

# **HORIZON**

## **Ten-Year Update Final Plan Report**

**City of Baton Rouge  
Parish of East Baton Rouge**

**City-Parish Planning Commission  
December 2002**

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## **Chapter One Introduction**

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The Horizon Plan is the 20-year “Comprehensive Land Use and Development Plan” for the City of Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge. The plan acts as a “blueprint for the future” by serving as a guide for officials making decisions about land use and development within the City-Parish. The Horizon Plan’s primary emphasis is to identify major issues that will influence future growth, to decide the actions necessary to address these issues, and to propose specific strategies that will help the City-Parish target its resources in the most efficient manner.

The Horizon Plan is not a static document. During the 20-year time frame of the Plan, the City-Parish will undergo numerous demographic, economic and social changes, many of which cannot be foreseen during the initial plan development process. Circumstances will change and new issues will require modifications to the Plan. These changes will impact the Goals, Objectives and Policies that serve as the framework for the Horizon Plan.

Upon drafting the Horizon Plan, it was stipulated that the Plan should undergo a periodic review and update process every five years in order to accommodate the changing conditions within the City-Parish. The Five-Year Update Process serves as a guide which allows the City-Parish to evaluate its progress in addressing and monitoring growth and development trends, as well as identifying and targeting new and continuing issues within the City-Parish.

### **Creation of the Horizon Plan**

The beginnings of the Horizon Plan date back to 1987 when the Metropolitan Council voted to change the Plan of Government to replace the 20-year-old comprehensive plan which was, by then, outdated. The adoption of Resolution 26952 on December 9, 1987, laid the foundation for a new comprehensive plan.

The citizens of the City of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge Parish, also recognizing the need for a new comprehensive plan, approved the Metropolitan Council’s recommendation and voted for the amendment of the Plan of Government to require comprehensive planning on April 16, 1988. The

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passage of the referendum directed the City-Parish Planning Commission, the Mayor-President and Metropolitan Council to prepare and adopt a new comprehensive plan.

Consultants were hired in April of 1989 to prepare the plan, under the direction of the Mayor-President, the Metropolitan Council and the Planning Commission. A Horizon Plan Steering Committee was organized in June 1989 to act as an oversight policy advisory committee. The following month, seven Resource Committees were formed to examine specific elements of the plan. The Resource Committees consisted of technical experts, agency representatives and interested citizens.

In 1989 and 1990, a series of neighborhood planning meetings was held to take inventory of current conditions and future needs, and to gather input from citizens. The first phase of the meeting process allowed for citizens to identify and prioritize the needs for the 16 Planning Districts of the Parish. The second phase of the meeting process allowed for the review and discussion of the 16 district plans and to make suggestions for the draft final plans. In December, 1990, the draft final plan was submitted to the Horizon Plan Steering Committee for review and approval. All modifications to the plan were approved by March 1991.

Throughout 1991, a series of public hearings was held by both the Planning Commission and Metropolitan Council to refine the draft final plan. The Horizon Plan was adopted by the Metropolitan Council on January 7, 1992, and became effective April 1, 1992, as the new comprehensive plan for the City-Parish.

The overall growth scenario of the Horizon Plan calls for the promotion of infill development as a means for utilizing undeveloped land within the community's existing service area. Citizens of Baton Rouge have voiced their desire for a Plan which emphasizes the development of neighborhood integrity, maintenance of open spaces, orderly growth and development and the cost-effective provision of public facilities and services. The Horizon Plan addresses these issues by encouraging growth and development within established developed areas which already contain the infrastructure and services to support new growth.

## **Structure of the Horizon Plan**

The Horizon Plan is structured into twelve reports: A Horizon Plan Summary; the Horizon Plan Final Plan Report; seven Plan Elements; and three Special Reports. The Horizon Plan Summary provides a brief overview of the Comprehensive Land Use and Development Plan and is made available to the public. The Final Plan Report offers a more concise narrative on the overall Comprehensive Land Use and Development Plan for the future of the City-Parish. The Plan Elements

are individual technical reports that address existing conditions and issues. The Elements are further divided into Goals, Objectives, Policies and Action Items.

- Goals are broad and general statements of desired future conditions which aid and guide the decision-making process. Goals are intended to identify the basic type of urban environment that is desired by a majority of citizens in the community.
- Objectives are specific statements about future conditions or results which should be achieved in order to attain the goals which have been set. Objectives are worded so that their achievement can be measured.
- Policies are specific recommendations, plans and standards that are used in making decisions about future actions and programs. Policies are specific guidelines for implementing the Comprehensive Plan.
- Action Items serve as strategies for implementation of the comprehensive plan. Action Items are assigned to various City-Parish Lead Agencies which use them as a method for addressing the Goals, Objectives and Policies of the Horizon Plan.

The seven Elements of the Horizon Plan are: Land Use; Transportation; Wastewater, Solid Waste and Drainage; Conservation and Environmental Resources; Recreation and Open Space; Housing; and Public Services, Public Buildings and Health and Human Services.

The Horizon Plan also contains three Special Reports which describe implementation aspects for specific portions of the Horizon Plan. The Special Reports are: the Capital Finance and Capital Improvements Program, which addresses the financial implementation of the Plan; the Plan Amendment Process, which outlines methods for updating and amending the Horizon Plan; and the Transition Rules, which examines how projects which were in various stages of development during the drafting of the Horizon Plan would be addressed and implemented into the Final Plan.

The Ten -Year Update has just been completed. This report presents an overview of the progress of the Horizon Plan during its second five years and accomplishments to date. Furthermore, future projects for the next five years are also identified.

## Implementation

The City-Parish Planning Commission is responsible for the coordination of the entire plan, in conjunction with 35 local and state government and private non-profit organizations which function as "Lead Agencies" to implement the Horizon Plan. The Lead Agencies are assigned strategies (Action

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Items) in relation to the Plan's seven Elements. The Planning Commission also serves as a Lead Agency for a number of Action Items.

## **Plan Amendment Process**

Upon drafting the Horizon Plan, it was realized that, as conditions within the City-Parish evolve, it would be necessary to amend the Plan to accommodate these new changes. Amendments to the Horizon Plan follow a specific process which ensures that the proposed changes are reviewed by both City-Parish officials and the citizenry.

Typically, Plan amendments are prepared by the Planning Commission Staff and forwarded to the Planning Commission for review and further revision, if necessary. The Planning Commission reviews the proposed amendments and holds a public hearing to allow the public to review and comment upon the proposed amendments. Upon reviewing the public comments and making any changes, the Planning Commission forwards the amendment to the Metropolitan Council which also conducts a public hearing to gather comments from the public. The Metropolitan Council considers the public's input and makes final revisions if necessary. The finalized amendments, once adopted by the Metropolitan Council, are then drafted as amendments to the Horizon Plan.

In 1998, the Subarea/Neighborhood Planning Process was initiated to include more detailed planning at the neighborhood level. This allows the Planning Commission Staff to meet with residents and discuss issues and aesthetics within a Subarea/Neighborhood context. Major amendments, such as those associated with the Ten-Year Update, are presented to the public for review and comment during the Subarea/Neighborhood public meeting process for each of the 16 Planning Districts in the City-Parish.

The Plan Amendment Process allows for a thoughtful and careful review of proposed changes by both citizens and City-Parish officials. This ensures that the Horizon Plan will retain its flexibility and remain an effective document for implementing the vision set forth by the City-Parish and its citizens.

Originally, Plan amendments were prepared by the Planning Commission Staff and presented to the Horizon Plan Implementation Committee (HPIC). The HPIC would then review the proposed Plan amendments and, if necessary, make further recommendations. In March, 1998 the HPIC forwarded a resolution to the Metropolitan Council requesting that the committee be dissolved and the function of oversight of the implementation of the Horizon Plan be turned over to the Planning Commission. After much deliberation the Metropolitan Council adopted Resolution Number 38809 on July 8, 1998. This resolution rescinded the establishment of the HPIC and authorized the Planning Commission to assume the duties and responsibilities formerly assigned to the committee. Coordination of the work

program for the Horizon Plan is now accomplished by the Planning Commission Staff under the direction of the Planning Commission.

## **Accomplishments**

Although the Horizon Plan has been in effect for ten years, the most recent five years from 1998 through 2002 have seen some major accomplishments. Numerous goals and projects identified during the drafting of the Horizon Plan have been implemented or initiated. Much has been accomplished during the last ten years and many projects and elements of the Horizon Plan have been addressed. There are many accomplishments over the last ten years and are too numerous to detail here. Briefly, some of the advancements made by lead agencies are listed.

### **Geographic Information Systems**

The City-Parish continues its efforts to build and implement a Geographic Information System (GIS) to facilitate the planning process. A GIS is an advanced computerized information system which allows for a variety of data to be linked to a specific location or a map. The data variables are used to form "layers" of information which can be overlaid in numerous combinations to view or model a wide variety of scenarios. A GIS is a powerful tool which will enable City-Parish departments to access land use information, census data, transportation networks, drainage and other pertinent data to better manage development within the City-Parish.

The demand for better and more assessable information to increase efficiency has led the City-Parish to identify the need to invest in GIS. To respond to this need, the City-Parish has entered into an agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to develop a plan for implementation of a Parish wide multi-participant GIS. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has conducted interviews with members of a number of City-Parish Lead Agencies to assess the needs of the various departments. The project includes creating a digital base map containing approximately 200,000 parcels of land. Layers are being created to overlay on this base map, which include: street center lines, building footprints, transportation (streets and railroads), pavement edges and hydrography features. In the following two years additional layers will be completed such as zoning, sanitary sewer, storm sewer and municipal boundaries.

The GIS has advanced considerably in the last five years. Through major funding from the federal government, Baton Rouge has been able to accomplish much of the work outlined in the 1997 Needs Assessment for a foundational GIS.

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### Environment

In 2001, the City-Parish Planning Commission undertook a pilot project to develop a GIS model for the identification, characterization, and mapping of wetland areas. The Planning Commission is currently working with the Louisiana State University's Wetlands Biochemistry Institute (WBI) to continue the Identification and Characterization Project and to study effective site design methods for establishing sound environmental practices for development in and around wetlands. Funding for this work has been applied for through the EPA and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality 319 Program. The Planning Commission Staff is also researching methods that promote "best management practices" for development in and around wetlands.

On October 1, 2000, Baton Rouge received a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for a Brownfields Pilot Program. The grant provides funding to support the redevelopment of Brownfields sites within East Baton Rouge Parish. The Brownfields Pilot is the foundational step for the Baton Rouge Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Program (BRBP). Since the overall growth scenario established by the Horizon Plan is infill and redevelopment and since the Pilot targets properties predominantly found within the urban core, the BRBP is viewed as a powerful tool to promote economic development through environmental planning.

### Land Use Categories

For the purpose of Subarea and neighborhood planning, the Planning Staff has redefined and updated the Residential and "Commercial/Office" land use categories for the Horizon Plan's "2010 Land Use Plan," which proposes land uses for the entire Parish on a parcel-by-parcel basis. The revised land use categories provide planners with more flexibility and additional options for the more detailed planning involved at the Subarea and neighborhood level. The redefined land use categories were adopted by the Metropolitan Council on February 18, 1998. The City-Parish will continue to evaluate the land use categories over the next five years. The Residential Estate/Agriculture (RE/A) land use category was adopted and applied in place of the Open Space land use category in 1997. The RE/A land use category includes areas of rural character, agricultural lands, significant natural areas and single family residential uses.

**The Unified Development Code (UDC) consolidates various development ordinances and regulations into a single reference manual, which will ease the preparation of plans and applications for residents and developers. The UDC was adopted in 1996, but has been revised in the last five years.**

Revisions made in 1999 modified the Planned Unit Development (PUD) regulations and created regulations for a Small Planned Unit Development (SPUD). These developments provide for flexibility

in development and require a percentage of common open space. The PUD regulations encourage the protection of environmentally sensitive areas while allowing development to occur.

### **Zoning Districts**

In order to ensure the integrity of the Horizon Land Use Plan, new zoning districts were necessary to reflect the intent of the new office, commercial and residential land use categories adopted in 1998. A Zoning Study Committee was established to review the existing regulations and develop new districts based on the new land use categories. The new zoning districts were adopted by the Metropolitan Council in 1999 and control both types of uses allowed within the district and the intensities of those uses. The new zoning districts are Neighborhood Office (NO), General Office Low Rise (GOL), General Office High Rise (GOH), Neighborhood Commercial (NC), Neighborhood Commercial Alcoholic Beverage (NC-AB), Light Commercial (LC-1, LC-2, LC-3), Heavy Commercial (HC-1, HC-2), and Commercial Warehousing (CW).

In 2001, The Zoning Study Committee reconvened and recommended further changes. The Commercial Warehousing Zoning District was amended to include three additional Commercial Warehousing Districts: CW1, CW2 and CW3.

### **Urban Design Overlay District**

In 2002, the first urban design overlay district was adopted in East Baton Rouge Parish. This urban design district is located along Bluebonnet Boulevard from Gail Drive to Claycut Bayou. The urban design overlay district stipulates specific aesthetic requirements while not affecting the underlying use. Urban design districts provide guidelines for development activity in clearly defined specially designated areas. These overlay districts strengthen the physical and economic character of a neighborhood by mitigating or avoiding functional and architectural incompatibility of buildings or services. The uses available with the overlay district along Bluebonnet are financial institutions, medical clinics, offices, public open spaces, and public parks. There are also specifications on particular features, such as signage, building setbacks, building materials, building height, buffers, landscaping, lighting, and parking areas.

### **Landscape Ordinance**

The Landscape Ordinance has been included within the Unified Development Code of Baton Rouge. The Landscape Regulations in the Unified Development Code including the bufferyard and parking lot standards were amended in December 1997. Changes are significant in terms of accomplishing the intent of these standards to mitigate conflicts between land uses and to set reasonable criteria for improved design of these urban elements.

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In October 2000, The Tree and Landscape Commission created an Ad Hoc Committee charged with the review of the Unified Development Code Tree and Landscape components. The review has been completed and recommendations were forwarded to the Planning Commission staff in May, 2002 for further review.

## **Economic Development**

In October, 1994, the City-Parish, with the assistance of an economic planning grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Economic Development Administration (EDA) created the Economic and Demographic Research (EDR) Section of the City-Parish Planning Commission. The Economic and Demographic Research Section was responsible for the formulation of the Strategic Plan for Economic Development in 1995. The Strategic Plan is a “detailed long-range economic development strategy for the City-Parish” and brings together and coordinates efforts among a number of local and state agencies and organizations, including the Chamber of Commerce and the Louisiana Department of Economic Development. With the completion of the Plan in 2000, the EDR Section has focused on Brownfields and Enterprise Zone as sustaining programs. The Enterprise Zone program is a package of tax credits and sales tax rebates made available to businesses and expansions to existing businesses which locate within officially designated Enterprise Zones or Economic Development Zones. Its purpose is to create new, permanent jobs and employ individuals from targeted groups. The Enterprise Zone Program was created to encourage development within economically distressed areas of the City-Parish.

## **Public Information Program**

The Planning Commission has embarked upon a vigorous public information program through the use of press releases, newspaper advertisements, “Information Bulletins” and neighborhood profiles. The public information program is aimed at informing the general public about the Horizon Plan. A well-informed public is crucial in order to assist with decision-making in the overall planning process.

Public information takes many forms, from “Horizon is Happening” signs to newspaper advertisements listing Horizon Plan activities and capital improvement projects. In addition, the Planning Commission produces a variety of other public information documents, including:

- “Information Bulletins,” which are used to inform the public about planning and planning related issues;
- Neighborhood Profiles, which inform the general public about issues such as land use, zoning, and capital improvements which affect their neighborhoods;
- An annual report that chronicles the activities and projects of the Planning Commission;

- “Planning News,” a quarterly newsletter that informs the public about events occurring within the Planning Commission;
- Public presentations, which are frequently given by the Planning Commission to various community organizations and groups;
- Planning Commission Web Site, which allows easy access to planning information by the public. This web site allows public access to online Planning Commission documents;
- Electronic Plat Submittal, initiated to allow engineering firms to submit proposed site plan and subdivision maps to the Office of the Planning Commission via E-mail;
- Planning Commission Education Workshop series was initiated;
- Resource Center, located in the front section of the Planning Department, which provides information on items such as existing zoning, Horizon land use, ongoing projects, and the application process;
- Land Development Guide, which is published to assist the public through the various application procedures; and
- *Planning, What is it?*, to explain the process and importance of planning

### **Downtown Development District**

The Downtown Development District has continued to implement the improvements identified in the Riverfront Redevelopment Plan and Fourth Street Master Plan to tie together and enhance the attractions in the downtown area. Downtown Baton Rouge has been experiencing the largest building boom in its history due to the consolidation of state administrative offices within the city center. Approximately 3,000 employees will be added to downtown’s workforce in the consolidation.

Additional developments in downtown Baton Rouge include the Louisiana Arts and Science Planetarium and Space Theater that is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2002. The facility will feature theater-stylized films on the planetarium dome offering the latest in technology. The Riverside Centroplex expansion is currently under construction. The expansion will total more than 100,000 square feet of exhibition space, meeting rooms, and an architectural connection between the existing and new building. The public and private sectors have partnered to develop the Arts Block into a cultural center for the community. The redevelopment/development of the block consists of the renovation of the 1920's Auto Hotel into a mixed-use development accompanied by the new LSU

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Museum of Art, Performing Arts Center and an interactive fountain. The project is scheduled for completion by 2005.

## **Quality and Employee Development**

The Quality and Employee Development Department provides employees with a variety of training sessions and workshops on up-to-date methods and software used for public service. Scheduled workshops are communicated to employees through the Quality and Employee Development newsletter and Metronet.

Seventeen to nineteen thousand hours of training are provided annually to City-Parish employees. This training includes development programs designed in partnership with departments or specific target groups performance improvement projects and leadership development for supervisors and managers.

## **CAN DO**

CAN DO is an initiative by the Mayor's Office designed to promote neighborhood organizations by assisting in organizing neighborhood advocacy groups. Starting in 1998 with a survey of neighborhood leaders, CAN DO now publishes a regular newsletter and held its first annual Neighborhood Convention May 13, 2000. CAN DO provides information and resources to neighborhood organizations. In 2002, CAN DO published a resource guide for city-parish services known as "Frequently Asked Questions." CAN DO also features a Neighborhood Small Grants Program that provides neighborhood and civic associations the opportunity to apply for funds for start-up projects.

## **Greater Baton Rouge Airport District**

The Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport Master Plan was completed in 1990 and since that time a Financial Feasibility Study has been conducted and the results of that study are in support of the Master Plan project. The two major results of the Master Plan were the construction of a new terminal building and land banking for a new runway project. The Master Plan is an ongoing project.

The new terminal building was suspended in 1993. However, in 1995, the Metropolitan Council approved a terminal expansion program. The concept design architects have been selected and the negotiations are now complete. Ground breaking for the terminal was on December 9, 1997. The terminal is currently undergoing renovations.

## **Department of Public Works**

The Department of Public Works (DPW) has completed construction on the first two (2) phases of the East Baton Rouge Computerized Traffic Signal Synchronization System. These two (2) projects include sixty-one (61) intersections on five (5) major arterial streets. Estimated final cost including design and construction for both phases is six million one hundred thousand (\$6,100,000) dollars.

Current estimates indicate that the East Baton Rouge Computerized Traffic Signal Synchronization System Parish Wide should be completed by the year 2015. The overall goal will include placing five hundred (500) traffic signal controlled intersections in the parish under computer supervision.

The Advanced Traffic Management Center (ATMC) has been constructed and will include as part of its function the East Baton Rouge Emergency Management Operation Center which will incorporate all emergency communications including Baton Rouge Police Department, East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Department, EMS, Emergency Preparedness, East Baton Rouge Incident Management Team and 911 all in one location. The ATMC will allow centralized control of traffic/transportation related activities during natural and man-made emergencies including video cameras to monitor traffic and accidents on I-10 and I-12.

The City-Parish DPW began a five (5) year Capital Improvement Program in 1998 that will provide emphasis on improving the infrastructure for major arterial streets and drainage facilities. These include such projects as Bluebonnet Boulevard, the design of North Boulevard overpass and the Central Thruway.

## **Department of Public Works- Recycling Division**

Since 1994, East Baton Rouge Parish has achieved the state mandated goal of recycling landfilled solid waste by 25 percent (25%). This has been done through a multifaceted waste reduction program that includes curbside recycling; beneficial reuse of yard waste and sewage sludge; special collections; numerous drop-off and buy back programs; and commercial recycling.

The Recycling Office conducts an ongoing education campaign targeting all parish residents, businesses, and schools. The office raises funds from the private sector and grants to conduct teacher workshops in recycling and composting; to implement the "Operation Breakdown" school compost program that places compost bins and worm bins in area schools; to implement a curriculum kit program in recycling and composting; and to maintain a backyard composting program that offers home compost bin sales and compost workshops for area residents.

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### **Capital Region Planning Commission**

Baton Rouge is classified by the Environmental Protection Agency as an air quality non-attainment area. Much of the Capital Region Planning Commission's (CRPC) work is targeted to improve air quality and remove this designation. CRPC has completed conformity analysis of the proposed "financially constrained" long range plan. The plan is divided into four stages of five year periods from 2000-2020. To meet the conformity requirements, a number of off model projects such as transit, CNG fueling stations/fleet conversion, and ridesharing improvements were developed. Numerous such projects have been implemented and are in operation.

### **Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality**

The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality with assistance and support of the ozone task force has developed a new plan for Baton Rouge to improve air quality and reduce the possibility of exceeding ozone standards and move East Baton Rouge Parish out of non-attainment area status. The plan has been submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for review and approval. The plan is based on reductions of nitrogen oxides (Nox) to further reduce ozone-forming pollutants. These control strategies along with other efforts such as the Ozone Action Program will help to bring the area into attainment.

### **Baton Rouge Police Department**

The Baton Rouge Police Department was granted re-accreditation status in November of 2001 and underwent an on-site assessment in August, 2002. The department will seek its second re-accreditation in 2004.

The Baton Rouge Police Department has completed the installation of the Records Information Management System (RIMS) and the Mobile Data Communications System (MDCS). Both systems are operational. The integration of the two systems permits officers to write reports in their units. Upon completion, a report can be electronically transmitted directly to criminal records where it is preserved for reference or reproduction.

### **Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge**

The Community Cultural Initiative was created as a partnership of the Parish of East Baton Rouge, the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge, and the National Endowment for the Arts. During 1995-96, the Community Cultural Initiative mobilized hundreds of citizens of East Baton Rouge Parish to create a concrete cultural action plan, CREATE BATON ROUGE, for the development of our cultural life, neighborhood and community programs, arts education in schools, cultural organizations and downtown and economic development.

CREATE BATON ROUGE was presented to the community in mid-July 1996. The Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge serves as the communication umbrella for the implementation of CREATE BATON ROUGE. Having completed the CREATE BATON ROUGE plan in 2000, the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge Board of Directors adopted a new three year plan in 2001.

### **Baton Rouge Recreation and Parks Commission**

BREC seeks grants and other opportunities to enhance resources and improve service. BREC has employed a Grants Coordinator since 1995. Grants are applied for every year. BREC has established a Grants Department in the Planning and Engineering Office.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the City of Baton Rouge/Parish of East Baton Rouge, and the Recreation and Park Commission for East Baton Rouge Parish (BREC) joined hands to transform an abandoned dirt pit operation into a 62.5-acre nature park along the Comite River at the intersection of Blackwater Road and Hooper Road called the Blackwater Conservation Area. Almost 7,000 trees will be planted in 17 native species. Two lakes have been built, of two and a half (2.5) and six acres, to mimic the site's original bald cypress sloughs. Public benefits will include the restoration of fish and wildlife habitat, improved water quality, reduced erosion, maintenance of flood water storage and the creation of walking trails, educational and recreational facilities.

### **Improved Lead Agency Coordination**

Guiding and managing growth and development requires a substantial input from the many different City-Parish Lead Agencies. Because many issues are addressed in the Horizon Plan, numerous Lead Agencies are involved with the implementation of the various aspects of the Plan. Since the Plan's adoption, there has been an increased level of coordination and cooperation among the many City-Parish Lead Agencies. This increased coordination and cooperation have helped streamline many projects and allow the City-Parish to benefit from the combined knowledge and experience of the many City-Parish Agencies.

### **Horizon Plan Update Process**

As an requirement of the Horizon Plan, an Update is completed every five years. This update is now at the ten-year mark. The update requires an analysis of the current conditions in the City-Parish. Background information, demographic data and economic analyses and assumptions should be updated and revised as needed. Similarly, land use data should be updated to identify new development activity as well as changing patterns of land use.

## **Introduction**

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The purpose of the update is to ensure that the Horizon Plan continues to reflect the vision of the City-Parish held by its citizens and elected officials. The Plan was drafted with considerable input from many participants and its success depends upon the continued revision of the Plan to ensure that it remains a current and valid document. Moreover, community values and conditions may change over time, which would warrant the adjustment of some of the Goals, Objectives and Policies of the Horizon Plan and its proposals related to land use and development.

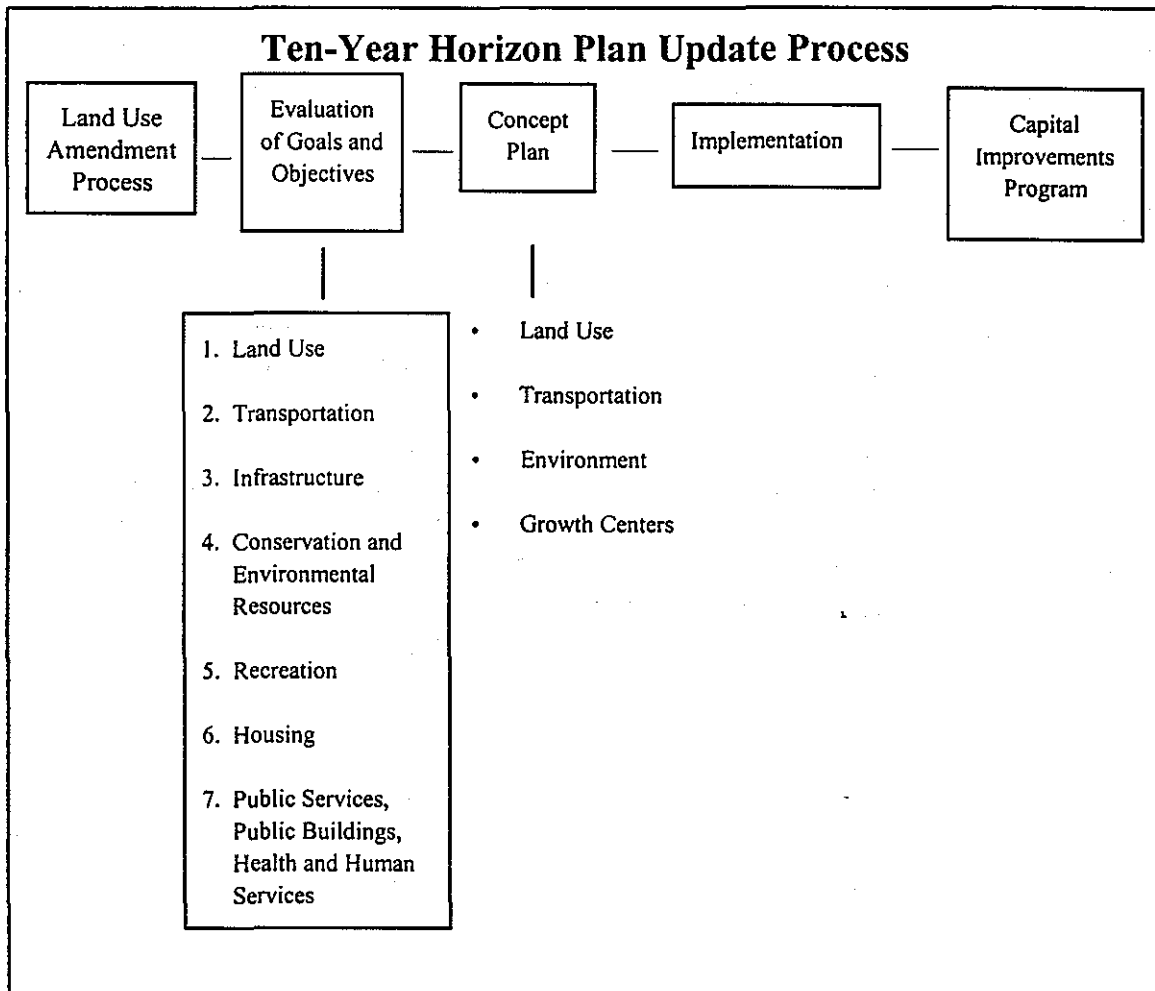
The update process is complemented by an ongoing data collection process which continually monitors factors such as land use changes, plan amendments and the accomplishment of plan objectives. The information gathered to analyze current conditions provides the new basis for developing a description of conditions affecting the City-Parish, including unanticipated problems and opportunities that have occurred since the Plan's adoption. The impact of these problems and opportunities upon the growth and development of the City-Parish, both positive and negative, and the social, economic and environmental effects of these influences are also addressed.

The success or failure of the City-Parish government to implement individual Objectives of the Plan is evaluated, including an assessment of the validity of the Objectives and the need to add, delete or revise the Goals, Objectives, Policies and Action Items. The Five-Year Update Process also allows the City-Parish to evaluate its progress since the previous review and identifies and targets new issues to be addressed over the next five years.

The Five-Year Update Process includes the creation of a "Concept Plan" for the Parish which is based upon the seven Elements of the Horizon Plan. The Concept Plan examines major issues within the City-Parish including Land Use, Transportation, Growth Centers and Environment. These are considered important issues for guiding growth and development into the next century.

## **Scope**

The planning program for the Five-Year Update Process is divided into five general phases that represent the framework for the Ten-Year Update Final Plan Report. Each phase includes an examination of both current and future conditions within the City-Parish. The information and projections were then used to evaluate the adequacy of the Horizon Plan and determine how the Plan can be more successful in meeting the goals of the City-Parish. The five phases of the update process are illustrated in Figure 1 and include: Land Use Amendment Process; Evaluate Goals and Objectives; Concept Plan; Implementation; and Capital Improvements Program.



### Phase I- Land Use Amendment Process

**Figure 1**

The Land Use Amendment Process began with the Subarea/Neighborhood Planning Process that allowed the Staff of the Planning Commission to meet with residents and discuss issues and aesthetics of development within a Subarea and neighborhood context. The Subarea and neighborhood plans, including the proposed land use amendments, were taken to Public Meetings within each of the Subareas. Residents of the areas had the opportunity to view the plans and make comments and suggestions to planners. The input received at the Public Meetings was considered in the final analysis of Subarea/Neighborhood Plans before the plans entered the adoption process.

The Planning Commission conducted a Public Hearing on the Subarea/Neighborhood Plan for each Planning District at its monthly meeting. Residents had the opportunity to comment on each plan at these Public Hearings. The Planning Commission makes a recommendation on the Subarea plans, and

## **Introduction**

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forwards the recommendation to the Metropolitan Council for final adoption. The Metropolitan Council conducts a Public Hearing at its regular monthly zoning meeting. Following public comment, the Council voted to adopt the amended Planning District plans.

### **Phase II- Evaluate Goals and Objectives**

The process of updating the Horizon Plan is accomplished by an ongoing data collection process that updates land use changes. The information gathered to analyze current conditions provides the new basis for developing a description of current conditions affecting the City-Parish.

In addition to recent land use information, economic data and changes in population and attitudes is used by Planning Commission Staff to develop population and economic forecasts; reevaluate and formulate goals, objectives and policies. The information and analyses developed in the update process provides the basis for recommending changes to the Horizon Plan and each of the Plan Elements. The evaluation of the Horizon Plan is based upon current status of the Action Items, applicability of the goals and objectives related to the Action Items, and the feasibility of implementation of the Action Items.

### **Phase III - Concept Plan**

The Concept Plan serves as the method by which major sections of the Horizon Plan, relating to growth and development, are amended and updated. The procedure for updating the Concept Plan involves the analysis and evaluation of several main components including Land Use, Transportation, Growth Centers and Environment.

### **Phase IV - Implementation**

To ensure that Goals and Objectives of the Horizon Plan are being adequately addressed, the Five-Year Update Process involves the evaluation of each of the 288 Action Items for the seven Elements of the Plan. Action Items are strategies for achieving the Goals and Objectives set forth in the Horizon Plan. As conditions change within the City-Parish, it is necessary to evaluate each Action Item to ensure it remains a valid and effective strategy for accomplishing the Goals and Objectives set forth in the Horizon Plan.

