



# *St. Bernard Parish Government*

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**Louis Pomes**  
*Parish President*

## President's Report

September 17, 2024

St. Bernard Parish Government

### **To the St. Bernard Parish Community,**

My administration and I would like to extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all parish employees, residents, and elected officials for their role in preparing for Hurricane Francine. Francine made landfall as a Category 2 hurricane further East than originally projected. Our Parish received up to 9 inches of rain in some areas as well as extremely high winds as a result. This developed with extremely short notice and unpredictability, but thankfully we have emerged with minimal damage and, most importantly, no loss of life. I am incredibly proud of the exceptional response from our community, proving once again that we are resilient, dedicated, caring community. Hurricane Francine confirmed that we are prepared and equipped for emergencies and showcased the strength and stability of St. Bernard Parish once again.

In a small town like ours, everyone has a role. Local government is here to handle many of the critical aspects and functions of St. Bernard Parish, from daily operations and maintenance of the systems, infrastructure, public utilities and facilities that we all depend on, to protecting life, safety, property, and wellbeing in times of crisis. We deeply understand and speak often of the impactful nature of the duties and responsibility entrusted to us. I speak on behalf of us all when I say what an honor and a privilege it is to serve the residents of our beloved parish. We're a small team with a big job and we work hard to keep the parish running and progressing. I am immensely proud and grateful to be surrounded by such good and dedicated people every single day here in parish government. Their dedication is especially evident in times of crisis like extreme weather events.

Although these emergencies are exactly what we plan and prepare for, we can't do it alone. Living in coastal Louisiana presents unique challenges, so we rely on the people, policies, and

procedures that exist to keep our entire community safe and stable. St. Bernard Parish has network of manpower and equipment strategically staged throughout the parish year-round, for optimal response if disaster strikes, but no matter how meticulous the planning or how robust our preparedness and response system is at all levels, it's the human element that matters most. Our success depends on the collaboration, dedication, knowledge, and quick action of many individuals working together, often on short notice and under intense and challenging circumstances. The impact that this work has on our entire community cannot be overstated... it deserves and will always have my deepest gratitude and respect.

Therefore, I would like to thank our SBPG employees, particularly our essential personnel who worked tirelessly throughout this event. Your efforts ensured the continued safety, health, and well-being of our residents. Equally, to our first responders in St. Bernard... the best of the best... and all those critical to public health and safety of the public on a daily basis... you are the best and bravest among us, always, but especially in times of crisis or need, thank you for your unwavering dedication to the residents and entire community of St. Bernard Parish.

We would also like to extend our deepest gratitude to local, state, and federal representatives, including; the Whitehouse Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Governor Jeff Landry, Sheriff James Pohlmann, Fire Chief Earl Borden, our St. Bernard Parish Council Members, Superintendent of Schools Doris Voitier, State Representative Mike Bayham, Representative Steve Scalise, Senator Bill Cassidy, Senator John Kennedy, Senator Joseph Bouie, Senator Bob Owen, and Representative Troy Carter for their unwavering support and communication during Hurricane Francine. These leaders were engaged and responsive every step of the way, and they serve the residents of this parish with such respect, tenacity, and concern. I also want to recognize and thank the representatives from Entergy, Atmos, Cox Communications, and AT&T for their quick response and collaboration in maintaining and restoring essential services to our community, and for remaining in frequent contact with my office, before during and after the event.

Special thanks and recognition must be given to the National Weather Service for their exceptional professionalism, expertise, organization, and coordination of efforts. We appreciate the NWS along with our local news and radio channels — WDSU, WWL, WVUE, WGNO, and 870 am, as well as national news outlets— for keeping our residents informed with accurate and timely updates. Your commitment and service to the community are invaluable to the safety and well-being of us all.

Now, most importantly I applaud the residents and community of St. Bernard Parish, who were the largest piece of the overall network that kept our community safe throughout Hurricane Francine. What I witnessed from the public throughout this week, although not surprising, was truly remarkable—residents and business owners overwhelmingly did what was asked of them, heeding all warnings and advisories. People were well prepared, considerate of each other, and cooperative throughout. This cooperation was crucial in ensuring a safe outcome for our entire

community, and once again the strength, resiliency, and kindness of the people of St. Bernard Parish was overwhelmingly apparent through this emergency.

So, this was indeed a collective effort, involving all sectors of our community working in harmony towards a shared goal. We have demonstrated once again that, together, we are unshakable, and ready to face whatever comes our way. I am proud to serve this very special community and to stand shoulder to shoulder with such dedicated and selfless individuals, leaders, public servants, friends and neighbors.

Thank you all for your outstanding service, dedication, and commitment to our beloved St. Bernard Parish.

With sincere gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Louis Pomes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Louis Pomes

Parish President

St. Bernard Parish Government



# **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

## **September 17, 2024**

### **Concrete:**

- 2233 Plaza sidewalk 8x4'
- 2424 Plaza, driveway apron 10' X 13'
- 2204 Plaza, sidewalk 27'
- 2208 Charles, driveway 17x12
- 2020 Charles, sidewalk 3'X4'
- 4500 Anais, sidewalk 14'x4'

### **Drain lines Flushed:**

- 138 E. Casa Calvo 150'
- Tracy / Bradbury 300'
- Buffon /D Amour 150'
- 2205 Lloyds 300'
- 2300 Plaza 300'
- 8341 Laffite Court 300'
- Campagna / Blanchard 150'
- Torres Dr. 300'
- Valmar 300'
- Jackson / Derbigny 300'
- Genie / Riverland 100'
- 100 E. Morales 150'
- 302 Perrin 300'
- 1922 Schnell 150'



## **Capital Projects Update:**

Significant progress continues across various capital projects in the parish. In Old Arabi, the drainage project is advancing with pipe lining, point repairs, and new drain line installation, while asphalt restoration is underway. The Old Arabi Streetscape project is also progressing, with excavation completed to ensure proper depth for base installation. Following Hurricane Francine, the dam at Florida Walk has been rebuilt, and pipe cleaning has resumed. At Fanz Trailer Park, a fence is being installed around the pump station. Over at Fire Station #11, the water booster pump, baseboards, and cabinets have been installed, and the team is now focusing on the roll-up door and alarm system while awaiting approval from the Fire Marshal for the sprinkler system. Meanwhile, drainage work continues with concrete pouring on the 3300-3400 block of Shannon, and a pipe crew is mobilizing to Marquez. Vista Park is nearing completion, with the concession building finalized and fencing being installed around the playground area. Dugout and batting cage slabs are being poured this week, along with ongoing work on light pole bases. Patricia Park's lighting system saw electricians working through the weekend, and restroom work continues. Lastly, the library is being sealed up following the storm, with conduit installation by electricians and Entergy setting up the power infrastructure.