2020

Ascension Parish Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

ASCENSION PARISH
MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL
HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

Prepared for:

Ascension Parish

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This 2020 Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Update was coordinated by the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Steering Committee, in collaboration with community stakeholders and the general public. The following jurisdictions are represented within this plan update:

Unincorporated Ascension Parish
City of Donaldsonville
City of Gonzales
Town of Sorrento

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1. Introduction

Hazard Mitigation is defined as sustained actions taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk from hazards and their effects. Hazard Mitigation Planning is the process through which natural hazards that threaten communities are identified, likely impacts of those hazards are determined, mitigation goals are set, and appropriate strategies that would lessen the impacts are determined, prioritized, and implemented.

In that regard, this plan (a) documents the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Update (HMPU) process; (b) identifies natural hazards and risks within the parish; and (c) identifies the parish's hazard mitigation strategy to make Ascension Parish less vulnerable and more disaster resilient. It also includes mitigation project scoping to further identify scopes of work, funding sources, and implementation timing requirements of proposed selected mitigation projects. Information in the plan will be used to help guide and coordinate mitigation and local policy decisions affecting future land use.

The Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan is a multi-jurisdictional plan that includes the following jurisdictions which participated in the planning process:

- Unincorporated Ascension Parish
- City of Donaldsonville
- City of Gonzales
- Town of Sorrento

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), now under the Department of Homeland Security, has made reducing losses from natural disasters one of its primary goals. The Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) and subsequent implementation of recommended projects, measures, and policies is the primary means to achieving these goals. Mitigation planning and project implementation has become even more significant in a post-Katrina and Rita environment in south Louisiana.

This Hazard Mitigation Plan is a comprehensive plan for disaster resiliency in Ascension Parish. The parish is subject to natural hazards that threaten life and health and have caused extensive property damage. To better understand these hazards and their impacts on people and property, and to identify ways to reduce those impacts, the parish's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness undertook this Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan. "Hazard mitigation" does not mean that all hazards are stopped or prevented. It does not suggest complete elimination of the damage or disruption caused by such incidents. Natural forces are powerful and most natural hazards are well beyond our ability to control. Mitigation does not mean quick fixes. It is a long term approach to reduce hazard vulnerability. As defined by FEMA, "hazard mitigation" means any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to life and property from a hazard event.

Every community faces different hazards and every community has different resources and interests to bring to bear on its problems. Because there are many ways to deal with natural hazards and many agencies that can help, there is no one solution for managing or mitigating their effects. Planning is one of the best ways to correct these shortcomings and produce a program of activities that will best mitigate the impact of local hazards and meet other local needs. A well-prepared plan will ensure that all possible activities are reviewed and implemented so that the problem is addressed by the most appropriate and efficient solutions. It can also ensure that activities are coordinated with each other and with other goals and programs, preventing conflicts and reducing the costs of implementing each individual activity.

Under the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (42 USC 5165), a mitigation plan is a requirement for Federal mitigation funds. Therefore, a mitigation plan will both guide the best use of mitigation funding and meet the prerequisite for obtaining such funds from FEMA. FEMA also recognizes plans through its Community Rating System (CRS), a program that reduces flood insurance premiums in participating communities. This program is further described in Section Three: Capability Assessment.

This plan identifies activities that can be undertaken by both the public and the private sectors to reduce safety hazards, health hazards, and property damage caused by natural hazards. It fulfills the Federal mitigation planning requirements, qualifies for CRS credit, and provides Ascension Parish and its communities with a blueprint for reducing the impacts of these natural hazards on people and property.

Geography, Population and Transportation

Geography

Ascension Parish covers 289.98 square miles and is located in southeast Louisiana as indicated on the map below in *Figure 1-1*, with an estimated population of 114,393[1]. It is bound on the north by Bayou Manchac and East Baton Rouge Parish; on the northeast by the Amite River, Bayou Pierre, Petite Amite River, Blind River, and Livingston Parish; on the east by St. John the Baptist Parish; on the south by St. James and Assumption Parishes; and on the west by Iberville Parish. While the parish seat is in Donaldsonville, parish government offices are also located in Gonzales. Below, *Figure 1-1* shows the geographical location of Ascension Parish.

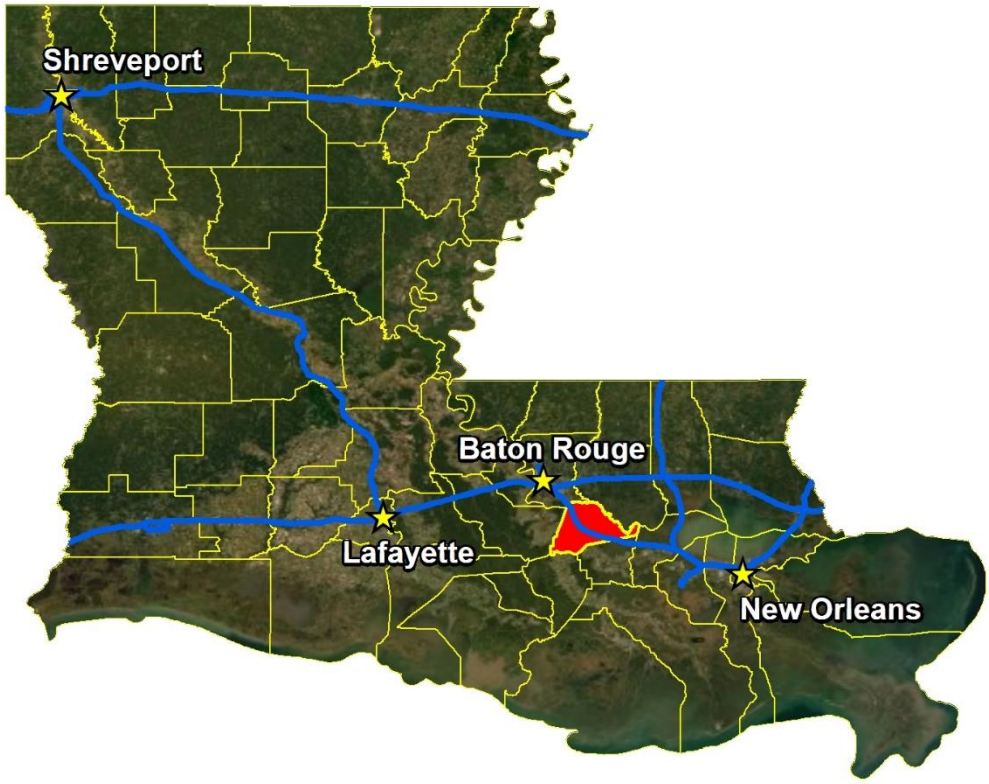

Figure 1-1: Location of Ascension Parish

[1] U.S. Census Bureau Data.

Ascension is divided into two regions by the Mississippi River with 80% of the land east of the river and the balance on the west bank. Ascension Parish has a large portion of its land located above coastal storm surge inundation elevations yet its topography is relatively flat. In the southern portion of the parish, land is fifteen-twenty feet above sea level along river banks, sloping gradually down to five feet and lower away from the river and toward backwater swamp areas. This sloping resulted from natural levees created by overbank flooding. Going north, the elevation begins to rise again, reaching 20-25 feet in the northern portion of the parish. The only extensive lowland areas are in the east-southeast sector, which is subject to storm surge from Lake Maurepas via Lake Pontchartrain and northwest portions of the parish which flood as a function of the Amite River and Bayou Manchac.

Land east of the Mississippi River drains to the Amite and Lake Maurepas watersheds as a function of the Lake Ponchartrain Basin. More than 1,200 square miles of surface area north of Ascension Parish drains into the Amite River eventually flowing through the region. The remainder of the parish, i.e. west of the Mississippi River, is drained by former Mississippi River distributaries located in west and east central Louisiana coastal watersheds, specifically in the Terrebonne and Barataria watersheds, southward to the Gulf of Mexico. Sheet flow drainage in the parish west of the Mississippi River is to canals and low lying swampy areas to the west and south. Ascension Parish is located contiguous to, but outside of, the designated coastal zone of Louisiana.

Ascension Parish enjoys a complete seasonal cycle with pleasant spring and fall seasons. Winter months are usually mild with cold spells of short duration. Rainfall averages 61" per year. The summer months are warm with an average daily maximum temperature in July and August of 91°F. The parish is within the Gulf Coast hurricane impact zone and is therefore subject to heavy winds and rain. Structural design wind speeds range from 100-120 mph for the parish.

Population and Economy

The population of Ascension Parish is estimated at 126,604 (2019 estimate) with a population percent change from April 1, 2010 – July 1, 2019 of 18.10%.

Table 1-1: Ascension Parish Population
(Source: US Census)

	2010 Census	2019 Estimate	Percent Change 2010 -2019
Total Population	107,215	126,604	18.10%
Population Density (Pop/Sq. Mi.)	369.7	-------	-------
Total Households	40,784	42,649	4.37%
Persons Per Household	-------	2.82	-------

When compared to other counties and parishes throughout the United States, Ascension Parish has a relatively high household income of $67,688. Between 2016 and 2017 Ascension saw a 1.81% increase to its median household income grew from $71,752 to $74,748, a 4.18% increase. (U.S. Census Bureau/DataUSA).

Table 1-2: Ascension Parish Business Patterns
(Source: US Census, CBP)

Business Description	Number of Establishments	Number of Employees	Annual Payroll ($1,000)
Retail Trade	373	6,340	166,856
Manufacturing	99	5,623	604,725
Health Care and Social Assistance	203	3,463	121,004
Mining, Quarrying, Oil and Gas Extraction	10	332	27,566
Transportation and Warehousing	77	1,496	100,150
Construction	231	6,126	360,053
Administration/Support and Waste Management/Remediation Services	117	1,744	79,187
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	139	862	51,988
Wholesale Trade	152	2,314	138,018
Other Services (except Public Administration)	222	2,270	101,476
Accommodation and Food Services	231	65,016	4,131
Finance and Insurance	133	1,036	49,191
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	203	2,220	157,031
Information	18	135	5,438
Educational Services	21	355	10,716
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	31	258	6,104
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	3	20-99	___
Utilities	6	75	5,027
Management of Companies and Enterprises	17	456	32,190
Industries Not Classified	4	5	63

Hazard Mitigation

To fully understand hazard mitigation efforts in Ascension Parish and throughout Louisiana, it is first crucial to understand how hazard mitigation relates to the broader concept of emergency management. In the early 1980s, the newly-created Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) was charged with developing a structure for how the federal, state, and local governments would respond to disasters. FEMA developed the *four phases of emergency management*, an approach which can be applied to all disasters. The four phases are as follows:

- **Hazard Mitigation**—described by FEMA and the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) as "any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property from a hazard event." The goal of mitigation is to save lives and reduce property damage. Besides significantly aiding in the obviously desirous goal of saving human lives, mitigation can reduce the enormous cost of disasters to property owners and all levels of government. In addition, mitigation can protect critical community facilities and minimize community disruption, helping communities return to

usual daily living in the aftermath of disaster. Examples of mitigation involve a range of activities and actions including the following: land-use planning, adoption and enforcement of building codes, and construction projects (e.g., flood proofing homes through elevation, or acquisition or relocation away from floodplains).

- **Emergency Preparedness**—includes plans and preparations made to save lives and property and to facilitate response operations in advance of a disaster event.

- **Disaster Response**—includes actions taken to provide emergency assistance, save lives, minimize property damage, and speed recovery immediately following a disaster.

- **Disaster Recovery**—includes actions taken to return to a normal or improved operating condition following a disaster.

Below, *Figure 1-2* illustrates the basic relationship between these phases of emergency management. While hazard mitigation may occur both before and after a disaster event, it is significantly more effective when implemented before an event occurs. This is one of the key elements of this plan and its overall strategy*:* reduce risk before disaster strikes in order to minimize the need for post-disaster response and recovery.

As *Figure 1-2* demonstrates, mitigation relies on updating in the wake of disaster. This can give the appearance that mitigation is only reactive rather than proactive. In reality, however, post-disaster revision is a vital component of improving mitigation. Each hazardous event affords an opportunity to reduce the consequences of future occurrences.

Figure 1-2: The Four Phases of Emergency Management and their Relation to Future Hazard Mitigation (Source: Louisiana State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014)

Unfortunately, this cycle can be painful for a community. For instance, the risks of disasters that could create catastrophic incidents in Louisiana were thought to be relatively well-understood prior to 2005. However, the impact of the 2005 hurricane season on the Gulf Coast region of the United States prompted a new level of planning and engagement related to disaster response, recovery, and hazard mitigation. Hurricanes Katrina and Rita hit three weeks apart and together caused astonishing damage to human life and to property. The two storms highlighted a hurricane season that spawned 28 storms—unparalleled in American history. The 2005 hurricane season confirmed Louisiana's extreme exposure to natural disasters and both the positive effects and the concerns resulting from engineered flood-protection solutions.

The catastrophic events of 2005 had profound impacts on emergency management and hazard mitigation throughout Louisiana. As detailed later in this document, significant funding has been made available to the State of Louisiana and its parishes for the purpose of hazard mitigation planning. The storms also raised awareness of the importance of hazard mitigation among decision-makers and the general population, which has been particularly important since natural hazards will likely be increasing in frequency, magnitude, and impact in the coming years due to climate change.

General Strategy

During the last update to the Louisiana State Hazard Mitigation Plan, the State Hazard Mitigation Team (SHMT) began a long-term effort to better integrate key components of all plans with hazard mitigation implications in Louisiana to ensure that the programs, policies, recommendations, and implementation strategies are internally consistent. As each of these documents has been adopted by various agencies within the state, the SHMT has worked to incorporate this information into the decision process.

Part of the ongoing integration process is that the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) encourages the parishes and the local communities with independent hazard mitigation plans to utilize the same plan format and methodologies as the State Hazard Mitigation Plan in order to create continuity of information from local to state mitigation plans and programs.

The 2020 Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) maintains much of the information from the 2015 plan version, but it now reflects the order and methodologies of the 2019 Louisiana State Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The sections in the 2015 Ascension HMP were as follows:

- Section 1 Introduction
- Section 2 Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment
- Section 3 Capability Assessment
- Section 4 Mitigation Strategy
- Appendix A Planning Process
- Appendix B Plan Maintenance
- Appendix C Essential Facilities
- Appendix D Plan Adoption
- Appendix E State Required Worksheets

This plan update also coheres with the Plain Writing Act of 2010, which requires federal agencies to use clear communication that is accessible, consistent, understandable, and useful to the public. While the State of Louisiana and its political subdivisions are not required to meet such standards, the Act aligns with best practices in hazard mitigation. Since successful hazard mitigation relies on full implementation and cooperation at all levels of government and community, a successful hazard mitigation plan must also be easily used at all of these levels. Nevertheless, the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee was not ignorant or dismissive of the successful analysis and mitigation planning executed in previous plan updates. This plan update remains coherent with those documents, retaining language and content when needed, deleting it when appropriate, and augmenting it when constructive.

2020 Plan Update

This 2020 plan update proceeds with the previous goals of the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan. The current goals are as follows:

Goal 1: Identify and pursue preventative structural and non-structural measures that will reduce future damages.

Goal 2: Enhance public awareness and understanding of disaster preparedness.

Goal 3: Reduce repetitive flood losses in parish and municipalities.

Goal 4: Facilitate sound building practices in the parish and municipalities so as to reduce or eliminate the potential impact of hazards.

Goal 5: Improve the ability of the parish and municipalities to rapidly recover and restore facilities and services to the public.

This plan update makes a number of textual changes throughout, but the most obvious changes are data related and structural edits. First, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Centers for Environmental Information's (NCEI) Storm Events Database was used in the analysis, which provides historical hazard data from 1950 to 2019. Furthermore, all of the sections were updated to reflect the most current information and the most current vision of the plan update. Second, instead of ten separate sections for numerous tables, maps and appendices, the HMP update has four sections and five appendices. The most significant changes are the newly developed hazard profiles and risk assessments, as well as the removal of much repetition between sections from the previous plan updates.

The 2020 plan update is organized in the exact same format as the 2015 update as you can see below:

Table 1-3: 2020 Plan Update Crosswalk

Plan Update Crosswalk	
Section 1: Introduction	Section 1: Introduction
Section 2: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment	Section 2: Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment
Section 3: Capability Assessment	Section 3: Capability Assessment
Section 4: Mitigation Strategy	Section 4: Mitigation Strategy
Appendix A: Planning Process	Appendix A: Planning Process
Appendix B: Plan Maintenance	Appendix B: Plan Maintenance
Appendix C: Essential Facilities	Appendix C: Essential Facilities
Appendix D: Plan Adoptions	Appendix D: Plan Adoptions
Appendix E: State Required Worksheets	Appendix E: State Required Worksheets

Despite changes in this plan update, the plan remains consistent in its emphasis on the few types of hazards that pose the most risk to loss of life, injury, and property in Ascension Parish and its communities. The extent of this risk is dictated primarily by its geographic location. Most significantly, Ascension Parish remains at high risk of water inundation from various sources, including flooding and tropical cyclone activity. The entire parish is also at high risk of damages from high winds and wind-borne debris. Other hazards threaten the parish and/or its communities, although not to such great degrees and not in such widespread ways. In all cases, the relative social vulnerability of areas threatened and affected plays a significant role in how governmental agencies and their partners (local, parish, state and federal) prepare for and respond to disasters.

Mitigation efforts related to particular hazards are highly individualized by jurisdiction. Flexibility in response and planning is essential. The most important step forward to improve hazard management capability is to improve coordination and information sharing between the various levels of government regarding hazards

2. Hazard Identification and Parish-Wide Risk Assessment

This section assesses the various hazard risks that Ascension Parish faces in order to identify a strategy for mitigation. Having identified the categories of hazards, emergencies, disasters, and catastrophes, this section details the major climatological and natural/human-influenced hazards by (1) defining them, (2) explaining how they are measured, (3) describing their geographic extent, (4) surveying their previous occurrences, and (5) evaluating their future likelihood of occurrences.

The table below provides an overview of the hazards that had been previously profiled in the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan published in 2015, as well as the hazards that were identified in the state's 2019 Hazard Mitigation Plan that were considered to be of high or medium risk for the parish by the state. Those hazards identified as high or medium risk by the state, or previously identified as a risk by the parish, will be profiled in this section.

Table 2-1: Hazard Profile Summary

Hazard	Profiled in Last Plan	Considered Medium or High Risk in the State's HM Plan	Profiled in the 2020 Update
Flooding	X	X	X
Levee Failure	X		X
Sinkholes	X		X
Subsidence	X		X
Thunderstorms (Hail, Lightning, & Wind)	X	X	X
Tornadoes	X	X	X
Tropical Cyclones	X	X	X
Winter Weather	X		X

Prevalent Hazards to the Community

While many hazards occur in the parish, their occurrence was not merited for further study by the planning committee. The determination was made to focus attention and resources on the most prevalent hazards which include the hazards previously profiled.

The following hazards have been selected to be included in this risk assessment:

a) Flooding
b) Levee Failure
c) Subsidence
d) Thunderstorms (Hail, Lightning, & Wind)
e) Tornadoes
f) Tropical Cyclones
g) Winter Weather

For analysis purposes, the impact of the critical and prevalent hazards is summarized as follows:

- Flooding from rivers and waterways, rain storms, tropical cyclones, and hurricanes in the following forms:
    a) Riverine
    b) Stormwater
    c) Surge
    d) Backwater flooding (as the result of river flooding and surge)
    e) Coastal
- High wind damage most commonly resulting from hurricanes, thunderstorms, and tornadoes
- Property damage resulting from all profiled natural hazards

The potential destructive power of tropical cyclones and flooding were determined to be the most prevalent hazards to the parish. Of the 25 disaster declarations Ascension Parish has received, over half have resulted from either tropical cyclones (13 declarations) or flooding (8 declarations), which validates these as the most significant hazards. Therefore, the issues of hurricanes and floods will both serve as the main focus during the mitigation planning process. Hurricanes present risks from the potential for flooding, primarily resulting from storm surge, and high wind speeds. While storm surge is considered the hazard with the most destructive potential, the risk assessment will also asses non-storm surge flooding as well. Flooding can also occur from non-hurricane events, as flash floods are a common occurrence due to heavy rainfall.

