

2017 Annual Report



Lafayette
CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT

LAFAYETTE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT
The consolidated government of the City of
Lafayette and the Parish of Lafayette, Louisiana



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*Cover photo by Philip Gould

LAFAYETTE CITY-PARISH GOVERNMENT BY PHONE

Animal Control	291-5644
Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)	291-8311
City Court	291-8720
City Marshal	291-8725
Mayor-President	291-8300
Civil Service	291-8334
Clerk of Council	291-8810
Community Development	291-8400
Fire Administration	291-8701
Fire and Police Civil Service	291-8762
Information Services & Technology	291-5600
International Trade	291-5474
Juvenile Detention Center	291-7130
Lafayette Parish Public Library	261-5787
Lafayette Utilities System (LUS)	291-5804
LUS Customer Service	291-8280
Legal Department	210-8171
Parks & Recreation	291-8361
Development & Planning	291-8000
Police Administration	291-8653
Public Works	291-8517

LAFAYETTE PARISH GOVERNMENT OFFICES BY PHONE

Clerk of Court	291-6400
Coroner	291-7100
Lafayette Parish Communications District	291-5060
North Water Treatment Plant	291-5919
Office of Emergency Preparedness	291-5075
Registrar of Voters	291-7140
South Water Treatment Plant	291-5910
Tax Assessor	291-7080

OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Bayou Vermilion District	237-8360
City of Broussard	837-6681
CAJUNDOME	265-2100
City of CarenCro	896-8481
Correctional Center	236-5400
Council on Aging	262-5990
Department of Health & Hospitals	262-1635
District Attorney	232-5170
District Judges	232-8211
Downtown Development	291-5566
City of Duson	873-6754
Federal Courthouse	593-5000
Forensic Lab	291-7106
Lafayette Convention & Visitors Commission	232-3737
Lafayette Economic Development Authority	593-1400
Lafayette Parish Health Unit	262-5616
Lafayette Parish School Board	521-7000
Lafayette Regional Airport	266-4400
LSU Ag Center	291-7090
Office of Motor Vehicles	896-8121
One Acadiana	233-2705
Republic Services	806-2000
Sales Tax Office	232-3912
City of Scott	233-1130
Sheriff's Office	232-9211
Employment Office	262-5601
City of Youngsville	856-4181



Message from the Mayor-President

It is my pleasure to present the second Annual Report of my administration. I continue to be proud of the accomplishments we have achieved, some of which are highlighted in this report. This year's report is organized by City-Parish Council, Budgeting & Finance, Resilience & Recovery, Cultural Economy, Innovation,

Public Safety, Live, Work & Play, Developing Business, Getting Around, and Lagniappe. Each department's successes are listed within these topics to demonstrate how your local government is working together to help make Lafayette the best place to live, work and play.

BUDGETING PRIORITIES

My administration takes seriously the responsibility to run government efficiently, and we stand committed in our efforts to continue being a good steward of taxpayer dollars. In the spring of 2017, voters initially rejected the renewal of two existing parish-wide millages (Parish Courthouse and Parish Jail), indicating the need to build more trust in local government. It is my goal to restore some of that faith by demonstrating how we efficiently utilize existing resources and are finding ways to reallocate tax dollars to both critical infrastructure needs and strategic revenue generating initiatives. With a voter outreach effort designed to both educate and build trust, voters renewed the vital millages for continued funding of these state-mandated governmental agencies. Voters further demonstrated their expectations of local government by approving the partial rededication of an existing tax millage to fund drainage projects in flood-prone areas of the parish and to capitalize on our cultural economy through the CREATE initiative. Moving forward, I commit that my administration will continue identifying and reducing the cost of government to address any revenue shortfalls. We will also continue to pursue innovative solutions to create more efficiency and transparency.

FACING DRAINAGE HEAD ON

After a thorough analysis, my administration identified available monies in the existing Public Health millage to enhance the parish-wide drainage millage. The Public Health fund had a strong surplus and the projected annual revenues generated by the millage continued to be in excess of expenditures necessary to provide for the operations and capital needs of the animal shelter, public health unit and mosquito control. The rededication totaling \$9M of one-time revenues and an additional \$2.5M annually for the drainage fund, allows Lafayette Consolidated Government to better address drainage concerns of the parish.

Along with the Council and area Mayors, 77 critical drainage projects were prioritized, totaling approximately 50 miles at an estimated cost of \$31M. These projects have been rated by the number of addresses affected and cost per address, percentage area in a flood zone, number of FEMA and repetitive loss claims, complexity of each project, and any foreseen permitting issues. Under this rating system, 27 initial projects at an estimated cost of \$9.67M have been identified, with the work beginning in 2018. The progress or delays of each of these projects will be

tracked in a very public manner via an online dashboard. It is my commitment to continue to address the balance of the critical drainage projects utilizing the newly developed rating system. While these projects are ongoing, Public Works also continues to manage day-to-day drainage maintenance needs, including roadside and coulee excavation projects, cleaning litter traps, making important repairs to sinkholes, and flushing out culverts.

CREATING CHANGE

Lafayette Parish voters also approved \$500,000 in annual funding to establish the parish-wide cultural economy initiative, known as CREATE. This important initiative strategically supports and further develops Lafayette Parish's cultural and recreational resources. Through sustained focus, CREATE will market one of the region's most valuable and innate qualities – our culture – to further galvanize and diversify commerce associated with artistic, cultural and recreational opportunities in the area. Studies show that the industry behind our local culture is the second largest economy and employer in Lafayette Parish. With citizen input and engagement through CREATE, our unique and creative local culture has the potential to take the lead as an economic driver in the parish.

INNOVATIVE APPROACHES

Through bold and concentrated efforts in 2017, Lafayette continued to garner praise and attention as an innovative and forward-thinking community in its approaches to addressing critical issues and creating efficiencies and transparency. Named as a 2017 Gigabit Community by the Mozilla Foundation, Lafayette joined the company of Eugene, OR, Austin, Chattanooga and Kansas City in this designation, and was awarded \$150,000 in innovation grants. The investment provides funding for community gigabit applications which improve education, address workforce development issues and keep citizens connected. Lafayette also took the innovative spotlight as a featured community at Austin's famed SXSW during the "Smart City Day." Joining a lineup of leading Smart Cities, Lafayette was lauded for our long history of proven innovations, including LUS Fiber, as well as current initiatives such as the EPA Smart City Air Challenge through the LEARN Collaborative and Cajun Code Fest. Pushing our innovative spirit to the ultimate test, LCG applied for and earned a spot in the 2018 Mayors Challenge to compete with more than 300 of the most innovative cities in the country to develop a plan to address an urgent community challenge. As a named finalist, Lafayette will now go up against 34 remaining cities competing for the \$5M grand prize or one of four \$1M prizes to bring our idea to life.

A BETTER ROAD AHEAD

The University Corridor is a crucial gateway to our community and worthy of reinvestment. It is my hope that with renewed focus, we can begin the process of returning this area to its former cultural, social and economic status for those who live, work and travel along the corridor. In the fall of 2016 LCG was awarded funds for the development of a corridor plan to evaluate conditions along University Avenue and solicit community feedback to develop a plan for potential improvements. Through this important and focused work, I believe we can reestablish a corridor of economic prosperity and a quality of life that represents what makes Lafayette so special.



Lafayette City-Parish Council

The legislative power of Lafayette Consolidated Government is vested in a Council consisting of nine members elected from single-member districts for four-year terms. Council members serve as the voice of their constituents and, along with Mayor-President Joel Robideaux, provide leadership and direction to the various departments of consolidated government. The Lafayette City-Parish Council meets regularly, every first and third Tuesday of the month in City Hall at 705 W. University Ave. at 5:30 p.m.

The Lafayette Public Utilities Authority (LPUA) is the governing authority of the Lafayette Utilities System and consists of five City-Parish Council members whose districts include 60 percent or more of the persons residing within the boundaries of the City of Lafayette. The LPUA meets regularly on the first and third Tuesday of the month in City Hall at 4:30 p.m.

Special or emergency meetings may be held on the call of the presiding Council officer or by a majority vote of members to meet a public emergency affecting life, health, property or public safety.

All meetings of the Council and its committees are open to the public. Those wishing to address the Council are asked to complete a form located at the entrance to the meeting room prior to the reading of the agenda item. Speakers are allotted five minutes to speak.

Citizens can view the live proceedings of the Council on Acadiana Open Channel (AOC2) the evening of the meetings. AOC2 airs on Cox Channel 16 and on LUS Fiber Channel 4. Those same meetings will be replayed on the following Friday at 7 p.m.



Veronica L. Williams

Clerk of the Council Veronica L. Williams and an administrative staff perform the day-to-day tasks necessary for efficient operation of the Council office, as well as assist Council members in better serving residents of the City and Parish of Lafayette.

The Council makes several appointments to boards and commissions. All citizens are encouraged to contact the Council staff to find out which boards may interest them at 291-8800 or BCLafayette@LafayetteLA.gov.



