



**St. Bernard**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION



**LOUISIANA  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT**



# ST. BERNARD PARISH Strategic Economic Development Plan

Louisiana Development Ready Communities Program

**NOVEMBER 2021**

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# Mission



## ST. BERNARD PARISH GOVERNMENT

To protect and enhance local quality of life by providing a high level of service in an efficient and responsive manner for all citizens.



## St. Bernard ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

## ST. BERNARD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

To create and retain jobs, build prosperity, and improve the quality of life in St. Bernard Parish.



## LOUISIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

To cultivate jobs and economic opportunity for the people of Louisiana.

A historical plantation scene featuring a large, two-story house with a porch, surrounded by a wooden fence and large trees with Spanish moss. The scene is overlaid with a dark blue tint.

# *Overview*

# Executive Summary

This strategic plan aims to establish concrete goals for St. Bernard Economic Development Foundation (SBEDF) and St. Bernard Parish to accomplish in a 5-year period, generating the ripple effects of larger community outcomes in the next 10 years. SBEDF is meant to be the driving force behind the plan, with partners and key stakeholders for each individual goal specified in the plan's recommended activities.

## By the end of 2026, St. Bernard Parish will work toward:

1. Securing funding and creating plans for parish-wide beautification efforts in shared spaces such as streetscapes, canals, riverfront, and commercial areas.
2. Collaborating with industry experts to understand how recreational and leisure activities can better meet community demand.
3. Implementing a pilot program connecting local high school and college students to the parish's internship and job opportunities.
4. Creating a marketing tool specifically for tracking public projects, with clear information and facts on plans, progress, and impacts.
5. Developing educational programming and messaging on economic development for industry practitioners, residents, and other parish stakeholders.
6. Formalizing site selection efforts to adhere to best practices in attracting new businesses and clean industry.
7. Better understanding and representing community demand for economic development.
8. Creating effective, replicable processes for creating and executing tax incentives, exemptions, and other business-friendly tools.
9. Increasing local ISP bandwidth and broadband infrastructure as a means of supporting the community and better accommodating digital businesses.

## By the end of 2031, St. Bernard Parish will work toward:

1. Increasing quality of life for community members and businesses by creating and maintaining a more beautiful, activity-rich community.
2. Ensuring residents have better access to and are better prepared for local jobs.
3. Creating more educated, active citizens through direct access to clear information and facts on opportunities in the parish.
4. Practicing economic development that directly supports local community members and businesses, led by the attraction of future-oriented, clean, high-wage jobs that grow our economy.
5. Facilitating a more modern, tech-savvy community that supports the digital needs of residents and businesses alike.

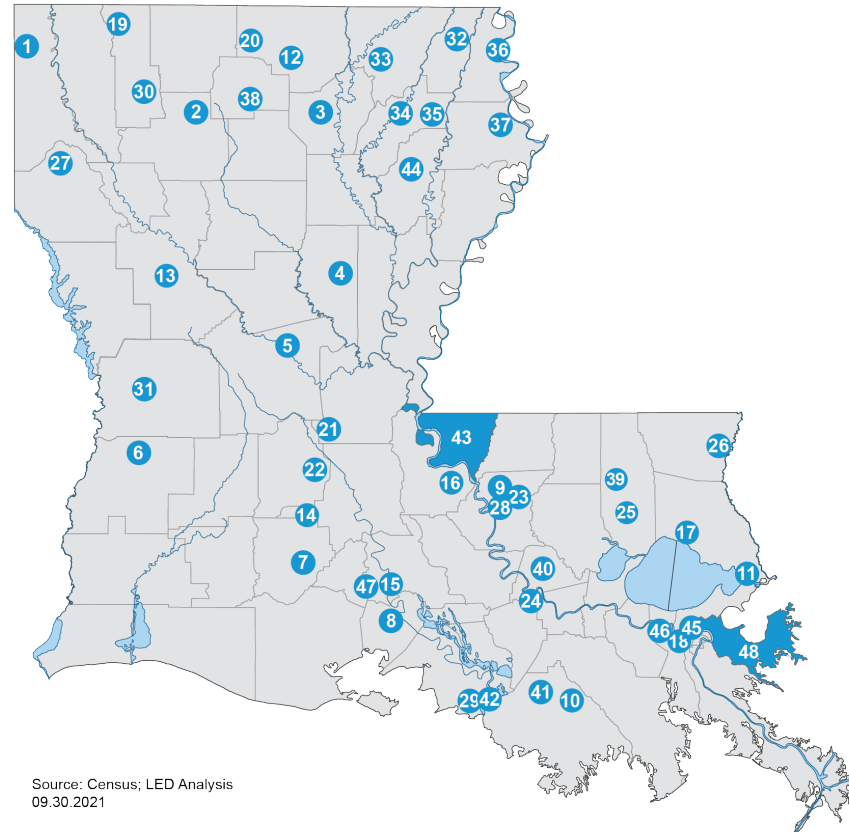
# About Louisiana Development Ready Communities

## THE LDRC PROGRAM

The Louisiana Development Ready Communities (LDRC) Program encourages and supports selected Louisiana communities to become development ready, competitive, and “open for business” by creating and implementing a strategic community and economic development plan.

