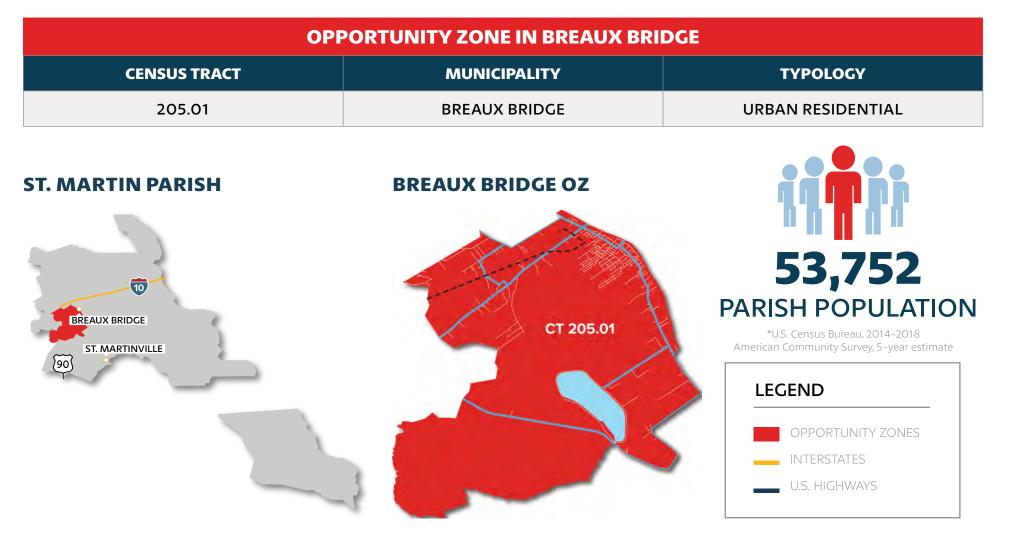


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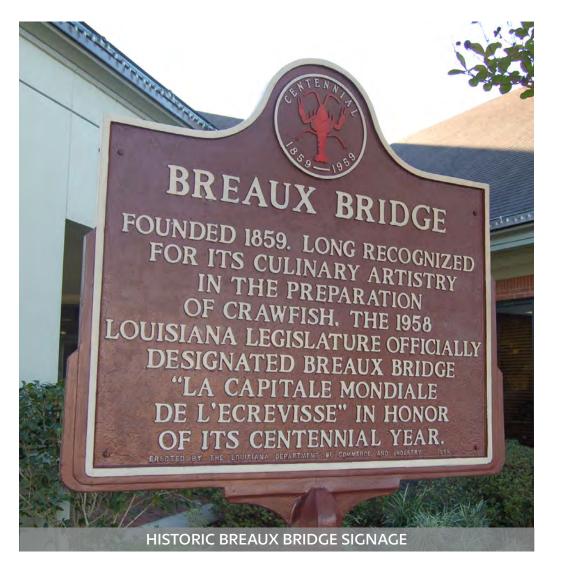
BREAUX BRIDGE OPPORTUNITY ZONE

St. Martin Parish is part of the Lafayette MSA and sits at the corridor of both I–10 and U.S. Highway 90. Known as the gateway to St. Martin Parish, Breaux Bridge, the Crawfish Capital of the World, is located on I–10 between Lafayette and Baton Rouge. The western portion of Breaux Bridge and the surrounding unincorporated area has been designated as the parish's opportunity zone.



ABOUT BREAUX BRIDGE

In 1771, Acadian pioneer Firmin Breaux began acquiring the land which makes up the present day city of Breaux Bridge. In 1799 Breaux built a suspension footbridge across the beautiful Bayou Teche to help ease the passage for his family and neighbors. Firmin's son, Agricole, built the first vehicular bridge in 1817, allowing for the passage of wagons and increased commerce in the area. This bridge distinguished Breaux Bridge as the only city on Bayou Teche to evolve from both sides simultaneously. The town received its official founding in 1829 when Scholastique Picou Breaux, Agricole's 33 year old widow, drew up plans for the city. She began developing her property by selling lots to other Acadian settlers. Breaux Bridge and Crawfish have become symbolic in their relationship. Restaurants in the area were the first to offer crawfish openly on their menus. It was here that the now world-famous crawfish etouffee was created. Breaux Bridge became so well known for its crawfish farming and cooking that, in honor of its centennial celebration in 1959, the Louisiana legislature officially designated Breaux Bridge as "la capitale Mondiale de l'ecrevisse" or "the crawfish capital of the world". Since this designation, Breaux Bridge has hosted the annual crawfish festival, recognized as one of the state's finest festival. Today Breaux Bridge is a closely-knit community of friendly people with a thriving business area near Exit 109 on Interstate 10 and has a bustling downtown historic district filled with unique shopping and dining experiences.



WEALTHWORKS: THE 8 CAPITALS

WealthWorks simplifies things by organizing local features into eight discrete capitals. Each capital is defined in the table below. All capitals share the following characteristics: each capital is a collection of one category of related resources; every region has a stock of each type of capital—meaning the combined quantity and quality of the many components of that capital in the region; and taken together, the existing stocks of these capitals constitute a region's current wealth.



INDIVIDUAL

The skills and capacity, including health, that allow individuals to be productive. Investments in human capital include spending on skill development, education, training, and health maintenance and improvement.



INTELLECTUAL

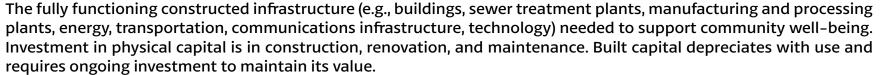
The knowledge, creativity, and innovation needed to solve problems and develop new ways of doing things. Investment in intellectual capital is through research and development and support for activities that increase innovation, as well as diffusion of new knowledge and applications. It can come from sharing with other people and communities.



NATURAL

The productive environmental assets (e.g., air, water, land, minerals, plants, animals, fish, ecosystem services) in a region. Investments in natural capital include restoration and maintenance.

BUILT





SOCIAL

The trust, networks, and inclusive relationships needed to get things done. Investments in social capital are those that lead to new conversations, shared experiences, and connections between individuals and groups and/or strengthen relationships within groups.



CULTURAL

The traditions, customs and beliefs shared by the community, including the way you see the world. Investments in cultural capital can help to preserve tradition while also helping to shift and align beliefs in ways that help people develop shared values and history.



POLITICAL

The voice, power and influence over decisions needed to achieve goals, including the distribution of resources. Investments in political capital are made through inclusive organizing – gathering and disseminating information, providing access to decision makers, creating broader constituencies and increased voice.



