



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH MEETING 3 SUMMARY











MEETING 3 OVERVIEW

At the third round of meetings, the LA SAFE process moved from the big picture to focus on the specific projects, programs, and policy options that will support the vision.

The meetings centered around three core interactive components. The first was a snap-polling exercise, in which the project team asked the participants multiple choice questions, and collected and reviewed the results instantly.

In the second part of the meeting, the project team presented the vision crafted by the community and project team in the previous meetings. After the project lead discussed each piece of the vision, the participants voted on their level of agreement.

The third component of the meeting focused on the individual projects, programs, and policies that could potentially support the vision. On large table sheets, the residents evaluated ideas organized according to planning category and risk level. Residents placed green dots on the ideas they liked, and red dots on those they did not like. They also added new ideas and commented on the strategies depicted.

This document summarizes the results from the meetings, including all resident voting results and comments. These results will inform how the project team will prioritize projects, programs, and policies within St. John parish as a part of LA SAFE.







ACTIVITY 1A: SNAP POLLING

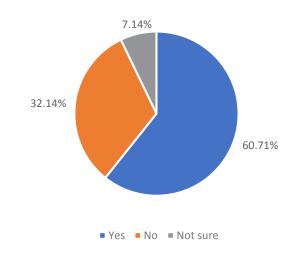
The first meeting activity included a series of polling questions. Each resident used a clicker to submit their responses, which the project team collected and displayed in real-time. In St. John, there were 30 total participants in this activity, but some residents abstained from certain questions. Each chart below lists the number of respondents for the corresponding question.

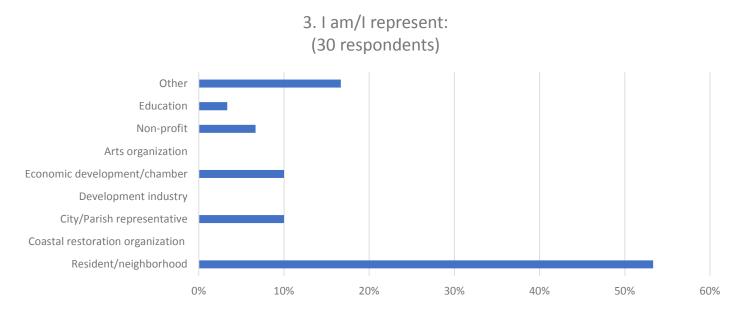
The first question was an example question to help residents understand the polling tool. The question asked which superpower each individual would choose. In St. John Parish time travel and flight were the top choices.

The majority of St. John residents at the meeting thought affordable housing was the most needed type of housing in the parish. Among transportation options, a better bus system was by far the most popular. The most important issues for the future of the parish included a healthy & safe environment and education. With regards to stormwater management, residents most want to invest in better pump stations. When asked about job opportunities, residents expressed the need to expand alternative energies.

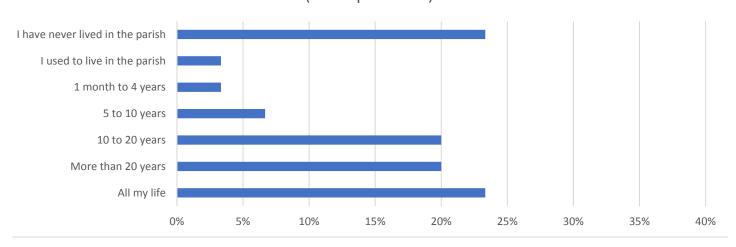


2. Have you been to any other LA SAFE meetings? (28 respondents)

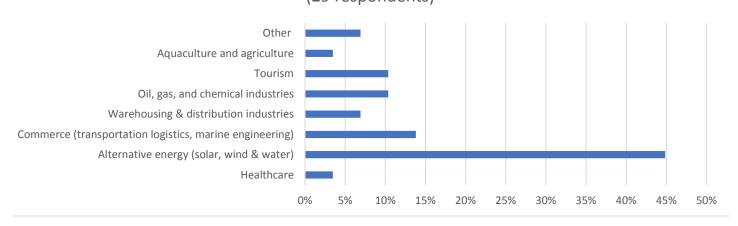




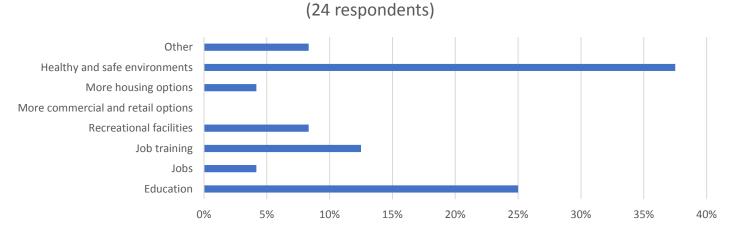
4. How long have you lived in St. John the Baptist Parish? (30 respondents)