2017 CITY-PARISH COUNCIL

District 1 – Kevin Naquin

291-8801, KevinNaquin@LafayetteLA.gov

District 2 – Jay Castille

291-8802, JayCastille@LafayetteLA.gov

District 3 – Patrick Lewis*

291-8803, PatrickLewis@LafayetteLA.gov

District 4 – Kenneth P. Boudreaux*

291-8804, KennethBoudreaux@LafayetteLA.gov

District 5 – Jared Bellard

291-8805, JaredBellard@LafayetteLA.gov

District 6 – Bruce M Conque*

291-8806, BruceConque@LafayetteLA.gov

District 7 – Nanette Cook*

291-8807, NanetteCook@LafayetteLA.gov

District 8 – Liz W. Hebert*

291-8808, LizHebert@LafayetteLA.gov

District 9 – William G. Theriot

291-8809, WilliamTheriot@LafayetteLA.gov

*Lafayette Public Utilities Authority (LPUA) member

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

- Attend a meeting on the first or third Tuesday of the month at 705 W. University Ave. (See meeting schedule online as dates could vary when the meeting date conflicts with a holiday.)
- View the meeting agendas online at www.LafayetteLA.gov.
- Watch the meeting on AOC or stream live (see link below).
- Volunteer for a board or commission by calling 291-8800 or emailing BCLafayette@LafayetteLA.gov.
- Email (see above) or call the Council office at 291-8800.

ONLINE RESOURCES

- Website (view agendas, minutes, charter, etc.)
 - www.LafayetteLA.gov/Council
- Live stream of Council meetings
 - www.ustream.tv/channel/lafayette-consolidated-government-council-meeting



Detailed and transparent financial reporting is the bedrock of trust in government. It is essential for the confidence of Lafayette's residents in government that they are able to see and believe that their government is actively working to both use funds in the best way possible, and save money at every turn. Lafayette Consolidated Government did both in 2017.

It is our responsibility to run government efficiently and to build trust and these distinctions are evidence of our transparent and conscientious fiscal efforts. Residents should feel confident knowing we have such a dedicated CFO who guides us through these complex financial processes."

– Mayor-President Joel Robideaux

TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- LCG received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, the highest recognition in governmental accounting, awarded by the Government Finance Officers Association for the second year in a row. The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) Program encourages governments to go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles and prepare transparent, comprehensive financial statements that provide users with the information they need to assess the entity's financial health.
- For the fourth consecutive year, LCG was awarded the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. This award represents a significant achievement by the entity and reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. LCG was one of only 16 governing entities in Louisiana to receive the award in 2017, satisfying nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation.
- LCG realized a cost savings of \$1.4M through the renegotiation of its group insurance prescription contract and saved approximately \$45,000 by garnering reductions in worker's compensation premiums.
- With a commitment to maintaining strong bond ratings and creating an open and transparent government with the investor community and public at large, the Office of Finance & Management launched an investor relations website, www.lafayettebonds.com. Through this site, the public can view financial information related to bonds issued by the City and Parish of Lafayette and the Utilities and Communication Systems, which LCG uses to make critical investments in public infrastructure throughout the region. The website is a useful tool for those seeking to better understand the credit fundamentals of the City of Lafayette.

The Office of Finance & Management exists to oversee and manage, according to all applicable laws and standards, the Accounting, Budgeting, Group Insurance, Purchasing, Property, and Risk Management functions within LCG. The department's role is to produce accurate and timely financial information for citizens, the Council, employees, and management in order to facilitate sound decisions, and to do so in a manner that remains within the bounds of strict fiduciary duty with regards to taxpayer assets.

The office also manages and oversees the group insurance program for all LCG employees and its retirees, and administers the worker's compensation plan, safety programs, and risk management functions for the government.

As Lafayette's Comprehensive Plan continues to move forward, the Office of Finance & Management plays an integral part in assisting in the Plan's success by reviewing budgeting methodologies and assisting with analyzing funding sources and expenditures based on the Plan's mission and goals.

LCG's annual budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications guide for the consolidated government. It is the foundation for LCG's allocation of resources toward service delivery plans. The fund structure for LCG is complex. There are two general funds, one for the city and one for the parish. Combined, there are more than 50 general governmental funds, four internal service funds, and four business type funds. The Parish General Fund budget for FY 2018 has a projected ratio of fund balance to annual expenditures of less than one percent. The FY 2018 adopted budget did not reinstate expenses reduced in the prior fiscal year and an additional reduction of 20 percent across the remaining appropriations was done. New revenue sources and additional decreases in expenditures for this fund will be required in the future to support the state mandates funded through the Parish General Fund.



The City General Fund budget for FY 2018 has a projected ratio of fund balance to annual expenditures of 38.44 percent. This ratio exceeds the administrative policy to maintain City General Fund balance at 20 percent of expenditures and shows a continued upwards trend when compared to prior years. The budgeted ratio of fund balance to annual expenditures for the City General Fund was 32.6 percent, 31.5 percent, 23.6 percent, and 20 percent in FY 2017, 2016, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

Additionally, the City General Fund budget for FY 2018 contemplates a \$2.4M use of prior year fund balance predominantly due to funding needs for public safety such as fire and police.

In the year ahead, the Office of Finance & Management will face several challenges including changes to software systems for its financial management package, budgeting processes, group insurance enrollment system, and risk management claims. The most important challenge is to continue to aid in the accomplishment of LCG's goals and meet the needs of taxpayers while maintaining a fiscally sound financial position that will meet the immediate and future needs of Lafayette.



Resilience & Recovery

Following the historic flood of 2016, the Robideaux Administration sought new ways to help the parish become more resilient—better prepared and quicker to recover from future challenges.

TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Renowned planning experts share valuable technical knowledge on resilient approaches to water management and development policies.
- Local leaders set the standard for regional watershed management.
- Voters rededicate revenues to fund critical drainage projects.
- 2,200 volunteers bring hope to Lafayette and aid in flood recovery.

RESILIENT APPROACHES

In keeping with the momentum from the 2016 year-end Resilient Cities Summit, at which Mayor-President Robideaux was one of just six invited mayors, Lafayette was then selected in January by The Rockefeller Foundation to receive technical assistance via a Resilient Infrastructure Workshop. Community stakeholders and planners heard from HUD Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Harriet Tregoning and joined presentations focused on a path to becoming a more resilient community.



Stakeholders and planners participate in a Resilient Infrastructure Workshop with HUD Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Harriet Tregoning.

Then in June, LCG's Planning Division hosted a team of renowned land use and urban planning experts assembled by the Urban Land Institute (ULI), and led by former Pittsburgh Mayor Tom Murphy, known for his extensive experience in urban revitalization. With a focus on downtown, the panel's charge was to advise on resilient land use strategies, including residential housing, focusing on development policies and water management strategies, as well as new financing approaches. During the six day visit, the delegation interviewed dozens of community leaders, stakeholders, elected officials, residents, development

professionals and LCG staff members, and studied sites identified as high potential for downtown development. At the conclusion of the week, the findings were presented at a public meeting, including the development potential of downtown sites. Ultimately, ULI compiled its recommendations in a report to LCG for resilient approaches to development as a way to revitalize Downtown Lafayette.

Since ULI's visit, the Robideaux Administration has already achieved some of the recommendations from the report to increase vibrancy downtown. These include the hosting of a Neighborhood Summit and the lifting of the bar "moratorium." Further, the Administration in conjunction with the Downtown Development Authority is working to revise downtown sidewalk dining guidelines which they plan to bring before the City-Parish Council this spring. The administration also continues to review other recommendations in the report, including how to finance stormwater management best practices and implement low-impact development techniques.

In August, LCG submitted an application for the 2018 Mayors Challenge. In its fourth iteration, the Mayors Challenge is sponsored and organized by Bloomberg Philanthropies and calls upon competing cities to identify an urgent challenge in their community and then develop an innovative plan to tackle the issue. LCG signed on early to the Mayors Challenge in hopes



of addressing drainage issues. LCG representatives, along with local subject matter experts and stakeholders, completed a one-day facilitated workshop, designed to help participants drill down to a very specific, action-oriented and innovative idea for the initial Mayors Challenge application.

Mayor-President Robideaux expressed his optimism saying, "We had the benefit of some pretty incredible brain power advising us and working alongside us. I believe our application will have a great chance of advancing to the next round of the challenge." The workshop was a collaborative effort to approach the topic according to Carencro Mayor Glenn Brasseaux who said, "We all have a vested interest in addressing the issue of drainage." Scott Mayor Purvis Morrison echoed the sentiment saying, "We have to approach drainage as a region because when it comes to water,

city and parish lines don't exist." Robideaux's optimism proved accurate as Lafayette was named a finalist out of more than 300 applications. The Mayors Challenge grand prize winner, to be announced in October of 2018, will be awarded \$5M and four cities will each win \$1M to bring their ideas to life.

Building resilient cities is a global movement to equip communities to handle physical, social and economic challenges by focusing on planning, response and an increased ability to



Local officials, LCG staff, subject matter experts and stakeholders, completed a one-day workshop for the Mayors Challenge.

better absorb an unexpected event. ULI leverages the substantial expertise of its members to provide guidance on community building in a way that responds to inevitable and unexpected events, while helping to boost economic prosperity, foster a high quality of life, and preserve the environment.