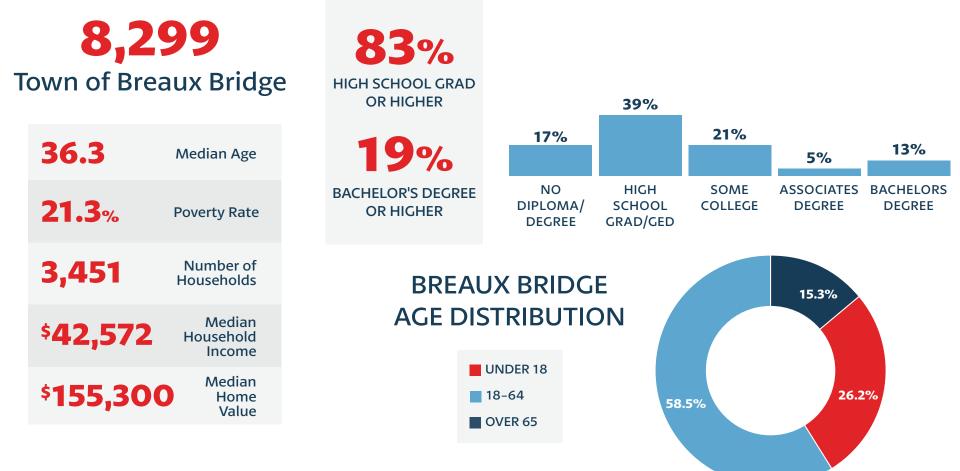
FINANCIAL

Financial capital, including investments and personal savings, generates monetary returns that can be used for further investment or consumption. Stewardship of financial capital implies responsible investment to generate added income as well as eliminate unnecessary cost or waste. In creating wealth, community members strive to invest financial capital in ways that increase and improve the quality of the other six forms of capital.



BY THE NUMBERS

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT:



2018 NARRATIVE PROFILE / AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY / US CENSUS BUREAU

WORKFORCE

These are the top 10 industry sectors for St. Martin Parish based on NAICS Codes:

- Manufacturing
- Retail Trade
- Health Care and Social Assistance
- Accommodation and Food Services
- Construction
- Real Estate and Rental and Leasing
- Wholesale Trade
- Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction
- Public Administration
- Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services

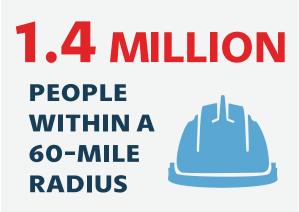
INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHT: LASUCA – LOUISIANA SUGAR CANE COOPERATIVE

LaSuCa's factory produces raw sugar and black strap molasses. The factory is located on the northeast bank of the Bayou Teche, 2.9 miles of north of St Martinville.

On April 22, 1974, Levert St. John sold the sugar factory to area sugar cane farmers. The new owners incorporated as St Martin Sugar Cooperative, Inc., electing a seven member board of directors. Farmers were able to purchase stock in the mill pledging 250,000 tons of sugarcane. On October 1, 1993, Breaux Bridge Sugar Co-op and St Martin Sugar Co-op merged to form Louisiana Sugar Cane Co-op, Inc (LaSuCa).

ACCESS TO A SKILLED, LOYAL WORKFORCE





MAJOR EMPLOYERS OF ST. MARTIN PARISH	
COMPANY NAME	INDUSTRY
OWENS DEVELOPMENTAL LEARNING	EDUCATION
BRUCE FOOD CORPORATION	MANUFACTURING
ST. MARTIN PARISH SHERIFF'S OFFICE	PUBLIC SERVICE
WALMART SUPERCENTER	DEPARTMENT STORES
ACCESS OIL TOOLS INC.	MANUFACTURING
MARTIN DIRECTOR OF NURSING	HEALTH CARE

NORTH AMERICAN INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM (NAICS)



FOCUS ON HEALTHCARE - ST. MARTIN HOSPITAL

St. Martin Hospital opened in 1969 and is located at 210 Champagne Boulevard, and is an affiliate of Lafayette Regional Medical Center. The nonprofit general acute care facility offers emergency medical services, as well as inpatient and outpatient care. Adequate medical care is often a concern of prospective residents of a community. Further development of the services available should be encouraged with the final goal being a full service medical facility that meets the needs of a growing community.

St. Martin Hospital is a licensed 125 bed critical access hospital maintaining inpatient acute beds and a skilled nursing rehabilitation unit, as well as a staffed 24-hour emergency room.

Patient satisfaction scores reflect the dedication to quality care, as it ranks among the highest scores achievable. St. Martin Hospital features the only emergency room available in all of St. Martin Parish. As an alternative to the ER, St. Martin Hospital offers primary care through its walk-in community health clinic.





INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL



55 BY 25

55 by 25 is an initiative by One Acadiana with a **vision** of an equitable education system that meets the region's need for talent and offers all Acadiana residents the chance for a better life through increased educational attainment, a **goal** of increasing the proportion of working-age adults in Acadiana with postsecondary degrees, certificates, or other high-value credentials to 55 percent by 2025, and a **common purpose** to galvanize business, education, faith, civic and community leaders and organizations in support of a shared agenda to increase educational attainment, prosperity, and quality of life.

55BY25ACADIANA.ORG

ST. MARTIN PARISH COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS CENTER	
PROGRAM	COMPLETION GOAL
PROSTART	RESTAURANT AND FOOD SERVICE INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP
NURSING ASSISTANT	STATE NURSING ASSISTANT CERTIFICATION
PROCESS PRODUCTION	CERTIFICATION IN PRODUCTION SAFETY SYSTEMS (T2)
ELECTRICIAN	ELECTRICAL LEVELS I & II
WELDING	NCCER WELDING LEVELS I & II

CCRC.SAINTMARTINSCHOOLS.ORG | MARY ELIZABETH THIBEAUX-CLAY, PRINCIPAL | (337) 332-5924

Breaux Bridge is home to various public and private schools. As expressed during the public participation process, the community diverged in their opinions about the quality of the existing school system, although there was a general consensus that it met the needs of the community.

BREAUX BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOLS

BREAUX BRIDGE SENIOR HIGH

CECILIA HIGH SCHOOL

REGIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION CAMPUSES

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE

SOUTH LOUISIANA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

LSU EUNICE



ST. MARTIN PARISH LIBRARY

Serving St. Martin Parish with branches in Breaux Bridge, Cecilia, Parks, and St. Martinville. The St. Martin Parish Library is home to a collection of 130,000 individual items including books, DVDs, audiobooks, magazines and newspapers. Online databases, eBooks, electronic audiobooks, and streaming video are also offered. The St. Martin Parish Library is a member of the Bayouland Library System which includes the parish libraries of Acadia, Allen, Iberia, Lafayette, Opelousas–Eunice, St. Martin, St. Mary, and Vermilion. The mission of St. Martin Parish Library is to provide all patrons of the parish with equal access to high quality informational and technological resources to meet the diverse needs of the community for information, life-long learning and enjoyment.