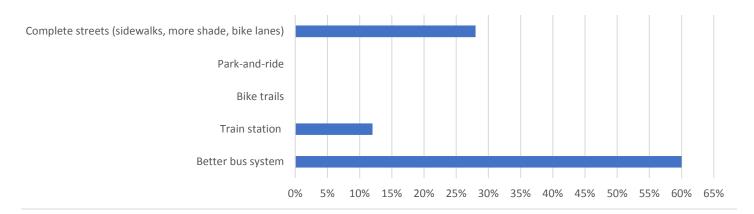
5. Which types of job opportunities would you most like to see expanded in your parish? (29 respondents)



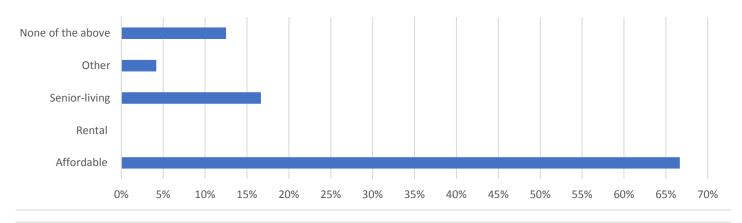
6. What is the most important issue for the future of St.John the Baptist Parish?



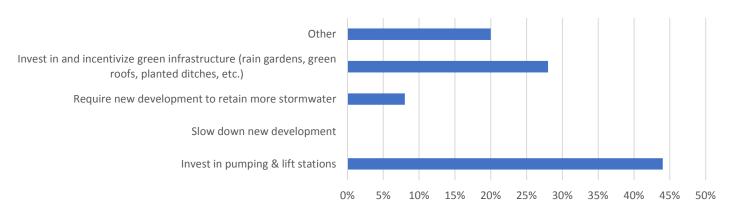
7. If LA SAFE invested in a transportation project, which project would you most like to see funded? (25 respondents)



8. Which of the following housing types would you most like to see more of in your parish? (24 respondents)

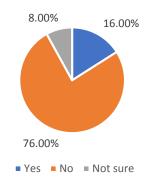


9. Which option below is the best way to improve stormwater management? (25 respondents)



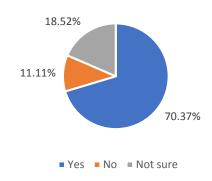
10. Are you aware of other forms of flood insurance besides the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)?

(25 respondents)



11. Would you purchase flood insurance if it was not required by a mortgage company or covenant?

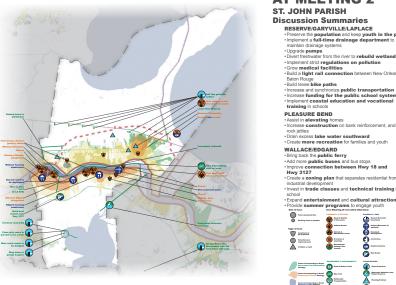
(27 respondents)



ACTIVITY 1B: EVALUATING THE VISION

After the initial polling, the project team presented a vision for the Parish based on previous meeting results and future flood risk. The vision that the team presented was organized into five planning categories and three risk levels: high risk, moderate risk, and low risk.

The components of this vision are shown on the following pages. In general, we anticipate lower risk areas growing in population over time and high risk areas losing population. Strategies for each risk level are tailored to support all areas as change occurs. Residents evaluated the vision for each risk level using their clickers. They were broadly supportive, with over 70% agreeing or strongly agreeing with the vision for each risk



WHAT WE HEARD **AT MEETING 2**



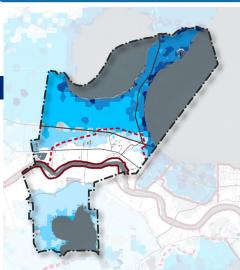




Meeting 2 Results map provided at each table







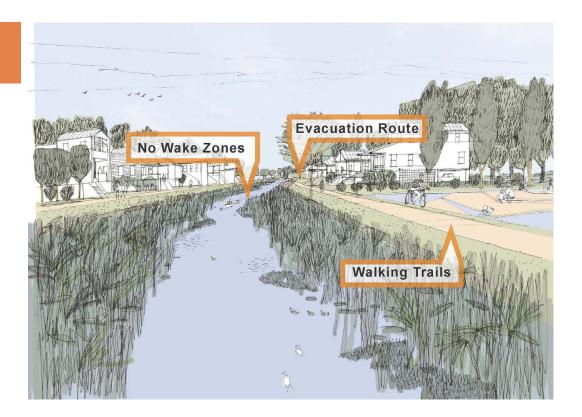
Flood Risk map provided at each table

HIGH RISK AREAS

HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT



TRANSPORTATION



HIGH RISK AREAS

EDUCATION, ECONOMY, & JOBS



CULTURE & RECREATION



HIGH RISK AREAS



What we expect over 50 years:

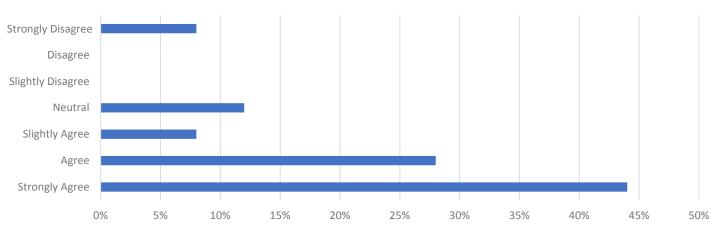
Land loss
High flood risk
Decline in population



Do you agree with this vision for High Risk Areas?