A REGIONAL APPROACH

In August of 2017, Mayor-President Robideaux stood alongside the presidents of Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, St. Landry, St. Martin and Vermilion parishes when Governor Edwards announced these leaders' collaborative approach to regional watershed management. In a ground-breaking move, these leaders agreed to pool their parishes' hazard mitigation dollars to focus on projects to improve drainage regionally, rather than each parish spending money on smaller projects benefiting their respective areas. Combined, the parishes were awarded \$25M in hazard mitigation grant money following the 2016 floods. Since that announcement, each of the parishes prepared and submitted proposed regional drainage projects which were vetted and scored by a technical committee assembled by the Acadiana Planning Commission. In January of 2018, the projects were ranked and awarded by tiers with many of the projects planned for Lafayette Parish. In all, 20 regional drainage projects were proposed.

A LOCAL APPROACH

In November of 2017, Lafayette Parish approved the rededication of an existing millage to direct more revenues to drainage projects. The affirmative vote made \$9M in one-time funding immediately available for drainage projects plus an additional \$2.5M annually for drainage. In collaboration with the Council and area mayors, LCG's Public Works Department identified a total of 77 deferred maintenance projects and developed a plan of implementation to begin in 2018. Addressing these deferred maintenance projects is in addition to the drainage crews' work to manage and respond to service calls and the day-to-day labors of culvert flushing, roadside ditch and coulee excavations, cleaning litter traps and sinkhole repairs. Throughout 2017, the Drainage Division completed 1,757 service requests with an additional 619 requests in progress. Excavation projects were completed on portions of Indian Bayou and Anselm Coulee for flood control, as well as

roadside ditch cleaning of Flanders Gardens, Sawgrass and The Glade subdivisions. Public Works staff also made continued progress with the cross drain culvert inspection project and worked to inventory projects on LCG's GIS maps. The Streets Division provided support services and sandbagging operations during flash flood events and the active hurricane season.

Other areas of Lafayette Parish will see drainage projects funded by \$1.9M in early infusion funds for disaster recovery awarded in 2016 by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. These projects include work in Derby Heights (\$1.05M), Bayou Carencro (\$650,000) and Ile des Cannes (\$251,000).

As part of the ongoing efforts to address drainage, the Development and Planning Department also made changes to the Unified Development Code, requiring increased pond storage, decreased peak flow rate and other capacity-related modifications for new developments.

HOPE ON THE WAY

Eight Days of Hope (EDOH), a nonprofit, faith-based organization committed to rebuilding damaged homes of those affected by natural disasters, arrived in Lafayette in early June for Eight Days of Hope XIII. The organization's leaders and ambassadors planned and coordinated projects throughout the parish, repairing, gutting and rebuilding hundreds of flood-devastated homes in an eight day period, June 4-11. More than 2,200 volunteers from 40 states and multiple countries aided those in need. Of the 2,200 volunteers, more than 400 were from within 20 miles of Lafayette and approximately half of the volunteers were professional carpenters, electricians, plumbers or painters. In partnership with Love Acadiana, a groundbreaking partnership was established with RH (formerly known as Restoration Hardware) to provide new furniture to flooded families. With headquarters and daily operations taking place at the CAJUNDOME, EDOH also completed projects with churches as well as community projects.



Thousands of volunteers aided flood victims during Eight Days of Hope XIII.



CREATE - Cultural Economy Initiative

By focusing on one of our greatest and most innate qualities – our culture – CREATE can enhance how our creative assets work for us as a strong economic driver. The initiative will also be important to retaining and attracting workforce and business to the region.”

– Mayor-President Joel Robideaux

thought-provoking questions or activities intended to spark conversation and solicit ideas on the community’s cultural and recreational assets. These are available online at www.createlafayette.la. A partial rededication of the Public Health millage was passed by Lafayette Parish voters to provide approximately

\$500,000 annually to support the cultural economy through the CREATE initiative.

TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Successful launch of the cultural economy initiative, CREATE, at Mayor-President Robideaux’s inaugural address.
- Engaged hundreds of citizens in dozens of public meetings to collect ideas on Lafayette’s cultural and recreational resources.
- Passage of a dedicated millage to support and enhance Lafayette’s cultural economy.

GETTING CREATIVE

CREATE is an initiative of the Mayor-President’s office to build and support our local and authentic culture to further diversify and strengthen the economy. Representing Culture, Recreation, Entertainment, Arts, Tourism, Economy, CREATE is a parish-wide, multi-year effort that includes the rebranding of the community as a cultural destination. Throughout the year, citizens were invited to share what they love about Lafayette and where they would like to see improvement. “It is my intent that CREATE will be an inclusive process and will incorporate experiences from across all cultures, neighborhoods and industries as we work together to reinvest in our community. Identifying the next steps in leveraging our cultural assets requires everyone,” expressed Mayor-President Robideaux. In 2017, more than 400 CREATE community conversations were held where residents were asked to share their thoughts on local culture and recreation. Participants were prompted with

CREATIVE TRANSFORMATIONS

Through an ongoing partnership with Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission (LCVC) and Acadiana Center for the Arts (AcA), LCG unveiled two new “ArtBoxes” at the corner of Willow and the Evangeline Thruway with the aid of local artist Dennis Paul Williams. Known as the “Zydeco Boxes,” Williams’ art depicts iconic Zydeco performer Nathan Williams with his accordion and Zydeco dancehall owner Sid Williams in front of



his legendary club El Sido's. Not coincidentally, the artist and box creator, Dennis Paul Williams, is brother to both Nathan and Sid, and is the guitarist in Nathan's band the Zydeco Cha-Cha's. Mayor-President Robideaux thinks the project is a win-win, "The ArtBoxes are a great way to feature local artists in a very public way. The project also enhances the cultural economy by providing some high profile exposure to the commissioned artists' works while perpetuating the creation of public art." The process for wrapping the ArtBoxes was designed to be anti-fade and graffiti-resistant to last for decades. The project was funded by LCVC and AcA commissioned the artists.



CREATIVE LEARNING

LCG's Environmental Quality (EQ) Division also partnered to create unique public art and educate the public on the issue of storm drain pollutants. In the Storm Drain Art pilot project, EQ collaborated with local artists to paint select storm drains in honor of one of Lafayette's greatest natural resources, the Vermilion River. As part of EQ's water quality improvement efforts, the project is a fun and colorful way to remind the community of the drains' final destination, raise awareness about the importance of keeping streets clean and brighten up a few of Lafayette's high-pedestrian trafficked drains. According to EQ Manager Bess Foret, "This project is an excellent way to promote two LCG initiatives: it educates the community about water quality, highlighting the connection between the roadway and the river, all while promoting and supporting local artists."

A total of five drains will be painted in the spring of 2018 with eco-themed designs at Pontiac Point, the Oil Center, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Downtown Lafayette and the Public Works' Administration Building. The designs are intended to raise awareness that pollutants on land can impact

the water quality of the Vermilion since storm drains are where "the river meets the road." Funded in part by the EQ Education Fund, Sherwin Williams and the Bayou Vermilion District, the project was made possible through the support and cooperation of Acadiana Center for the Arts, Bayou Vermilion Preservation Association, Habitat for Humanity and the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

CREATIVE LEAD

After five years as the Director of Marketing & Events for Downtown Lafayette, Kate Durio joined Mayor-President Robideaux's team, supporting operations and initiatives of the Administration, including CREATE. Durio is tasked with implementing known strategies other cities have used to revitalize their downtowns, including the creation of public-private partnerships to make smart



Kate Durio

development investments. "Downtown projects provide us with our best return on investment and will help address the parish's revenue shortfall. We need to turn vacant and underutilized properties into developments that pay property taxes," said Mayor-President Robideaux. "Kate brings important downtown connections to the table and a deep understanding of the importance of downtown." Durio's position was created when the Lafayette City-Parish Council voted to eliminate a previous position under the office of the Chief Administrative Officer. The responsibilities of the eliminated position which oversaw emergency operations, animal control and mosquito control were reallocated throughout the administration.

Discover the food, music & culture at the heart of Cajun & Créole country.

LafayetteTravel.com/Allons



Innovation With An Accent

Innovation is the core of Lafayette's forward-moving vision. Whether it's collaboration with national pioneers in technology or partnering with the University of Louisiana, from local businesses specializing in innovative practices to consolidated government efforts to bring cutting edge methods to better the community, innovation is at the heart of our people and our methods to ensure Lafayette continues to move into a new landscape industry, business and government.

TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- With support from IS&T, the Lafayette Animal Shelter and Care Center launched new software used in conjunction with the Mayor-President's No Kill initiative. The software tracks all aspects of animal intake, calls, complaints, medical care, costs and adoptions, along with all people associated with each animal.
- A 311 Call Center was established, allowing callers within Lafayette Parish the ability to conveniently dial "311" for nonemergency services such as reporting a pothole, drainage issues, questions on government programs and environmental quality issues.
- New Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) Monitor software was installed for the Fire Department, automating 911 call information directly into the department's database, speeding up the processing time, and ensuring greater accuracy.
- Through the implementation of new software, active.net, citizens now have the ability to check availability, book and pay for certain Parks and Recreation facilities online.

