



# Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome



## Report on the State of the City-Parish East Baton Rouge

A Parish of Peace, Prosperity and Progress

# **Broome Administration's Year One Accomplishments**

During her first year in office, Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome and her administration made significant progress toward delivering an East Baton Rouge Parish that is a place of peace, prosperity and progress. With a focus on flood recovery, public safety, and sustainable growth for the next generation, Mayor-President Broome is implementing innovative, data-driven strategies and bold solutions to advancing our City-Parish.

Among the year's top priorities and major accomplishments:

- Advancing flood recovery efforts for our citizens from the devastating August 2016 floods, and working to ensure East Baton Rouge rebuilds in a more resilient manner
- Increasing opportunities and removing barriers toward an education agenda for the children of East Baton Rouge Parish
- Bridging a strong relationship between the public and Baton Rouge's public safety departments
- Reenergizing a commitment to quality of place issues, to beautify and improve the overall cleanliness and appearance of the city and parish
- Managing the City-Parish finances in a fiscally responsible manner, while also ensuring the highest possible customer service for our citizens

Mayor-President Broome is advancing a City-Parish government that is more open, accessible and data-driven in order to address the needs of the citizens of East Baton Rouge. This year, East Baton Rouge introduced a publicly-vetted Open Data BR program. The purpose is to make all publishable City-Parish data and information easily accessible to the public, thereby helping to improve service delivery, increase transparency and enhance coordination and efficiency among departments, partner agencies and residents.

The Mayor-President formed a BRPD Chief Search Committee, made up of a diverse group of 14 community leaders, to interview and recommend finalists for the position of Police Chief of the Baton Rouge Police Department. Candidates were publicly interviewed in an open meeting format, allowing the public to fully vet and provide feedback on all of the candidates. Additionally, Mayor-President Broome hosted the first of her "Call to Action" meetings, attended by over 200 citizens, focused on finding solutions to the challenges of violent crime.

Mayor-President Broome's collaborative leadership style, forward-looking vision and willingness to explore innovative solutions are creating an East Baton Rouge that is both data-driven and inclusive of all its citizens.

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## **Flood Recovery**

### **Maximizing Federal Recovery Dollars**

Revised and received federal approval for a plan to expend \$11 million in recovery dollars, dedicating the funds to rental rehabilitation, homeowner repair and homelessness prevention

Within the first 60 days in office, Mayor Broome presented to the Restore Louisiana Task Force, expressing the need for greater flexibility in the expenditure of federal recovery dollars, as well as the need for continued resources to Louisiana and East Baton Rouge Parish

To date, \$65.4 million has been expended on FEMA recovery projects for East Baton Rouge Parish, with \$42.5 million reimbursed to the City-Parish by the federal government, and an additional \$5 million reimbursed from insurance proceeds

Secured Federal Highway Administration funds to repair 25 traffic signals damaged during the August 2016 flood

Mayor Broome hosted staff members from the U.S. House Oversight & Government Reform committee, meeting with East Baton Rouge parish and municipal officials, as well as Congressional delegation staff, to discuss flood response efforts

Hosted 7 Hazard Mitigation outreach meetings to local homeowners affected by the 2016 flood

Secured \$112 million in federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program dollars related to the August 2016 flood, as well as Hurricane Gustav

### **Advancing Recovery & Resilience Efforts**

Mayor Broome sought and received a 6-month extension from FEMA for EBR's flood debris removal program. In total, more than 1.98 million cubic yards of debris were collected, representing one of the largest and most complex debris removal efforts of its kind. This amount is the equivalent of filling a football field nearly ten stories high with debris

Reflecting on one-year of recovery and recognizing many of those who were impacted by the August 2016 flood, Mayor Broome hosted "A Time of Reflection" Prayer service in August 2017

In coordination with the Center for Planning Excellence and the Greater New Orleans Foundation, Mayor Broome hosted the Baton Rouge Resilient Infrastructure Workshop, bringing in partners from throughout the parish focusing on techniques for building resiliency into infrastructure project development

Strengthened property maintenance code in order to address flooded, abandoned structures in the parish that would not qualify for condemnation under the previous code