In 2009 and 2010, 19 communities participated in the LDRC Pilot Program. The Louisiana Development Ready Community program was officially launched in 2011 with 8 communities, and now has 47 participating communities.

Municipalities become more competitive because they have a written plan describing how they are going to leverage assets and address challenges, targeting actions and outcomes for increased prosperity and quality of life. Additionally, they can show progress from year to year because of developed measurements identified in their plans; much like mile-markers on a roadmap.



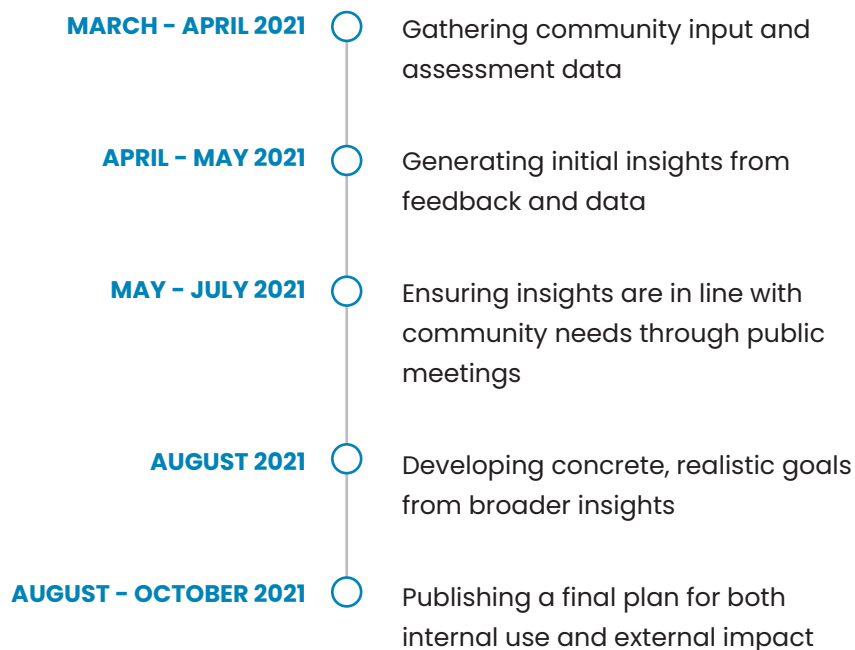
Source: Census; LED Analysis 09.30.2021

Louisiana Development Ready Communities	
1 Vivian 2009   3,707	10 Houma 2009   33,707
2 Arcadia 2009   2,927	11 Slidell 2009   27,369
3 West Monroe 2009   13,082	12 Farmerville 2010   3,813
4 Jena 2009   3,408	13 Natchitoches 2010   18,299
5 Pineville 2009   14,557	14 Eunice 2010   10,379
6 DeRidder 2009   10,578	15 St. Martinville 2010   6,094
7 Crowley 2009   13,189	16 New Roads 2010   4,831
8 New Iberia 2009   30,846	17 Covington 2010   9,058
9 Zachary 2009   15,565	18 Gretna 2010   17,754
	19 Springhill 2011   5,231
	20 Bernice 2011   1,655
	21 Bunkie 2011   4,121
	22 Ville Platte 2010   7,351
	23 Central 2011   27,548
	24 Donaldsonville 2011   7,473
	25 Hammond 2011   20,122
	26 Bogalusa 2011   12,044
	27 Stonewall 2012   1,841
	28 Baker 2012   13,890
	29 Patterson 2012   6,088
	30 Minden 2013   12,992
	31 Leesville 2013   6,817
	32 Oak Grove 2015   1,700
	33 Bastrop 2016-2017   10,881
	34 Rayville 2016-2017   3,720
	35 Delhi 2016-2017   2,941
	36 Lake Providence 2016-2017   3,821
	37 Tallulah 2016-2017   7,181
	38 Ruston 2018   22,281
	39 Amite 2018   4,130
	40 Gonzales 2018   10,933
	41 Morgan City 2019   12,080
	42 Town of Berwick 2019   4,928
	43 West Feliciana Parish 2020   15,625
	44 Winnsboro 2020   4,910
	45 Algiers 2021   57,137
	46 City of Harahan 2021   9,038
	47 City of Broussard 2021   12,090
	48 St. Bernard Parish 2021   44,482

Source: LouisianaCommunityNetwork.org, LDRC One Pager: <https://bit.ly/3IWTrIm>

## LDRC IN ST. BERNARD

The six-month program in St. Bernard Parish was led by a committee of 11 local officials and community members, managed by the St. Bernard Economic Development Foundation (SBEDF). The team was aided by direct support from Louisiana Economic Development (LED) staff on a weekly basis. After application and acceptance to the program in early March 2021, the committee underwent five main phases:



Through the LDRC process, almost 400 St. Bernard Parish residents were engaged through intimate dialogue, a survey, or the opportunity for public comment at a community event. On top of this, hordes of data were examined to determine local disparities, market gaps, and demographics. Data from ESRI, EMSI, CoStar, LED, DataUSA, and more shaped the findings of the committee and the final product of this strategic plan.