Hurricanes, tropical storms, and heavy storms are fairly common occurrences, and resultant wind damage is of utmost concern. Damage from high winds can include roof damage, destruction of homes and commercial buildings, downed trees and power lines, and damage and disruption to services caused by heavy debris. A wind map for Ascension Parish is included in the hurricane risk assessment.

Ascension Parish is also susceptible to tornadoes. Tornadoes can spawn from tropical cyclones or severe weather systems that pass through Ascension Parish. High winds produced by tornadoes have the potential to destroy residential and commercial buildings, as well as create wind-borne objects from the debris produced by the destruction of the natural and human environment, such as building materials and trees.

Previous Occurrences

On the next page, *Table 2-2* summarizes federal disaster declarations for Ascension Parish since 1965. Information includes names, dates, and types of disaster.

Table 2-2: Ascension Major Disaster Declarations

Disaster Number	Year	Declaration
208	1965	HURRICANE BETSY
315	1972	HURRICANE EDITH
374	1973	SEVERE STORMS & FLOODING
3031	1977	DROUGHT & FREEZING
534	1977	SEVERE STORMS & FLOODING
584	1979	SEVERE STORMS & FLOODING
679	1983	SEVERE STORMS AND FLOODING
752	1986	HURRICANE JUAN
956	1992	HURRICANE ANDREW
978	1993	SEVERE STORMS & FLOODING
1049	1995	SEVERE STORMS AND FLOODING
1246	1998	HURRICANE GEORGES/TS FRANCES
1380	2001	TROPICAL STORM ALLISON
1437	2003	HURRICANE LILI
3172	2003	LOSS OF SPACE SHUTTLE COLUMBIA
1548	2004	HURRICANE IVAN
3212	2005	HURRICANE KATRINA
3260	2005	HURRICANE RITA
3289	2008	HURRICANE GUSTAV
4015	2011	FLOODING
4080	2012	HURRICANE ISAAC
4263	2016	SEVERE STORMS AND FLOODING
4277	2016	SEVERE STORMS AND FLOODING
4458	2019	HURRICANE BARRY
4484	2020	COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Probability of Future Hazard Events

The probability of a hazard event occurring in Ascension Parish is estimated in the table on the next page. The percent chance of an event happening during any given year was calculated by posting past events and dividing by the time period. Unless otherwise indicated, the time period used to access probability followed the method used in the State of Louisiana's most current Hazard Mitigation Plan. The primary source for historical data used throughout the plan is the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Centers for Environmental Information's (NCEI) Storm Events Database, which provides historical hazard data from 1950 to 2019. In staying consistent with the state plan, the Storm Events Database was evaluated for the last twenty-five years (1994 – 2019) in order to determine future probability of a hazard occurring. While the 25-year record used by the State was adopted for the purpose of determining the overall probability, in order to assist with determining estimated losses, unless otherwise stated, the full 70-year record was used when Hazus wasn't available

to determine losses. This full record was used to provide a more extensive record to determine losses. All assessed damages were adjusted for inflation in order to reflect the equivalent amount of damages with the value of the U.S. dollar today.

The following table shows the annual probability for each hazard occurring across the parish and in separate jurisdictions.

Table 2-3: Probability of Future Hazard Reoccurrence.

Hazard	Probability			
	Unincorporated Ascension Parish	Donaldsonville	Gonzales	Sorrento
Flooding	24%	24%	20%	20%
Levee Failure	< 1%	< 1%	< 1%	< 1%
Sinkholes	< 1%	< 1%	< 1%	< 1%
Subsidence	< 1%	< 1%	< 1%	< 1%
Thunderstorms (Hail)	29%	29%	29%	29%
Thunderstorms (High Wind)	97%	97%	97%	97%
Thunderstorms (Lightning)	70%	70%	70%	70%
Tornadoes	29%	29%	29%	29%
Tropical Cyclones	59%	59%	59%	59%
Winter Weather	26%	26%	26%	26%

As shown in *Table 2-3*, thunderstorm winds have the highest annual chance of occurrence in the parish (97%). This is followed by lightning (70%), tropical cyclones (59%), tornadoes (29%), hailstorms (29%), winter weather (26%), and flooding (24%). Levee failure, sinkholes, and subsidence all have an annual chance of occurrence in the parish of less than 1%.

Inventory of Assets for the Entire Parish

As part of the Risk Assessment, the planning team identified essential facilities throughout the parish. Several methods were used to assist in identifying all essential facilities, including field data collected by the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) on critical infrastructure from a previous hazard mitigation project.

Within the entire planning area, there is an estimated value of $5,082,874,000 in structures throughout the parish. The table below provides the total estimated value for each type of structure by occupancy.

Table 2-4: Estimated Total of Potential Losses throughout Ascension Parish and Parish's Jurisdictions.

Occupancy	Ascension Parish	Unincorporated Ascension Parish	Donaldsonville	Gonzales	Sorrento
Agricultural	$7,677,000	$6,400,000	$0	$1,170,000	$107,000
Commercial	$485,150,000	$342,228,000	$35,520,000	$101,009,000	$6,393,000
Government	$18,006,000	$12,940,000	$1,480,000	$2,314,000	$1,272,000
Industrial	$170,515,000	$156,206,000	$1,785,000	$11,139,000	$1,385,000
Religion	$55,636,000	$39,958,000	$7,994,000	$6,999,000	$685,000
Residential	$4,318,900,000	$3,831,647,000	$174,069,000	$274,116,000	$39,068,000
Education	$26,990,000	$14,531,000	$8,580,000	$3,879,000	$0
Total	**$5,082,874,000**	**$4,403,910,000**	**$229,428,000**	**$400,626,000**	**$48,910,000**

Essential Facilities of the Parish

The following figures show the locations and names of the essential facilities within the parish:

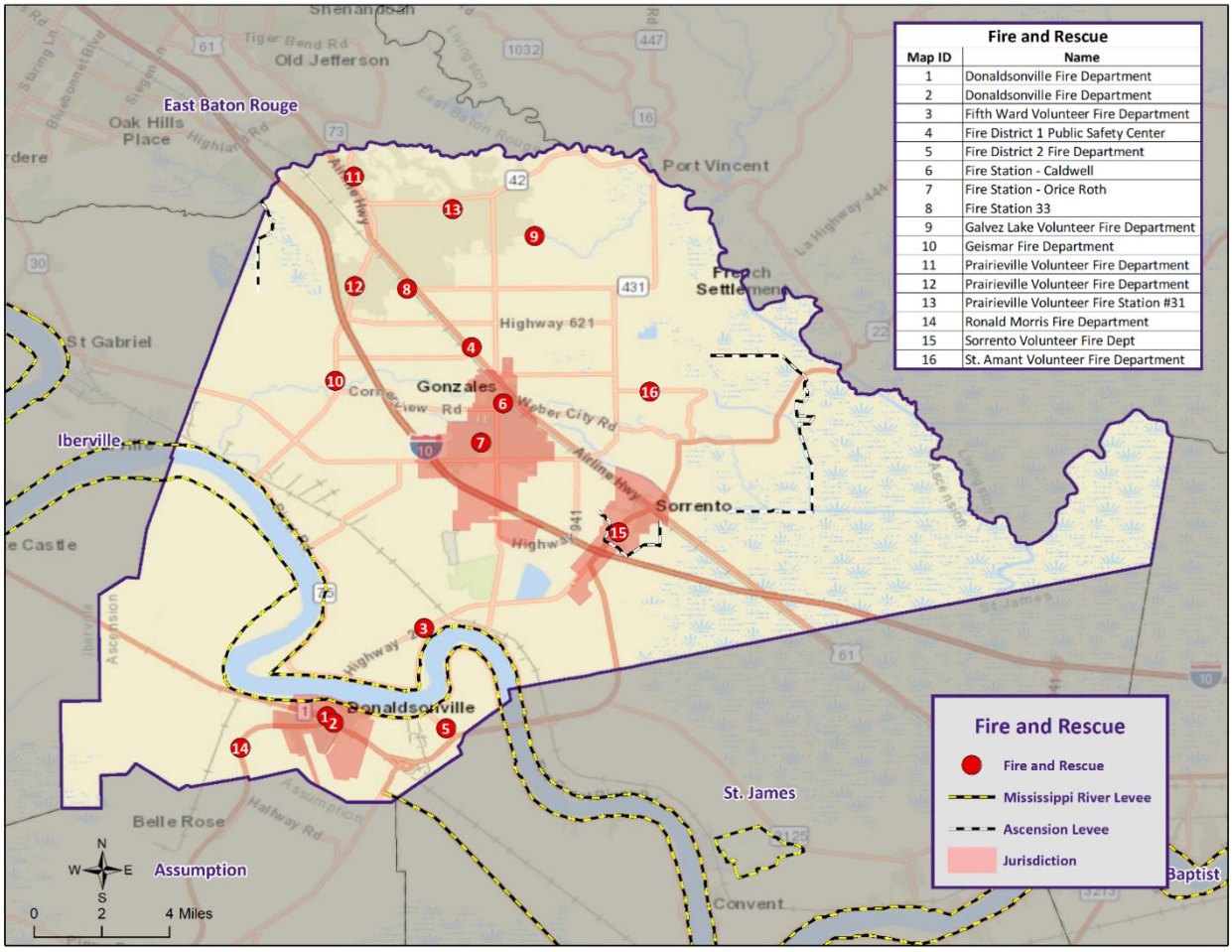

Figure 2-1: Fire and Rescue Facilities in Ascension Parish.

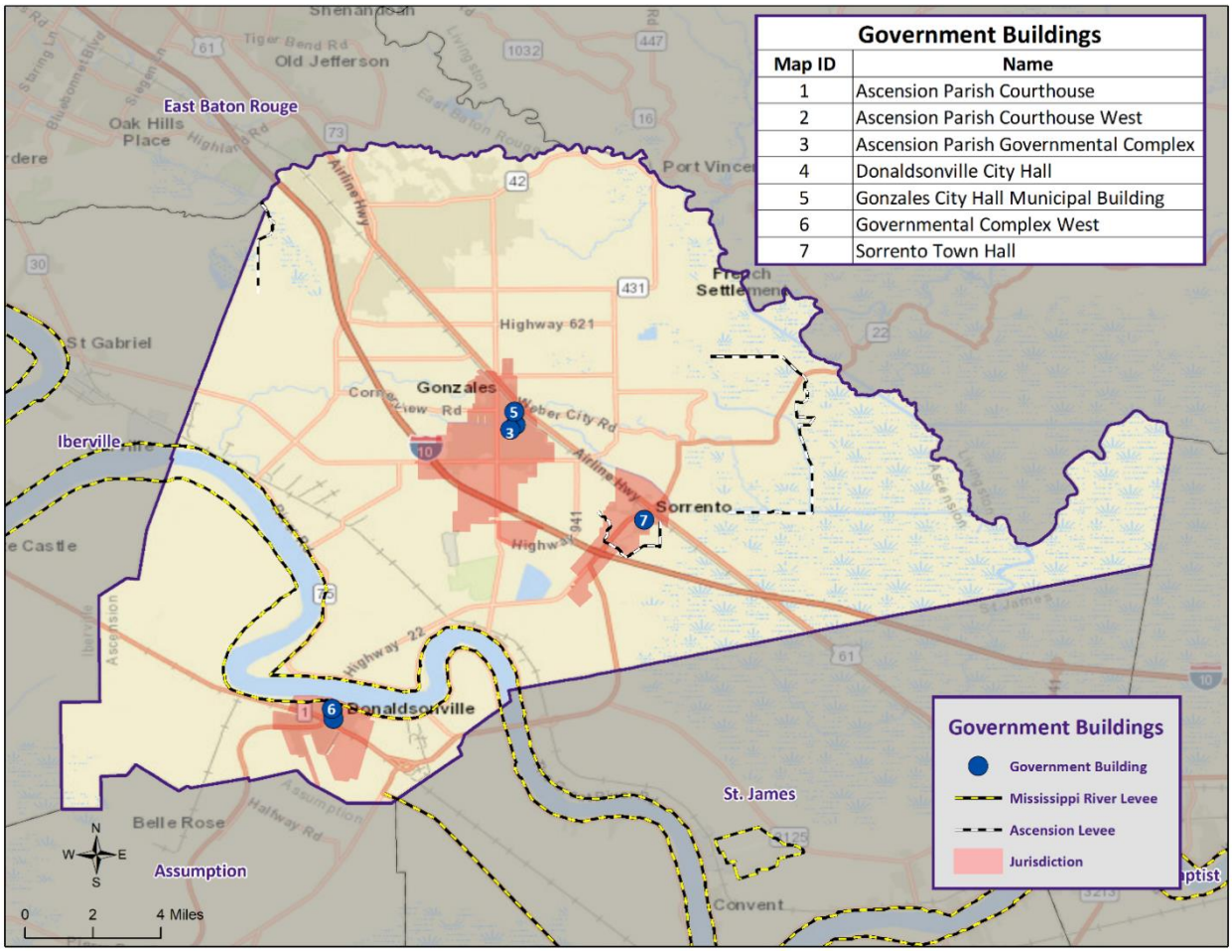

Figure 2-2: Government Buildings in Ascension Parish.

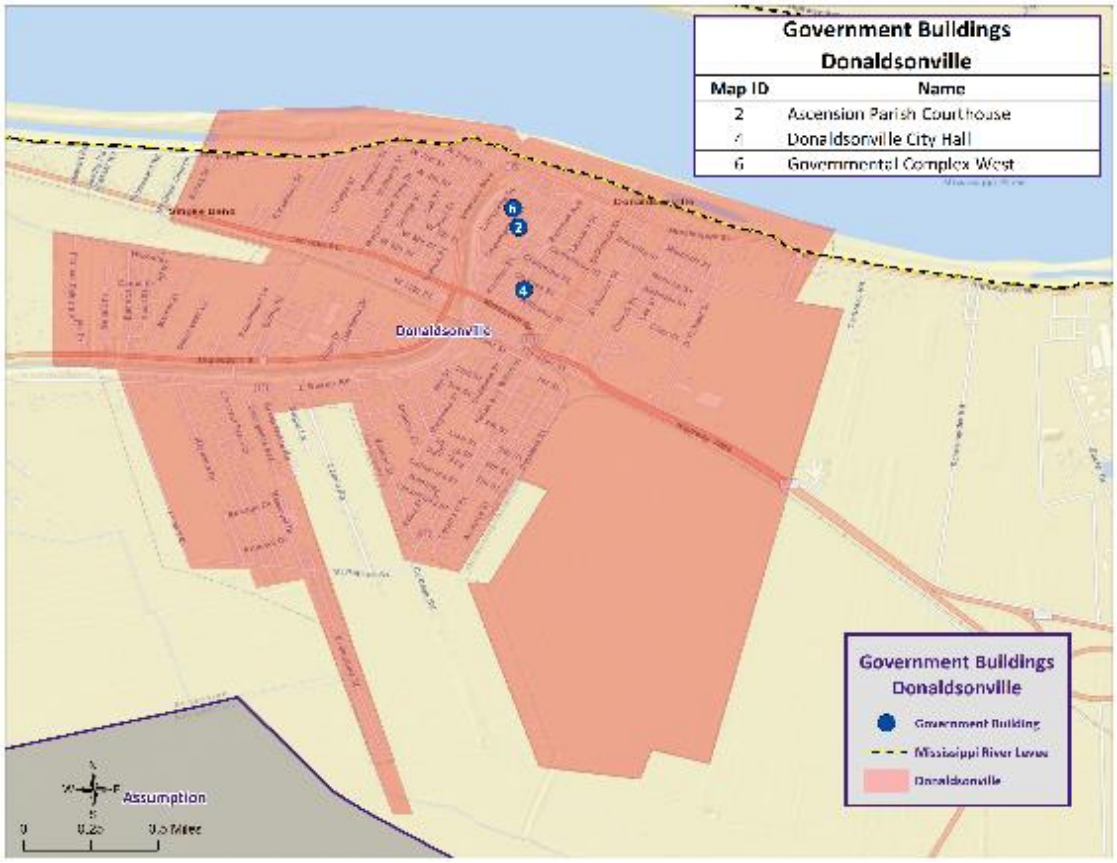

Figure 2-3: Government Buildings in Donaldsonville.

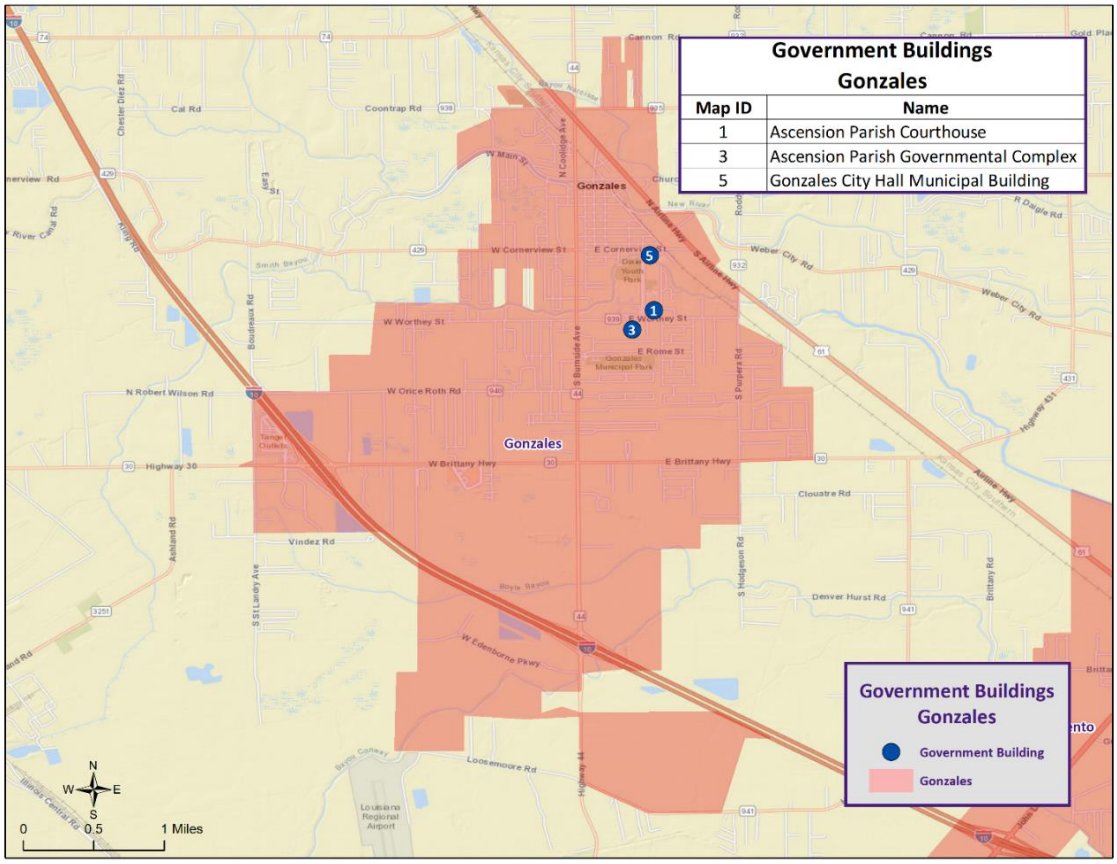

Figure 2-4: Government Buildings in Gonzales.