## **Improving Drainage**

Kicked off the development of East Baton Rouge Parish's first-ever Stormwater Management Plan, that will identify and prioritize necessary or desirable improvements to the parish's drainage system, and will also develop descriptions and estimated capital and operational costs

Secured \$104 million in federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program dollars related to the August 2016 flood that is being targeted largely towards expanding capacity in critical drainage and preparedness areas of the parish

Approximately 147,140 linear feet of drainage canals have been identified and documented as disaster-related debris in need of removal and disposal

Focusing on drainage maintenance and cleanouts, Mayor Broome directed the Drainage Maintenance Division to concentrate this year on several concrete-lined canals throughout the parish, removing debris, driftwood and other trash that accumulated

## **Public Safety**

### **Police Department Reform Efforts**

Mayor Broome appointed a new Chief of the Baton Rouge Police Department, Murphy Paul, following a transparent interview process conducted by a 14-member community committee

Implemented policy recommendations from a collaborative effort between law enforcement officials and community leaders to enhance the Police Department's use-of-force policies

Body cameras purchased and deployed for all police officers

Mayor Broome budgeted for an additional police training academy in 2018, with 35 recruits in each of the two academies

Implementing the new GeauxBRPD website and recruiting campaign to help streamline the recruiting process and help recruit a more diverse workforce

East Baton Rouge EMS trained hundreds of police and fire personnel on the proper use of tourniquets. EMS is currently training police officers on the administration of the overdose drug, Narcan, to assist with opioid overdoses in emergency situations

Developed the Public Safety Common Operational Platform (PSCOP), an interactive digital mapping system that consolidates public safety-related information into one central map-based environment, providing BRPD with the ability to more effectively manage current incidents, as well as track trends to better deploy resources

### **Focusing on Public Safety and Crime Prevention**

Placing priority and budgeting limited local tax dollars towards replacement public safety vehicles for police and fire personnel

Mayor Broome hosted the first of her "Call to Action" meetings, attended by over 200 citizens, focused on finding solutions to the challenges of violent crime

Demolished 125 blighted structures, processed over 190 property condemnations and secured 530 blight court judgements, to address blighted property in the parish

Received \$750,000 grant from the International Association of Chiefs of Police launching an initiative aimed at addressing the needs of communities directly impacted by high-profile incidences of violence

## **Strengthening Community Relations**

Hosted in conjunction with the Baton Rouge Police Department “Meet the Beat” meetings around the City, bringing together community members with officers who serve and protect in their neighborhood.

Participated in the “National Night Out Against Crime,” reaching over 500 children and their families, and providing all-hazard safety tips

Coordinated with the Baton Rouge Police Department the relocation of the Police Memorial statues to the BRPD Headquarters

Following Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, Mayor Broome approved Baton Rouge Fire Department personnel to deploy to Texas and Florida to assist with search and rescue efforts. Mayor Broome later recognized these personnel by presenting them with Certificates of Commendation for their selfless efforts

Mayor Broome partnered with the Baton Rouge Police Department on the Baton Rouge Police Athletic League Youth Mentoring Program, using civic, educational, athletic and recreational activities to create understanding and trust between youth and law enforcement

## **Being “Red Stick Ready” – Providing High-Quality Emergency Preparedness**

Mayor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (MOHSEP) activated the East Baton Rouge Parish Emergency Operations Center for 17 separate incidents in 2017, including:

- Tropical Storm Cindy
- Hurricane Harvey
- Hurricane Irma
- Tropical Storm Nate

Announced and awarded \$167,478 emergency preparedness grant, in conjunction with cities of Baker, Central and Zachary, as well as the East Baton Rouge Sheriff’s office, for the purchase of critical communication equipment that will benefit all entities during times of disaster

Co-hosted the 2017 Hurricane Awareness Day at the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport

Hosted a Red Stick Ready Day at the Mall of Louisiana raising community safety and hurricane awareness to over 1,000 citizens

Hosted an International Delegation from Haiti to demonstrate the capabilities and processes of the East Baton Rouge Parish Emergency Operations Center

Updated the East Baton Rouge Parish Multi-Year Strategic Plan and the Regional Multi-year Training and Exercise Plan in coordination with the 7 surrounding parishes

Developed a Mass Communication plan document to aid East Baton Rouge Parish first responders during a disaster or emergency