### **Phase V - Capital Improvements Program**

The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) is the City-Parish's long-range planning process which links the annual budget to appropriation cycles. The CIP process is a mechanism for analyzing the City-Parish's financial condition and projecting what is likely needed in the near future. The CIP identifies

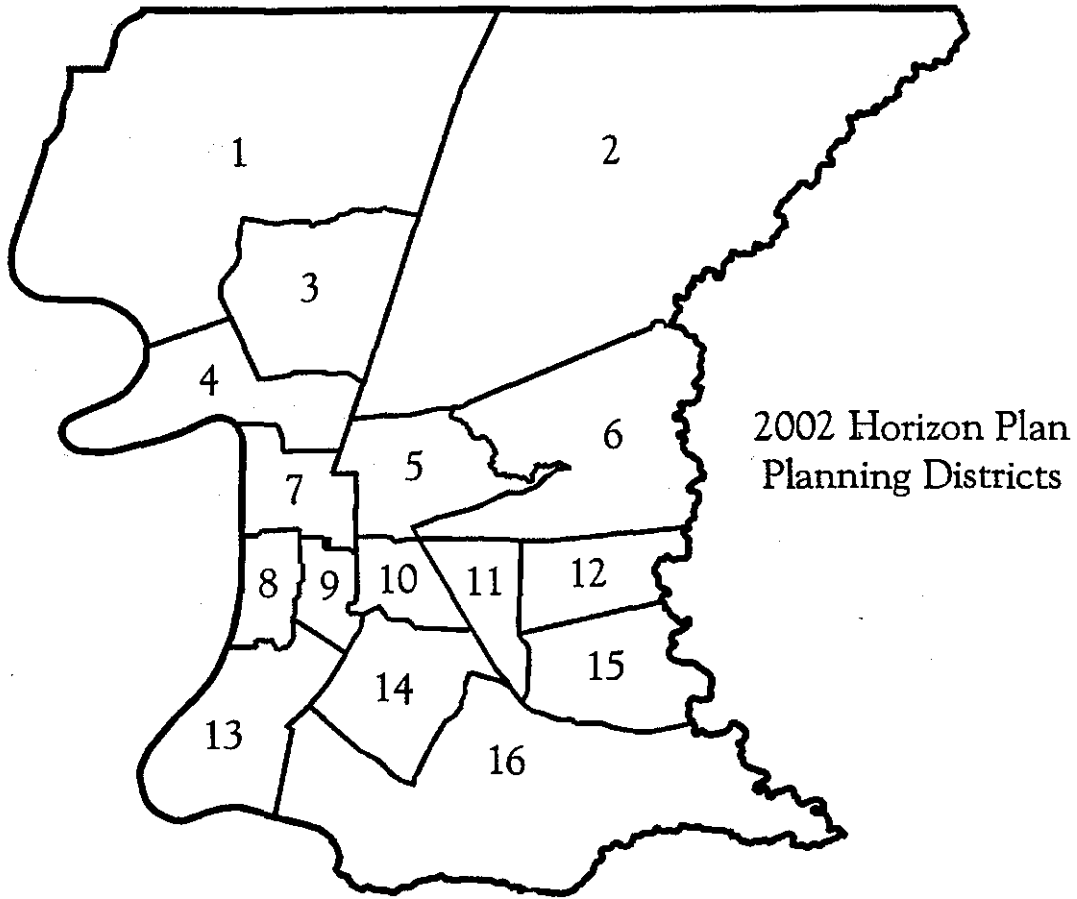
Parish's financial condition and projecting what is likely needed in the near future. The CIP identifies projects and predicts the City-Parish's capacity to finance these projects after it has paid its basic operating expenses.

The CIP identifies projects on five-year and 20-year intervals. The first year of the CIP forms the basis for the Capital Budget for that fiscal year and the remaining four years are the longer term capital programming document. The CIP is updated annually; however, periodic adjustments may be made to take advantage of new financing alternatives or opportunities. Capital improvements programming is cyclical such that, as projects are completed in one fiscal year, another year is added to the program so that it will always assume a five-year cycle.

## Report Summary

The Horizon Plan has served the City-Parish well during its first ten years, as evidenced by the improved coordination among local agencies and the many accomplishments that have occurred. The Plan, however, is designed to be flexible and adaptable to changing conditions and circumstances. The required Five-Year Update Process is the means for updating and revising the plan so that it remains a valid and current document.

During the Ten-Year Update, the Horizon Plan underwent some revision and updating due to the changing conditions in East Baton Rouge Parish. The remainder of the Ten-Year Update Final Plan Report examines each of the five phases of the Update Process and reports on the amendments, revisions and proposals that have occurred within these phases. Also, the report looks to the future, charting some of the efforts and projects that will take place over the next five years of the Horizon Plan.



Map 1

## **Chapter Two**

### **Planning District Summary**

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The Horizon Plan, which was adopted in 1992, divides East Baton Rouge Parish into 16 separate Planning Districts as depicted on Map 1. The Horizon Plan also included a “2010 Land Use Plan” to guide future growth and development for East Baton Rouge Parish.

The Land Use Adjustment Process was the first phase of the last Five-Year Update Process for the Horizon Plan. The “2010 Land Use Plan,” included in the original Horizon Plan, was printed on a scale of one inch equals 7,040 feet. This scale proved difficult to interpret when it was necessary to locate specific parcels of land, especially for zoning and development locations. Therefore, during the Land Use Adjustment Process, the Planning Commission Staff converted the land use plan to the scale of one inch equals 400 feet; this is the same scale as the Planning Commission’s “Lot and Block” zoning maps. The Land Use Adjustment Process included a field survey of land uses on an individual parcel level for the entire City-Parish. This initial existing land use survey process was completed in July 1996.

#### **‘2010 Land Use Plan’**

In 1997, the Residential Estate/Agriculture land use designation was adopted and applied in place of the Open Space land use category. The purpose of this land use category is to preserve rural character and prime agricultural land, and to assist in the management and preservation of significant natural areas.

In 1998, the Metropolitan Council adopted newly defined Residential and “Commercial/Office” land use categories for the Horizon Plan’s “2010 Land Use Plan.” This plan indicates land uses for the entire Parish on a parcel-by-parcel basis. The Medium/High Density Residential and the Commercial/Office categories were redefined to more precisely describe the character of these land uses and allow for development to more accurately fit the neighborhood context in which it occurs. The Medium/High Density Residential category was divided into Low Density Residential, Medium Density Residential and High Density Residential. The Commercial/Office category was divided into two “Office” categories and four “Commercial” categories. These new categories would be used to guide the Subarea/Neighborhood Planning Process for the 16 Planning Districts.

## Planning District Summary

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The “2010 Land Use Plan” identifies the land use categories as follows:

- **Residential Estate/Agriculture (RE/A)**  
includes areas of rural character, agricultural lands, significant natural areas and single family residential uses.
- **Low Density Residential (LDR)**  
includes areas where single family detached housing will be the predominant land use.
- **Medium Density Residential (MDR)**  
includes areas where small single family, two family and multi-family housing of a spacious character, and garden and town homes will be predominant.
- **High Density Residential (HDR)**  
includes areas where multi-family housing, high-rise housing structures and very small, tightly spaced single family housing will be predominant.
- **Neighborhood Office (NO)**  
includes areas of small offices, professional offices and personal services to serve the needs of surrounding residential areas.
- **General Office (GO)**  
includes areas where large or multi-storied professional, general administrative or non-retail sales offices are located.
- **Neighborhood Commercial (NC)**  
includes areas of small retail stores, such as corner groceries, cafes and drugstores, to serve the needs of surrounding residential neighborhoods.
- **Light Commercial (LC)**  
includes a variety of commercial and miscellaneous service activities generally serving a wide area and located primarily along existing major thoroughfares.
- **Heavy Commercial (HC)**  
includes a variety of commercial and miscellaneous service activities, such as hotels, shopping malls and department stores, which are relatively large in size, generate a large volume of traffic or impact large areas of land and existing development.
- **Commercial Warehousing (CW)**  
includes facilities characterized by extensive warehousing, frequent heavy trucking activity, open storage of material, or nuisances such as dust, noise and odors, but not involved in manufacturing or production.
- **Industrial (I)**  
includes areas where manufacturing, chemicals, refining, warehousing, open storage and

similar industrial facilities will be the dominant uses.

- **Transportation, Communications and Utilities (TCU)** includes areas where railroad, trucking, aviation, ports, automobile parking, communication and utility facilities will be dominant.
- **Recreational (R)** includes parks, recreational activities, amusements, group camps, cultural activities and public assembly facilities.
- **Public and Semi-Public (PSP)** includes areas where governmental, educational, religious and charitable uses will be the primary land use activities.
- **Planned Unit Development (PUD)** includes areas where development under the Planned Unit Development provisions of the Unified Development Code has been approved by the Planning Commission. Development in these areas will follow a unified site design plan for a mix of compatible land uses, clustering of buildings, increased densities and common open space.

The following pages include general summaries of each of the 16 Planning Districts. Also included is a map of the individual districts illustrating the Horizon Plan “Land Use Plan” as a part of this five-year update.

**Planning District 16**

Planning District 16 is located in the southernmost section of East Baton Rouge Parish and has the largest portion of new development in the Parish. Encompassing 37,140 square acres of land, Planning District 16 is the third largest Planning District in East Baton Rouge Parish. The population levels and housing density will continue to rise due to the large amount of rural zoned vacant land available for new subdivisions and development. The Horizon Plan designates 57 percent (57%) of the Planning District to be Low Density Residential. The other predominate Horizon land use is Residential Estate/Agriculture with 22 percent (22%). Heavy Commercial accounts for five percent (5%), and Industrial accounts for four percent (4%). Public/Semi-Public and Recreation each account for three percent (3%), and Light Commercial accounts for two percent (1%). Medium Density Residential, Planned Unit Development, General Office, and Transportation, Communications, and Utilities account for the remaining four percent (4%).

Growth along Bluebonnet Boulevard and Perkins Road corridors has increased because of the large commercial ventures, such as the Mall of Louisiana. Airline Highway is a mix of Light Commercial, Heavy Commercial and Industrial. Siegen Lane is designated Heavy Commercial and Industrial between Airline Highway and Perkins Road and mostly Low Density Residential between Perkins Road and Highland Road. Heavy and Light Commercial development along Siegen Lane and Airline Highway have increased retail activity that serves the increasing population. Interstate 10 and Airline Highway are the two principal highways running through Planning District 16. The Major Street Plan calls for extensions to both Bluebonnet Boulevard and Siegen Lane. The extended roadways are planned in response to growth from development that has occurred in this Planning District.

Planning District 16 has 23 parks and one public golf course. Special facilities include: Highland Road Recreational Complex, the Greater Baton Rouge State Fairgrounds at the Airline Highway Park, a community swimming pool at Barringer Road Park, and the Hilltop Arboretum on Highland Road that is maintained by Louisiana State University. There is only one public school, Jefferson Terrace Elementary, but there are a number of private schools within the Planning District. Bluebonnet Regional Branch Library, located at 9200 Bluebonnet Boulevard, provides service to Planning District 16. Map 2 is a general representation of the Horizon land use within Planning District 16.

## Planning District 15

Planning District 15 is located in the southeast section of East Baton Rouge Parish. Encompassing 10,184 square acres, Planning District 15 is the sixth largest Planning District in the Parish. The Horizon Plan designates 64 percent (64%) of Planning District 15 as Low Density Residential. The other predominate designated Horizon land use is Residential Estate/Agriculture with 15 percent (15%). Light Commercial, Public/Semi-Public and Medium Density Residential each account for four percent (4%). Recreation accounts for three percent (3%). Heavy Commercial and Planned Unit Development each account for two percent (2%). Neighborhood Office accounts for one percent (1%). General Office, Neighborhood Commercial, and Transportation, Communications and Utilities together account for the remaining one percent (1%).

Interstate 12 is the major east-west highway running through Planning District 15. Other arterial streets in the Planning District include Coursey Boulevard, Jefferson Highway, Tiger Bend Road, O'Neal Lane, South Harrell's Ferry, Jones Creek Road, and Stumberg Lane. South Sherwood Forest is designated mostly Light Commercial with some General Office and Neighborhood Office. Coursey Boulevard is designated mostly Light Commercial with some Low Density Residential. Heavy Commercial is located at the intersection of Coursey and Jones Creek Road. Light Commercial and Heavy Commercial can be found along O'Neal Lane at Interstate 10. Most of the new development is expected to take place as infill in large vacant areas scattered throughout the Planning District.

Planning District 15 contains eight parks and recreation centers. Other special facilities include the Forest Park Baseball Complex and the Forest Park Tennis Center. There are five public schools in the Planning District. They are Wedgewood, Parkview, and Shenandoah Elementary Schools, Southeast Middle School, and Woodlawn High School. The Jones Creek Regional Branch Library, located at 6222 Jones Creek Road, provides service to Planning District 15. Map 3 is a general representation of the Horizon land use within Planning District 15.

## **Planning District 14**

Planning District 14 is located in the south-central section of the East Baton Rouge Parish. Encompassing 9,247 square acres of land, this Planning District is the seventh largest in East Baton Rouge Parish. The Horizon Plan designates 57 percent (57%) of Planning District 14 as Low Density Residential. Public/Semi-Public follows with 11 percent (11%), and General Office with seven percent (7%). Heavy Commercial accounts for six percent (6%). Recreation and Planned Unit Development each account for four percent (4%). Medium Density Residential accounts for three percent (3%). Light Commercial and High Density Residential each account for two percent (2%). Commercial Warehousing, Industrial, Neighborhood Commercial, Neighborhood Office and Transportation, Communications and Utilities together account for the remaining four percent (4%).

Interstate 10 and 12 are the major east-west freeways running through Planning District 14. Light Commercial and Heavy Commercial can be found along Airline Highway. Heavy Commercial can be found along Bluebonnet Boulevard at Interstate 10. Jefferson Highway is a mix of Low Density Residential, Medium Density Residential, Heavy Commercial and Neighborhood Office. Other arterial streets in the Planning District include Corporate Boulevard, Old Hammond Highway, Lee Drive, Drusilla Lane and Highland Road. Residential growth is encouraged to occur in areas outside the 100-year flood plain. Most of the new development is expected to take place as infill in large vacant areas scattered throughout the Planning District.

Planning District 14 contains nine parks, including a golf course, swimming pool, velodrome, dirt-bike track, football stadium and nature center. Recreation Centers are located at Drusilla Lane, Jefferson Highway, Mayfair Drive, and Perkins Road. There are seven public schools in the Planning District. They are Glasgow and Kenilworth Middle, and Highland, Magnolia Woods, Mayfair, Westminster, and Wildwood Elementary. The Bluebonnet Regional Branch Library, located at 9200 Bluebonnet Boulevard, provides service to Planning District 14. Map 4 is a general representation of the Horizon land use within Planning District 14.

## **Planning District 13**

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Planning District 13 is located in the southern portion of East Baton Rouge Parish. Encompassing 11,304 square acres, Planning District 13 is the tenth largest in the Parish. The Horizon Plan designates approximately 53 percent (53%) of the District as Planned Unit Development. The other predominate Horizon land uses are Low Density Residential and Public/Semi-Public, each with 17 percent (17%). Medium Density Residential accounts for four percent (4%). Light Commercial, High Density Residential and Industrial each account for two percent (2%). Neighborhood Commercial and Recreation each account for one percent (1%). Small Planned Unit Development and Transportation, Communications and Utilities together account for the remaining one percent (1%).

Louisiana State University campus and surrounding properties are located in the northern portion of Planning District 13. This accounts for the largest portion of Public/Semi-Public land. A large area designated as Planned Unit Development is located in the southwest section of the Planning District. A small portion of Light Commercial land use is designated near the intersection of Highland Road and Chimes Street and along Perkins Road. Low Density Residential land use occurs south and east of LSU. There are Medium and High Density Residential land use designations surrounding the LSU campus. A short stretch of Interstate 10, and several arterials in south Baton Rouge service Planning District 13. The arterials are Lee Drive, Nicholson Drive, Stanford Avenue, Perkins Road, Burbank Drive, Highland Road, and River Road.

Planning District 13 contains three neighborhood parks: Alaska Street, College Town, and Riverbend. City Park features a nine-hole golf course, recreation center, and tennis courts. Baton Rouge Gallery, a venue where local artists show their artwork, is also included in City Park. Nearly 300 acres in size, the Farr Park Horse Activity Center also includes an area, recreational center and motor home parking. Sharlo Terrace Senior Center and Stanford Avenue Park (also known as Baton Rouge Beach) are two special use parks. Also, within the campus of Louisiana State University there are two prehistoric Indian Mounds. The public schools located in Planning District 13 are University Terrace and Southdowns Elementary, and Robert E. Lee High School. There are also a number of private schools in the area. While there is no Branch Library specifically in Planning District 13, the Carver Regional Branch located at 1509 Highland Road is in reasonable proximity and provides service to the Planning District. Map 5 is a general representation of the Horizon land use within Planning District 13.

### Planning District 12

Planning District 12 is located in the east-central portion of East Baton Rouge Parish, Encompassing 6,715 square acres, Planning District 12 is the eleventh largest Planning District in the Parish. The Horizon Plan designates 49 percent (49%) of the Planning District as Low Density Residential. The other predominate Horizon land uses are Light Commercial and Heavy Commercial, each ten percent (10%). Residential Estate/Agriculture and Industrial each account for eight percent (8%). Recreation and Medium Density Residential each account for four percent (4%). Public/Semi-Public and High Density Residential each account for two percent (2%). Commercial Warehousing and Neighborhood Commercial each account for one percent (1%). Heavy Commercial, Neighborhood Office and Transportation, Communications and Utilities together account for the remaining one percent (1%).

A short stretch of Interstate 12 and several arterials service Planning District 12. These arterials include Florida Boulevard, Sherwood Forest Boulevard, Flannery Road, O'Neal Lane, South Choctaw Drive and Old Hammond Highway. Heavy Commercial and Light Commercial land use is confined primarily along Florida Boulevard, O'Neal Lane, and Old Hammond Highway.

Planning District 12 contains seven parks, one of which is undeveloped. Flannery Road and Kathy Drive Parks contain the only recreation centers in the Planning District. There are two sites in the Planning District designated by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries as places where rare plants occur. Several other sites along the Amite River in the eastern portion of the Planning District are identified as potential conservation areas because of rare wildlife. The only public schools located in Planning District 12 are LaBelle Aire, Twin Oaks, and River Oaks Elementary Schools, and Belaire High School. There are a number of private schools in the area. Planning District 12 is serviced by the Main Library at 7711 Goodwood Boulevard, the Greenwell Springs Road Regional Branch Library at 11300 Greenwell Springs and the Jones Creek Regional Branch Library at 6222 Jones Creek Road. Map 6 is a general representation of the Horizon land use within Planning District 12.

## Planning District 11

Planning District 11 is located in the south central portion of East Baton Rouge Parish. Encompassing 4,882 acres of land, Planning District 11 is the thirteenth largest Planning District in the Parish. The Horizon Plan designates 49 percent (49%) of Planning District 11 to be classified as Low Density Residential. The other predominate Horizon land uses are Heavy Commercial with 14 percent (14%) and Light Commercial with ten percent (10%). Commercial Warehousing and Public/Semi-Public each account for five percent (5%). General Office accounts for four percent (4%). High Density Residential, Industrial, and Medium Density Residential each account for three percent (3%). Neighborhood Office and Recreation each account for one percent (1%). Planned Unit Development, Neighborhood Commercial, and Transportation, Communications and Utilities together account for the remaining 2 percent (2%).

The Heavy Commercial land use can be found along Airline Highway, Florida Boulevard, and South Sherwood Forest Boulevard. Light Commercial land use is found along Coursey Boulevard, South Sherwood Forest Boulevard, and Florida Boulevard. Low Density Residential land use is concentrated in the southern and central sections of the Planning District. Major streets serving Planning District 11 include: South Choctaw Drive, Tom Drive, Oak Villa Boulevard, Monterrey Boulevard, Cedarcrest Avenue, Airline Highway, Sharp Road, Old Hammond Highway, Coursey Boulevard, and Sherwood Forest Boulevard. A small stretch of Interstate 12 bisects the southern portion of the Planning District.

Planning District 11 contains six neighborhood parks, three of which have recreation centers: Red Oaks, Sharp Road, and Cedarcrest Parks. Spanning twelve acres, both Cortana Plantation Park and Sharp Road Park are the largest parks in the Planning District. There are many public schools in Planning District 11, including Cedarcrest Southmoor, Broadmoor, Villa Del Ray, and Red Oaks Elementary Schools, Sherwood Middle School and Broadmoor Middle and High Schools. There are also a number of private schools in the area. The nearest library which services Planning District 11 is the Main Library, located at 7711 Goodwood Boulevard. Map 7 is a general representation of the Horizon land use within Planning District 11.

**Planning District 10**

Planning District 10 is located in the south-central portion of East Baton Rouge Parish. Encompassing 4,101 square acres, Planning District 10 is the fourteenth largest Planning District in the Parish. The Horizon Plan designates 41 percent (41%) of the Planning District to be classified as Low Density Residential. The other predominate Horizon land uses are Heavy Commercial and Public/Semi-Public each with 11 percent (11%). Light Commercial accounts for eight percent (8%), and Industrial accounts for seven percent (7%). Commercial Warehousing, Recreation, Medium Density Residential and High Density Residential each account for four percent (4%). General Office accounts for three percent (3%), and Neighborhood Office accounts for two percent (2%). Neighborhood Commercial and Transportation, Communications and Utilities together account for the remaining one percent (1%).

Heavy and Light Commercial designations are well defined along Airline Highway and Florida Boulevard. Industrial land use follows the railroad along the northern boundary of the Planning District. Low Density Residential land use is distributed throughout the Planning District. Several major streets are in Planning District 10. These include: Choctaw Drive, Airline Highway, Florida Boulevard, Government Street, Jefferson Highway, Old Hammond Highway, Lobdell Avenue and Foster Drive.

Planning District 10 is well served by recreation facilities with six parks and the Webb Memorial Golf Course. Independence Park features the Botanic Garden, a therapeutic playground designed for handicapped users, indoor tennis courts, a shuffle board complex, ballfields, and soccer field complexes. There are several public schools located in Planning District 10, including: Melrose, Goodwood and Lasalle Elementary Schools, Westdale Middle School, and Tara High School. There are also a number of private schools in the Planning District. Planning District 10 is served by the Main Library, located at 7711 Goodwood Boulevard and the Eden Park Regional Branch at 4142 Gus Young Avenue. Map 8 is a general representation of the Horizon land use within Planning District 10.

## Planning District 9

Planning District 9 is located in the west-central section of East Baton Rouge Parish. Encompassing approximately 2,773 square acres, Planning District 9 is the smallest Planning District in the Parish. The Horizon Plan designates 43 percent (43%) of the Planning District as Low Density Residential. The other predominate land uses are Medium and High Density Residential together with 23 percent (23%) and Commercial and Office with 17 percent (17%). Public/Semi-Public follows with 13 percent (13%). Industrial and Recreation each account for two percent (2%). And Transportation, Communications and Utilities accounts for the remaining two percent (2%).

Planning District 9 is well served by primary arterials including Florida Boulevard, Government Street, North Boulevard, Acadian Thruway, College Drive and Perkins Road. A small stretch of Interstate 10 and Interstate 110 transect the Planning District. Most of the Low Density Residential designated land is found south of Government Street, with the bulk of Medium and High Density Residential and Light Commercial areas located north of Government Street.

Planning District 9 is well served by recreational facilities, containing eight neighborhood parks, two mini parks, one community park, and one special use facility. A portion of the historic Garden District is located in the Planning District along with a golf course, a large lake at City Park, and a swimming pool at Gus Young Park. There are several public schools in Planning District 9, including: Park, Eden Park, and Bernard Terrace Elementary Schools; Capitol Middle and Capitol High Schools and Baton Rouge Magnet High School. There are also a number of private schools in the area. Planning District 9 is serviced by the Eden Park Branch Library, located at 4142 Gus Young Avenue. Map 9 is a general representation of the Horizon land use within Planning District 9.

**Planning District 8**

Planning District 8 is located in the west-central portion of East Baton Rouge Parish. Encompassing 2,863 square acres of land, Planning District 8 is ranked as the second smallest Planning District in the Parish. The Horizon Plan designates 25 percent (25%) of Planning District 8 as Medium Density Residential and 22 percent (22%) as Public/Semi-Public. Another predominate Horizon land use is Industrial with 19 percent (19%). Recreation, Light Commercial and Low Density Residential each account for eight percent (8%). Heavy Commercial accounts for four percent (4%), and Planned Unit Development accounts for two percent (2%). Neighborhood Office and Transportation, Communications and Utilities each account for one percent (1%). General Office, High Density Residential and Neighborhood Commercial together account for the remaining two percent (2%).

The Industrial land use is prevalent in the northern portion of the Planning District along the Mississippi River. Planning District 8 is transected by Interstates 10 and 110. Other major roads in the Planning District are Florida Street, North Boulevard, Highland Road, Nicholson Drive, and River Road. Planning District 8 includes the Downtown Development District.

Planning District 8 has numerous parks and recreation centers, historical sites, and tourist attractions, including the Old State Capitol, State Capitol, Pentagon Barracks, Old Governor’s Mansion, Governor’s Mansion, Magnolia Mound Plantation and the Louisiana Arts and Science Museum. Planning District 8 has 20 parks, Capitol Lake, the U.S.S. Kidd, a promenade along the Mississippi River, Riverfront Plaza and Lafayette Park. Schools located in Planning District 8 include: Polk, Buchanan, and South Boulevard Elementary Schools, McKinley Middle Magnet School, McKinley High School, Louisiana School for the Visually Impaired, and the Community School for the Apprenticeship Learning. There are also a number of private schools in the area. Two branches of the East Baton Rouge Parish Public Library System are located in Planning District 8. The Carver Regional Branch is located at 1509 Highland Road and the Centroplex Regional Branch is located at 120 St. Louis Street. Map 10 is a general representation of the Horizon land use within Planning District 8.

## Planning District 7

Planning District 7 is located in the central-western portion of the East Baton Rouge Parish. Encompassing 5,516 square acres, Planning District 7 is the fifth smallest Planning District in the Parish. The Horizon Plan designates approximately 54 percent (54%) of Planning District 7 as Industrial. The other predominate Horizon land use is Low Density Residential with 29 percent (29%). Light Commercial accounts for six percent (6%), and Public/Semi-Public accounts for four percent (4%). Recreation and Heavy Commercial each account for two percent (2%). Commercial Warehousing, General Office, High Density Residential, Medium Density Residential, Neighborhood Commercial, Neighborhood Office, Planned Unit Development, and Transportation, Communications and Utilities all combined account for the remaining three percent (3%).

The western portion of the Planning District is designated as Industrial, reflecting the presence of oil industries, such as Exxon. Heavy Commercial, Light Commercial and Industrial land use follow the primary transportation corridors: Plank Road, Airline Highway, and Scenic Highway. Another major arterial is Choctaw Drive. Two major highways can be found in Planning District 7: Interstate 110 bisects the Planning District and U.S. Highway 190 links East Baton Rouge Parish with West Baton Rouge Parish.

Planning District 7 contains eight neighborhood parks, one community park and Copolymer Park. Several public schools are located in the Planning District, including: Claiborne, Dalton, Delmont, Howell Park, North Highlands, and Winbourne Elementary Schools; Prescott Middle School and Istrouma Middle Magnet; and Istrouma Senior High School. There are also a number of private schools in the area. Planning District 7 is serviced by the Delmont Gardens Regional Branch Library, located at 3351 Lorraine Street. The Eden Park Regional Branch, located at 4142 Gus Young Avenue, and the Scotlandville Regional Branch, located at 1492 Harding Boulevard, are also nearby. Map 11 is a general representation of the Horizon land use within Planning District 7.

### Planning District 6

Planning District 6 is located in the east-central portion of East Baton Rouge Parish. Encompassing 25,177 square acres, Planning District 6 is the fourth largest Planning District in the Parish. The Horizon Plan designates 63 percent (63%) of the Planning District as Low Density Residential. The other predominate Horizon land use is Residential Estate/Agriculture with 22 percent (22%). Light Commercial and Industrial each account for four percent (4%). Recreation and Public/Semi-Public each account for two percent (2%). Heavy Commercial accounts for one percent (1%). Commercial Warehousing, General Office, High Density Residential, Medium Density Residential, Neighborhood Commercial, Neighborhood Office, and Transportation, Communications, and Utilities combined account for the remaining two percent (2%).

Most of Planning District retains its rural characteristics with the predominant Horizon Plan land uses being Low Density Residential and Residential Estate/Agriculture. Several large sections of Industrial land use can be found along the Illinois Central Railroad. Greenwell Spring Road is a mix of Residential Estate/Agriculture and Low Density Residential with Light and Heavy Commercial at the intersection with Sullivan Road. Numerous major streets service Planning District 6, including: Airline Highway, Joor Road, Greenwell Springs Road, Hooper Road, North Sherwood Boulevard, and North Flannery Road. The Central Thruway is planned to be a major new north/south connection in the area of the parish between Sullivan Road and O'Neal Lane.

Planning District 6 contains several large recreation areas with recreation centers or special facilities. In addition, several areas are identified by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries as potential conservation areas, containing bottomland cypress and hardwood forests. Several sites along the Amite and Comite Rivers are also identified as rare wildlife habitats. There are numerous public schools in Planning District 6, including: Park Forest, Greenbriar, Tanglewood and Bellingrath Hills Elementary Schools; Park Forest and Central Middle Schools; and Central High School. There are also a number of private schools located in the area. Planning District 6 is serviced by the Central Branch Library at 13505 Hooper Road and the Greenwell Springs Regional Branch at 11300 Greenwell Springs Road. Map 12 is a general representation of the Horizon land use within Planning District 6.

### Planning District 5

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Planning District 5 is located in the central portion of East Baton Rouge Parish. Encompassing 9,896 acres, Planning District 5 is the ninth largest Planning District in the Parish. The Horizon Plan designates 69 percent (69%) of the Planning District as Low Density Residential. The other predominate land uses are Light Commercial with eight percent (8%) and Heavy Commercial with seven percent (7%). Recreation, Public/Semi-Public and Medium Density Residential each account for three percent (3%). Industrial accounts for two percent (2%). Commercial Warehousing, High Density Residential and Transportation, Communication and Utilities each account for one percent (1%). Residential Estate/Agriculture, Neighborhood Office, General Office, Neighborhood Commercial together account for the remaining two percent (2%).

Low Density Residential land is most prevalent in the central section of the Planning District with Medium and High Density Residential becoming common in the west. Heavy and Light Commercial land uses can be found along the major street networks, especially along Airline Highway and Greenwell Springs Road. Industrial land is located along the Illinois Central Railroad forming the southwestern perimeter of the Planning District. Several major streets and roads serve Planning District 5, including Airline Highway, Plank Road, Hooper Road, North Foster Drive, Hooper Road, Hollywood Street, and Greenwell Springs Road.

Planning District 5 contains 11 neighborhood parks and three community parks, spanning a total of 336 acres. The Colonial Courts Senior Citizens Center is a special use facility. Recreation centers and swimming pools can be found at several of the area's community parks. There are several public schools located in the Planning District, including: Brookstown, Forest Heights, Glen Oaks Park, Greenville, Lanier, and Merrydale Elementary Schools, Glen Oaks Middle School and Glen Oaks High School. There are also a number of private schools in the area. Planning District 5 is serviced by the Delmont Gardens Branch, located at 3351 Lorraine Street. Map 13 is a general representation of the Horizon land use within Planning District 5.

**Planning District 4**

Planning District 4 is located in the northwest section of East Baton Rouge Parish. Encompassing 12,940 square acres, the Planning District is the sixth largest in the Parish. The Horizon Plan designates 35 percent (35%) of the Planning District as Residential Estate/Agriculture. The other predominate land uses are Industrial and Transportation, Communication and Utilities each with 15 percent (15%). Low Density Residential and Public/Semi-Public follow, each with ten percent (10%). Medium Density Residential accounts for four percent (4%). Commercial Warehousing and Heavy Commercial each account for three percent (3%). Light Commercial and Recreation each account for two percent (2%). High Density Residential accounts for the remaining one percent (1%).

Southern University represents a large portion of the Public/Semi-Public designated land. The Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport comprises a large area of Transportation, Communication and Utilities land use. Land west of the Baton Rouge Barge Canal is designated Residential Estate/Agriculture. The land along Airline Highway is designated as a mix of Industrial and Light Commercial. Scenic Highway and LA Highway 19 are both Heavy and Light Commercial with Industrial at the northern section of Scenic Highway. Several major streets and roads are located in Planning District 4, including: Plank Road, Airline Highway, Baker Road, Harding Boulevard, and Interstate 110.