STMARTINPARISHLIBRARY.ORG | LESTER LATIOLAIS, BRANCH MANAGER | (337) 332-2733



Some of the St. Martin Parish Library's services, programs, and resources include:

- Ask a Librarian/Technology Education
- Outreach Services
- 3D Printing
- Local History/Genealogy
- Children, Teen, and Adult Programs
- Summer Reading Program
- Reviewable Library Record
- eMedia Catalog
- Kid's Catalog

TECHE CENTER FOR THE ARTS



Teche Center for the Arts (TCA) aims to serve as the principal cultural, arts, music, education, and historical center for residents and tourists of St. Martin Parish and beyond. TCA presents music, art, theater, literary arts, and showcases the rich Cajun and Creole cultures of Acadiana that attracts visitors the world over. A focus at TCA is teaching children the arts and the French Cajun and Creole language of the region.

TCA began to offer programs in 2014 in historic downtown Breaux Bridge's 1940s-era movie theater variously known as the Dan and the Murphy "The Murph" Theater. It's now home to stellar art exhibitions, concerts, an array of summer camps, including Robotics, Cajun and Creole cooking, French lessons using songs and games, SFX makeup, theatre arts, and Treble on the Teche music camp.

Artsatteche.com provides information about upcoming events, exhibits, classes, and projects, as well as ways to support Teche Center for the Arts.

ARTSATTECHE.COM | INFO@TECHECENTERFORTHEARTS.COM | (337) 442-1915



Breaux Bridge has a variety of civic organizations that provide the opportunity for social interactions and community service. These include:

- Crawfish Festival Association
- Kiwanis Club
- Knights of Columbus
- Teche Center for the Arts
- TECHE Project

VFW Club

• American Legion

• Knights of Peter Claver

Boys/Girls Scout

Lion's Club

BREAUX BRIDGE RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS

CHURCH NAME

ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH

DISCIPLES BAPTIST CHURCH

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

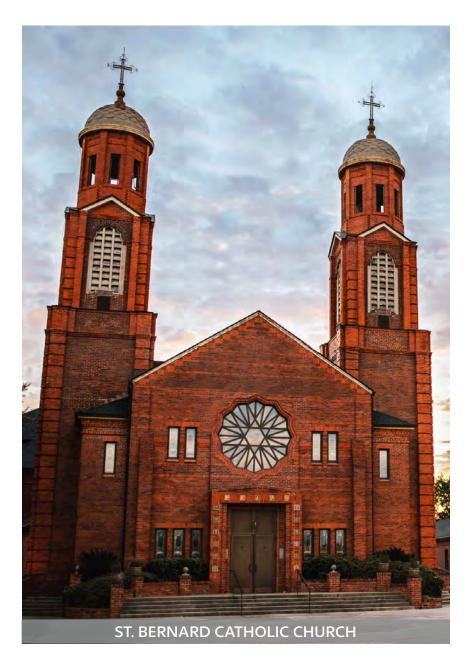
NINTH BAPTIST CHURCH

OUR LADY QUEEN OF ALL SAINTS

SACRED HEART CHURCH

ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH



CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

TECHE PROJECT

The Teche Ecology, Culture and History Education Project started in 2008 in St. Landry Parish. The organization is made up of individuals passionate about making Bayou Teche a healthier waterway for fishing, kayaking, canoing boating, tubing and even swimming! Along with aesthetics and recreation, TECHE Project advocates for improved water quality in the Bayou Teche watershed through the reduction of non-point source pollution.

What started with a small group of people in Arnaudville as an effort to pull debris from the bayou has become a movement championed by communities and volunteers. Volunteer crews have worked with the St. Landry, St. Martin, and Iberia Parish sheriffs offices to pull refrigerators, hot water heaters and other items littering the bayou and the banks. The TECHE Project has also worked with folks in St Mary Parish to pull exotic water hyacinth out of the bayou and holds public cleanups regularly and encourages volunteers with motorboats, kayaks and canoes to join.

TECHE Project has relationships with the Tour Du Teche, the Kiwanis Club of Breaux Bridge, Pack and Paddle, Bayou Teche Experience, Bayou Teche Brewery, Bayou Vermilion District, Arnaudville Area and Breaux Bridge Chambers of Commerce, St. Landry and St. Martin Parish Governments and Sheriffs as well as many of the towns and cities along Bayou Teche.





The Breaux Bridge Crawfish Festival, which started in 1960, is an annual festival that attracts thousands of visitors to the city. The festival is a longstanding tradition for many, and in 2010, Breaux Bridge celebrated the 50th year of the event. Held in May, the three day festival consists of amusement rides, live Cajun and Zydeco music, arts and crafts, and an assortment of Cajun foods. The festival also offers lessons in traditional Zydeco dancing and Bourée, a card game often enjoyed by Cajuns, and is accompanied by a parade, adult pageantry in which a Crawfish King and Queen are named, and junior pageantry in which children receive the same accolades.

BREAUX BRIDGE FESTIVALS

FESTIVAL NAME	MONTH
BREAUX BRIDGE CRAWFISH FESTIVAL	MAY
MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION	MAY
ART MATTERS GALA	SEPTEMBER
CITY-WIDE GARAGE SALE	OCTOBER
TUNES ON THE TECHE	OCTOBER
BOO ON THE BAYOU!	OCTOBER
VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION	NOVEMBER
FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY	DECEMBER



FEATURED FESTIVAL - BREAUX BRIDGE CRAWFISH FESTIVAL

The world-famous Crawfish Festival began in 1960 as a spin-off of the Breaux Bridge Centennial Celebration. The Louisiana Legislature had just named Breaux Bridge the Crawfish Capital of the World in 1959. The festival is now known around the country and even the world. Every May, thousands of hungry people flock to Breaux Bridge to be part of the festivities.



