



Executive Director's Report — July 2019

Greetings! Hope you are all getting to enjoy doing something special this summer. It is time once again to give a quick high-level monthly summary of the forward momentum in our area and for the Acadiana Region. As a parish, we saw a slight dip in two of our key forward indicators; unemployment and sales tax collections. If you recall from last month, our UI Rate measured at 4.6%, one of the lowest rates in recorded history. It will be interesting to see where this figure stabilizes. Sales tax collection saw a modest increase over last month, but a slight dip from the same month last year.



May St Landry Composite Sales Taxes Collection
• \$ 5,770,510 June 2019
• \$ 5,663,30 May 2019
• \$ 6,251,497 June 2018
• \$ 5,401,414 May 2017

April St Landry Unemployment Comparisons
• May 2019 5.3 % - Apr - 4.6 %
• May 2018 6.0 %
• May 2017 6.7 %
• May 2016 7.8 %
• May 2015 8.2 %

To start the report, we continue to try identity topics that help paint of picture of the area economy. It so happens that there was were two more good articles produced in the Acadiana Advocate lover the past month dealing with residential real estate in the region. One was an interview with Jim Keaty with Keaty Real Estate I Lafayette. The other was an article

written by Adam Daigle with The Advocate that includes some input segments with Bill Bacque. Here is some content from the Jim Keaty Interview:

“There are many variables that can affect the demand and home sales in the outlying parishes. Schools, traffic, drainage and quality of life can all play a part in the increase of sales in the outlying parishes, but price is also a major factor. The average price in Lafayette Parish is approximately \$224,000, and the outlying parishes is approximately \$140,000. That is over \$80,000 difference. So as the average price rises in Lafayette, so does the demand for homes in the outlying parishes because the average price is lower and there is more demand in the lower price range.

The new construction sector continues to struggle. The MLS reported a 21% decrease in new construction home sales this June versus June 2018. However only a 5.6% decrease year over year. What is very interesting is that the average price for new homes increased 2.6% year over year. So this is telling us that although the demand for new construction is falling, so is the supply, and that would explain why we would see an increase in the average price. The supply is falling faster than the demand, and that is keeping the prices stable.

2018 was a record year for the number of home sales and dollar volume sold in Acadiana. Here is my theory: When oil prices plunged at the end of 2014, many people in the oil industry lost their jobs. However, people in other industries who were not directly affected by the oil industry lost confidence in Lafayette's economy and the real estate market. We had many homebuyers and sellers that were very close to selling and buying a new house who decided to hold off because they did not know what the Lafayette economy was going to do. My wife and I were one of those people. Some thought and believed we were heading for another 1985-86 “last one out turn off the lights” situation and were not expecting Lafayette to be so resilient. So, when we started to see the light at the end of 2017 and beginning of 2018, we saw many homeowners that would have sold their house two years ago put their house on the market and purchase another house. This led to more supply and more demand than we saw in the previous three years.

Content in the article by Adam Daigle:

“Home sales in Acadiana dropped significantly in June but remain on pace to surpass last year’s record-breaking totals, according to data released Monday.

Data from Bill Bacque with Market Scope Consulting shows 446 homes were sold in June, a 16 percent drop from the 531 sold in June 2018 and a 21 percent drop from the 565 sold in May. The drop was more significant in Lafayette Parish, with the 275 homes sold was down 19.4% from last year’s 341 and 26% from the 372 sold in May.

Data shows total sales for the year is at 2,714, still above the 2,636 reported in the first six months of 2018, which was a record-breaking year for the number of homes sold and dollar volume of homes sold.

Sales from outside Lafayette Parish also dipped 10% in June, but that total is still well ahead of the 2018 mark. So far 1,045 homes have been sold outside the parish, a 13.3% increase over the 922 sold in the first six months of 2018.

St. Landry Parish leads all suburban parishes with 243 homes sold in 2019, up from the 200 sold last year. Iberia Parish is second at 234, up from 187 sold last year.

Existing home sales in Lafayette Parish are down slightly from last year, from 1,310 in 2018 to 1,288 this year. The Youngsville area reported the most sales at 276.

The number of pending home sales were up significantly in June in Acadiana, up 15.4 percent from June 2018 and 5% from May, data shows. The number of new listings on the market, however, dropped 7.6% from last year.

This is an important trend to follow with the economic picture for St Landry and other outlying parishes? Families buying in the ranges under 140 to 225k are likely younger middle-class working families, many with children. They will in many cases have higher expectations for things such as public schools, planning, infrastructure and progressive political leadership. Their demographic is also of high interest to retailers and commercial industry because of their incomes and educations levels.