There are four parks located in Planning District 4. Anna T. Jordan Park has a recreation center and a swimming pool, and the North Baton Rouge Community Center offers activities such as ceramics, and other crafts and health screenings. There are several public schools in Planning District 4, including: Banks, Harding, Ryan, Progress, and Crestworth Elementary Schools; Scotlandville and Crestworth Middle Schools; Scotlandville High Magnet School; and Southern University. The Scotlandville Branch Library, located at 1492 Harding Boulevard, provides service to the Planning District. Map 14 is a general representation of the Horizon land use within Planning District 4.

### Planning District 3

Planning District 3 is located in the northwest section of East Baton Rouge Parish. Encompassing 9,986 square acres, Planning District 3 is the fifth largest Planning District in the Parish. The Horizon Plan designates 40 percent (40%) of the land as Low Density Residential. The other predominate Horizon land uses are Residential Estate/Agriculture with 24 percent (24%) and Industrial with 16 percent (16%). Public/Semi-Public follows with ten percent (10%). Recreation accounts for eight percent (8%) and Heavy Commercial accounts for one percent (1%). General Office, High Density Residential and Transportation, Communications, and Utilities together account for the remaining one percent (1%).

Significant sections of Industrial land use are located in the southwestern and western sections of Planning District 3. Low Density Residential land use is located primarily in the southern sections of the Planning District. A large portion of the Public/Semi-Public land use is the Greater Baton Rouge Zoo and Greenwood Park, located in the south-central section of Planning District 3. Several major arterials and streets serve the Planning District, including: Plank Road, Lavey Lane, Thomas Road, Scenic Highway, Baker-Zachary Road, Groom Road and Blount Road. Planning District 3 is located just north of the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport. The Planning District surrounds, but does not include the City of Baker.

Planning District 3 contains 15 parks, some of which are located within the city limits of Baker. The Greater Baton Rouge Zoo, two golf courses located at Clark and Greenwood Parks, and a tennis center located at Greenwood Park are also located in the Planning District. There are few public schools located in Planning District 3 because of the sparse population and the close proximity to the City of Baker. The Baker Branch Library, located at 4761 Groom Road, serves Planning District 3. Map 15 is a general representation of the Horizon land use within Planning District 3.

## **Planning District 2**

Planning District 2 is located in the northeast section of East Baton Rouge Parish. Encompassing 89,635 square acres, Planning District 2 is the largest in the Parish. The Horizon Plan designates Low Density Residential with 47 percent (47%) and Residential Estate/Agriculture with 46 percent (46%) as the predominate land uses. Public/Semi-Public accounts for three percent (3%), and Industrial accounts for two percent (2%). Recreation accounts for one percent (1%). Heavy and Light Commercial, General Office, Medium Density Residential, Commercial Warehousing, and Transportation, Communications and Utilities together account for the remaining one percent (1%).

Planning District 2 retains rural characteristics with much of the land designated as Low Density Residential and Residential Estate/Agriculture. The southern section of Plank Road is mostly Heavy Commercial. There is a notable area of Industrial land use in the northeastern section of the Planning District near the Amite River. Several major arterials and streets serve Planning District 2, including: Greenwell Springs Road, Liberty Road, Dyer Road, Hooper Road, Blackwater Road, Plank Road, and Port Hudson-Pride Road.

Planning District 2 is well served by recreational facilities with 15 parks encompassing more than 700 acres of land. Several special use facilities, such as the Cohn Arboretum and the Cohn Nature Preserve, are located in the Planning District. There are several public schools in the Planning District, including: Brownfields, Sharon Hills, and Northeast Elementary Schools and Northeast High School. There are also a number of private schools in that area. Planning District 2 is served by two libraries: the Central Branch, located at 13505 Hooper Road and the Pride Branch, located in the northeast section of the Planning District. Map 16 is a general representation of the Horizon land use within Planning District 2.

## **Planning District 1**

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Planning District 1 is located in the northwest section of East Baton Rouge Parish. Encompassing 60,720 square acres, Planning District 1 is the second largest Planning District in the Parish. The Horizon Plan designates most of the land in Planning District 1 as Residential Estate/Agriculture and Industrial each with 30 percent (30%). The other predominate Horizon land use is Low Density Residential with 25 percent (25%). Recreation accounts for ten percent (10%). Heavy Commercial and Neighborhood Office combined account for two percent (2%), and Public/Semi-Public accounts for two percent (2%). Light Commercial, Neighborhood Commercial, and Transportation, Communications, and Utilities together account for the remaining one percent (1%).

Areas of Industrial land use are located on the west side of Scenic Highway and Samuels Road. Low Density Residential and Residential Estate Agriculture are scattered throughout the Planning District. The major streets in Planning District 1 are Scenic Highway, Baker-Zachary Road, Mt. Pleasant-Zachary Road, Old Scenic Highway, Plank Road, Port Hudson-Pride Road, and Heck Young Road. The western boundary of the Planning District is the Mississippi River. Planning District 1 surrounds, but does not include the City of Zachary.

Planning District 1 is well served by recreational facilities with twelve parks, seven of which are located in the City of Zachary. There are several conservation areas in the western section of the Planning District, along the Mississippi River. Beaver Creek Golf Course, a public golf course, is currently under construction. In addition, part of the Port Hudson Battlefield, a designated National Historic Landmark, is located in the Planning District. All of the area's schools are located within the cities of Baker or Zachary. The closest Parish Libraries are the Zachary Branch, located at 5055 East Mae Street and the Baker Branch, located at 4761 Groom Road. Map 17 is a general representation of the Horizon land use within Planning District 1.

## **Chapter Three**

### **Goals, Objectives and Action Items**

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#### **Goals, Objectives and Action Items Evaluation**

An important aspect in the success of the Horizon Plan is the call for major updates every five years to review the achievements and/or failures, and the strengths and weaknesses of the City-Parish efforts to implement the Goals and Objectives of the Plan. Annual Year-End as well as Mid-Year Evaluation and Appraisal Reports also are prepared to systematically assess the effectiveness of the Plan's Goals and Objectives. The Horizon Plan anticipated that unforeseen and changing conditions and economics would affect the success of the Plan and that a regular monitoring would be necessary in order for the Plan to meet current and future needs, and to remain consistent with the Plan of Government. As land use data is updated to identify new development activity, demographic data, economic analyses and assumptions also will evolve. These factors need to be recognized and incorporated to keep the Horizon Plan pertinent. The importance of citizen participation in the Plan's implementation also has been recognized as imperative if the Plan is to remain an effective, dynamic document. A regular series of Public Meetings on a Planning District basis has allowed for a continuing public role in the evolution of the Horizon Plan while lending the Planning Commission Staff added insight into the concerns of the community.

During the update process the Goals and Objectives of the Horizon Plan were evaluated for their continued relevance and appropriateness in serving the comprehensive preferred growth scenario as described in the Horizon Plan. The Staff of the Planning Commission first analyzed the individual Goals and Objectives for each Element for their current relevance, and made recommendations for changes where appropriate. It was determined that the Goals and Objectives for each Element remain important and pertinent to the current growth patterns of the City-Parish as well as the vision of Baton Rouge as originally expressed in the Horizon Plan. These comments were forwarded to the Lead Agencies for input, and a consensus was reached before presentation of the findings and recommendations to Planning Commission for its review and recommendations, and the Metropolitan Council for its deliberation and approval.

Similarly, the individual Action Items -- specific strategies for implementing the Goals and Objectives of the Horizon Plan -- were studied for their success and/or failure in achieving their mission. The Staff of the Planning Commission studied each of the 288 Action Items and made specific recommendations for: 1) No revisions; 2) Proposed rewording; 3) Lead Agency revision; 4) Deletion; 5) New Action Item; and/or 6) Reassign Action Item. These

## **Goals, Objectives and Action Items**

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recommendations were forwarded to the assigned Lead Agencies for their input. Individual meetings for each Element were held to reach a consensus among the Lead Agencies involved regarding any proposed changes. These recommendations in turn have been forwarded to the Planning Commission and then the Metropolitan Council for their consideration and approval.

The Action Items were carefully assessed for their continuing validity as appropriate strategies for implementing the Horizon Plan. The following examination summarizes, on an Element by Element basis, the revisions regarding the Action Items. Most of the changes to the wording of the Action Items are simply updating these strategies to reflect changing conditions, such as a change in title only for a Lead Agency, rather than a change in the mission of the strategy. Occasionally, Action Items are proposed for rewording to further the original intention of implementing the specific Goals and Objectives with which they are associated. In those cases where Action Items are redundant, or have proved inappropriate, they have been deleted. Action Items that have been revised are identified with their status as “Revised,” “New,” or “Deletion” in bold lettering following the Action Item number and title. Otherwise, Action Items -- the majority of the strategies -- remain as listed in the 1997 Horizon Five - Update, and continue to be important means for implementing the Goals and Objectives with which they are associated.

With considerable citizen involvement and political leadership, the Horizon Plan was originally drafted and then adopted as a means to focus the shared political and social contract of Baton Rouge as a community with a vision of a liveable and economically viable community entering the 21st century. The Comprehensive Plan remains a challenging and foresighted means of targeting the City-Parish resources in the most efficient way to achieve the goals of planning for quality growth and managing development in the City and Parish. Implementation of the Horizon Plan Goals and Objectives by means of the Action Items has been successful. In many situations, the Horizon Plan and the associated Public Meetings have enabled the citizens of the community to participate in planning for orderly growth and quality development. However, as the Major Plan Update process dictates, the need to identify and recognize instances where the Plan has not been followed is also an important aspect of the review. Primarily, those instances where Action Items have not been initiated involve inadequate funding.

## Land Use Element

### Implementation Actions

This section recommends specific actions for addressing land use Goals, Objectives and Policies. In addition to addressing land use issues, implementation strategies are recommended for the Plan Amendment Process and the Capital Improvements Program. The implementation recommendations are a guide to actions by the City-Parish. The specific Goals, Objectives, and Policies they are designed to address are identified.

### Plan Amendment Process

**Action LU1.A: HP Amend Process.** Establish and implement procedures for conducting annual reviews and adopting amendments to the Comprehensive Land Use and Development Plan in accordance with Section 10.04 of The Plan of Government, including the following:

1. Monitor planning and development in the parish to identify changes in existing conditions that may affect the issues, goals, objectives, policies, and implementation strategies contained in the adopted Horizon Plan.
2. Evaluation and appraisal of Horizon Plan in relation to existing conditions including analysis of new alternatives, conducting special studies of new issues and needs, and development of recommendations for amendments of the adopted Plan.
3. Proposed Plan Amendments drafted by the Planning Commission under the direction of the Mayor-President should be submitted to the Metropolitan Council with the Mayor-President's recommendations. The Planning Commission should conduct one or more public hearings prior to recommending Plan Amendments to the Mayor-President and Metropolitan Council. The Metropolitan Council should conduct two public hearings on the recommended Plan Amendments, and may adopt them as a whole or in parts. Amendments not adopted may be modified by the Planning Commission and submitted by the Mayor-President to the Metropolitan Council, which should conduct one public hearing on the modifications and consider their adoption. Any further amendments recommended by the Planning Commission should be submitted in the same manner.
4. Proposed Plan Amendments recommended by citizens or City-Parish departments should be reviewed by the Planning Commission and accompanied by the Planning Commission's recommendation, and require a two-thirds vote of the Metropolitan Council for adoption. (Special Report on Plan Amendment Process)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU1.B: 5-Year Update Process.** Establish procedures for preparing major updates and revisions to the Comprehensive Land Use and Development Plan at five-year intervals, in accordance with Section 10.04 of The Plan of Government. Major updates and revisions would include but not be limited to existing conditions; forecasts; issues and analysis; goals, objectives and policies; and implementation actions for all plan elements. (Special Report on Plan Amendment Process)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

### **Planning Management Information System**

**Action LU2.A: Annual Report.** Prepare Annual Report of Planning Commission to the Mayor-President and Metropolitan Council summarizing the activities and accomplishments of the Planning Commission during the year ending December 31, and describing analysis of the status of planning and development in the parish, the implementation of Horizon Plan, and major issues and needs that should be addressed by the City-Parish in the next year. (Objective LU1.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU2.B: Annual Work Program.** Develop Annual Work Program for the Planning Commission to identify objectives and describe new and continuing work activities to be accomplished in the next year. The Annual Work Program would include but not be limited to program and project descriptions, time schedules, staffing plan, funding requirements and sources, and necessary coordination with other City-Parish departments and outside agencies and organizations. (Objective LU1.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU2.C: Plan Mgt. Info (pt., GIS).** Establish and maintain a Planning Management Information System within the Office of the Planning Commission to compile and maintain an accessible, centralized source of information, data, records and reference materials relating to planning and development in the parish. (Overall Goals)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU2.D: GIS.** Develop a parishwide Geographic Information System (GIS) for automated mapping and interrelational database management of all property and public services information (land parcel and lot ownership, zoning, subdivision plats, floodplains, rights-of-way and servitudes, assessor's records, public infrastructure and utilities, permits, inspections, census data, and other pertinent data for use by all City-Parish departments). Coordinate with state and other agencies such as LSU, DOTD and CRPC in development, maintenance, and operation of this system. (Overall Goals)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU2.E: Public Info. Program.** Establish and implement a Public Information Program to improve public awareness and understanding of planning and development programs, regulations and procedures through the publication and distribution of brochures and pamphlets describing the City-Parish's land use and development code requirements and procedures, public service announcements, news releases, and presentations to community organizations, civic associations, and interest groups. Improve communications with citizens, land owners and developers regarding parishwide and specific planning and development programs and requirements. (Objectives LU1.1, Policies LU1.1.A, LU1.1.B, LU1.1.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU2.F: Information Brochure.** Publish and distribute a brochure updated on an annual basis, to provide a readily available source of information on the growth, development characteristics and planning programs of the city and parish. (Policies LU1.1.B, LU1.1.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action LU2.G: Public Notification.** Evaluate performance of existing procedures for Public Notification and the ongoing Public Information Program (See Action LU2.E) to inform property owners who may be affected by proposed zoning changes and subdivision applications. Improved notification procedures, including targeted mailings, publication of official notices, and posted on-site notices in accordance with code requirements, should be identified and evaluated to improve effectiveness of the notification procedures and the Public Information Program. (Policy LU1.1.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

### **Capital Improvements Program**

**Action LU3.A: Annual CIP/Capital Budget. (Revised)** Establish and implement procedures for annual development of a five-year Capital Improvements Program (CIP) which addresses planning and financing for all capital projects needs for all aspects of City-Parish government. This CIP would include, but not be limited to, project descriptions, cost estimates, funding sources, time schedules, and departmental responsibilities. The first year of the CIP should provide the basis for annual development of the City-Parish Capital Budget. The CIP would be developed by the Planning Commission with input from all departments under the direction of the Mayor-President, who recommends the CIP to the Metropolitan Council for adoption, following at least one public hearing. All departments will take an active role in encouraging citizen involvement and information coordination. (Objective LU14.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

## **Goals, Objectives and Action Items**

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**Action LU3.B: Capital Facilities Inventory.** Prepare and maintain a Capital Facilities Inventory of all fixed (capital) assets owned or leased by the City-Parish. (Objective LU14.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU3.C: Capital Projects Status.** Monitor the status of previously approved capital projects to aid in updating the CIP and preparing the annual Capital Budget. Prepare a year-end report on the status of capital projects. (Objective LU14.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU3.D: Review CIP Priority.** Periodically evaluate and recommend needed refinements and modifications to the evaluation criteria and procedures used to determine the ranking and priorities for proposed capital projects. (Objective LU14.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU3.E: CAC for CIP. (Lead Agency Change)** Appoint a Citizen Advisory Committee to aid the Planning Commission in annually preparing the CIP. Members of the committee should be appointed by the Mayor-President with recommendations by the Planning Commission. (Objective LU14.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

### **Urban Design Program**

**Action LU4.A: Designate UD Dist./Corr. (Revised)** Establish Procedures for designation of urban design districts or corridors including participation by affected property owners within the identified areas.

Identify special areas (districts and corridors) where unique urban design guidelines would be developed and implemented including but not limited to the following:

- Downtown;
- Airline Highway;
- Florida Boulevard/Government Street;
- The Riverfront;
- Spanish and Beauregard Towns;
- Perkins Road (between College Drive and Acadian Thruway; and

- Others.

Develop and implement a Parishwide Urban Design Program which addresses landscaping, signage, building setbacks, height limitations, architectural character, and other urban design elements. (Objectives LU4.1, LU4.3, and LU9.1 through LU9.3, and Policies LU9.1.A through LU9.1.D)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action LU4.B: UD Guidelines.** Prepare urban design guidelines for development, renovations and revitalizations within designated urban design districts to ensure compatibility of new development and redevelopment with adjacent structures and land uses, and to enhance visual attractiveness of the districts and corridors. Guidelines for development and redevelopment in designated corridors and districts should provide a unified set of urban design guidelines and planning analyses indicating intended uses and appropriate changes in existing zoning. Urban design guidelines should protect and improve the integrity of stable and developing neighborhoods and promote development and improvement of public places and structured open spaces such as parks, plazas, community centers, schools, commercial areas, churches and other gathering places for interaction among people. (Policies LU1.3.A, LU1.4.C, LU3.1.A, LU9.1.A, Objectives LU9.1.A and LU9.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

**Action LU4.C: Landscape Regulations. (Revised)** Periodically evaluate the landscape regulations of the UDC to determine their effectiveness in maintaining, enhancing, restoring and creating landscape environments that improve the visual quality of residential, commercial and industrial areas, and public places. Propose revisions to the landscape guidelines and regulations to ensure protection and enhancement of the aesthetic and visual quality of the Parish. (Policy LU9.1.D)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU4.D: Streetscape Design Plan.** Prepare and adopt a parishwide Streetscape Design Plan to develop performance guidelines, techniques, and procedures for implementing a coordinated streetscape improvement program for major corridors such as:

- Florida/Government;
- Airline Highway;
- I-10/I-12/I-110;
- Plank Road;

## **Goals, Objectives and Action Items**

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- Scenic Highway;
- Highland Road;
- Nicholson Drive; and
- Others.

(Objectives LU3.1, LU9.1, LU9.2, LU9.3 and Policies LU1.4.C, LU2.2C, LU3.1.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

**Action LU4.E: Gateway Plan.** Prepare a Gateways Plan to develop performance guidelines, techniques, and procedures for improving and enhancing the major entries or gateways into and within the city and parish. Provide incentives for provision of enhancements to these Gateways. (Goal LU9)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU4.F: Identify views, etc.** Identify significant view corridors, vistas and visual approaches to major features such as the State Capital and Mississippi River Bridges, and investigate the feasibility and need for height restrictions for future development in these areas. (Policy LU9.1.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

## **Neighborhood and Subarea Planning**

**Action LU5.A: Neighborhood Services. (Revised and Lead Agency Change)** Provide oversight of neighborhood coordination activities in order to provide outreach planning services and assistance to neighborhoods and community organizations, civic associations, business groups, and other citizen groups interested in improving their neighborhood areas. Activities to initiate this program would include but not be limited to the following:

- Compile information on programs, techniques, and resources available for neighborhood revitalization, and improvement;
- Provide a centralized clearinghouse for programs and activities that impact neighborhoods;
  - Improve communications with neighborhood and civic associations; and
  - Create Neighborhood Planner Position; and
  - Encourage the creation of neighborhood organizations and activation of

innovative neighborhood improvement programs. (Policy LU1.3.B, Objective LU2.1, Policy LU2.2.C, Objectives LU4.1 through LU4.4, Objectives LU9.3, Objectives LU12.1 through LU12.3 and Objectives LU13.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

**Action LU5.B: Federation CC Promotion.** Support efforts by the Greater Baton Rouge Federation of Civic Associations and other citizen organizations to promote neighborhood preservation and improvement. Establish a registry of neighborhood organizations and notification system for periodic communications with the organizations by the City-Parish. (Objectives LU1.1, LU2.1, LU2.4, LU2.5, LU2.6, and LU4.4, Policies LU1.1.A, LU1.1.B, LU2.1.B, LU2.1.C, LU2.2.A, LU2.2.B, LU2.2.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU5.C: CIP/CDBG Co-ordination.** Coordinate public expenditures, including the Capital Improvements Program and Community Development Block Grant program, to achieve timely and visible improvements that address existing needs in targeted neighborhoods, including but not limited to those neighborhoods identified as Revitalization and Redevelopment Target Areas in the Housing Element of Horizon Plan. (Objective LU2.1, Policy LU2.1.A, Objectives LU4.1 and LU4.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action LU5.D: Public Part. CIP/CDBG.** Encourage public participation by neighborhood organizations and citizens to expand input to the City-Parish's funding programs including the Capital Improvements Program and Community Development Block Grant Program. (Objective LU1.1, and Policies LU1.1.A through LU1.1.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU5.E: Neigh. & Subarea Process.** Establish a Neighborhood and Subarea Planning Process to identify specific needs and opportunities and develop detailed improvement plans for neighborhoods and commercial areas, including input and participation by neighborhood groups, property owners, businesses, and residents. (Objectives LU1.3, Policies LU1.3.A, LU1.3.B and LU1.3.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action LU5.F: Implement Neigh. Plans.** Work with neighborhood groups to implement neighborhood plans through zoning modifications, public improvements, and incentives for development, redevelopment, and private improvements that are consistent with neighborhood and subarea goals and plans. (Objectives LU1.3, LU2.1, LU2.2, LU2.5, LU4.4 and Policies LU1.3.B, LU2.2.B)

**Horizon Action Year: 1995**

**Action LU5.G: Improve Aesthetics.** Improve the image and environmental and aesthetic quality of targeted neighborhoods and subareas through the repair and improvement of public streets, sidewalks, sanitary sewers, storm drainage facilities, parks, street tree planting projects, and construction of Greenlinks systems for pedestrians, joggers, and cyclists. This process should be coordinated through the CIP process in establishing priority locations and projects for implementation in targeted neighborhoods. (Objectives LU1.3, LU1.4, LU2.1, LU3.3, LU4.3, LU9.1, LU15.4 and Policy LU2.2.C)

**Horizon Action Year: 1996**

**Action LU5.H: Business Area Revital.** Provide Technical assistance to business area associations interested in revitalizing commercial and employment areas, to establish coordinated programs addressing needs such as management assistance, area marketing, streetscape and facade improvements, parking, and business expansion and development. Encourage the formation of business associations and work with private developers, business owners/merchant associations, and residents to improve the appearance and functioning of commercial, industrial, and employment areas. (Objectives LU1.3, LU1.4, LU2.2, LU7.1, LU9.3, LU10.3, LU11.2, LU12.2 and Policy LU1.3.B)

**Horizon Action Year: 1995**

**Action LU5.I: Subarea Plans. (Revised)** Prepare subarea plans for redevelopment of targeted key commercial employment and special use areas, addressing needs and improvements relating to zoning, traffic access and circulation, parking, transit, outdoor signage, landscaping, and buffering for adjacent residential areas, to improve the appearance and productivity of business, special use and employment areas. These areas include the identified growth centers of the preferred growth scenario of Horizon Plan and include but are not limited to the following:

- Downtown;
- Melrose East;
- Airline/I-12;
- I-10 at Essen, Bluebonnet, and Siegen;
- Special use areas, such as the airport, LSU, Southern University, the Pennington Biomedical Research Center, and the Center for Advanced Microstructures and Devices; and
- Others.

(Objective LU1.3 and Policies LU1.3.A, LU1.3.B, LU1.3.C, Objective LU1.4 and Policies LU1.4.A through LU1.4.E, Objectives LU2.1, LU2.2, LU2.4, LU2.5, and LU2.6, Objective LU7.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1997

**Action LU5.K: Citizen Meetings.** Conduct citizen meetings in targeted areas to discuss building and zoning code regulations, and redevelopment and revitalization programs and efforts, and to obtain feedback from the neighborhoods. (Objective LU2.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

**Action LU5.L: Historic Preservation.** Identify historically significant elements, structures and locations in the community, and incorporate methods for preservation of these elements, structures and locations within the Subarea and neighborhood planning process, and in the creation of corridor and overlay districts. (Objective LU2.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

**Action LU5.M: In-fill Development. (Revised)** Guide growth and development to encourage in-fill development in established urban areas and coordinate with '2010 Land Use Plan.' Provide training and education to the Planning Commission, Metropolitan Council and the public on the benefits of In-fill Development. (Objective 2.6, Objective 10.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

## Transportation Planning

**Action LU6.A: Linear Subarea Plans.** Create subarea plans for linear commercial areas, including the Florida Boulevard/Government Street Corridor, Plank Road, and Scenic Highway, as part of the Neighborhood and Subarea Planning program (See Action LU5.I). Plans should encourage improvements and redevelopment, restructuring and relandscaping of older strip commercial areas and shopping centers. (Objective LU3.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1997

**Action LU6.B: Linear Subarea Design.** Prepare urban design guidelines to improve the appearance of linear commercial areas and to make them more attractive to pedestrians. See Action LU4.B and LU4.D. (Policy LU3.1.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

## Economic Development

## **Goals, Objectives and Action Items**

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**Action LU7.A: C/P & Business Co-ord.** Improve methods for ongoing communication and coordination between the City-Parish and business community to encourage businesses located in the parish to remain and expand. Promote economic development efforts for business retention and expansion in keeping with the policies of the Comprehensive Plan. (Goals LU10, LU11, and LU12)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action LU7.B: Long-Range Econ. Develop.** Develop a detailed long-range economic development strategy for the City-Parish and work plan for coordination of efforts among the City-Parish, Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Development District, Louisiana Department of Economic Development, and other organizations. Provide leadership in coordinating economic development. Solicit support from private and non-profit sectors and public agencies. (Goals LU10, LU11, and LU12)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action LU7.C: DDD Implementation.** Implement improvements identified in the Riverfront Development Plan and Fourth Street Master Plan to tie together and enhance the attractions in the area, including the Riverside Centroplex, new Riverboat Landing, Old State Capitol, Louisiana Arts and Sciences Center Museum, U.S.S. KIDD and Nautical Historic Center, Catfish Town, and State Capitol Complex. (Objective LU11.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU7.D: Events Co-ordination.** Work with the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism to ensure its materials and campaigns promote Baton Rouge's attractions and special events. (Goal LU11)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU7.E: Trailblazer Signs.** Install an updated system of distinctive trailblazer signs to indicate desired routes to major attractions for tourists and visitors. (Goal LU11)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action LU7.F: Evaluate EZ, EDD & FTZ.** Evaluate the performance of Enterprise Zones, Economic Development Districts, and Foreign Trade Zones in the parish to recommend changes that would improve their effectiveness. (Goal LU10)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU7.G: Evaluate Business Develop.** Evaluate the advantages of major business and industrial areas in Baton Rouge and develop materials that explain the advantages of various locations for business development. (Goal LU11)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

**Action LU7.H: Business-Education Co-op.** Develop better methods of communication between industries, professional associations, and educational institutions, so that the educational institutions can be more responsive to industry's job training needs and continuing education needs. (Goal LU10)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU7.I: Mixed-use Districts.** Provide incentives for the creation of 'Mixed Use Districts' (MUDs), or areas which provide a mix of residential, commercial, and light industrial land uses. (Objective LU10.5)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

**Action LU7.J: Econ. Dev. Planning.** Include economic development planning and issues as components in the assessment of capital improvements and public services. (Objective LU10.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

### **Growth Centers Development Program**

**Action LU8.A: Revital. Growth Centers. (Revised)** Establish development and redevelopment incentives to encourage cultural, retail and service establishments to locate in the downtown area to serve employees, residents and tourists. (Objective LU1.4, Policies LU1.4.A through LU1.4.F)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU8.B: Growth Center Location.** Encourage retail and service establishments to locate in targeted growth centers to serve employees and residents through the establishment of development and redevelopment incentives. (Policy LU7.1.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU8.C: Downtown Location.** Governmental offices should be encouraged to locate in the downtown area through intergovernmental coordination and cooperation. See Action PB1.A. (Policy LU7.1.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU8.D: Downtown Hotel.** Encourage new hotel development in the Downtown area through the use of development incentives to support the Riverside Centroplex and

## **Goals, Objectives and Action Items**

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other Downtown revitalization activities. (Policy LU7.1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU8.E: Growth Center UD.** Establish urban design guidelines for the downtown Regional Growth Center, which should be implemented with new development or renovation. See Action LU4. (Objective LU7.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action LU8.F: Implement 2000 Update.** Implement the Baton Rouge 2000 Update, Riverfront Development Plan, and Fourth Street Master Plan. (Policy LU7.1.E)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

## **Development Services**

**Action LU9.A: Amend UDC.** Amend the Unified Development Code (UDC) in accordance with the revisions and updates recommended by Horizon Plan. Create a Unified Development Code incorporating zoning, subdivision regulations, floodplain management and drainage requirements, sign control, and proposed new ordinances for site plan review, urban design, impact analysis, landscaping and erosion control into a single document. Changes should address the following objectives:

- (1) Bring zoning into conformance with desired land uses to implement neighborhood and subarea plans;
- (2) Make zoning more performance based to reflect the shift of the economy to service and high technology activities;
- (3) Revise zoning districts to ensure appropriate and compatible development and establish site design and landscaping standards to improve the appearance of areas;
- (4) Establish incentives and remove disincentives to promote housing development and rehabilitation; mixed use development; neighborhood shopping and services; rehabilitation and reuse of commercial/industrial buildings; development and redevelopment of retail, business and office activities within and adjacent to commercial areas; preservation of open spaces and dedication of parks; and buffering between different zoning districts;
- (5) Strengthen and enforce the Rural Zoning Classification to redefine the Rural zoning classification to promote uses that are compatible with existing uses through improved site plan review and approval procedures and requirements. The UDC should include appropriate categorization of agricultural uses and a mechanism for encouraging preservation of prime agricultural land. Improve the landscaping and buffer requirements, and encourage cluster development;

- (6) Amend the UDC to incorporate strict requirements for dedication of land or payment of fee in lieu of dedication for parks, schools, fire stations, and other public service facilities;
- (7) Streamline development permitting processes to provide timely review and decision making; and
- (8) Establish mechanisms to provide necessary incentives or waivers of certain code requirements to promote development and redevelopment of affordable housing in designated blighted areas of existing neighborhoods, excluding areas within the floodplain.

(Objectives LU1.2, LU1.3, LU1.4, 2.1, LU2.2, 2.4, LU2.5, LU4.1, LU4.4, LU5.2, LU6.1, LU8.1, LU8.2, LU13.2, LU14.1, and LU15.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU9.B: Enforce UDC and Building Code.** Expand building and zoning code enforcement efforts parishwide and especially in areas targeted for redevelopment/revitalization and new development areas. (LU14.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action LU9.C: Staff for LU9.B.** Provide adequate staff and monitor performance to assure adequate administration and enforcement of existing codes and ordinances including zoning, subdivision and sign controls, as well as recommended new ordinances. (Objectives LU2.1, LU2.2, LU3.2, LU4.4, LU14.1, LU14.2, LU15.1, and LU15.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action LU9.D: Fault line Identification.** Require the identification of fault lines or other geologic hazards as a part of the application or permitting process for new development. (Objective LU6.3, Objective 15.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

**Action LU9.E: Information Services. (Revised)** Provide information to the public and media concerning infrastructure improvements, facilities and programs. (Objective LU14.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

**Action LU9.F: Impacts on Infrastructure.** Develop procedures for the consideration of traffic, infrastructure and public service impacts for development, and establish fair and equitable fees and assessments based on these impacts. (Objective LU15.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

**Element Review**

A general review of the status of the Land Use Element Action Items indicates significant progress in implementing the Horizon Plan Goals and Objectives concerned with this Element. The revised Action Items bring them up to date in terminology or enhance their clarity and specificity. Two Action Items also were reassigned to new Lead Agencies. There have been no deleted Action Items and no new Action Items in the Land Use Element.

## Transportation Element

### Implementation Actions

This section recommends specific actions for addressing transportation improvement needs and implementation strategies to guide in the long-range development of the Baton Rouge transportation system. The Goals, Objectives, and Policies developed for Horizon Plan, as well as the identified transportation issues, were used as a framework for developing implementation action recommendations. The following implementation recommendations are a guide to actions by the City-Parish.

