

PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE  
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS DISTRICT

PUBLIC SAFETY  
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS SUMMARY

JANUARY 14, 2015 COUNCIL MEETING



Melvin L. "Kip" Holden  
MAYOR-PRESIDENT

GOVERNING AUTHORITY MEMBERS

Trae Welch  
Chauna Banks-Daniel  
Chandler Loupe  
Scott Wilson  
Ronnie Edwards  
Donna Collins-Lewis  
C. Denise Marcelle  
Buddy Amoroso  
Joe Boé  
Tara Wicker  
Ryan Heck  
John Delgado

PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE  
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS DISTRICT

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

On May 2, 2015, the citizens in the special taxing district of East Baton Rouge Parish will vote on a capital improvements plan to address infrastructure needs for public safety. The capital improvements will be financed through a series of bond issues supported by a one-fourth of one percent (.25%) Sales & Use Tax to be levied and collected, subject to voter approval, by the Parish of East Baton Rouge Capital Improvements District, a parish-wide taxing district. The tax proceeds will be dedicated solely to the capital improvements contained within this booklet, and are proposed for a 25-year term. The sales and use tax would exclude taxation of food for home consumption and prescription drugs. The projects total approximately \$335,660,000. After all projects are completed, the tax proceeds over and above the then existing debt service, shall be used exclusively for early retirement of the bonded indebtedness.

## **PROPOSITION**

Shall the Parish of East Baton Rouge Capital Improvements District, a capital improvements and taxing district containing all of the territory contained within the present boundaries of the Parish of East Baton Rouge (the "District") be authorized to levy and collect a 0.25% sales and use tax (the "Tax") (an estimated \$21,900,000 is reasonably expected to be collected from the levy of the Tax for an entire year), for a period of 25 years, on sales (exempting food for home consumption and prescription drugs) in the District commencing on July 1, 2015, and annually thereafter to and including the collections through June 30, 2040, and shall the proceeds of the Tax (after paying reasonable and necessary expenses of collection and administration) be used for the purpose of providing funds to be used for the construction or acquisition and renovation and equipping of public safety facilities and improvements, all as more specifically set forth in the Public Safety Capital Improvements Summary approved by the governing authority of the District on January 14, 2015, and to further authorize the issuance of bonds to finance the construction or acquisition and renovation and equipping of such public safety facilities and improvements?



## NEW PARISH PRISION AND PUBLIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

### 2015 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SUMMARY

Facility	Estimated Budget
1. NEW CRISIS ASSESSMENT & RESTORATION CENTER	\$ 16,596,187
2. NEW PARISH JAIL, WORK RELEASE & VISITATION FACILITIES	\$ 204,427,650
3. NEW JUVENILE SERVICES & COURT FACILITY	\$ 50,065,633
4. NEW JUDICIAL ANNEX FACILITY	\$ 27,293,537
5. SHERIFF CIVIL DIVISION ADDITIONS & RENOVATION	\$ 4,092,615
6. PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX	\$ 31,749,111
7. NEW SECURE PRISONER ENTRYWAY	\$ 1,435,563
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$ 335,660,295</b>

### FACILITY SUMMARY NOTES

- RESTORATION CENTER** - A center to provide 24-hour crisis assessment, evaluation & intervention, outpatient recovery counseling & support, integrated physical/mental health assessment and treatment with inpatient psychiatric services
- JAIL** - New 2,500 bed jail, work release facility for 250 persons, video visitation facility and interim mental health renovations to existing jail
- JUVENILE** - New 88 bed Juvenile Services facility, a new Court / Services facility and the demolition of the existing Juvenile Services facility
- DA & PD** - New 45,000 square foot District Attorney & Public Defender facility on former Municipal Building property with first level parking and a direct connection bridge to the 19th Judicial District Court building
- SHERIFF CIVIL** - To correct inadequate office space and storage congestion and provide updated facilities by renovating existing space in City Hall
- PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX** - Partial permanent completion of the Public Safety Complex on Airline consisting of demolishing the old hospital patient tower, completion of the permanent Academy and Training facility and future Sheriff facilities
- SECURE ENTRYWAY** - The construction of a dedicated on-site secure prisoner entryway for the 19th Judicial District Court facility in order to increase public safety and alleviate the traffic congestion currently being created on St. Louis Street

# NEW PARISH PRISION AND PUBLIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SUMMARY

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### 1. **CRISIS ASSESSMENT & RESTORATION CENTER** **\$ 16,596,187**

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Our entire country is feeling effects of the “deinstitutionalization” movement that began in the 1950s. With the introduction of many new psychiatric medications, the well-intended movement sought to treat these individuals with more community programs and integrate them better into society. In 1955, the US population was 164 million. There were just under 600,000 psychiatric beds in the US. By 1995, the number of beds was reduced to less than 60,000. And, the nation's population had grown to 260 million. Community programming was never developed to adequately manage this shift. This resulted in our country reverting to the time before there were psychiatric institutions. Today, ten times as many mentally ill people are being incarcerated in jails and prisons than are being treated in psychiatric hospitals and community facilities.

With nowhere to go, these individuals are often picked by police on public disturbance or trespassing calls when they go off their medications. It is also very common for people with these illnesses to self-medicate with drugs and alcohol, creating yet another reason they may get arrested.