## Steering Committee

**Co-Chair:** Jason Stopa | *Director of Community Development, St. Bernard Parish Government*

**Co-Chair:** Bill Haines | *Board Member, The Meraux Foundation*

**Communications & Marketing:** Karen Boudrie | *CEO, Kiwi Communications*

**Economic Development:** Amanda Coates | *Commercial Director, Port of New Orleans*

**Community Facilities:** Andrew Becker | *Assistant Capital Projects Manager, St. Bernard Parish Government*

**Quality of Life:** Howard Luna | *District C Councilmember, St. Bernard Parish Government*

**Education & Workforce:** Jessica Vallelungo | *St. Bernard Parish Resident*

**Governance & Organizations:** Mindy Airhart | *CEO, Southern Services & Equipment*

**Public Official:** Guy McInnis | *Parish President, St. Bernard Parish Government*

**Project Manager:** Ross Berlin | *Special Projects & Programming Lead, St. Bernard Economic Development Foundation*

**Managing Organization Lead:** Meaghan McCormack | *Executive Director, St. Bernard Economic Development Foundation*

**LED:** Stacey Neal | *Director, Community Competitiveness*

**LED:** Robert Abboud | *Assistant Director, Community Competitiveness*

## Government

### ST. BERNARD PARISH

**Parish President:** Guy McInnis

**Council Member At Large East:** Kerri Callais

**Council Member At Large West:** Richard J. Lewis

**Council Member District A:** Gillis McCloskey

**Council Member District B:** Joshua Moran

**Council Member District C:** Howard Luna

**Council Member District D:** Wanda Alcon

**Council Member District E:** Fred Everhardt, Jr.

### STATE OF LOUISIANA

**Senator:** Joseph Bouie, Jr

**Senator:** Sharon Hewitt

**House of Representatives:** Ray Garofalo, Jr.

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**Senator:** Bill Cassidy

**Senator:** John Neely Kennedy

**House of Representatives:** Steve Scalise

# St. Bernard Parish Overview

## HISTORY

St. Bernard Parish is New Orleans' most historic neighbor in a variety of ways. Famously, St. Bernard Parish was the site of the Battle of New Orleans during the War of 1812. The parish makes up everything east of the Lower Ninth Ward and Bywater of New Orleans to the 'End of the World', where wetlands give way to the Gulf of Mexico. Initially an agricultural community, residents have long leveraged the rich land to drive industry and growth, from fishing to international trade, petroleum to sugar refining. Now, emerging film, digital media, healthcare, and entrepreneurial ecosystems pair with these anchors to create a diverse economy, which currently boasts the state's fastest growing population and booming GDP.

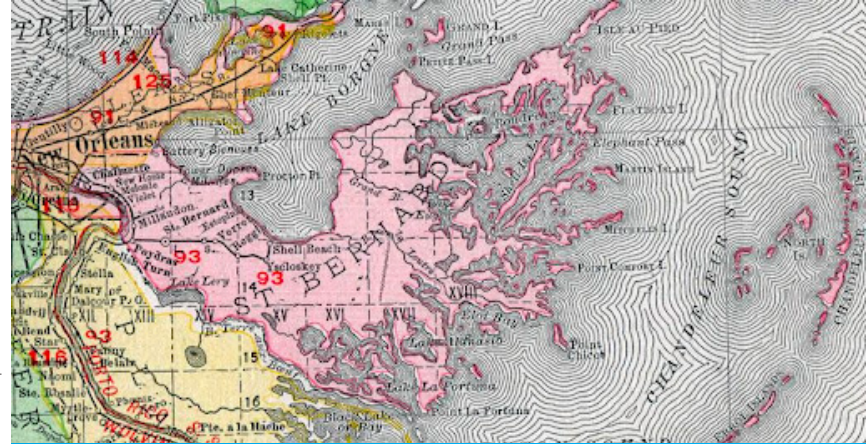
St. Bernard Parish (San Bernardo) was originally settled in 1778 by Spanish colonists from the Canary Islands who were recruited by the Spanish Empire, which had control of New Orleans. These settlers, known as the Isleños, came to the state with their own distinct culture, history, food, language, and customs. They were a people of the land, hunting, fishing, and working on the many sugar plantations in St. Bernard Parish. Over time, they were joined by a plethora of other cultures and community members; Italian, Cajun, Central and South American, Philipino, and African American communities have all come to call St. Bernard home in the past 250 years.