LCG's Information Services & Technology Department (IS&T) handles network and infrastructure design, systems integration, operations management of all network systems, business application development, GIS services and web design. The department facilitates the needs of LCG through current technologies and products utilizing the most sophisticated and cost-effective web and computer-managed services.

SMARTER CITY

Mayor-President Robideaux was a featured presenter showcasing Lafayette's Smart City efforts at Austin's famed SXSW during the "Smart City Day" event. Mr. Robideaux joined a lineup which included the mayors from Denver and San Antonio, the Leader of the Manchester City Council, U.K., the Chief Technology Officer for the Federal Communications Commission, the co-founder of US Ignite and the Counsellor for the European Union in the U.S. "Lafayette

is continuously on the cutting edge of technology and I was proud to share our story of successes and challenges related to becoming a Smart City." During his talk, Mr. Robideaux shared

Lafayette's long history of innovation and the entrepreneurial spirit of the community's founders that is still evident in today's citizens. As examples, Mr. Robideaux discussed the municipally-owned gigabit fiber infrastructure as well as current initiatives such as the EPA Smart City Air Challenge through the LEaRN Collaborative and Cajun Code Fest.

SMART ART

LCG, LUS Fiber, CREATE, CGI and the Lafayette Science Museum teamed up to participate in a Smart Art project featured in the keynote presentation of the Nordic Edge Expo, one of the largest Smart Cities events in the world. Using Microsoft's HoloLens goggles, Lafayette visual artist Cayla Zeek and Norwegian artist Hans Edward Hammonds virtually and simultaneously created identical murals in their respective locations in Lafayette and Stavanger, Norway. Made possible by LUS Fiber's gig-connection, the project resulted in the first-ever, transatlantic Smart Art collaboration, which was featured during Microsoft's Tim Turitto's keynote presentation. "Given Lafayette's creative and innovative culture, coupled with the power of Lafayette's municipally-owned LUS Fiber, we were uniquely suited for this Smart Art project," commented Mayor-President Robideaux. "This collaborative project puts Lafayette's technology and culture where it deserves to be, in a global arena," seconded Director of LUS Fiber Terry Huval.



GIGABIT COMMUNITY

The Mozilla Foundation named Lafayette as one of two of its 2017 Gigabit Communities, receiving \$150,000 in innovation grants. With this announcement, Lafayette and Eugene, OR joined the company of only three other communities in the U.S. to earn the designation, alongside Austin, Chattanooga and Kansas City. The initiative, in partnership with the National Science Foundation and US Ignite, supports gigabit pilot projects and next generation networks. Beginning in May of 2017, the 18-month investment by the Mozilla Foundation provides funding for community gigabit applications that improve education, address workforce development issues and keep citizens connected. In addition to funding, the Mozilla Foundation hired a local full-time Portfolio Manager to support the local grant project and ensure smart community success.





Public Safety

The safety of residents is a multifaceted effort across several agencies of LCG. It includes the efforts of Lafayette's Police and Fire Departments and the Juvenile Detention Center. The 2017/2018 Fiscal Year Budget includes funding for new police officers, additional security cameras, new lighting downtown, and funding to operate Precinct 4 on Moss Street as a full service center that is open 24 hours a day.

TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Reorganization of the Lafayette Police Department with an increase of 10 additional officers.
- All uniformed officers provided with body cameras and new Field Force Unit equipped and trained.
- Graduated 21 recruit firefighters.
- Enhancements to Community Fire Prevention Program through a \$100,000 purchase of a state-of-the-art Fire Safety House.
- Implemented Fire Technical Rescue Team with the acquisition of \$600,000 heavy rescue truck.
- Downtown LED street light upgrade.
- Juvenile Detention Center staffing and scheduling adjustments, greatly reducing overtime.

CPL. MICHAEL PAUL MIDDLEBROOK

Lafayette lost a decorated and dedicated officer on October 1, 2017 in the line of duty. Michael proudly served his country as a member of the United States Army prior to beginning his law enforcement career. His work in the community is well documented and earned him the Beyond the Badge, Heart of Law Enforcement Award. He was a father, husband, son, brother and friend and will be missed dearly by all of us.



CODE CHANGE

Development and Planning, in partnership with the Police Department, lead an effort to propose changes to the alcohol code which were adopted by the City-Parish Council. Among the changes, "go cups" are no longer allowed between the hours of midnight and 6 a.m. any day of the week in the Downtown District, Simcoe-Surrey Street Corridor or the McKinley Street Area. Additionally, the Council voted to authorize the Lafayette Chief of Police the ability to enforce the emergency closure of an establishment when presented with an imminent danger to the health, safety and welfare of the public.

An ordinance was also passed to ban smoking, including electronic cigarettes, in all clubs and bars within the City of Lafayette and unincorporated areas of the parish. The Council banned smoking in restaurants and some public spaces in 2005.

A SAFER PLACE

New security measures for City-Parish Council meetings implemented the use of a metal detector and/or wand for all persons entering the auditorium at Lafayette City-Parish Hall. "Since taking office, my administration has worked to update the security measures and procedures for the City-Parish Council meetings. Unfortunately, the metal detector is a necessary addition to ensure the safety of citizens, staff and officials." Public Works' Maintenance Division also completed the replacement of the Fire Suppression System for the City Hall Data Room.

COMMUNITY POLICING

Lafayette Police Department's commitment to community policing is the cornerstone of a successful relationship between law enforcement and neighborhoods to create solutions to crime, build trust and enhance the quality of life for all. The department serves the community with a sense of courage, dedication, compassion and integrity, and strives to make a difference every day through positive interaction with the citizens of Lafayette.

FIRE COVERAGE

The Lafayette Fire Department's mission is to safeguard and reduce the dangers to life, property and the environment through innovative training code enforcement and the prompt dispatch of a qualified fire suppression force.

ADDED PROTECTION

Other 2017 noteworthy accomplishments of the Fire Department include:

- The installation of 10-year smoke detectors in more than 250 homes in McComb-Veazey with the American Red Cross.
- The creation of a Fire Explorers Program with the Boy Scouts of America.
- Haz-Mat team certified as rail car specialist.
- Fire Prevention Campaign direct impact to 6,600, mostly children from kindergarten to third grade.



Live, Work & Play in Lafayette

No one lives, works and plays like the residents of Lafayette. From quality of life issues, connecting citizens with disabilities to the resources they need, and bringing vitality to seniors, our city does life a little differently.

TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- LUS refinanced a 2010 bond issue, saving citizens more than \$8.5M over the next 20 years.
- LCG, Lafayette Utilities System and the City of Broussard brokered a partnership to connect residents of Shenandoah Subdivision with LUS water, significantly improving and stabilizing the water condition for the large residential development.
- Local stakeholders and sports fans celebrated the official opening of the LUS Fiber Soccer Stadium & Fields at Moore Park.
- For the 27th consecutive year Lafayette was named a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management.

MUSIC, DANCE AND CULTURE

The Heymann Performing Arts Center facilitated many successful events in 2017 featuring notable artists such as Lyle Lovett, Aaron Neville, Fantasia; popular acts such as Roger and Hammerstein's Cinderella, Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles, The Illusionist; classical works by the Acadiana Symphony Orchestra and Lafayette Ballet Theatre; and homegrown productions such as dance revues and rehearsals, Cajun Comic Relief, and Jambalaya the Musical. Renovations to the complex are underway, aimed at improving both form and function, including parking lot renovations.

The Heymann Center was also a safe refuge from flood waters during the historic flood of 2016. More than 300 people were housed, fed and cared for after their homes were tragically consumed by flood waters. Since that time, the Heymann Center has been working with the Department of Child and Family Services on a new Cooperative Endeavor Agreement for a Medical Special Needs Shelter plan. The plan includes the installation of an auto-transfer switch which will automatically power the entire facility via generator in the event of a power outage.

COME PLAY WITH US

The Parks and Recreation Department provides citizens the opportunity to participate in wholesome

and leisurely activities. In 2017, the department did just that, conducting Summer Enrichment and Therapeutic Camps at seven recreation centers during the months of May, June and July, and opening a new BMX Track at Picard Park in Milton. Golf was a big hit for the year and the courses saw plenty of upgrades and improvements including 25 new golf carts and the completion of the "Nursery" green at Hebert Golf Course, and completed drainage work and renovated cart paths at The Wetlands Golf Course. The department also hosted the 2017 LHSAA High School Girls State Championship in addition to 23 fundraising events.