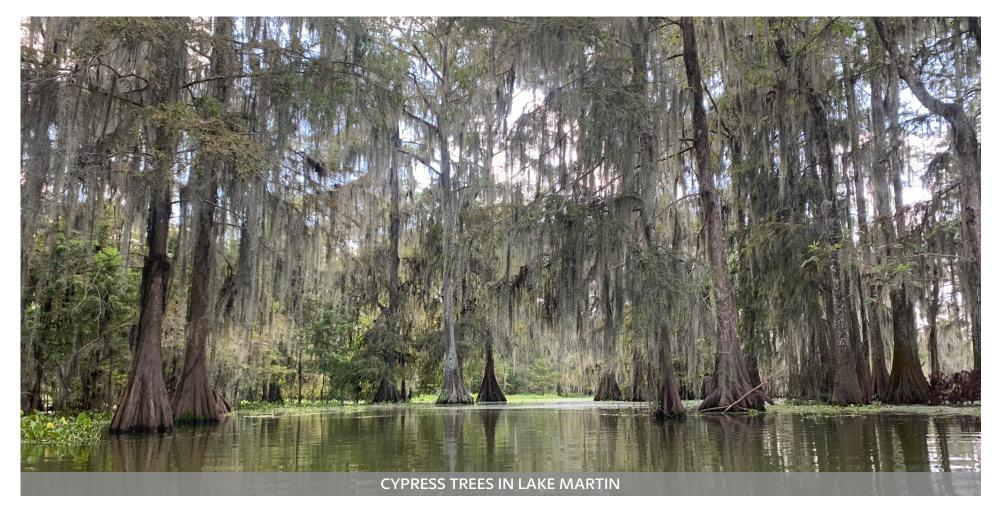


Breaux Bridge and the surrounding area offer a plethora of outdoor recreation opportunities. Within close proximity are many natural amenities, such as the Atchafalaya Basin, the continent's largest river basin, where you'll find beautiful rivers, cypress trees, hyacinths, water lilies, and a wide assortment of wildlife. There's also Lake Martin, the largest nesting area of wading birds in the United States. It's been listed as one of the top 10 bird watching spots in the United States by the Audubon Society. Boat tours and kayaking are enjoyed by community members and visitors alike. Breaux Bridge is part of the Bayou Teche Scenic Byway. Scenic Byways are leisurely routes through parts of Louisiana that offer visitors a unique experience of the Cajun and Creole lifestyle. They are selected for their recreational, scenic, historic, cultural, archaeological and natural resources. A trip through the byways of Acadiana immerses visitors in the cultural experience that can't be found by watching a video or listening to a lecture by inundating the senses with sights, sounds and tastes that could only come from South Louisiana.

BREAUX BRIDGE NATURE & RECREATION	
ASSET	RECREATION TYPE
ATCHAFALAYA BASIN	NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA
BAYOU TECHE	NATIONAL WATER TRAIL
CAJUN PALMS	RV RESORT
LAKE MARTIN	KAYAKING / BOAT TOURS / WILDLIFE VIEWING
PARC HARDY	COMMUNITY PARK / SPORTS FACILITIES
PREHISTORIC PARK	DINOSAUR THEMED PARK
VETERANS PARK	COMMUNITY PARK

LAKE MARTIN

Breaux Bridge is home to Lake Martin and the Cypress Island Preserve. The lake is enjoyed by fisherman and birdwatchers and is also home to over 20,000 nesting birds making it one of the largest bird nesting colonies in North America. The lake is a popular draw for tourists. Promotion of these natural features will help to further enhance outdoor recreation and tourism.



BAYOU TECHE

Visitors & locals of all ages enjoy canoing and kayaking along Bayou Teche, which is a 125-mile waterway known for its peaceful scenery and distinct historic significance. The Teche meanders through the heart of Acadiana from Port Barre southward to the town of Berwick. The Bayou is also home to the Tour du Teche, a series of canoe races that take place each fall. There is also an official Scenic Byway that follows along the waterway which allows travelers to traverse the south Louisiana landscape while enjoying stops in Acadian communities amongst the company of their Cajun residents.





ATCHAFALAYA BASIN

ATCHAFALYA BASIN

From its majestic cypress and tupelo covered swamps to the egrets and alligators that fill its big skies and endless waterways, the Atchafalaya Swamp Basin has come to symbolize life in Louisiana. Pronounced "uh-CHA-fuh-LIE-uh," the Atchafalaya gets its name from the Choctaw phrase for "Long River." An unmatched American wilderness, the Atchafalaya Swamp encompasses 1.4 million acres—an area bigger than the state of Rhode Island—between Lafayette and Baton Rouge, Louisiana. This vast ecosystem provides endless opportunities for multiple forms of both developed and undeveloped recreation and is growing in popularity as a national destination for a niche natural experience that is unrivaled on this continent.

PARC HARDY

Parc Hardy, located on Doucet Drive off of Rees Street, is a 48acre facility operated by the city. The park is used not only for recreation purposes like baseball and softball, but also for community-wide festivals, which includes amusement rides, vendors, and live entertainment.





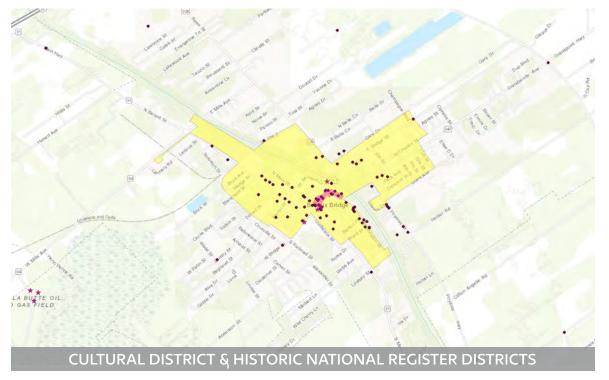
DE PONT BREAUX

De Pont Breaux is located Downtown along Bayou Teche. It spans more than 200 yards and includes informative signage and monuments, a boat launch, and a pier providing access to the bayou. This park is also home to community events and live entertainment.



STANDING STRUCTURES AND DISTRICTS

Historic buildings and structures play a special role in creating the distinctive character of each and every community. Their essential legacy of cultural, educational, recreational, aesthetic, social, and environmental benefits must be preserved and/or documented for present and future generations. The Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation's professionally trained staff work in the public's interest to recognize, revitalize, rehabilitate, and record the historic built environment in the state through the important programs and technical assistance offered.



LA OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT | LAOCD.MAPS.ARCGIS.COM

BREAUX BRIDGE CAJUN CREOLE CULTURAL DISTRICT & HISTORIC NATIONAL REGISTER DISTRICT

The Breaux Bridge Historic District is locally significant in the area of commerce because it represents the community's role as a commercial center for the surrounding agricultural area. Downtown Breaux Bridge continued to be a major provider of goods and services into the modern era when downtowns were supplanted by strip development.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Breaux Bridge offers a range of accommodations for area visitors and travelers. The area's bed and breakfasts offer charming accommodations that brings the best of Breaux Bridge to the visitor's doorstep. Many Bed and Breakfasts are conveniently located near restaurants serving local seafood and Breaux Bridge cuisine such as Buck and Johnny's, Poche Market & Restaurant, and Chez Jacqueline Restaurant.