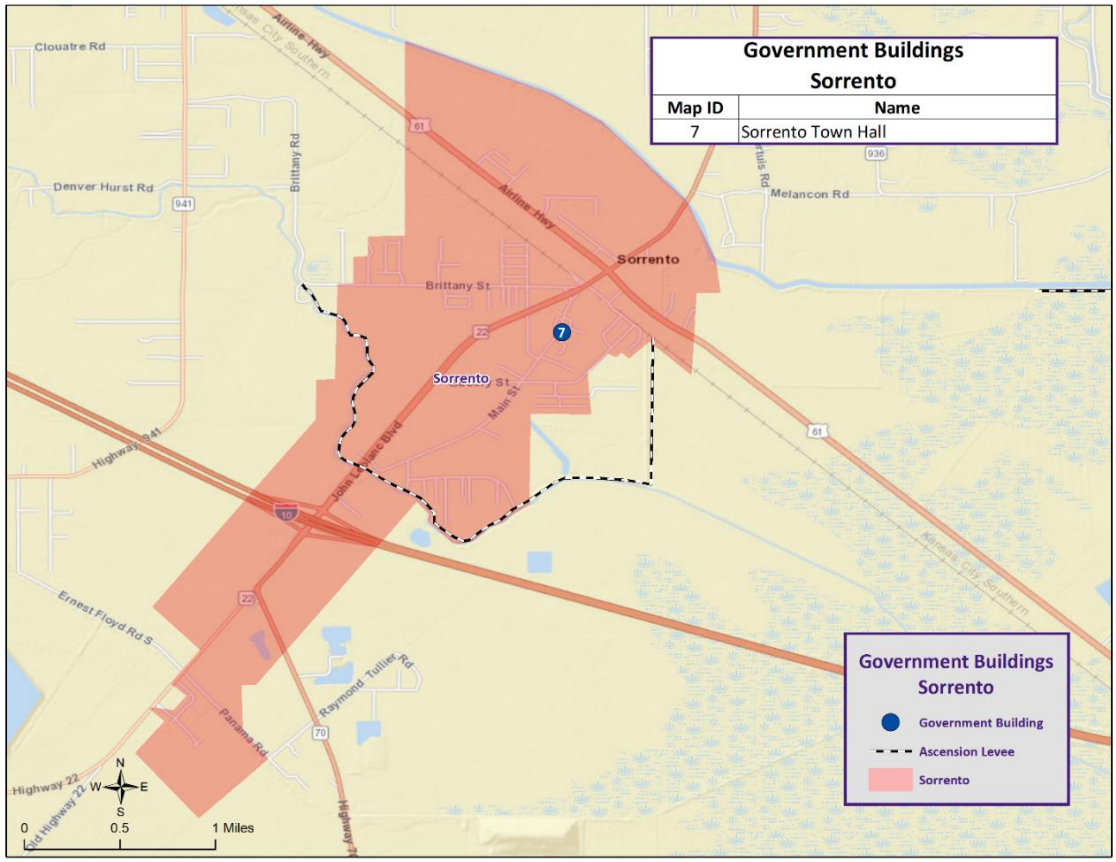

Figure 2-5: Government Buildings in Sorrento.

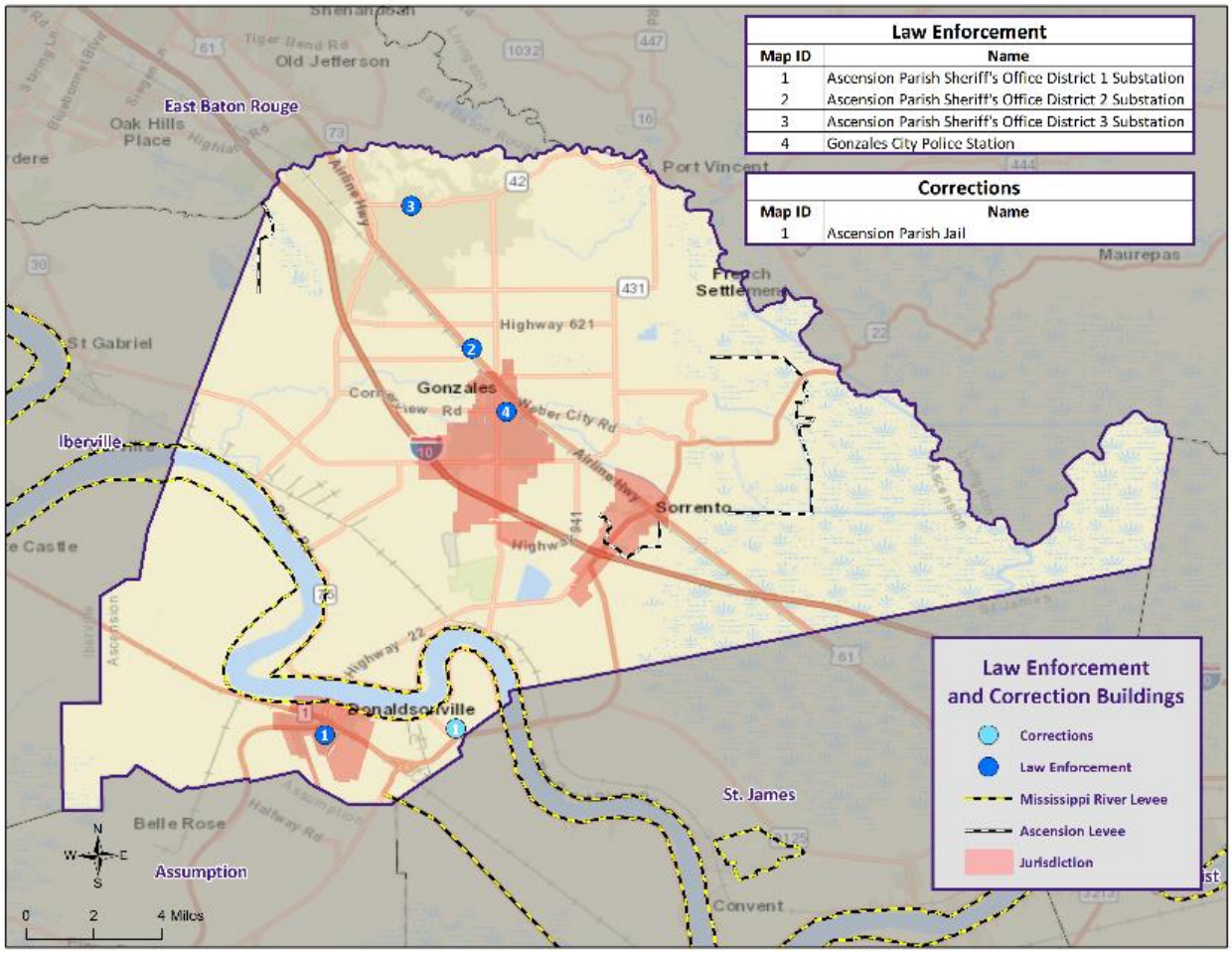

Figure 2-6: Law Enforcement and Correction Facilities in Ascension Parish.

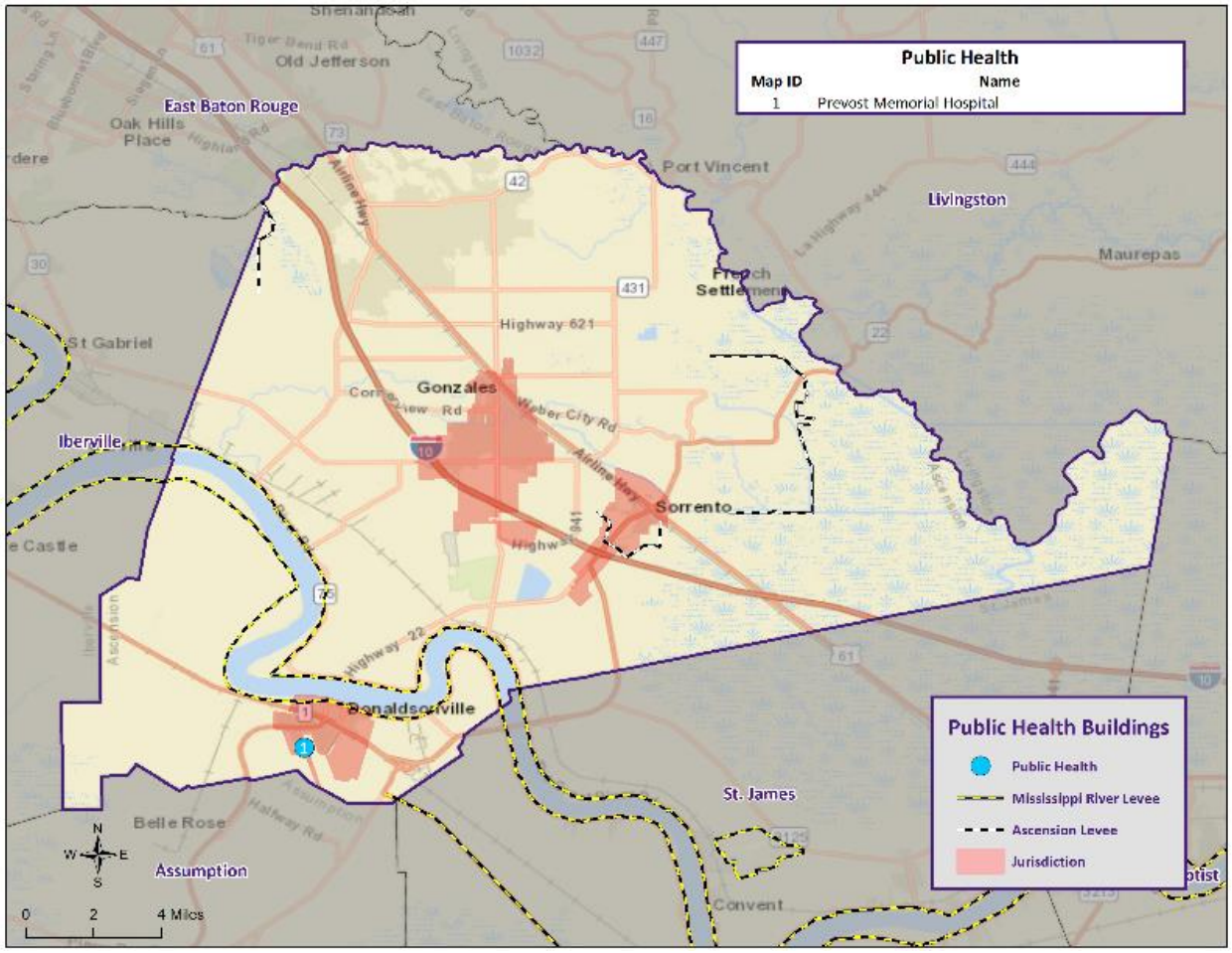

Figure 2-7: Public Health Facilities in Ascension Parish.

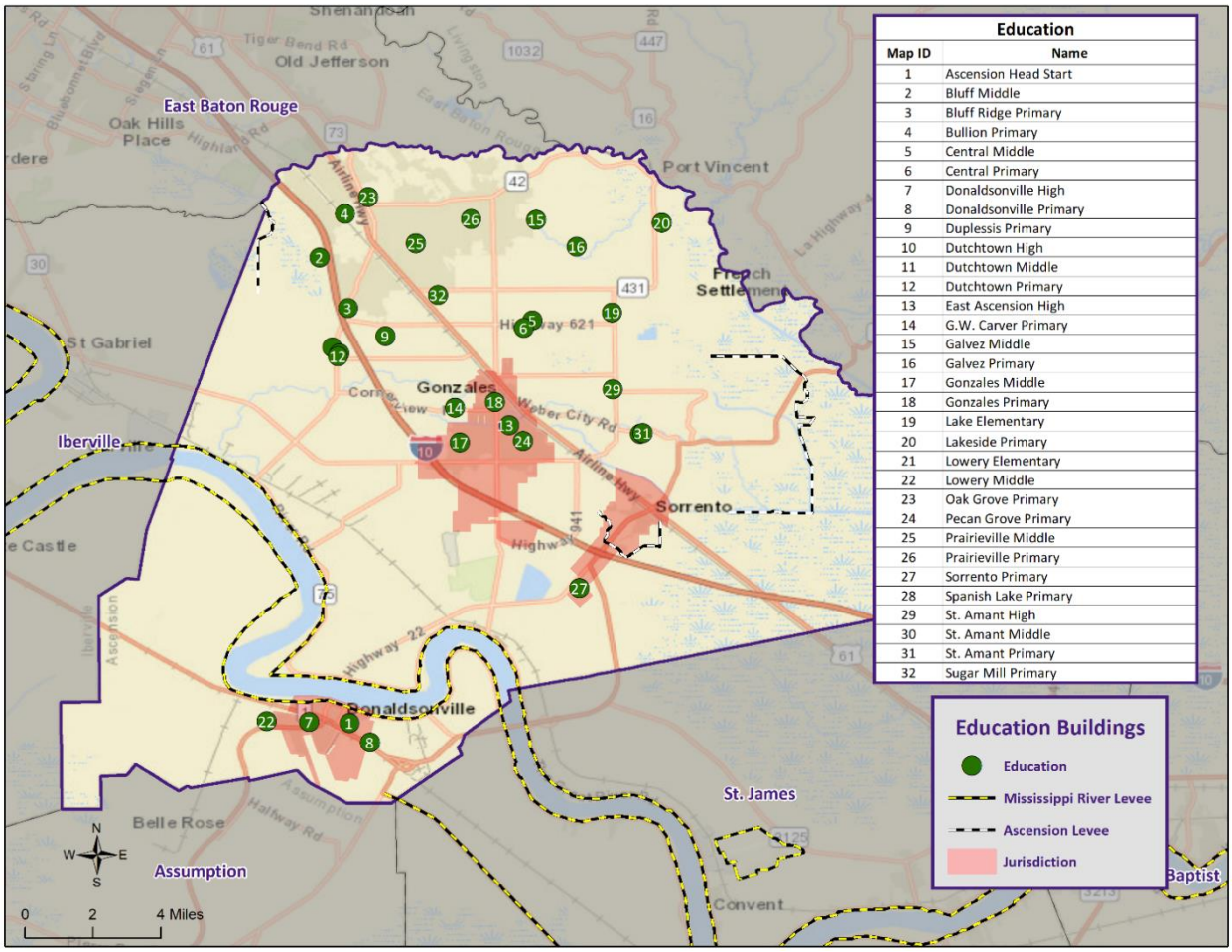

Figure 2-8: Education Facilities in Ascension Parish.

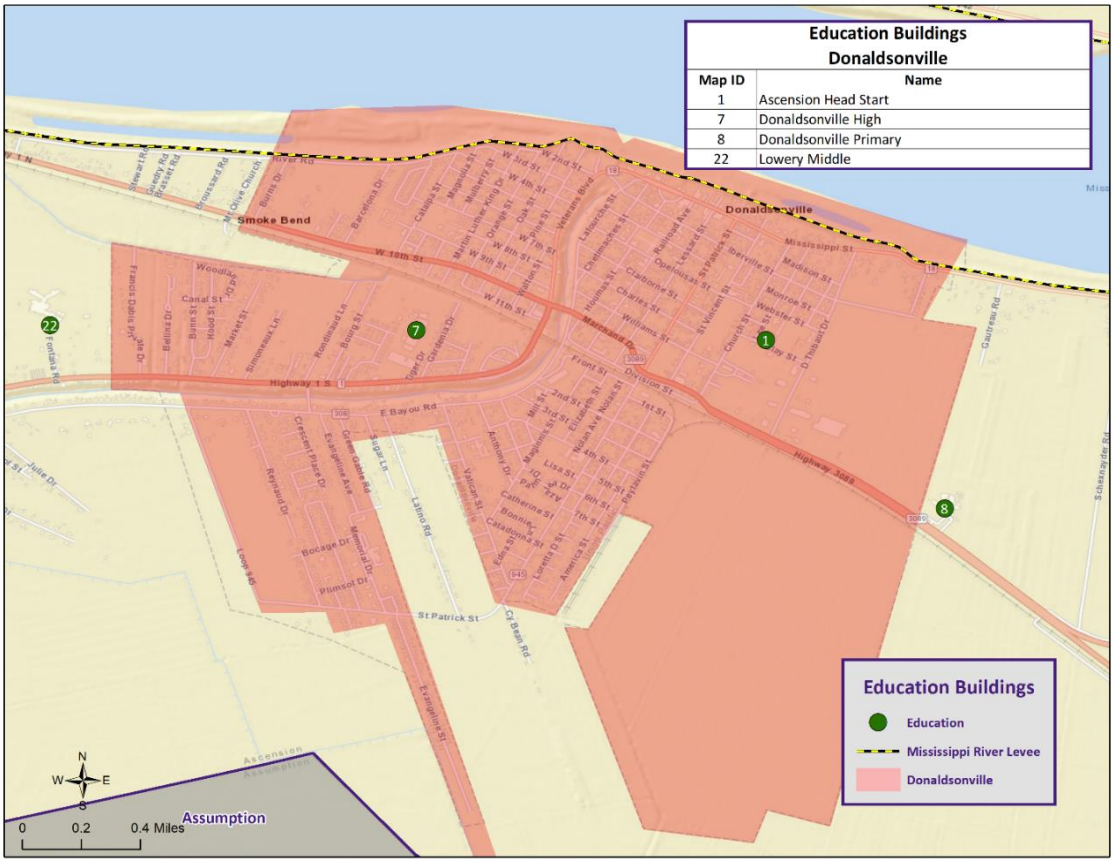

Figure 2-9: Education Facilities in Donaldsonville.

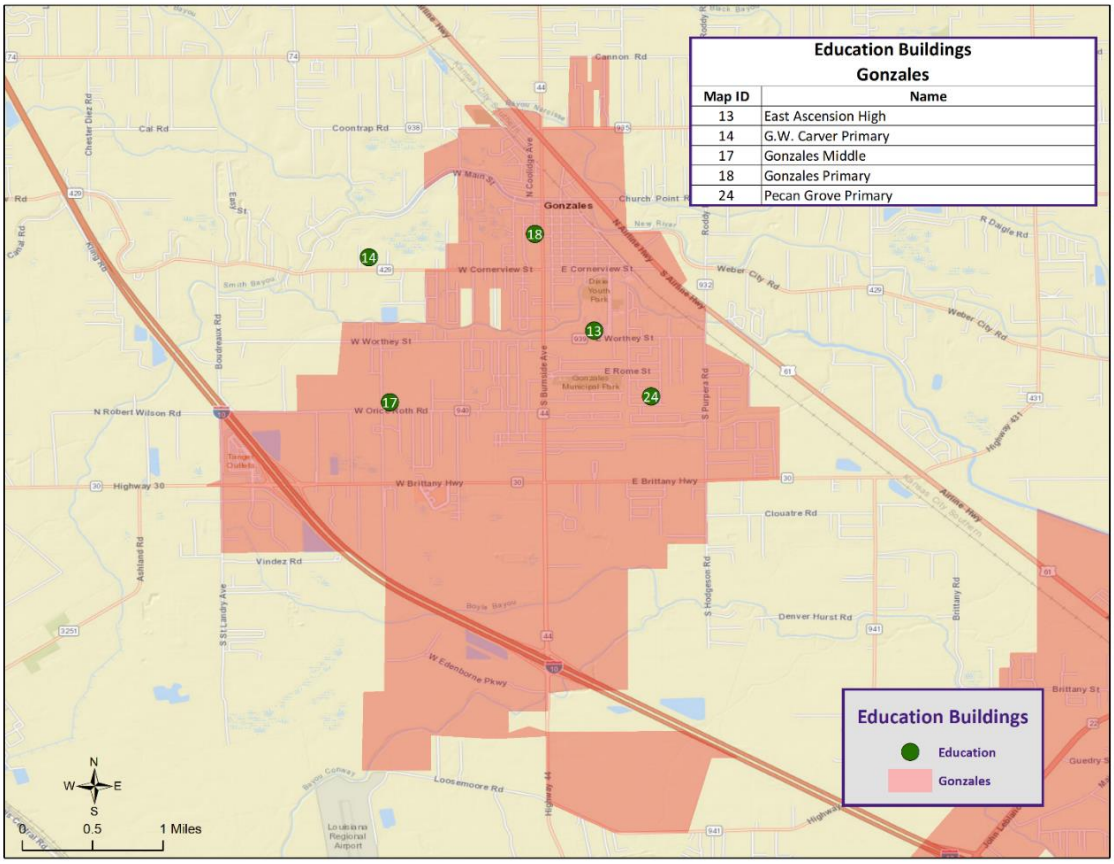

Figure 2-10: Education Facilities in Gonzales.