ON EXHIBIT

The Lafayette Science Museum (LSM) launched an eight-station Virtual Reality (VR) Lab, creating a one-of-a-kind, 3D experience for museum-goers of all ages. The VR Lab offers multiple virtual experiences, including a high-definition, cultural experience called Acadiana 360 and a virtual reality game called Coastal Quest VR, demonstrating the devastating effects of coastal erosion. Acadiana 360 is an immersive tourism experience and was produced in partnership with CGI, Holbrook Media and Nimlok of Louisiana, and was funded by a \$10,000 sponsorship from Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission (LCVC). Coastal Quest VR teaches participants the causes of coastal erosion as well as restoration methods and was produced with a \$15,000 Mozilla Gigabit Community Grant. Both VR experiences were designed as advanced learning tools and offer user-friendly experiences. Also new at LSM in 2017: Energy Unearthed. In partnership with LAGCOE, and the University of Louisiana at Lafayette's School of Geosciences, LSM unveiled the content-rich exhibit of the oil and gas industry, starting with the science of geology, and ending with oil and gas



The new BMX Track at Picard Park in Milton.

Playing with NUMBERS\$

Parks and Recreation, 2017

Hebert Golf Course

approximately 23,000 rounds of golf were played, generating

\$500,000

Les Vieux Chenes Golf Course
more than 28,000 rounds of golf played, generating approximately

\$790,000

The Wetlands Golf Course
25,000 rounds of golf played, generating

\$1M

Brown Park Dupuis Center
parking lot improvements

\$200,000

New Playground Equipment & units at various parks

\$175,000

Recreation center
improvements/equipment

\$450,000

production. Many unique and rare objects are on loan from oil and gas industry experts, offering visitors new insights into the industry that fuels us. Energy Unearthed was made possible by a \$10,000 sponsorship from LAGCOE.

NATURE'S WAY

Lafayette's Nature Station offers environmental education programs on the calming effects of the forest while teaching science concepts for all age groups with guided trail tours for a hands-on experience. Partnering with Audubon Louisiana, the Nature Station hosted a workshop on building a Prothonotary Warbler nesting box and coordinated with volunteers throughout the summer watching for hatchlings. For those hot summer days, the Nature Station also offered monthly night hikes for individuals.

CELEBRATING CITIZENS AND CREATING AWARENESS

The Mayor-President's Awareness Committee for Citizens with Disabilities (ACCD) recognized nine community members who have improved the lives of those living with disabilities. The 2017 Honorees were celebrated at the 10th Annual Awards Ceremony held at the George Bowles Recreation Center at Pa Davis Park in Lafayette. ACCD Award recipient Lillian DeJean was also honored as the 2017 Youth of the Year at the GOLD awards presented by the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs. The ACCD was established in 2007 to give a greater voice to citizens living with disabilities in Lafayette Parish and serves in an advisory capacity to LCG.



In November, Mayor-President Robideaux welcomed Liam Doyle as LCG's first Disability Affairs Coordinator to serve as an official voice for citizens with disabilities. A well-known local disability advocate and former Chairman of the ACCD, Doyle has long been a voice for disabled citizens, leading efforts of education and awareness to address issues such as handicapped parking availability and Para-Transit reform, among other things. According to

Mr. Robideaux, the position has long been in the making and is particularly relevant at this time because of the work and continued efforts of the ACCD. "Liam brings the knowledge and passion needed to accurately represent disability issues on a day-to-day basis. With his help, Lafayette's citizens will see expedited planning and improvement towards ADA compliance, faster responses to constituents' concerns and greater awareness of our inclusion efforts." As one of his first official acts, Doyle coordinated a roundtable event as part of LCG's "Enable Initiative," which aims at pulling together a database of services available to those living with disabilities.

ENHANCING OUR VIBRANT COMMUNITY

The Community Development Department (CDD) provides services, grants and programs that enhance the social, physical, economic, cultural and educational conditions for citizens. In 2017, the department worked with the LA Office of Community Development-Disaster Recovery Unit, FEMA, and local VOAD to complete a comprehensive Needs Assessment of the damage incurred by residents following the August 2016 floods. CDD also oversaw the successful re-designation of the Workforce Development Board #40 by transitioning the WIOA One-Stop Operator for Lafayette Parish to South Louisiana Community College as the one-stop operator for the entire nine parish area.

LUS AND LUS FIBER – MORE THAN JUST UTILITIES

For more than 120 years, LUS has been a community partner committed to enhancing quality of life through reliable service. In 2017, LUS Support Services maintained that tradition by providing automated notifications of suspected water leaks to customers, allowing customers to build personalized alerts for consumption and billing, and offering conservation learning opportunities through the home energy audit program. Through a mutual aid request, LUS's electric operations crews provided support to the City of Tallahassee in their time of need following Hurricane Irma. Additionally, LUS supports the cost of police and fire protection, parks and recreation and other public costs. With a continued eye towards the future, LUS began negotiations with neighboring utility companies and the local community college to create a Lineman School. Together, LUS, a publicly-owned utility system, and LUS Fiber provide high quality, competitively-priced electric, water, sewer and telecommunications services to residents and businesses in the City of Lafayette.

QUALITY OF LIFE

With a focus on issues that affect citizens' quality of life, LCG's Environmental Quality Division expanded the curbside recycling program to include #3-#7 plastics, as well as the acceptable materials during Household Hazardous Waste Day to include alkaline batteries, fluorescent bulbs and televisions. Through the popular Spring Rain Barrel Sale, 290 barrels were distributed to residents interested in water conservation. EQ also received 4,393 requests for service for tall grass and debris, with 3,260 notices of violation, and 5,490 requests for service garbage and recycling curbside collection. EQ staff conducted a total 2,026 initial and follow-up inspections on construction sites and 40 inspections for illicit discharge. The Environmental Quality Division also works to promote quality of life issues for citizens and students alike through educational presentations and tours at the Dean Compost Facility and the Lafayette Parish Closed Landfill.

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LUS
IMPROVING THE WAY YOU LIVE
lus.org | 337-291-8280



Developing Business in Lafayette and Abroad

Throughout 2017, LCG worked in both the public and private sectors, locally, across South Louisiana, and even internationally, to make doing business in Lafayette easier to navigate and to open doors to new industry.

I recognize the need to put adjudicated properties back into commerce and to foster business development in areas that need revitalization. With the establishment of Lafayette's Development and Revitalization Fund, a \$1M budget item will operate as a competitive revolving loan fund used to spur economic growth. Additionally, \$1.4M has been added in this year's budget to be used for potential land and infrastructure acquisitions."

– Mayor-President Joel Robideaux

TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Mayor-President Robideaux establishes a revolving loan fund for development and revitalization.
- Planning, Zoning and Development Department is restructured and renamed Development and Planning Department.
- Development and Planning publishes a Development Guide for the first time.

TIME TO REORGANIZE

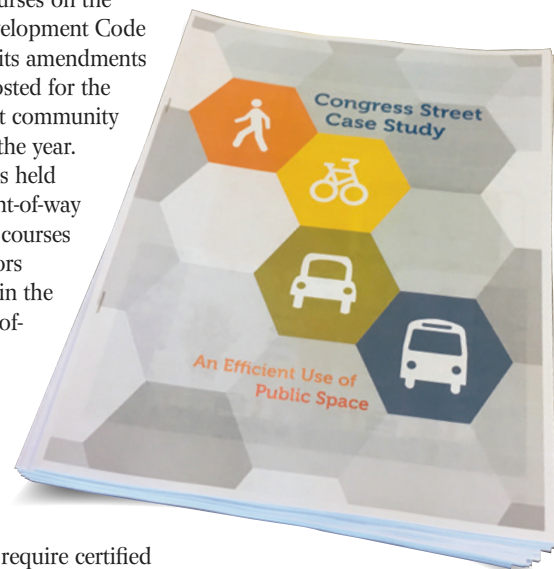
Development and Planning had an extremely active year, which included several important accomplishments, as well as a successful reorganization that lays the groundwork for more successes in 2018 and beyond. The department restructuring began with the proposed budget in the summer. First, the Zoning Division was dissolved into the Development and Planning Divisions (and thus the reason for the elimination of "Zoning" from the Department's title going forward). The second change was the creation of a Compliance Division to help coordinate the enforcement activities within the department and across government, which now manages the department's housing inspectors. Lastly, the Division of Alcohol and Noise Control (ANC) began reporting to the department as a step towards centralizing the permitting functions of LCG. The benefits of the reorganization include the alignment of neighborhood and historic preservation efforts into one division, streamlining of the UDC regulatory authority to one division within the department, better enforcement of regulations through the creation of the Compliance Division, improved land use planning by linking with long-term planning, and the continued, effective implementation of the revised alcohol code.

GUIDING DEVELOPMENT

The department continued to prioritize customer service in 2017, publishing its first-ever Development Guide to help property developers navigate the regulations and regulatory agencies more effectively. The guide was an ongoing project geared towards improving the understanding of the processes associated with building in Lafayette. "While we will always have regulations to follow, we want to make the process of developing in Lafayette as friendly as possible, and the first step is making the process understandable," said Director Carlee Alm-LaBar. This guide includes a fee schedule and frequently

needed numbers so that those developing property have easy access to information. This Development Guide can be found online at http://www.lafayettela.gov/PZD/Documents/LCG_Development%20Guide_11-06-17.pdf.

