



St. Bernard Parish Government

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Louis Pomes
Parish President

From the Desk of St. Bernard Parish President Louis Pomes

January 7, 2025

Honorable Members of the St. Bernard Parish Council and Residents,

I hope everyone had a blessed holiday season and is embracing the new year with renewed energy and optimism. While much of the usual construction, roadwork, and updates I would typically report on slowed down over the holidays, we continued to address urgent needs and maintain the systems that keep our parish running smoothly. As schools and workplaces reopen and we transition from the holiday season, I want to remind you that the functions and responsibilities of parish government never stop. With that in mind, there are several important updates or items of significance I'd like to report today. Thank you, as always for your time and engagement, and our shared commitment to the betterment of our wonderful community here in St. Bernard Parish.

New Year's Tragedy in New Orleans:

In response to the tragic events on New Year's Day in New Orleans, St. Bernard Parish partnered with Ochsner Blood Bank to host a mobile blood drive yesterday, on January 6, 2025. I have been deeply moved by the outpouring of support from our community in response to this horrific event. I'm proud and grateful to report that the blood drive was very well attended and a great success. Your willingness to help during such a difficult time demonstrates the strength and compassion of the residents of St. Bernard Parish. Thank you to Councilmember Ryan Randall, who spearheaded this effort, as well as my office staff who assisted with the details. As a community, we can be proud of collaborating to assist our neighbors in Orleans Parish, and hopefully bringing comfort to the victims and families impacted by this tragedy, from many different places and backgrounds.

Louisiana International Terminal (LIT) Update:

In light of ongoing opposition to the Louisiana International Terminal (LIT) project, my office has prepared a document summarizing the process for submitting public comments regarding the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permit application. The comment period for this application will close later this month, on January 14, 2025. To make it easier for residents and business owners to participate, we've included a sample email that can be updated with your personal comments and details. These handouts are available at tonight's council meeting and can also be accessed on our website at SBPG.net.

Response Letter:

Late last week, I published a lengthy, detailed, and factual response to some speculation that was circulating, regarding meetings between St. Bernard Parish Government employees and the Port of New Orleans. In my response, I addressed the concerns raised and hopefully brought clarity to any misunderstanding surrounding the meeting in question. For those who haven't read it yet, the full response is available on the parish's website at SBPG.net, and printed copies are available at tonight's council meeting.

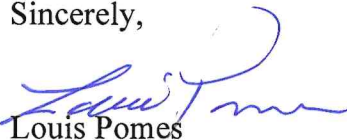
Community Events:

Looking ahead, we are excited for a busy spring season filled with community events, festivals, and holidays that bring our residents together. This week, we specifically look forward to various celebrations, commemorations, and ceremonies to mark the **208th anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans** from January 5-8, 2025. Most of these events will take place at the Chalmette Battlefield in Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, along with more regional happenings, all of which can be found on our parish website at SBPG.net under the "Calendar" tab. Additionally, for those looking to explore more events in St. Bernard Parish and the surrounding area, our Office of Tourism's website at www.VisitStBernard.com provides an extensive list of activities and festivals to look forward to, all around the region.

Closing:

As we embark on this new year, I want to thank all of our parish employees, elected officials, and residents for their continued dedication to St. Bernard Parish. Your hard work and support make this community the resilient and thriving place that it is, and together, we will continue to build a stronger future for all.

Sincerely,



Louis Pomes
Parish President
St. Bernard Parish Government



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

January 7, 2025

- Old Arabi Drainage — Installing pipe. Waiting on DOTD Permit for St. Claude. Cement restoration on Angela is complete, now beginning asphalt restoration.
- Florida Walk — Starting to jack and bore pipe under railroad tomorrow.
- Riverbend Force Main — Waiting on permit to go under Violet Canal.
- New Public Library —Curtain walls in place, all exterior glass in place, interior work continues. Finishing up flat roofing. Majority of sidewalks complete this week. Working on landscaping and sprinkler system.
- Patricia Park — Complete
- Vista Park — Lighting for playground complete. Remaining fencing complete. Installed netting on backstops. Finishing up sidewalks and parking this week.
- Misc. Drainage —All pipe work is in place on Fable and Legend. Will pour concrete on Fable this week.
- Fanz Trailer Park -- Complete