Expanded recreational and ecotourism industries, elevated evacuation routes, and improved infrastructure to support the seafood industry and coastal workers.





This high risk vision presented a future with recreational access to water, ecotourism, elevated housing, and walking trails. A total of 44% of residents strongly agreed with this vision, and the next 36% agreed or slightly agreed. Less than 10% of residents strongly disagreed.

MODERATE RISK AREAS

STORMWATER
MANAGEMENT
& GREEN SPACE



HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT



TRANSPORTATION



MODERATE RISK AREAS

EDUCATION, ECONOMY, & JOBS



CULTURE & RECREATION



MODERATE RISK AREAS



Land loss in surrounding areas

Moderate local flood risk

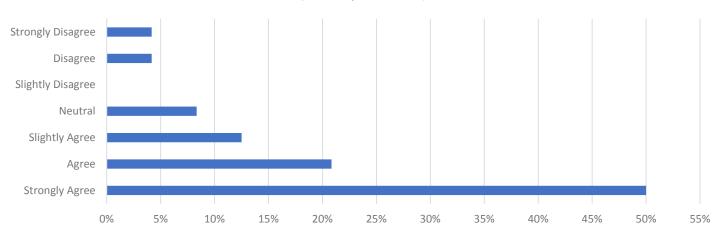
Not much change in population



Do you agree with this vision for Moderate Risk Areas?

Elevated transportation routes, improved stormwater management, safe housing, new industries and jobs, grocery stores, health services, and recreational spaces.





This moderate risk area presented a future with a community center, small business incubators, raised housing, bike lanes, and enhanced drainage. A total of 50% of residents strongly agreed with this vision, and the next 34% agreed or slightly agreed. Less than 10% of residents disagreed or strongly disagreed.

LOW RISK AREAS

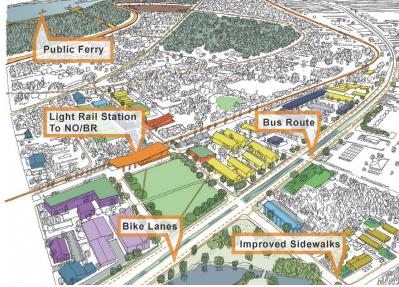
STORMWATER
MANAGEMENT
& GREEN SPACE

HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT

TRANSPORTATION

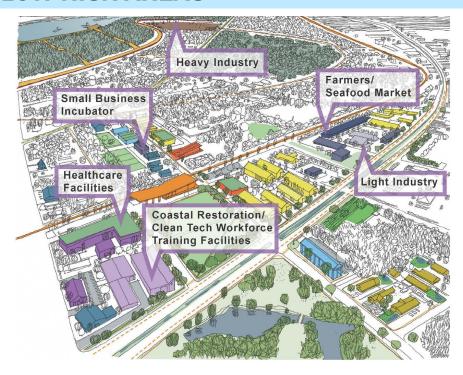




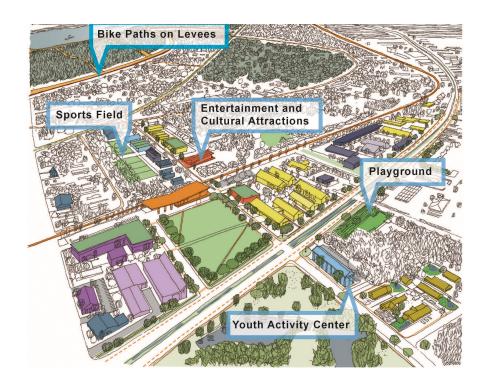


LOW RISK AREAS

EDUCATION, ECONOMY, & JOBS



CULTURE & RECREATION



LOW RISK AREAS



Minimal flood risk
Economic growth

Increases in population

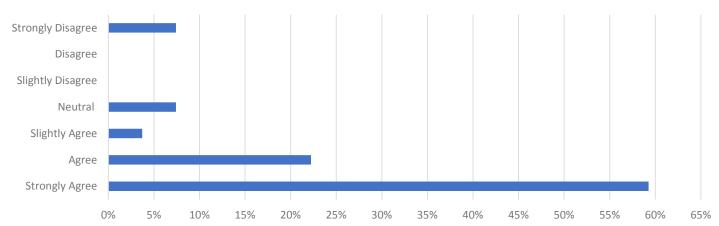
over 50 years:



Do you agree with this vision for Low Risk Areas?

Denser residential and commercial development, increased transportation options, improved stormwater management, and more green space.





This low risk vision presented a future with bike paths on levees, healthcare facilities, improved sidewalks, raised houses, rain gardens, and retention ponds. A total of 59% of residents strongly agreed with this vision, and the next 26% agreed or slightly agreed. Less than 10% of residents strongly disagreed.