### Comprehensive Transportation System Planning and Development

**Action T1.A: Amend Major Street Plan.** Amend the adopted Major Street Plan to include the potential modifications shown in Figure 25 and listed in Appendix C, subject to further evaluation of the potential modifications based upon technical analysis of the forecast future year travel demands and roadway deficiencies developed as part of the Horizon Year Transportation Plan Update prepared by the Capital Region Planning Commission and Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development. (Objective T1.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T1.B: Multimodal Plan of Trans.** Coordinate multimodal planning of transportation improvements among the City-Parish, Airport Commission, Capitol Transportation Corporation, Port of Baton Rouge, Railroads, CRPC, and DOTD. Transportation agencies should cooperate and coordinate their activities in collecting, maintaining and sharing transportation data. Agencies should allocate adequate staff and resources for transportation planning, reviewing development proposals, and administering transportation improvements programs. (Objective T1.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T1.C: Co-ord. CIP, TIP & UPWP.** Maintain coordination and consistency among the Capital Improvements Program (CIP), the regional Transportation Improvements Program (TIP), and the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for the Baton Rouge Area Transportation Study. (Objective T1.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T1.D: CIP Priorities for Trans. (Lead Agency Change)** Establish and emphasize priorities for transportation improvement projects proposed through the Capital Improvements Program (CIP), consistent with Horizon Plan and based upon analysis of existing traffic capacity deficiencies and provision of a reasonable distribution of annual expenditures over the 20-year period. Maintain constant coordination and contact with the

## **Goals, Objectives and Action Items**

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DOTD Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for East Baton Rouge Parish to establish and maintain consistency in the priorities of both the City-Parish and State Transportation improvements. (Policy T1.3.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T1.E: Traf. Impact Fee-New Dev.** Develop and implement a Traffic Impact Fee Assessment Program based upon the costs of mitigating adverse impacts on roadways serving proposed development. (Policy T1.3.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action T1.F: Pub/Pri Trans. Services. (Revised and Lead Agency Change)** Increase public/private cooperation in the provision of transportation services and facilities including:

- Identify shared public/private transportation goals;
- Involve the private sector in the transportation planning process; and
- Pursue joint development of major transportation projects through right-of-way dedication, cost sharing, and other techniques.
- Identify possible intermodal transportation systems to serve key areas with circulator and connector routes.

(Policy T1.3.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

## **Transportation Relationship to Land Use and Environment**

**Action T2.A: Trans. Plan Program for HP. (Revised and Lead Agency Change)** Continue a Transportation Planning Program for amending the Comprehensive Master Land Use and Development Plan to incorporate future changes in the Transportation Element. Updates of the Baton Rouge Area Comprehensive Transportation Study contained in the Horizon Year Transportation Plan should be incorporated in Plan Amendments to the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Master Land Use and Development Plan. Efforts should be made to coordinate information with other agencies, such as CRPC, and provide public officials with timely and accurate information, analyses and evaluations regarding transportation planning issues. (Objective T2.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T2.B: BR Area Comp. Trans. Study.** Travel demand forecasts should be developed based upon land use and demographic projections that are compatible with Horizon Plan. (Policy T2.1.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T2.C: Review MSP and Trans. (Revised)** Maintain administrative review procedures for evaluation of proposed Major Street Plan modifications and other transportation planning activities. Review planned transportation improvements to evaluate potential impacts on land use and environment. Environmental review of planned transportation improvement projects should include identification of appropriate and necessary mitigation measures to be implemented as part of the projects, including mitigation for loss of parkland where roadways must be extended through existing BREC parks. (Objective T2.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action T2.D: Trans. Impact Air/Noise.** Review planned transportation improvements to consider potential impacts on air quality and noise. Establish evaluation criteria and employ appropriate analytical techniques to assess impacts associated with transportation improvements. (Objective T2.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

### **Thoroughfare System Development**

**Action T3.A: Imp. MSP by TIP, CIP & SR.** Implement the Major Street Plan through the Transportation Improvement Program, Capital Improvements Program, and Subdivision Regulations, to develop a balanced roadway network that includes arterial streets and primary collector streets. In addition, as further development occurs, ensure the provision of adequate arterial, collector and local streets that serve to provide traffic access and circulation, are functionally integrated with the existing arterial and collector street system, and are designed and constructed in accordance with appropriate design standards and criteria including aesthetic design that will minimize undesirable impacts on and enhance the character of affected neighborhoods, where feasible. (Objective T3.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T3.B: Evaluate Improv/Impact.** Evaluate planned roadway improvements to determine traffic impacts on capacity and traffic flow, and identify needed improvements to maintain an acceptable Level-of-Service C or D during peak periods. (Policy T3.1.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T3.C: Street Design Criteria. (Revised)** Continue to develop and adopt street

## **Goals, Objectives and Action Items**

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design criteria for construction of roadway improvements in accordance with acceptable design standards and practices to attain maximum traffic levels-of-service and public safety. (Policy T1.3.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T3.D: Roadway & Pavement Mgt. (Revised)** Continue to develop and implement a Roadway Maintenance Program and Pavement Management System to alleviate existing and future roadway infrastructure deterioration. This program should include maintenance of pavement, right-of-way, and associated drainage facilities. (Policy T3.1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T3.E: C/P & Utility Co-ord.** Improve coordination between City-Parish agencies and utility companies for the construction and maintenance of utilities within street rights-of-way. (Policy T3.1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T3.F: Traffic Control Device Prog.** Establish a Traffic Control Device Preventive Maintenance Program consisting of periodically inspecting and maintaining traffic signals, signs and pavement markings to improve effectiveness, safety, and savings in related costs. (Policy T3.1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T3.G: Review Plats for SR, MSP.** Review all subdivision plats and proposed developments for conformance with Subdivision Regulations, Major Street Plan, and Driveway Standards to provide adequate internal traffic circulation and access, to minimize interference of traffic on the adjacent roadway network, and to ensure the provision of collector and local streets integrated with the arterial street system. (Policy T3.1.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T3.H: Signs at Signalized Inter.** Implement a signage program which provides overhead and advance street name signs at all signalized intersections. (Objective T3.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T3.I: Implement TSM Program. (Revised)** Implement a Intelligent Transportation Systems Program to maximize existing capacity and operational efficiency and reduce congestion on the roadway system. (Objective T3.2, Policy T3.2.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1997

**Action T3.J: Implement Computer TSS.** Implement, maintain, and update the Computerized Traffic Signal System recommended for the Baton Rouge area to provide efficient progression of traffic on arterials. (Objective T3.2, Policy T3.2.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T3.K: TRANPLAN Co-ord.** All transportation agencies in the Baton Rouge area should use compatible traffic and land use data that are consistent with Horizon Plan as well as computerized travel demand models (TRANPLAN) developed for transportation planning efforts. Transportation agencies should coordinate their planning activities to ensure consistency and avoid conflicts in planning state and local transportation improvements. (Objective T3.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T3.L: Developer R.O.W. Dedication. (Lead Agency Change)** Develop and enforce policies and requirements which ensure the dedication of rights-of-way. (Objective T3.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T3.M: Traffic Safety Program.** Establish a Traffic Safety Program that regularly identifies and implements geometric/operational improvements to reduce frequency and severity of accidents at existing and potentially hazardous locations. (Objective T3.5, Policy T3.1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1997

**Action T3.N: Street Lighting.** Review and recommend modifications to street lighting policies and standards with regard to traffic safety. (Policy T3.1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T3.O: MSP Traffic Impact Studies. (Revised)** Maintain standards and procedures for the conduct of traffic impact studies for proposed developments to assess traffic impacts and determine transportation improvement needs. (Objective T3.6)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

**Action T3.P: Truck Route Plan. (Revised)** Maintain a Truck Route Plan which provides for adequate goods and services movement without adversely impacting traffic flows and residential neighborhoods. Identify appropriate truck routes to provide for local and through truck traffic. Consider the use and enforcement of through truck traffic prohibitions on local residential streets. Designate truck routes for transport of hazardous materials and incorporate appropriate design standards for proposed future routes. (Objective T3.7, Policy

T3.7.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T3.Q : Review Off-Street Loading.** Conduct periodic review of off-street loading requirements to determine potential improvements and modifications, and identify design criteria for use in designing new loading facilities. (Policy T3.7.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action T3.R: LSU & Southern Traffic. (Revised)** Assist in the implementation of traffic improvement needs through and around the campuses of Louisiana State University and Southern University, in cooperation with the administration officials for the two respective universities, CRPC, and DOTD. (Objective T3.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1997

**Action T3.S: Developer Participation.** Develop and enforce policies and requirements which ensure developer participation in the construction of needed street improvements as development occurs. (Objective T3.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

## **Parking Requirements**

**Action T4.A: Periodic Off-street Parking. (Revised)** Review off-street parking requirements and design standards in the Unified Development Code to identify and recommend modifications for maintaining effective and appropriate requirements and standards. (Objective T4.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action T4.B: Parking Facility Data Base. (Deletion)**

**Action T4.C: Special Parking Studies.** Conduct special studies and review existing regulations in the Unified Development Code as needed on specific parking issues such as shared parking, handicapped parking, residential parking permits, water pollution controls and other needs. (Policies T4.1.A, T4.1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1996

**Action T4.D: Review Off-Street Parking. (Revised)** Maintain administrative procedures for effective review and approval of planned off-street parking improvements proposed by developers, including centralized responsibilities. (Objective T4.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T4.E: Downtown Parking Mgt. (Reword and Lead Agency Change)** Develop a Parking Management Strategy for Downtown Baton Rouge:

- To promote utilization of park-and-ride facilities, ride-sharing, and public transit;
- Prepare and maintain a parking facility database;
- Continue to identify future parking needs for public and private sectors; and
- Ensure that parking facilities are planned for the highest and best use. (Objective T5.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

### **Public Transportation Facilities and Services**

**Action T5.A: Transit Dependent/Services.** Develop evaluation criteria and priorities for expanding or improving transit service in areas which have a high concentration of transit dependent citizens such as low to medium income, low auto ownership and a high proportion of elderly population. (Objective T5.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1997

**Action T5.B: Transit Corridors.** Identify and consider existing and planned transit corridors in land use planning, and consider availability of transit service in review of development proposals for high density land uses. (Objective T5.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action T5.C: Transit Devel. Program.** Prepare a Transit Development Program (TDP) every five years to identify transit needs, evaluate alternative improvements, and estimate capital costs, operating revenues, and operating assistance requirements which can be funded through grants from the Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA). (Objective T5.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1996

**Action T5.D: Transit Marketing Program. (Revised)** Develop and implement an effective Transit Marketing Program that promotes the use of transit and its benefits, attracts riders of choice to the transit system, and informs the public of routes, schedules, and other transit operations and services. (Policy T5.3.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T5.E: Dedicated Funding for Transit.** Explore alternative dedicated funding sources and mechanisms to provide adequate transit services for the Baton Rouge area. (Objective T5.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

**Action T5.F: Transit Design Features. (Revised and Lead Agency Change)** Consider requirements and incentives for new development to include the provision of facilities at major activity centers that make public transportation convenient and safe to use, such as bus pullouts, transit passenger shelters, amenities, continuous sidewalks, and adequate outdoor lighting and bicycle amenities. (Objective T5.5)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T5.G: Transit Improvement Prog.** Develop and implement a Transit Improvement Program for facility improvements such as replacing or improving the bus operating facility, bus replacement/fleet expansion, and the provision and improvement of bus shelters and bus route signs. (Objective T5.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1997

**Action T5.H: CTC in SR & Zoning. (Revised)** Consider public transportation routes in the City-Parish's Subdivision, Zoning and Site review process, Major Street Plan amendment process, and development of transportation improvement proposals for the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) and Transportation Improvements Program (TIP). (Objective T1.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T5.I: CTC & Privately Owned Transit.** Coordinate efforts with public and private transportation service providers to link public transit routes. (Objective T5.6)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

## **Railroad Transportation**

**Action T6.A: RR Grade Crossing Imp.** As part of the Traffic Safety Program, include procedures for identifying and prioritizing railroad grade crossing improvement needs, such as provision of adequate at-grade warning devices, grade separations, and potential railroad relocations. (Objective T6.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T6.B: RR Interaction w/Agencies. (Revised)** Appoint an interagency committee to establish a higher degree of participation and interaction with railroad companies in timely addressing improvement and maintenance needs, such as provision of adequate at-grade warning devices, grade separations, and opportunities for re-establishing rail passenger service to and from Baton Rouge. (Objective T6.1, Policy T6.1.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action T6.C: RR Grade in CIP.** Include implementation of railroad grade crossing improvement projects in the 5-year Capital Improvements Program (CIP). (Policy T6.1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T6.D: Impacts of Railroad Routing.** The Capital Region Planning Commission should give due consideration to the anticipated environmental and social impacts in decisions regarding changes to railroad routing and public access to such routes. (Objective 6.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

**Action T6.E: Passenger Rail Service.** The Downtown Development District should coordinate with other Lead Agencies and authorities to encourage rail passenger service to and from Baton Rouge. (Objective T6.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

## **Air Transportation and Airports**

**Action T7.A: Implement Airport Plan.** Implement the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport Master Plan to provide airport facilities needed to meet future air transport demands. (Objective T7.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T7.B: Update Airport Master Plan.** Update the Airport Master Plan every five years, including consideration of the future need and location of a new airport for the Baton Rouge region. (Objective T7.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T7.C: Land Use Around Airport.** Establish and administer appropriate land use controls in the area surrounding the airport, with special emphasis on noise impacts, on nearby schools, neighborhoods, the Baton Rouge Zoo, and other noise sensitive uses and on compatible land uses and height hazards. (Objective T7.3, Policies T7.3.A, T7.3.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T7.D: Improvements to Ground.** Improvements to airport ground transportation facilities and services should be included in planning and implementation for thoroughfare development and public transportation programs. (Objective T7.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T7.E: Evaluate Expansion.** Airport expansion alternatives identified in the Airport Master Plan should be closely evaluated in relation to their impacts on the adjacent roadway system, especially Plank Road, and on the Baton Rouge Zoo, Municipal Golf Course, schools, and neighborhoods in the vicinity of the airport. (Objective T7.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T7.F: Marketing Program.** Develop and implement a Marketing Program to encourage increased utilization of Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport. (Objective T7.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T7.G: Air Fare Reduction.** Provide necessary interaction to facilitate air carrier consideration of reducing air passenger fares for travel to and from Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport to be more competitive with fares at New Orleans International Airport. (Objective T7.5)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T7.H: Non-compatible Land Uses.** All non-compatible land uses within the Ldn 75 noise contour should be acquired by the Greater Baton Rouge Airport District. In addition, where acquisition programs have already been initiated in neighborhoods within the Ldn 65-75 noise contours, acquisition of these subdivisions or individual parcels should continue so as to minimize neighborhood disruption. The boundaries within which continued land acquisition is recommended are depicted on maps in the Office of the Planning Commission which are incorporated by reference as part of Horizon Plan. (Objective T7.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T7.I: Purchase & Sounds Programs.** Purchase Assurance and Sound Insulation Programs should be implemented for neighborhoods within the Ldn 65 noise contour. In addition, specific areas eligible for those noise mitigation measures are recommended, namely those areas where the long term character of the neighborhood is expected to remain residential. These areas include the Brownsfield area, north of Runway 22R; the Glen Oaks area, southeast of Runway 31N; and the Scotlandville area, southwest of Runway 4L. (Objective T7.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

## **Bicycling**

**Action T8.A: Greenlinks System in CIP.** Include implementation of bikeway improvements and Greenlinks System projects in the 5-year Capital Improvements Program (CIP) and other roadway and drainage improvements. (Objectives T8.1, T8.2, and T8.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action T8.B: Update Bikeway Plan. (Revised)** Periodically update the Comprehensive Short-Range Pedestrian and Bikeway Plan for East Baton Rouge Parish, including incorporation of the proposed Greenlinks System. (Objectives T8.1, T8.2, and T8.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action T8.C: R.O.W. for Bikeways.** Consider right-of-way provisions for bikeways as identified in the Comprehensive Short-Range Pedestrian and Bikeway Plan in developing the major street system and in designing street improvements. (Objective T8.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action T8.D: Design Standards.** Adopt and implement the design standards included in the AASHTO Guide for the Development of New Bicycle Facilities to ensure safe bikeways and encourage bicycle transportation. (Objectives T8.1 and T8.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action T8.E: Bicycle into SR & Trans. Plan.** Incorporate bicycle transportation standards and design criteria into the City-Parish's policy and planning documents, including related codes and ordinances, Subdivision Regulations, and Transportation Plans to ensure the integration of adequate bicycle facilities in the overall transportation system. (Objective T8.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action T8.F: Bicycle in Environ. Plan.** Include bicycle transportation as an alternative means of mitigation in environmental impact studies. (Objective T8.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T8.G: Bicycle Safety Program.** Establish a Bicycle Safety Program that educates cyclists and motorists on bicycle laws and safety, in cooperation with local cycling organizations and the Safety Council of the Louisiana Capital Area. (Objective T8.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

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**Action T8.H: Maintain Bikeways.** Incorporate maintenance of bikeways in the recommended Roadway Maintenance and Pavement Management Program to improve bicycle safety. (Objective T8.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

### **Pedestrians**

**Action T9.A: Sidewalk Design and Require.** Implement requirements and standards for the provision of sidewalks as part of street construction. (Objective T9.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T9.B: T9.A with Handicapped.** Develop sidewalk design criteria that provide for safe and convenient use, including appropriate facilities for the physically handicapped. (Objective T9.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T9.C: Sidewalk Deficiencies.** Identify sidewalk deficiencies in existing urban and suburban areas and develop plans for the addition or reconstruction of sidewalks, including coordination and financial participation of affected property owners. (Objective T9.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T9.D: Update Ped. & Bikeway Plan. (Deletion)**

### **Ports and Waterways**

**Action T10.A: Trans. & Port System.** Incorporate roadway and rail transportation improvements to serve the Port of Baton Rouge in developing thoroughfare and transportation system improvements. (Objective T10.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T10.B: Navigation Channel.** Support implementation of proposed waterway improvements to deepen the navigation channel to the Port of Baton Rouge. (Objective T10.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action T10.C: Riverfront Devel. Plan.** Implement Riverfront Development Plan including proposed facilities and amenities for riverboat passenger access, levee improvements, and adequate parking. (Objective T10.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

### **Element Review**

A general review of the status of the Transportation Element Action Items suggests progress in implementing most of the Horizon Plan Goals and Objectives concerned with this Element. The revised Action Items are intended to clarify the mission of the Action Item strategies and/or to bring them up to date with the current status of their implementation, such as calling for “implementing” a now-initiated Action Item rather than “develop” such a strategy. Six Action Items were reassigned to different Lead Agencies. Two Action Items have been deleted. With the rewording of Action Item T4.E, Action Item T4.B was no longer necessary and has been deleted. And Action Item T9.D has been deleted because of similarity to Action Item T8.B. There has been no new Action Items added.

## **Wastewater, Solid Waste and Drainage Element**

### **Implementation Actions**

Implementation strategies were designed to guide the long-range development of the wastewater, solid waste, and drainage systems. The implementation recommendations are outlined as a guide to actions by the City-Parish.

### **Wastewater**

**Action WW1.A: Comprehensive Master Plan.** Develop a Comprehensive Wastewater Master Plan with provisions delineating wastewater facilities to serve developing areas of the Parish. The current plan should be expanded to take into account those areas of the Parish beyond the present service boundaries and not covered by projects specified by the EPA Consent Decree. (Policy WW4.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action WW2.A: Regional Collection Systems.** Establish a program to plan and construct regional collection systems, including major pump stations, in those areas adjacent to the pressurized trunk system. No provisions have been made at this time to construct collection systems to the trunk system. Individual service boundaries or districts should be specified identifying existing and potential users. Designate a funding source and establish program priorities for construction. Secure required engineering. (Policy WW4.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action WW3.A: Sewer Rehabilitation Program.** Undertake a scheduled sewer rehabilitation program to provide renovations to the existing wastewater system by repair or replacement as needed to include investigating and improving construction standards for future wastewater facilities. (Objective WW1, Policies WW1.A through WW1.G)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action WW4.A: Extending Existing Collection.** Establish policies and procedures for extending existing collection lines within the Wastewater Suburban Transportation Network and implement improvements to provide service for “infill development” described in the Horizon Land Use Plan. (Objective WW4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action WW5.A: Plan Outside Services.** Establish a program to plan and construct regional collection systems including treatment facilities, for those areas outside of the existing

planned service areas, in accordance with the Master Wastewater Plan. (Policies WW4.A and WW4.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action WW6.A: Facilitate Infill Development.** The Department of Public Works, in the Master Wastewater Plan, should propose procedures that will facilitate developing areas of the Parish, utilizing existing facilities maintained by the Parish, when available. Develop and adopt policies or transitional rules applicable to development of areas described in Actions WW2.A and WW5.A for interim use. (Objective WW4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action WW7.A: WW Division Organization. (Deletion)**

**Action WW8.A: Wastewater Operations Funding.** The Department of Public Works should investigate and propose methods to provide for securing adequate funding to accomplish the mission and means of operating and improving the wastewater objectives of the Horizon Plan. (Objective WW5)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

## **Solid Waste**

**Action SW1.A: Recycling Program. (Reword)** Continue to manage the Parish-wide recycling program in order to maximize diversion from the landfills. (Objective SW1, Policies SW1.A through SW1.H)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action SW2.A: SW Advisory Committee. (Reword)** The Solid Waste Advisory Committee should continue to review, evaluate, and provide recommendations on policies, practices, and procedures pertaining to local solid waste disposal, waste reduction, reuse and recycling. (Objective SW1, Policy SW2.A, Objective SW4, Policies SW4.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action SW3.A: Litter Control/Beautification. (Revised)** Continue comprehensive litter control and beautification program for the parish utilizing the media and civic organizations to achieve public awareness. (Objective SW2, Policy SW2.A, Objective SW6, Policies SW6.A through SW6.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action SW4.A: Promote Recycled Mat. & Prod.** Establish procedures within City-Parish government to stimulate and promote the use of recycled materials and products whenever feasible and encourage similar programs by business and industry. (Objective SW1, Policy SW1.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action SW6.A: Waste Stream Reduction.** Focus future efforts of the recycling program on the largest, most cost effective elements of the waste stream including the redirection of residential and commercial herbaceous and woody waste from landfill disposal to recycling use. (Objective SW5)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

**Action SW7.A: Solid Waste Coordination. (Deletion)**

## **Drainage**

**Action D1.A: DPW and the Master Plan for Drainage.** The Department of Public Works shall develop, publish, and maintain a Master Plan for Drainage for East Baton Rouge Parish. Major elements of the Master Plan should address the following:

- (1) Delineation of individual watersheds;
- (2) Existing flows;
- (3) Projected ultimate flow;
- (4) Planned type of ultimate channel improvements and size;
- (5) Future drainage structures;
- (6) Ultimate right-of-way requirements;
- (7) Details of both existing and future hydraulic grade lines; and
- (8) Frequency and procedures for updating and revisions.

(Objective D3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action D2.A: Manual of Drainage Criteria.** Implement the standards to be developed and published in the Manual of Drainage Criteria for use in the design of both public and private

drainage facilities in the Parish. In the official record of permit approval or rejection relevant information and data should be cited, which specifies and confirms for permit applicants and the public, the correct procedures and methodology for computing run-off and hydraulic details for channels and drainage structures. Permissible design criteria established for detention, dams, levees, and inlets shall be confirmed in the permitting process. The permit record shall include relevant supplemental data from the Manual of Drainage Criteria referring to:

- (1) Existing flood ordinances and regulations;
- (2) Rainfall frequency curves;
- (3) Standard City-Parish drainage plans and details; and
- (4) Erosion Control.

(Policy D1.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action D3.A: Hydrologic/Hydraulic Model.** Develop hydrologic and hydraulic modeling capability and techniques that may be utilized to predict the impacts of development and determine needed improvements within each drainage basin. This program should commence with a detailed inventory of all existing conditions within each watershed after having adopted a program or format for analysis. (Policy D3.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action D4.A: Public Aware Flood/Drainage.** Establish a program to promote public awareness of flood prevention information and drainage design data. At least three separate categories for such information and data should be available:

- (1) Information directed to the general public relating to flood hazard areas, as well as codes, ordinances, and procedures governing new construction;
- (2) Technical data for engineers and other design professionals who specify drainage facilities in the Parish and general contractors; and
- (3) Retrofitting or otherwise floodproofing structures subject to minimal flooding.

Pamphlets should be made available for free distribution by the Department of Public Works which inform the general public and contractors about flood matters in the Parish. Multiple distribution locations should be utilized. Copies of the Manual of Drainage Criteria should be made available to designers offering professional services in the Parish and other

## **Goals, Objectives and Action Items**

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interested parties. Floodproofing can be encouraged by informing prospective candidates of techniques and products. (Objective D4, Policies D4.A and D4.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action D5.A: Flood Prone Structures.** Utilizing FEMA guidelines, develop a long range plan and implementation program utilizing appropriate funding sources to acquire and/or relocate floodprone structures within the designated floodplain where appropriate. (Policy D2.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action D6.A: Staff for Drainage Improv.** Provide adequate staff within the Department of Public Works, for coordination of East Baton Rouge Parish drainage improvement projects with other area, state, and federal proposals. Investigate funding sources which may be available for grants or participation from state or federal agencies. (Policy D3.D, Objective D5, Objective D6)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action D7.A: R.O.W. for Drainage Improv.** Develop requirements and incentives to secure donation of required rights-of-way and servitudes for drainage improvements. Incorporate details in the Unified Development Code. (Policy D4.D)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action D9.A: Drainage Maintenance Prog.** Undertake a parishwide drainage maintenance program to maintain major drainage channels up to a minimum standard of care by removing obstructing debris, structures, and vegetation. The Department of Public Works should assist with preparation of a plan for drainage maintenance that will provide scope, priorities, sequencing, scheduling, and budgets and adequate funding sources for performing necessary maintenance of parish drainage facilities. (Objective D1, Policy D1.A, Policy D1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action D10.A: Reduce Flood Damage.** Support specific drainage improvement projects sponsored or initiated by others which serve to improve drainage and reduce the threat of flood damages in East Baton Rouge Parish. (Objective D5)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action D11.A: Current CIP Drainage Projects. (Revised)** Implement a program to secure adequate funding for, and proceed with drainage projects designated in the current Capital Improvements Program adopted by the Planning Commission through the Horizon Plan,

taking into account projects being considered by the Corps of Engineers for federal participation and others identified in the Master Plan for Drainage. (Policy D3.D)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action D12.A: Inter-govt. Co-ord. (Revised)** To promote intergovernmental coordination, when state or federal projects impact local, area and regional stormwater management, encourage state and federal compliance with local regulations. (Objective D7)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action D13.A: Multiple Objective Process. (Reword and Change Lead Agency)** The Planning Commission should coordinate with the Baton Rouge Recreation and Park Commission and the Department of Public Works to promote the multiple use of drainage servitudes, rights-of-way and floodprone areas for easement, acquisition, preservation and use as community recreational amenities such as greenways, bicycle/pedestrian routes and open space park facilities. (Objective D8)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action D14.A: Single Datum Bench Marks.** Undertake a parishwide program to place and maintain all benchmarks on a single datum. (Objective D2, Policy D2.E)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

## Element Review

Great strides have taken place in reducing, recycling, and reusing wastewater and solid waste in the City-Parish. These successes have necessitated a rewording of several Action Items to reflect the progress during the last five years. In other cases, Action Items have been reworded to reflect a needed clarity and/or efficiency in the strategy or to make correct reference to those responsible for implementation. Two Action Items have been deleted. Action Item S7.A was deleted because it was a repeat strategy of Action Item S2.A, and Action Item WW7.A was deleted because it was an inappropriate strategy. One Action Items was reassigned to a different Lead Agency.

## Conservation and Environmental Resources Element

### Implementation Actions

The implementation of the Conservation and Environmental Resources Goals, Objectives, and Policies is dependent upon the creation of specific programs that address the identified issues. The recommended programs, which are grouped into the areas of concern, are described below. The specific Objective and/or Policy that a particular program is designed to address is stated.

### Air Quality

**Action E1.A: Air Quality Impact. (Deletion)**

**Action E1.B: Evaluate Multi-transport.** Evaluate the performance of existing programs and alternatives for promoting ride-sharing, van pooling, and use of public transportation to identify and recommend improvements. See Transportation Implementation Section. (Objective E1.1, Policy E1.1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action E1.C: Implement Intelligent Transportation System (ITS). (Revised)** Implement Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) measures to improve traffic flow. See Transportation Implementation Section. (Policy E1.1.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action E1.D: Alternative Fuels, Public.** Investigate use of alternative fuels for City-Parish vehicles, CTC buses, and school buses. See Transportation Implementation Section. (Policy E1.1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1997

**Action E1.E: Enforce Air Pollution Control.** Support strict compliance and effective enforcement for federal and state air pollution controls, including vehicular emission controls, and monitoring/reporting programs including DEQ's air quality monitoring and enforcement programs. (Policy E1.2.B and E1.2.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action E1.F: Ozone Task Force.** Continue support of the DEQ/Industry Ozone Task Force, the NO/VOC technical committee and the Vehicle Inspection/Maintenance Task Force in their efforts to monitor and develop an aggressive ozone reduction program. (Policy E1.2.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action E1.G: Public Awareness. (Revised)** Heighten public awareness of existing air quality issues and programs through public information efforts targeted to the appropriate audiences with the cooperation of Department of Environmental Quality, the DEQ/Industry Ozone Task Force, the NO/VOC technical committee, the Vehicle Inspection/Maintenance Task Force, Baton Rouge Clean Air Coalition, and Baton Rouge Area Commuter Services. (Policy E1.2.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

## **Water Resources**

**Action E2.A: Clean Water Program.** The City-Parish should continue to support and participate in state and federal clean water programs, representing the parish's concerns and assuring affordable and equitably funded wastewater facilities to meet existing and future requirements. (Policy E2.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action E2.B: Support Louisiana Permitting Discharge Elimination System (LPDES). (Revised)** Support continued monitoring and enforcement of LPDES requirements for wastewater treatment in Parish. (Policy E1.2.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action E2.C: Erosion Control Ordinance. (Revised)** Prepare and adopt an Erosion Control Ordinance to reduce adverse impacts of urban development and redevelopment on surface water quality. (Policy E2.1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action E2.D: Individual WW Disposal Systems. (Reword and Lead Agency Change)** Support and comply with permitting and inspection of individual wastewater disposal systems with the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospital. (Policy E2.1.E)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action E2.E: Wastewater Reduction Program.** Expand and support the wastewater reduction program for domestic, commercial and industrial users to reduce wastewater flows and treatment costs, and to conserve groundwater. (Policy E2.2.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

## **Goals, Objectives and Action Items**

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**Action E2.F: Water Conservation. (Revised)** Support and encourage incentives for water conservation. (Policy E2.2.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action E2.G: Ground Water Protection.** Implement a Ground Water Protection Strategy for East Baton Rouge Parish consistent with the Louisiana Ground Water Protection Strategy. (Policy E3.1.E)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action E2.H: Well Head Protection Program. (Deletion)**

**Action E2.I: Siting of Waste Disposal.** While enforcing proper siting, construction, maintenance and operation of all wells and waste disposal facilities, support efforts to clean up and eliminate injection wells and hazardous waste disposal facilities that pose a threat to ground water protection. (Policy 3.1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

## **Land Resources**

**Action E3.A: Mining Site Reclamation. (Revised)** Provide incentives for sand and gravel site property owners to reclaim and environmentally enhance their sites with grading and vegetation renewal. Provide Brownfields Program for cleanup. (Policy E4.1.D and E4.1.E)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action E3.B: Landscape Regulations.** Implement, and review on a regular basis, the Landscape regulations within the Unified Development Code for success in providing for the preservation and planting of trees and other plants in public and private spaces, and cooperate with utility companies to assure compliance with the law and the prevention of unnecessary damage due to utility company activities. See Land Use Implementation Section. (Policy E5.1.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action E3.C: Underground Lines.** Develop urban design guidelines to promote underground electric and telephone lines for new development and strengthen related Subdivision requirements where appropriate. See Land Use Implementation Section. (Policy E5.2.E)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

**Action E3.D: Enforce Sign Control Ord.** Administer and enforce the existing Sign Control Ordinance. See Land Use Implementation Section. (Policy E5.2.F)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action E3.E: Street Tree Program.** Renew a Street Tree Planting and Replacement Program. See Recreation and Open Space Implementation Section. (Policy E5.2.C and E5.2.H)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action E3.F: Streetscape Design Plan.** Prepare a Streetscape Design Plan for implementing a coordinated streetscape improvement program. See Land Use Implementation Section. (Policy E5.2.G)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

**Action E4.A: Noise Level Standards. (Deletion)**

**Action E4.B: Noise at Airport.** Evaluate existing zoning in the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport environs to ensure airport compatible land use zoning based upon results of the Part 150 Airport Noise Study. (Policy E6.1.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action E4.C: Architectural Guidelines.** The Neighborhood and Subarea Planning Program and Urban Design Program of the Planning Commission should include development of architectural guidelines and restrictions for commercial and residential development and redevelopment in areas of the city and parish defined to have historical or aesthetic significance. See Land Use Implementation section. (Policies E4.1.A and E5.2.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

### **Preservation of Rare and Endangered Plants and Wildlife**

**Action E5.A: Land Use Consideration for Plants and Habitat. (Revised)** Maintain coordination with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to ensure that locations of rare or endangered plant and wildlife habitats within the parish are considered in land use planning and development reviews. (Policy E1.A and E7.1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action E5.B: Subarea Plans Sensitivity. (Revised)** Neighborhood and Subarea Planning Programs (see LU5.E and LU5.I) should include identification and consideration of

## **Goals, Objectives and Action Items**

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preservation and management of prime agricultural land and significant natural areas, including wetlands. (Policy E7.2.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

### **Hazardous Wastes**

**Action E6.A: In-Plant Practices.** Support establishment of in-plant practices that reduce, avoid or eliminate generation of hazardous waste. (Policy E8.1.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action E6.B: East Baton Rouge Hazardous Material Plan. (Revised)** Establish EBR Parish Hazardous Materials Transport and Routing Plan, in coordination with the Department of Public Safety, Department of Environmental Quality, and Office of Emergency Preparedness (See T3.P). (Policy E8.1.D)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action E6.C: Household & Motor Oil Program. (Revised)** Maintain and promote a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program and Used Motor Oil Recycling Program. (Policy E8.1.E)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action E6.D: Clean-up Waste Sites. (Revised)** Provide incentives for private sector cooperation in reducing the creation of hazardous wastes, the clean up of Brownfields sites, and the return of land to productive uses while establishing appropriate measures for long term environmental protection. (Policy E3.1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

### **Intergovernmental Coordination**

**Action E7.A: Establish Intergovt. Co-ord.** Establish interparish coordination for multi-parish environmental programs and issues, under the auspices of the Capital Region Planning Commission. (Policy E9.1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

## **Element Review**

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The successful initiation of several Action Items has necessitated a revising of their stated strategy so as to reflect the progress during the last five years, i.e. a change in terms such as “support” or “implement” replacing “develop” pertaining to Action Items that have been ongoing according to plan. One Action Item has been reassigned to a different Lead Agency. Three Action Items were deleted from the Conservation and Environmental Resources Element. No new Action Items were added.

