



St. Bernard Parish Government

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Louis Pomes
Parish President

BIWEEKLY PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Louis D. Pomes, St. Bernard Parish President

May 21, 2025

To the Honorable St. Bernard Parish Councilmembers and Residents,

As we move into the summer months, Parish Government continues working hard to improve infrastructure, support local business, and keep our community informed and engaged on important developments. Below are highlights and updates from the last two weeks.

New & Renewed Businesses

We're pleased to welcome the following businesses that have either opened or renewed their occupational licenses in St. Bernard Parish since my last report; AGUT Transportation, Mali Bluez Snowballs Sweets & Treats, Mudbugs Snowballs, Hingle Boys Collectibles, Bayou Paradise Lodge, Lee's Pressure Washing, and Ispy Private Investigations. We thank them for choosing St. Bernard Parish and wish them success as they continue to serve our community in the future.

Capital Projects Update

Included at the end of this report is a complete list of updates on all current projects and major work, both completed and on-going, in St. Bernard Parish at this time. Also, I'm pleased to highlight two significant projects that are now in progress, which are federally funded through the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) and the Federal Highway Administration's Vulnerable Road User Program. These upgrades will significantly improve walkability and accessibility in high-traffic corridors. The project includes: construction of 5-foot-wide sidewalks with ADA-accessible ramps along portions of Judge Perez Drive in Violet, as well as bus stop improvements, from Colonial to Edgar Drive on the eastbound lane, and from Oak Dr. to Edgar/Dollar General on the westbound lane. As well as two crossing enhancements on Paris Road. One near OLPS Church, and another at Solidelle accessing shopping centers on both sides of the highway. While efforts will be made to minimize disruption, some temporary impacts such as noise or access limitations may occur near the construction zones. Please see the attachment at the end of this report for a more comprehensive list of current/recent improvements Parish-wide.

Public Works Update

Drainage, sidewalk, and utility improvements are progressing across the parish: Work continues in Old Arabi, where crews are watering newly laid sod while waiting on river levels to complete final patches. Concrete repairs by B & K are 85% complete. Projects at Bradbury and Meraux Lane are finished, including three outfalls at Deer Creek. Sod is being maintained at Jean Lafitte, where remaining work includes drain installation and striping. Drainage improvements continue at the new public library. The Farmsite-Torres project is scheduled to begin in June following a necessary sewer line relocation. Drainage crews completed work at Magistrate and Plaza, are wrapping up Genie and Riverland, and will move next to Darryl, Plaza, Rosetta, and

Nancy. Finally, 2,000 feet of fused pipe was laid for the Riverbend Force Main project, with pipe-pulling scheduled from the midpoint back to the Munster Plant this Thursday.

Public Hearing on Proposed Louisiana International Terminal

Residents are encouraged to attend a public hearing hosted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (CEMVN) regarding the permit application for the proposed Louisiana International Terminal in Violet. This hearing will provide a public forum to share input on project MVN-2021-00270-ESG, submitted by the Port of New Orleans. Comments will be accepted at the hearing and until **June 6, 2025**. This is a critical opportunity for our residents to make their voices heard on a project that may have significant and lasting impacts on our parish.

Public Hearing Details:

- *Val Riess Recreation Complex, 1101 Magistrate Street, Chalmette, LA*
- 📅 *Tuesday, May 27, 2025*
- ⌚ *6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.*

As always, thank you for your continued support and partnership as we work together for the future of St. Bernard Parish.

Respectfully,



Louis Pomes
Parish President
St. Bernard Parish Government



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

May 21, 2025

Capital Projects Updates:

- **Jean Lafitte Walking Path** - a 10" wide walking path from Judge Perez Drive to the 40 Arpent Canal. This path will tie into the new 40 Arpent Bike Trail. Waiting to install drain and striping.
- **Pedestrian Safety Improvements** - along E. Judge Perez Dr. (LA 39), including construction of 5-foot-wide sidewalks with ADA-accessible ramps from Colonial to Edgar Drive on the Eastbound lane, and from Oak Dr. to the Dollar General, on the Westbound lane of LA39.
- Recently completed the rebuilding of neighborhood parks:
 - **Patricia Park** in Arabi, totaling \$1,500,000.
 - **Vista Park** in Chalmette, totaling \$3,500,000.
- **New additions to Francis Park** - work began today to include; fencing, swing, concrete pad, and camera install, for a total of \$150,000.

Public Works Updates:

- **Residential Demolition** of a blighted structure at 6418 Jules Brown St. in Violet.
- **Old Arabi Drainage** - waiting for the river level to go down, to complete an asphalt patch and a concrete patch.
- **Concrete Repairs** - B & K is about 85% complete with the current list.
- **Bradbury and Debouchel** - drain line is complete.
- **Meraux Lane** - done. Also 3 outfalls at Deer Creek completed.
- **New Public Library** - working on punch list items, and addressing a drainage issue.
- **Farmsite-Torres** - starting in June, to relocate sewer line.
- **Misc. Drainage** - finished Magistrate and Plaza pipework yesterday. Today they will finish the drain offset at Genie and Riverland. The remainder of this week they will finish the drain line on Darryl and Plaza. Then off to Rosetta and Nancy to finish up.
- **Riverbend Force Main** — BLD fused 2,000 ft of pipe. They will be pulling Thursday from the midpoint (between Munster and Debouchel) back to the Munster Plant.

Pumps and Drainage:

- Skimmed 1650 linear feet of the 40 Arpent Canal in Arabi.

Important Reminders:

- **St. Bernard Day at the Capitol will take place Wednesday, May 28, 2025, from 11 AM to 2 PM in Baton Rouge**

This annual event brings local leaders, businesses, and partners together to showcase our parish and connect with legislators during session. I'll also be in Baton Rouge Tuesday and Wednesday for pre-scheduled meetings to advocate for funding, legislative support, and the needs of St. Bernard Parish.

- **Public Hearing – May 27, 2025, 6:00–9:00 PM**

Val Riess Multipurpose Center, 1101 Magistrate St., Chalmette

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will hold a hearing on the Port of New Orleans' permit request for the Louisiana International Terminal in Violet. Representatives from my administration, and legal counsel will attend, and our Environmental Attorney Clay Garside will submit an official statement on our behalf.