This does not substitute for the importance of growing industry, both from within and from without. Quality residential roof tops, however; are a catalyst for a population mix that becomes desirable for companies that compete on a national and international scale with complex products and equally complex business models.

We hope these thoughts provide some value and would welcome your thoughts, or additional insights into these areas of conversation. We at SLED and its affiliate entities thank you for all you do and look forward to working with all of you through the second half of 2019 to create further positive momentum while building sustainable foundations for future growth.

The SLED Team

Communications

We continue to work with Golden Shovel on improving our website presence by delving into platform features that will enhance our visibility and attraction locally, regionally and worldwide. We participated in our fifth GateKeeper discussion in June 2019. We are actively working on the inclusion of a complete marketing strategy to include a detailed BRE Program and Workforce Development component in the form of concierge type service to be created by Golden Shovel and incorporated into SLED's strategic plan that we anticipate will roll out at the start of 2020. Our next GateKeeper discussion is scheduled for July 24, 2019.

This web strategy will contribute to the overall marketing success and develop pathways for digital marketing, content strategy support, and overall awareness of the goals and objectives. It will also contribute to the development of the product box, which is the community identifier(s) used to attract the target audience.

A GIS database now allows site selectors to search, select and compare sites and has details about key industries and leading employers. Users also can create custom reports.

Each of St. Landry Parish's communities is profiled on the site, which also outlines recreation, education and health care options as well as the area's distinct arts and cultural heritage. Citizens will appreciate that the user-friendly website includes positive business news stories and a government page with up to date information on services and contacts.

Included in this new communications design effort is new board reporting materials, as well as the ability for any visitor to collect portions of the web material into a shopping cart type feature that will build the material into a PDF for save/print.

We are also working on an initiative to further promote outreach through print leader mail outs, electronic newsletters video story telling clips promoting our good news, as well as give the average person a better understanding of what economic development looks like this parish and this region.

In August, we will begin aggressive communication efforts in working with Klout9 to handle a renewed campaign to take the place of SLPForward. This campaign will put a heavy focus on telling the story of what economic development is along with the significant progress our groups are making around the area. The emphasis of the campaign will be to rely heavily on video production that ties into Opportunity St Landry, as well an aggressive social media campaign effort in venues such as LinkedIn and Facebook.



There have been 119 articles written for this campaign to shine a light on positive things happening in St. Landry Parish. While we are no longer loading articles into the site, we will be including these and future articles into the newly developed opportunitystlandry site, so people can continue to hear more about some of the great things happening in our area.



Twenty-two St. Landry Parish projects announced over the past 45 months have created

- 1,228 new fulltime jobs.
- Retention of 540 existing jobs.
- Creation of at least 430 indirect jobs
- Support of an estimated 7,345 temporary constr. jobs
- 319 Million in direct construction investment

Who's Growing?

This month will consolidate the projects section into those projects at a 90%, or better rating for completion. In total we 20 projects that we are actively engaged with at this time. The following 10 that are at currently at an imminent development status. FTE stands for full time employee. Capex means money invested in property and equipment. Some of the projects listed below have been at the cusp of announcement for a while. We anticipate most of the projects to have either a soft, or public announcement into the reaming of the first and into the second quarter of 2019. Projects that have been soft announcements are indicated below and include updates to the graph to the left.

Project Anchor – In state expansion, area recruitment. 2.5m capex 45 FTE's, 15 retained **Geaux Bear Development**.

- **Project Belt** – Area expansion. 2.1m capex 15 FTE's (**Noble Plastic Expansion** at Opelousas Site)

- **Project Boost** – Area expansion/retention. 107m capex, 5 FTE's, 90K Annual, 8 Indirect Jobs, 800 Temp Constr. **Delek Refinery Alkalization Facility**.

- **Project Drop Off** - Area expansion. 1.5m capex, 10FTE's **Dixie Storage Expansion**

- **Project Vista** – Area expansion project, **Delek Refinery Expansion**, 156.5m Capex, or more, and 30 FTE creation, 90k Annual Salary, 48 indirect jobs, and up to 1500 temp construction jobs. 200 FTE retained.

- **Project Clean** – In state expansion, area recruitment. 2.3m capex. 25 growing to 50 FTE's (Project is now hiring. Working to coordinate timing on a formal announcement) **Westport Medical**. Not reflected in count.