## **Recreation and Open Space Element**

### **Implementation Actions**

This section recommends specific actions for addressing recreation and open space issues. Implementation strategies are provided to guide the long-range development of the recreation and open space system. The implementation recommendations outlined are a guide to actions by the City-Parish.

### **Planning and Development Program**

**Action R1.A: Interagency Co-ordination.** Establish procedures for interagency coordination to address issues relating to planning, acquisition and development of recreation and open space. Issues regarding parishwide and subarea recreation needs, opportunities for preservation of open space, acquisition and development of public open spaces, and other issues should be addressed and a coordinated effort for implementation should be pursued. Three major areas to be addressed through this process should be Advance Planning, Planning and Development Guidelines, and Special Programs. (Goal R1, Objective R1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action R1.B: Long-Range Plan Process.** Continue the Advance Planning Process for planning and development of recreation and open space. The focus of the process will be on the review and coordination of long range planning and establishment of plans for cooperative development of recreation properties and protection of important natural areas. Steps to maintain this process will include the following:

- (1) Maintain a joint committee to address Advance Planning Issues. This committee will utilize Horizon Plan information and data and an established Planning Management Information System (See Action LU 2.C) as a starting point for consensus building;
- (2) Review current recreational open space standards on an ongoing basis to determine their appropriateness and revise where necessary;
- (3) Develop a unified, clear, and equitable park development and open space (developed and undeveloped) standard to be used on a parishwide scale;
- (4) Periodically conduct a needs assessment and recreation user survey which will sample recreation space users to determine critical areas of concern for the community and to identify any special needs which may be needed or desired. This information will be used by the committee to establish goals and objectives on an annual basis and to assist in providing input to other areas of concern regarding Operations and Maintenance, Administration and Coordination, and Funding;

- (5) Identify property to be acquired for purposes of providing recreation or public open space, and formulate a coordinated plan for purchase, and dedication of property, establishment of easements and other items which will assist and direct appropriate agencies in providing recreation and open space in accordance with the Horizon Plan and ongoing updates through the Advance Planning Process;
- (6) Maintain Planning and Development Guidelines to assist agencies in guiding the provision of recreation and open space in accordance with established parishwide standards. These guidelines will outline general characteristics of recreation and open space classifications and related development or amenities required to facilitate utilization or to protect important natural areas;
- (7) Maintain System Planning Guidelines outlining general characteristics of important systems related to recreation and open space:
  - Provide safe and convenient facilities for pedestrian movement in new and existing urban areas;
  - Provide safe access for pedestrians and mobility for the physically handicapped; and
  - Plan and implement a "Greenlink" system to foster the use of bicycle transportation for commuting, as well as for recreational purposes. Planning the major thoroughfare system and designing streets, parks, trails, and major drainage improvement projects should consider right-of-way provisions as identified in the proposed "Greenlink" system plan and updated Bikeway Plan. Further planning for implementation of the "Greenlink" system concept plan should include appropriate consideration and detailed planning for specific locations, design concepts, and operating and maintenance policies for the Greenlinks that will minimize and respond to concerns of adjacent property owners relating to security and privacy, as well as other implementation considerations. See Actions T8 and T9.

(Policies R2.A, R2.B, R2.C, R3.A, R3.D, R4.A, R4.B, R4.C, R4.D, R5.B, and R8.D)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action R1.C: Special Program Committee.** Establish a Special Programs Advisory Committee which, in coordination with the Advance Planning Committee and appropriate agencies, should address the following:

- (1) Development and implementation of special programs for recreational opportunities for the physically handicapped;
- (2) Identification and acquisition of important natural areas including existing drainage

## **Goals, Objectives and Action Items**

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servitudes for preservation or enhancement for recreational uses as appropriate;

- (3) Investigate opportunities to introduce unique recreational activities from other areas of the country and other nations;
- (4) Establishment of a citizen participation program to review input from concerned citizens regarding the planning and development of recreational and open space facilities;
- (5) Investigation and recommendation of opportunities to attract and develop professional and amateur sports activities and events for Baton Rouge.

(Policies R3.A, R3.B, R5.B, R5.C, and R5.D)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action R1.D: Downtown Park.** The City-Parish should acquire acreage in the Downtown area for development by BREC and a new major Downtown park including open space and recreation facilities, to mitigate the loss of Victory Park in relation to the new Federal Building. (Objective R2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

## **Operations and Maintenance Program**

**Action R2.A: Comprehensive Operations.** Proceed with procedures to coordinate, provide funding for, and implement a continuing and improved comprehensive operations and maintenance program for recreational and open spaces. The tasks to be continued will include the following:

- (1) Continuance of parishwide operating and maintenance standards for all public recreation and open spaces, including schedules, responsibilities, and ongoing funding for continued operations and maintenance of existing facilities;
- (2) Maintenance of procedures to include new and planned recreation and open spaces in operating and maintenance schedules;
- (3) Continuance of a rehabilitation program for existing older parks;
- (4) Maintenance of a Public Adoption Program which enlists community volunteers for the improvement and maintenance of their neighborhood facilities; and
- (5) Continued utilization of a mechanism for public participation in the operation and maintenance of existing facilities and areas.

(Policies R7.A, R7.B, R7.C, R7.D, and R8.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action R2.B: Open Space Acquisition.** Coordinate open space transfer, trade, or other exchange between BREC and other public agencies. (Goal R2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

### **Administration and Coordination Programs**

**Action R3.A: Review Existing Ordinances.** Review existing ordinances and guidelines and modify as appropriate and in accordance with Horizon Plan, continuing updates and other programs as established as a result of these efforts. (Goal R1, Objective R1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action R3.B: Sub. Reg. Mandatory Park. (Revised)** Incorporate green space dedication requirements in the the Unified Development Code based on the local standards developed jointly by BREC and the Planning Commission, with joint review and approval. Provide development incentives, i.e. increased density, height, coverage, etc. for those developments which exceed set landscape and open space standards and provide access to the property for public use. Establish standards for development of recreation and open space facilities by private enterprise or the agreement to operate and maintain such space in new residential development projects in areas not adequately served by recreational facilities in reasonable proximity of the project. Recreational and open space standards should include options of dedication of on site facilities an/or open space, or fees in-lieu-of dedicated to public area facilities.(Combines R3.F and R4.E)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action R3.C: Tree Regulations.** Periodically reevaluate the tree preservation/replacement regulations and the establishment of an Urban Forestry Program. Maintain and improve the program provisions for landscaped neutral ground and medians of streets and boulevards, reforestation of public spaces, implementation of tree protection/replacement regulations, and provisions for incentives to encourage reforestation of private property not covered by the landscape regulations of the Unified Development Code. (Policy R3.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action R3.D: Urban Design Guidelines.** Establish urban design guidelines which preserve significant natural views and vistas, important visual linkages, and/or corridors through establishment of building set back and height restrictions, landscaping standards, sign control, and other urban design techniques. See Action LU4.B. (Policy R1.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

**Action R3.E: Landscape Regulations.** Conduct periodic reviews and evaluations of the landscape regulations within the Unified Development Code, and propose revisions to the landscaping standards as needed. See Action LU4.C. (Policy R1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action R3.F: Develop Incentives of Parks. (Deletion-Combine with R3.B)**

**Action R3.G: Co-ord. Agencies for Conservation.** Coordinate conservation and development of important natural resources by establishing a committee which represents the views of the federal, state, and local agencies involved in these efforts, including private and non-profit agencies. (Policy R3.D)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action R3.H: Special Activities Info.** Establish a process to coordinate special activities of the entities involved in providing recreation and open space. In particular, formulate a public information program which would involve the following activities:

- (1) Periodically survey the population to determine desires regarding recreational opportunities; See Action R1.B.
- (2) Establish a mass media campaign to promote recreation opportunities in the parish;
- (3) Establish public/private partnership to coordinate and promote parishwide recreational and open space programs; and
- (4) Establish a marketing program to educate and promote existing and new recreation facilities and programs.

(Policies R5.A, R6.A, R6.B, and R6.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action R3.I: Joint Use Agreement.** Develop joint use agreements for the purposes of coordinating facilities and programs. (Policy R8.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action R3.J: Report and Work Program.** Prepare an annual report and work program which outlines planning activities, existing system characteristics, and a work program and funding levels and mechanisms for the upcoming year. (Objective R6)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

### **Funding Programs**

**Action R4.A: Co-operative Funding.** Explore cooperative funding for purchase/acquisition of property for recreation or open space and for operation and maintenance of existing and proposed facilities. (Objective R8)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action R4.B: Enhance Existing Funding.** Enhance existing funding levels or establish new revenue sources for operation and maintenance of existing and future facilities. Levels of funding should be estimated annually based on identifiable needs and anticipated revenue. (Policy R8.F)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action R4.C: Special User Fees.** Continue where appropriate equitable user fees for special recreational facilities or services provided taking into account socio-economics and demographics. Review opportunities to increase existing fees or establishing new fees where appropriate. (Policy R8.E)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action R4.D: Est. Fund For Donations.** Establish a special fund for donations to the park system to be used on a parishwide basis to offset acquisition, operating, and maintenance costs. The fund could only be used for purchase or provide supplemental O&M funds for recreation facilities identified in Horizon Plan or the continuing Advance Planning Process. Public agencies which could have access to these funds would include City-Parish Departments and BREC. (Policy R8.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action R4.E: Establish Recreation and Open Space Standards. (Deletion-Combine with R3.B)**

**Action R4.F: Incentive for Donations of Significant Natural Features.** Provide development or tax incentive for the donation of significant natural features (land). (Policy R3.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Element Review**

The changes recommended for the Action Items in the Recreation and Open Space Element of the Horizon Plan are intended to bring the wording of the Action Items into accord with the present status of programs. Two Action Items were deleted. The deleted Action Items, Action Items R3.F and R4.E, were combined with other Action Items. There have been no Action Items added. Adequate funding sources remain a continuing problem in fulfilling the Goals and Objectives of the Recreation and Open Space Element.

## Housing Element

### Implementation Actions

The achievement of the Housing Element Goals, Objectives and Policies, and thus the implementation of the Horizon Plan, is dependent upon the establishment of specific programs. To improve housing conditions for the majority of citizens in East Baton Rouge Parish, more efficient procedures, more stringent requirements, and stricter enforcement of existing regulations are proposed. Such control measures do not require capital expenditures but will increase operating costs.

Although the majority of neighborhoods in East Baton Rouge Parish are adequate, housing conditions in declining neighborhoods are inadequate and unacceptable. Because the City of Baton Rouge, Parish of East Baton Rouge has relied on federal funds for the provision of housing for the disadvantaged, and federal funds have been severely cut, adequate housing stock for low and moderate income families is dwindling. To address the growing problem of inadequate housing for these families, both the private and public sector will have to participate.

### Affordable Housing

**Action H1.A: Mayor Task Force.** Adopt, implement, and periodically evaluate a strategy to identify public and private solutions for affordable housing in East Baton Rouge Parish. Consult representatives from the community, including directors of local housing agencies, presidents of banks and corporations, Director of Louisiana Housing Finance Agency, representatives of local non-profit housing-related organizations, other lending agencies, realtors, developers, design professionals, contractors, and materials vendors to assist in the implementation of the strategy. (Policy H1.1.A, H1.1.B, H2.2.B, Objective H1.5, and H2.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action H1.B: Neigh. Co-ord. (Revised and Lead Agency Change)** Provide oversight of Neighborhood Coordination Activities:

- Direct a centralized clearinghouse for programs and activities that impact neighborhoods;
- Improve communications between City-Parish and neighborhood associations, as well as oversee the formation of new associations;
- Promote educational workshops on the maintenance and care of housing, including low-cost techniques for maintenance and repair using neighborhood organizations, volunteer groups, construction industry, lending agencies, etc. where possible;
- Facilitate and coordinate grant applications from housing-related agencies;
- Coordinate the provision of client counseling to first-time home owners to insure

## **Goals, Objectives and Action Items**

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timely payment of notes, maintenance of structure, and fulfillment of loan requirements; and

- Coordinate with private efforts and other public agencies do develop affordable housing as well as other neighborhood improvements.” (Added from H2.A) (Policy H1.1.C, H1.2.A, H1.3.A, H1.3.B, Objective H2.3, Policy H4.2.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

**Action H1.C: “Benevolent Deposit”. (Deletion)**

**Action H1.D: Mayor-Conference. (Revised and Lead Agency Change)** Coordinate periodic evaluation of the affordable housing situation in East Baton Rouge Parish and explore opportunities. (Goal H1 and Policy H1.2.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

## **Redevelopment of Existing Neighborhoods**

**Action H2.A: Land Banking. (Deletion)**

**Action H2.B: Speed Condemnation. (Revised)** Develop improved procedures to speed up condemnation of abandoned property and provide adequate funding for condemnation and demolition of dilapidated and dangerous properties. (Policy H2.4.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action H2.C: Absentee Owners. (Deletion)**

**Action H2.D: Neighborhood Improvement. (Reword and Lead Agency Change)** Promote grant funding for City-Parish Neighborhood Improvement including but not limited to code regulation and compliance with the Consent Decree. (Policy 2.4.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1996

## **Housing for Persons with Special Needs**

**Action H3.A: Special Housing. (Reword)** Collaborate efforts to provide adequate housing for the vulnerable. (Objectives H3.1, H3.2, H3.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

## **Conservation, Preservation and Proper Creation of Neighborhoods**

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**Action H4.B: Home Builders License. (Reword)** Insure that building contractors are properly licensed. (Policy H4.3.A)

**Horizon Action Item:** 1992-93

**Action H4.C: Citizens Service. (Revised and Lead Agency Change)** Maintain an efficient system within Citizens Services Office to record citizen complaints and provide a system to report actions taken. (Policy H4.3.F)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action H4.D: New ZO & SR.** Provide adequate staffing in the Office of the Planning Commission to administer new or modified regulations for zoning and subdivision development resulting from Horizon Plan. (Policy H4.2.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

**Action H4.E: GIS (part).** Create and maintain an ongoing and readily retrievable computerized database of characteristics and numbers of dwelling units i.e., demolition, new, renovated, etc. This information should be identified within census tracts to determine available housing stock and housing needs. Provide for coordination with other City-Parish departments that should be computerized (transportation, administration, planning, licensing, assessments, permitting, inspections, public safety, health and human services, etc.). See Land Use Implementation Section. (Policy H4.2.D, H4.3.E)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

### **Neighborhood Participation**

**Action H5.A: Neigh. Develop. & Assoc.** Strengthening of Neighborhood Associations. See Actions H1.B and H4.D. (Policy H5.1.A, H5.1.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

### **Element Review**

The changes recommended for the Action Items in the Housing Element of the Horizon Plan are intended to bring the wording of the Action Items into accord with the present status of programs. Four Action Items were assigned to new lead agencies. Three Action Items have been deleted because the strategies have been inappropriate. There have been no new Action Items added.

### **Public Services, Public Buildings and Health and Human Services Element**

## **Implementation Actions**

The achievement of the Public Services, Public Buildings, and Health and Human Services Element Goals, Objectives and Policies is dependent upon the establishment of specific programs. The recommended programs, grouped according to the three components of this element, are subgrouped within these components. The specific objective and policy that a program is designed to address are included.

## **Public Services**

### **Efficient, Effective, Coordinated, and Accessible Public Services**

**Action PS1.A: GIS.** Develop a parish-wide Geographic Information System (GIS) for computerized mapping and database management of all public services information (planning, permits, inspections, public safety, assessments, administration, transportation, health and human services, etc.) to allow for interagency cooperation, coordination, and efficiency. This should be done in cooperation with utility companies to share the expense for use of the information. See Land Use Implementation Section. (Goal PS1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PS1.B: Public Services Coordination.** Establish a task force to coordinate efforts with the Mayor-President for public service provision within the City-Parish. (Objectives PS 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

### **Effective and Appropriate Standards for Public Services**

**Action PS2.A: Federal Funds. (Reword)** Continue to assist other public services departments in developing innovative training programs. (Policy PS2.1.A, PS2.1.B, PS2.1.C, PS2.1.D, PS4.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PS2.B: PD Accreditation.** An accreditation program shall be adopted for the Baton Rouge Police Department with the funding necessary to implement such an accreditation program. (Policies 2.1.A, 2.1.B, 2.1.C, 2.1.D and Objective 4.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

## **Recruitment of Personnel**

**Action PS3.A: Salary Incentive.** Establish a salary incentive program for public services

personnel to encourage participation in job related education and training as well as performance excellence. (Objective PS3.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action PS3.B: Annual Review.** Annually review codes of conduct with public services personnel and with administrators. (Policy PS3.0, PS3.2, PS2.4.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

## Research and Innovation

**Action PS4.A: Job Training.** Encourage personnel to attend job-related training seminars and workshops that teach innovative methods for public services. (Policy PS4.1, PS4.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

## Evaluation

**Action PS5.A: Advisory Boards.** Appoint an advisory board for each of the public services departments to annually review and recommend improvements in policies and programs. Membership would include experts from the private sector, representatives from boards of professional organizations, professors from the two universities and commercial and industrial executives from related fields. (Objective PS5.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PS5.B: Monitor Performance.** Monitor performance of public services departments annually to evaluate the quantity and quality of services provided. (Objective PS5.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PS5.C: Evaluate Training. (Revised)** Annually evaluate current training methods and assess results according to expected performance levels. (Policy PS5.1.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PS5.D: Incentives & Rating.** Develop incentives and a rating system to enhance staff motivation and performance. (Policy PS5.1.D)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PS5.E: Volunteers.** Recruit and train volunteers to supplement public services provided to the community. (Policy PS5.2.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

### **Emergency Preparedness Education**

**Action PS6.A: E. Education/Public Information. (Revised)** Use a variety of media (such as Public Service Announcements, pamphlets, and brochures) to inform the citizenry of proper procedures in advance of and during emergency situations. (Policy PS6.1.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PS6.B: Warning System.** Develop an easily recognizable warning and notification system for emergency and disaster situations. (Policy PS6.1.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PS6.C: Volunteers.** Recruit and train volunteers to supplement existing public safety educational programs in the schools and community. (Policy PS6.5.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PS6.D: Increase Warning.** Increase the number of warning sirens throughout the City-Parish to 64. (Policy PS6.1.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1997

**Action PS6.E: Auto Telephone.** Implement the installation of automated telephone notification system. (Policy PS6.1.D)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

**Action PS6.F: City-Parish Services Awareness.** Promote community awareness of City-Parish services. (Objectives PS6.2, PS6.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

### **Adequate Funding**

**Action PS7.A: Replace Water Mains.** Institute a phased program for Baton Rouge Water Works, Red Oaks, and Parish Water Companies to replace inadequate mains with required 8 inch mains to provide additional fire hydrants. (Policy PS7.2.F)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PS7.B: User Fees.** Investigate the feasibility of user fees for provision of non-life threatening public services. (Objective PS7.5)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PS7.C: Privatization.** Investigate the feasibility of allowing private industry to bid on provision of public services where appropriate. (Objective PS7.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PS7.D: Fire Pumper & Trucks.** Replace one pumper truck for BR Fire Department and upgrade one truck each year thereafter. Replace one pumper truck every other year. (Policy PS7.2.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PS7.E: Fire Aerial Truck/3 Yr.** Replace one aerial truck every three (3) years. (Policy PS7.2.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

**Action PS7.F: 20% Police Fleet.** Replace 20% of police car fleet each year. (Policy PS7.2.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PS7.G: Radio System.** Monitor the trunked radio system for BRPD, BRFD, and DPW and other public service and public safety agencies. (Policy PS7.2.C)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1996

**Action PS7.H: Reporting System. (Revised)** Continue supporting an integrated, multi-jurisdictional reporting system for the Baton Rouge Police Department. (Policy PS7.2.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1996

**Action PS7.I: EMS Communications.** Evaluate the need for upgrading the communications systems in EMS units. (Policy PS7.2.G)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1997

**Action PS7.J: 15% Fire Department/Year. (Revised)** Replace 15% of fire department staff vehicles and support vehicles each year. (Objective PS7.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

## Goals, Objectives and Action Items

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**Action PS7.K: Budgeting for Personnel.** Perform annual budget reviews to ensure adequate funding levels for necessary personnel. (Objective PS7.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

**Action PS7.L: Budgeting for Public Service Programs.** Explore possibilities for alternative funding sources for programs through private contributions, public/private partnerships, federal or state grants, and other means. (Objective 7.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

## Public Buildings

### Siting and Development of Public Buildings

**Action PB1.A: PB Centralization.** Develop procedures and guidelines which can be used to determine whether proposed buildings should be centralized or decentralized. Interagency coordination should be established for centralization of federal, state, and local public buildings where appropriate. (Policy PB1.2.A, PB1.2.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PB1.B: Permit Review. (Revised)** Provide preliminary plan review services for construction. (Policy PB1.3.B)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PB1.C: C-P A/E Services.** All City-Parish agencies should administer the selection of professional AE services through the Architect/Engineer Selection Board. (Objective PB1.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PB1.D: Needs Assessment.** An annual survey should be conducted of all buildings owned by the City-Parish to determine the condition, cost of renovation, and cost of replacement. (Policy PB1.3.A)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PB1.E: Construct Facilities.** Construct needed facilities for the public services utilizing shared facilities when feasible:

- Repairs and alterations to other fire stations;

- Complete renovations to Police Headquarters;
- Four additional EMS stations by 2000 (36 additional staff);
- Two additional fire stations by 2000 (60 additional staff);
- Replacement of 3 additional branch libraries by 2000;
- Main EBRP library renovations/expansion;
- Three additional EMS stations by 2010 (27 additional staff);
- Three additional fire stations by 2010 (90 additional staff); and
- Replacement of one branch library by 2010.

(Goal PB1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PB1.F: Construct Facilities.** Construct needed facilities for the following:

- Centralized Municipal Building (65,500 sq. ft.);
- Office of the District Attorney (35,000 sq. ft.);
- Morgue of Coroner (1,000 sq. ft.); and
- Office space for Tax Assessor (3,030 sq. ft.).

(Goal PB1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1997

**Action PB1.G: Public Building Construction.** Encourage the construction of new public building projects in designated areas within the City-Parish to maximize utilization of existing infrastructure. (Objectives PB1.1, PB1.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

**Action PB1.H: Public/Private Partnerships.** Investigate public/private partnerships for facility sharing. (Objective PB1.5)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

## **Construction of Public Buildings**

**Action PB2.A: Staff Architect/DPW.** Provide a DPW staff architect to assist city-parish departments in developing building programs, establishing budgets, and reviewing design phases to ensure that public buildings meet or exceed regulatory requirements, and are exemplary in energy-conscious design, in use of alternative energy sources, and in selection of high quality, durable, low maintenance materials. (Objective PB2.2, PB2.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

## **Support and Enhance City-Parish Services**

**Action PB3.A: Support and Enhance City-Parish Services.** Shared use of facilities. See Action PB1.A. (Policy PB1.2.A, PB1.2.B, Goal PB3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

## **Public Building Development and Funding**

**Action PB4.A: Infrastructure.** Provide adequate funding for infrastructure improvements to support new public facilities and services and to maintain existing public buildings. See Land Use Implementation Section and Actions PB1 and PB6. (Goal PB4.0)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action: PB4.B: Public Building Needs.** Identify and assess public building needs within the Parish. (Objective PB4.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

## **Utilization and Maintenance**

**Action PB5.A: Manage/Main. Schedule.** Develop schedules for the management, repair, maintenance, renovation and upgrade of all public buildings and provide adequate funding to implement such schedules. Continually review and analyze the condition of existing buildings, including utilization review, before major renovations are scheduled. (Objective PB5.1, PB5.2, PB5.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PB5.B: Building Code Enforcement.** Administer and enforce the current building code inspection program uniformly throughout the City-Parish, requiring strict compliance with Building Code regulations. Inspectors should be certified and receive continuing education in their field. (Objective PB5.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

## Coordination

**Action PB6.A: Co-ord. C-P, LA, & USA.** Develop procedures to provide liaison between City-Parish, state, and federal agencies to coordinate plans for infrastructure improvements to serve major public facility construction projects within the City-Parish (including EBR Parish Utility Coordination Council, State Department of Transportation and Development, and Capital Region Planning Commission). (Objective PB6.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action PB6.B: Co-ord. Project Compliance. (Reword)** Establish a task force comprised of City-Parish agencies to review tax supported City-Parish agencies such as school board, BREC and the library system as well as state and federal construction projects to ensure their compliance with local ordinances and regulations. (Objective 6.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

## Health and Human Services

### Provision of Health and Human Services

**Action HH1.A: Health Services.** Coordinate City-Parish services for the provision of health services to the elderly, infants, children, and the indigent through interagency agreements with state and federal agencies. (Policy HH1.1.A, HH1.1.H)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action HH1.B: Federal Funds. (Revised)** Pursue federal funding to provide transitional residential care, group homes for mentally and emotionally handicapped, alcohol and drug abuse programs through Title XIX (Medicaid) of the Social Security Act funding. (Policy HH1.2.D, HH1.2.E, HH1.2.F, HH1.2.G)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action HH1.C: Health Unit Tax. (Reword)** Provide funding to support Parish Health Unit to maintain current level of services, to upgrade present facility, and to provide satellite facilities. (Policy HH1.1.A through HH1.1.G)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1995

**Action HH1.D: Adult Protection.** Provide funding for adult protection services programs. (Policy HH1.1.I)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

## **Goals, Objectives and Action Items**

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**Action HH1.E: Data.** Compile and analyze data on infant mortality, teenage pregnancy, different types of cancer, etc.; determine common factors (if any) and compile a plan for prevention or reduction of physical, social, health-related, and environmental factors contributing to disease. Distribute data to local health authorities to enable them to determine trends, impacts, and future needs. Utilize LSU, SU, insurance companies, and State Department information. (Policy HH1.5)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action HH1.F: Literacy Programs.** Promote literacy programs within East Baton Rouge Parish. (Objective HH1.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

**Action HH1.G: Public Education.** Encourage and promote programs which enhance public education within the City-Parish. (Objective HH1.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

## **Basic Needs**

**Action HH2.A: Involve Citizens.** Support citizen involvement in efforts to aid homeless and low-income people through publicity and volunteer awards programs. (Objective HH2.1 through HH2.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

**Action HH2.B: Food Services.** Support the provision of food services through the coordination of private agencies such as the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank and St. Vincent de Paul. (Objective HH2.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

**Action HH2.C: Clothing and Furnishings.** Support efforts to provide clothing and other essential items through the coordination with other private agencies such as the Salvation Army. (Objective HH2.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

**Action HH2.D: Public Transportation and Health.** Include major health care facilities and hospitals on public transportation routes. (Objective HH2.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

**Action HH3.B: Co-ordinate/Clearing.** Create a system that coordinates existing services,

publicizes such services and supports a centralized clearing house for human and health care services. (Objectives HH3.1, HH3.2, HH3.3, HH3.5)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action HH3.C: Innovative Health Care. (Reword)** Investigate opportunities to provide quality health care services while serving as the state's classroom for medical and clinical education thus ensuring health care effectiveness with an emphasis on preventative and primary care and continuing the system wide development of increased participation in disease management initiatives (diabetes, asthma, cancer, congestive heart failure and HIV) with the expectation of significant per patient improved health outcomes attributed to prevention of complications associated with these conditions. (Objective HH3.4)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

**Action HH3.D: Day Care.** Coordinate efforts to provide adequate day care facilities. Investigate and pursue cost-sharing programs with public and private agencies. (Objective HH3.6)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

## **Cultural Development**

**Action HH4.A: Grants/Research. (Reword)** To continue development of the arts and cultural facilities of the Arts Block. This project is a partnership between Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge, City-Parish, State of Louisiana, Baton Rouge Area Foundation and Louisiana State University. (Objective HH4.2, Policy HH4.2)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1992-93

**Action HH4.B: Tourism. (Revised)** Promote East Baton Rouge Parish as a tourist and convention destination. (Objective HH4.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

## **Funding**

**Action HH5.A: Staff in Order to Fund. (Reword)** Continue to work with City-Parish Grant Writer/Coordinator to aggressively pursue national foundation grants and federal funding for health and human services, and provide a liaison between other departments and nonprofit groups to coordinate grant application efforts. (Objective HH5.1)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1994

## **Goals, Objectives and Action Items**

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### **Action HH5.B: Human Services Funding Alternatives. (Deletion)**

**Action HH5.C: Education and Prevention Funding Alternatives.** Pursue alternate funding sources for the provision of education and prevention programs. (Objective HH5.3)

**Horizon Action Year:** 1998

### **Element Review**

The changes recommended for the Action Items in the Public Services, Public Buildings, and Health and Human Resources Element of the Horizon Plan are intended to bring the wording of the Action Items into accord with the present status of programs and to clarify the strategy of the Action Items. One Action Item has been proposed for deletion. Action Item HH5.B has been deleted because the strategy was covered in Action Item HH5.A. There have been no new Action Items added.

## Action Item Evaluation Summary

### Recommended Action

Horizon Plan Element	1. No Revisions	2. Proposed Rewording	3. Lead Agency Revision	4. Deletion	5. New Action Item	6. Reassign Action Item
Transportation	49	1	16	2	0	6
Housing	4	3	2	3	0	4
Land Use	49	0	6	0	0	2
Conservation and Environmental	17	1	10	3	0	2
Wastewater, Solid Waste, Drainage	20	3	2	2	0	1
Recreation and Open Space	18	0	1	2	0	0
Public Services, Public Buildings, and Health and Human Services	53	4	8	1	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>210</b>	* <b>12</b>	* <b>45</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>	* <b>15</b>

\* some action items have more than (1) one change

**Goals, Objectives and Action Items**

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## Chapter Four Concept Plan

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The Concept Plan, as its name implies, presents several conceptual ideas and proposals for future direction, refinement and implementation by the Planning Staff. The Concept Plan addresses implementation strategies including funding mechanisms to further implement the Horizon Plan.

The Concept Plan focuses on four main components: Land Use, Transportation, “Growth Centers” and Environment. Planners determined these four areas of emphasis were important for East Baton Rouge Parish and more attention and work was necessary in relation to these subjects.

An analysis of each of the four areas of the Concept Plan has led to a number of ideas and proposals regarding growth and development in East Baton Rouge Parish. Proposals include refined and updated land use designations, amendments to the “2010 Land Use Plan,” revisions to the Major Street Plan, and the revision and delineation of Horizon Plan Growth Centers.

The following sections explain the elements and proposals of the Concept Plan.

### **Land Use**

One of the major strategies within the comprehensive plan is the call for a Subarea/Neighborhood Planning Process, which is to include more detailed planning at the Subarea and neighborhood level, and citizen input in the process. This process was initiated in the Spring of 1998.

The Subarea/Neighborhood Planning Process allows the Staff of the Planning Commission to meet with residents and discuss issues and aesthetics of development within a Subarea and neighborhood context. These meetings are intended to improve communication channels with concerned residents as to the quality of life within their neighborhoods. Specifically, the intention is to improve communications with neighborhood and civic associations to: 1) redevelop declining neighborhoods; 2) evaluate land use for appropriateness and recommend changes where applicable; and 3) establish a process that will assist in development of the

ongoing Parishwide Capital Improvements Program by helping to establish priorities for the neighborhood residents.