Today's community is close-knit, with generations of families living and working within the parish. No one is a stranger, and the locals are always willing to sit and chat for a spell. The community is resilient and proud, overcoming great floods and tragedies, always rebuilding because of the commitment people feel to the land just 5 miles East of New Orleans. Now, St. Bernard has a sense of momentum and is seizing the moment, a sign that the community is ready to overcome the past and bring in a prosperous future.

Docville Farm



Map of St. Bernard Parish in 1811



Fort Proctor



Isleños Society Celebration

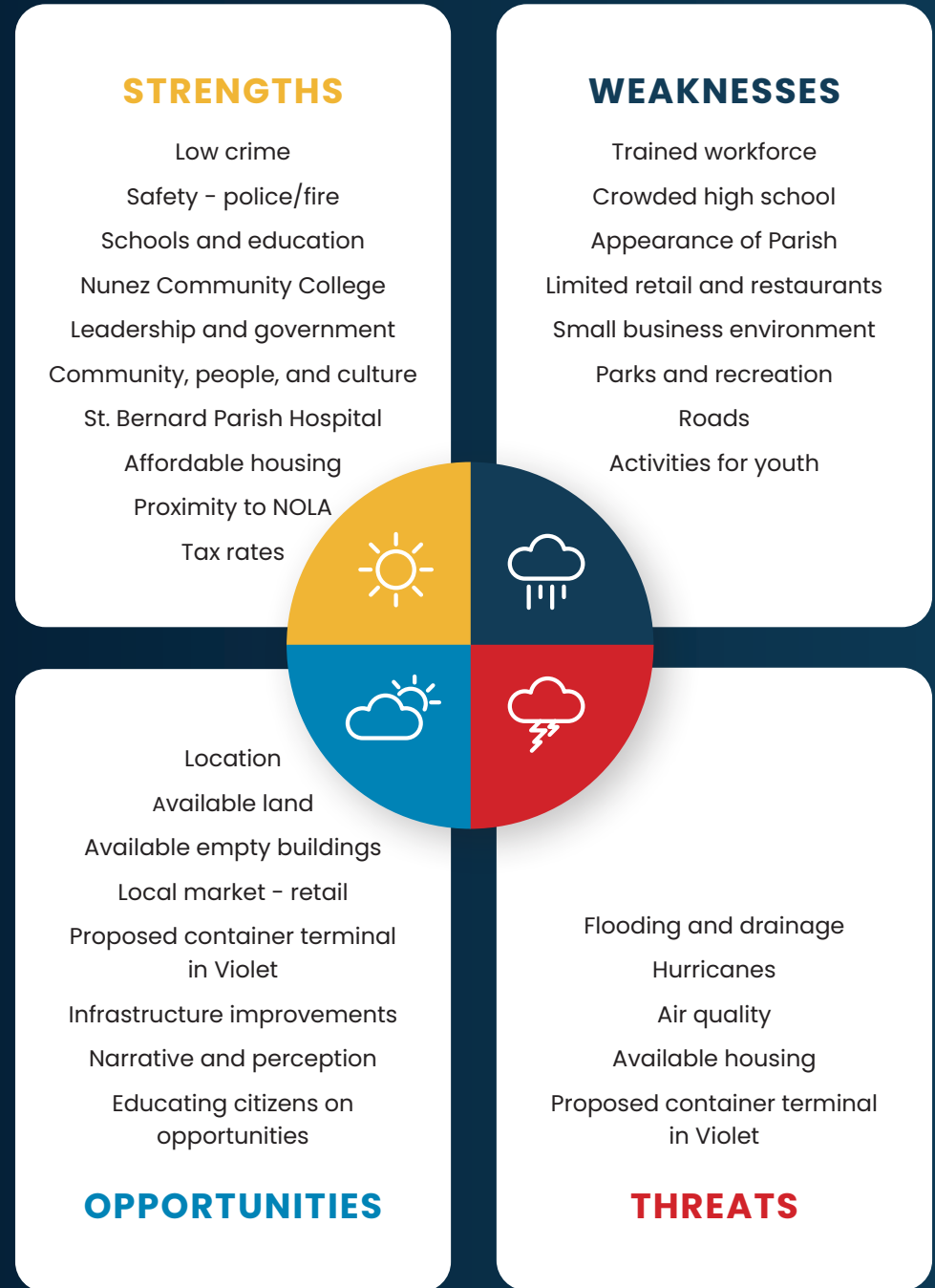




# Community SWOT Analysis

## CURRENT CLIMATE

A SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) of St. Bernard Parish was derived from community input and local data, helping our committee understand areas the parish can focus on for improvement and growth.