ACTIVITY 2: STRATEGY PREFERENCES

Activity 2 focused on the range of projects, programs, and policies that LA SAFE could implement. Each table group evaluated 16-20 strategies within three out of the five planning categories. Residents discussed the strategies shown, and placed 8 green stickers on those that were best suited for their parish. They also had 3 optional red stickers to identify programs they thought were bad ideas. Residents added comments and notes to the strategies shown, and also suggested new strategies.

The following pages show the results of Activity 2.









ACTIVITY 2 RESULTS OVERVIEW

The list on the right shows the highest ranked strategies from each category sheet at the meeting. Full results for each category are on the following pages.

At the St. John Parish meeting, some of the most commonly selected strategies across all topics reflect protecting their parish history and preserving their communities. Strategies such as "Increase Affordable Housing Options" and the highest ranked strategy across all categories, "Preserve Historic Areas & Buildings," revealed the residents' commitment to their community and culture. Residents also underlined the need for more access to essential services.

In the Stormwater Management & Greenspace category, the participants emphasized parish-wide maintenance on existing canals, drains, and culverts. They also wanted to see "complete" streets with safe sidewalks and cleaned and efficient existing infrastructure.

Residents' selections across the Transportation, Education, Economy, & Jobs, and Culture & Recreation categories underscored their desire to provide options to retain youth in the Parish. Among these top strategies were "Job Training Programs," specifically "Coastal Restoration Construction Jobs & Training," culturally-focused programs for youth, and a rail system that would increase access to regional amenities and opportunities.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT & GREENSPACE

- Culvert/Ditch Maintenance
- Dredge Canals, Drains, & Culverts
- Cross-Parish Stormwater Management Strategy
- Create a Full-Time Drain Maintenance Department
- Incentivize Green Streets
- Street trees for Stormwater Management

HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT

- Increased Affordable Housing Options
- Green Buffer Zones Around Industry
- Incentives for Businesses that Provide Essential Services Like Grocery Stores & Pharmacies
- Medium Density Housing (2-3 stories)
- Raised & Protected Neighborhoods
- Walkable, Commercial Town Center
- Program to Restore Abandoned Property to Natural Condition
- Drainage Requirements for New Developments
- Senior/Elderly Specific Housing

TRANSPORTATION

- Commuter & Regional Rail
- Ferry Service
- Complete Streets
- Traffic Signal Optimization
- Improve Street Lights on Major Corridors
- Shuttle Services for Seniors and/or For Specific Programs
- Public Boat Docks

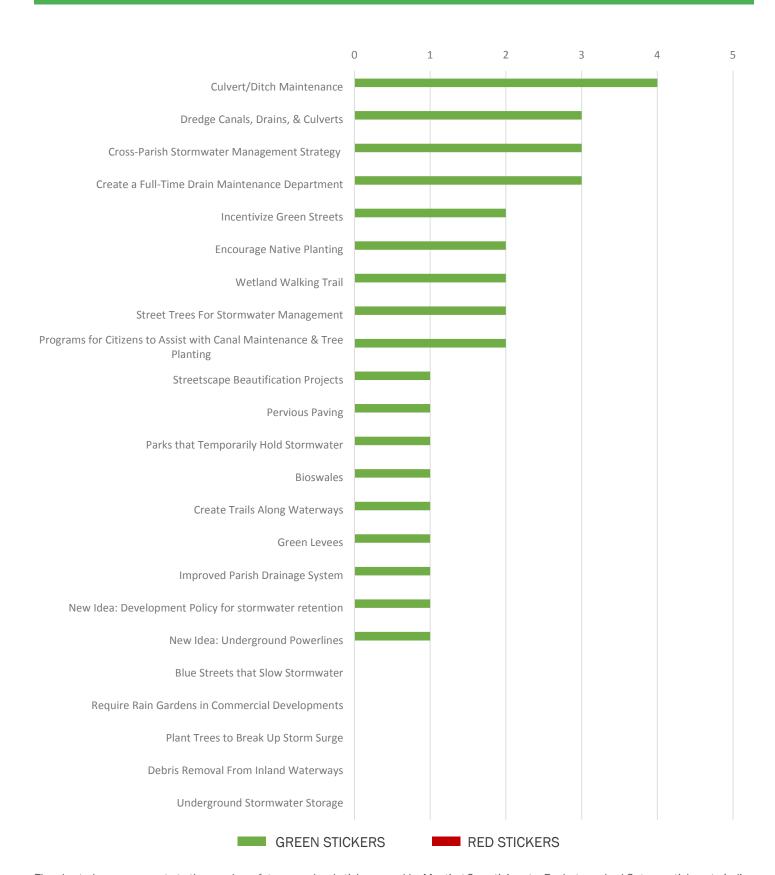
EDUCATION, ECONOMY, & JOBS

- Job Training Programs
- Coastal Restoration Construction Jobs & Training
- Business Incubator to Help Residents Start New Businesses
- Support Growth in Creative Industries & Information Economy
- Job Opportunities in Renewable Energy
- Hands-on Environmental Curriculum & Field Trips
- Create Parish Specific Curriculum in Schools