Subarea and neighborhood plans, formulated by Planning Commission Staff, including the proposed land use amendments, are taken to Public Meetings within each of the Subareas. Residents of the area then have the opportunity to view the plans and make comments and suggestions to planners. The input received at the Public Meetings will be considered in the final analysis of Subarea/Neighborhood Plans before the plans enter the adoption process.

For the purpose of Subarea/Neighborhood planning, the Planning Staff redefined and updated the Residential and “Commercial/Office” land use categories from the Horizon Plan’s “2010 Land Use Plan,” which proposes land uses for the entire Parish on a parcel-by-parcel basis. The revised land use categories provide planners with more flexibility and additional options for the more detailed planning involved at the Subarea and neighborhood level. The redefined land use categories, adopted by the Metropolitan Council on February 18, 1998, are as follows:

### **Residential**

#### Low Density Residential

includes areas where single family detached housing will be the predominate land use

#### Medium Density Residential

includes areas where small single family housing, two family housing and multi-family housing of a spacious character, and garden homes and townhomes will be predominate

#### High Density Residential

includes areas where multi-family housing, high-rise housing structures, and very small, tightly spaced single family housing will be predominate

### **Office**

#### Neighborhood Office

includes areas of small offices, professional offices, and personal services to serve the needs of surrounding residential areas

#### General Office

includes areas where large or multi-storied professional, general administration or non-retail sales offices are located

## **Commercial**

### Neighborhood Commercial

includes areas of small retail stores, such as corner groceries, cafes, and drugstores to serve the needs of surrounding residential neighborhoods

### Light Commercial

includes a variety of commercial and miscellaneous services, activities generally serving a wide area and located primarily along existing major thoroughfares.

### Heavy Commercial

includes a variety of commercial and miscellaneous service activities, such as hotels, shopping malls, and department stores which are relatively large in size, generate a large volume of traffic or impact large areas of land and existing development

### Commercial Warehousing

includes facilities characterized by extensive warehousing, frequent heavy trucking activity, open storage of material, or nuisances such as dust, noise, and odors, but not involved in manufacturing or production

Under the previous land use categories, Medium and High Density Residential land uses were grouped together under the broad category, Medium/High Density Residential. Previously Commercial/Office was also a single, broad land use. Map 18 is a general representation of the Horizon Land Uses in East Baton Rouge Parish.

## **Transportation**

Planning for transportation needs is typically one of the most daunting and pressing issues for many cities. The pace and magnitude of growth and development necessitates that a comprehensive, yet flexible, transportation plan be developed, implemented and updated to ensure that communities maintain a safe and efficient transportation network.

Since 1950, Baton Rouge has relied upon the Major Street Plan as the means for identifying and providing for the future transportation needs of the City-Parish. The Major Street Plan identifies new roads and streets as well as improvements such as street widening or repaving on the existing transportation network. Also, the Major Street Plan helps to direct growth and development within the City-Parish by the programming of major transportation routes and prioritizing projects for future funding and construction. The Major Street Plan is a critical component to the long-range planning process.

As with the Update Process amendments related to Land Use, the Transportation revisions were reviewed by the Planning Commission Staff and shown to the public at a series of Subarea/Neighborhood Meetings. Amendments to the Major Street Plan were adopted with each Planning District Land Use Plan.

As a result of the Subarea/Neighborhood Planning Process for Transportation, the following Major Street Plan amendments were adopted:

The Major Street Plan Standard for Park Boulevard was reduced from four (4) lanes with eighty foot right-of-way to two (2) lanes with eighty foot right-of-way.

The Major Street Plan Standard for Thomas E. Delpit Road was reduced from four (4) lanes with eighty foot right-of-way to two (2) lanes with eighty foot right-of-way.

Sharp Road, from Choctaw Drive to a point just north of Florida Boulevard, was deleted.

West Parker Boulevard, from Burbank Drive to River Road, was deleted.

In January 2002, Midway Boulevard and Essen Parkway were added to the Major Street Plan. These were the first additions since August 2000. Midway Boulevard runs from Interstate 10 to Perkins Road and Essen Parkway connects Bluebonnet Boulevard to Essen Lane. The amended version of the Major Street Plan is shown on Map 19.

## **Growth Centers**

One aspect of the Ten-Year Update of the Horizon Plan has been a review of the “Growth Centers” as defined on the “2010 Land Use Plan.” As a result of the review, the Growth Centers have been revised and updated.

Growth Centers are areas of concentrated higher intensity uses such as shopping, services, offices, public facilities, medium and high density residential development, cultural, entertainment and recreational activities. The “2010 Land Use Plan” denotes Growth Centers as “Regional” or “Community” with dashed lines outlining the areas.

The boundaries of several Growth Centers were moved or expanded to better reflect current development trends. Planners also changed the Horizon Land Use designation of parcels from Commercial/Office to the redefined land use categories adopted by the Metropolitan Council Resolution Number 37746, on April 16, 1998. The determinations were made based on existing land use, existing zoning, parcel boundaries and adjacent land uses.

As with the other elements of the Horizon Plan, the Growth Center proposals received Staff recommendation and were taken to the Subarea/Neighborhood meetings for public review. The Growth Centers were adopted on a Planning District basis with the Land Use and Major Street Plan amendments taken to the Planning Commission and Metropolitan Council Hearings.

The following are the adopted definitions for Growth Centers:

**Regional Growth Centers** include regional shopping centers, institutions, high density office and residential complexes, medical centers and other major activities serving the entire Parish.

**Community Growth Centers** include community shopping centers, medium to high density office and residential complexes, public and recreational facilities and similar activities serving community areas.

The following list of Growth Centers were amended during the Update Process.

### **Regional**

Interstate 10 and Siegen Lane  
Interstate 12 and O'Neal Lane  
Downtown Baton Rouge  
Florida Boulevard, Government Street and Acadian Thruway (MidCity)  
Airline Highway and Florida Boulevard  
Hooper Road, Joor Road and Sullivan Road

### **Community**

Highland Road, Burbank Drive and Lee Drive  
Jefferson Highway, Old Hammond Highway and Interstate 12  
Coursey Boulevard and Jones Creek Road  
Airline Highway and Old Hammond Highway  
Florida Boulevard and Sherwood Forest Boulevard  
Florida Boulevard, Old Hammond Highway and Choctaw Drive  
Greenwell Springs Road, Sullivan Road and Frenchtown Road  
Airline Highway and Greenwell Street

The Growth Centers are denoted on Map 20 as circles. The Advance Planning Division maintains the boundaries of the Growth Centers on the "2010 Land Use Plan" in the Planning Commission Office.

Techniques for managing the Growth Centers will be developed in future years. Potential methods for guiding their growth and development include performance standards, urban design guidelines and growth management techniques.

## Environment

Environmental planning is an important aspect in growth and development in East Baton Rouge Parish. Over the last five years there has been increased emphasis on environmental planning techniques throughout the City-Parish.

In 2000, the City-Parish received a \$200,000 grant from the EPA for a Brownfields Pilot Program. Designed as a program to operate within the framework of the Horizon Plan, the Brownfields Pilot is the foundational step for the Baton Rouge Brownfields Economic Program (BRBP). A brownfield is defined by the EPA as "abandoned, idled or underused industrial and commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination." This leads to development outside of urban areas in pristine "greenfields". The goal of the brownfields program is to encourage revitalization and reutilization of the Nation's urban brownfields.

Since the overall growth scenario established by the Horizon Plan is infill and redevelopment and since the Pilot targets abandoned properties predominantly found within the urban core, the BRBP is viewed as a powerful tool to be used towards implementation of the Horizon Plan. The program identifies abandoned properties with low level environment contamination that have redevelopment potential. The program will help channel development into areas already disturbed and reduce development of natural lands.

The goal of the Baton Rouge Brownfields Program is to foster the redevelopment of brownfields in Baton Rouge, thereby generating a positive force for the redevelopment of blighted property. Currently the Baton Rouge Brownfields Program is involved with several active sites. The North Boulevard Improvements Project is set to receive around \$20,000 in Brownfields Pilot Grant Funding. In addition to Brownfields Grant funds, an additional \$80,000 in USTfields Grant funds has been allocated to the clean-up involved with the underground storage tanks along North Boulevard. In 2002, new federal legislation created additional brownfields funding for environmental assessments and site clean up. This new legislation allows the Planning Commission to apply for over one million dollars in brownfields grants each year.

Recognizing the importance of wetlands and other ecosystems, the Planning Commission works to ensure that sensitive areas are identified and considered in land use planning and future development scenarios. In order to achieve this goal, a wetlands program was established. In 1999, the City-Parish Planning Commission received funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to implement the wetlands program. A Steering Committee comprised of environmental professionals was then established to guide the process. The Planning Commission is working with Louisiana State University's Wetlands Biochemistry Institute (WBI) to continue the Identification and Characterization of Wetlands Project and to study effective site design methods for establishing sound environment practices for development in and around wetlands.

The Planning Commission has also organized an educational outreach program to promote an understanding of wetlands and environmental values. Designed to reach a diverse audience, the outreach campaign uses a variety of events and information channels to make learning about the environment not only fun and interesting, but also challenging and constructive. Planning Commission sponsored events to date have included:

- **American Planning Association Mobile Workshop** Delegates from across the United States attended a full day workshop at Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center and ended at Alligator Bayou and Bluff Swamp Wildlife Refuge;
- **Developers' Roundtable** The development community met to discuss the benefits and impediments to sustainable development practices. Facilitator Dr. Rod Emmer, Baton Rouge's FEMA representative, asked developers, engineers and real estate professionals for their comments about site design practices recommended to minimize the impact of development in and around wetlands.
- **Wetlands Education Booth at Earth Day** Three interactive stations offered opportunities to learn about wetlands. The children's station presented "Knee Deep in Louisiana Wetlands," with songs, pictures, and videos about Wetlands. The other two stations challenged high school students and adults to learn about the impacts of urbanization on the watershed and how design can be used to mitigate these impacts. By taking a test, participants won an Earth Day T-shirt.

To demonstrate that a balance between development and environmental conservation can be achieved, the Planning Commission, in partnership with the Baton Rouge Recreation and Parks Commission (BREC), completed the Wetlands Restoration and Nonprofit Source Project at Burbank Park in 2000. This project restored a wetlands area next to a soccer field and the site provides great potential as an ecological laboratory.

The site now serves as a wetlands habitat for native species and wildlife. The site has also been observed filtering stormwater runoff from the adjacent playing fields. The project shows how restoration of the original hydrological structures on a previously drained site can bring a wetlands system back to life. After reconstruction of the topography and return of the water, native wetland trees and vegetation were planted. A retention pond receives runoff from the soccer fields, parking lots and roadways. The pond feeds the wetlands, which act as a buffer between the developed area and downstream water systems such as Bayou Fountain and Bayou Manchac. Impacts from fertilizers, pesticides and sediments are reduced and on-site water storage and habitat values are increased.

## Planning District Update Meetings

Planning District Update Meetings were held in each of the 16 Planning Districts, giving residents of East Baton Rouge Parish the opportunity to review and comment on proposals and amendments emerging from the Ten-Year Update Process and Concept Plan. Each Planning District Update Meeting was held in the early evening on a weeknight in a centrally or easily accessible location for Planning District residents. At the meetings, tables were established around the room for each of the Subareas, and the Transportation and Environment elements of the Concept Plan. Planning Staff was available at the tables to explain the amendments and proposals, and to receive public input from the meeting participants.

The following is the Public Meeting schedule for the Subarea/Neighborhood Planning Process:

Planning District 16	Subareas 1 and 2	April 21, 1998, St. Jude Catholic Church, 9150 Highland Road.
	Subarea 3	May 21, 1998, Highland Road Park Recreation Center, 14024 Highland Road.
	Subareas 4 and 5	June 16, 1998, Gt. George Fire Department- Station #3, 7027 Antioch Road.
Planning District 15	Subarea 1	July 21, 1998, Southeast Middle School Gymnasium, 15000 S. Harrell's Ferry Road.
	Subarea 2	August 4, 1998, Columbia Medical Center Physicians Plaza 2.
	Subarea 3	August 20, 1998, Jones Creek Library, 6222 Jones Creek Road.
	Subarea 4	September 1, 1998, Woodlawn High School Library, 14939 Tiger Bend Road.
Planning District 14	Subarea 1	September 15, 1998, Jefferson Highway Center Park (BREC) Blue Room, 8133 Jefferson Highway.
	Subarea 2	September 29, 1998, Westdale Elementary School Cafeteria, 2000 College Drive.
	Subarea 3	October 20, 1998, Kenilworth Middle School, 7600 Boone Drive.
Planning District 13	Subareas 1 and 3	February 4, 1999, LA School for the Deaf Auditorium, 2888 Brightside Drive.
	Subarea 2	March 4, 1999, Robert E. Lee High School Library, 1105 Lee Drive.
Planning District 12	Subarea 1	April 8, 1999, Twin Oaks Elementary School Library, 819 Trammell Drive.
	Subareas 2 and 3	June 10, 1999, River Oaks Elementary School Library, 950 Fountainebleau Drive.

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**Concept Plan**

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Planning District 11	Subarea 1	July 8, 1999, Northdale Magnet Academy Library, 10755 Cletus Drive.
	Subarea 2	August 12, 1999, Audubon Elementary School Library, 10730 Goodwood Boulevard.
	Subarea 3	September 9, 1999, Cedarcrest Southmoor Elementary, 10187 Twin Cedars.
Planning District 10	Subareas 1 and 2	March 14, 2000, Bon Carre' Town Center, 7359 Florida Boulevard.
	Subarea 3	April 11, 2000, Westdale Middle School, 5650 Claycut Road.
	Subarea 4	May 9, 2000, (BREC) Independence Park, 7500 Independence Boulevard.
Planning District 9	Subarea 1	June 13, 2000, Baton Rouge Magnet High School, 2825 Government Street.
	Subarea 2	July 11, 2000, Capitol Middle School, 4200 Gus Young Avenue.
	Subarea 3	August 8, 2000, Baton Rouge Visual and Performing Arts, 2040 South Acadian Way.
	Subarea 4	September 12, 2000, (BREC) Nairn Recreation Center, 2800 Nairn Drive.
Planning District 8	Subareas 1 and 2	October 19, 1999, Metropolitan Council Chambers, 222 St. Louis Street.
	Subareas 3 and 4	November 9, 1999, Leo S. Butler Community Center, 950 East Washington.
Planning District 7	Subareas 1 and 2	October 10, 2000, Delmont Service Center, 3535 Riley Street.
	Subarea 3	November 7, 2000, Istrouma High School, 3730 Winbourne Avenue.
Planning District 6	Subarea 1	March 20, 2001, Central High School, 10200 East Brookside Drive.
	Subarea 2	April 10, 2001, Greenwell Springs Regional Library, 11300 Greenwell Springs Road.
	Subarea 3	May 8, 2001, Bellingrath Hills Elementary School, 6612 Audusson Drive.
Planning District 5	Subarea 1	June 12, 2001, Brookstown Elementary School, 4375 East Brookstown Drive.
	Subarea 2	July 10, 2001, Glen Oaks Elementary and Junior High School, 5300 Monarch Street.
	Subarea 3	August 14, 2001, Glen Oaks Park Elementary School, 5656 Lanier Drive.

## Concept Plan

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Planning District 4	Subareas 1 and 2	October 9, 2001, Progress Elementary, 855 Progress Road.
	Subareas 3 and 4	November 13, 2001, Scotlandville Magnet High School, 9870 Scotland Avenue.
Planning District 3	Subareas 1 and 3	February 19, 2002, Greater Baton Rouge Zoo, 3601 Thomas Road.
	Subarea 2	March 12, 2002, Alsen Park, 601 Old Rafe Mayer Road.
Planning District 2	Subareas 1, 2 and 3	April 9, 2002, Plank Road Park, 19550 Plank Road, Zachary.
	Subareas 4 and 5	May 14, 2002, Jackson Park, 12250 Sullivan Road.
Planning District 1	Subareas 1, 2 and 3	September 10, 2002, Northeast High School, 12828 Jackson Road, Zachary.

Following a Planning District Update Meeting, planners reviewed public comments and, in some cases, revised the amendments. The Planning District Amendments were then proposed to the Planning Commission and the Metropolitan Council for approval.

## Land Use Amendments and Population Changes

The Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on the amendments for each of the 16 Planning Districts. Amendments for each Planning District were recommended for approval and forwarded to the Metropolitan Council. The Metropolitan Council approved the amendments for all 16 Planning Districts between 1998 and 2002.

The amendments to the land use plan within each Planning District are summarized on the following pages. Also as a part of the Planning District Update Process, planners updated and formulated population estimates for each of the 16 Planning Districts. The updated population statistics for each Planning District also are presented.

The 1990 U.S. Census data was used as the baseline for the original Horizon Plan population projection. The updated Planning District population was calculated by the Planning Commission Staff using Census 2000 information. Population projections were estimated based on the number of new residential building permits for each Census Block Group. Trends in single family and multi-family development were observed using permit information from recent years.

## **Planning District 16**

### **Land Use Plan Amendments**

Planning District 16 amendments involved adjusting parcels to reflect the development presence of two Growth Centers, the Major Street Plan and local environmental limitations. Planned Unit Development designation was made for several large tracts of undeveloped land within the Growth Centers. Parcels along Kenilworth Parkway were amended to Residential Estate/Agriculture to reflect a "Conservation Area" designation. BREC parks were made Recreation land use. General Office, Heavy Commercial and Commercial Warehousing are now the land use for Perkins Road, Highland Road and Interstate 10 area.

**Metropolitan Council Approval** January 20, 1999, Resolution 39258

### **Planning District 16 Population**

The 1990 U.S. Census showed Planning District 16 as having a population of 34,121. The 2000 Census showed Planning District 16 as having a population of 48,437—a 30 percent (30%) increase. Planning District 16 is the most populated and fastest growing Planning District in East Baton Rouge Parish. Since January 2000, Planning District 16 has had the highest number of subdivision approvals. According to Planning Commission estimates based on new residential building permit information, the population of Planning District 16 will increase by 26 percent (26%) to 65,714 by 2010.

## **Planning District 15**

### **Land Use Plan Amendments**

Planning District 15 amendments also involved adjusting parcels to reflect the development presence of Growth Centers, the Major Street Plan and local environmental limitations. Planned Unit Development designation was given to a tract of undeveloped land southwest of the intersection of Millerville Road and Interstate 12 and for several tracts northwest of the intersection of Jones Creek Road and Coursey Boulevard. BREC properties were amended to Recreation land use. Several parcels along Sherwood Forest Boulevard were amended to General Office, Light Commercial or Neighborhood Commercial to reflect existing zoning, existing land use and neighborhood context. Recommendations for several parcels along O'Neal Lane amended the land use to Heavy or Light Commercial depending on their neighborhood context, underlying zoning and existing land use. A few large parcels within the 100-year floodplain and "Conservation Area" were amended to Residential Estate/Agriculture. Several other changes reflect low and medium density residential development.

**Metropolitan Council Approval** January 20, 1999, Resolution 39260

### **Planning District 15 Population**

The 1990 Census showed Planning District 15 as having a population of 29,041. The 2000 Census showed Planning District 15 as having a population of 34,029—a 15 percent (15%) increase. Planning District 15 has the second highest total population in the Parish. According to Planning Commission estimates based on new residential building permit information, the population of Planning District 15 will increase by 20 percent (20%) to 42,366 by 2010.

## **Planning District 14**

### **Land Use Plan Amendments**

Planning District 14 amendments are located within Growth Centers and/or along Major Streets. A boundary change for the Community Growth Center was made at its eastern end (to add several C2, Heavy Commercial, zoned adjacent parcels). Two BREC parks were amended for Recreation land use. Several changes reflect medium density and high density residential development. One change amended a fire station to Public Semi-Public. Parcels along Essen Lane were made General Office, Light Commercial or Heavy Commercial depending on their neighborhood context, underlying zoning and existing land use. An area west of Bluebonnet Boulevard and north of Summa Avenue has been changed to Planned Unit Development reflecting its location and the opportunity for comprehensive development and local environmental limitations of the area. Other changes reflect medium density and high density residential development.

**Metropolitan Council Approval** January 20, 1999, Resolution 39259

### **Planning District 14 Population**

The 1990 Census showed Planning District 14 as having a population of 29,813. The 2000 Census showed Planning District 14 as having a population of 33,698—a 12 percent (12%) increase. According to Planning Commission estimates based on new residential permit information, the population of Planning District 14 will increase by 16 percent (16%) to 36,016 by 2010.

## **Planning District 13**

### **Land Use Plan Amendments**

Planning District 13 amendments reflect the new Horizon Plan land use categories and are located within Growth Centers, along Major Streets and reflect the development status of these areas. Several parcels along Perkins Road were amended to Neighborhood Commercial or Light Commercial depending on their neighborhood context, underlying zoning and existing land use. Near LSU, land use was amended to Medium or High Density Residential, Light Commercial and Neighborhood Office to reflect underlying zoning and existing land use. The area of One Lakeshore Place was changed to High Density Residential, reflecting existing zoning and existing land use. The adjacent parcels under litigation have no recommendation. This includes the parcel between the apartment complex and Stanford Avenue. One other change was to amend the Planned Unit

Development land use designation, extracting one parcel developed as Low Density Residential and to add another area as PUD land use. Another amendment was to the non-industrial area of the Mississippi River batture and levee to Residential Estate/Agriculture.

**Metropolitan Council Approval** May 12, 1999, Resolution 39504

### **Planning District 13 Population**

The 1990 Census showed Planning District 13 as having a population of 21,921. The 2000 Census showed Planning District 13 as having a population of 26,092— a 16 percent (16%) increase. According to Planning Commission estimates based on new residential building permits, the population of Planning District 13 will increase by 11 percent (11%) to 29,276 by 2010.

### **Planning District 12**

#### **Land Use Plan Amendments**

Planning District 12 amendments are located within the Growth Center, along Major Streets and reflect the development status and underlying zoning of these areas. Changes reflect BREC parks that were not accurately delineated. Florida Boulevard at Sherwood Forest Boulevard has been changed to Heavy Commercial. Several areas were amended to Medium or High Density Residential based upon their zoning and existing land use. Parcels along Old Hammond Highway were changed to Neighborhood Office, Neighborhood Commercial, Light Commercial and Medium Density Residential to reflect the local context. Light Commercial and Heavy Commercial along O’Neal Lane was designated. Several parcels adjacent to the Amite River and within the 100-year flood zone were amended to Residential Estate/Agriculture land use.

**Metropolitan Council Approval** July 21, 1999, Resolution 39633

### **Planning District 12 Population**

The 1990 Census showed Planning District 12 as having a population of 28,300. The 2000 Census showed Planning District 12 as having a population of 29,375— a four percent (4%) increase. According to Planning Commission estimates based on new residential building permit information, the population of Planning District 12 will increase by five percent (5%) to 30,924 by 2010.

### **Planning District 11**

#### **Land Use Plan Amendments**

Planning District 11 includes amendments to parcels along Airline Highway. To reflect the underlying zoning and Growth Center, Heavy Commercial land use along Florida Boulevard from Airline Highway to Sherwood Forest Boulevard was largely changed to Light Commercial. Several areas of Medium/High Density Residential were amended to either Medium Density Residential or High Density Residential based upon their zoning and existing land use. A BREC park north of

Jones Creek was changed to reflect its accurate dimensions.

**Metropolitan Council Approval** November 17, 1999, Resolution 39920

### **Planning District 11 Population**

The 1990 Census showed Planning District 11 as having a population of 20,803. The 2000 Census showed Planning District 11 as having a population of 22,036– a six percent (6%) increase. According to Planning Commission estimates based on new residential building permit information, the population of Planning District 11 will increase by four percent (4%) to 22,869 by 2010.

### **Planning District 10**

#### **Land Use Plan Amendments**

Planning District 10 was amended in Melrose East for Medium Density Residential to reflect the development. The undeveloped Bird Tract, also near Melrose, was changed to Commercial Warehousing. The Industrial land use and M1 zoned area south of Lobdell Avenue and Greenwell Springs Road changed to Medium Density Residential to reflect the new apartments in this area. Parcels along Florida Boulevard are now Light or Heavy Commercial. Public/Semi-Public was recommended to match several parcels existing land use. Except a few parcels that changed to Neighborhood Office or Neighborhood Commercial, all parcels previously designated Commercial/Office changed to Light Commercial. Medium/High Density Residential designations were given either a Medium or High Density Residential classification depending on current use and underlying zoning.

**Metropolitan Council Approval** June 21, 2000, Resolution 40358

### **Planning District 10 Population**

The 1990 Census showed Planning District 10 as having a population of 17,088. The 2000 Census showed Planning District 10 as having a population of 18,612– an eight percent (8%) increase. According to Planning Commission estimates based on new residential building permit information, the population of Planning District 10 will increase by four percent (4%) to 19,434 by 2010.

## **Planning District 9**

### **Land Use Plan Amendments**

Planning District 9 had Commercial/Office land use parcels along the Major Streets changed to Light Commercial, Heavy Commercial and Commercial Warehousing depending upon their neighborhood context and proximity to the Community Growth Center. Generally, those areas designated for Medium/High Density have been amended to Medium Density Residential. Almost all of the parcels designated as Commercial/Office changed to Light Commercial. Those parcels not designated Light Commercial were made General Office. Tracts along Government Street changed to Light Commercial and Neighborhood Office. Along South Acadian Thruway, designated Commercial/Office was changed to Light Commercial and General Office. Perkins Road includes Neighborhood Commercial, Neighborhood Office and High Density Residential. Light Commercial along College Drive was designated and Acadian Thruway had amendments to General Office.

**Metropolitan Council Approval** October 18, 2000, Resolution 40602

### **Planning District 9 Population**

The 1990 Census showed Planning District 9 as having a population of 24,162. The 2000 Census showed Planning District 9 as having a population of 22,440— an eight percent (8%) decrease. According to Planning Commission estimates based on new residential building permits, the population of Planning District 9 will increase by two percent (2%) to 22,859 by 2010.

## **Planning District 8**

### **Land Use Plan Amendments**

Planning District 8 had changes in the Standard Heights and Northdale neighborhoods. Neighborhood Commercial and Light Commercial reflect the underlying zoning and adjacent land uses. Several parcels along River Road are now Heavy Commercial or Public/Semi-Public. In Spanish Town parcels were recommended for Medium Density Residential and High Density Residential. Heavy Commercial, General Office, Light Commercial and Public/Semi Public categories reflect uses in the Central Business District. In Beauregard Town, most parcels changed to Medium Density Residential and General Office. Heavy Commercial uses were designated in Catfish Town. Medium Density Residential, PUD and Light Commercial are along Interstate 110. General Office is the land use along Main Street and Heavy Commercial. At Florida Street and the Kansas City Southern Railroad, an amendment to Planned Unit Development was made. Recreation land use was made for the BREC parks. Nicholson Drive, Highland Road, Eddie Robinson Drive and Thomas E. Delpit Road have Neighborhood Office, General Office, Neighborhood Commercial and Light Commercial designations. An area of Industrial land use was amended to Medium Density Residential to reflect development.

**Metropolitan Council Approval** December 7, 1999, Resolution 39958

### **Planning District 8 Population**

The 1990 Census showed Planning District 8 as having a population of 19,925. The 2000 Census showed Planning District 8 as having a population of 18,065– a decrease of nine percent (9%). According to Planning Commission estimates based on new residential building permits and information received from the Downtown Development District, the population of Planning District 8 will increase by 12 percent (12%) to 20,411 by 2010. Increased population is expected due to rapid growth in the downtown area.

### **Planning District 7**

#### **Land Use Plan Amendments**

Planning District 7 parcels previously designated as Commercial/Office along Scenic Highway and Plank Road have been changed to Heavy Commercial, Light Commercial and General Office. Near Lorraine Street, previously designated Commercial/Office lots have been changed to Recreation, Public/Semi-Public and Light Commercial. Weller Street has Light Commercial or Neighborhood Office designations from Plank Road to Scenic Highway. Medium/High Density Residential parcels have been changed to Medium Density Residential and High Density Residential. Parcels along North Foster Drive and Acadian Thruway have been amended to Light Commercial and Neighborhood Commercial.

**Metropolitan Council Approval** December 12, 2000, Resolution 40695

### **Planning District 7 Population**

The 1990 Census showed Planning District 7 as having a population of 20,884. The 2000 Census showed Planning District 7 as having a population of 20,810– a slight decrease of just under one percent (1%). According to Planning Commission estimates based on new residential building permit information, the population of Planning District 7 will increase by about one percent (1%) to 21,083 by 2010.

### **Planning District 6**

#### **Land Use Plan Amendments**

Planning District 6 parcels south of Hooper Road were changed to Heavy Commercial, Light Commercial, Neighborhood Commercial, General Office and Neighborhood Office. Parcels on Sullivan Road previously designated Commercial/Office have been changed to Neighborhood Commercial and Low Density Residential. Large tracts of land located along the Comite River were designated Residential Estate/Agriculture because of their location within a “Conservation Area.” On Greenwell Springs Road, parcels were changed to Heavy Commercial, Light Commercial and Medium Density Residential. The land use along Flannery Road has been amended to Heavy Commercial, Light Commercial, Neighborhood Commercial and Low Density Residential. There

was a change to Light Commercial on Magnolia Bridge Road.

**Metropolitan Council Approval** July 18, 2001, Resolution 41126

### **Planning District 6 Population**

The 1990 Census showed Planning District 6 as having a population of 25,257. The 2000 Census showed Planning District 6 as having a population of 27,321– an increase of eight percent (8%). According to Planning Commission estimates based on new residential building permit information, the population of Planning District 6 will increase by nine percent (9%) to 29,953 by 2010.

### **Planning District 5**

#### **Land Use Plan Amendments**

Planning District 5 had changes along Plank Road and Airline Highway. Parcels are designated Commercial Warehousing, Heavy Commercial, Neighborhood Commercial, General Office, Neighborhood Office, High Density Residential and Medium Density Residential. Along Evangeline Street parcels previously designated Commercial/Office have been amended to Heavy Commercial, Light Commercial and Neighborhood Commercial. Changes to land use on Greenwell Springs Road include Neighborhood Commercial, Neighborhood Office and Public/Semi-Public. Changes along Hooper Road have parcels designated Light Commercial and Heavy Commercial. The large parcels next to the Comite River, have been changed from Low Density Residential to Residential Estate/Agriculture.

**Metropolitan Council Approval** October 17, 2001, Resolution 41344

### **Planning District 5 Population**

The 1990 Census showed Planning District 5 as having a population of 32,623. The 2000 Census showed Planning District 5 as having a population of 33,949– an increase of four percent (4%). Of the 16 Planning Districts, Planning District 5 has the third largest population in the Parish. According to Planning Commission estimates based on new residential building permit information, the population of Planning District 5 will increase by one percent (1%) to 34,297 by 2010.

### **Planning District 4**

#### **Land Use Plan Amendments**

Planning District 4, in the area of Southern University, had parcels change to Light Commercial, Medium Density Residential and High Density Residential. Near the Baton Rouge Barge Canal Road parcels designated Industrial have been changed to Public/Semi-Public. Along Scenic Highway, Heavy Commercial and Light Commercial has been designated. Newly acquired airport properties

are Transportation, Communication and Utilities land use. North of Harding Boulevard, parcels designated Commercial/Office and Industrial have been amended Light Commercial, Heavy Commercial, Medium Density Residential and Public/Semi-Public.

**Metropolitan Council Approval** December 11, 2001, Resolution 41452

### **Planning District 4 Population**

The 1990 Census showed Planning District 4 as having a population of 19,410. The 2000 Census showed Planning District 4 as having a population of 17,224— a decrease of about 11 percent (11%). According to Planning Commission estimates based on new residential building permit information, the population of Planning District 4 will increase by about four percent (4%) to 18,011 by 2010.

### **Planning District 3**

#### **Land Use Plan Amendments**

Planning District 3 had various parcels along Plank Road and Blount Road designated as Heavy and Light Commercial. Along Scenic Highway and Thomas Road changes for Heavy, Light and Neighborhood Commercial were made. A mix of land uses are along Scotland-Zachary Highway (LA 19), including Light Commercial, Neighborhood Commercial and General Office.

**Metropolitan Council Approval** May 15, 2002, Resolution 41762

### **Planning District 3 Population**

The 1990 Census showed Planning District 3 (including City of Baker) as having a population of 19,580. The 2000 Census showed Planning District 3 as having a population of 19,947— a two percent (2%) increase. According to Planning Commission estimates based on new residential building permit information, the population of Planning District 3 will increase by an additional three percent (3%) to 20,164 by 2010.

### **Planning District 2**

#### **Land Use Plan Amendments**

Planning District 2 had parcels designated Low Density Residential by the Comite River change to Residential Estate/Agriculture. Light Commercial is designated in place of Commercial/Office along Plank Road. General Office changed the land use in the Growth Center. Other amendments included designating parcels for Light and Heavy Commercial along Hooper Road. There were also Medium Density Residential amendments in the Subareas.