# *Recommendations*

# Quality of Life

## GOALS

**1** Improve the appearance of the parish by securing funding and seeing through the execution of beautification projects.

**2** Work to gather expert research and opinions on how to proceed with building out and attracting recreational and leisure facilities.

## FINDINGS

A place's quality of life is its baseline; the reality of what it means to reside there. What community members think of their home, why they are there, and how they experience life daily all comprise the broad concept of quality of life. These components can be understood through both anecdotes and data, daily happenings and demographics.

In St. Bernard, we found residents most ready to discuss their quality of life. First and foremost came the appearance of the parish; almost everyone you speak to in the parish has a comment on how things look and what would make the community more aesthetically pleasing. A beautiful place is crucial to any sort of growth and progress. Families and businesses alike will always look for a place they find attractive when deciding where to move and expand. Residential standards and new home offerings have soared in our neighborhoods via the creation of our Sold on St. Bernard initiative. New families chose the parish and moved here in droves. Now,

there must be action on commercial, industrial, and municipal properties. Securing funding, planning, and execution of public/private projects on our community gateways, canals, parks, commercial areas, and more will be crucial for raising St. Bernard's aesthetic and profile.

Next to physical attractiveness is the appeal of local services, recreational activities, public spaces, and other forms of leisure and activity for all ages, genders, and personality types. St. Bernard residents are eager to see growth in the number of activities available in the parish, ranging from adolescent hangout spots to athletic facilities for retirees. It will be crucial for parish leaders to invest in expert-led research and development on how the attraction and cultivation of recreation should commence in the coming years, as specific community demands must be met to increase quality of life.

## Quality of Life Implementation Matrix

GOALS & RECOMMENDATIONS	EST. COST	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMETABLE	PERFORMANCE METRICS
<b>GOAL 1 Improve the appearance of the parish by securing funding and seeing through the execution of beautification projects.</b>				
Identify funding for Gateways and Street Scape Plan.	N/A	SBPG, Grant writer/SBEDF	Immediate - complete by December 2021	Funding identified
Parish to implement the Gateway and Street Scape Plan.	TBD	SBPG	Once funding is identified	Full implementation
Ensure grass in public areas is cut. Levee Regional Planning Commission to cut on levee system.	N/A	Levee Regional Planning Commission, SBPG	Immediate and ongoing	Grass cut
Identify surrounding communities who have been successful at litter abatement/control and meet to duplicate programs.	N/A	SBPG Dept., LMA (to help identify)	Immediate	Meetings held
Identify funding/grants through Keep Louisiana Beautiful and other litter programs.	N/A	SBEDF, LED	Immediate	Funding identified
Reactivate prior litter programs in the parish with civic organizations, school community services programs, volunteers, community service hours needed through court system.	TBD	SBPG, Civic Organizations, SBEDF	Immediate and ongoing	Litter picked up
Identify commercial buildings and sites that need to be "cleaned up" and meet with owners to see resources needed to improve property.	N/A	SBPG Building Official, SBEDF	2022	List of properties and meetings held
Create a facade incentive package to encourage improvements to commercial and industrial properties.	N/A	SBEDF, USDA, GNO, Inc., Community Foundation	2022	Package ready to be offered
Obtain Brownfield grants to help assess clean commercial and industrial properties.	TBD	SBEDF, Regional Planning District	Immediate and ongoing	Brownfield sites clean
<b>GOAL 2 Work to gather expert research and opinions on how to proceed with building out and attracting recreational and leisure facilities.</b>				
Visit existing communities that have succeeded in funding and building recreation parks.	N/A	SBPG, SBEDF	2022	Communities visited
Consult with industry experts on opportunities, framework for meeting community demand with new leisure and recreation	TBD	SBPG, SBEDF	2022	Crafting of plan, feasibility study
Identify funding and timeline to improve existing parks or build new facilities	TBD	SBPG, SBEDF	2022	Funding identified

# Education

## GOALS

**1** Facilitate the connection of local students, both at the high school and college levels, to local internship and job opportunities.

## FINDINGS

Education is the cornerstone of any successful community. It means growth and development, opportunity and prosperity, and is seen as the core foundation for building a strong, healthy population. Most community members agree that St. Bernard has a fantastic, robust school system, fully supported by the local community. The local public K-12 school system ranks as one of the strongest in the state, and Nunez Community College is ranked the best of its class in Greater New Orleans, offering specialized, expedited associate degrees, certificates, and industry-based credentials that meet the demands of regional employers.

Yet, we found that residents feel many of St. Bernard's best jobs are held by people commuting into the parish for the workday. Furthermore, St. Bernard youth garnering a strong education are leaving the parish for stronger job opportunities and social

mobility. Thus, it is crucial for the organizations supporting St. Bernard's business climate to connect students at both Chalmette High School and Nunez Community College to local internship and job opportunities. By creating pipelines and programs to train the youth of St. Bernard and prepare them for the community's top roles, the parish can grow in wealth and knowledge and retain its best talent.