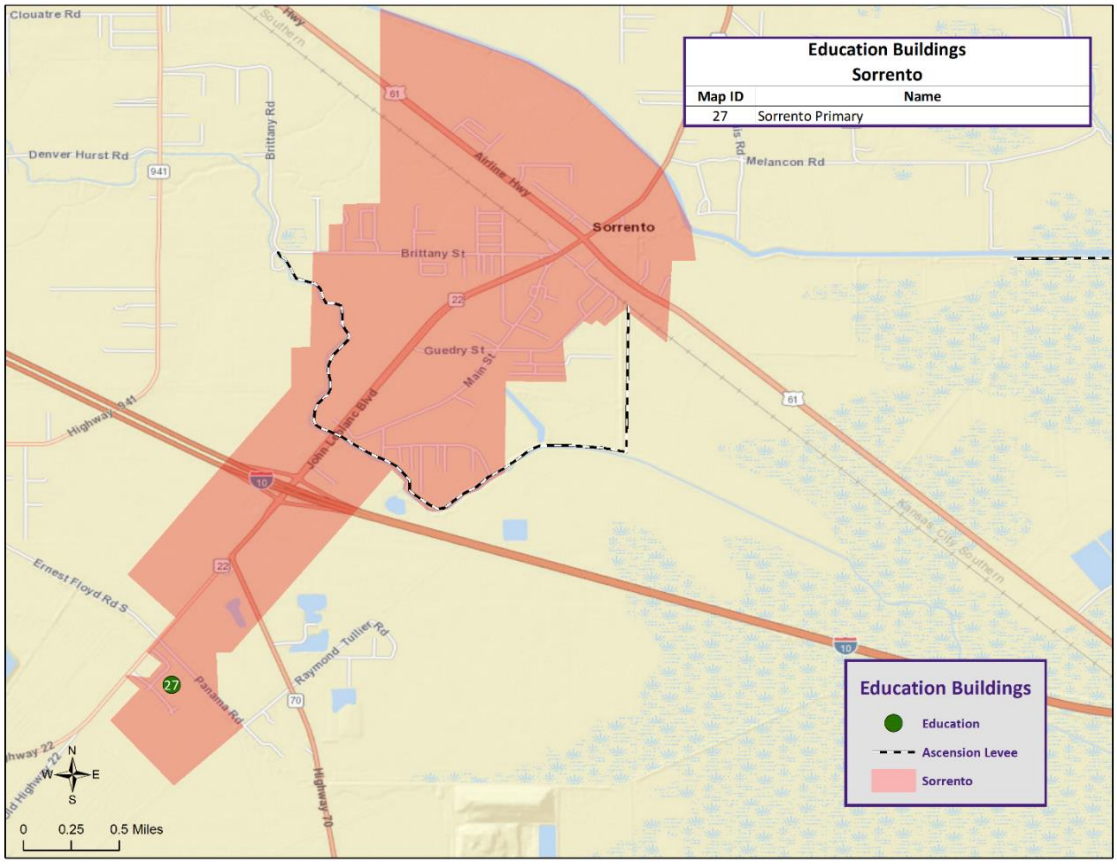

Figure 2-11: Education Facilities in Sorrento.

Future Development Trends

Ascension Parish experienced a significant increase decline in population and housing between the years of 2000 and 2018, increasing from a population of 76,627 with 29,172 housing units in 2000 to a population of 124,672 with 48,680 housing units in 2018. Population increased overall by 39.9% from 2000 to 2010, and 16.3% from 2010 to 2018. Housing units increased overall by 66.9% from 2000 to 2010, but it has remained stagnant from 2010 to 2018. Gonzales experienced the largest growth in both housing units and population from 2000 to 2010 followed by Sorrento in both categories. Donaldsonville experienced a decline in population during this time period, but a slight increase in housing units. Population and housing estimates for the span of 2010 to 2018 were not projected due to the 2018 American Community Survey Estimates not being released at the time of the update for some of the jurisdictions in Ascension Parish. The future population and number of buildings can be estimated using U.S. Census Bureau housing and population data. The following tables show population and housing unit estimates from 2000 to 2019:

Table 2-5: Population Growth Rate for Ascension Parish and the Parish's Jurisdictions.

Total Population	Ascension Parish	Unincorporated Ascension Parish	Donaldsonville	Gonzales	Sorrento
1-Apr-00	76,627	42,085	7,605	8,156	1,255
1-Apr-10	107,215	61,702	7,436	9,781	1,401
1-Jul-18	124,672	N/A	8,281	10,809	N/A
Population Growth between 2000 – 2010	39.9%	46.6%	-2.2%	19.9%	11.6%
Average Annual Growth Rate between 2000 – 2010	4.0%	4.7%	-0.2%	2.0%	1.2%
Population Growth between 2010 – 2018	16.3%	N/A	11.4%	10.5%	N/A
Average Annual Growth Rate between 2010 – 2014	2.04%	N/A	1.42%	1.31%	N/A

Table 2-6: Housing Growth Rate for Ascension Parish and the Parish's Jurisdictions.

Total Housing	Ascension Parish	Unincorporated Ascension Parish	Donaldsonville	Gonzales	Sorrento
1-Apr-00	29,172	22,378	2,936	3,343	515
1-Apr-10	48,685	41,062	3,011	4,034	578
1-Jul-18	48,680	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Population Growth between 2000 – 2010	66.9%	83.5%	2.6%	20.7%	12.2%
Average Annual Growth Rate between 2000 – 2010	6.7%	8.3%	0.3%	2.1%	1.2%
Population Growth between 2010 – 2018	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Average Annual Growth Rate between 2010 – 2014	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Future Hazard Impacts

Hazard impacts were estimated for five years and ten years in the future (2024 and 2028). Yearly population and housing growth rates were applied to parish inventory assets for composite flood and tropical cyclones. Based on a review of available information, it is assumed that population and housing units will continue to grow slightly within Ascension Parish from the present until 2028. A summary of estimated future impacts is shown in the table below. Dollar values are expressed in future costs and assume an annual rate of inflation of 1.02%.

Table 2-7: Estimated Future Impacts, 2018-2028.
(Source: Hazus, US Census Bureau)

Hazard / Impact	Total in Parish (2019)	Hazard Area (2019)	Hazard Area (2024)	Hazard Area (2028)
Flood Damage				
Structures	48,680	33,652	33,888	34,058
Value of Structures	$5,082,874,000	$3,513,756,211	$3,798,933,733	$4,016,695,653
# of People	127,209	86,185	99,239	109,758
Tropical Cyclone				
Structures	48,680	48,680	49,022	49,267
Value of Structures	$5,082,874,000	$5,082,874,000	$5,495,401,597	$5,810,408,198
# of People	124,672	124,672	143,556	158,772

Land Use

The Ascension Parish Land Use table is provided on the below. Residential, commercial, and industrial areas account for only 21% of the parish's land use. Wetland areas is the largest category accounting for 79,963 acres (41%) of parish land. At 57,433 acres, agricultural lands account for 30% of parish lands, while 7,547 acres of forest areas and 7,356 acres of water areas account for 4% of parish lands respectively.

Table 2-8: Ascension Parish Land Use.
(Source: USGS Land Use Map)

Land Use	Acres	Percentage
Agricultural Land, Cropland, and Pasture	57,433	30%
Wetlands	79,963	41%
Forest Land (Not including forested wetlands)	7,547	4%
Urban/Development	41,621	21%
Water	7,356	4%

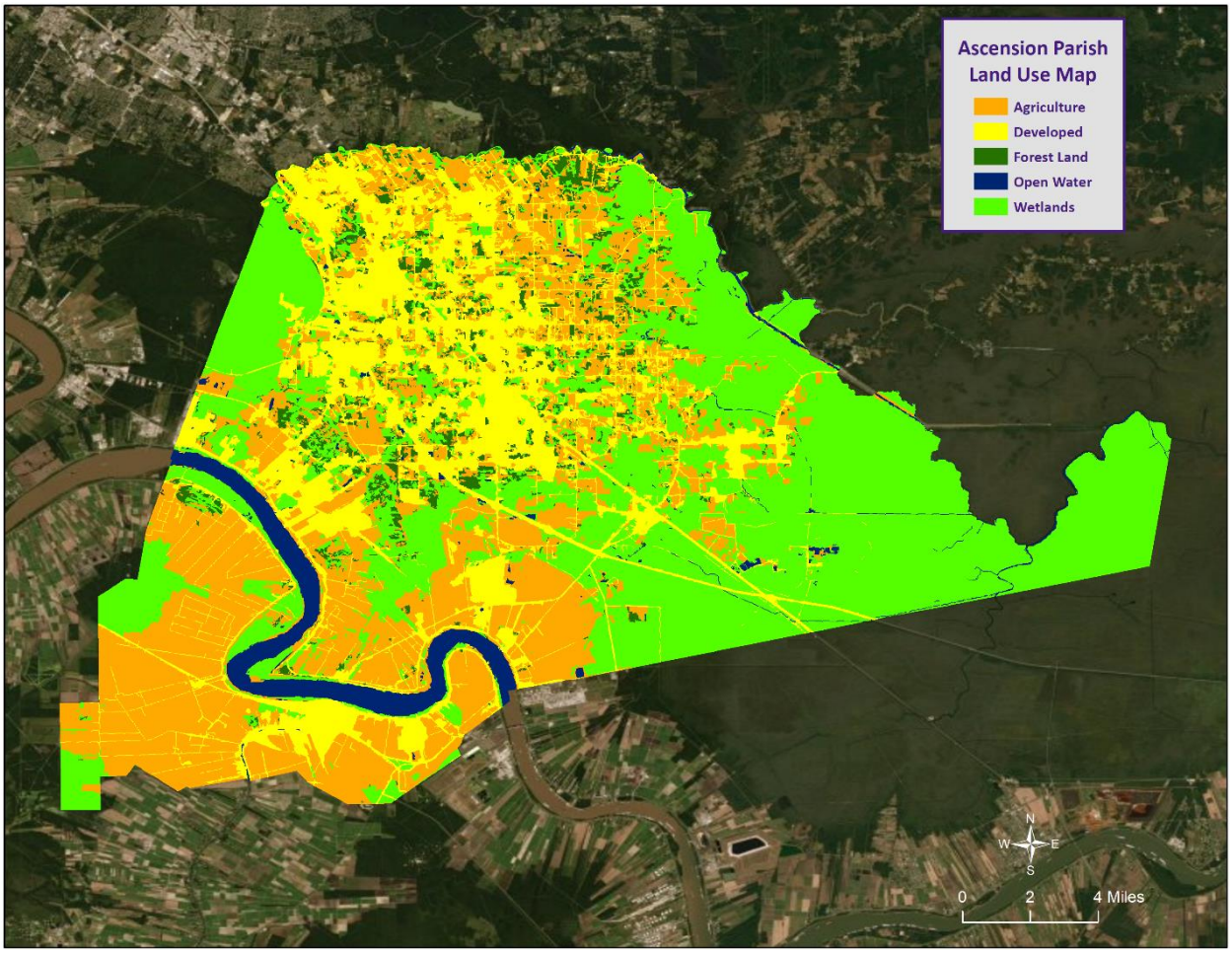

Figure 2-12: Ascension Parish Land Use Map.
(Source: USGS Land Use Map)

Assessing Vulnerability Overview

The purpose of assessing vulnerability is to quantify and/or qualify exposure and determine how various threats and hazards impact life, property, the environment, and critical operations in Ascension Parish. Vulnerability can be defined as the manifestation of the inherent states of the system (e.g., physical, technical, organizational, cultural) that can be exploited to adversely affect (cause harm or damage to) that system. For example, identifying areas in the parish that suffer disproportional damages from flooding compared with other areas, or overall exposure of an entire town to flooding. Identifying and understanding vulnerability to each threat and hazard provides a strong foundation for developing and pursuing mitigation actions.

The Vulnerability Assessment section for each hazard builds upon the information provided in the Risk Assessment by assessing the potential impact and amount of damage that each hazard has on the parish and each jurisdiction location. To complete the assessment, best available data were collected from a variety of sources, including local, state, and federal agencies, and multiple analyses were performed qualitatively and quantitatively. The estimates provided in the Vulnerability Assessment should be used to understand relative risk from each hazard and the potential losses that may be incurred; however, uncertainties are inherent in any loss estimation methodology, arising in part from incomplete scientific knowledge concerning specific hazards and their effects on the built environment, as well as incomplete datasets from approximations and simplifications that are necessary to provide a meaningful and complete analysis. Further, most datasets used in this assessment contain relatively short periods of records, which increases the uncertainty of any statistically-based analysis.

Quantitative Methodology

The quantitative methodology consists of utilizing a detailed GIS-based approach informed through the development of comprehensive hazard and infrastructure databases. This data-centric approach forms the foundation for our quantitative vulnerability assessment. GIS technology allowed for the identification and analysis of potentially at-risk community assets such as people and infrastructure. This analysis was completed for hazards that can be spatially defined in a meaningful manner (i.e., hazards with an official and scientifically determined geographic extent) and
for which GIS data were readily available.

Qualitative Methodology

The qualitative assessment relies less on technology, but more on historical and anecdotal data regarding expected hazard impacts. The qualitative assessment completed for Ascension Parish is based on the Priority Risk Index (PRI). The purpose of the PRI is to prioritize all potential hazards, and then group them into three categories of high, moderate, or low risk to identify and prioritize mitigation opportunities. The PRI is a good practice to use when prioritizing hazards because it provides a standardized numerical value for hazards to be compared. PRI scores were calculated using five categories:

- Probability
- Impact
- Spatial Extent
- Warning Time
- Duration

Each degree of risk is assigned a value (1-4) and a weighting factor. To calculate the Risk Factor for a given hazard, the assigned risk value for each category is multiplied by the weighted factor, and the sum of all six categories is totaled together to determine the final Risk Factor. The highest possible Risk Factor is 4.0.

Risk Factor = [(Probability * 0.25) + (Impact * 0.25) + (Spatial Extent * 0.20) + (Warning Time *0.15) + (Duration * 0.15)]

Priority Risk Index and Hazard Risk

Hazard risk is determined by calculating the Risk Factor for each hazard impacting Ascension Parish. A summary of the PRI is found in the following table. The conclusions drawn from the qualitative and quantitative assessments are fitted into three categories based on High, Moderate, or Low designations. Hazards identified as high risk have risk factors of 2.5 or greater. Risk Factors ranging from 2.0 to 2.4 are deemed moderate risk hazards. Hazards with Risk Factors less than 2.0 are considered low risk.

Table 2-9: Summary of the Priority Risk Index.

PRI Category	Degree of Risk			Assigned Weighting Factor
	Level	Criteria	Index Value	
Probability	Unlikely	Less than 1% annual probability	1	25%
	Possible	Between 1 and 10% annual probability	2	
	Likely	Between 10 and 100% probability	3	
	Highly Likely	100% annual probability	4	
Impact	Minor	Very few injuries, if any. Only minor property damage and minimal disruption on quality of life. Temporary shutdown of critical facilities.	1	25%
	Limited	Minor injuries only. More than 10% of property in affected area damaged or destroyed. Complete shutdown of critical facilities for more than one day.	2	
	Critical	Multiple deaths/injuries possible. More than 25% of property in affected area damaged or destroyed. Complete shutdown of critical facilities for more than a week.	3	
	Catastrophic	High number of deaths/injuries possible. More than 50% of property in affected area damaged or destroyed. Complete shutdown of critical facilities for 30 days or more.	4	
Spatial Extent	Negligible	Less than 1% of area affected	1	20%
	Small	Between 1 and 10% of area affected	2	
	Moderate	Between 10 and 50% of area affected	3	
	Large	Between 50 and 100% of area affected	4	
Warning Time	More than 24 hours	Self-explanatory	1	15%
	12 to 24 hours	Self-explanatory	2	
	6 to 12 hours	Self-explanatory	3	
	Less than 6 hours	Self-explanatory	4	
Duration	Less than 6 hours	Self-explanatory	1	15%
	Less than 24 hours	Self-explanatory	2	
	Less than one week	Self-explanatory	3	
	More than one week	Self-explanatory	4	

Table 2-10: Associated Risk Factor with PRI Value Range.

Risk Factor	PRI Range
High Risk	2.5 to 4.0
Moderate Risk	2.0 to 2.4
Low Risk	0 to 1.9

Table 2-11: Risk Assessment for Ascension Parish.

Hazard	Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	Overall Risk
Flooding	3	4	3	4	3	3.4
Levee Failure	1	4	3	4	3	2.9
Sinkholes	1	1	1	4	2	1.6
Subsidence	1	1	1	1	2	1.15
Thunderstorms (Hail)	3	2	2	3	1	2.25
Thunderstorms (High Winds)	3	2	3	3	1	2.45
Thunderstorms (Lightning)	3	2	3	3	1	2.45
Tornadoes	3	3	2	4	3	2.95
Tropical Cyclones	3	4	4	1	4	3.3
Winter Storms	3	1	4	1	4	2.55

Hazard Identification

Flooding

A flood is the overflow of water onto land that is usually not inundated. The National Flood Insurance Program defines a flood as:

> A general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of two or more acres of normally dry land area or of two or more properties from overflow of inland or tidal waves, unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source, mudflow, or collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or similar body of water as a result of erosion or undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels that result in a flood as defined above.

Factors influencing the type and severity of flooding include natural variables such as precipitation, topography, vegetation, soil texture, and seasonality, as well as anthropogenic factors such as urbanization (extent of impervious surfaces), land use (agricultural and forestry tend to remove native vegetation and accelerate soil erosion), and the presence of flood-control structures such as levees and dams.

Excess precipitation, produced from thunderstorms or hurricanes, is often the major initiating condition for flooding, and Louisiana can have high rainfall totals at any time of day or year. During the cooler months, slow-moving frontal weather systems produce heavy rainfalls, while the summer and autumn seasons produce major precipitation in isolated thunderstorm events (often on warm afternoons) that may lead to localized flooding. During these warmer seasons, floods are overwhelmingly of the flash flood variety, as opposed to the slower-developing river floods caused by heavy stream flow during the cooler months.

In cooler months, particularly in the spring, Louisiana is in peak season for severe thunderstorms. The fronts that cause these thunderstorms often stall while passing over the state, occasionally producing rainfall totals exceeding ten inches within a period of a few days. Since soil tends to be nearly saturated at this time (due to relatively low overall evaporation rates), spring typically becomes the period of maximum stream flow across the state. Together, these characteristics increase the potential for high water, with low-lying, poorly drained areas being particularly susceptible to flooding during these months.

In Louisiana, six specific types of flooding are of main concern: riverine, flash, ponding, backwater, urban, and coastal.

- **Riverine flooding** occurs along a river or smaller stream. It is the result of runoff from heavy rainfall or intensive snow or ice melt. The speed with which riverine flood levels rise and fall depends not only on the amount of rainfall, but even more on the capacity of the river itself, as well as the shape and land cover of its drainage basin. The smaller the river, the faster that water levels rise and fall. Thus, the Mississippi River levels rise and fall slowly due to its large capacity. Generally, elongated and intensely-developed drainage basins will reach faster peak discharges and faster falls than circular-shaped and forested basins of the same area.
- **Flash flooding** occurs when locally intense precipitation inundates an area in a short amount of time, resulting in local stream flow and drainage capacity being overwhelmed.
- **Ponding** occurs when concave areas (e.g., parking lots, roads, and clay-lined natural low areas) collect water and are unable to drain.
- **Backwater flooding** occurs when water slowly rises from a normally unexpected direction where protection has not been provided. A model example is the flooding that occurred in LaPlace during Hurricane Isaac in 2012. Although the town was protected by a levee on the side facing the Mississippi River, floodwaters from Lake Maurepas and Lake Pontchartrain crept into the community on the side of town opposite the Mississippi River.

- **Urban flooding** is similar to flash flooding but is specific to urbanized areas. It takes place when storm water drainage systems cannot keep pace with heavy precipitation, and water accumulates on the surface. Most urban flooding is caused by slow-moving thunderstorms or torrential rainfall.
- **Coastal flooding** can appear similar to any of the other flood types, depending on its cause. It occurs when normally dry coastal land is flooded by seawater, but may be caused by direct inundation (when the sea level exceeds the elevation of the land), overtopping of a natural or artificial barrier, or the breaching of a natural or artificial barrier (i.e., when the barrier is broken down by the sea water). Coastal flooding is typically caused by storm surge, tsunamis, or gradual sea level rise.

In Ascension Parish, all six types of flooding have historically been observed. For purposes of this assessment, ponding, flash flood, and urban flooding are considered to be flooding as a result of storm water from heavy precipitation thunderstorms. Areas that have been historically susceptible to flooding include the following:

- **Backwater Flooding** – The area along River Ridge road is susceptible to backwater flooding from Bayou Manchac and Alligator Bayou. The areas along Bayou Manchac near Camp Drive and Manchac Acres Drive are susceptible to backwater flooding from the Amite River.