- **Project Gateway** - This is a large multi-use development project in the central parish on a 100-acre site. **Lily Pad Pediatrics**, in construction, multiple new medical facilities anticipated to be in construction in 2019. Not reflected in count

- **Project Ride** – In state expansion, area recruitment 9m capex, 55FTE's (Currently in construction, **Team Honda**.) Anticipate 3rd quarter completion. Part of the Gateway Plaza Project as well.

- **Project Wrench** – Area expansion, .9m capex, 12FTE’s (Currently in construction, soft announcement)
- **Project Doughnut** – Area recruitment, in state expansion. 3.5m capex, 15FTE’s (3rd quarter public announcement anticipated)
- **Project Link** – Area expansion. 10.5m capex, 25 FTE’s (Pending local ITEP and land acquisition legal considerations)

Business Outreach

We continue consistent and formal outreach to some of the key employers throughout our area. Over a rolling period of 12 months, we have logged 25 visits to improve the quality of relationships with these organizations and their leadership. Many of the expansion projects we deal with are initially founded in these outreach visits. For many of these employers, this is not a once a year visit. It is not uncommon for our group to engage with them multiple times on multiple challenges they may be having through the year that may affect their competitiveness, or growth potential. In this capacity we often act as the bridge between government entities and their company.

Area Development



Vision St Landry - has been focused on support for long-terms priorities as well as improving some its internal operating guidelines. Some of its advocacy and support for core areas has included.

- Improving education (SLP District Plan and Efficiency Evaluation)
- Redevelopment of downtowns (Opelousas DDD, Eunice Planning)
- Development of the I-49 Corridor (CSLEDD, GCEDD, Midway, Gateway Plan)
- Building leadership capacity – Vision Member in Training Consideration

**Parish Employer
Visits Over Past 12 Months**

- Sunland Construction
- Med Express
- Piggly Wiggly Stores
- C&G Container
- Delek Refinery
- Wal Mart Distribution Center
- Evangeline Downs
- Dixie Storage
- Savoies Foods
- Gaubert Oil
- Riceland Crawfish
- Dupree Carrier Godchaux Insurance
- Giles Automotive Group
- Acadian Medical Group
- Opelousas General Hospital
- MANCO Containers
- Prairie Construction
- Design Precast Concrete & Pipe
- Lemoyen Timber
- Gaienne Lumber
- Noble Plastics
- Courville Toyota
- Stage Retail

Vision St. Landry held its third quarterly meeting of 2019 on June 10th. The board has recently approved its recommendations to be submitted to the respective appointing authorities as it relates to CSLEDD EJC reappointments. Project identification was discussed in collaboration with the I-49 Midway Corridor Plan with next steps in place to begin implementation process, with a much heavier discussion to follow on the role as it relates to Vision St. Landry's future. The next scheduled Vision meeting will be July 29, 2019 with a special meeting focused on sustainability in the SLED structure and future roles of the board.



The Central St Landry Economic Development District, CSLEDD - Continues to progress with implementing their 2018 priorities and aggressively moving into 2019. These include:

- Improving wastewater capacities to the north and south

The land acquisition is near completion and currently in the hands of legal as it relates to placement of a wastewater facility plant to south end of the district. The CEA between CLSEDD and St. Landry Parish Government has been completed and provided to the Governor for signage. Morgan Goudeau & Associates stated that the Office of Community Facility Planning is currently consolidating project to reflect south and north wastewater facility projects and awaiting a notice to proceed on design. Once notice is received and design is complete the construction process can begin.

- Maintenance of the grounds and trash along the I-49
 - The lawn maintenance and litter abatement schedule for 2019 remains on task.
 - Soon spot litter abatement around intersections of I-90, Creswell Lane and Judson Walsh will look to be conducted as well as cleaning on overpasses and tree service along Judson Walsh interchange area.
 - Herbicide treatment has begun and near completion for aprons and rail pads, around trees on mulching, bayou that crosses I-49 midway of the corridor, and the drainage ditch that crosses the NE side of I-190/I-49 interchange, and also any overgrown non accessible wet areas.
 - The tree trimming and follow up mulching of the tree in the interchange at Hwy-190 and I-49 is approximately 90% complete. Please remember to look on you next time through to see how big of a difference this is making.