These opportunities, programs, and potentials for community-impact must be invested in and marketed with priority. It is the goal of this committee and St. Bernard in general to support our residents. Advertising how St. Bernard community members can become better equipped to serve in the local workforce is key for establishing this positive feedback loop of education and prosperity.

## Education Implementation Matrix

GOALS & RECOMMENDATIONS	EST. COST	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMETABLE	PERFORMANCE METRICS
<b>GOAL 1</b> Facilitate the connection of local students, both at the high school and college levels, to local internship and job opportunities.				
SBEDF staff to sit on workforce and curriculum boards and committees to ensure industry needs can be met.	<i>N/A</i>	<i>SBEDF</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Attend meetings</i>
SBEDF to connect the business community to appropriate school officials to create internships and on the job training for local students.	<i>None</i>	<i>SBEDF, Nunez, School Board, Business Community</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Internships created</i>
Work with St. Bernard businesses and residents to increase the usage of job boards, either through WorkNOLA or a more personalized platform for St. Bernard.	<i>TBD</i>	<i>SBEDF, GNO, Inc.</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>Local jobs available online</i>
Establish and facilitate a St. Bernard Parish Workforce Collaborative, where employers, education and training providers, and partner organizations meet to discuss challenges and opportunities.	<i>\$25k</i>	<i>SBEDF, Nunez, School Board, Business Community</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>Attend meetings</i>

# Marketing

## GOALS

**1** Increase the marketing and public awareness of plans, impacts, and progress of parish projects.

## FINDINGS

In the ever-growing digital age, it is increasingly the role of governments and public officials to ensure community members are informed with not only facts and events, but information and updates on public projects. A coalition of informed citizens is necessary for the government and residents to work together toward mutual benefit, creating a growing community all can be proud of.

In St. Bernard, most community members already feel communication with Parish Government is strong. St. Bernard Parish Government and its many departments are open and transparent, sharing information through multiple channels that constituents are eager to consume. However, in certain areas, parish residents have grown curious to know how growth, development, and investment will change the parish they call home. Parish residents want a source for consistent information and updates on all projects that impact the local community.

These projects range far and wide, and residents are curious to know how comprehensive plans are being put into action on the riverfront and in community gateways. They want to know what roads are in the pipeline to be fixed, how a coastal restoration initiative may impact the parish in 5-10 years, and where a new park will be built with taxpayer dollars. The residents of St. Bernard care about their community, how it looks, and how it changes. Rather than waiting for community members to ask questions, parish leaders need to be proactive in creating a resource that spreads knowledge on these happenings, generating informed, accountable residents. People want ample facts, figures, visuals, and updates that can put their minds at ease on how the parish is developing.

## Marketing Implementation Matrix

GOALS & RECOMMENDATIONS	EST. COST	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMETABLE	PERFORMANCE METRICS
<b>GOAL 1</b> Increase the marketing and public awareness of plans, impacts, and progress of parish projects.				
Work collectively with Parish Government, civic groups, and local media to keep the community informed on impactful, public projects throughout the parish.	N/A	SBPG, SBEDF, St. Bernard Chamber, Media	Immediate and ongoing	Consistent news being reported
Create a tool for generating consistent communication with the public on plans, impacts, and progress of public projects.	TBD	SBEDF, SBPG, St. Bernard Chamber	2022	Existence of tool, amount of interaction



# Economic Development

## GOALS

- 1 Enhance both public and private education on economic development.
- 2 Attract clean, modern jobs through targeted site selection that exceeds industry standards and best practices.
- 3 Better represent public input and opinion as it relates to community demand for economic development.
- 4 Formalize policy procedures to streamline tax incentives, exemptions, and other business-friendly tools.

## FINDINGS

While community members were most worried about quality of life, they certainly had the most to say about economic development. In the last 10 years, the parish has experienced immense growth in population and GDP, creating momentum that can be leveraged for St. Bernard. Yet, residents are weary these realities may bring a wave of developments and jobs that render the parish unrecognizable from the home and culture many enjoy today. Thus, there must be a plethora of relationships and networks of understanding built for the parish to proceed with the community in mind.

First, there must be education for both parish leaders and community members. For local officials, training and experience with modern data and best practices on economic development will be crucial for the parish to understand its assets, opportunities, and flaws. This growth in knowledge would also help economic development officials meet industry standards in spaces such as site selection,

creating tax incentives, and seeing through business-friendly policy. In turn, creating public education opportunities to enhance community members' understanding of demographic benchmarks that must be met for increased business attraction would work to create a realistic form of mutualism between residents and local leaders.