- **Riverine Flooding** – In Ascension Parish, the New River, Amite River, and Comite River generate the greatest flooding concern. The flood of 1995 flooded 402 homes, and the Amite and Comite Rivers reached flood stage.

- **Storm Surge** – Ascension Parish is affected indirectly when storm surge enters Lake Pontchartrain and Lake Maurepas. The easternmost water drainage systems in Ascension Parish cannot drain into Lake Maurepas when storm surge has raised water levels. When the lakes experience storm surge, Ascension Parish is vulnerable to backwater flooding. This type of event occurred during Hurricane Rita. Storm surge events primarily affect Sorrento and areas in the parish to the east and south as these locations are lower in elevation and closer to Lake Maurepas.

Based on stream gauge levels and precipitation forecasts, the National Weather Service (NWS) posts flood statements, watches, and warnings. The NWS issues the following weather statements with regard to flooding:

- **Flood Categories**
  - Minor Flooding: Minimal or no property damage, but possibly some public threat.
  - Moderate Flooding: Some inundation of structures and roads near streams. Some evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher elevations.
  - Major Flooding: Extensive inundation of structures and roads. Significant evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher elevations.
  - Record Flooding: Flooding which equals or exceeds the highest stage or discharge at a given site during the period of record keeping.

- **Flood Warning**
  - Issued along larger streams when there is a serious threat to life or property.

- **Flood Watch**
  - Issued when current and developing hydrometeorological conditions are such that there is a threat of flooding, but the occurrence is neither certain nor imminent.

Floods are measured mainly by probability of occurrence. A 10-year flood event, for example, is an event of small magnitude (in terms of stream flow or precipitation) but with a relatively high annual probability of recurrence (10%). A 100-year flood event is larger in magnitude, but it has a smaller chance of recurrence (1%). A 500-year flood is significantly larger than both a 100-year event and a 10-year event, but it has a lower probability than both to occur in any given year (0.2%). It is important to understand that an X-year flood event does not mean an event of that magnitude occurs only once in X years. Instead, it means that on average, we can expect a flood event of that magnitude to occur once every X years. Given that such statistical probability terms are inherently difficult for the general population to understand, the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) promotes the use of more tangible expressions of flood probability. As such, the ASFPM also expresses the 100-year flood event as having a 25% chance of occurring over the life of a 30-year mortgage.

It is essential to understand that the magnitude of an X-year flood event for a particular area depends on the source of flooding and the area's location. The size of a specific flood event is defined through historic data of precipitation, flow, and discharge rates. Consequently, different 100-year flood events can have very different impacts. The 100-year flood event in two separate locations have the same likelihood to occur, but they do not necessarily have the same magnitude. For example, a 100-year event for the Mississippi River means something completely different in terms of discharge values (ft^3/s) than for the Amite River. Not only are the magnitudes of 100-year events different between rivers, they can be different along any given river. A 100-year event upstream is different from one downstream due to the change of river characteristics (volume, discharge, and topography). As a result, the definition of what constitutes a 100-year flood event is specific to each location, river, and time, since floodplain and river characteristics change over time. Finally, it is important to note that each flood event is unique. Two hypothetical events at the same location, given the same magnitude of stream flow, may still produce substantially different impacts if there were different antecedent moisture characteristics, different times of day of occurrence (which indicates the population's probable activities at the flood's onset), or other characteristic differences.

The 100-year flood event is of particular significance since it is the regulatory standard that determines the obligation (or lack thereof) to purchase flood insurance. Flood insurance premiums are set depending on the flood zone, as modeled by National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Rate Maps. The NFIP and FEMA suggest insurance rates based on Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs), as diagrammed in *Figure 2-13* on the next page.

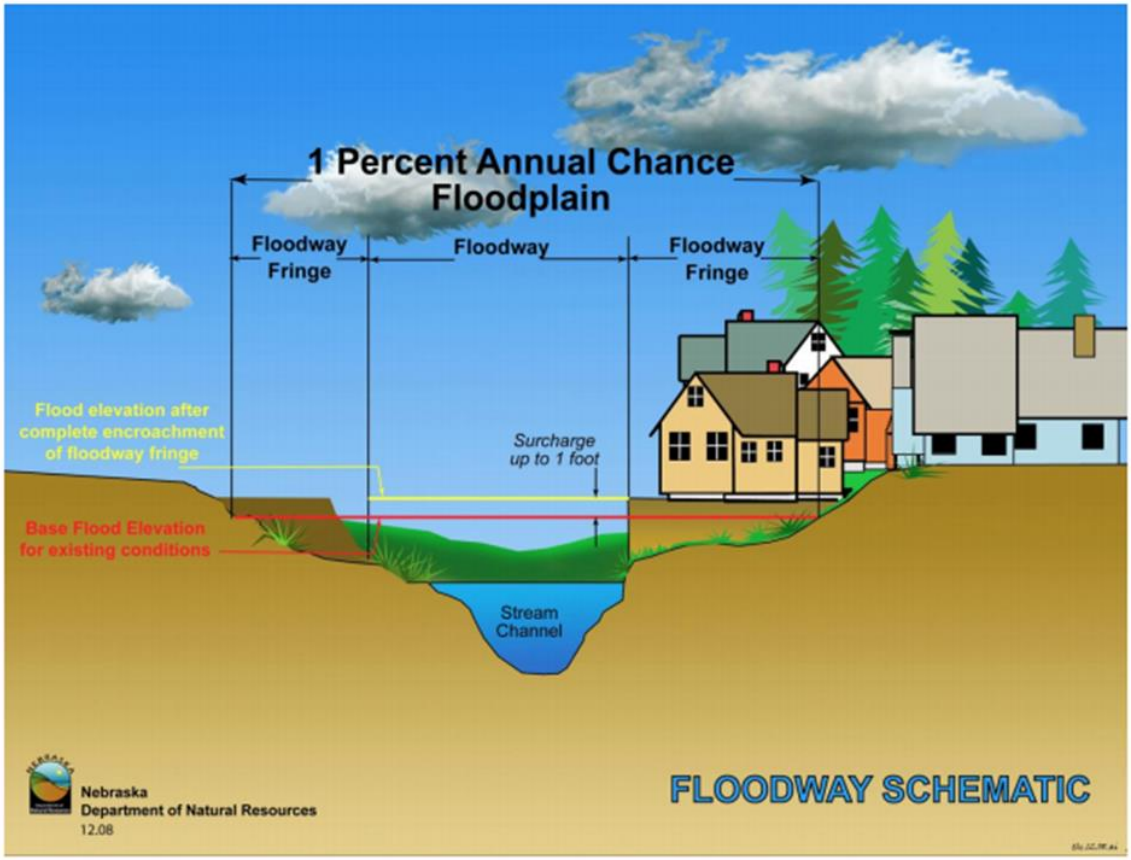

Figure 2-13: Schematic of 100-year Floodplain. The Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) extends to the end of the floodway fringe.
(Source: Nebraska Department of Natural Resources)

A SFHA is the land area covered by the floodwaters of the base flood (red line in *Figure 2-13*), where the NFIP's floodplain management regulations must be enforced and the area where the mandatory purchase of flood insurance applies.

Property Damage

The depth and velocity of flood waters are the major variables in determining property damage. Flood velocity is important because the faster water moves, the more pressure it puts on a structure and the more it will erode stream banks and scour the earth around a building's foundation. In some situations, deep and fast moving waters can push a building off its foundation. Structural damage can also be caused by the weight of standing water (hydrostatic pressure).

Another threat to property from a flood is called "soaking". When soaked, many materials change their composition or shape. Wet wood will swell, and if dried too quickly, will crack, split, or warp. Plywood can come apart and gypsum wallboard can deteriorate if it is bumped before it has time to completely dry. The longer these materials are saturated, the more moisture, sediment, and pollutants they absorb.

Soaking can also cause extensive damage to household goods. Wooden furniture may become warped, making it unusable, while other furnishings such as books, carpeting, mattresses, and upholstery usually are not salvageable. Electrical appliances and gasoline engines will flood, making them worthless until they are professionally dried and cleaned.

Many buildings that have succumbed to flood waters may look sound and unharmed after a flood, but water has the potential to cause severe property damage. Any structure that experiences a flood should be stripped, cleaned, and allowed to dry before being reconstructed. This can be an extremely expensive and time consuming effort.

Repetitive Loss Properties

Repetitive loss structures are structures covered by a contract for flood insurance made available under the NFIP that:

a. Have incurred flood-related damage on two occasions, in which the cost of the repair, on average, equaled or exceeded 25 percent of the market value of the structure at the time of each such flood event; and
b. At the time of the second incidence of flood-related damage, the contract for flood insurance contains increased cost of compliance coverage.

Severe repetitive loss (SRL) is defined by the Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004 and updated in the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012. For a property to be designated SRL, the following criteria must be met:

a. It is covered under a contract for flood insurance made available under the NFIP; and
b. It has incurred flood related damage –
    1) For which four or more separate claims payments have been made under flood insurance coverage with the amount of each claim exceeding $5,000 and with the cumulative amount of such claims payments exceeding $20,000; or
    2) For which at least two separate claims payments have been made under such coverage, with the cumulative amount of such claims exceeding the market value of the insured structure.

Figures regarding repetitive loss structures for Ascension Parish are provided in the table below:

Table 2-12: Repetitive Loss Structures for Ascension Parish

Jurisdiction	Number of Structures	Residential	Commercial	Government	Total Claims	Total Claims Paid	Average Claim Paid
Unincorporated Ascension	216	210	6	0	744	$12,008,727	$16,140
Donaldsonville	1	1	0	0	2	$22,805	$11,402
Gonzales	35	33	2	0	125	$1,303,477	$10,428
Sorrento	1	1	0	0	2	$56,509	$28,254
Ascension Parish Total	**253**	**245**	**8**	**0**	**873**	**$13,391,518**	**$15,339**

Of the 253 repetitive loss properties, 249 were able to be geocoded in order to provide an overview of where the repetitive loss structures are located throughout the parish. *Figure 2-14* shows the approximate location of the 249 structures, while *Figure 2-15* shows where the highest concentration of repetitive loss structures are located. Through the density map, it is clear the primary concentrated area of repetitive loss structures is focused in northern area of Ascension Parish near Prairieville where flooding is a function of river and backwater flooding especially from the Amite and Comite Rivers along with Bayou

Manchac and Alligator Bayou. The area around Gonzales has a topography that ranges from 5 to 10 feet in elevation and it experiences riverine flooding from the New River, as well as problems from stormwater and inland drainage issues.

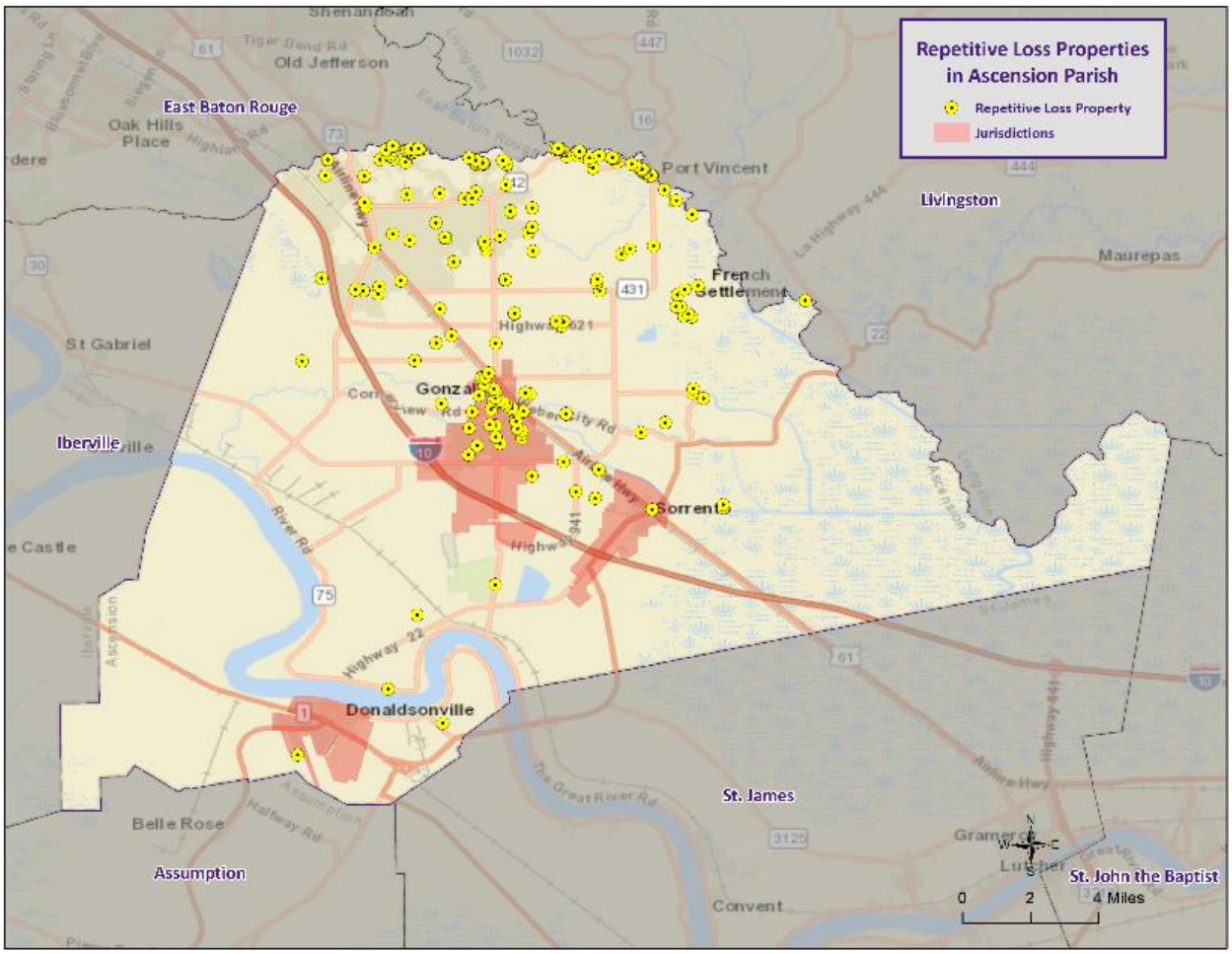

Figure 2-14: Repetitive Loss Properties in Ascension Parish.

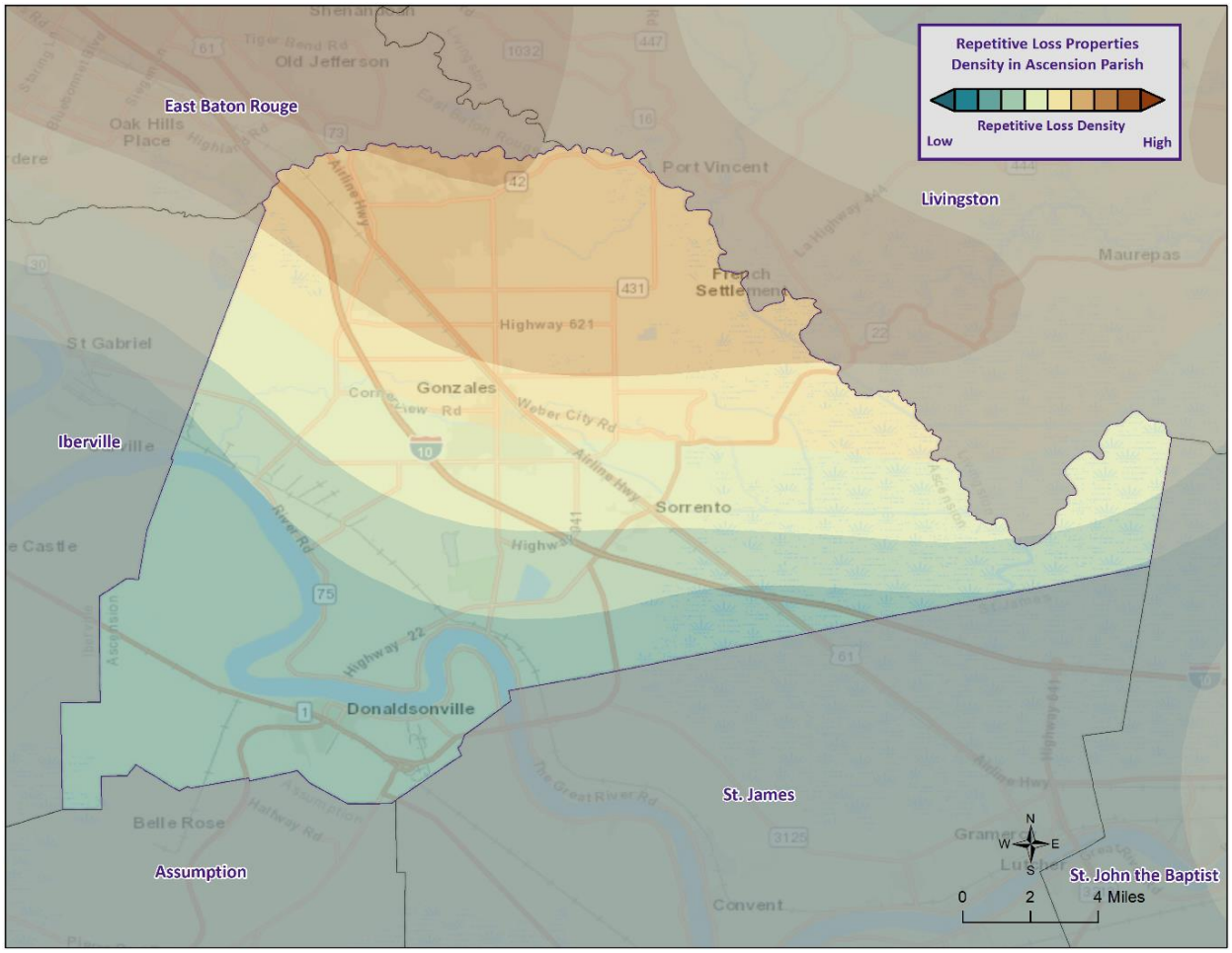

Figure 2-15: Repetitive Loss Property Densities in Ascension Parish.

National Flood Insurance Program

Flood insurance statistics indicate that Ascension Parish has 15,662 flood insurance policies with the NFIP, with total insurance coverage of $4,282,050,500. Ascension Parish and the jurisdictions of Donaldsonville, Gonzales, and Sorrento are participants in the NFIP. Ascension Parish and the jurisdictions of Donaldsonville, Gonzales, and Sorrento will continue to adopt and enforce floodplain management requirements, including regulating new construction Special Flood Hazard Areas, and will continue to monitor activities including local requests for new map updates. Flood insurance statistics and additional NFIP participation details for Ascension Parish is provided in the tables to follow.

Table 2-13: Summary of NFIP Policies for Ascension Parish.

Location	No. of Insured Structures	Total Insurance Coverage Value
Ascension Parish	13,767	$3,789,658,400
Donaldsonville	250	$73,057,100
Gonzales	1,345	$362,808,800
Sorrento	300	$56,526,200
Total	**15,662**	**$4,282,050,500**

Table 2-14: Summary of Community Flood Maps for Ascension Parish.

CID	Community Name	Initial FHBM Identified	Initial FIRM Identified	Current Effective Map Date	Date Joined the NFIP	Tribal
220013#	Ascension Parish	12/12/78	09/02/81	08/16/07	09/02/81	No
220014#	Donaldsonville	06/07/74	05/15/80	08/16/07	05/15/80	No
220015#	Gonzales	09/14/73	08/16/82	08/16/07 (M)	08/16/82	No
220016#	Sorrento	06/28/74	06/01/78	08/16/07	06/01/78	No

According to the Community Rating System (CRS) list of eligible communities dated May 1, 2019, Ascension Parish and the jurisdictions of Gonzales and Sorrento all participate in the Community Rating System. The jurisdiction of Donaldsonville does not participate in the Community Rating Center.

Table 2-15: Summary of Jurisdictions Participating in the Community Rating System.

CID	Community Name	CRS Entry Date	Current Effective Date	Current Class	% Discount for SFHA	%Discount for Non SFHA	Status
220013#	Ascension Parish	10/1/92	5/1/08	8	10	5	C
220015#	Gonzales	10/1/92	5/1/12	8	10	5	C
220016#	Sorrento	10/1/92	5/1/08	9	5	5	C

Threat to People

Just as with property damage, depth and velocity are major factors in determining the threat posed to people by flooding. It takes very little depth or velocity for flood waters to become dangerous. A car will float in less than two feet of moving water, and can be swept downstream into deeper waters, trapping passengers within the vehicle. Victims of floods have often put themselves in perilous situations by entering flood waters that they believe to be safe, or by ignoring travel advisories.