- Lighting along the I-49
 - Harry Guilbeau – Currently waiting on two (2) poles with fixtures to come in. Once installed all lighting at interchange will be complete.
 - Creswell Lane/I-90 – Retro and refurbishing at interchanges Lighting Bid Proposal which includes the changing of all light fixtures to LED conversion has been authorized by the district to proceed.
 - Judson Walsh Exit – Permitting for the exit will be handled through the Lafayette District Office. The process would include preparation and submittal of plans, complete DOTD permit process and once process is complete can proceed forward with construction. The estimated cost to complete new lighting at interchange is \$1.35 million – \$1.5 million. The district has authorized Morgan Goudeau & Associates to proceed forward with preliminary analysis for installation of new lighting at this interchange.

- Master planning the EVD Property.
 - One or more consultant teams will be present at that August 2019 CSLEDD meeting to present upgraded designs and deliver final presentation. He concluded that a specific request will be made to Boyd in late August/Early September with the hope of providing an RFP for RV developers and ultimately entering into a legal agreement to release specific property for Phase I.
 - In late August/Early September a specific ask will be made to Boyd Gaming for the releasement of property exclusive to Phase I accompanied with an RFP for RV development.

The Downtown Development District Board (DDD) – Their recent progress includes:

The RFP for consultant identification has been provided to six (6) recommended consultants on an ODDD Master Plan on May 29, 2019. The consultant selection and project initiation will occur based on the following schedule:

1. Review of Proposals – July 2019
2. Potential Presentations by Short-listed Firms – Mid July 2019
3. ODDD makes final decision on consultant – July 19, 2019
4. Notice to Proceed with Study – July 22, 2019

In the Region



One Acadiana - SLED takes an active leadership role in many of the *One Acadiana Committees* and board efforts that are focused on various key elements in the region. These are some of the committees in the structure and what some of their primary focuses are currently:

1. *Site Development Committee – Has helped to increase the number of certified sites in the region from 3 to 14 since the announcement of Port Barre. St. Landry currently has the most certified sites in the region.*
2. *Urban Revitalization and Development Committee – Focusing on carrying forward many of the systemic lessons learned by the leader’s exchange group that visited Greenville in March.*
3. *Transportation Infrastructure Committee – Focused largely on moving forward the priorities in infrastructure included in the RIVR Report created by this committee.*
4. *Government Affairs Committee – Tracks key legislative and political influences that could adversely impact the business development, education, infrastructure or other growth inhibitors for area businesses.*
5. *Workforce Development Committee – Champion of the 55 by 25 Project designed to get workers more prepared through two-year degree and certifications for tomorrows work force.*



Acadiana Planning Commission (APC) We regularly engage on a broad range of planning and related efforts that include:

- The I-49 Midway Corridor Project,
- The Opportunity Zone Investment Program Presentations (Eunice and Lafayette)
- St Luc Hospital Environmental studies,
- Regional transportation infrastructure priorities
- Community MPO related projects
- Discussion on feasibility for a phase 2 northbound public transportation system on I-4



AEDC, Acadiana Economic Development Council:

Economic development professionals from 7 Parishes focused on making progress on issues that impact all the parishes in Acadiana, particularly in the parishes surrounding Lafayette. This group works to find solutions to common challenges faced by the economic development leaders in Acadiana and host monthly board meetings that facilitate these actions. The group covered the cost for ED Professionals in the region to attend the leadership exchange trip in Greenville, S.C.

Educational Progress



District K-12 Education: We continue our work with Patrick Jenkins, St Landry Parish Schools Superintendent, his staff and the SLP School Board through many efforts that include:

- Recognizing in person outstanding career and technical teachers, as well as teachers and administrators of the year at a recent awards ceremony at the end of this school year.
- Advocacy support for St. Landry Parish Schools Plan and cost efficiency evaluation done by Gibson Consulting.
- Direct supporters of the SLPS JAG Program.
- Active in selecting the students of the year for the district and ongoing competitions.
- Advisory Board for the Opelousas High School Bio-Med Academy
- Active attendance in formal district board and related meetings around redistricting
- Providing leadership on establishing a St Landry Parish Foundation that could help target uncovered educational needs.
- Secured funding for the Junior Achievement financial literacy program in the spring semester at Opelousas Middle School with a JD Bank partnership.



T.H. Harris: The TH Harris enrollment figures were up again in the spring semester. SLCC was recently recognized as a top ten college nationwide for enrollment growth. We continue to work with the TH Harris on:

- The new LPN/RN Program supported by SLED was approved by the State Board of Nursing Last week and is now officially confirmed to host the first cohort session for fall 2019.
- Vision St Landry student scholarship for 2018/2019.
- Continue with Quarterly meetings with key leadership of SLCC to discuss current needs and standings.
- Regularly meet to identify critical area workforce shortages and proactive educational solutions. New evening 15-week welding program is scheduled to launch in May. Programs now being considered are CDL Training and Scaffolding Certification.