Ongoing courses on the Unified Development Code (UDC) and its amendments were also hosted for the development community throughout the year. Public Works held monthly right-of-way certification courses for contractors doing work in the public right-of-way. Under the UDC, commercial building permits submitted to the department require certified inspectors for all work within the public right-of-way, including driveways and drainage connections. Utility work and repairs are to be certified and inspected as well. In addition, the department offered several training sessions geared toward building better communities and neighborhoods including "Better Block How-To," "Zoning 101," and a Corridor Planning Workshop.



LEDA works with businesses that run the gamut from single-employee startups to headquarter operations with hundreds of employees. We recognize that each of our clients, no matter how big or small, has contributed to Lafayette's economic success.

Resources for Business:

Business Visitation Program ■ Market Research & Demographics
Workforce Services & Job Fair ■ Entrepreneur Accelerator/Incubator ■ and more!

Lafayette Economic Development Authority ■ lafayette.org ■ 337-593-1400

DEVELOPMENT & PERMITTING

Public Works researched and supplied ownership of approximately 2,900 property owners for United States Coast Guard notification mailing for the South City Parkway Project, completed 14 projects including 160 acquisitions and abstracted 95 properties for the University Avenue sidewalk project. Staff also managed the permitting and development processes associated with the residential and commercial permits and subdivision plats:

- 276 driveway permits applied
- 69 commercial permits reviewed
- 107 HE cases reviewed
- 81 PC cases reviewed
- 303 right-of-way permits
- 100 LUS right-of-way permits

IT'S WORTH REPORTING

In its Annual Report, LCG's Development and Planning Department provided Planning Commissioners and the public an update on the implementation of the 400+ action items included in Lafayette's Comprehensive Master Plan, PlanLafayette. PlanLafayette was adopted in 2014 and prior to that, thousands of recommendations from members of the community were collected during the process. "The annual reporting process is incredibly important because it holds us all accountable," said Alm-LaBar. The Annual Report includes amendments to PlanLafayette which reflect the priorities of the Robideaux Administration such as Smart City initiatives, a focus on the University Avenue Corridor, and additions to the stormwater management action items as a result of the 2016 flooding.

YOU CAN PLAN ON IT

In August, Development and Planning presented the third edition of PlanLafayette Week since the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan. The week was filled with planning workshops and guest speakers which were sponsored by various community stakeholders all with a vested interest in one or more of the action items identified in the plan. PlanLafayette is a 20 year, parish-wide initiative which coordinates aspects of the community such as land use, transportation, public utilities, environmental and historic resources.

CERTIFIABLE

LCG was named a Certified Local Government (CLG) by the National Parks Service (NPS). Through this certification program, communities across the country make a local commitment to historic preservation as the key to protection and increased awareness of a unique cultural heritage found in the built environment. Historic preservation has proven economic, environmental and social benefits, and being a CLG demonstrates a readiness to successfully take on local preservation projects. According to the NPS, studies show that historic districts maintain higher property values, less population decline, more walkability and a greater sense of community. A CLG status opens doors for communities to funding opportunities through the Federal Historic Preservation Fund to cover the cost of a wide variety of projects including: surveys, National Register nominations, rehabilitation work, design guidelines, educational programs, training, structural assessments and feasibility studies, to name a few. Jointly administered by the NPS and the State Historic Preservation Offices, certification also makes LCG eligible to receive technical assistance from

the Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation for building assessments, surveys and nominations and general preservation assistance. Once certified, CLGs become an active partner in the Federal Historic Preservation Program and agree to follow Federal and State requirements.

EXCELLENCE IN EXPORT

U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross presented the Lafayette International Center with the President's "E" Star Award for Export Service at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. The "E" Award is the highest recognition any U.S. entity can receive for making a significant contribution to the expansion of U.S. exports. "Lafayette International Center's achievements have undoubtedly contributed to national export expansion efforts that support the U.S. economy and create American jobs," said Secretary Ross in a congratulatory letter. Of the 32 U.S. companies and organizations from across the country which were honored, Lafayette's International Center was one of only five presented with the President's "E" Star Award, one of only two for export service, the only honoree from Louisiana, and the only local government entity in the entire country to be selected.



L-R: Secretary Ross, Mayor-President Robideaux, Dave Domingue, Under Secretary Hyatt.

"With today's financial uncertainty, exporting helps to diversify our economy in the best way possible," stated Mayor-President Robideaux. "I am especially proud of the unique partnership between LCG and the International Center, and that the federal government recognizes this partnership as a model for all communities."

GOING INTERNATIONAL AT HOME

Under the coordination of the International Center, Lafayette hosted a conference of Mexican federal and state officials and presidents of seven Mexican universities as part of the ongoing efforts to establish a cooperative student exchange agreement. The result was the signing of a Memo of Understanding whereby the Mexican government will pay to send petroleum engineering graduate students to the University of Louisiana to finish their studies, with the costs being borne by their home institutions. The immediate benefits to Lafayette and Louisiana will be the inbound international impact, however further economic benefits to both regions are sure to follow. The International Center is also credited with organizing an International Trade Center during LAGCOE. In all, the International Center welcomed 327 international visitors from 21 countries, in conjunction with Vertech renewable energy conference, with 70 delegates from five countries.



Getting Around in Lafayette

Getting around in Lafayette will always require a collaborative effort between government and the people who drive the roadways. In addition to managing drainage projects, maintenance of more than 100 LCG-owned buildings and more than 1,750 pieces of equipment, the Public Works Department is responsible for construction and maintenance of streets. After encompassing the former Department of Traffic & Transportation into its department in 2014, Public Works provides public transit and publicly available CNG fuel at its service station on East University.

TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Added additional parking downtown on Congress and Lafayette Street.
- Smart parking meters installed throughout the downtown area.
- Conversion of McKinley Street from 1-way to 2-way.
- Implemented Lafayette Transit System route enhancements.
- Public Works' Streets Division completed 1,814 service requests.
- Engineers and Bridge Maintenance crews coordinated numerous bridge repairs.

REVITALIZING UNIVERSITY AVENUE

Early in his administration, Mayor-President Robideaux identified University Avenue as a priority project and has been working towards the revitalization of the corridor because of its importance to the community: it is the main entrance to the University of Louisiana; the historic 'Four Corners' at the intersection of Cameron St. was once a hub of economic activity in our community; the corridor connects to City Hall,



PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Long-time Public Works Director Tom Carroll completed his provisional service on May 31, 2017. Originally appointed as the Director by then City-Parish President Joey Durel in 2004, Carroll retired from the position in 2014. Under Mayor-President Robideaux, Carroll returned for an interim period during the start-up of the new administration. "Under normal circumstances the role of the Public Works Director is incredibly important, and in 2016 Tom's experience was particularly vital as the community worked to recover from the August floods and my administration focused on capital improvement projects," Mr. Robideaux said in appreciation. Mayor-President Robideaux then assigned Public Works Associate Director Terry Cordick as Interim Director on June 1. Cordick came to the interim position with 27 years of experience within the Department, nearly 10 of those years as Associate Director. Cordick previously served as Interim Director from November 2015 to January 2016.

Where We've **Been** - Where We're **Headed** - Finding **Solutions** - UNIVERSITY AVENUE CORRIDOR

the Police Headquarters and the airport. In the fall of 2016 the Metropolitan Planning Organization awarded LCG funds for the development of a corridor plan for University Avenue. Spanning from Cameron St. to just north of I-10, the plan will evaluate corridor conditions and solicit community feedback to develop a plan for potential improvements by incorporating desired complete street features, identifying better land use, economic development and redevelopment opportunities.

On July 17, Mark Dubroc was appointed as the permanent Director. Culled down from a competitive pool of candidates, Dubroc had acquired 30 years of experience as a registered professional engineer and possessed a unique combination of technical, administrative and supervisory skills. Early on, Mayor-President Robideaux tasked the new Director with addressing drainage issues throughout Lafayette Parish while also moving forward on existing infrastructure projects. Dubroc has a varied professional background including drainage, roadway and bridge design, commercial and residential development and structural design, solid waste transfer facilities, as well as site planning.

The Public Works Director supervises, manages and administers 340+ employees and is responsible for the construction, operation and maintenance of streets, drainage, parks, buildings and other infrastructure and engineering. The Public Works Department also includes oversight of environmental quality and compliance along with Lafayette's public transit system and maintaining the parish's vehicle and equipment fleet.

COME ON TAKE A FREE RIDE

In 2017, Lafayette Transit System (LTS) offered several opportunities for citizens to join in a "No Pay Bus Day" on all three transit services, including Daytime, Night Owl, and Para-Transit. On May 19, National Bike to Work Day, citizens were encouraged to bike and bus to work by riding to a transit stop and then transporting their bicycles on racks attached to the front of each bus. This day of free bus service coincided with Bike Month, Mobility Awareness Month and National Infrastructure Month. LTS also offered complimentary rides on November 24 and 25



in recognition of Black Friday and Small Business Saturday. With the increasing traffic volume on the roadways, LTS aimed to alleviate congestion and reduce the stress to drivers who would otherwise be navigating crowded streets. "Let us do your driving for you in a safe, comfortable and convenient manner," said Michael Mitchell, LCG Transit & Parking Manager. Enhanced transit service is part of several of the action items in Lafayette's Comprehensive Plan. One example is the ability to use Google Maps to access local bus information including stops, routes, and schedules, offering riders a more convenient transit experience.