Major health concerns are also associated with floods. Flood waters can transport materials such as dirt, oil, animal waste, and chemicals (e.g., farm, lawn, and industrial) that may cause illnesses of various degrees when coming in contact with humans. Flood waters can also infiltrate sewer lines and inundate wastewater treatment plants, causing sewage to backup and creating a breeding ground for dangerous bacteria. This infiltration may also cause water supplies to become contaminated and undrinkable.

Flooding in Ascension Parish

By definition, flooding is caused when an area receives more water than the drainage system can convey. The following is a synopsis of the types of flooding that Ascension Parish experiences.

Flash Floods: Flash floods are characterized by a rapid rise in water level, high velocity, and large amounts of debris. They are capable of uprooting trees, undermining buildings and bridges, and scouring new channels. Major factors in flash flooding are the high intensity and short duration of rainfall, as well as the steepness of watershed and stream gradients.

Local Drainage or High Groundwater Levels: Locally heavy precipitation may produce flooding in areas other than delineated floodplains or along recognizable drainage channels. If local conditions cannot

accommodate intense precipitation through a combination of infiltration and surface runoff, water may accumulate and cause flooding problems.

Backwater Flooding: Backwater flooding is normally associated with riverine flooding and connotes minimal velocity. All low-lying areas are at risk. A heavy rainfall event coupled with a swollen river, canal, bayou, or marsh hinders drainage outflow, causing backwater flooding to the same areas susceptible to storm surge.

Riverine Flooding: Riverine flooding, by definition, is river-based. Most of the riverine flooding problems occur when the Amite River or Comite River crests at flood stage levels, causing extensive flooding in low-lying areas.

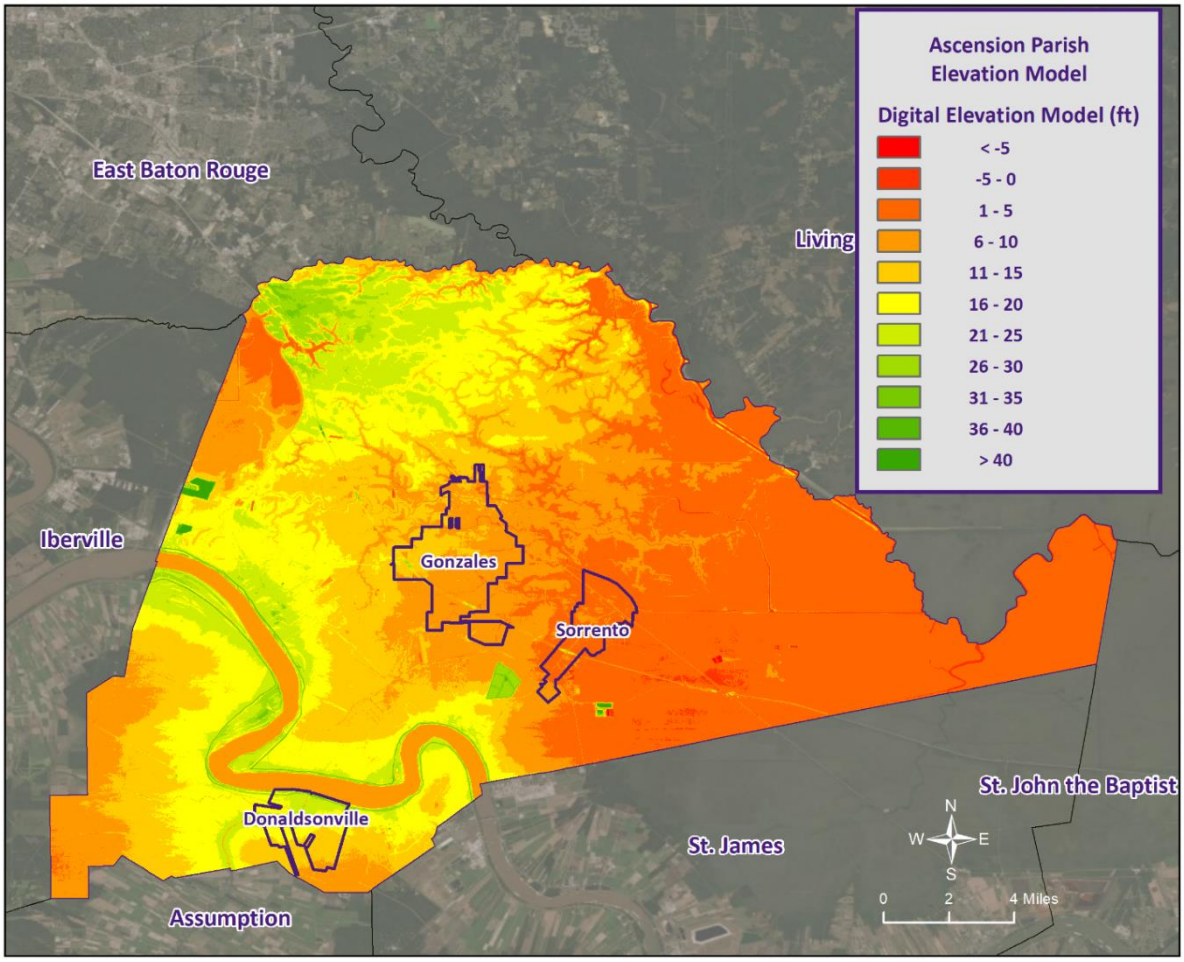

Figure 2-16: Elevation throughout Ascension Parish.

The digital elevation model (DEM) in the figure above for Ascension Parish is instructive in visualizing where the low-lying and high-risk areas are for the parish. The Ascension Parish DEM, which is based on LIDAR captured by FEMA as part of a hazard mitigation project, shows that the elevations in the eastern third of the parish is five feet and under with some areas below one foot. Another low-lying area is also located in the northwestern part of the parish near Bayou Manchac. The town of Sorrento is adjacent to low lying areas as are the unincorporated communities of Brittany, St. Amant, and Acy, north of Sorrento, and the unincorporated community of Lake in the northeastern part of the parish. Areas at higher elevations (5 to 10 feet and areas above 10 feet) represent the western two-thirds of the parish and contain much of the residential, commercial, and industrial development in the parish.

Location

Ascension Parish has experienced significant flooding in its history and can expect more in the future. Areas east of the Mississippi River have a tendency to be more susceptible to flooding. The best indication of areas that are at risk of flooding can be found in the 100-year flood plain map for Ascension Parish seen in the figure below. Additionally, enlarged maps of the three incorporated areas show the areas within each jurisdiction that are at risk to flooding.

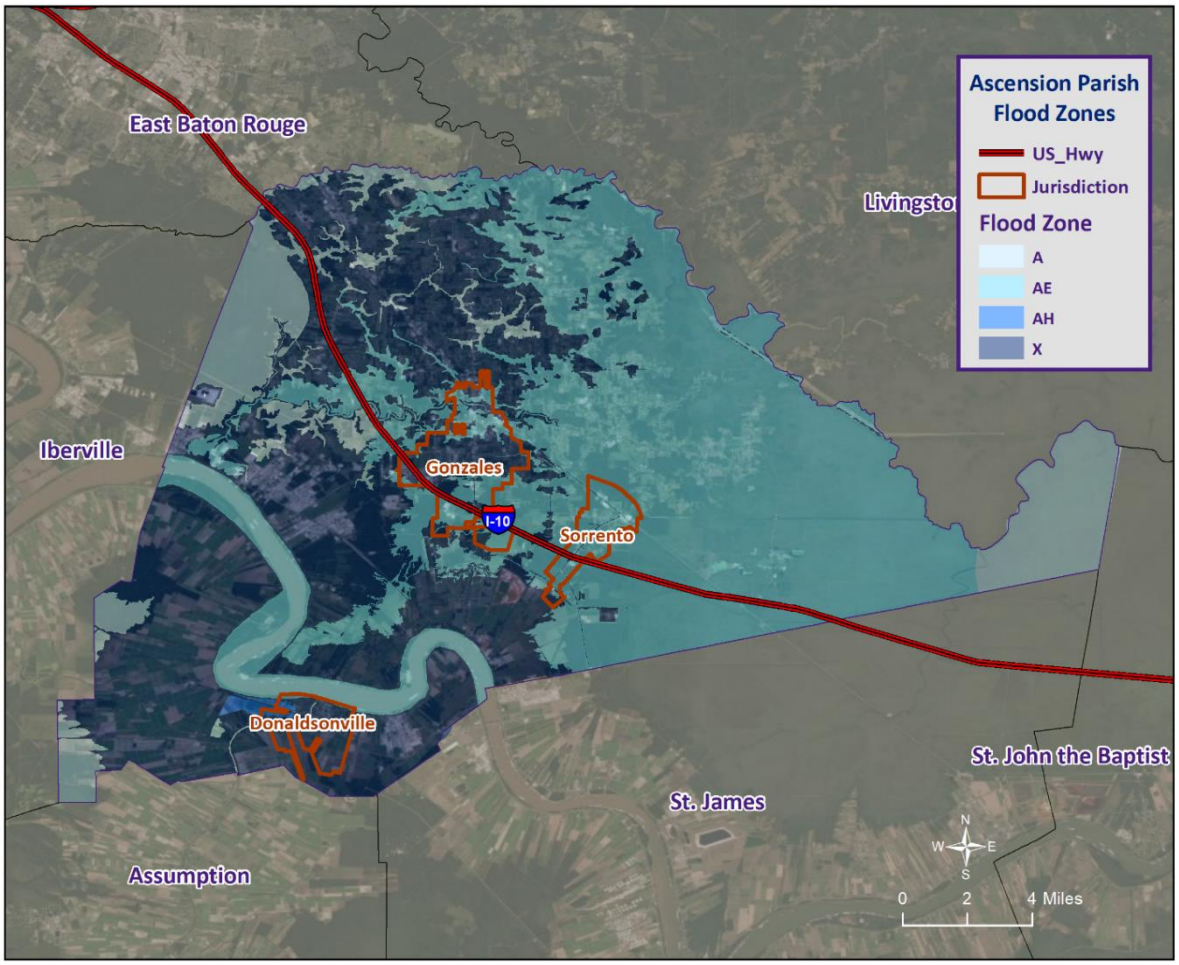

Figure 2-17: Ascension Parish Areas within the Flood Zones.

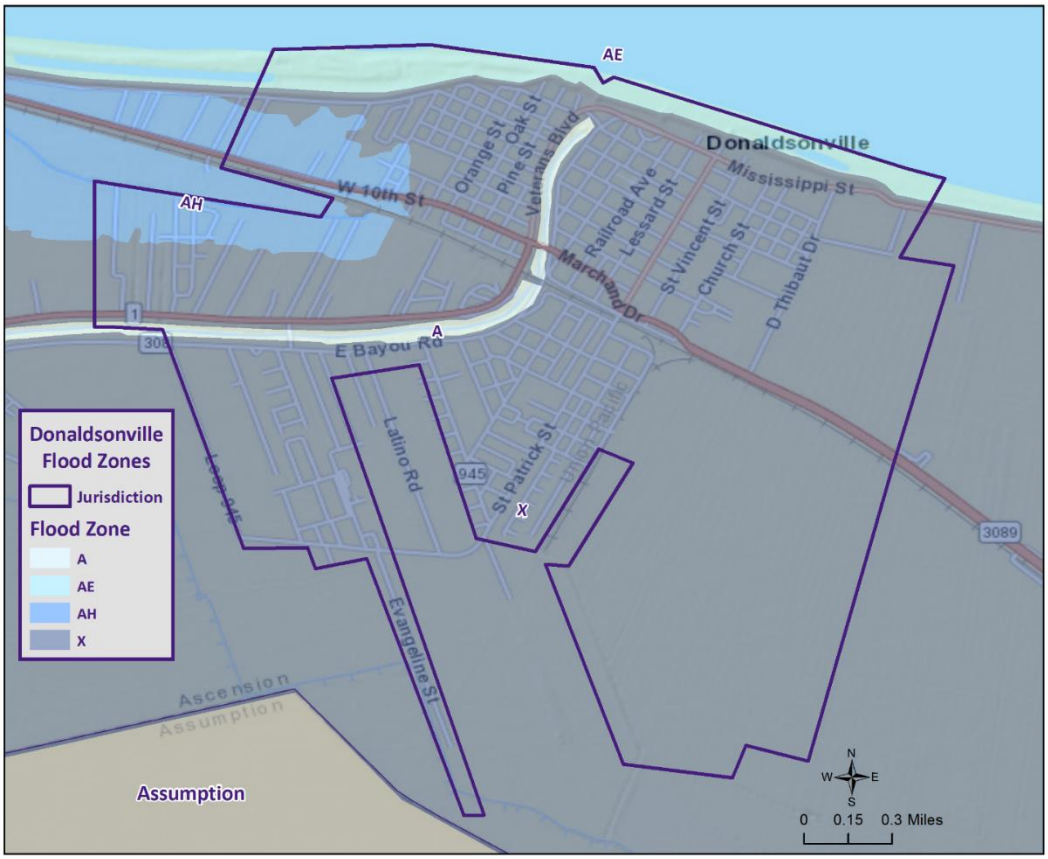

Figure 2-18: Donaldsonville Areas within the Flood Zones.

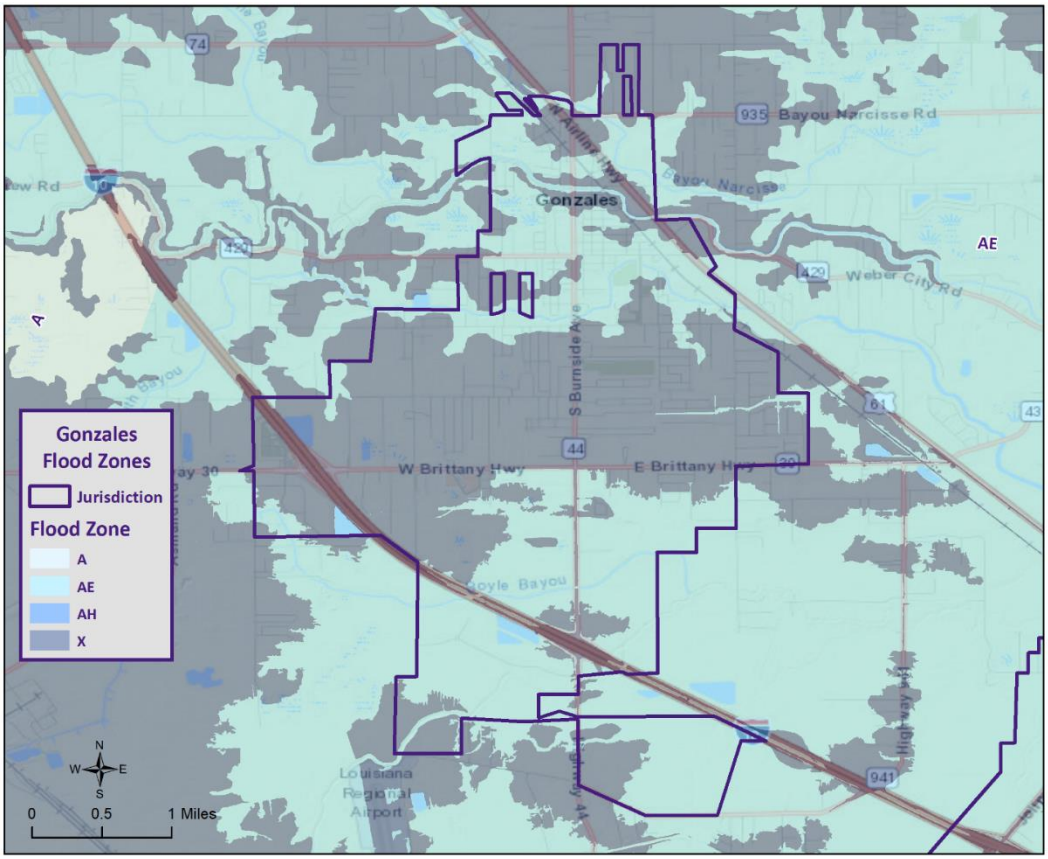

Figure 2-19: Gonzales Areas within the Flood Zones.

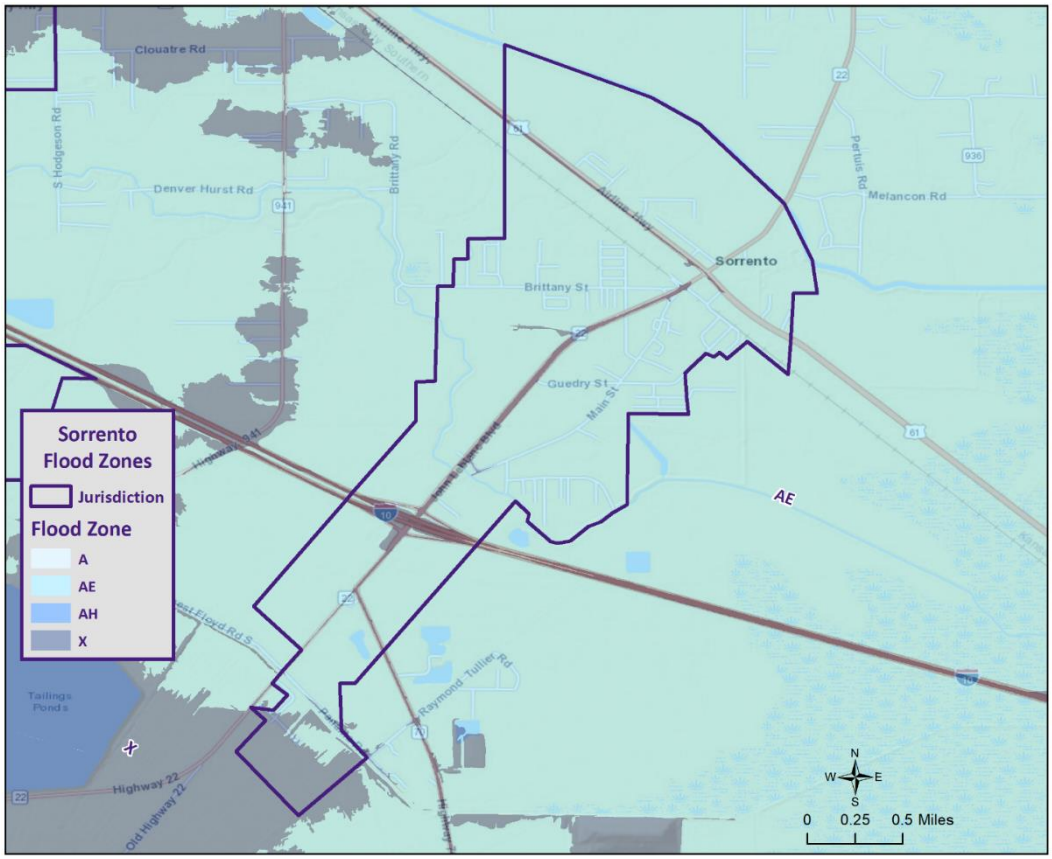

Figure 2-20: Sorrento Areas within the Flood Zones.

Previous Occurrences / Extents

Historically, there have been 16 flooding events that have created significant flooding in Ascension Parish between 1996 and 2019. The next page contains a brief synopsis of the three flooding events that have occurred since the last Ascension Parish HMP Update in 2015.

Table 2-16: Historical Floods in Ascension Parish with Locations since the 2015 Ascension Parish HMP Update.