Along with the cities of Baker, Central and Zachary, adopted the East Baton Rouge Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan, in collaboration with the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness and the Federal Emergency Management Agency allowing East Baton Rouge Parish to receive federal disaster funding

Updated the East Baton Rouge Parish Emergency Pet Shelter Planning in coordination with animal stakeholders to ensure that pet owners have available resources in the event of a disaster

In coordination with the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport and other State and Regional stakeholders, Mayor Broome and the MOHSEP team conducted a full-scale comprehensive airport disaster drill to test the City-Parish's capability to successfully respond to a mass casualty incident

MOHSEP participated in an ExxonMobil Oil Spill Exercise and Drill in coordination with West Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and several key private sector stakeholders to test local emergency plans and tactical operations and train for real emergency events

Hosted training for Crisis Management for School Based Incidents to assist in school-based emergency response planning and crisis management through information sharing and training

Began preliminary planning to coordinate with Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster partnerships as well as the 211 Call Center to develop a program to supply sand bags to senior citizens or citizens with access and function needs

Coordinated with the American Red Cross to ensure adequate shelter locations and support resources are properly identified and staffed for future emergencies

Developing procedures and identifying resources to assist over 250 local healthcare facilities comply with new business continuity and reporting regulations mandated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Coalition



## **Children & Health**

### **Focusing Resources on Children**

Mayor Broome convened the first-ever joint meeting of the East Baton Rouge Metropolitan Council and the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board, discussing ways to partner and work towards common goals

Launched a Cradle to K Initiative, consisting of a coalition of 25 organizations working with expectant and current mothers, and serving as a platform for parents to share ideas and advice on early childhood development and social readiness for children up to five years of age

Engaging with our local school system on the importance of sustainability and recycling, Mayor Broome and the Department of Environmental Services School Outreach Committee partnered with more than a dozen schools promoting science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) concepts, sustainability and recycling. Accomplishments of this effort included:

Partnering with the Foundation for East Baton Rouge School System to plan and execute the 2017 EngineerIT Competition. This highly successful and visible event included more than 60 students from STEM schools across East Baton Rouge Parish, with activities and competitions that focused on water treatment and filtration, water quality and preventing clogs in our sewer system from fats, oils and grease (FOG)

Coordinating the second annual DES school recycling competition, resulting in the collection of more than 15,600 pounds – nearly 8 tons – of recyclable material. Woodlawn High School won the competition, collecting 111 carts and more than 5,700 pounds of recyclable materials, more than double what was collected in the competition last year

Hosting more than 40 students from McKinley High School at the South Wastewater Treatment Plant and Laboratory, where students learned about the various treatment processes at the plant and the testing performed by the lab technicians

Implemented a new online, internet-based educational program at the Department of Juvenile Services, creating better on-level education to meet youth where they are, and also providing an additional 15 Chromebooks for the program

Partnered with AMIKids Workforce Program to accept at-risk youth for opportunities to achieve workforce credentials

Successfully received \$1 million grant for the ‘Resiliency in Communities After Stress and Trauma’ (ReCAST) Program, utilizing a behavioral health model to address the needs of at-risk youth and their families in efforts to reduce youth violence

## **Promoting and Expanding Summer Employment Opportunities**

Through the Mayor's Summer Youth Employment Program, 300 high school students received workforce development experience and professional development skills. This number represents an increase of 100 students over previous years

Homeland Security personnel participated in LevelUP and EmployBR initiatives to provide internships to young adults who are interested in emergency management and volunteer Community Emergency Response Team activities

Developed and hosted a Junior Community Emergency Response Training (JR CERT) summer camp program. Utilizing an All Hazards Educational Training Trailer, MOHSEP staff educated over 300 campers to be Red Stick Ready during an emergency

Managed the Baton Rouge Performance Partnership Pilot Program, providing opportunities for students to learn trade skills, earn industry-based certifications, participate in paid internships and opportunities for post-graduation employment

Engaged over 100 out-of-school youth into the Making a Positive Step (MAPS) Work Experience Program, through EmployBR

Partnered with the WIOA Young Adult Center to provide additional tutoring and adult education to out-of-school youth, as well as assist them in meeting and/or exceeding their career goals at a one stop location and provide intensive one-on-one assistance