**Metropolitan Council Approval** August 26, 2002

### **Planning District 2 Population**

The 1990 Census showed Planning District 2 (including City of Baker and City of Zachary) as having a population of 23,518. The 2000 Census showed Planning District 2 as having a population of 24,628– an increase of five percent (5%). According to Planning Commission estimates based on new residential building permit information, the population of Planning District 2 will increase by ten percent (10%) to 27,275 by 2010.

## **Planning District 1**

### **Land Use Plan Amendments**

Planning District 1 has proposed amendments along Scenic Highway for Residential Estate/Agriculture. Parcels along Port Hudson-Plains Road are to change to Recreation and Neighborhood Office. Low Density Residential has been proposed along Plank Road between Port Hudson-Pride Road and Zachary-Deerford. Parcels with undefined land use have been proposed a designation of Residential Estate/Agriculture and Low Density Residential.

**Metropolitan Council Approval** Hearing scheduled in December.

### **Planning District 1 Population**

The 1990 Census showed Planning District 1 (including City of Zachary) as having a population of 13,659. The 2000 Census showed Planning District 1 as having a population of 16,389– a 17 percent (17%) increase. According to Planning Commission estimates based on new residential building permit information, the population of Planning District 1 will increase by three percent (3%) to 16,918 by 2010.

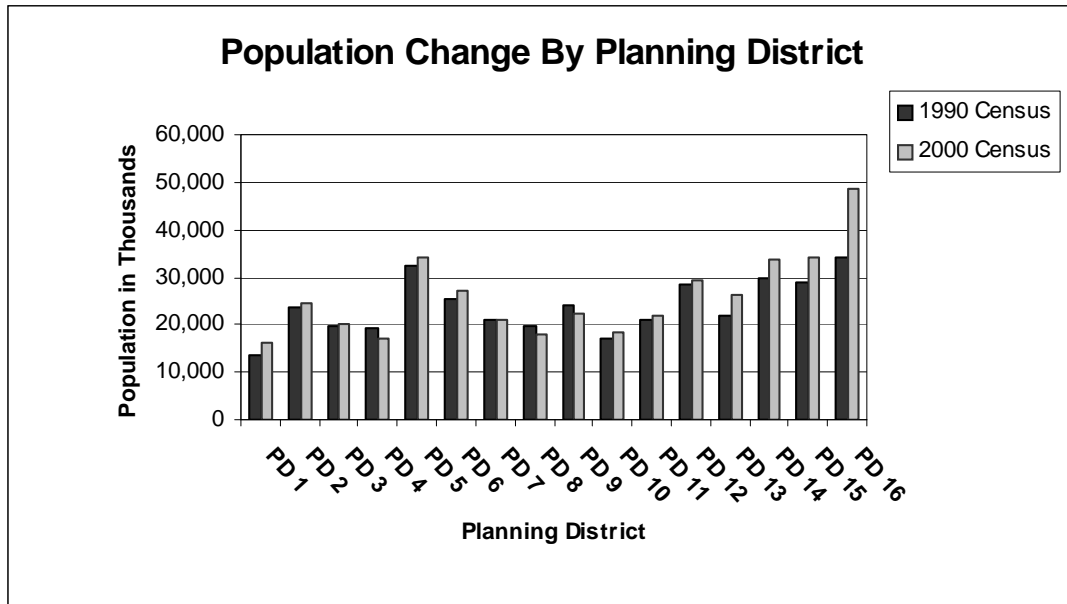


Figure 2

Figure 2 illustrates the changes in population in each Planning District between 1990 and 2000. Since the 1990 Census, the population of Planning District 16 has increased most significantly. Planning District 16 has the highest number of new single family residential building permits and the highest number of new subdivision approvals. The following Planning Districts have also shown an increase in population since the 1990 Census: Planning District 15, Planning District 14, Planning District 13, Planning District 12, Planning District 11, Planning District 10, Planning District 6, Planning District 5, Planning District 3, Planning District 2 and Planning District 1. A decrease in population was experienced between the 1990 Census and the 2000 Census in Planning District 4, Planning District 7, Planning District 8 and Planning District 9.

Future growth is expected to continue in Planning District 16 through 2010. Other areas in the southern portion of the Parish are also expected to grow in population, such as Planning District 15, Planning District 14 and Planning District 13. Planning District 5 and Planning District 2 are likely to see an increase in population due to growth in the Central area. Planned infrastructure improvements such as the Central Thruway and the Comite Diversion Canal will likely contribute to an increase in population in this area. Growth estimates are based on new subdivision approvals, commercial activity and current population trends.



## Chapter Five Implementation

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The vision of the preferred growth scenario outlined in the Comprehensive Growth Plan for the City-Parish is defined in the Goals and Objectives of the Horizon Plan. These Goals and Objectives are supplied with Action Items - specific strategies designed for assessing the progress toward accomplishing the implementation of the Horizon Plan.

The Horizon Plan identifies two levels of Plan review including Plan amendments and the major, comprehensive five-year updates of the Plan. The Plan Amendment process is designed to consider the frequent yet relatively minor revisions such as individual parcel land use changes that must be incorporated on a regular basis to ensure that the Plan is consistent with current zoning and land use designations as well as with the Plan of Government. The purpose of the five-year Major Plan Update is to propose responsive changes to the Plan in recognition of the changing and significant demographic, economic and social changes, and land development data upon which the Plan is based. This review is of a comprehensive nature, seeking a general understanding of the successes and weaknesses of progress toward the preferred growth scenario with specific attention to the role of the various Action Items in continuing to accomplish the Goals and Objectives.

### Lead Agencies

Various departments within the City-Parish government have been assigned as Lead Agencies to oversee the progress in implementing specific Action Items. The Lead Agencies are the departments most closely identified with the mission and strategy involved in the realization of the Goals and Objectives of the Horizon Plan through the Action Items. During the Ten-Year Update of the Horizon Plan, several Action Items were reassigned to new Lead Agencies in order to better oversee the progress of implementation. The following list represents Lead Agencies which are assigned to implement the Action Items.

Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge  
Baton Rouge Area Convention and Visitors Bureau  
Baton Rouge Fire Department  
Baton Rouge Police Department  
Baton Rouge Recreation and Park Commission  
CAN DO  
Capital Area United Way  
Capital Region Planning Commission

## **Implementation**

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Capital Transportation Corporation with CRPC  
Citizens Service  
Department of Human Development and Services  
Department of Human Resources  
Department of Public Works  
Department of Social Services  
Design and Planning Services Selection Board  
Downtown Development District  
East Baton Rouge Parish School Board  
Emergency Medical Services  
Finance Department  
Greater Baton Rouge Airport District  
Greater Baton Rouge Port Commission  
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality  
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals & Governor's Office  
Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals  
LSU Health Sciences Health Care Services Division  
Office of Community Development  
Office of the Mayor-President  
Office of Emergency Preparedness  
Office of Landscape and Forestry  
Office of Public Information  
Office of Recycling  
Parish Attorney's Office  
Planning Commission  
Quality and Employee Development Department  
Utilities

CAN DO became a Lead Agency in 2001 and is responsible for one action item dealing with neighborhood/subarea planning. CAN DO became the only new Lead Agency added to the Horizon Plan in the last five years. CAN DO's purpose is to support the work of neighborhood groups in East Baton Rouge Parish by offering tools and information for neighborhood advocacy and development. The Planning Commission has been involved with CAN DO by providing information about neighborhood associations and feedback gathered from the Subarea/Neighborhood Planning Process.

A Mid-Year and Year-End Evaluation and Review (EAR) are conducted to review the progress toward achievement of the various Action Items, and to assist the Lead Agencies in annual budget preparation and work programs. The EAR also updates the Planning Commission and Metropolitan Council on the status of the Horizon Plan implementation while serving as an assessment to determine the effectiveness of the Plan and for improving the implementation process. In the EAR process, the Lead Agencies responsible for coordinating or overseeing the implementation of their assigned Action Items review accomplishments and forward their comments to the Planning Commission Staff. This information is provided as a means to track implementation of the Horizon Plan.

### Special Studies

The Planning Commission has conducted three special studies and are in the process of conducting another at the present time. The Highland Road and Perkins Road East Land Use Study was conducted in 2001 and 2002. The Hoo Shoo Too Land Use Study was also conducted in 2001 and 2002. The Bluebonnet Corridor Study-Phase I was conducted in 2002 and formed the first Urban Design District. The Bluebonnet Corridor Study- Phase II is in the process of being conducted at this time.

These special studies have underscored a need to develop urban design guidelines for areas throughout the City-Parish. This will be undertaken on a parishwide basis in the next five years. The focus will be on the Community and Regional Growth Centers.

A continuing limitation on implementing the Goals and Objectives of the Horizon Plan has been a lack of adequate funding necessary to facilitate the impacts and consequences of proposed development projects upon the surrounding community. These development-related infrastructure improvements include, but are not limited to, new or expanded public facilities, roadways, parks and recreational areas. Incentives to stimulate development, and land use regulation options for financing infrastructure burdens such as adequate facilities planning and development impact fees -- common elsewhere in the country -- are receiving attention locally as a means of anticipating and preparing for the impacts of new development.

The Horizon Plan Goals and Objectives as well as public concerns have identified the need for Planning Commission Staff to investigate comprehensive urban design studies for corridors, gateways and special use areas in an effort to lend increased regional identity and sense of community to neighborhoods. Specifically, the intention is to improve communications with neighborhood and civic associations and to provide assistance and support to residents and business owners within identified neighborhoods to: 1) redevelop declining neighborhoods; 2) evaluate zoning of vacant property for appropriateness and recommend changes where applicable; and 3) protect and enhance the integrity, character and interrelationships among the business community and residents underscored by the neighborhood concept. This process will assist in development of the ongoing Parishwide Capital Improvements Program.

**Implementation**

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## **Chapter Six**

### **Capital Improvements Program**

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One of the most essential aspects of comprehensive planning is the provision of adequate financial resources with which to implement the Master Plan. A Capital Improvements Program (CIP) is a management and fiscal planning tool that communities use for providing adequate financing for constructing needed public improvements. A properly designed CIP allows communities to identify, prioritize and coordinate their scheduling based upon the fiscal capacity of the community.

Like many cities, Baton Rouge relies on a CIP as the mechanism for analyzing its financial condition and projecting future needs. The Horizon Plan identifies short and long-term projects -- capital improvements -- which improve the quality of life for the citizens of the City-Parish. Capital improvements include facilities such as utility systems, landfills, land acquisition, parks, streets and sidewalks, drainage, libraries and major equipment. Capital improvements projects, once identified, are typically scheduled over a five-year period and long-range 20-year period.

The CIP should not be confused with ordinary operating expenditures. Capital improvements projects are those which are generally long-term, have a significant impact on the community, are non-recurring (i.e. they do not occur every year), and are often too expensive to be financed in the annual operating budget. The CIP can be viewed as the five-year capital facilities plan. The first year of the CIP becomes the basis of the capital budget for that fiscal year, and the remaining four years are the long-term planning document. The CIP is updated annually such that when the current year is eliminated, another is added to the five-year program.

### **Relationship of CIP and Comprehensive Planning**

Planning for capital maintenance and improvements is sound development practice. A rational, carefully planned program of capital improvements is necessary in order to attract new business investments. This, in turn, will increase tax revenues and provide an increase in employment opportunities. Moreover, the planning for capital improvements is necessary to ensure that public investments in new or improved facilities are made in locations which make the most sense for service and maintenance, and for the quality of life for the citizens of Baton Rouge.

Planning for capital improvements involves both planning for the maintenance of existing capital facilities as well as the planning for major investments in the construction of new

## **Capital Improvements Program**

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facilities. The Capital Improvements Program serves as the linkage between the Horizon Plan and the City-Parish's financial planning and budgeting process for capital development. The Horizon Plan identifies existing and future growth and development patterns and the capital investments that will adequately support them.

### **The Budget Process**

Every year, each City-Parish agency re-assesses its mission, re-evaluates its Goals and Objectives, compiles its performance measures and submits its budget requests to the Mayor-President for review. The Mayor-President reviews the requests and considers the recommendations of his staff. During the review process the Mayor-President must also assess the fiscal conditions of the City-Parish and review economic forecast projections. The proposed current expense budget and the Capital Budget are then submitted to the Metropolitan Council for review. Once adopted, the Capital Budget takes effect in January, at the start of the next fiscal year.

### **Adoption of CIP**

The adoption of a CIP is not a commitment to finance approved projects and does not lock the City-Parish into the program for the upcoming years. The CIP is reviewed and updated each year to accommodate changing needs and priorities, unexpected emergencies or events, unique opportunities, cost changes, or alternate financing strategies.

When the annual budget is approved by the Metropolitan Council, the City-Parish must ensure that the budget contains adequate funds for capital projects to be financed from current revenues or from other sources. Additionally, revenue sources are reviewed to ensure that sufficient funds will exist in a capital reserve fund, or other special accounts, in order to meet that portion of the capital financing not to be paid by debt financing. Since several projects may require the use of bonds, which require voter approval, some legislative changes and other Metropolitan Council approvals may be necessary to implement various aspects of the recommended capital financing program.

### **Funding Sources**

The City-Parish exercises many options for funding capital improvements including property taxes, a general sales tax (2 percent), a one-half cent dedicated street improvement sales tax, a one-half cent dedicated sewer sales tax, sewer impact fees, sewer and solid wastewater fees, state and federal grants, and state shared revenue sources.

Funding for City-Parish projects comes primarily from two categories: borrowing, which provides the requisite funding upfront but increases the cost of the project due to interest charges, and pay-as-you-go, which requires that money for projects be generated prior to the implementation of the project. Pay-as-you-go requires the City-Parish to live within its means and has the advantage of saving money by not having to incur interest charges if the money were

borrowed. Typical types of borrowing sources include general obligation and revenue bonds. Typical pay-as-you-go revenue sources include property taxes and sales taxes.

### **General Obligation (Property) Taxes**

General obligation or ad valorem property taxes are authorized by the Louisiana Constitution and are levied by parishes and municipalities as well as other authorized taxing bodies such as the school board, sheriff, and other special taxing districts. Property taxes are paid by property owners according to the assessed value and millages levied by taxing jurisdictions in which the taxable property is located. The total millage levied by taxing authorities is indirectly limited by the state limitation on total bonded indebtedness.

### **Sales and Uses Taxes**

The Louisiana Constitution allows the state, parishes, school boards and municipalities to impose local sales and use taxes, with voter approval. Special districts and other local taxing bodies may also levy sales taxes as authorized by the State Legislature. Sales taxes are paid by users and consumers, renters, or persons receiving taxable services and account for 70 percent of Baton Rouge's revenue. On November 17, 2001, voters approved the renewal of the one-half cent sales tax increase to be used to fund several major street improvements and new projects.

### **Taxes from Gaming Sources**

Riverboat Casinos were established in 1995. Since 1995 Riverboat gaming has contributed over \$1 billion in state and local taxes. The City-Parish's share of the revenue generated by the riverboats is targeted for traffic and drainage improvements.

### **Borrowing**

Although borrowing has obvious disadvantages such as a higher overall cost of capital improvements due to the incurment of interest charges, there are some advantages to borrowing, such as:

- rapid construction rates as the requisite construction money is provided up front;
- intergenerational equity which spreads the cost of the capital improvements over many years, thus successive generations of beneficiaries also pay for use of the improvements;
- enhanced stability as repayment is often at a fixed and predictable rate, eliminating wide fluctuations in expenditures; and
- repayment in cheaper dollars as the per capita cost of a project decreases in an expanding economy or as per capita income increases, as opposed to full payment at the time of facility acquisition.

The most common types of borrowing techniques are Government Obligation and Revenue Bonds. Government Obligation (GO) Bonds are issued to cities and the taxing power of the jurisdiction is pledged to pay both the principle and interest. The City of Baton Rouge has a very good bond rating because the city has not passed many bond issues over recent years. This is a result of the present tax structure within the City-Parish which generates much of its income from sales tax. Typically, property tax is used to amortize bonds, but the state of Louisiana allows for a high property tax exemption due to the Homestead Exemption, which exempts the first \$75,000 of the assessed value of a property from property taxation. This requires that parishes limit the amount of bonds issued.

Revenue bonds are another common revenue generating source. Revenue bonds are limited tax bonds which are secured by revenues generated by the application of a fixed rate for a provided service, such as water or sewage. Unlike GO bonds, revenue bonds generally do not require voter approval.

### **Alternative Funding Sources**

In addition to the traditional financing methods listed above, there are many other options available to the City-Parish for funding capital improvements. In a time of shrinking Federal and state budgets, City-Parish officials are continually searching for new and alternate methods for securing adequate funding to ensure that the City-Parish maintains the highest quality and most efficient infrastructure and facilities. The methods listed below are just some of the funding alternatives available to the City Parish.

#### **Impact Fees and User Fees**

User Fees and Impact Fees are fees levied upon those who directly use or benefit from specific service(s). User Fees are fees levied on those who use a particular service or facility with the collected fees used to pay for the cost of the facility. Water and sewer facilities are the most common capital projects for which a User Fee is charged. User Fees, however, can be employed to generate revenue to finance a variety of facilities including parks, transit systems and solid waste facilities.

Impact Fees are one-time assessments which are levied upon developers in an effort to place a portion of the burden of development costs or funding improvements onto developers who are creating the need for such improvements. These fees are intended to compensate the community for the extra costs for public facilities that the development will cause.

### **Special Assessment Districts**

A Special Assessment District is a method of geographically isolating the financing of infrastructure that serves a particular area by levying a service charge on those in an area who would benefit the most from capital improvements projects. Special Assessments, because they are levied on property, are similar to property taxes. Property taxes, however, are a method for collecting revenues that will allow the municipality to finance programs and projects. Special Assessments, on the other hand, are designed to recover all or part of the cost of an improvement that directly benefits an individual property.

Special Assessments can be used for a wide variety of projects. For example, a Special Assessment District can be employed to finance curbs and gutters in a neighborhood by allocating project costs to homeowners based on street frontage.

### **Sewer and Water Availability Charges**

Sewer and water availability charges allow an entity to assess land for the availability of the service regardless if the sewer or water services are actually used. The assessing agency may establish a charge according to the land use, the benefit to be derived from the user, the availability of the sewer or water facilities, or the degree of availability or quantity of the use of sewer or water services.

### **Capital Recovery Fee**

Capital recovery fees allow for the recovery of the cost of new infrastructure through the use of impact fees, service charges, hookup fees, or any combination of these. The fees are then discontinued upon the amortization of the facility. Capital recovery fees are typically used for facilities such as wastewater treatment plants or toll bridges.

### **Special Authorities**

Special authorities provide for the establishment of an ad hoc authority (e.g. school authority, water authority, toll authority, etc.) which provides a single service and generates its own revenue through taxes or revenue bonds.

### **Integrated Financing District**

This assessment district allows the imposition of “noncontingent assessments” and “contingent assessments.” Noncontingent assessments allow a municipality to form an assessment district using available authorized assessment procedures. Contingent assessments authorize the levy of an assessment that is contingent on the development of land that may be payable at the time of development approval, building permit issuance, or zoning change. The amount of assessment must be in proportion to the benefit received by each parcel and the benefit may be determined based on different land use categories. The integrated financing district has value in an area in which some development has occurred,

## **Capital Improvements Program**

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but where there are still large vacant areas available for future development. The noncontingent assessment district allows the municipality to impose assessments to ensure security for improvements to be made while the contingent assessments allow for the distribution of the costs of the public facilities by land use and development intensity.

### **Tax Increment Financing**

Tax increment financing (TIF) is frequently employed for a specific development or redevelopment projects in “blighted” areas. The attraction of a TIF is that it allows for a development project to recapture and utilize the incremental increase in property tax revenues resulting from the new project versus existing development to fund a variety of public capital improvements associated with the development or redevelopment project. The funding is generated by the annual difference between the tax revenues of a delineated area which is set at some base level (typically the fiscal year prior to the initiation of the redevelopment project), and the amount of tax revenue generated by the development project itself. The difference of revenues from the pre-project tax income and the post-project income is reinvested within the TIF-designated area which, typically, promotes further investment and development

### **State Infrastructure Bank**

A State Infrastructure Bank, or Bond Bank, is a newly proposed method whereby participating states may utilize federal appropriations more judiciously. Federal money, which is typically awarded on an incremental basis, may be acquired in one lump sum and in advance of the construction of the project by individual states which can then use the money for loans, credit enhancement or to complete a construction project more rapidly.

The above funding alternatives and options represent just a part of the total number of possible financial programs that are available to the City-Parish. The Horizon Plan stipulates that all funding mechanisms and alternatives be explored to maximize the City-Parish’s fiscal opportunities.

### **Review of Capital Projects**

During the neighborhood planning meeting process, prior to the adoption of the Horizon Plan, Parishwide needs were identified and assessed by both City-Parish citizens and Horizon Resource and Steering Committees. The recommendations were prioritized and then listed for each of the seven Elements of the Horizon Plan. The list of Capital Projects which were identified during this process is provided in Appendix A. The Capital Projects should not be confused with the Capital Improvements Program that identifies specific improvements which are to be scheduled for inclusion into the Capital Budget.

Since the adoption of the Horizon Plan in 1992, City-Parish agencies have been working diligently to identify and implement capital improvements from the list of capital projects

identified in the neighborhood meeting process. Below is a summary of the progress of the capital projects for each of the elements of the Horizon Plan.

### **Land Use**

Major projects include the development and maintenance of a Parishwide Geographic Information System (GIS), the implementation of a Riverfront Development program, Fourth Street improvements, and an improved Trailblazer Sign Program along major roadways. Other projects have since been identified and are in various stages of implementation including development projects located downtown such as Catfish Town.

### **Transportation**

The Transportation Element contains many Capital Projects and subsequently generates the greatest number of projects in the Capital Improvements Program. The most substantial project involves Major Street improvements which generate many of the annual transportation capital improvements projects. Other Capital Projects, many of which are also long-term and ongoing, include traffic safety projects, a computerized traffic signal system, and traffic control maintenance.

On November 17, 2001, voters approved the renewal and continuation of the one-half percent sales and use tax that has been in effect since 1990. The tax is used for the purpose of improving streets and roads in the Parish. The tax was extended for five and a half years beginning July 1, 2002. Of the total revenue generated by the renewal of the street and road rehabilitation tax, 60 percent is dedicated for street construction and the remaining 40 percent is to be used for street rehabilitation. A detailed listing of recommended Major Street improvements for the next five-year Capital Improvements Program is provided in Appendix C.

### **Wastewater**

Many of the Capital Projects listed in the Wastewater Element involve the upkeep of the existing sewer system and the construction of new lines to accommodate new development. As with transportation projects, many wastewater projects are long-term commitments.

On March 14, 2002, the City-Parish entered into a new consent decree with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) relative to sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) improvements in East Baton Rouge Parish. This new consent decree replaces the one that East Baton Rouge Parish has operated under since 1988. The new consent decree requires the City-Parish to make sewer infrastructure improvements to reduce sanitary sewer overflows. This consent decree prevents the federal government from imposing potential penalties of \$43 million on the City-Parish and allows until December 31, 2014, for completion of the Sewer Capital Improvements Program. The execution of this consent decree by all parties also avoided a protracted and expensive lawsuit.

Under the Capital Improvements component of the consent decree, the City-Parish will construct facilities to contain sanitary sewer overflows until they can be released into the system for treatment, construct additional conveyance facilities to avoid overloading during peak wet weather flow conditions and upgrade and construct new pump stations and force mains to provide the additional capacity required during wet weather conditions. The estimated cost to implement the SSO construction program is \$618 million.

### **Solid Waste**

Many of the initial Capital Projects listed in the Project Summary, such as the closure of the Devil's Swamp Landfill site, and the development of a new landfill site, have been completed. Other identified Capital Projects, such as the continuation of the North Landfill Development, are ongoing.

### **Drainage**

The Capital Projects Summary identifies several major projects including the development of a Drainage Criteria Manual, drainage maintenance and improvements, and flood control improvements. From these projects, specific Capital Improvements are scheduled, many of which involve flood control efforts along the area's rivers, creeks and bayous. Funding for drainage improvements is provided, in part, by revenues from gaming sources. A list of the recommended future capital improvements for drainage projects is included in Appendix D.

### **Recreation and Open Space**

Most of the projects for the Recreation and Open Space Element are separately funded through the Baton Rouge Recreation and Park Commission which prepares its own Capital Improvements Program. The projects identified in the Capital Project Summary, however, are projects identified for implementation by the City-Parish, including Greenlink projects and downtown park acquisition.

### **Housing**

Although only one project is listed for the Housing Element in the Capital Project Summary, there is some project overlap with other Elements. For example, the implementation of a GIS is listed in the Land Use Element but has applications with regards to Housing.

### **Public Services**

The Capital Project Summary lists numerous projects for the Public Services Element, some of which are long-term and ongoing. Many of the projects involve the replacement, repair or upgrade of police vehicles, fire fighting vehicles, and other emergency service equipment. Equipment replacements are often listed in the Capital Improvements Program and are scheduled in the annual Capital Budget as they are needed.

### **Public Buildings**

The Capital Projects for the Public Buildings Element include the construction and renovation of new and existing public buildings such as the Community Development Building. Due to the cost and scale of the projects, many of the projects are long-term commitments.

### **Health and Human Services**

The Capital Projects Summary lists two projects: the establishment of a central clearing-house and the development of a Parish Health Unit. The clearinghouse is an ongoing project that will continue to coordinate existing services. The Parish Health Unit is scheduled to be upgraded and expanded in order to provide satellite facilities. However, the upgrade and expansion has not yet been initiated and is currently awaiting funding.

## **CIP Summary**

The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) is an essential component to the planning process. The CIP is the mechanism for identifying and prioritizing projects, and ensuring adequate funding for such projects. The CIP ensures that the City-Parish lives within its financial means while, at the same time, providing the facilities and equipment which promote the growth and vitality of Baton Rouge for its citizens. With the re-dedication of the road and street improvements tax, development of impact fees, and new and alternative funding mechanisms, the City-Parish is working towards providing the most efficient and cost-effective services for its citizens. The Capital Improvement Program appendices located at the end of this report were provided by the Department of Public Works.



## Chapter Seven Summary

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Since the adoption of the Horizon Plan ten years ago, the City-Parish has worked hard to help guide growth and development within Baton Rouge. The City-Parish is committed to providing the most effective and efficient services and opportunities to its citizens. Furthermore, the City-Parish remains committed to working with the citizens and community to make Baton Rouge an enjoyable place to work and reside.

The Horizon Plan, which serves as the “blueprint for the future,” is an effective tool for achieving this vision. The Horizon Plan identifies and addresses issues which affect both the citizens and the community alike. Because these issues may change over time and new issues may evolve, the Horizon Plan is scheduled to undergo an update every five years to ensure its Goals and Objectives remain as valid strategies for implementing the vision of the City-Parish.

Although much has been accomplished during the Ten-Year Update Process there still remains much more which needs to be addressed. Several goals and projects implemented during the first ten years since the Plan’s adoption will continue as conditions within the City-Parish necessitate. Furthermore, new and existing projects will be identified and targeted for implementation. The Ten-Year Update is an opportunity for the City-Parish to evaluate its progress towards carrying out the Goals and Objectives set forth in the Horizon Plan. Moreover, the Update offers an opportunity for the City-Parish to outline future goals. The next five years will see a commitment to both new projects as well as to continuing projects such as:

### **Geographic Information System**

Over the last five years, the City-Parish has developed its Geographic Information System (GIS) as a means for monitoring land use and development trends within the City-Parish. The GIS not only helps to predict future development trends, but also is an effective tool for monitoring current conditions within the City-Parish. The City-Parish will continue to maintain and expand the GIS over the next five years.

### **Goals, Objectives and Action Items**

The Planning Commission and other Lead Agencies will continue to work towards achieving the Goals and Objectives of the Horizon Plan. During the Ten-Year Update Process, several implementation actions, or Action Items, have been deleted, or reworded

to reflect the changing conditions within the City-Parish. There have been no Action Items added. The Lead Agencies will address these existing Action Items to ensure that they remain effective strategies for accomplishing the Goals and Objectives of the Horizon Plan.

### **Growth Centers**

One aspect of the Ten-Year Update of the Horizon Plan has been a review of the “Growth Centers” as defined on the “2010 Land Use Plan.” Growth Centers are areas of concentrated higher intensity uses such as shopping, services, offices, public facilities, medium and high density residential development, and cultural, entertainment and recreational activities. The “2010 Land Use Plan” denotes Growth Centers as “Regional” or “Community” with dashed lines outlining the areas. As a result of the review, the Growth Centers have been revised and updated.

### **Major Street Plan**

Over the next five years, revisions to the Major Street Plan are anticipated to continue as growth and development within the City-Parish will place further demands on the area’s road network. New funding alternatives, such as the re-dedicated street improvement and rehabilitation tax, as well as other sources, will help to provide the revenue for the implementation of many projects indicated on the Major Street Plan. In addition, alternative transportation systems are being researched thanks, in part, to new funding mechanisms which help provide revenue for non-automobile-based transportation systems.

### **Environment**

The City-Parish has continued to address identified issues and provide strategies for protecting and enhancing the environmental resources important to the quality of life in the City-Parish. The Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Program and the wetlands programs have been implemented over the last five years and will continue over the next five years. Planners will continue looking at guidelines for development in conservation areas. Incentives and methods for conserving the environment will also continue to be implemented.

### **Implementation**

City-Parish Lead Agencies will continue the implementation of the Horizon Plan by addressing assigned strategies, or Action Items. The Ten-Year Update Process has led to the revision of a number of Action Items which will be implemented over the next five years. Progress on the implementation will be continually evaluated through the Mid-Year and Year-End Evaluation and Appraisal reports (EARs).

### **Capital Improvements Program**

The provision of capital improvements is a major component of comprehensive planning. The original Horizon Plan identified several major capital projects from which specific capital improvements were identified. The City-Parish has addressed many of the capital projects during the past five years and will continue to identify future needs within the City-Parish. Many of the capital improvements rely upon adequate funding for their implementation. Financing capital improvements proves to be a difficult endeavor as there are always a greater number of capital improvements than there is funding. The City-Parish continually strives to investigate all possible funding sources to ensure that the citizens of Baton Rouge have adequate and efficient infrastructure and services.

### **Subarea Neighborhood Planning Process**

One of the projects being developed by the Planning Commission Staff is neighborhood planning at the Subarea level. Subareas are smaller sub-sections of Planning Districts and allow for a greater concentration, or focus, on neighborhood-specific issues.

Beginning in 1998, and continuing through 2002, the Planning Commission Staff has been meeting with citizens, on the Subarea/Neighborhood level, to discuss future growth and development trends within the City-Parish. The success of these meetings has encouraged the continuation of the process, allowing citizens and planners to discuss issues and develop strategies for addressing growth trends on a smaller, Subarea scale.

### **Urban Design Program**

An Urban Design Program is a way of providing a “sense of place,” or purpose, by promoting aesthetically appealing images for streets, corridors, districts, gateways and neighborhoods. The primary goal of the program is the preservation of special districts, historic sites, views and unique landscape features. Development of an Urban Design Program, as called for in the Horizon Plan, began in 1998. The first Urban Design District was adopted in 2002 along Bluebonnet Boulevard from Gail Drive to Claycut Bayou. The Urban Design Program addresses such issues as landscaping, access, cover, street furniture, lighting and sidewalks.

### **Land Use Categories**

For the purpose of Subarea and neighborhood planning, the Planning Staff redefined and updated the Residential and “Commercial/Office” land use categories from the Horizon Plan’s “2010 Land Use Plan,” which proposes land uses for the entire Parish on a parcel-by-parcel basis. The revised land use categories provide planners with more flexibility and additional options for the more detailed planning involved at the Subarea and neighborhood level. The redefined land use categories were adopted by the Metropolitan Council on

## **Summary**

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February 18, 1998. The City-Parish will continue to evaluate and consider the land use categories in the next five years.

### **Unified Development Code**

The Unified Development Code (UDC) consolidates various development ordinances and regulations into a single reference manual, which will ease the preparation of plans and applications for residents and developers. The UDC was adopted in 1996, but has been revised in the last five years. Revisions made in 1999 modified the Planned Unit Development (PUD) regulations and created regulations for a Small Planned Unit Development (SPUD). These developments provide for flexibility in development and require a percentage of common open space. The PUD regulations encourage the protection of environmentally sensitive areas while allowing development to occur.

### **Continued Citizen Involvement and Coordination**

The Horizon Plan was created with substantial citizen input and involvement. During the first ten years of the Plan's implementation, citizen involvement has been an important component to the planning process. In 1998, the Neighborhood Survey was initiated in an effort to allow additional citizen participation in the Subarea/Neighborhood Planning Process. During the next five years, continued citizen involvement will continue to be encouraged by planners.