Date	Extents	Type of Flooding	Estimated Damages	Location
August 11, 2016	Five to seven inches of rain fell over a five hour period across Ascension Parish leading to flash flooding throughout Donaldsonville, Darrow, Aben, Burnside, and Sorrento. Numerous roads were closed and four homes were damaged in Donaldsonville.	Flash Flood	$120,000	Donaldsonville, Sorrento, and Unincorporated Area
August 12, 2016	Six to eight inches of rain fell on already saturated ground leading to widespread flash floods. Around 75 roads were closed due to high water. Approximately 16,000 homes and businesses suffered varying degrees of damage.	Flash Flood	$460,000,000	Ascension Parish

Date	Extents	Type of Flooding	Estimated Damages	Location
August 13, 2016	As water from two days of heavy rain across the parish and upstream drained in the Amite River, record levels were recorded and the water in the river flowed back upstream. Flooding for this event far exceeded the 1% annual risk flood plain.	Flood	$1,700,000,000	Ascension Parish

The worst-case scenarios are based on historical flooding events. Storm water excesses and riverine flooding primarily affect the low-lying areas of the parish, and flood depths of up to six feet can be expected in the unincorporated area of Ascension Parish. Flood depths of approximately 4 to 7 feet can be expected in Sorrento and Gonzales with flood depths of approximately 5 feet in the Donaldsonville.

Frequency / Probability

The NCEI Storm Events Database identified 16 flooding events within the Ascension Parish planning area since 1996. The table below shows the probability and return frequency for each jurisdiction.

Table 2-17: Annual Flood Probabilities for Ascension Parish.

Jurisdiction	Annual Probability	Return Frequency
Ascension Parish (Unincorporated)	24%	1 event every 4 to 5 years
Donaldsonville	24%	1 event every 4 to 5 years
Gonzales	20%	1 event every 5 years
Sorrento	20%	1 event every 5 years

Based on historical record, the overall flooding probability for the unincorporated area of Ascension Parish is 24% with 16 events occurring over a 24-year period. The probability for flooding for Donaldsonville is 24% followed by Gonzales and Sorrento at 20%

Estimated Potential Losses

Using the Hazus Flood Model, the 100-year flood scenario, along with the Parish DFIRM, was analyzed to determine losses from this worst-case scenario. *Table 2-18* shows the total economic losses that would result from this occurrence.

Table 2-18: Estimated Losses in Ascension Parish from a 100-year Flood Event. (Source: Hazus)

Jurisdiction	Estimated Total Losses from 100-Year Flood Event
Ascension Parish (Unincorporated)	$1,321,269,000
Donaldsonville	$21,187,000
Gonzales	$27,268,000
Sorrento	$16,556,000
Total	**$1,386,280,000**

The Hazus Flood model also provides a breakdown for seven primary sectors (Hazus occupancy) throughout the parish. The losses for Ascension Parish by sector are listed in the following table:

Table 2-19: Estimated 100-year Flood Losses for the Unincorporated Area of Ascension Parish by Sector. (Source: Hazus)

Ascension Parish (Unincorporated)	Estimated Total Losses from 100-Year Flood Event
Agricultural	$509,000
Commercial	$75,213,000
Government	$6,264,000
Industrial	$62,487,000
Religious / Non-Profit	$5,348,000
Residential	$1,168,037,000
Schools	$3,411,000
Total	**$1,321,269,000**

Table 2-20: Estimated 100-year Flood Losses for Donaldsonville by Sector. (Source: Hazus)

Donaldsonville	Estimated Total Losses from 100-Year Flood Event
Agricultural	$0
Commercial	$5,141,000
Government	$479,000
Industrial	$716,000
Religious / Non-Profit	$1,199,000
Residential	$11,541,000
Schools	$2,111,000
Total	**$21,187,000**

Table 2-21: Estimated 100-year Flood Losses for Gonzales by Sector. (Source: Hazus)

Gonzales	Estimated Total Losses from 100-Year Flood Event
Agricultural	$169,000
Commercial	$5,114,000
Government	$613,000
Industrial	$1,457,000
Religious / Non-Profit	$1,111,000
Residential	$17,913,000
Schools	$891,000
Total	**$27,268,000**

Table 2-22: Estimated 100-year Flood Losses for Sorrento by Sector.
(Source: Hazus)

Sorrento	Estimated Total Losses from 100-Year Flood Event
Agricultural	$11,000
Commercial	$1,331,000
Government	$455,000
Industrial	$751,000
Religious / Non-Profit	$89,000
Residential	$13,919,000
Schools	$0
Total	**$16,556,000**

Threat to People

The total population within the parish that is susceptible to a flood hazard is shown in the table below:

Table 2-23: Vulnerable Populations Susceptible to a 100-year Flood Event.
(Source: Hazus)

Number of People Exposed to Flood Hazards			
Location	**# in Community**	**# in Hazard Area**	**% in Hazard Area**
Ascension Parish (Unincorporated)	88,597	63,806	72.0%
Donaldsonville	7,436	4,221	56.8%
Gonzales	9,781	5,113	52.3%
Sorrento	1,401	977	69.7%
Total	**107,215**	**74,117**	**69.1%**

The Hazus flood model was also extrapolated to provide an overview of vulnerable populations throughout the jurisdictions in the following tables:

Table 2-24: Vulnerable Populations Susceptible to a 100-year Flood Event in the Unincorporated Area of Ascension Parish.
(Source: Hazus)

Ascension Parish (Unincorporated)		
Category	**Total Numbers**	**Percentage of People in Hazard Area**
Number in Hazard Area	63,806	72.0%
Persons Under 5 Years	4,996	7.8%
Persons Under 18 Years	13,310	20.9%
Persons 65 Years and Over	5,653	8.9%
White	46,757	73.3%
Minority	17,049	26.7%

Table 2-25: Vulnerable Populations Susceptible to a 100-year Flood Event in Donaldsonville. (Source: Hazus)

Donaldsonville		
Category	**Total Numbers**	**Percentage of People in Hazard Area**
Number in Hazard Area	4,221	56.8%
Persons Under 5 Years	383	9.1%
Persons Under 18 Years	853	20.2%
Persons 65 Years and Over	543	12.9%
White	967	22.9%
Minority	3,254	77.1%

Table 2-26: Vulnerable Populations Susceptible to a 100-year Flood Event in Gonzales. (Source: Hazus)

Gonzales		
Category	**Total Numbers**	**Percentage of People in Hazard Area**
Number in Hazard Area	5,113	52.3%
Persons Under 5 Years	364	7.1%
Persons Under 18 Years	927	18.1%
Persons 65 Years and Over	624	12.2%
White	2,495	48.8%
Minority	2,618	51.2%

Table 2-27: Vulnerable Populations Susceptible to a 100-year Flood Event in Sorrento. (Source: Hazus)

Sorrento		
Category	**Total Numbers**	**Percentage of People in Hazard Area**
Number in Hazard Area	977	69.7%
Persons Under 5 Years	68	7.0%
Persons Under 18 Years	187	19.1%
Persons 65 Years and Over	123	12.6%
White	792	81.1%
Minority	185	18.9%

Vulnerability

See Appendix C for parish and municipality buildings that are susceptible to flooding due to proximity within the 100-year flood plain.

Levee Failure

Levees and floodwalls are flood control barriers constructed of earth, concrete, or other materials. For the purposes of this plan, levees are distinguished from smaller flood barriers (such as berms) by their size and extent. Berms are barriers that only protect a small number of structures, or at times only a single structure. Levees and floodwalls are barriers that protect significant areas of residential, commercial, or industrial development; at a minimum, they protect a neighborhood or small community. Levee failure involves the overtopping, breach, or collapse of the levee. Levee failure is especially destructive to nearby development during flood and hurricane events.

The northern half of Louisiana is protected by levees on the Ouachita River, under the authority of the Vicksburg District of the United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE). The Vicksburg District encompasses 68,000 mi^2 in the states of Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana. They manage seven drainage basins, including the Yazoo, Pearl, Big Black, Red, Ouachita, and Mississippi Rivers; 12 locks and dams on the Pearl, Red, and Ouachita Rivers; 1,808 miles of levees, including 468 miles along the Mississippi River; and multiple lakes with 1,709 miles of shoreline.

Coastal and southern Louisiana are protected by an extensive levee system under the authority of the New Orleans District of the USACE. This system includes 30,000 mi^2 of Louisiana south of Alexandria, including 961 miles of river levees in the Mississippi River and Tributaries Project, 449 miles of river levees in the Atchafalaya Basin, and 340 miles of hurricane-protection levees. Other levees have been built along stretches of rivers throughout Louisiana by local levee districts and private citizens. The data regarding these non-federal levees are managed by the individual entity responsible for construction and subsequent maintenance and are not kept in a consistent format for comprehensive hazard analysis.

The effects of a levee failure on property is similar to that of a flood, as discussed in the flooding section. One major difference is that the velocity of the water is increased in the area of the breach, so the potential for property damage is higher in these areas.

A levee failure occurs during high water events, so the populace is normally alerted to the potential danger. Levees are normally monitored during these events and the population in danger is alerted to a possible levee failure. However, if people consider themselves safe once a levee has been breached and do not evacuate, the results could be deadly.

The Mississippi River levee system is constantly monitored during high water events by federal, state, and parish officials. Any potential failure of the Mississippi River levee would be observed long before a failure took place. Once observed, it would be mitigated to prevent any failure in the levee. As a slowly developing hazard, there is significant lead time to warn and evacuate the population in the event of a potential failure. The more likely scenario involving a potential level failure would be an overtopping event for a major precipitation event taking place during a tropical cyclone, similar to Tropical Storm Allison in 2001. An event of this nature is less likely to produce an early warning and most likely to subject more people to flooding,

Location

Levees play a vital role in protecting Ascension Parish from flooding, particularly floods caused by tropical cyclones, but also rare occasions of Mississippi River flooding. Much of Ascension Parish is protected by a levee system. There are currently four levee alignments that exist within the parish:

- Mississippi River Levee (East and West Banks)
- Manchac Levee (Parish Maintained Levee)
- Sorrento Levee (Parish Maintained Levee)
- Laurel Ridge Levee (Parish Maintained Levee)

These levees are tested anytime a high water event such as a tropical cyclone or heavy rain storm occurs. The Federal and Parish levees located in Ascension Parish are shown in the following figures:

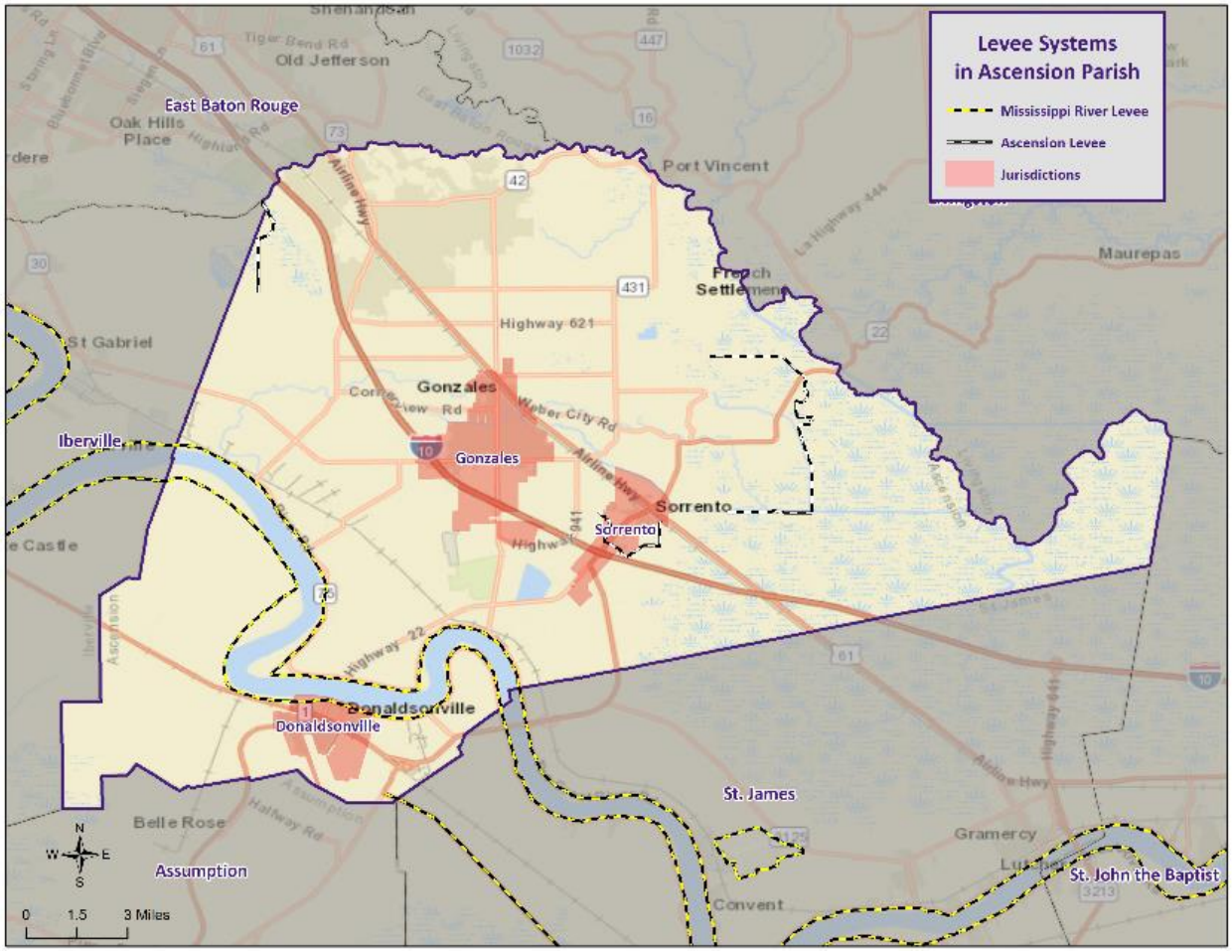

Figure 2-21: Locally and USACE Federally Constructed, Operated, and maintained Levees in Ascension Parish.

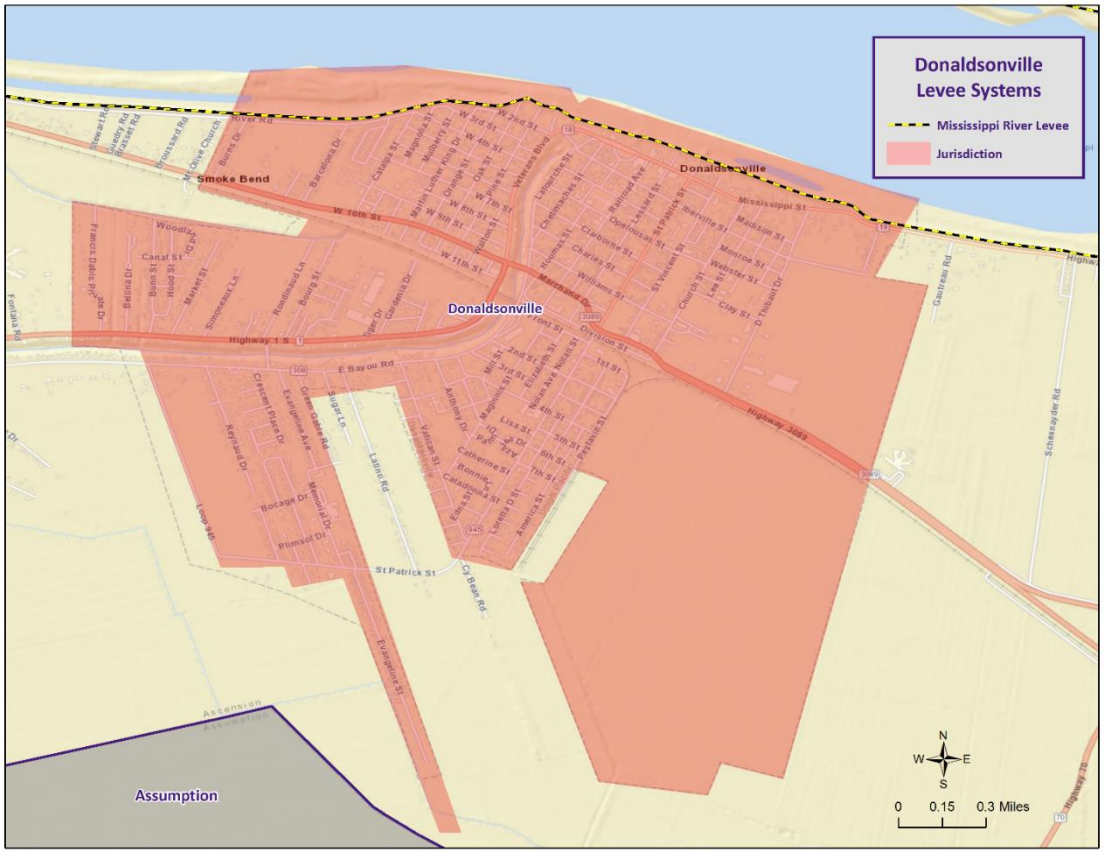

Figure 2-22: USACE Federally Constructed, Operated, and Maintained Levees in Donaldsonville.

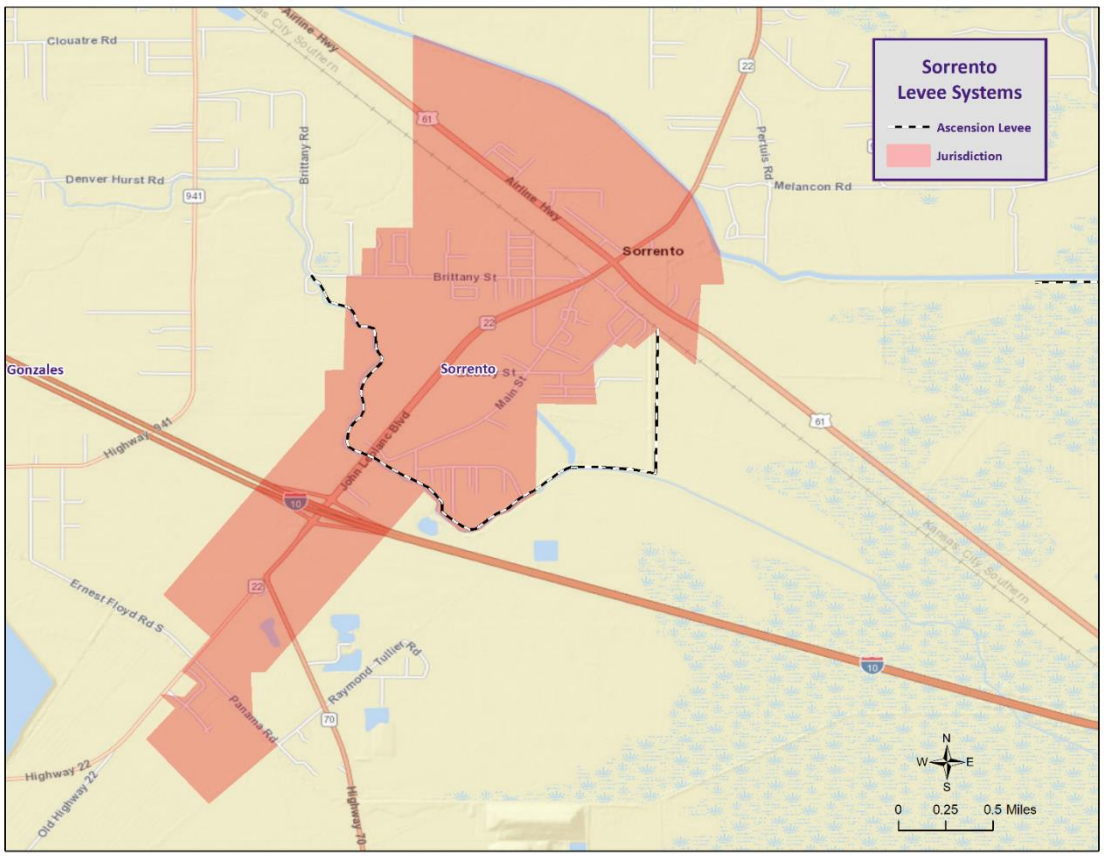

Figure 2-23: Locally Constructed, Operated, and Maintained Levees in Sorrento.

Previous Occurrences / Extents

The NCEI Storm Events Database does not record anthropogenic disasters such as levee failures; therefore, it was necessary to rely on local knowledge and media reports. Since the 2015 HMP Update, there has been one flooding incident due to the overtopping of a levee in Ascension Parish. In August of 2016, rising water from the Amite River overtopped the Laurel Ridge Levee in Ascension Parish. Gonzales and Sorrento both suffered significant flood damage due to the overtopping of the levee system. Additionally, the incorporated of Donaldsonville experiences visible seepage of the Mississippi River Levee system which is caused by the combination of high-water pressure and pervious material. As a worst-case scenario, the unincorporated area of Ascension Parish and Donaldsonville could expect to experience flood depths of 10 to 20 feet while the incorporated areas of Gonzales and Sorrento could expect to experience flood depths up to five feet.