LSU-Eunice: LSU-E continues to increase its enrollment with to increase for the spring with enrollment figures that shows continue to rise with their numbers now over 3300-students. Our engagement includes:

- Sitting member of the LSUE Chancellor Search Committee. New Chancellor, Dr Nancy Sorenson named as Chancellor last week.
- An active member of the LSUE Board of Advisors
- Leading the effort to have Vision \$10,000 in matching scholarship monies for St Landry Parish students looking to attend LSUE. Scholarship presentations and May Graduations.
- SLED continues to host a lead role in helping to facilitate a Eunice Area Plan that puts LSUE in a pivotal role in the process
- Active member of the LSUE Business Management Advisory Committee
- Continuing advocacy through the board of advisors for the new surgical tech campus in the Lafayette General Orthopedic Towers.

Community/Cultural Development



Eunice: Multiple planning efforts and initiatives through effort led through:

- The Eunice Strategic Plan, which was facilitated by a team from SLED, was unanimously approved presented at the July 2019 Eunice City Council.
- Meetings with LSUE, the LSU Real Estate Foundation and developers on student housing project potential.
- May 22nd Plan Lafayette Opportunity Zone Presentation included Eunice opportunities
- Coordination on Opportunity Zone action steps (May 16th Education Session held at LSUE.)
- SLED co-sponsored a small business education event with the SBDC and the SBA at LSUE on May 16th.



Opelousas: Multiple planning efforts and initiatives through effort led through:

- Area economic development district, CSLEDD initiatives
- Area economic development district, ODDD initiatives
- Secondary and post-secondary education direct support
- Midway Corridor Project implementation (August 28th Policy)
- Midway Corridor Project action (August 8th Working Group)
- Coordination on Opportunity Zone action steps (April Education Session at the Business Center and May 22nd Lafayette presentation).

Arnaudville: Multiple efforts associated with the cultural economy including:

- Continued input and guidance on plans for the St Luc Hospital, which includes helping to get support for the phase I and phase II environmental reviews.
- Establishment and management of Creative Placemaking Task Force
- Received revised design for Phase I of the project: "The Sculptural Pathway." This included dimensions and installation under the Hanging Garden placemaking anchor project.
- Community planning efforts were featured in the recent Edition of Southern Lifestyle Magazine
- Engaging the LSU School of Art and Design for an area cultural economy plan

Grand Coteau: Ongoing efforts include:

- Implementation of the Midway Corridor Plan (August 28th Policy Team)
- Helping prioritize economic development district projects along the business corridor
- Leading progress on a TAP Grant that will provide pedestrian access through the business corridor of the town.
- Promoting efforts for an engineering analysis of roundabout traffic solution for the east frontage road; now in its final approval stage.
- Using our government affairs team for capital outlay on the roundabout project.
- Promoting and engineering plan for overhead lighting at the Exit 11 interchange
- Working as a liaison with local businesses in construction with DOT to ensure the interests of long-term drainage are in concert with new development
- Leading area cultural economy and place making task force initiatives
- Promotion of the Blue Andrus Certified Industrial site
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Sunset: Support of the town through:

- Implementation of the Midway Corridor Plan (August 28th Policy Team)
- Midway Corridor Project action (August 8th Working Group)
- Assistance in promoting the application for a project call request for a 182 Resurfacing Project.
- Numerous areas associated with the cultural economy and the place making task force, including the Old Sunset High School and the Sunset Arena
- Continued promotion of the Blue Andrus Certified Site.

Port Barre:

- Announced on May 31st two large shovel ready light industrial development sites that now comprise the Port Barre Industrial Park.
- Established boundaries that could be used as an area economic development district
- Early discussions with the new administration on cooperative planning possibilities

Washington:

- Implementation of the Midway Corridor Plan (August 28th Policy)
- Midway Corridor Project action (August 8th Working Group)

St Landry Young Professionals, TheSLP



The St. Landry Professionals will be partnering with Doran & Cawthorne, P.L.L.C for the upcoming July 19th Groovin on the Green Series. Groovin' on the Green is a free family concert series held on every other Friday during the summer at the law firm of Doran and Cawthorne located at 521 E. Landry St. Opelousas, LA 70570. Area musicians perform center stage, while friends and family dance as well as enjoy food and beverages that are available for purchase from Frank's Po Boys and other area vendors. Fun games and events will be provided for kids to enjoy at each event. The concerts are held from 6:00-9:00 p.m.