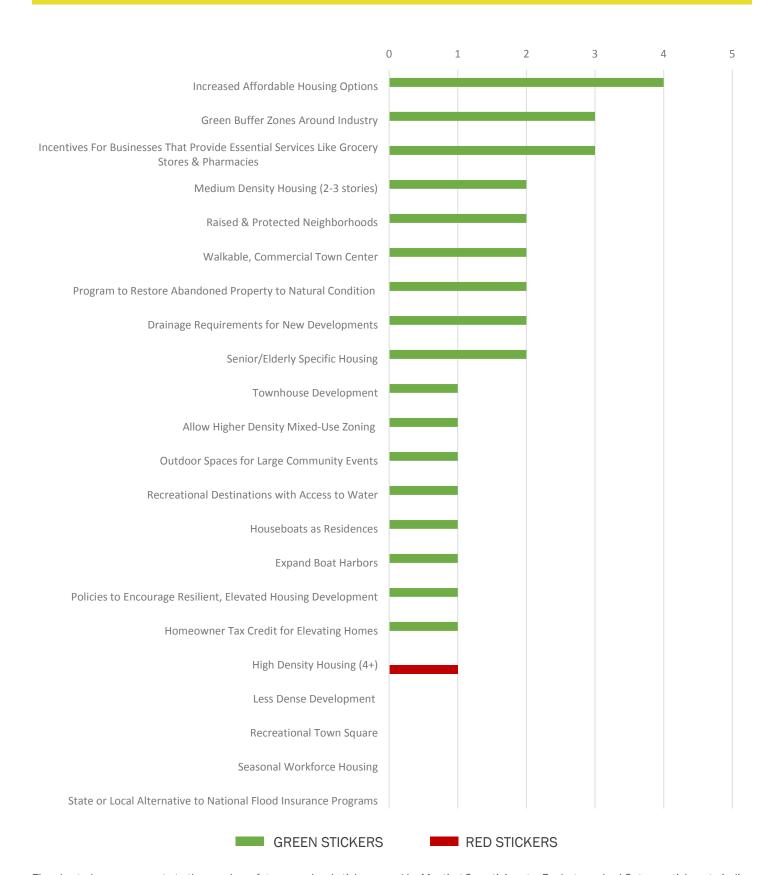
CULTURE & RECREATION

- Preserve Historic Areas & Buildings
- Community Gardens & Planting Programs
- Support Culturally Focused Camps & After School Programs
- Community Gathering & Market Spaces
- Attract Recreational & Entertainment Establishments
- Pavilion Amenities in Recreation Areas
- Recreation Paths Alongside Waterways
- Recreational Lodging
- Healthy-Living Programs & Activities

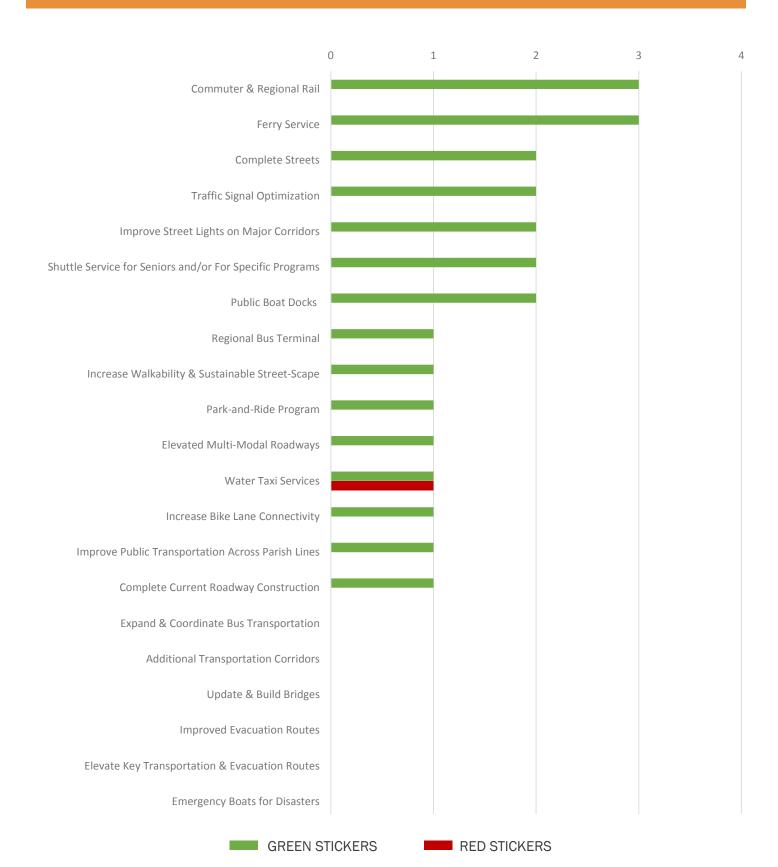
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT & GREEN SPACE