## **Promoting A Healthy City**

Advanced and signed into law the East Baton Rouge Smoke Free Ordinance, in conjunction with the American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout

Through the Mayor's Healthy City Initiative, led the writing of the nation's only Joint Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) and Joint Implementation Plan. The CHNA is adopted by all East Baton Rouge Parish hospital providers, and delivers a single community health roadmap for the entire parish

Hosted a community meeting with over 100 attendees from the non-profit, for profit, public health and medical field to hear subject area experts present on the health priorities of East Baton Rouge Parish

In partnership with the Public Health Foundation, Catholic Health Association and community partners, Mayor Broome created a community HIV roadmap to address the HIV epidemic in East Baton Rouge

Hosted an HIV Re-engagement and Retention in Care Workshop in partnership with Healthy BR, The Ryan-White Program and ViiV Healthcare

Hosted the Mayor's Family Fit Day with over 500 participants

Launched the Mobile Integrated Health Program (MIH), with a mission to work diligently with all other agencies within East Baton Rouge Parish to reduce utilization of emergency departments, reduce readmission rates, and assist in improving patient outcomes by using all available resources within East Baton Rouge Parish. 55 patients were enrolled in the MIH program in 2017

Worked in partnership with the American Heart Association to launch an East Baton Rouge Parish Blood Pressure Taskforce

Hosted a Diabetes Expo at Pennington Biomedical Research Center with over 125 participants

### **Developing a Healthy Workplace**

Implemented a Transition Report recommendation within the East Baton Rouge Emergency Medical Services to improve access for employees to mental health professionals. These qualified personnel assist our EMS team with handling the daily strains of the job, through the Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Team, a group of medics and other public safety personnel who respond to employees when appropriate

Working towards solutions to the opioid crisis, East Baton Rouge EMS is partnering with the East Baton Rouge Coroner's office to provide data regarding opioid overdoses

Participated in the East Baton Rouge Parish Health Fair to assist developing a family emergency plan

## **Community & Economic Development**

### **Supporting Economic Growth**

Mayor Broome furthered the City-Parish's partnership with the Baton Rouge Area Chamber, in order to support and pursue transformative economic development opportunities for East Baton Rouge Parish

Issued an Executive Order and established an Industrial Tax Exemption Program Committee, made up of representatives of several local governing bodies, in order to provide an orderly and effective way to evaluate requests

Recognizing the importance of providing access and equal opportunities for all entities seeking to do business with the City-Parish, Mayor Broome fulfilled a commitment to pursue funding to conduct a disparity study to evaluate City-Parish buying practices, focusing on increasing participation from minority- and women-owned businesses and veterans

Joined a number of partners and stakeholders to cut the ribbon on the 30-acre, \$25 million Water Campus/The Water Institute of the Gulf, an economic driver and cultural anchor connecting downtown and LSU

Worked with economic development partners to push through a Transition Report recommendation to execute a contract with a third-party permit review firm, providing expedited building plan reviews

In 2017, the Department of Permits and Inspections furthered development in our community by:

- Issuing over 3,400 residential and commercial construction permits totaling more than \$883 million in project valuation and collecting over \$1.5 million in permit fees

- Issuing over 18,000 occupancy and relocation permits for a collection of over \$1 million in permit fees

- Issuing over 700 permits for pools, fences and signs totaling more than \$10 million in project valuation and over \$60,000 in permit fees

- Processing over 200 submittals for new subdivisions, public street, drainage and sewer improvements, pond/grading permits, minor subdivisions and exchanges of property

- Processing over 900 Flood Zone Forms, 75 culvert permits, 220 Federal Flood Insurance Information letters, 23 Flood variance requests, 26 substantial damage letters to residents, 523 Right of Way permits, and 25 Sanitary Sewer connection permits

Mayor Broome joined numerous partners and stakeholders breaking ground on the \$3.9 million renovation to City Hall Plaza, which includes revamps to Repentance Park, as well as a new downtown library.

