrounding neighborhood and street flooding by expanding detention capacity.
- Improves property values and incentivizes new development by creating a community asset and reducing flood risk.
- Helps to alleviate potential for street flooding and danger to motorists by retaining stormwater runoff; increases neighborhood walkability and bikeability.
- Creates a community asset and educational tool for nearby schools to highlight the benefits of stormwater management projects.
- Provides community recreational opportunities through access to water and trails.

**Comments**
- Comments are not included in this text.
Even in higher ground locations, natural systems must be maximized to retain stormwater in response to current and heightened future flood risk. On the Safe Haven campus, this project will divert stormwater into existing forested land within critical drainage areas for detention benefits, while discouraging future development in these areas. Simultaneously, this project will implement the first of a multi-phase development illustrating how existing structures within vulnerable environments may be repurposed to benefit surrounding areas. Additionally, this project demonstrates how development buildouts can be juxtaposed alongside critical drainage areas to minimize exposure to severe, repetitive flood events.

**Community Benefits**

- Helps protect housing stock near a critical drainage area, improving property values and inverting further development buildouts in vulnerable areas.
- Helps to alleviate street flooding adjacent to critical drainage areas on key Hwy. 190 corridor, reducing danger to motorists and enabling better access for emergency vehicles.
- Provides residents with behavioral health services, educational, workforce training, stormwater management and coastal restoration programs; potential for a community garden/youth farm and teaching kitchen.
- Integrates Safe Haven campus into Nonthshore culture, designating behavioral health services by collocating community amenities; creates a holistic mental healthcare campus and expands recreational opportunities.

**Key Info**

- Project Area: 10 acres
- LA SAFE Investment: Up to $6M
- Estimated Project Cost: $11.5M
- Partners: St. Tammany Parish, City of Mandeville, St. Tammany Parish Public Schools, potential private and nonprofit entities
- Location: Near Mandeville
This proposed project is modeled after Propeller, a business incubator in New Orleans that offers a training program for accelerating new business development, as well as office space and amenities for small-business owners. The St. Tammany incubator will support businesses that address: alternative energy, coastal restoration, construction, and digital manufacturing.

**Community Benefits**

- Incentivizes the development of new firms and emerging technologies in stormwater management.
- 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.

**Key Info**

- **LA SAFE Investment**: $4 million
- **Estimated Project Cost**: $2 million for accelerator program development; $2 million for facility construction or renovation
- **Location**: TBD
- **Partners**: Propeller, Northshore Technical Community College (NTCC), St. Tammany Parish Government

**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, and a makerspace for new fabrication and creative projects that make use of tools such as laser cutters, CNC machines and 3D printers.
Leveraging recent planning efforts to enhance connectivity and address flood risk, the proposed water garden and green street along S. Jefferson Avenue in Covington is a replicable, scalable model that provides a host of recreational and water management benefits. The proposal incorporates green infrastructure components to enhance water storage capacity and addresses street flooding issues. It also expands a multi-use trail, currently planned to extend from the end of the Tammany Trace to the intersection of N. Jefferson Avenue and 21st Avenue, to 15th Avenue. In addition, the water garden in front of William Pitcher Jr. High provides opportunities for in-field education on the benefits of green infrastructure and complete streets for the school’s students.

Strengthens and protects key city corridor containing residences, business, and governmental facilities; improves property values; incentivizes new development.

Alleviates potentials for street flooding and dangers to motorists by retaining stormwater runoff, promotes increased neighborhood walkability and bikeability; incorporates trail connectivity (Trace Trailhead).

Creates a community asset and educational tool for nearby schools to highlight the benefits of stormwater management projects.

Enhances neighborhood and community beautification in a high-traffic area for bikers, walkers and near the Tammany Trace trailhead.