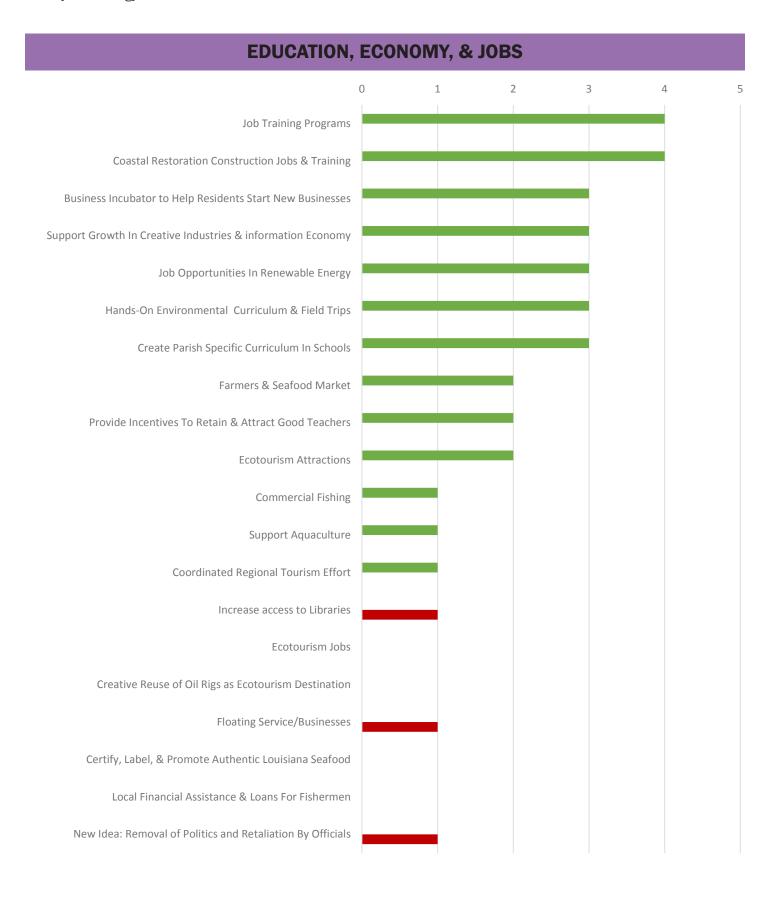


HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT



TRANSPORTATION



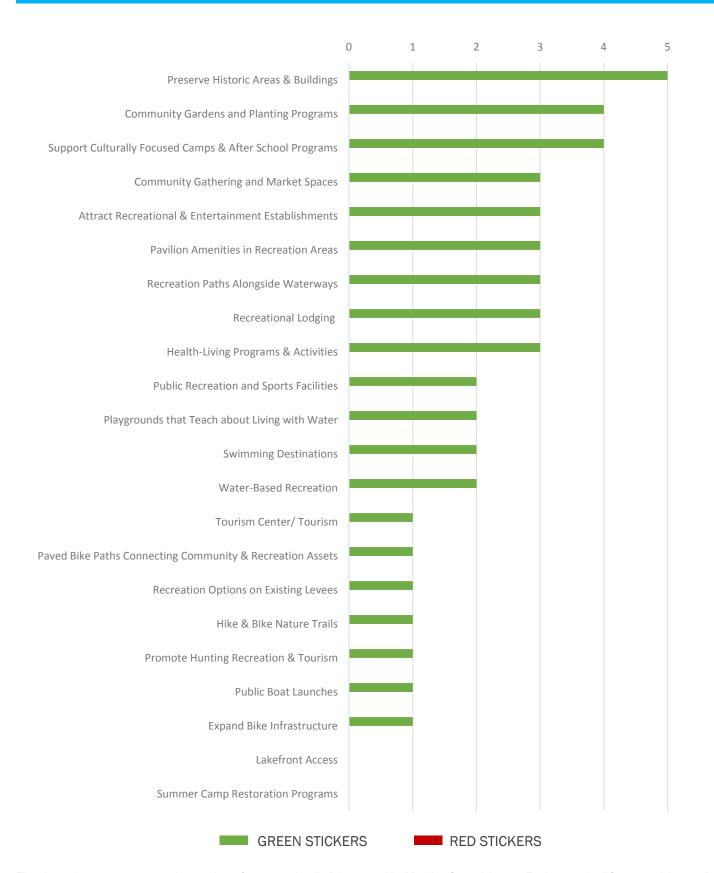


The chart above represents to the number of green and red stickers used by Meeting 3 participants. Each group had 8 green stickers to indicate which strategies they thought were best for their parish and 3 red stickers to indicate which strategies were a bad fit for their parish.

RED STICKERS

GREEN STICKERS

CULTURE & RECREATION



COMMENTS: STORMWATER MANAGEMENT & GREEN SPACE

New Ideas

- Development policy for stormwater retention.
- Underground powerlines
- We never flooded before St. Charles got their wall.
- The same rain falls on Houma as Laplace, Houma never floods.
- Need parish specific risk conditions on map- Outline to provide better visual aspect.
- These are all great ideas but maybe not adaptable to where we live.
- More levees!!!