BED & BREAKFAST	
В&В	PHONE NUMBER
BAYOU CABINS	(337) 332–6158
BAYOU TECHE BED AND BREAKFAST	(337) 332–1049
JOSEPHINE'S HOUSE	(985) 789-9207
MAISON DES AMIS	(337) 507–3399
THE COTTAGE DOWNTOWN	(713) 253–6702

HOTELS	
HOTEL	PHONE NUMBER
AMERICA'S BEST VALUE INN, BREAUX BRIDGE	(337) 332–6900
MICROTEL INN & SUITES	(337) 332-0432
SUPER 8	(337) 332–1114

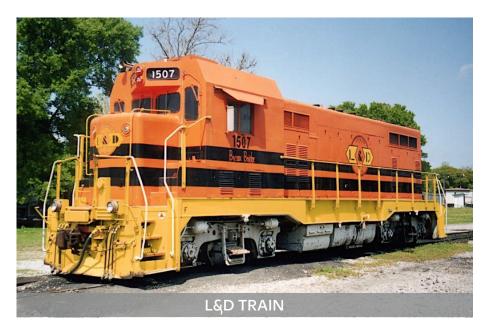
CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

INTERSTATE 10

Breaux Bridge is located just south of U.S. Interstate 10 near U.S. Highway 90 and U.S. Interstate I–49. Interstate 10 facilitates east/ west traffic through the city connecting Breaux Bridge with the state capital, Baton Rouge, to the east, and the city of Lafayette to the west. With Bayou Teche bisecting Breaux Bridge, the city's main circulation has been developed in a north/south orientation. Rees Street (La. Hwy 328) follows the length of Bayou Teche, connecting the city to the nearby communities of Cecilia, Henderson, Parks, and the parish seat, St. Martinville. Breaux Bridge is located just south of U.S. Interstate 10 near U.S. Highway 90 and U.S. Interstate I-49.

LOUISIANA & DELTA RAILROAD

Southern Pacific & Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroads once operated daily service from Lafayette to Breaux Bridge. One segment remains in use by local industry for transport and the remainder is free of use. The existing abandoned right-of-way offers a variety of possibilities including the introduction of a bike trail stretching from Lafayette to St. Martinville via Breaux Bridge, as well as a walking trail.

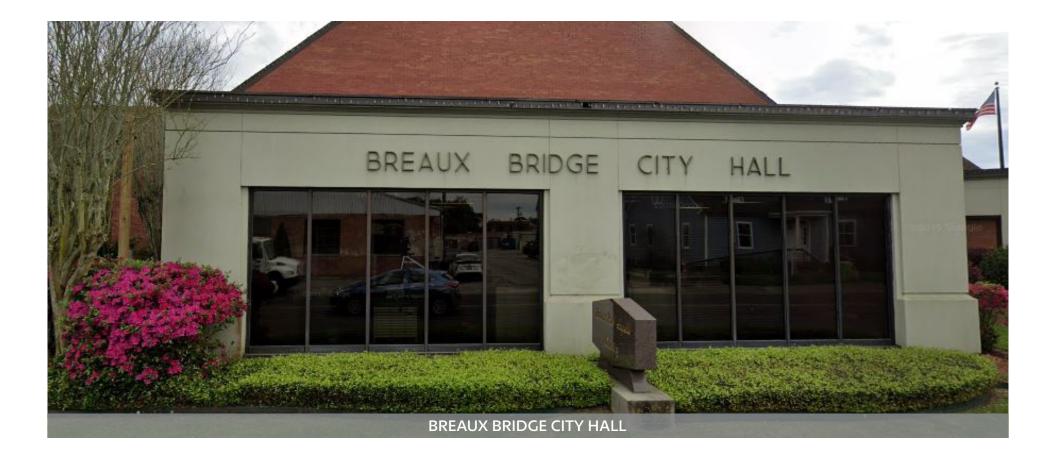


BREAUX BRIDGE UTILITY COMPANIES		
COMPANY NAME	ТҮРЕ	PHONE NUMBER
BREAUX BRIDGE WATER TREATMENT PLANT	WATER	(337) 332–2176
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT	WASTEWATER	(337) 332–2176
GULF SOUTH PIPELINE CO	NATURAL GAS	(337) 332–6060
ATMOS ENERGY	NATURAL GAS	(337) 268-4402
CLECO	ELECTRIC	(800) 622–6537
CENTURYLINK	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	(337) 221–4042
COX CABLE	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	(337) 456-4460





Breaux Bridge's local governing body operates out of City Hall, located at 101 Berard Street. City Hall provides space for the Planning and Zoning Department, the Department of Motor Vehicles, and the Breaux Bridge Police Department. The remaining space is used by support staff, the Mayor's office, and others.



In order to keep pace with new development, the city has committed to the gradual expansion of its Police, Fire, and Parks & Recreation Departments by investing in new facilities, equipment, and staffing to ensure adequate service capabilities, responsiveness, and geographic coverage in coming years. New businesses and developments wishing to locate within Breaux Bridge's Opportunity Zone are encouraged to contact the relevant department(s).

BREAUX BRIDGE CITY HALL DEPARTMENTS	
DEPARTMENT	PHONE NUMBER
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE / P.O.'S: TINA GREEN	(337) 332–8310
BREAUX BRIDGE CITY COURT	(337) 332–4117
CITY CLERK: KRISI LEBLANC	(337) 332–8309
CITY HALL: MAYOR RICKY CALAIS	(337) 332–2171
CUSTOMER SERVICE: MACEY ALEXANDER	(337) 332–1090
OCCUPATIONAL LICENSES: AMANDA LEBLANC	(337) 332–8333
PAYROLL / WORKER'S COMP: RITA GEORGE	(337) 332–8306
PLANNING / ZONING / PERMITS: AMANDA LEBLANC	(337) 332–8333
POLICE DEPARTMENT: CHIEF ROLLIE CANTU	(337) 332–8360
PROPERTY TAXES: DARREN DORE	(337) 394–2531
PUBLIC UTILITIES: JUDY BELLARD	(337) 332–8307
PUBLIC WORKS: RANDY "CRIP" CORMIER	(337) 332–2171



ST. MARTIN PARISH ECONOMIC PARTNERS

ACADIANA PLANNING COMMISSION

The Acadiana Planning Commission serves the public sector in the planning and implementation of Economic, Community & Transportation Development throughout the region known as Acadiana including the Louisiana Parishes of Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, and Vermilion.