Authorized the plans and funding for an \$18.1 million River Center Theater renovation project

## **Infrastructure Development**

Mayor Broome led efforts to secure funding to keep the Pecue Lane & Interstate-10 interchange project on schedule. This project will serve to reduce traffic in the Highland & Siegen Lane areas, and also serve as an economic development driver for the Southeast portion of the parish

Street Improvement Projects completed this year:

- O'Neal Lane (George O'Neal to S. Harrell's Ferry Road)
- Jones Creek Road (George O'Neal to Tiger Bend Road)
- West Parker at Burbank Intersection (Dual Left Turn Lanes)
- Lee Drive at Burbank Intersection (Add dual left turn lanes on Lee Drive)

Bridge Rehabilitation Projects were completed this year, including:

- Port Hudson Pride Bridge over Little Sandy Creek
- Morvant Road #1 Bridge over Drainage Bayou
- Morvant Road #2 Bridge over Drainage Bayou
- Greenwell Street Bridge over Roberts Canal
- Albert Road Bridge over Jones Creek
- Mollylea Drive Bridge over Jones Creek
- Cuyhanga Drive Bridge over Jones Creek
- Claycut Road Bridge over Wards Creek
- Flancher Road Bridge over Bayou Baton Rouge
- Rafe Mayer Road Bridge over Drainage Bayou

7 bridge rehabilitation projects currently under construction

16 bridges in the parish will either start construction or final design in 2018

Hosted a 'Traffic and Transportation Summit,' as well as several informational meetings with the community, to receive valuable input towards addressing traffic issues

Mayor Broome introduced in July the Better Transportation and Roads (BTR) Plan, proposing a parishwide 5-mill property tax over 30 years to fund an estimated \$540 million in regional area improvements that included new public roads, improving existing corridors with increased mobility, constructing community enhancement road projects and improving the advanced traffic management center

In conjunction with the BTR Plan, Mayor Broome hosted 10 public meetings to present and receive feedback on the BTR Plan and the 40+ proposed projects associated with the plan

Completed 14 major sewer improvement projects in 2017, including:

- Zachary Area Transmission Network Improvements Project – Phase 5
- Plank Road Pump Station Improvements
- Siegen Lane – I10 Area Rehabilitation Project
- Highland Road Area Sewer Upgrades – Group B
- Multiple Pump Stations – Highland Road-Kenilworth Parkway
- O’Neal Lane Pump Station Improvements – Group A
- Oak Villa – Monterrey Boulevard Area Sewer Upgrades
- South Boulevard-St. Joseph Street – Phase B
- Standby Generator Installations for Sewer Lift Stations
- Airline Highway Pipeline Project – Phase A
- East Boulevard-Government Street Area Rehabilitation Project
- Flannery Road-Florida Boulevard Area Rehabilitation Project – Phase 1
- O’Neal Lane Pump Station Improvements – Group B
- Multiple Pump Stations – Burbank Drive-Siegen Lane

Mayor Broome pushed through a Transition Report recommendation to create a parishwide Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Plan that will improve mobility for all residents

### **Revitalizing Neighborhoods**

Launched the Baton Rouge ReBuilds Fellows Program, a partnership with the Corporation for National and Community Service, engaging dedicated individuals to join the City-Parish’s efforts to energize and strengthen communities through neighborhood organizing, community policing, civic engagement, leadership training and youth programming

Doubled the City-Parish’s financial commitment to the revitalization of the Lincoln Theater

Mayor Broome joined 150 student volunteers from around the country with the World Changers organization as they conducted service projects around North Baton Rouge, working on 24 homes conducting work such as painting, building a wheelchair ramp and other projects

Celebrated the opening of 19 new two-story, brick homes in North Baton Rouge’s Zion City neighborhood, with the utilization of \$2 million in federal grant funds

Endorsed and joined in efforts with the Baton Rouge Sustainable Transportation Action Committee (STAC) on a pilot program to make streets more pedestrian, bicycle and public transit friendly in the Mid-City area.