From there, the wants of the community became rather clear through resident input. Locals want their voice heard and want public officials to have their back when it comes to meeting community demand. Community members are ready for clean, high-wage manufacturing jobs to enter the parish. People no longer want the bulk of parish jobs to be industrial and noticeably harmful to the local environment, and they are eager for St. Bernard to enter the future of industry. And, when these shifts do occur, people want residents to have priority for these jobs. People want employers to support locals, creating opportunity and growth for mobility within the community.

# Economic Development Implementation Matrix

GOALS & RECOMMENDATIONS	EST. COST	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMETABLE	PERFORMANCE METRICS
<b>GOAL 1 Enhance both public and private education on economic development.</b>				
Generate consistent education on modern economic development for St. Bernard's land owners, business owners, civic activists, and other stakeholders through speakers and events.	~\$2,500	SBEDF, SBPG, St. Bernard Chamber, Local Businesses	2022	Amount of educational events
Educate the public on what retail site selectors look for in a community through social media, speaking at civic organizations, and other outlets for communication.	N/A	SBEDF, LED for data	Immediate and ongoing	Information disseminated to the public
<b>GOAL 2 Attract clean, modern jobs through targeted site selection that exceeds industry standards and practices.</b>				
Review current sites and buildings on the database. Update pictures, information, drone footage, and descriptions as needed.	N/A	SBEDF, Land Owners	End of 2021	Sites updated
Obtain drone footage and video of existing industrial sites.	TBD	SBEDF, GNO, Inc.	2021-2022	Drone footage in hand
Attend Site Selectors Guild and similar events to target clean industry for future projects.	Travel cost	SBEDF, LED	Annual as events are held	Events attended
Review LED marketing calendar to identify trade shows that would target clean industry and white collar jobs. Partner with LED to attend as many as budget allows.	Travel cost	SBEDF, GNO, Inc., LED	Immediate and ongoing	Trade shows attended
During retention visits, discuss potential programs and ways for existing industry to become more environmentally friendly.	N/A	SBEDF	Immediate and ongoing	Retention visits made
<b>GOAL 3 Better represent public input and opinion as it relates to community demand for economic development.</b>				
Create a "wish list" for future and ongoing industrial projects to ensure that the voice of the community is heard in a productive and professional manner.	N/A	SBEDF, SBPG	Immediate and ongoing	Web and/or physical discussions are productive
<b>GOAL 4 Formalize policy procedures to streamline tax incentives, exemptions, and other business-friendly tools.</b>				
Hold meetings with leadership and elected officials to discuss incentive programs, how they work, and why they work.	N/A	SBEDF, SBPG	Immediate	Meetings held
Have state and regional representatives speak at functions regarding the incentive packages (invite media to these events).	N/A	SBEDF, Media	Immediate and ongoing	Speakers
Formalize internal procedures and policies for creating and facilitating tax incentives and credits to businesses.	N/A	SBEDF	Immediate and ongoing	Amount of tax incentives distributed, efficiency of incentive pipeline

# Infrastructure

## GOAL

**1** Work with state and federal entities to increase bandwidth, access to broadband, and broadband infrastructure throughout the parish.

## FINDINGS

Community members feel that in general, local government is responsible and attentive to the parish's infrastructural needs. In 2020 alone, St. Bernard Parish Government and its Coastal Department completed over \$135 million in infrastructure improvements throughout the parish, including marsh restoration, road resurfacing, drainage upgrades, and other beautification efforts. Still, \$450 million in projects remain in the engineering and planning phases for the near future.

Outside of community members wanting increased access to these plans and updates on their completion, both parish leaders and community members hope to see improvement to local broadband and digital connectivity as a means of modern infrastructure. For government, increased broadband can mean more informed,

connected citizens. For economic developers, it can result in a higher quality of life and newfound potential for attracting digital companies looking to operate and hire in the local community. Finally, for community members, enhanced digital access means a more attractive, modern place in which to settle down.

With these positives all mutually desired across the parish, parish leaders should work directly with the state and federal governments to increase broadband. Through securing funding and executing these infrastructure improvements, the parish stands to gain an immense amount through potential for development and growth in quality of life.

## Infrastructure Implementation Matrix

GOALS & RECOMMENDATIONS	EST. COST	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMETABLE	PERFORMANCE METRICS
<b>GOAL 1</b> Work with state and federal entities to increase bandwidth, access to broadband, and broadband infrastructure throughout the parish.				
Build a relationship and attend events with Louisiana's Office of Broadband.	N/A	SBEDF, SBPG	Immediate and ongoing	Events, meetings attended, conversations had
Secure funding for broadband infrastructure.	TBD	SBEDF, SBPG, LED	Immediate and ongoing	Grant money received, broadband speed
Leverage broadband for the attraction of digital companies, employees.	N/A	SBEDF	2023	New businesses attracted, grown