ONE ACADIANA

One Acadiana is a bolder, re-energized version of the Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce. 1A is a business-led, privatelyfunded economic development organization serving a nine-parish (county) area in South Louisiana. Their vision is to make the Acadiana region one of the most sought-after places in the South for emerging businesses and professional talent. Lafayette Parish's local and area agencies and organizations work collaboratively to leverage the strengths of each entity to create opportunities for business expansion and to bring new businesses into the area, both of which will create better paying jobs; thereby, improving living standards and ensuring sustainable growth.

ST. MARTIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (SMEDA)

The St. Martin Economic Development Authority offers resources that stimulate the growth of St. Martin Parish's economy by creating and maintaining an optimum environment for both new and existing businesses, offering services that facilitate the growth and expansion of those businesses, and generating opportunities to increase the sales tax base of the communities in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana.

BREAUX BRIDGE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

St. Martin Parish has three active and vital chambers of commerce serving the citizens and business community of the parish: Arnaudville, Breaux Bridge, and St. Martinville.

ST. MARTIN PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION

St. Martin Parish Tourist Commission, located in Breaux Bridge, promotes the parish's cities and towns by highlighting the places to stay and things to do. The Tourist Commission provides maps, parks and recreation opportunities, a visitor's guide, and general information about St. Martin Parish.

BREAUX BRIDGE FULL SERVICE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS	
INSTITUTION	PHONE NUMBER
FARMERS MERCHANTS BANK & TRUST	(337) 332–2115
COMMUNITY FIRST BANK	(337) 442–6320
IBERIA BANK	(337) 332–2149
PEDESTAL BANK	(337) 442–1169
HANCOCK WHITNEY BANK	1 (800) 448-8812
SOUTHWEST LOAN CO – BREAUX BRIDGE	(337) 332–6246
BRENCO FINANCE INC	(337) 332-4160

BREAUX BRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

PURPOSE

The objective of the comprehensive plan is to develop guidance for Breaux Bridge in creating a long-range scope to shape economic, environmental, and social development. This plan will serve as a tool to facilitate the planning process by bringing to light current issues and presenting viable methods, which if implemented, can lead to successful development. This plan supports future infrastructure development, recreation, economic investment and reinvestment, tourism, and community beautification. The overall purpose is to create a sustainable and resilient Breaux Bridge.

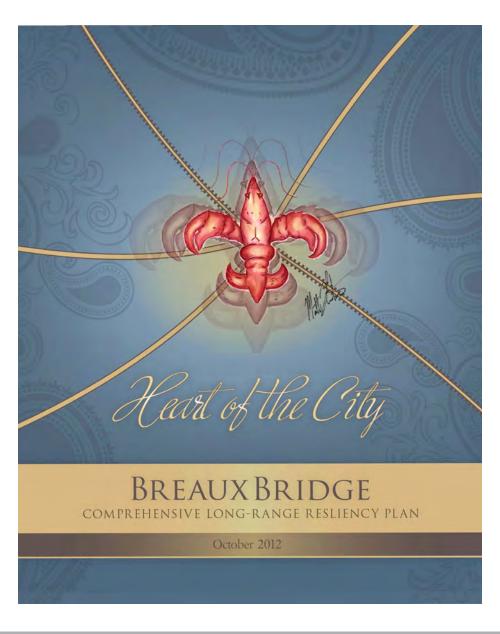
MISSION

The mission of this comprehensive plan is to extend the cultural flavor of the Downtown area to all parts of the community and define the character by this extension.

VISION

Through meetings with Breaux Bridge citizens, business owners, and government officials a vision for the future of Breaux Bridge was developed.

"Breaux Bridge should strive towards becoming a resilient and sustainable Acadian community, committed to molding its future growth in a pattern that preserves its heritage and cultural appeal while promoting modern opportunity for its future generations."



PROPOSED PUBLIC CATALYST PROJECTS

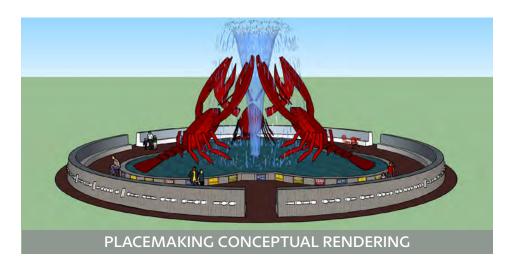
REDEVELOPMENT OF BREAUX BRIDGE RAIL CORRIDOR

Rail-trails are multipurpose public paths created from former railroad corridors. These paths are flat or gently sloping, making them easily accessible and a great way to enjoy the outdoors. Rail-trails are ideal for many types of activities--depending on the rules established by the local community--including walking, bicycling, wheelchair use, in-line skating, cross-country skiing and horseback riding.



RAILSTOTRAILS.ORG/ABOUT/

PUBLIC PLACEMAKING ART INSTALLATIONS



Placemaking is a multi-faceted approach to planning, design and management of public spaces. Placemaking capitalizes on a local community's assets and potential, with the intention of creating public spaces that promote people's health, happiness, and wellbeing.

INTRODUCTION TO OPPORTUNITY ZONES

The Opportunity Zone program was established by Congress in the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act as an innovative approach to spurring long-term private sector investments in low-income urban and rural communities.

WHAT ARE OPPORTUNITY ZONES?

Opportunity Zones are low income census tracts nominated by governors and certified by the U.S. Department of the Treasury into which investors can now put capital to work financing new projects and enterprises in exchange for certain federal capital gains tax advantages.

WHAT ARE OPPORTUNITY FUNDS?

Opportunity Funds are private sector investment vehicles that invest at least 90% of their capital in Opportunity Zones. U.S. investors currently hold trillions of dollars in unrealized capital gains in stocks and mutual funds alone – a significant untapped resource for economic development. Opportunity Funds provide investors the chance to put that money to work rebuilding the nation's left-behind neighborhoods. The fund model will enable a broad array of investors to pool their resources in Opportunity Zones, increasing the scale of investments going to under-served areas.

WHO CAN ESTABLISH AN OPPORTUNITY FUND?

The statute allows for broad participation in the creation of Opportunity Funds with the goal of drawing a wide array of investors to support the broad variety of needs in low income communities nationwide. Any entity, from a large bank to a community development financial institution, from a venture capital group to a developer consortium, as well a regional economic development organizations, can establish a fund as long as they follow guidelines set out by the statute and the U.S. Treasury.

For more information visit: <u>irs.gov/credits-deductions/opportunity-zones-frequently-asked-questions</u>

WHAT CAN AN OPPORTUNITY FUND INVEST IN?