RUE DU BELIER ROUNDABOUT

An open house public meeting for the proposed Duhon Road Widening and Rue du Belier Roundabout project was an opportunity for citizens to learn about the project and offer input.

The proposed project would consist of replacing the existing "T" intersection with a one lane roundabout. The purpose of the meeting was to provide information to constituents on the project and to obtain input from interested parties.

2017 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

23 capital projects completed:

- Camellia Boulevard rehabilitation
- Citywide asphalt overlay and reconstruction
- Citywide concrete street repairs
- Cocodril Road Bridge
- Cue Road at Isaac Verot Coulee
- Espasie Road Bridge
- Hugh Wallis at Kaliste Saloom intersection improvements
- Kaliste Saloom Road widening, Phase II - water and sewer relocation
- Lajaunie Road Bridge at the Vermilion River
- Landry Road widening and reconstruction
- West Farrel Road outfall
- West Edith Road Bridge at Picard Park Coulee

20 capital projects were under construction:

- Daigle Street hard surfacing
- East Pont Des Mouton Road widening
- Hoffpaur Road Bridge at Parish Line (Indian Bayou)
- Kaliste Saloom Road rehabilitation
- Kaliste Saloom Road widening, Phase III -bridge and roundabout
- LeBlanc Road Bridge at Coulee Grange
- Rural road micro surfacing
- Rural road overlay and rehabilitation
- Urban street overlay and rehabilitation
- Urban street overlay and reconstruction
- West Regional Library
- Wills Drive outfall



It takes a *United Region*
to create the *Best Region*



Lagniappe

As a commonly used term in Lafayette Parish and the surrounding region, “lagniappe” means “a little something extra.” And this lagniappe section is just that—other interesting happenings from 2017. LCG is working to make Lafayette a better place for all residents. Lafayette has been recognized as the country’s “happiest city.” Efforts like Project Front Yard engage the entire community in putting Lafayette’s best face forward. We have a love for animals and are committed to achieving a no kill animal shelter status.

TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- For a record-breaking, third year in a row, Lafayette earned the title as the Cleanest City in the State in its category by the Louisiana Garden Club Federation.
- LUS’s Environmental Compliance was the only laboratory in the state to partner with the Louisiana Department of Health in piloting and implementing the Compliance Monitoring Data Portal for LUS data. This effort led to LDH being granted permission by the EPA to allow electronic reporting as part of the National Primary Drinking Water Standards.
- Lafayette’s historic Holy Rosary Institute was awarded \$450,000 from the National Park Service for intense rehabilitation. LCG’s Community Development Department played an integral technical support role in the competitive grant application process and is committed to providing future assistance as Holy Rosary’s Board works to fulfill the community’s vision of restoring the historic institution.
- Public Works’ Streets Division supports local festivals and parades with barricade deployment and clean-up. During Mardi Gras alone, the crews placed 5,500 barricades along the parade route and used eight 30-yard roll-off dumpsters for trash and debris disposal!

FURRY FRIENDS

Efforts to make Lafayette Animal Shelter and Care Center a no kill shelter by 2020 continue with a two-pronged approach: first, by ensuring adoptable animals are adopted or fostered, and second, by reserving euthanasia only in instances of health and behavioral issues. Lafayette’s Animal Control Ordinance saw a total overhaul and was unanimously approved by the City-Parish Council. Changes included a facility name change to the Lafayette Animal Shelter and Care Center, drastically reduced adoption fees for dogs and cats, and free adoptions for military veterans and senior citizens. The Shelter received a \$25,000 grant from the Petco Foundation, making reduced and waived fees possible. Combined, these efforts are already making a difference.



Mayor-President Robideaux signs animal shelter ordinance.

In 2017, 626 animals were adopted (448 dogs and 178 cats). Through a growing partnership with Acadiana Animal Aid, an additional 633 dogs and cats (373 dogs and 260 cats) were saved by rescue groups from all across the country. The live outcome rates were 65% for dogs over six months of age, 83% for puppies, 21% for cats over six months of age and 37% for kittens. The Administration’s Trap Neuter Return initiative for community cats will be considered by the Council in 2018 and is expected to dramatically increase live outcome numbers for community cats.

LOOKING CLEAN

Project Front Yard launched the inaugural GR8 Acadiana Cleanup, an eight day community “Festival of Service” focused on projects to improve the built environment, enhance our social fabric, provide environmental education, encourage volunteerism and promote business engagement. Project Front Yard organized these service projects in coordination with local and regional partners and service organizations including Acadian Native Plant Project, Destiny of Faith Church, Eco Cajun, LCG’s Planning and Environmental Quality Divisions, McComb-Veazey Neighborhood Coterie, No Waste Louisiana, Project Front Yard – St. Martin Parish, Scenic Lafayette and the Urban Naturalist.

GEAUXING GREEN

Lafayette’s initiative to get the city clean and keep it that way - Project Front Yard - was part of a bigger plan in 2017 that included targeted and project-based cleanup efforts as well as growing partnerships. In an effort to reduce, reuse and recycle, Project Front Yard, LUS Fiber and CGI joined Festival International’s (FIL) successful “Geaux Green” program. FIL has been advocating the Geaux Green initiative since 2015, encouraging attendees to practice sustainability by reusing FIL cups and recycling plastic bottles to reduce litter. CGI made it easier than ever to reduce waste through sponsorship of reusable shopping bags at FIL merchandise tents. “The opportunity to work with Project Front Yard and Festival International to encourage awareness of sustainable materials is something we are very excited about,” said CGI representative William LaBar. “Thousands of plastic bags end up in landfills and the bayou every year. Every small step people can take to ‘Geaux Green,’ such as using these reusable shopping bags, can make a big difference.” Festival-goers also participated in the Geaux Green efforts through Project Front Yard’s third annual Trash Mob, a FIL-wide cleanup sponsored by LUS Fiber. According to Director Terry Huval, “We won’t allow the presence of litter to spoil someone’s Festival experience or ruin the look of Lafayette. This is our community and we are committed to taking care of it!”



AND THE AWARD GOES TO...

Since PFY's inception in 2014, the community-wide beautification initiative has highlighted those who work tirelessly to improve the face of the community. As a part of their ongoing commitment to PFY's mission, IBERIABANK partnered once again to recognize individuals and organizations in Lafayette for their efforts in community beautification. Four winners were recognized, which included individuals, community groups and businesses: Best Overall Effort was presented to Keller Williams Realty of Acadiana; Best in Cleanliness was presented to Cindy Dilenia with Love Acadiana; Best in Beautification was presented to Tina Shelvin Bingham; Best in Education was presented to Catherine Comeaux.



REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

In honor of the 20th anniversary of Keep America Beautiful's America Recycles Day, Project Front Yard hosted a series of events and initiatives to remind citizens of the importance of

recycling and reusing items, for the benefit of the economy and the environment: Fix-it Café, in partnership with No Waste Lafayette and Habitat for Humanity ReStore, was a pop-up meeting place where community members gathered, bringing items in need of repair to be assessed and worked on by experienced, volunteer fixers. Three repair stations included bicycles, small wooden furniture/household items and small appliances/engine; Plastic Bag Roundup, in its third year, was part of a six month program that kicks off on America Recycles Day and concludes on Earth Day. Local elementary and middle school students in Lafayette Parish are challenged to collect plastic bags to be remanufactured into wood alternative decking composite. The challenge is a great educational opportunity for Lafayette's youngest citizens on the importance of reducing waste and recycling. Plastic Bag Roundup is also a great reminder for citizens of all ages that plastic bags should be returned to local stores for recycling and should not be placed in curbside collection bins; through aluminum can recycling, PFY also hoped to transform occasional recyclers into everyday recyclers. In partnership with Louisiana Scrap Metal, citizens recycled aluminum cans in support of Project Front Yard initiatives. Beginning on America Recycles Day through Earth Day on April 22, citizens and businesses were encouraged to collect and drop off aluminum cans at Louisiana Scrap Metal, mentioning the collection is in support of Project Front Yard. All funds raised through the aluminum can recycling during this period support Project Front Yard's community beautification projects like tree plantings, litter cleanups and public art projects.

LEGALLY SPEAKING

LCG's Legal Department is responsible for providing legal representation and support services to all areas of City-Parish Government, including advising all departments, commissions, offices and agencies. The City-Parish Attorney represents City-Parish Government in all legal proceedings and other matters, ensuring the highest levels of efficiency in legal services and generating positive results through effective representation. The department is also responsible for the preparation or approval of contracts or other agreements to which any LCG department, commission, office or agency is a party. The department meets its staffing needs with part-time contract attorneys who serve as assistant city-parish attorneys in order to provide legal services as requested or directed by the City-Parish Attorney. Working through the City Prosecutor's office, the department prosecutes all matters brought before Lafayette City Court. In 2017, the department completed the implementation of a structured process designed to efficiently monitor and complete numerous legal matters in the most cost-efficient manner. The attorneys also drafted and compiled revisions to the Alcohol Code and worked with the District Attorney on a workable and acceptable Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with LCG.