Baton Rouge at one time had the Mental Health Emergency Room Extension at Earl K. Long that gave police officers an alternative to taking these people to jail. We lost that resource when the hospital closed a few years ago. The Crisis Assessment & Restoration Center (CARC) will reestablish crisis stabilization and assessment services that were provided by the Mental Health Emergency Room Extension. CARC will also expand those services to include 24-hour crisis assessment, evaluation, stabilization and intervention; a sobering unit; a detox unit; a minor medical center; an outpatient mental health clinic; recovery counseling & support; and inpatient psychiatric services. CARC will serve both the general public and officers diverting low-risk, nonviolent individuals into needed treatment. This facility will coordinate with existing services in the community to prevent duplication and a continuum of care.

With the addition of CARC to the public safety infrastructure, we will be able to provide individuals struggling with mental health and substance abuse issues the treatment they need and prevent them from cycling through our legal system, while at the same time saving our parish millions of dollars. The center will create efficiencies by providing mental health services and support on the front end rather than paying for jail space and recurring episode costs on the back end due to the lack of an early intervention process. Moreover, by providing officers with an alternative to the Parish Prison and local Emergency Rooms for people in crisis, CARC will reduce the amount of time officers spend obtaining getting medical clearance and screening for these individuals from several hours to several minutes. This will allow taxpayer dollars to be used more efficiently on protecting the public safety.

### 2. **PARISH PRISON COMPLEX** **\$ 204,427,650**

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The provision of a new 2,500 bed jail, work release facility for 250 persons, video visitation facility and interim mental health renovations to existing jail. The planned jail facility will replace the existing structures that are functionally obsolete and expensive to operate. The new facility will be properly modeled for direct supervision of the inmate population. The present deficient configuration of various physical barriers create an unsafe environment for security officers as well as inmates. The new facility will also be energy efficient, employ the latest in environmental technology to reduce long-term operating costs and incorporate the latest in surveillance technology. The prison complex will be built within the Parish and will eliminate the current need and expense to house inmates out-of-parish.

**3. JUVENILE SERVICES FACILITY** **\$ 50,065,633**

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The proposed new 88 bed Juvenile Services Complex to be constructed within the Parish will be multi-purpose in its function to meet the needs of the Juvenile Court and Detention System. The new facility will allow for the consolidation of the juvenile courts, probation and detention services while providing a secure nurturing environment for the processing, housing and rehabilitation of the Parish's juvenile offenders as well as those citizens involved with foster parenting and adoptions.

The new complex will replace an existing facility that is functionally obsolete, unsafe and expensive to operate. The new facility will be energy efficient and employ the latest in environmental technology to reduce long term operating and maintenance costs.

**4. JUDICIAL ANNEX FACILITY** **\$ 27,293,537**

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The proposed Judicial Annex is a new building consisting of 65,000 square foot facility connected directly to the downtown 19th Judicial District Courthouse. It will consolidate the offices of the District Attorney and the Public Defender into a single location and provide for a secure entrance into the courthouse. The facility will be constructed on the site of the former Municipal Building after asbestos remediation is performed and the building is demolished.

**5. SHERIFF CIVIL DIVISION ADDITIONS AND RENOVATION** **\$ 4,092,615**

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The Sheriff's Civil Division is currently located in City Hall. This renovation will correct inadequate office space and storage congestion and provide updated facilities by renovating existing space in City Hall which is to be vacated by the District Attorney.

**6. PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX** **\$ 31,749,111**

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In 2013, the City-Parish purchased the former Woman's Hospital property located on Airline Highway at Goodwood. The Public Safety Complex continues with its ongoing design and construction transformation from health care to a business and public safety entity. The renovation of the new Police Headquarters tower is in its late stages of construction with completion scheduled for early March of 2015. At that time, the remaining offices at the Mayflower location will be 100% vacated and all CIB Divisions currently located on Plank Road will be moved to the new complex. The Police 3rd District Station will also be re-located to the new complex providing a 24/7 presence at the site.

This item addresses the long term improvements originally laid out in the purchase Due Diligence Executive Summary. The Long Term scenario contemplates detailed master planning being applied to provide for the needs of providing tenant space for the Sheriff's Office and perhaps other agencies into the complex. This plan also includes a permanent shared training facility and site security improvements. Demolition of the obsolete patient tower is also included in this item.

Earlier bond issue requests called for a budget of \$102,292,388 for a Public Safety Complex. To date, approximately \$15,856,500 has been devoted to the purchase and rebirth of the complex. Including this item, the total cost of the complex will be approximately \$43,443,000 or a savings of almost 58% realized through this property purchase when compared to the original budget projection.

**7. SECURE PRISONER ENTRYWAY**

**\$ 1,435,563**

When the 19th Judicial District Court building was constructed, no land existed for the inclusion of both a seamless and secure controlled entryway for prisoners who were to arrive and appear in court. The construction of a now available dedicated on-site thruway will increase public safety and alleviate the traffic congestion currently being created on St. Louis Street as the prisoner busses have no way of easily traversing the site without disruption to downtown traffic flow on St. Louis Street.

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**TOTAL COST**

**\$ 335,660,295**