# *Progress*

# Progress Checklist as of October 2021

GOALS & RECOMMENDATIONS	TIMELINE	SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS	PROGRESS UNDERWAY	NEEDS WORK
<b>Quality of Life</b>				
<b>GOAL 1 Improve the appearance of the parish by securing funding and seeing through the execution of beautification projects.</b>				
Identify funding for Gateways and Street Scape Plan.	<i>Immediate - complete by December 2021</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parish to implement the Gateway and Street Scape Plan.	<i>Once funding is identified</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ensure grass in public areas is cut. Levee Regional Planning Commission to cut on levee system.	<i>Immediate and ongoing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Identify surrounding communities who have been successful at litter abatement/control and meet to duplicate programs.	<i>Immediate</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Identify funding/grant through Keep Louisiana Beautiful and other litter programs.	<i>Immediate</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reactive prior litter programs in the parish with civic organizations, school community services programs, volunteers, community service hours needed through court system.	<i>Immediate and ongoing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Identify commercial buildings and sites that need to be "cleaned up" and meet with owners to see resources needed to improve property.	<i>2022</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Create a facade incentive package to encourage improvements to commercial and industrial properties.	<i>2022</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Obtain Brownfield grants to help clean commercial and industrial properties.	<i>Immediate and ongoing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>GOAL 2 Work to gather expert research and opinions on how to proceed with building out and attracting recreational and leisure facilities.</b>				
Visit existing parks that have succeeded in funding and building recreation parks.	<i>2022</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Consult with industry experts on opportunities, framework for meeting community demand with new leisure and recreation	<i>2022</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Identify funding and timeline to improve existing parks or build new facilities	<i>2022</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Education</b>				
<b>GOAL 1 Facilitate the connection of local students, both at the high school and college levels, to local internship and job opportunities.</b>				
SBEDF staff to sit on workforce and curriculum boards and committees to ensure industry needs can be met.	<i>Ongoing</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SBEDF to connect the business community to appropriate school officials to create internships and on the job training to local students.	<i>Ongoing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

# Progress Checklist as of October 2021

GOALS & RECOMMENDATIONS	TIMELINE	SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS	PROGRESS UNDERWAY	NEEDS WORK
Work with St. Bernard businesses and residents to increase the usage of job boards, either through WorkNOLA or a more personalized platform for St. Bernard.	2022	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Marketing</b>				
<b>GOAL 1 Increase the marketing and public awareness of plans, impacts, and progress of parish projects.</b>				
SBEDF to work collectively with parish government, St. Bernard Chamber, and local media to highlight projects to keep the community informed on how and why projects are improving the parish.	Immediate and ongoing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Create a tool for generating consistent communication with the public on plans, impacts, and progress of public projects.	2022	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Economic Development</b>				
<b>GOAL 1 Enhance both public and private education on economic development.</b>				
Generate consistent education on modern economic development for St. Bernard’s economic developers, business owners, civic activists, and other stakeholders through speakers and events	2022	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Educate the public on what retail looks for in a community through social media, speaking at civic organizations, and other outlets for communication.	Immediate and ongoing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>GOAL 2 Attract clean, modern jobs through targeted site selection that exceeds industry standards and practices.</b>				
Review current sites and buildings on the database. Update pictures, information, drone footage, and descriptions as needed.	End of 2021	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Obtain drone footage and video of existing industrial sites.	2021-2022	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Attend Site Selectors Guild and similar events to target clean industry for future projects.	Annual as events are held	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Review LED marketing calendar to identify trade shows that would target clean industry and white collar jobs. Partner with LED to attend as many as budget allows.	Immediate and ongoing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
During retention visits, discuss potential programs and ways for existing industry to become more environmentally friendly.	Immediate and ongoing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>GOAL 3 Better represent public input and opinion as it relates to community demand for economic development.</b>				
Create a “wish list” for future and ongoing industrial projects to ensure that the voice of the community is heard in a productive and professional manner.	Immediate and ongoing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

# Progress Checklist as of October 2021

GOALS & RECOMMENDATIONS	TIMELINE	SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS	PROGRESS UNDERWAY	NEEDS WORK
<b>GOAL 4</b> Formalize policy procedures to streamline tax incentives, exemptions, and other business-friendly tools.				
Hold meetings with leadership and elected officials to discuss incentive programs, how they work, and why they work.	<i>Immediate</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have state and regional representatives speak at functions regarding the incentive packages (include media to these events).	<i>Immediate and ongoing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Formalize internal procedures and policies for creating and facilitating tax incentives and credits to businesses.	<i>Immediate and ongoing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Infrastructure</b>				
<b>GOAL 1</b> Work with state and federal entities to increase bandwidth, access to broadband, and broadband infrastructure throughout the parish.				
Build a relationship and attend events with Louisiana's Office of Broadband.	<i>Immediate and Ongoing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secure funding for broadband infrastructure.	<i>Immediate and Ongoing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Leverage broadband for the attraction of digital companies, employees.	<i>2023</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>