The SLP will use this opportunity to continuously increase its visibility and capitalize on membership recruitment while sharing our purpose. We maintain our increased social media activity through our weekly scheduled Parish Update announcements which features articles written and placed onto our opportunitystlandry.com site highlighted with an eye-catching title driving users back to our SLED site. Due to the cross pollination amongst the two platforms www.opportunitystlandry.com has seen an increase in users and new users over 600, sessions have increased by 850 and page views have increased from 2,866 to 5,099, with the higher

traffic pages being that of articles posted in Moving Forward. This is in large part due to The SLP's large Facebook following and direct driving of a different audience that shows interests.

The Business Center

We have 9 tenants in the Business Center that include

- Boone Speech and Learning Services
- Miracle-Ear
- Magnolia Community Development Corporation
- Victory Manufacturing
- WIOA 40
- Mind and Body Connections, LLC
- St. Landry – Evangeline United Way
- Infinity Back-Ground Chex
- Starr Staffing, LLC

The Business Center now has more than 26 employees in working out of the building on a regular basis with hundreds of persons visiting the center in some capacity each month. The center at capacity with new inquiries on space continuing to increase.

We are continuing our work with on-going facility upgrades at the main business center with roof replacement being the biggest improvement project that has been completed. We recently replaced the mother board in for our front sign which is now 100% operational.

The last LSBDC, ULL SBDC counseling session was held on July 9, 2019. The next round of sessions will be held August 13th. Services are available to businesses at any level of growth, are confidential, and are free of charge.

Our CAVE area is getting increased usage for planning and presentations. On average, the room is getting used at least several times per week. It is

highlighted on our new website displaying all the technology assets offered. Please let us know if you are aware of businesses in the area that could utilize our CAVE area for small retreats, or breakout planning sessions.

We have had considerable dialogue with SLCC this last month on putting a scaffolding certification program in the building that would allow individuals to get a three-week certification leading to go sustainable wages. It appears that the noise associated with the assembly of the scaffolds, banging pipes, may make it prohibitive for our building.

Grants Update

The 2018-2019 LBIA Grant of \$25,000.00 was dedicated towards the replacement of the business center roof and has been fully reimbursed. The final report was submitted on June 9, 2019. As it relates to the 2019-2020 LBIA Grant the basis for grant application will be facility improvements regarding an additional female employee bathroom and expansion of current break room area. An architectural design has been completed and currently awaiting on a cost estimate to begin the grant application process.

We continue partnership work with Grand Coteau on their DOTD TAP Grant designed to address the accessibility and safety of pedestrian transportation in the business district area of Grand Coteau. The town has confirmed their match allocation of 210k to match for 480K. We have met twice already with their new leadership team on this project. We are also working with their team on a project call application to the MPO on their roundabout project.

We continue with local partners TAP Grant for sidewalk improvements around the Courthouse. Currently the preliminary analysis is near completion for the two (2) sidewalks along W. Landry Street between the intersections of S. Market Street and S. Court Street. A final design is to be submitted to DOTD in the 2nd quarter of 2019 by the Cities engineering firm.

In concert with our Government Affairs team we engaged with the Parish and CSLEDD on capital outlay funding for wastewater capacity projects along I-49. Our hope is to see an additional 1.395m turn to cash at the bond commission later this summer. We plan to be in construction of a fully enclosed wastewater treatment facility to the south in early 2020.



Training Opportunities

SLED is committed to paying the tuition of board members, or a limited number of elected officials in the area to participate in the next basic economic development courses. *The New South Basic Course* in Hattiesburg this September of 2019 will focus on:

- Managing the Economic Development Organization; Ethics in Economic Development; Transportation and Logistics; Real Estate Development and Reuse; Community Development; Understanding Retail; Workforce Development; Marketing and Attraction; Finance /Incentives; Strategic Planning; Small Business & Entrepreneurship

Upcoming Meetings

- Opelousas DDA Board Meeting, 9 a.m. on July 26th, SLED Bldg.
- Central St. Landry EDD Board Meeting, 8:30 a.m. on August 8th, SLED Bldg.
- Vision St Landry special board meeting, 11:30 a.m. on July 29th, SLED Bldg.