



# St. Bernard Parish Government

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**Guy McInnis**  
Parish President

## President's Report Council Meeting of Tuesday, February 7, 2017

### Good Evening Councilmembers, Ladies and Gentlemen:

St. Bernard Parish was spared from several Tornados that affected the surrounding area today. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the people who were injured and those who lost property. St. Bernard Parish Government and Fire Department have reached out to Mayor Landrieu and we remain on standby. The St. Bernard Parish Sheriff's Office assisted our neighbors by providing search and rescue.

This week we will be in Washington, D.C. from Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> through Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. Attending will be Ronald Alonzo, John Lane, Donald Bourgeois, Monty Montelongo, and Gillis McCloskey. We have a full schedule of meetings and activities arranged with Senator Kennedy, Senator Cassidy; House Majority Whip, Congressman Steve Scalise, Congressman Garret Graves and Nancy Peele, his Chief of Staff. The trip will end on Friday evening where Parish Presidents will meet to discuss topics affecting our State. Topics of discussions throughout the week will include coastal protection and restoration, GOMESA funding as well as a meeting with FEMA officials to discuss lingering drainage repairs going back to Hurricane Katrina. We look forward to these upcoming meetings which should prove to be very productive.

**OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY** - St. Bernard Parish residents with Special Needs are eligible for assistance in evacuating should a mandatory evacuation be called, either due to a hurricane or another type of emergency which might arise in the parish. St. Bernard Parish Government urges those who need help evacuating to register and complete the necessary forms with the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness by calling 278-4268. The Special Needs Forms and instructions are on our website at, <http://www.sbpgh.net> on the Homeland Security Page.

**PUBLIC WORKS** – Work crews are working on a number of in-house projects from one end of the parish to the other. Road Department crews are throughout the Parish replacing sidewalks and driveway aprons. The Water and Sewer crews are repairing drainage pumps and fire hydrants. These repairs will save the Parish monies by doing these jobs in-house.

The Canal Crossing at the 20 Arpent and Bartolo project began on January 30<sup>th</sup> and will last approximately 120 days. The project will replace the existing culvert canal crossings with a precast con-span canal crossing at the Twenty Arpent Canal. Additional work required will include repair work such as cleaning existing ditches, pipe removal and replacement, riprap/flowable fill, and seeding as well as street restoration work such as concrete slab removal and replacement, concrete curb repairs, roadway base repair and restoration of streets. St. Bernard Parish Government would like to remind residents living north of the Twenty Arpent Canal, beyond 2813 Bartolo, that they will be required to access Bartolo Drive from Munster Blvd. on Genie. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Department of Public Works at 504-278-4300.

**TRANSIT** - St. Bernard Transit Department will shift a portion of its bus route from St. Bernard Highway to East Judge Perez Drive between Colonial Boulevard and Archbishop Hannan Boulevard effective Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. There would be two shifts in the route. The first would take place at Colonial Boulevard where the bus will turn north (right) from St. Bernard Highway and then turn west (left) onto East Judge Perez Drive. The second change will be at Archbishop Hannan Boulevard, where the bus would loop at the mid-point of the boulevard before returning to Judge Perez Drive and then head west towards Chalmette and Arabi. A map of the new route has been posted on the Transit Department's website, [www.sbpq.net/transit](http://www.sbpq.net/transit) and paper copies are available on the buses and at the St. Bernard Government Complex Building. For more information about the route change, please call the St. Bernard Parish Transit Office 504-277-1907.

**RECREATION** - The Recreation Department Zones are now getting ready to start Soccer games on March 1<sup>st</sup>. There is a Soccer Clinic being held today starting at 6:30 p.m. for coaches and players. The Leisure Department will be having Yoga classes twice a week for adults and kids for the next six weeks. Yoga classes will be held on Sundays and Thursdays.

**TOURISM** – The St. Bernard Parish Office of Tourism will host a tour of historic St. Bernard Parish with a luncheon held on Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in honor of the National Pageant Queens' visit to St. Bernard. The delegation will learn about the heritage and diverse cultural legacies of St.

Bernard. The delegation of queens will participate in the Krewe of Lourdes Carnival Ball, ride in a carnival parade and support community service projects. The primary goal of United States National Pageants is to provide life-changing experiences for women across the country.

The Holiday Inn Express is set to open in September, 2017 and will have 77 guestrooms and suites. This is the Parish's third hotel and it will be located at 7955 W. Judge Perez Drive in Chalmette. A groundbreaking ceremony was recently held with officials from the BN Group which will build, own and operate the new hotel.

The UNO Federal Credit Union (UNOFCU) has expanded its field of membership to serve those who live, work and attend school in the Parish. The Chalmette branch is located on the first floor of the Government Complex; hours of operations are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. UNOFCU members have access to their accounts at thousands of locations nationwide. The credit union is a valuable benefit to Parish employees.

Lastly, this year's St. Bernard Day at the Capitol in Baton Rouge will be held on Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. The event showcases the unique culture and assets of our community while building relationships and promoting legislative and policy issues that impact our Parish.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Guy McInnis".

Guy McInnis  
Parish President