Culvert/Ditch Maintenance

Connect with "dredge, canals, drains & culverts"

Dredge Canals, Drains, & Culverts

Pleasure bend, Reserve

Cross-Parish Stormwater Management Strategy

Create a Full-Time Drain Maintenance Department

• Parish council has mandated this.

Incentivize Green Streets

• With Complete streets

Encourage Native Planting

- Develop additional educational programs.
- Schools and communities.
- Native vs. invasive.

Wetland Walking Trail

- Want in pleasure bend
- Pleasure bend & Manchac

Street Trees for Stormwater Management

Programs for Citizens to Assist with Canal Maintenance & Tree Planting

Youth

Streetscape Beautification Projects

Pervious Paving

 Need access/ availability to pave pervious driveways

Parks Designed to Temporarily Hold Stormwater

- Water treatment & mosquito prevention with all of the water retention topics
- Would this work without levees?

Bioswales

- Good for Laplace
- Along highways from pleasure bend

Create Trails Along Waterways

Green Levees

Improved Parish Drainage System

Blue Streets that Slow Stormwater

Require Rain Gardens in Commercial Developments Pervious Paving

Plant Cypress Trees to Break Up Storm Surge

Debris Removal from Inland Waterways

Underground Stormwater Storage

COMMENTS: HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT

New Ideas

Increased Affordable Housing Options

Green Buffer Zones Around Industry

- Can be dangerous with chemical spills, important to protect neighbors.
- For new businesses
- Large

Incentives For Businesses That Provide Essential Services Like Grocery Stores & Pharmacies

- Attractions along the way to Whitney Plantation.
- Community based market to promote local instead of Wal-Mart & box stores.
- Edgard

Medium Density Housing (2-3 stories)

- Prioritize the idea of people moving from east bank towards west bank.
- Medium density & affordable.

Raised & Protected Neighborhoods

• Even with plans it will continue to flood so building up is ALWAYS necessary.

Walkable, Commercial Town Center

Same as "Recreational Town Square."

Program to Restore Abandoned Property to Natural Condition

- Local- specific and necessary to reinforce, tear down or rebuild.
- Demolish do not restore- Green space.
- Parish could work with family to preserve/ restore property.

Drainage Requirements for New Developments

- Drainage plan implemented before housing developments are introduced.
- Communities are being built where they shouldn't be.

Senior/Elderly Specific Housing

 Housing for community, not just longterm care.

Townhouse Development

High Density Mixed Use Zoning Along Target Corridors

- Change zoning code.
- Too rural/suburban for this.
- Too high-income or too low-income.
 Could lose investment.

Outdoor Spaces for Large Community Events

- Shuttle service or bus system parishwide.
- Works on weekends

Recreational Destinations with Access to Water

• River is underutilized for tourism and recreation.

Houseboats as Residences

Tourism/ recreational

Expand Boat Harbors

- Needed in Pleasure Bend
- Lake Pontchartrain and Lake Maurepas.

Policies to Encourage Resilient, Elevated Housing Development

Homeowner Tax Credit for Elevating Homes

High Density Housing (4+)

- Nobody wants to rent -out of character with parish wants and needs.
- Want and need affordable housing as far more important priority.
- Crime-ridden, detached from community and neighbors.
- No parking!

Less Dense Development

Recreational Town Square

Seasonal Workforce Housing

State or Local Alternative to National Flood Insurance Programs

COMMENTS: TRANSPORTATION

New Ideas

- Engineer breakwater at pleasure bend to reduce flood zone destinations from a "V" zone to an "A" zone SFHS.
- Street signage for named roads.
- To be able to rent this very facility.

Commuter & Regional Rail

- Need station at Laplace by bringing in tourists and encourage residents to go further to work.
- Environmental study.
- Has to be in the right places not through neighborhoods.
- Should be off the ground along interstate. N.O. => B.R.

Ferry Service

- Ferry would help since the west bank has no grocery store, drug store etc.
- Funding set aside.

Complete Streets

- Future development should have this.
- Don't need this.
- Narrow streets should be widened to complete streets.

Traffic Signal Optimization

Improve Street Lights on Major Corridors

Shuttle Service for Seniors and/or For Specific Programs

- Shuttle service for all seniors.
- This should be free for seniors and kids.

Public Boat Docks

Regional Bus Terminal

Need bus service.

Increase Walkability & Sustainable Street-Scape

Need Improvements for safety especially for handicapped residents.

Park-and-Ride Programs

- Used to help the chemical plant or medical workers.
- Connect with "Commuter & Regional Rail."

Elevated Multi-Modal Roadways

Water Taxi Services

 May be good if we have cabins on the lakes.

Increase Bike Lane Connectivity

 Could ride bike parallel to River rd. We should be able to use it again.

Improve Public Transportation Across Parish Lines

Complete Current Roadway Construction

Expand & Coordinate Bus Transportation

Additional Transportation Corridors

Update & Build Bridges

Improved Evacuation Routes

 Could use more busses and change from on demand to fixed route system.