Secured an additional \$200,000 in federal Emergency Shelter Grant funds through the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development to provide housing to families facing homelessness

Awarded Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program funds to assist 7,080 families with utility services

Awarded \$44,697 in Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds to serve 63 families in need of assistance

Through the Department of Human Development Services, assisted over 16,000 individuals with services and programs designed to help citizens become more self-sufficient

## **Efficiencies & Customer Service**

### **Managing City Finances Responsibly**

Passed a fiscally responsible and balanced stand-still budget for 2018, setting the stage for the use of data and technology to achieve efficiencies in local government operations

Saved \$800,000 in the coming fiscal year through the funding of a mental health and substance abuse diversion program that will keep citizens out of jail cells and put them into appropriate treatment programs

Through driving Information Technology consolidation efforts, identified services that are no longer needed or can be replaced through more cost-effective services, resulting in real-dollar savings of over \$300,000 over a 12-month period

### **Increasing Government Efficiency**

Implemented a new Enterprise Resource Planning system, replacing an outdated financial and procurement system. This is the largest system modernization effort the City-Parish has ever undertaken, and when complete, it will create tremendous efficiencies in our internal operations through improved and integrated internal processes

Mayor Broome improved operational efficiency and delivery of the Office of Community Development by strategically aligning federal resources with partners in the community, such as the East Baton Rouge Public Housing Authority, the East Baton Rouge Redevelopment Authority, and the East Baton Rouge Division of Human Development Services

Ensuring the significant capital improvements to the Parish's sewer system are properly maintained, Mayor Broome implemented a Transition Report recommendation to fill or replace vacancies with private contractors, awarding contracts for sewer pump station lawn maintenance, odor control operations and maintenance, and pump station mechanical, electrical and instrumentation support

New contracts were negotiated for garbage and recycling collection services, as well as for the maintenance, repair and distribution of wheeled solid waste carts, allowing the City-Parish to continue providing consistent and reliable solid waste services to residents at a competitive price

### **Leveraging Technology**

In keeping with her commitment to government transparency and data-driven decision making, Mayor Broome implemented an open data policy for the City of Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge. The policy enhances the use of data and evidence in local government.



Launched the Open Neighborhood BR Program, providing residents an easy to understand map of what is taking place in their geographic area

Mayor Broome announced that the capital city was selected as one of five new cities to participate in Bloomberg Philanthropies' national What Work Cities initiative – one of the largest-ever philanthropic efforts to enhance the use of data and evidence in the public sector.

Announced that Baton Rouge was named the fifth most digital city in the U.S. by the Center for Digital Government, among cities with a population of 125,000 to 249,999. This distinction comes as the result of a competitive process that annually recognizes top-ranked cities demonstrating progress and capabilities across ten key characteristics of a digital city.

Transitioned Public Works divisions to a digital map and data process, with crews now having the ability to view more than 100,000 sewer assets using a mobile device.

### **Equipment & Facility Upgrades**

Updating Emergency Medical Services vehicle fleet with reliable and more cost effective replacement vehicles for supervisory staff

Secured grant funding for public safety generators at the Baton Rouge Police Department Headquarters, as well as City Hall complex, to ensure continuance of operations during times of outages and emergencies

In partnership with the Downtown Development Authority, installed lighting and landscape upgrades, as well as a shade canopy on the City dock

Continued construction of River Road bike path along the levee

## **Quality of Place**

### **Beautification Initiatives**

Hosted in conjunction with Keep Baton Rouge Beautiful the 1st Annual “Mayor Broome’s Clean Sweep EBR” event, aimed at engaging volunteers to pick up litter across the parish. Over 500 volunteers cleaned areas throughout the parish, collecting approximately 650 bags of trash, 21 abandoned tires, mattresses and other litter items

Created the Corridor Beautification Initiative, in partnership with Louisiana Department of Transportation & Development, the Baton Rouge Area Chamber, and Keep Baton Rouge Beautiful, focused on rehabbing and beautifying major corridors in our community

Started a Litter Strike Team crew within the Department of Maintenance, focused on deploying to areas of the parish where large litter spills occur, and cleaning those areas expeditiously as possible

Utilizing Geographic Information System software to identify clusters of pothole locations in the parish, set an aggressive goal of filling every pothole in East Baton Rouge Parish that was reported into the 311 system. In just over 8 months, over 3,000 potholes were filled, and the department’s goal was achieved prior to the end of December

Through focused effort, the Trash and Debris Removal Crews closed out over 553 service requests from illegal dumping activities that occurred throughout the Parish

In October, the Department of Maintenance conducted a one day blight clean up Saturday, picking up more than 216 cubic yards and 29 tons of illegally dumped trash and debris, as well as 234 tires. Crews also collected more than 600 illegally placed advertisement signs that were in city-owned right-of-ways and on utility poles