The policy enables funds to be responsive to needs of different communities, allowing for investment in operating businesses, equipment, and real property. For example, funds can make equity investments in, or purchase the stock of, a company if substantially all the company's tangible property is and remains located in an Opportunity Zone. Funds can take interests in partnerships that meet the same criteria. Funds can also invest directly in qualifying property, such as real estate or infrastructure, if the property is used in the active conduct of a business and if either the original use of the property commences with the fund or the fund substantially improves the property.

BENEFITS OF OPPORTUNITY ZONE INVESTMENT

The Opportunity Zone program offers three tax incentives for investing in low-income communities through a qualified Opportunity Fund.

DEFERRAL

A temporary deferral of inclusion in taxable income for capital gains reinvested into an Opportunity Fund. The deferred gain must be recognized on the earlier of the date on which the opportunity zone investment is disposed of or on December 31, 2026.

STEP-UP

A step-up in basis for capital gains reinvested in an Opportunity Fund. The basis is increased by 10% if the investment in the Opportunity Fund is held by the taxpayer for at least five years and by an additional 5% if held for at least seven years, thereby excluding up to 15% of the original gain from taxation.

PERMANENT O

A permanent exclusion from taxable income of capital gains from the sale or exchange of an investment in an Opportunity Fund if investment is held for at least 10 years. This exclusion only applies to gains accrued after an investment in an Opportunity Fund.

KEY PARTIES



HOW IS THIS DIFFERENT THAN OTHER TAX CREDITS?



 Qualifying residential, commercial real estate, and business investments



KEY PARTIES IN OZ INVESTMENTS

In typical OZ investments there may be several different parties involved, though in some cases there may only be one party. The **investor** or **taxpayer** who has a capital gain to invest is always involved. The typical opportunity zone **fund** is managed by a fund manager separate from the investors. Frequently, there is a third party who is developing a **project** or starting a business in a qualified opportunity zone. **Qualified Opportunity Zones** are specially designated census tracts that have lacked substantial investment for a significant period of time. Their designation as opportunity zones are designed to economically benefit the **community** as a whole. For sophisticated investors, it is possible for all three roles to be played by the Investor.

INCENTIVES

Developers can utilize the Opportunity Zone program along with other incentives to increase their capital stack and thus reduce total costs of projects, create higher returns, and potentially expand the project. This concept is also referred to as "twinning" or "stacking" incentives. Below are some of the other incentives that may be able to stack with the Opportunity Zone program. Developers should consult their legal and financial advisors to determine the solution that is best fit for the project and their associated investors.

Please note this list is not inclusive of all business incentives and not all available incentives are guaranteed.

NEW MARKET TAX CREDITS (FEDERAL)

Established in 2000, the New Markets Tax Credit program (NMTC) attracts investment for acquisition, rehabilitation, or construction of real estate projects in low-income communities. Approximately 43% of U.S. census tracts qualify for NMTCs.

The U.S. Department of the Treasury competitively allocates tax credit authority to intermediaries known as Community Development Entities (CDEs). CDEs primarily consists of domestic corporations and partnerships. NMTC investors provide capital to CDEs and in exchange receive a tax credit against their federal income tax. Local government does not play a role in this tax incentive, as it is a federal program.

An investor must make an investment in a project for seven years to realize the maximum amount of benefits possible from the program. This includes:

- 5% of the investment for each of the first three years
- 6% of the investment for each of the remaining four years

This totals to a potential 39% of the initial investment. New Market Tax Credits are often stacked with other incentives, further enhancing development opportunities.

For more information visit:

cdfifund.gov/programs-training/Programs/new-markets-tax-credit/Pages/default.aspx

EPA BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM (FEDERAL)

The EPA's Brownfields Program provides grants and technical assistance to communities, states, tribes, and others to assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse Brownfield sites. Brownfields are properties that may have hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants present. Grants are available for Phase I/II environmental assessments, clean-up (if necessary), and redevelopment. In addition, the program was expanded in 2006 to cover properties with petroleum contamination.

- Brownfields Assessment Grants provide funding for Brownfield inventories, planning, environmental assessments, and community outreach.
- Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund Grants provide funding to capitalize loans that are used to clean up Brownfields.
- Brownfield Job Training Grants provide environmental training for residents of Brownfield communities.
- Brownfield Clean-up Grants provide direct funding for clean-up activities at certain properties with planned greenspace, recreational, or other nonprofit uses.
- Brownfield Area-Wide Planning Grants provide funding to communities to research, plan, and develop implementation strategies for cleaning up and revitalizing a specific area affected by one or more Brownfield sites.
- Alternative funding/Assistance sources: State (LA DEQ), Local (APC), Regional TAB (Technical Assistance for Brownfields Kansas State University)

For more information visit: <u>epa.gov/brownfields/types-epa-brownfield-grant-funding</u>

In addition, for more information on the Small Business Revolving Loan fund, please visit: <u>scpdc.org/opportunity-zones-and-small-business-revolving-loan-programs/</u>

FEDERAL HISTORIC REHABILITATION TAX CREDIT (FEDERAL)

Encourages and supports the preservation/rehabilitation of historic/older buildings through incentives. This credit applies to income producing properties that are individually listed on the National Register or a contributing element within a National Register Historic District. This incentive is a 20% federal tax credit of eligible construction costs and fees.

For more information visit: nps.gov/tps/tax-incentives.htm

ENTERPRISE ZONE (STATE)

The Enterprise Zone, or EZ program is a jobs incentive program that provides Louisiana income and franchise tax credits to a new or existing business located in Louisiana creating permanent net new full-time jobs and hiring at least 50% of those net new jobs from one of four targeted groups. The benefit provides: either a one-time \$3,500 or \$1,000 tax credit for each net new job created.

An Enterprise Zone can result in a 4% rebate of sales and use taxes paid on qualifying materials, machinery, furniture, and/or equipment purchased or a 1.5% refundable investment tax credit on total investment, excluding tax exempted items. The 4% or 1.5% rebate shall not exceed \$100,000 per net new job.

For more information visit: <u>opportunitylouisiana.com/business-incentives/enterprise-zone</u>

QUALITY JOBS (STATE)

The Quality Jobs, or QJ program provides a cash rebate to companies that create well paid jobs and promote economic development. The program provides up to a 6% cash rebate on 80% of gross payroll for new direct jobs for up to 10 years. Effective July 1, 2018, the rebate is available on 100% of gross annual payroll. It can provide a 4% sales/ use rebate on capital expenditures or a 1.5% refundable investment tax credit on the total capital investment, excluding tax exempted items.