In addition to continued citizen involvement, an increased level of Lead Agency coordination will continue to be fostered. The management of future growth and development within the City-Parish requires coordination from many Lead Agencies. Over the past five-years, many Lead Agencies have been working in conjunction with one another in an effort to address issues contained within the Horizon Plan. The continuation of inter-Agency coordination will facilitate the overall planning process.

## **Ten-Year Update Summary**

As conditions within the City-Parish evolve and change over the next five years, new and unforeseen projects will certainly develop which will warrant attention and may change some of the aspects of the Horizon Plan. The Horizon Plan's strength lies in its flexibility and its ability to adapt to changing conditions. The Ten-Year Update Process provides the City-Parish with the means to redefine its Goals and Objectives, identify new issues and adopt the best strategy to ensure that the needs of the citizens are met.

Although much has been completed during the first ten years since the Horizon Plan's adoption, changing conditions will continue to dictate the necessity for the Plan's revision. Moreover, it is essential that the City-Parish monitor its progress and address the issues which affect the lives of City-Parish citizens. The Planning Commission will continue to act as the stewards of the Horizon Plan to ensure that it, and all other entities, continue to maintain and update the Plan in order to provide essential services to the citizens of Baton Rouge.

**Appendix A**  
**Capital Project Summary**

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**FY 1997-2002 Capital Project Summary**

**City of Baton Rouge**  
**Parish of East Baton Rouge**

**Land Use Element**

<b>1. Project Reference</b>	<b>2. Comments</b>
Management Information System	Ongoing
Geographic Information System	Ongoing
Riverfront Development	Ongoing
Fourth St. Improvements	Ongoing
Trailblazer Signs	Ongoing
Downtown Revitalization	Ongoing

**FY 1997-2002 Capital Project Summary**  
**City of Baton Rouge**  
**Parish of East Baton Rouge**

**Transportation Element**

<b>1. Project Reference</b>	<b>2. Comments</b>
Street Maint. and Pvmt. Mgmt.	Years 1990-2002: 1,450 miles Years 2003-2007: 275 miles
Traffic Control Maintenance	Ongoing
Street Signage Improvements	Ongoing
ITS Projects	Ongoing (See Appendix C, #52)
Transit Improvement Program	Ongoing
Computerized Traffic Signal System	Ongoing (See Appendix C, #92, 93 & 94)
Traffic Safety Projects	Ongoing
Major Street Improvements	Ongoing (See Appendix C)

An election was held on November 17, 2001, in which our citizens approved the renewal and continuation of the one-half percent road and street improvement tax that has been in effect since 1990. The tax was extended for 5½ years beginning July 1, 2002, with 40% dedicated for street rehabilitation and 60% dedicated for street construction.

**FY 1997-2002 Capital Project Summary City of Baton Rouge  
Parish of East Baton Rouge**

**Wastewater Element**

1. Project Reference	2. Comments
Wastewater Master Plan	Ongoing
Regional Collection System Upgrade	Ongoing
Sewer-System Rehabilitation	Ongoing
Infill Collection Lines Upgrade	Ongoing
Treatment Plant Maintenance	Ongoing

On March 14, 2002, the City/Parish entered into a new consent decree with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) relative to sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) improvements in East Baton Rouge Parish. This new consent decree replaces the one that East Baton Rouge Parish has operated under since 1988. The new consent decree requires the City-Parish to make sewer infrastructure improvements to reduce sanitary sewer overflows. This consent decree prevents the federal government from imposing potential penalties of \$43 million on the City-Parish and allows until December 31, 2014, for completion of the Sewer Capital Improvements Program. The execution of this consent decree by all parties also avoided a protracted and expensive lawsuit.

Under the Capital Improvements component of the consent decree the City-Parish will construct facilities to contain sanitary sewer overflows until they can be released into the system for treatment, and construct additional conveyance facilities to avoid overloading during peak wet weather flow conditions. Upgrade and construct new pump stations and force mains to provide the additional capacity required during wet weather conditions. The estimated cost to implement the SSO construction program is \$618 million.

**FY 1997-2002 Capital Project Summary**  
**City of Baton Rouge**  
**Parish of East Baton Rouge**

**Solid Waste Element**

<b>1. Project Reference</b>	<b>2. Comments</b>
Devil's Swamp Closure	Completed by 1993 - Complete
North Landfill Development	Ongoing - Permitted by LA DEQ until Year 2012

**FY 1997-2002 Capital Project Summary**  
**City of Baton Rouge**  
**Parish of East Baton Rouge**

**Drainage Element**

<b>1. Project Reference</b>	<b>2. Comments</b>
Drainage Master Plan	Ongoing
Drainage Criteria manual	Preliminary Draft
Hydrologic Modeling	Partially Initiated
Drainage Maintenance	Ongoing
Erosion Control Plan	NPDES Stormwater Permit
Comite Diverson Channel	Ongoing - (See Appendix D)
EBR Flood Control Projects	Ongoing - (See Appendix D)
Local Drainage Projects	Ongoing - (See Appendix D)
Benchmark Program	To be initiated Year 2003

**FY 1997-2002 Capital Project Summary City of Baton Rouge  
Parish of East Baton Rouge**

**Recreation & Open Space Element**

<b>1. Project Reference</b>	<b>2. Comments</b>
Greenlink Projects	Ongoing (See Appendix C, #24, 80 & 90)
Downtown Park Acquisition	Ongoing - By State of Louisiana

**Parish of East Baton Rouge**

**Housing Element**

<b>1. Project Reference</b>	<b>2. Comments</b>
Benevolent Deposit Fund	Continues in years 6-13 - Ongoing

**FY 1997-2002 Capital Project Summary**  
**City of Baton Rouge**  
**Parish of East Baton Rouge**

**Public Services Element**

<b>1. Project Reference</b>	<b>2. Comments</b>
52 CD Warning sirens	Ongoing
CD Automated Telephone Notification System	Ongoing
BRFD Pumper Trucks	Continues in years 6-20 - Ongoing
BRFD Aerial Trucks	Continues in years 6-20 - Ongoing
BRPD Vehicle Fleet Replacement (20% per year)	Continues in years 6-8 - Ongoing
800 MZ Trunked Radio System	Complete
Multi jurisdictional Reporting System	Ongoing
EMS Cellular Phones	Continues in years 6-20 - Stopped
BRFD Support Vehicle Fleet Replacement (15% per year)	Continues in years 6-20 - Ongoing
BRPD Accreditation	Complete/Ongoing

**FY 1997-2002 Capital Project Summary City of Baton Rouge  
Parish of East Baton Rouge**

**Public Buildings Element**

1. Project Reference	2. Comments
BRFD 3 Fire Stations	Two Stations Completed
BRPD Headquarters	Not Initiated
BRFD Headquarters	Complete
4 EMS Stations	Continues in years 6-20 - Ongoing
BRFD 2 Fire Stations	See Above Continues in years 6-8 - Ongoing
Municipal Office Building	Not Initiated
District Attorney's Office	Not Initiated
Coroner's Morgue	Under Construction Year 2003
Tax Assessor's Office Expansion	Not Initiated
Public Buildings Renovation/Upgrade	Ongoing
3 Branch Libraries	Years 7-9 - Not Initiated
Main Library Expansion/Renovation	Years 7-8 - Not Initiated
3 EMS Fire Stations	Years 12-16 - Not Initiated
BRFD 3 Fire Stations	Years 12-16 - Not Initiated
1 Branch Library	Year 16 - Not Initiated
Juvenile Detention Center	Not Initiated
Riverside Centroplex Expansion	Under Construction Year 2002
LASC Planetarium/Space Theater	Under Construction

**FY 1997-2002 Capital Project Summary**  
**City of Baton Rouge**  
**Parish of East Baton Rouge**

**Health and Human Services Element**

<b>1. Project Reference</b>	<b>2. Comments</b>
Human Services Clearinghouse Parish Health Unit	Ongoing Continues in years 6-20 -Not Initiated

## Appendix B

# Status of Recommended City-Parish Roadway Improvements 1997-2002

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### STATUS OF RECOMMENDED CITY/PARISH ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

Horizon Plan 5-Year Update (1997 - 2002)  
Comprehensive Land Use and Development Plan  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

<u>MAP CODE</u>	<u>FACILITY</u>	<u>PROJECT LIMITS</u>	<u>TYPE IMPROVEMENTS</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
<b>Priority 1 Projects: (1) (Listed in alphabetical order)</b>				
1	Blount Road	Scenic Highway to Plank Road	New 2/4-lane Roadway	Designed; R/W Being Acquired
2	Bluebonnet Road Realignment	I-10 to Airline Highway	New 5-lane Roadway	Completed
3	Central Thruway	South Choctaw to Greenwell Springs Rd.	New 4-lane Roadway	Under Design
4	Comite Drive	Plank Road to Comite River	Roadway Widening to 2-lanes	Under Design
5	East Airport Drive	Goodwood Blvd. to Florida Blvd. (US 190)	Roadway Widening to 4-lanes	Completed
6	Groom Road	Old Scenic Highway to LA 19	Roadway Widening to 2-lanes	Designed; R/W Being Acquired
7	1-10 Frontage Roads	Bluebonnet Blvd. to Siegen Lane	New Roadway and Interchange	Designed; R/W Being Acquired
8	Jones Creek Road	* <del>S. Harrell's Ferry Road</del> to Tiger Bend Rd. * Coursey Blvd. (Revised Limits)	Roadway Widening to 5-lanes	Under Design
9	Jones Creek Road Ext.	Tiger Bend Road to Barringer-Foreman Road	New 2/4-lane Roadway	Cancelled

## Appendix B

10	Lobdell Avenue	Jefferson Highway to Goodwood Boulevard	Roadway Widening to 4-lanes	Under Design
12	Millerville Road	Old Hammond Highway (LA 426) to S. Harrell's Ferry Road	Roadway Widening to 5-lanes	Under Design
13	Monterrey Blvd.	Greenwell Springs Road (LA 37) to S. Choctaw Drive	Roadway Widening to 5-lanes	Completed
14	Nicholson Drive	South Stadium to Burbank Drive	Roadway Widening to 4-lanes	Completed
15	North Boulevard	10 <sup>th</sup> Street to 19 <sup>th</sup> Street	Roadway Widening and Overpass	Under Construction
16	Oak Villa Blvd.	Crossway Drive to Greenwell Springs	New 4-lane Roadway	Completed
17	Perkins Road	Essen Lane to Siegen Lane	Roadway Widening to 5-lanes	Under Design
18	Sherwood Forest Blvd.	S. Choctaw to Greenwell Springs Road	Roadway Widening to 5-lanes	Under Design
19	South Choctaw Drive	Monterrey Drive to Dumont Drive	Roadway Widening to 4-lanes	Completed
20	South Choctaw Drive	Greenwell Springs Road to Airline Highway	Roadway Widening to 4-lanes	Programmed for 2003/2007
21	South Harrell's Ferry Rd.	South Sherwood Forest Boulevard to Millerville Road	Roadway Widening to 5-lanes	Under Design
22	Stumberg Lane	Jefferson Highway to Coursey Blvd.	Roadway Widening to 4-lanes	Completed
23	Tiger Bend Road	Jefferson Highway to * <del>Antioch Drive</del> * Jones Creek Rd. (Revised Limits)	Roadway Widening to 5-lanes	Under Construction
<b>Priority 2 Projects: (2) (Listed in alphabetical order)</b>				
24	Greenwell Street	Silverleaf Avenue to Lanier Drive	Roadway Widening to 4-lanes	Not Programmed
25	Kenilworth Pkwy.. Ext.	Perkins Road (LA 427) to Essen Lane (LA 3064)	Roadway Widening to 4-lanes	Not Programmed
26	N. Harrell's Ferry Road	Cedarcrest Ave. to Sherwood Forest Blvd.	Roadway Widening to 4-lanes	Not Programmed
27	S. Harrell's Ferry Road	Millerville Road to O'Neal Lane	Roadway Widening to 5-lanes	Not Programmed

28	Staring Lane	Perkins Road (LA 427) to Highland Road (LA 42)	Roadway Widening to 5-lanes	Not Programmed
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**Priority 3 Projects: (3) (Listed in alphabetical order)**

29	Brightside Drive	River Road (LA 327) to Nicholson Dr. (LA 30)	Roadway Widening to 4-lanes	Not Programmed
30	Cedarcrest Avenue	Airline Highway (US 61) to N. Harrell's Ferry Road	Roadway Widening to 4-lanes	Not Programmed
31	Dalrymple Drive	I-10 to State Street	Roadway Widening and Ext. to 4-lanes	Not Programmed
32	Flannery Road	Greenwell Springs road (LA 37) to Old Hammond Highway (LA 426)	Roadway Widening to 4-lanes	Not Programmed
33	Gourrier Avenue	Nicholson Drive (LA 30) to River Road (LA 327)	Roadway Widening to 4-lanes	Not Programmed
34	Kenilworth Pkwy. Ext.	Highland Road (LA 42) to Burbank Drive	Roadway Extension to 4-lanes	Not Programmed
35	Lanier Drive Ext.	Mickens Road to Hooper Road	Roadway Extension to 4-lanes	Not Programmed
36	Lee Drive	Perkins Road (LA 427) to Highland Road (LA 42)	Roadway Widening to 4-lanes	Not Programmed
37	Mickens Road	Hooper Road to Joor Road	Roadway Widening to 4-lanes	Not Programmed
38	Prescott Rd. Ext.	Joor Rd. to Greenwell Springs Rd. (LA 37)	Roadway Extension to 4-lanes	Not Programmed
39	Sharp Road	Florida Blvd. (US 190) to N. Harrell's Ferry Road	Roadway Widening to 4-lanes	Not Programmed
40	Sherwood Forest Boulevard Ext.	Greenwell Springs Rd. (LA 37) to Joor Rd.	Roadway Extension to 5-lanes	Not Programmed

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- (1) Priority 1 - Critical projects  
(2) Priority 2 - Necessary projects  
(3) Priority 3 - Desirable projects



## Appendix C Recommended City-Parish Roadway Improvements 2003-2007

### RECOMMENDED CITY/PARISH ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS Horizon Plan 5-Year Update (2003 - 2007) Comprehensive Land Use and Development Plan Baton Rouge, Louisiana

<u>NO.</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>PROJECT LIMITS</u>	<u>TYPE IMPROVEMENTS</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
1	72nd Street	Scenic Highway to Plank Road	Reconstruction	Programmed
2	Acadian Thruway	Acadian Thruway at Government St.	Intersection/Interchange	Under Construction
3	Airline Highway	Cedarcrest Ave. to Florida Blvd.	Widening	Programmed
4	Amite River Bridges	At Florida Blvd.	New Bridges	Under Design
5	Antioch Road	Over Claycut Bayou	New Bridge	Under Design
6	Baker/Zachary Hwy. (LA 964)	US 61 to LA 64	Reconstruction	Under Construction
7	Baker/Zachary Hwy. (LA 964)	LA 64 to East Feliciana	Reconstruction	Under Design
8	Balis Drive	Over Dawson Creek	New Bridge	Under Construction
9	Blount Rd. (Phase I)	Scenic Hwy. to Elm Grove Garden Dr.	Widening	Under Construction
10	Blount Rd. (Phase II)	Elm Grove Garden Dr. to Plank Rd.	Reconstruction	Acquiring R/W
11	Bluebonnet Blvd.	Nicholson Dr. to Burbank Dr.	New Road	Acquiring R/W
12	Brightside Lane	Brightside Lane at University House Apt.	Intersection/Interchange	Under Design

## Appendix C

13	Barringer Foreman Road	At Airline Highway	Intersection/Interchange	Under Design
14	Balis Drive	Over Dawson Creek	New Bridge	Under Construction
15	Burbank Dr. (LA 42)	Siegen Lane to Bluebonnet Blvd.	Widening	Programmed
16	Burbank Dr. (LA 42)	Bluebonnet Blvd. to Lee Drive	Widening	Programmed
17	Central Thruway	S. Choctaw Dr. to Sullivan Road	New Road	Under Design
18	Chippewa St. (US 6113)	Choctaw to Scenic Hwy.	Reconstruction	Under Design
19	S. Choctaw Drive	Flannery Rd. to Central Thruway	Widening	Under Design
20	LA 64 (Church/Main)	Cypress Dr. to McHugh Rd.	Center Turn Lane	Programmed
21	College Drive	College Dr. at I-10 (Phase IV)	Intersection/Interchange	Under Construction
22	Comite Drive	Plank Rd. to Comite River	Widen 2-lane to 3-lane	Under Design
23	Comite Drive Bridge	Over Comite River	New Bridge	Under Design
24	Dalrymple Drive	Bicycle-Pedestrian Improvements	Miscellaneous	Under Design
25	Downtown Transp. Plan	Downtown District	Miscellaneous	Under Design
26	Essen Lane (LA 3064)	I-12 East Bound Ramp (Phase I)	Intersection/Interchange	Under Construction
27	Essen Lane (LA 3064)	I-12 West Bound Ramp (Phase II)	New Ramp	Programmed
28	Exchequer Drive	Exchequer Dr. at Industriplex Blvd.	Intersection/Interchange	Under Construction
29	Frenchtown Road	Over Beaver Bayou	New Bridge	Under Design
30	Flannery Road	Flannery Rd. and Florida Blvd.	Intersection/Interchange	Under Design
31	Ford Street	Plank Road to Mickens Road	Widening	Programmed
32	Foster Drive	Foster Dr. at Government St.	Intersection/Interchange	Under Design
33	North Foster Drive	At Greenwell Springs Rd./Gus Young Ave.	Intersection/Interchange	Under Design
34	George O'Neal Rd.	Jones Creek Rd. to O'Neal Lane	Widen 2-lane to 5-lane	Under Design

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35	Gore Road	Over Gibbens Lateral	Box Culvert	Under Design
36	Government Street	At River Rd. Realignment (Phase I)	Miscellaneous	Completed
37	Government Street	At River Rd. Realignment (Phase II)	Miscellaneous	Under Construction
38	LA 37 (Greenwell Springs Road)	Magnolia Bridge Rd. to Indian Mound	Widening	Programmed
39	LA 37 (Greenwell Springs Road)	Airline Hwy. to Courtland Dr.	Reconstruction	Under Design
40	LA 37 (Greenwell Springs Road)	Sullivan Rd. to Magnolia Bridge Rd.	Reconstruction	Programmed
41	Groom Road	Old Scenic Hwy. to LA 19	Reconstruction	Acquiring R/W
42	Harding Rd. (LA 408)	At Southern University	Reconstruction	Under Construction
43	S. Harrell's Ferry Rd.	S. Sherwood Forest Blvd. to Millerville Rd.	Widening	Under Design
44	S. Harrell's Ferry Road	Millerville Road to Jones Creek Road	Widening	Programmed
45	LA 408 (Harding Blvd.)	At Plank Rd. (LA 67)	Intersection/Interchange	Programmed
46	Harding Blvd. (LA 408)	At I-110	Intersection/Interchange	Programmed
47	Highland Rd. (LA 42)	Airline Hwy. to I-10	Widening	Programmed
48	Hooper Road (LA 408)	At Blackwater Road	Right Turn Lane	Under Design
49	Hooper Road (LA 408)	Blackwater Rd. to Devall Rd.	Widening	Programmed
50	I-10 Frontage Rd.	Bluebonnet Blvd. to Siegen Lane	New Road	Acquiring R/W
51	I-10	I-10/I-12 Split to Siegen Lane	Widening	Under Design
52	Intelligent Transportation System (ITS)	I-10	Miscellaneous	Under Design
53	Jefferson Hwy. (LA 73)	At Barringer Foreman Road	Intersection/Interchange	Under Design
54	Jefferson Hwy. (LA 73)	At Antioch Road	Intersection/Interchange	Under Design
55	Jefferson Hwy	Lobdell Ave. to Corporate Blvd.	Intersection/Interchange	Under Design
56	Jones Creek Road	Coursey Blvd. to S. Harrell's Ferry Road	Widening	Programmed
57	Jones Creek Road	Tiger Bend Rd. to Coursey Blvd.	Widening	Under Design

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58	Joor Road (LA 946)	Jones Bayou to Hooper Rd.	Widening	Under Design
59	Lobdell Avenue	Jefferson Hwy. to Goodwood Blvd.	Widen 2-lane to 5-lane	Under Design
60	Lobdell Avenue	Government St. to Florida Blvd.	Reconstruction	Programmed
61	Lovett Road	At Joor Road (LA 946)	Intersection/Interchange	Programmed
62	Millerville Road	I-12 to Old Hammond Hwy.	Widening	Acquiring R/W
63	Millerville Road	I-12 to S. Harrell's Ferry Rd.	Widening	Under Design
64	McClelland Drive	Evangeline St. to Airline Hwy.	Reconstruction	Under Construction
65	McHugh Road	Wimbush Dr. to Lower Zachary Rd.	Reconstruction	Under Design
66	Nicholson Dr. (LA 30)	At Brightside Dr. and West Lee Dr.	Intersection/Interchange	Under Design
67	Nicholson Dr. (LA 30)	At Bob Petit Rd.	Intersection/Interchange	Programmed
68	LA 427 (Perkins Road)	Siegen Lane to Highland Road	Widening	Programmed
69	North Blvd.	10th Street to 19th Street	Widening	Under Construction
70	North 28th Street	North St. to Fuqua St.	Reconstruction	Under Construction
71	Old Hammond Hwy. (LA 426)	Airline Hwy. to Blvd. De Province	Widening	Under Design
72	Old Hammond Hwy. (LA 426)	Blvd. De Province to Millerville Rd.	Widening	Programmed
73	O'Neal Lane	George O'Neal Rd. to S. Harrell's Ferry Rd.	Widen 2-lane to 5-lane	Under Design
74	O'Neal Lane (LA 3245)	I-12 to Florida Blvd.	Widening	Under Design
75	O'Neal Lane (LA 3245)	S. Harrell's Ferry Rd. to I-12	Widening	Programmed
76	Perkins Road	Perkins Road at Bluebonnet Blvd.	Intersection/Interchange	Under Construction
77	Perkins Road	Essen Lane to Siegen Lane	Widening	Under Design
78	Picardy Avenue Ext.	Picardy Ave. to Bluebonnet Blvd.	New Road	Under Design

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79	Pride-Port Hudson Rd.	Over Comite River	New Bridge	Under Construction
80	River Road	Bicycle Path	Miscellaneous	Under Design
81	Scenic Hwy. (LA 19)	Lavey Lane to Twin Oaks Drive	Widening	Under Design
82	Sherwood Forest Blvd.	At I-12	Intersection/Interchange	Under Design
83	N. Sherwood Forest Dr.	S. Choctaw to Greenwell Springs Rd.	Widening	Under Design
84	Staring Lane	Staring Lane at Hyacinth Ave.	Intersection/Interchange	Under Design
85	Stevendale Road	Stevendale Rd. at Florida Blvd.	Intersection/Interchange	Under Design
86	Stumberg Lane/Pecue Lane	Airline Highway to Jefferson Highway	Widening/Realignment	Programmed
87	Sullivan Road	Greenwell Springs Rd. to Wax Rd.	Widening	Programmed
88	Sullivan Road	Sullivan Rd. at Lovett Rd.	Intersection/Interchange	Under Design
89	Tiger Bend Road	Jefferson Hwy. to Jones Creek Rd.	Widening	Under Construction
90	University Lake	Bicycle-Pedestrian Improvements	Miscellaneous	Under Design
91	Veterans Memorial Boulevard Extension	Quimby Ave. to Blount Rd.	New Road	Programmed
92	Signal Synchronization	Signals (Phase III) 30 Intersections	Signal Replacement	Under Construction
93	Signal Synchronization	Signals (Phase IV) 32 Intersections	Signal Replacement	Under Design
94	Signal Synchronization	Signals (Phase V) 39 Intersections	Signal Replacement	Under Design



# Appendix D

## Recommended City-Parish Drainage and Flood Control Projects 2003-2007

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### U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS Horizon Plan 5-Year Update (2003-2007) Comprehensive Land Use and Development Plan Baton Rouge, Louisiana

#### RECOMMENDED PLAN SELECTED BY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

	<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>TYPE IMPROVEMENT</u>	<u>ESTIMATED TOTAL COST</u>	<u>ESTIMATED LOCAL COST</u>	
<b>I.</b>	<b><u>Comite River Diversion Project (3)</u></b>				
	A	Comite River Diversion	E	\$153,000,000	\$ 45,900,000
				<b><u>Anticipated Construction Start Date</u></b>	
		<b><u>Project Phase</u></b>			
		1. Lilly Bayou (Phase I):		3/03	
		2. Lilly Bayou (Phase II):		7/03	
		3. LA 61 & KCS RR Bridge:		2/05	
		4. LA 19 & ICG RR Bridge:		2/05	
		5. LA 67 Bridge:		6/04	
		6. McHugh Road Bridge:		7/04	
		7. Drainage Drop Structures:		12/03	
		8. LA 964 Bridge:		7/04	
		9. Carney Road Bridge:		11/04	
		10. Baton Rouge Bayou Drop:		3/04	
		11. Channel (Phase I):		8/04	
		12. Channel (Phase II):		4/06	
		13. Channel (Phase III):		2/07	
		14. Channel (Phase IV):		12/07	
		15. Brook's Lake Closure:		1/05	
		16. Diversion Structure:		1/09	
		17. Clear & Snag Drainage Canals & Remove Channel Plugs:		11/09	
		18. Final Acceptance of Entire Project:		12/10	

## Appendix D

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### II. East Baton Rouge Parish Amite River Tributaries Projects (4)

B	Jones Creek and Tributaries	E & L	\$ 92,000,000	\$32,200,000
C	Beaver Bayou and Tributaries	E	\$ 24,200,000	\$ 8,470,000
D	Blackwater Bayou	E	\$ 22,300,000	\$ 7,805,000
E	Ward Creek and Tributaries	E	\$ 12,300,000	\$ 4,305,000
F	Bayou Fountain	E	<u>\$ 7,200,000</u>	<u>\$ 2,520,000</u>
AMITE RIVER TRIBUTARIES PROJECTS TOTAL			<u>\$158,000,000</u>	<u>\$55,300,000</u>

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- (1) Type Improvements: E - Earth Channel Improvements; L - Concrete Lined Channel
  - (2) Estimated local share cost for plan selected by Corps of Engineers
  - (3) Costs shown for Comite River Diversion Project is based upon 2002 estimated project costs. The local sponsors for this project are the Amite River Basin Commission; State of Louisiana DOTD; and East Baton Rouge Parish.
  - (4) Costs shown for the East Baton Rouge Amite River Tributaries Watershed Project are based upon the Corps of Engineers Post Authorization Report, Dated May, 2002.

**Appendix D**

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**RECOMMENDED CITY/PARISH DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT****Horizon Plan 5 year Update (2003-2007)  
Comprehensive Land Use and Development Plan  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

<b><u>PROJECT</u></b>	<b><u>TYPE IMPROVEMENT</u></b>	<b><u>STATUS</u></b>
1 Baird/Boone Drive Lateral of Dawson Creek- Rodney Drive to Baird Drive	New Culverts and Closed Conduit	Complete
2 Bayou Fountain (Burbank to Gardere)	Earth Channel	Complete
3-A Bayou Fountain (Upper) at L.S.U. Nicholson Drive to I.C.R.R. (Phase I)	Earth Channel	Complete
3-B Bayou Fountain (Upper) at L.S.U. Nicholson Drive to I.C.R.R. (Phase II)	Earth Channel	Under Construction
4 Beaver Bayou, Comite River to near Hooper Road	Clear & Snag	Complete
5 Boyd Avenue Culvert Extension North 22 <sup>nd</sup> Street to Fuqua Street	Closed Conduit	Complete
6 Broadmoor Lateral of North Branch Ward Creek	Closed Conduit	Programmed
7 Brownsfield Lateral of Cypress Bayou - Cypress Bayou to Plank Road	Earth Channel and Closed Conduit	Designed
8 Brushy Bayou - White's Bayou to Johnston Street	Clear & Snag	Complete
9 Claycut Bayou - Floynell to Bluebonnet	Lined Channel	Complete
10 Dawson Creek - Ward Creek to Perkins Road	Clear & Snag	Complete
11 Red Oaks Wester Lateral of Jones Creek - Jones Creek to Choctaw Drive	Lined Channel	Programmed
12 Resthaven Cemetery Lateral of Claycut Bayou	Closed Conduit	Programmed
13 S. Sherwood Forest Boulevard/Muriel Outfall	Lined Channel and Closed Conduit	Complete
14 Weiner Creek Lateral of Jones Creek - Jones Creek to Seracedar	Earth Channel and Clear & Snag	Complete
15 White's Bayou - Comite River to Brushy Bayou	Clear & Snag	Complete
16 Aster Street/Chimes Street West Chimes to West Grant	Lined Channel and Closed Conduit	Under Design

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17	Avants Canal lateral of Jones Creek	Closed Conduit	Programmed
18	Banks Lateral of Bayou Monte Sano	Closed Conduit	Programmed
19	Brookstown Lateral of Hurricane Creek	Lined Channel and Closed Conduit	Programmed
20	Brownsfield Lateral of Cypress Bayou Plank Road to Thomas Road	Lined Channel and Closed Conduit	Programmed
21	North Branch of Ward Creek Jefferson Highway to Florida Boulevard	Lined Channel	Programmed
22	North Branch of Ward Creek - Westminster Lateral	Lined Channel	Programmed
23	Shenandoah Lateral of Jones Creek	Lined Channel	Programmed
24	Southdowns Lateral of Dawson Creek - Dawson Creek to Lee Drive	Lined Channel and Closed Conduit	Programmed
25-A	Ward Creek - Bayou Manchac to North Branch	Clear & Snag	Programmed
25-B	Ward Creek - North Branch to Pecue Lane	Clear & Snag	Complete
26	Baker Canal Rehabilitation	Lined Channel	Under Study
27	Balis/Brownlee Area Outfall	Closed Conduit	Programmed
28	Bayou Manchac - Amite River to Nicholson Drive	Clear & Snag	By Ascension Parish
29	Broadmoor Terrace Lateral of Jones Creek - Jones Creek to Sharp Road	Lined Channel	Programmed
30	Dawson Creek - Hundred Oaks to Acadian Thruway	Lined Channel	Programmed
31	Draughn Creek - Comite River to Magnolia Bridge Road	Earth Channel	Programmed
32	Engineer's Depot Canal Outfall to Comite River	Earth Channel	Programmed
33	Hurricane Creek - Comite River to Airline Highway	Clear & Snag	Programmed
34	Jefferson Place Lateral - Ward Creek to Jefferson Place	Closed Conduit	Under Construction
35	Lanier Lateral of Robert Canal	Lined Channel	Programmed
36	Lateral of Monte Sano Bayou - Monte Sano Bayou to Central Road	Lined Channel and Closed Conduit	Programmed

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37	Lavey Lane Lateral of White's Bayou - White's Bayou to Plank Road	Earth Channel	Programmed
38	Lively Bayou North of I.C.R.R. - I.C.R.R. Past Flannery Road	Earth Channel	Programmed
40	Parkland Lateral of North Branch of Ward Creek - North Branch to Upper Limit	Lined Channel	Programmed
41	White's Bayou (Brushy Bayou to Hwy. 64)	Clear & Snag	Programmed
42	Wooddale Blvd. Drainage Improvements (S. Choctaw Dr. to Scobell Dr.)	Closed Conduit	Under Design
43	Old Ward's Creek (Old Perkins to LaCrete Lane)	Clear & Snag	Under Design
44	Richards Drive Drainage Outfall	Closed Conduit	Under Design
45	Elbow Bayou (Phase I)	Earth Channel	Under Construction
46	Pecan Cove Drainage Outfall Improvement	Closed Conduit	Completed



# **Planning Commission Staff**

## **Administration**

Troy L. Bunch, Planning Director • Ellen A. Miller, Assistant Planning Director  
• Jan Kirby, Senior Administrative Specialist • Jane Wooldridge, Clerical Specialist

## **Current Planning Division**

Jessica Firment, Manager, Current Planning  
• Brent Soileau, Coordinator, Subdivision Review  
• Woodrow Muhommad, Planner, Site Plan Review  
• Katie Evans, Clerical Specialist

## **Advance Planning Division**

Chris Cleland, Manager, Advance Planning/Research  
• Dorothy McDaniel, Coordinator, Land Use and Special Studies  
• Warren Kron, Jr., Planner • Carrie Broussard, Planner  
• Alison Gibbs, Coordinator, Economic/Demographic Research  
• Donna Bennett, Administrative Specialist  
• CC Ducote, Clerical Specialist

## **GIS Division**

• Mihwa Jang, Manager, Geographic Information Systems  
• Scott Poche', Coordinator, Geographic Information Systems  
• Maggie Hoshman, GIS Planner • Nicki Strickland, Draftsman  
• Beth Hughes, Clerical Specialist