Elevate Key Transportation & Evacuation Routes

Emergency Boats for Disasters

COMMENTS: EDUCATION, ECONOMY, & JOBS

New Ideas

- Rebuild the school system.
- Get regional universities engaged in the community.
- Literacy level needs to come up.
- Montessori schools
- No school board members to send to attend community meetings.
- Removal of politics and retaliation by officials.
- Do not want to waste valuable time providing input only to let it fall on deaf ears.
- School system can lend buses for kids activities.
- Parish isn't ready yet but we want neighborhood sports teams.

Job Training Programs

- Increase literacy level parish wide.
- 78% of jobs are for non-St. John residents.
- Need to be safer industries.

Coastal Restoration

• Our youth need to be connected to do this.

Business Incubator to Help Residents Start New Businesses

Support Growth in Creative Industries & Information Economy

Job Opportunities in Renewable Energy

Bring Silicon Valley here.

Hands-On Environmental Curriculum & Field Trips

- Connect with "Coastal Restoration Construction Jobs & Training."
- Starting at the primary level to higher education.
- Our kids need more to do.

Create Parish Specific Curriculum In Schools

 Emphasize the cultural treasures and history of the area.

Farmers & Seafood Market

Centrally located near other community assets.

Provide Incentives To Retain & Attract Good Teachers

- Literacy is a real problem here and holds all of this back.
- Increase literacy levels parish wide.
- Kids control classroom, there is a lack of discipline.
- School board and administrative state don't protect teachers.

Ecotourism Attractions

- Connect with "Coastal Restoration Construction Jobs & Training" & "Hands-on Environmental Curriculum & Field Trips."
- Ecotourism is a buzzword.
- Margaritaville

Commercial Fishing

Connect with "Ecotourism Attractions."

Support Aquaculture

Coordinated Regional Tourism Effort

Increase Access to Libraries

- Better transit system would work to accomplish this.
- Well established.

Ecotourism Jobs

Creative Reuse of Oil Rigs as Ecotourism Destination

Floating Services/Businesses

Certify, Label, & Promote Authentic Louisiana Seafood

- Need something similar to Launch NOLA- Would help promote name, incentives, and resources to the community.
- Global shift in policy- Parish should consider how to tap into hydroelectric power generators; water, solar panels, etc. Tap into the resources of the Mississippi River.
- Often teachers need job training and conferences.
- Leave info for school available for prospective residents.
- Better promotion of existing farmers market needed.

Local Financial Assistance & Loans for Fisherman

COMMENTS: CULTURE & RECREATION

New Ideas

- Pleasure Bend paid fireman!
- Provide transportation to existing tourist attractions.
- Bike ride over the two bridges and allowed on the levee paths a regular event. River Road
- Fishing and tourism would remain a factor.
- Hard surface bike paths.
- Need public boat launch without parking on the highways.
- Cultural center for music.
- Have two lakes so we should take advantage of theses to bring in jobs

Preserve Historic Areas & Buildings

Community Gardens & Planting Programs

- Youth- More natural
- Adults necessary to implement
- Year round, not just during the school year.
- Would require money for upkeep/ maintenance.

Support Culturally Focused Camps & After School Programs

Community Gathering & Market Spaces

- Necessary to incorporate.
- Operational funding needs to be completed for community life.

Attract Recreational & Entertainment Establishments

Need more for the youth in the communities.

Pavilion Amenities in Recreation Areas

Recreation Paths Alongside Waterways

- Connect with "Paved Bike Paths Connecting Community & Recreation Assets."
- Expand tourism on the river.
- Prefer construction and maintenance.

Recreational Lodging

- Camper Park
- To develop a high-risk community recreational lodging would be good to attract tourists.
- Movable infrastructure to avoid flooding.

Heathy-Living Programs & Activities

- Additional information outreach into the communities.
- Youth and Community.
- Public recreational healthy program.
- Bus transportation for Pleasure Bend kids.
- More parks with trees. Assets for special needs people.

Public Recreation & Sports Facilities

- For young people
- Programs and parks for special needs kids.
- Community leadership is needed.

Swimming Destinations

- High priority! Kids need to learn how to swim.
- Beach near lake Maurepas by Maddendorfs.

Water-Based Recreation

Tourism Center/Tourism

Cute Acadian cottage to stop by.

Paved Bike Paths Connecting Community & Recreation Assets

- Connect with "Recreation Options on Existing Levees" & "Hike & Bike Nature Trails"
- Parish to parish connection needed.
- Ease of access to immediate community.

Recreation Options on Existing Levees

- Connect all of these to existing trails in other parishes.
- We already have bike paths on east bank.
- No bike paths on the west bank.

Hike & Bike Nature Trails

No way to bike across the river

Promote Hunting Recreation & Tourism

- Culture aspect want to preserve for future generations.
- Already have.

Public Boat Launches

• No room right now.

Expand Bike Infrastructure

- Unacceptable to have to ride in the road if there are no sidewalks.
- Too large of a risk

Lakefront Access

Summer Camp Restoration Programs