For more information visit: <u>opportunitylouisiana.com/business-incentives/quality-jobs</u>

INDUSTRIAL TAX EXEMPTION (STATE)

Available exclusively to manufacturers, the Industrial Tax Exemption Program is Louisiana's original incentive program for capital investments. This incentive abates local property taxes for up to 10 years on new investments and annual capitalized additions related to the manufacturing site. Note: Executive Order JBE 2016–26, issued June 24, 2016, provides changes and new requirements. See LED website for updates.

For more information visit: <u>opportunitylouisiana.com/business-incentives/industrial-tax-exemption</u>

RESTORATION TAX ABATEMENT (STATE)

The Restoration Tax Abatement (RTA) program grants businesses and homeowners up to 10 years of property tax abatement to encourage the expansion, restoration, and development of existing commercial structures and owner-occupied residences in downtown, historic, and economic development districts.

For more information visit: <u>opportunitylouisiana.com/business-incentives/restoration-tax-abatement</u>

STATE HISTORIC REHABILITATION TAX CREDIT (STATE)

This program encourages and supports the preservation/rehabilitation of historic/older buildings through incentives. It applies only to income producing properties that contribute to the significance of a designated Downtown Development District or a Cultural District in Louisiana. The incentive provides for a 20% state tax credit for eligible construction costs and fees that meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

For more information visit: <u>crt.state.la.us/cultural-development/historic-preservation/tax-incentives/state-commercial-tax-credit/index</u>

LOUISIANA FASTSTART (STATE)

A single-source workforce solution that works with businesses to anticipate and address the company's workforce needs early in the startup or expansion process. This is a discretionary incentive of the state and is based on a company's commitment to create jobs. Target industries that this program works with are manufacturing, call centers, headquarters, wholesale distribution, technology, and digital media.

For more information visit: opportunitylouisiana.com/faststart

ANGEL INVESTOR TAX CREDITS (STATE)

Louisiana's Angel Investor Tax Credit (AITC) encourages accredited investors to invest in early stage, small wealth-creating Louisiana businesses that seek startup and expansion capital.

- Provides a 35% tax credit on investments by accredited investors who invest in businesses certified by Louisiana Economic Development as Louisiana Entrepreneurial Businesses (LEB) located in an opportunity zone.
- \$7.2 million annual program cap.
- Investors can invest \$720,000 per business per year and \$1.44 million per business over the life of the program.
- The AITC Program sunsets on July 1, 2025.

For more information visit: <u>opportunitylouisiana.com/business-incentives/angel-investor-tax-credit</u>

DIGITAL INTERACTIVE MEDIA AND SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE (STATE)

The Digital Media Incentive provides a tax credit of just 25% on qualified payroll for in-state labor and 18% for qualified production expenditures.

For more information visit:

opportunitylouisiana.com/business-incentives/digital-interactive-media-and-software-program

PURCHASING COMPANY INCENTIVES PROGRAM (STATE)

The Purchasing Company Incentives Program authorizes the Secretary of Louisiana Economic Development (LED) to enter into a contract with a procurement processing company which recruits purchasing companies to Louisiana. The contract shall provide for incentive rebate payments in exchange for the generation of new state tax revenue from new taxable sales to a purchasing company which is managed by the procurement processing company.

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS RELOCATION PROGRAM (STATE)

This program provides for the granting of contracts for businesses to receive rebates of 25% of applicable relocation costs for relocating or expanding its headquarters in Louisiana. Louisiana Economic Development (LED) will determine the eligibility of a business based on criteria that include that the relocation or expansion will create at least 25 headquarters jobs, that program participation will be a significant factor in a highly competitive site selection situation, and that securing the project will provide a significant positive economic benefit to the state.

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING (LOCAL)

Tax increment financing (TIF) is an economic development tool utilized by local governments which may be utilized to encourage development and redevelopment in certain areas. Capturing future incremental tax revenue enables the local government to undertake economic development activities or provide subsidies that otherwise might not be possible.

The state has authorized local governments to designate project areas, "TIF Districts", to capture tax increments (on property tax, sales tax and/or hotel occupancy tax) that can be used to focus on funding toward improvements in distressed or underdeveloped areas where development would not otherwise occur. The taxing bodies in these districts continue to receive the base value tax revenues while the incremental increase goes to the project or project areas for a designated period of time. The TIF is created by the local governing authority and remains in effect until it expires or until the bonds or loans are paid off.

PILOT (LOCAL)

A Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) is a tax incentive designed to restructure the tax burden for developers interested in relocating, expanding, or developing in certain areas. With PILOTs, local governments can grant developers exemptions from traditional property taxes for a set period of time to support improvements to property, or to locate a project in a blighted and distressed area.

In reducing a developer's local property tax liability, additional cash flow is generated that can make a marginal project more economically feasible and allow a development to be financed that might not otherwise be possible without the incentive. The incentive also increases the fair market value of the property as a result of higher net operating income.

PILOT recipients must show that the project benefits the community, however, in the form of additional employment through construction and permanent jobs, meeting certain payroll criteria, generating certain sales tax revenues, and other requirements specified in the agreement.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS



Acadiana Planning Commission (APC) – APC is a public-sector organization focused on planning and implementation of community, economic, and transportation development throughout South Louisiana's Acadiana Region.

Monique Boulet, CEO mboulet@planacadiana.org



One Acadiana (1A) – 1A is a business-led, privately-funded economic development organization for the nine parishes (counties) in South Louisiana's Acadiana Region, and serves as the chamber of commerce for the city of Lafayette.

Troy Wayman, President & CEO troy@oneacadiana.org



St. Martin Parish Economic Development Authority (SMEDA) – The St. Martin Economic Development Authority offers resources that stimulate the growth of St. Martin Parish's economy by creating and maintaining an optimum environment for both new and existing businesses, offering services that facilitate the growth and expansion of those businesses, and generating opportunities to increase the sales tax base of the communities in St. Martin Parish, Louisiana.

Jennifer Stelly, Executive Director jstelly@stmartinparish.net



Breaux Bridge Area Chamber of Commerce – The Breaux Bridge Area Chamber of Commerce works to provide leadership that fosters growth and prosperity in the Breaux Bridge area so as to ensure that this community is the best place to operate and grow a business, as well as the most desirable place to live, visit, work, and play.

Shayne Breaux, President (337) 332–5406



Community Foundation of Acadiana (CFA) – CFA is a tax-exempt, donor-centric, entrepreneurial foundation whose core purpose is building legacies and improving communities by connecting generous people to the causes they care about. CFA is South Louisiana's premier philanthropic organization benefiting the region, with a particular focus on the parishes of Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, and Vermilion.

Raymond Hebert, President & CEO rhebert@cfacadiana.org



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Christopher Caldwell, Federal CO-Chairman John Bel Edwards, States' CO-Chairman



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

InvestAcadiana.com