**Community Benefits**

- **Strengthens and protects key city corridor containing residences, business, and governmental facilities; improves property values; incentivizes new development.**
- **Alleviates potentials for street flooding and dangers to motorists by retaining stormwater runoff, promotes increased neighborhood walkability and bikeability; incorporates trail connectivity (Trace Trailhead).**
- **Creates a community asset and educational tool for nearby schools to highlight the benefits of stormwater management projects.**
- **Enhances neighborhood and community beautification in a high-traffic area for bikers, walkers and near the Tammany Trace trailhead.**

**Key Info**

- **Project Area:** Approx. 6 acres
- **LA SAFE Investment:** Up to $4.7M
- **Estimated Project Cost:** $4.7M
- **Partners:** St. Tammany Parish, City of Covington, DOTD
- **Location:** Covington

**Proposed Plans:**

- Water storage and tree plantings around William Pitcher Junior High School
- Sidewalk bioswales and native tree plantings along both sides of street
- Permeable systems in new street parking
- New traffic circle with water feature
- City-funded 10 ft. wide shared use path extension to 15th Ave.
- Permeable systems in new street parking
- New traffic circle with water feature
- 10 ft. wide shared use path extension to 15th Ave.
- Permeable street parking
- Shared use path

**Precedent Images:**

- Precedent images of green streets
- Precedent images of stormwater management at an entrance of a school
- Precedent image of permeable street parking
- Precedent image of shared use path

**Comments:**

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

**St. Tammany School Board Perspective View**

**Jefferson Avenue Plan View**
PROPOSAL

In locations projected to have moderate future flood risk, it will become more important to maximize natural areas for their capacity to absorb and retain stormwater, providing flood mitigation to surrounding communities and commercial corridors. This project utilizes a parish-owned parcel west of Airport Road to create a park including increased stormwater capacity, new trail connections to the Tammany Trace, new market and picnic spaces, a promenade and educational signage and installations outlining the importance of stormwater management in Louisiana.

**Key Info**

- **Project Area**: 48 acres
- **LA SAFE Investment**: Up to $5.0M
- **Estimated Project Cost**: $5.0M
- **Partners**: St. Tammany Parish, FEMA, City of Slidell; potential corporate partners via Walmart/Walton Family Foundation and Northshore Mall

**Community Benefits**

Enhances stormwater capacity and infiltration rates within the critical drainage area, reducing flood risk to surrounding commercial developments.

- Creates a community asset and provides flood risk relief, increasing property values for nearby commercial and residential corridors.
- Reduces potential for street flooding and danger to motorists by detaining stormwater runoff, increases neighborhood walkability and connectivity to nature.
- Creates an educational tool highlighting the benefits of stormwater management projects; creates new marketplace for vendors and entrepreneurs.
- Provides community recreational opportunities through access to water and trails; creates new event spaces and a cultural and social hub.

**Location:** Slidell
Low flood risk areas are well positioned to receive population and economic growth. Higher density, multi-generational, residential and mixed-use developments should be prioritized. St. Tammany Parish’s population is projected to double in the next 15 years. According to the Urban Land Institute (ULI), under current development trends, this growth would consume about 50 percent of available land for future development. This is due to the fragmented and disconnected nature of conventional development patterns that exacerbate current traffic and transportation challenges. ULI proposes a “villages-in-the-woods” model that would only consume 6 percent of available land, by using smart-growth techniques, providing opportunities for more sustainable growth. This model manages natural and engineered systems holistically for increased resilience, promotes more focused, mixed-use patterns for more walkable/bikeable neighborhoods, and enhances the suburban identity of new neighborhoods.

Reduces floodplain impacts by utilizing residential stormwater management best practices incorporated into multi-family development with minimalized paving, built in detention and increased density.

Multiple horizontal and vertical points of ingress and egress reduce choke points and promote cross-flow of traffic, counter to current transportation development patterns.

Stormwater features built into facility can be used for educational purposes, while development typology will incentivize higher-density development with higher economic output in area targeted for future growth.

Includes community spaces and recreation components within the site, coupled with stormwater management features, promoting social resilience and community connectivity.

**LA SAFE Investment**: Up to $6M

**Partners**: St. Tammany Parish; potential private developer (TBD through NOFA process)

**Location**: Between LA-1088 & LA-434, north of I-12