March 12 - May 10
Support Lafayette
Nonprofits &
Schools



Departmental Online Resources

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

- Website: LafayetteLA.gov/CAO
- Lafayette Animal Control: lafayettela.gov/acplus
- LAWorks: laworks.net

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Website: lafayettela.gov/communitydevelopment
- LCG Consolidated Planning Process: lafayettela.gov/CommunityDevelopment/FederalPrograms/Pages/Consolidated-Planning.aspx
- First-time Home Buyer Brochure: lafayettela.gov/CommunityDevelopment/FederalPrograms/SiteAssets/Files/homebuyersbrochure.pdf
- Housing Services: lafayettela.gov/CommunityDevelopment/Pages/Housing-Services.aspx
- Senior Centers: lafayettela.gov/CommunityDevelopment/HumanServices/Pages/Senior-Center.aspx
- Online resource for job seekers, employers & staff: www.louisianaworks.net
- Lafayette Science Museum: lafayettesciencemuseum.org
- Nature Station: naturestation.org
- Heymann Center: heymanncenter.com

FINANCE & MANAGEMENT

- Website: LafayetteLA.gov/Finance
- Audited Financial Statements: lafayettela.gov/Finance/Pages/Accounting.aspx
- Budget Documents: lafayettela.gov/budget/Pages/default.aspx
- Surplus Property & Police Evidence Auctions: publicsurplus.com

INFORMATION SERVICES & TECHNOLOGY

- lafayettela.gov/IS/Pages/default.aspx

LAFAYETTE FIRE DEPARTMENT

- Website: lafayettela.gov/FireDepartment
- Product Recalls: cpsc.gov/en/Recalls
- National Fire Protection Association: nfpa.org
- Fire Safety Information: usfa.fema.gov

LAFAYETTE INTERNATIONAL CENTER

- Website: lecentre.org
- Louisiana Export Guide: louisiana.think.global/leg2015-16/

LAFAYETTE POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Website: lafayettela.gov/policedepartment/pages/default.aspx
- LPD Facebook page: facebook.com/LafayetteLAPolice?fref=ts
- LPD Twitter: [@LafayettePD_LA](https://twitter.com/LafayettePD_LA)
- Crime Mapping: crimemapping.com

LAFAYETTE UTILITIES SYSTEM

- Website: lus.org, lusfiber.com
- Hurricane Handbook: lus.org/index.php/information-library/hurricane-handbook
- AllonsTV: lusfiber.com/index.php/allonstv
- LUS/LUS Fiber on FB: facebook.com/LUSpage, facebook.com/LUSFiber
- LUS/LUS Fiber on Twitter: [@LafUtilities](https://twitter.com/LafUtilities), [@LUSFiber](https://twitter.com/LUSFiber)
- LUS Fiber on YouTube: youtube.com/user/LUSFiberLafayette

LEGAL

- Website: LafayetteLA.gov/Legal

PARKS & RECREATION

- Website: www.LafayetteLA.gov/ParksAndRecreation
- Park List: lafayettela.gov/ParksAndRecreation/Pages/Parks-Listing.aspx
- Golf Course: wetlandsgc.com
- Guide to all programs and facilities: lafayettela.gov/ParksAndRecreation/SiteAssets/Files/LRPD%20GUIDE.pdf

PLANNING, ZONING & DEVELOPMENT

- Website: lafayettela.gov/PZD
- Planning Commission: lafayettela.gov/PZD/Development/Pages/Planning-Commission.aspx
- Hearing Examiner: lafayettela.gov/PZD/Development/Pages/Hearing-Examiner.aspx
- Codes Division: lafayettela.gov/PZD/Codes/Pages/default.aspx
- Development Division: lafayettela.gov/PZD/Development/Pages/default.aspx
- Zoning Division: lafayettela.gov/PZD/Zoning/Pages/default.aspx
- Comprehensive Plan (PlanLafayette): lafayettela.gov/ComprehensivePlan/Pages/The-Plan.aspx
- Permits (building, mobile home & swimming pool): lafayettela.gov/PZD/Codes/Pages/Residential-Building-Permit.aspx
- Commercial Building Permit: lafayettela.gov/PZD/Codes/Pages/Commercial-Building-Permit.aspx
- Unified Development Code: lafayettela.gov/ComprehensivePlan/Pages/unified-development-code.aspx
- PlanLafayette Annual Report: lafayettela.gov/ComprehensivePlan/SiteAssets/Comprehensive%20Plan%20Pages/The-Plan/PC_2016_Annual_Report_Final.pdf
- Project Front Yard: projectfrontyard.com
- Preservation Alliance: preservinglafayette.org
- Building Officials of Louisiana (BOAL): lma.org/BOAL
- FEMA: fema.gov

PUBLIC WORKS

- Website: LafayetteLA.gov/PublicWorks
- Traffic Calming: lafayettela.gov/TrafficAndTransportation/Pages/Traffic-Calming.aspx

Department Directors



**Toby Aguiard, Director of
Police Department**



**Carlee Alm-LaBar, Director
of Planning, Zoning, and
Development**



**Robert P. Benoit, Director
of Fire Department**



**Gerald Boudreaux, Director
of Parks and Recreation**



**Mark Dubroc, Director of
Public Works**



**Lowell Duhon, Chief
Administrative Officer**



**Paul D. Escott, City-Parish
Attorney**



**Terry Huval, Director of
Lafayette Utilities System**



**Tonia Khosropour, Director
of Information Services &
Technology**



**Adam Marcantel, Director
of Civil Service**



**Shaneá Nelson, Director of
Community Development**

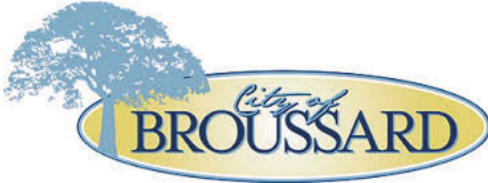


**Lorrie R. Touts, CPA,
CGFO, Chief Financial
Officer**



Municipalities

Lafayette Parish is a community of communities, made up of six municipalities that create a unique environment for work and play. Our legendary joie de vivre is known around the globe and Lafayette Parish is home to a world-class workforce and a diversified business base, serves as an economic center of Louisiana and offers a metropolitan appeal. We are a community that embraces technology, boasts a strong university, is known for its love of sports, and celebrates the arts and culture.



Broussard

337-837-6681

www.cityofbroussard.com



Carencro

337-896-8481

www.carencro.org



Duson

337-873-6754



Lafayette

337-291-8200

www.lafayettela.gov



Scott

337-233-1130

www.cityofscott.org



Youngsville

337-856-4181

www.youngsville.us

Robideaux Report

The Mayor-President's Annual Address



THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2018 • 6 P.M. • HEYMANN PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

“Last year’s event was a resounding success, bringing citizens and elected officials from across the parish. I look forward to another great event where we can celebrate our successes, and honestly address our challenges ahead. As was done last year, I also plan to unveil several new initiatives that will make government more customer service-oriented and efficient.”

- Mayor-President Robideaux.

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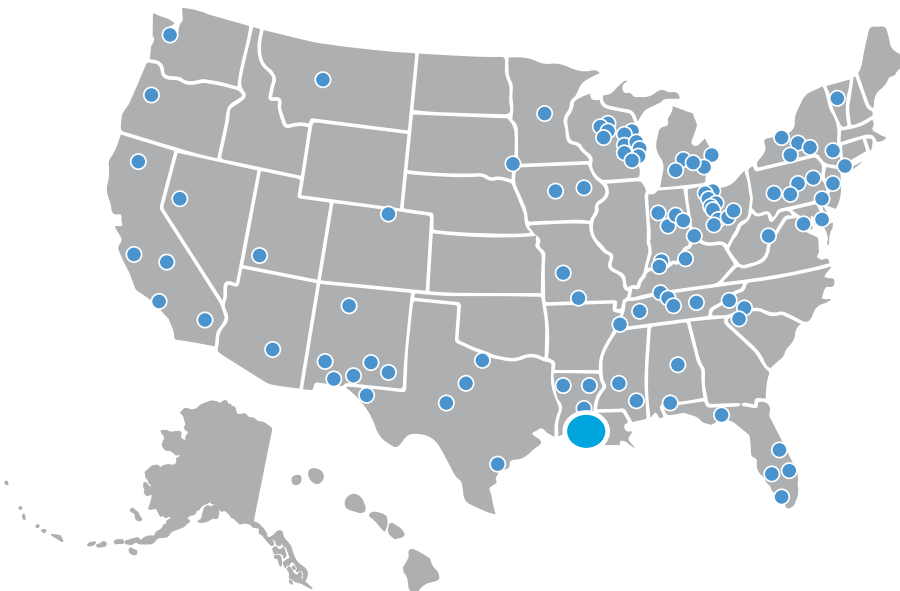
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