



St. Bernard Parish Government

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Louis Pomes
Parish President

President's Report July 2, 2024

To St. Bernard Parish Residents and Councilmembers,

Since my last report two weeks ago, several significant updates and improvements have taken place that impact the quality of life in St. Bernard Parish. Today's report contains a wealth of information and announcements, aimed at keeping the Parish Council, residents, and stakeholders informed and engaged. I want to thank everyone reading this message; your interest and involvement drive the continued growth and stability of our beloved St. Bernard Parish. Thank you for being engaged in our progress and efforts.

Finance Department Update

I am thrilled to report that the recent annual external finance audit for 2023 concluded on time, without the need for an extension, for the first time in several years. This achievement is a testament to the excellent work of our Finance Department and the leadership of our new Finance Director, Justin Frank. I commend the entire department for their efforts and dedication to St. Bernard Parish. Their role is critical to the overall function of Parish Government, and this successful audit provides measurable evidence of their hard work.

Transit Department Review

I also want to commend our Transit Department, led by Department Manager Andrew Becker. The St. Bernard Urban Rapid Transit (SBURT) system recently completed a mandated Federal Transit Authority (FTA) Triennial Review with zero findings. This is a significant improvement from the previous review, which had 26 deficiencies. The dedication and knowledge of Mr. Becker and his team have transformed the Transit Department's practices and procedures, resulting in this outstanding achievement.

Public Works Updates

Several ongoing capital projects have made progress. Here are the latest updates from our Public Works Department:

- **Old Arabi Drainage Project:** Installation of pipes on Friscoville and Angela streets, drain line flushing, cleaning, and inspections on Mehle and Friscoville, and sewer point repairs on Angela. Phase 2 of point repairs on Mehle is nearly complete.
- **Old Arabi Streetscape Plan Phase 2C:** Parking lot installation to begin on July 5, 2024.

- **Park Renovations:** At Patricia Park, the restroom slab was poured on July 2, 2024, and playground equipment installation will begin next week. At Vista Park, playground equipment is being installed, and artificial turf installation will start next week.
- **New Public Library:** Crews are weather-proofing exterior walls, and roofing, electrical, and plumbing work is ongoing. Drainage infrastructure work is also in progress.
- **40 Arpent Trail:** Sign installation is set to begin this week.

New Business Permits

Since my last report, six new business permits have been issued. Congratulations to the following businesses: Calegan Designs, Moley Disposal, Perks Café, Louisiana Council of Resources, Bridges Bail Bonds, and Hopedale Fish Tales. I wish them success in their endeavors and encourage the community to support these local businesses, as they greatly contribute to our local economy and quality of life.

July 4th Celebrations

5:30pm The St. Bernard Business and Professional Women's Club hosts an Annual Bell Ringing Ceremony in Chalmette, Louisiana, as part of the St. Bernard Salutes America celebration. This heartfelt ceremony takes place in front of the liberty bell at the Frederick J. Sigur Civic Center. Its purpose is to show appreciation for all veterans and their selfless sacrifice in service of our freedom and independence. This ceremony takes place at the replica liberty bell statue in the parking lot of the Civic Center. All are invited to attend.

After the ceremony, please join us for the annual **St. Bernard Salutes America celebration on Thursday, July 4, 2024, from 5:30 pm to 10:00 pm** at the Frederick J. Sigur Civic Center Grounds, 8245 W. Judge Perez Drive, Chalmette. Admission is free. The schedule of events is as follows:

- Adam Pearce (from The Voice) will perform from 5:30 pm to 6:45 pm.
- The Top Cats will entertain from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm.
- Fireworks display at 9:30 pm.

Bring the entire family to enjoy the festivities and support local vendors offering food, drinks, and more! For additional information, contact Andrew Becker at (504) 473-72381.

Sincerely,



Louis Pomes, Parish President

St. Bernard Parish Government

Public Works Updates:

Old Arabi Drainage – Subterranean laying pipe on Friscoville and Angela. CES cleaning and CCTV on Mehle and Friscoville. Sewer point repairs completed on Angela. Phase 2 of point repairs on Mehle most of those are complete except for lining.

Florida Walk – Start of work meeting 7/10.

Old Arabi Streetscape Phase 2C – Parking lot job starting in July.

Patricia Park – Pour restroom slab Tuesday 7/2. Install playground equipment next week.

Vista Park – Continuing installing playground equipment. Turf installation company will be mobilizing next week.

Miscellaneous Drainage – work progressing well on Shannon Dr.

Road Yard Updates:

- replaced 66' of 18" pipe on Munster.
- Patched potholes at 2707 Jackson and on Riverbend at Judge Perez.
- Cleaned 300' of pipe at 2716-2713 Munster.
- Replaced drain grates at 3813 Lyndell and 542 Mehle.
- Caernarvon ditches completely cleaned last week.
- Green Ave. canal excavation and cleaning. Work is half complete and will finish next week.