Frequency / Probability

It is nearly impossible to predict and model levee failure and its impacts on Ascension Parish. Due to the unpredictability of levee failures, it is calculated that the probability of a levee failure is less than 1% annually for the unincorporated areas of Ascension Parish and the incorporated areas of Donaldsonville, Gonzales, and Sorrento.

Estimated Potential Loses

Determining the annualized loss as a result of levee failure is difficult in Ascension Parish due to availability of data on past levee failure events. The National Levee Database (NLD) was utilized to determine the levee systems within Ascension Parish, the risk level, and populace/infrastructure at risk. The NLD is a congressional authorized database that documents levees in the United States and is maintained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). The following table provides an extensive list of the levee systems in Ascension Parish with the risk associated with each system.

Table 2-28: Levee Systems and Risk Associated with each System in Ascension Parish and Surrounding Parishes.
(Source: National Levee Database)

System	Length (Miles)	People at Risk	Structures at Risk	Property Value at Risk	Overall Risk
Laurel Ridge System	2.74	5	2	$688,000	Not Screened
Mississippi River East Bank	107.13	429,480	178,847	$62.8B	High
Francois Bayou – Saveiro System	8.68	66	23	$6.41M	Not Screened
Mississippi River West Bank – Below Morganza	178.92	243,744	129,113	$20.2B	Moderate
Mississippi River – Lafourche Basin	58.33	73,459	36,223	$9.21B	Moderate
Sorrento SW System	0.83	0	0	$0	Not Screened
Sorrento System	2.45	851	315	$105M	Not Screened

Vulnerability

See Appendix C for parish and municipality building exposure to levee failures.

Sinkholes

Sinkholes are areas of ground—varying in size from a few square feet to hundreds of acres, and reaching in depth from 1 to more than 100 ft.—with no natural external surface drainage. Sinkholes are usually found in karst terrain—that is, areas where limestone, carbonate rock, salt beds, and other water-soluble rocks lie below the Earth's surface. Karst terrain is marked by the presence of other uncommon geologic features such as springs, caves, and dry streambeds that lose water into the ground. In general, sinkholes form gradually (in the case of cover subsidence sinkholes), but they can also occur suddenly (in the case of cover-collapse sinkholes).

Sinkhole formation is a very simple process. Whenever water is absorbed through soil, encounters water-soluble bedrock, and then begins to dissolve it, sinkholes start to form. The karst rock dissolves along cracks; as the fissures grow, soil and other particles fill the gaps, loosening the soil above the bedrock. Figure 1 illustrates the development of a cover subsidence sinkhole. As the soil sinks from the surface, a depression forms, which draws in more water, funneling it down to the water-soluble rock. The increase of water and soil in the rock pushes open the cracks, again drawing more soil and water into it. This positive feedback loop continues, unless clay plugs into the cracks in the bedrock, at which time a pond may form. A sudden cover-collapse sinkhole occurs when the topsoil above dissolving bedrock does not sink, but forms a bridge over the soil that is sinking beneath it. As Figure 2 demonstrates, underground soil continues to fill the bedrock fissures, until finally the soil bridge collapses and fills the void beneath it.

Both kinds of sinkholes can occur naturally or through human influence. While sinkholes tend to form naturally in karst areas, sinkholes can form in other geological areas that have been altered by humans such as mining, sewers, hydraulic fracture drilling, groundwater pumping, irrigation, or storage ponds. In all of these cases, and others, the cause for the sinkhole is that support for surface soil has been weakened or substantially removed.

In the United States, 20% of land in the United States is susceptible to sinkholes. Most of this area lies in Florida, Texas, Alabama, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Pennsylvania. In Louisiana, most of the sinkholes are precipitated by the human-influenced collapse of salt dome caverns. The collapse of a salt dome is usually a slow process; however, it may occur suddenly and without any advance warning.

Location

Currently, there are two identifiable salt dome locations in Ascension Parish and one salt dome whose two-mile radius crosses into Ascension Parish. On the next page, *Figure 2-24* displays the location of the salt domes. As depicted in *Figure 2-24*, the sink holes are located sporadically throughout Ascension Parish.

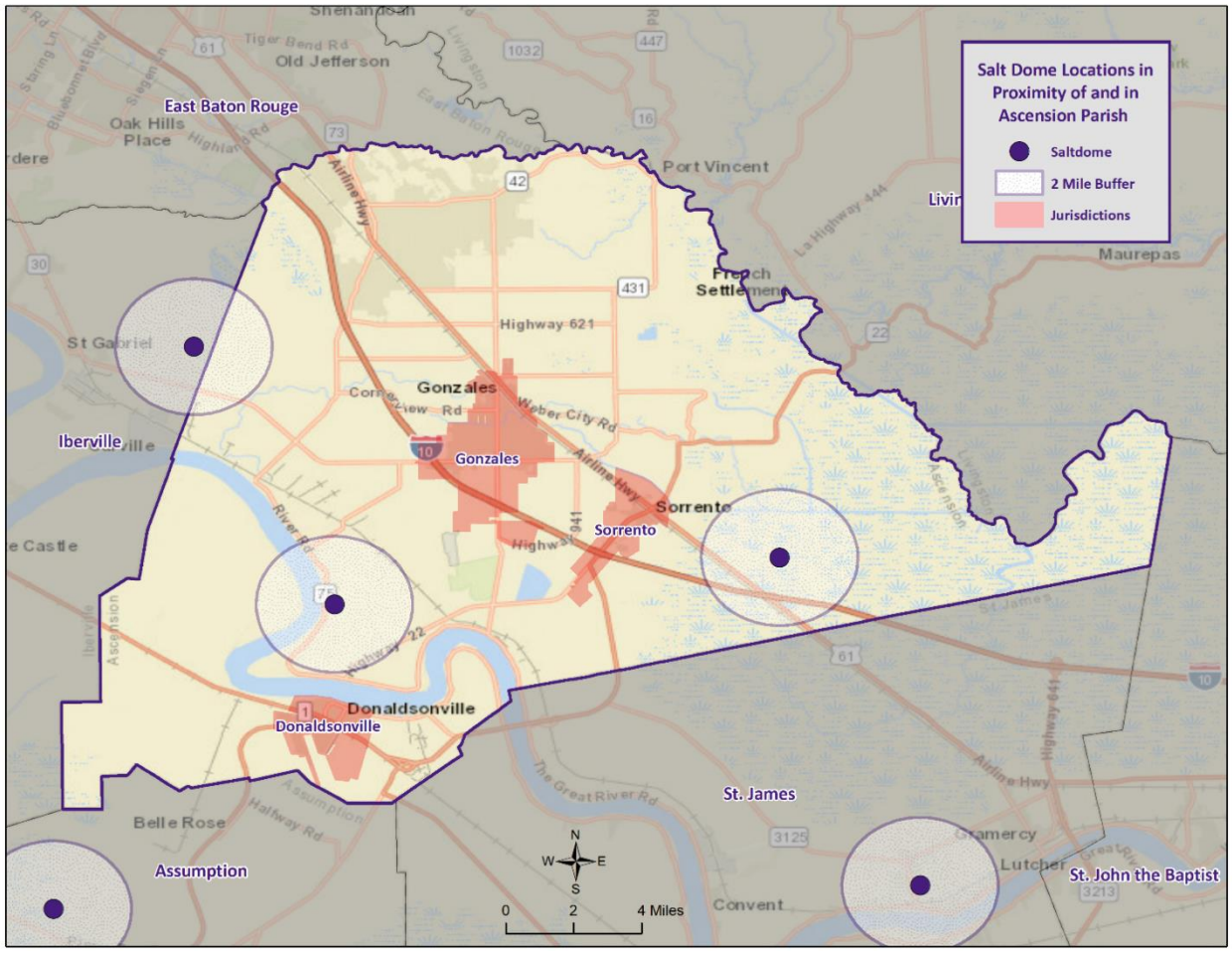

Figure 2-24: Salt Dome Locations in Ascension Parish.

Previous Occurrences / Extent

There have been no recorded incidents of sinkholes or salt dome collapses in Ascension Parish to date.

Frequency / Probability

Since there has been no recorded incidents of sinkhole or salt dome collapse in Ascension Parish, the annual chance of occurrence is calculated at less than 1% in the unincorporated areas of Ascension Parish. There are no salt dome locations located within the boundaries of the incorporated areas of Donaldsonville, Gonzales, or Sorrento.

Estimated Potential Losses

The salt domes were analyzed to determine the number of people and houses that are potentially susceptible to losses from a sink hole materializing from the salt dome. The following table is based on conducting a two-mile buffer around the center of the salt dome. The values were determined by querying the 2010 U.S. Census block data to determine the number of houses and people located within two miles of the salt dome. Critical facilities were also analyzed to determine if they fell within the two-mile buffer of the salt dome. Total value for all occupancy group from Hazus was used to estimate a total loss of all facilities that were within two miles of the salt domes. The Sorrento Salt Dome contained a total of nine camps with the remainder of the land undeveloped. The salt dome that poses the greatest risk is the Darrow Salt Dome which has a buffer that extends into two neighborhoods in Darrow and Modesto. There are also five commercial facilities along with several religious properties within the two-

mile buffer of the Darrow Salt Dome. The St. Gabriel Salt Dome, located in Iberville Parish, impacts Ascension Parish but has no built structures within the two-mile buffer. All parcels are owned and maintained by commercial industries with the lone exception being the St. Gabriel Wildlife Refuge & Botanical Gardens and Spanish Lake Restoration, LLC.

Table 2-29: Estimated Potential Losses from a Sinkhole Formation. (Source: U.S. 2010 Census Data and Hazus)

Salt Dome Name	Total Building Exposure	Critical Infrastructure Exposure	Number of People Exposed	Number of Houses Exposed
Sorrento Salt Dome	$375,470,000	0	0	9
Darrow Salt Dome	$1,333,370,000	0	186	57
St. Gabriel Salt Dome	$6,346,000	0	0	0

Due to the isolated locations of the salt domes, there is little to no risk to people with the exception being the Darrow Salt Dome. There are 199 people that are located within the two-mile buffer of the salt dome. While there are nine structures within a two-mile buffer of the Sorrento Salt Dome, these structures are camps and not permanent residences.

Vulnerability

See Appendix C for parish and municipality building exposure to a sinkhole hazard.

Subsidence

Subsidence is the sinking of land over time, as a result of natural and/or human-caused actions. Subsidence results from a number of factors, including:

- Compaction/consolidation of shallow strata caused by the weight of delta deposit from the Mississippi River, soil oxidation, and aquifer draw-down (shallow component)
- Consolidation of deeper strata (intermediate component)
- Tectonic effects (deep component)

The last element has only been recently quantified, and research indicates that it may account for 50% or more of subsidence.

Geology and soil type do not have a direct effect on subsidence rates. Other causes like human occupancy, buildings, infrastructure, oil and gas extraction, and lowering the water table due to groundwater extraction have much more of an effect. Human acceleration of natural processes through levying rivers, draining wetlands, dredging channels, and cutting canals through marshes exacerbates the subsidence hazard.

Subsidence has not been identified as a significant acute contributor to direct disaster damages in Louisiana. However, it is certainly one of the main drivers of land loss in Louisiana, and thus it dramatically increases flood risk—which is one of the most dangerous hazards the state faces. One of the very few hazard events to be documented as a direct result of subsidence is the appearance of sinkholes over a mining operation in Weeks Island. The repeated removal of underground materials (originally salt and later oil) resulted in the formation of a sinkhole in 1992. The Weeks Island facility was decommissioned as a result of this discovery.

The highest rate of subsidence is occurring at the Mississippi River Delta (estimated at greater than 3.5 ft./century). Subsidence rates tend to decrease inland, and they also vary across the coast. Subsidence creates three distinct problems in Louisiana:

- By lowering elevations in coastal Louisiana, subsidence accelerates the effects of saltwater intrusion and other factors that contribute to land loss
- By lowering elevations elsewhere in Louisiana, subsidence may make structures more vulnerable to flooding
- By destabilizing elevations in general, subsidence undermines the accuracy of surveying benchmarks (including those affecting levee heights, coastal restoration programs, surge modeling, BFEs, and other engineering inputs), which can contribute to additional flooding problems if construction occurs at lower elevations than anticipated or planned

Location

Subsidence in Ascension Parish occurs in very isolated patches mostly in the southern portions of the parish and in areas surrounding Lake Maurepas where swamp and inland coast wetland areas are prevalent. Due to its isolated nature, subsidence is only considered a risk in the unincorporated areas of Ascension Parish mainly in the southeastern portions of the parish. The following figure displays the land lost due to subsidence and also the land gained from the years 1932 to 2016 for Ascension Parish. The worst-case scenario for subsidence is an annual rate of subsidence of 10 mm per year in the unincorporated areas of the parish and 2 mm per year in the incorporated areas of Donaldsonville, Gonzales, and Sorrento.

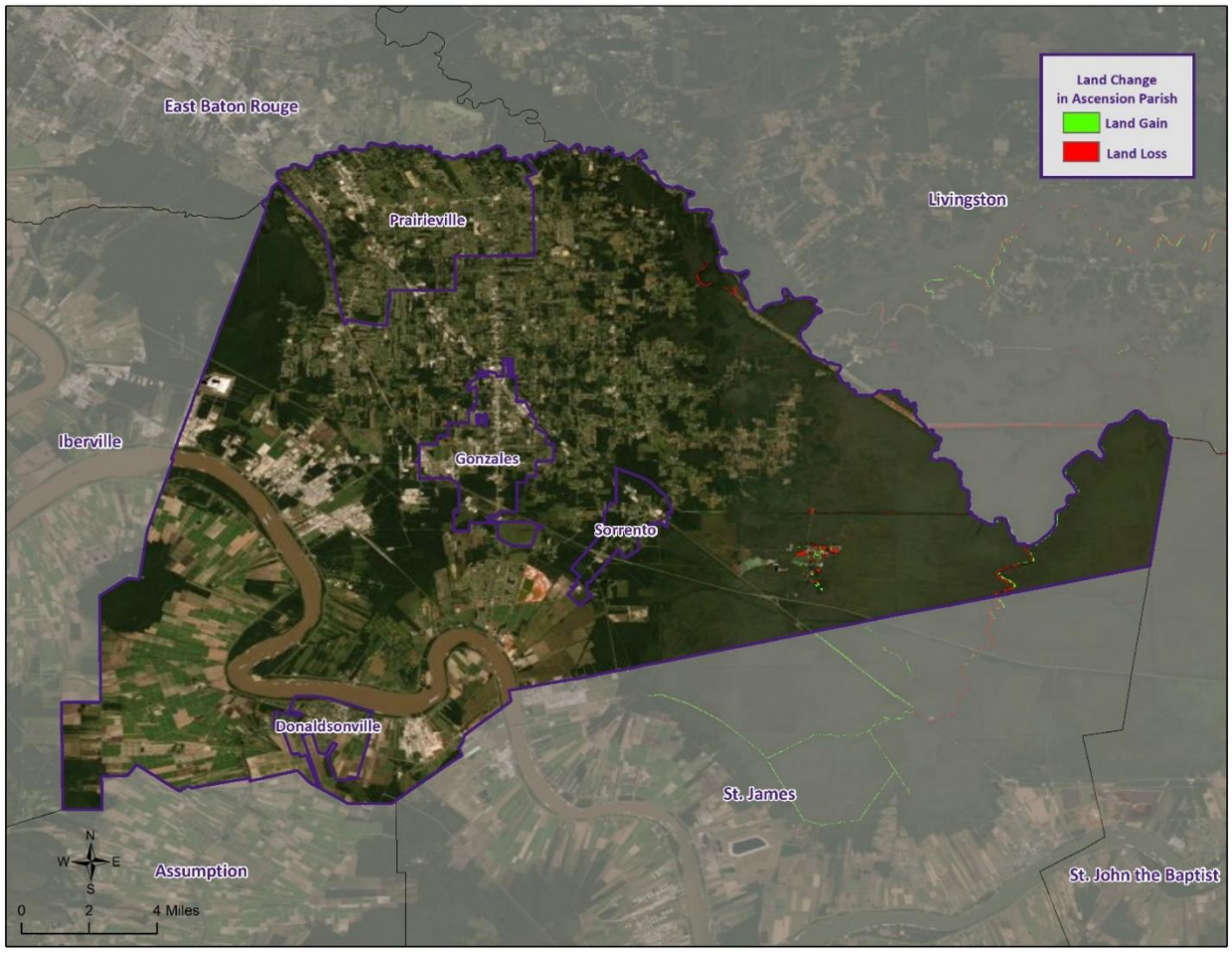

Figure 2-25: Ascension Parish Land Change from 1932 – 2016.

Previous Occurrences / Extent

For the most part, subsidence is a slow-acting process with effects that not as evident as hazards associated with a discrete event. Subsidence is considered to be a "creeping" hazard event that occurs over an extreme length of time making it difficult to identify a single occurrence. However, subsidence in Ascension Parish is limited to unoccupied areas and no known previous hazard events involving subsidence are known. While subsidence is taking place on an annual basis, its occurrence is measured in centimeters and not readily visible without scientific instruments.

Frequency / Probability

There have no known subsidence events that have taken place in Ascension Parish. Due to this, the annual rate of occurrence of subsidence events in the unincorporated areas of Ascension Parish and the incorporated areas of Donaldsonville, Gonzales, and Sorrento is less than 1%.

Estimated Potential Loses

Subsidence in Ascension Parish is mainly limited to areas that are unoccupied and have no infrastructure.

Vulnerability

See Appendix C for parish and municipality buildings that are susceptible to coastal land loss and subsidence.

Thunderstorms

The term "thunderstorm" is usually used as a catch-all term for several kinds of storms. Here "thunderstorm" is defined to include any precipitation event in which thunder is heard or lightning is seen. Thunderstorms are often accompanied by heavy rain and strong winds and, depending on conditions, occasionally by hail or snow. Thunderstorms form when humid air masses are heated, which causes them to become convectively unstable and therefore rise. Upon rising, the air masses' water vapor condenses into liquid water and/or deposits directly into ice when they rise sufficiently to cool to the dew-point temperature.

Thunderstorms are classified into four main types (single-cell, multicell, squall line, and supercell), depending on the degree of atmospheric instability, the change in wind speed with height (called wind shear), and the degree to which the storm's internal dynamics are coordinated with those of adjacent storms. There is no such interaction for single-cell thunderstorms, but there is significant interaction with clusters of adjacent thunderstorms in multicell thunderstorms and with a linear "chain" of adjacent storms in squall line thunderstorms. Though supercell storms have no significant interactions with other storms, they have very well-organized and self-sustaining internal dynamics, which allows them to be the longest-lived and most severe of all thunderstorms.

The life of a thunderstorm proceeds through three stages: the developing (or cumulus) stage, the mature stage, and the dissipation stage. During the developing stage, the unstable air mass is lifted as an updraft into the atmosphere. This sudden lift rapidly cools the moisture in the air mass, releasing latent heat as condensation and/or deposition occurs, and warming the surrounding environment, thus making it less dense than the surrounding air. This process intensifies the updraft and creates a localized lateral rush of air from all directions into the area beneath the thunderstorm to feed continued updrafts. At the mature stage, the rising air is accompanied by downdrafts caused by the shear of falling rain (if melted completely), or hail, freezing rain, sleet, or snow (if not melted completely). The dissipation stage is characterized by the dominating presence of the downdraft as the hot surface that gave the updrafts their buoyancy is cooled by precipitation. During the dissipation stage, the moisture in the air mass largely empties out.

The Storm Prediction Center in conjunction with the National Weather Service (NWS) have the ability to issue advisory messages based on forecasts and observations. The following are the advisory messages that may be issued with definitions of each:

- *Severe Thunderstorm Watch*: Issued to alert people to the possibility of a severe thunderstorm developing in the area. Expected time frame for these storms is three to six hours.

- *Severe Thunderstorm Warning*: Issued when severe thunderstorms are imminent. This warning is highly localized and covers parts of one to several counties (parishes).

A variety of hazards might be produced by thunderstorms, including lightning, hail, tornadoes or waterspouts, flash floods, and high-speed winds called downbursts. Nevertheless, given all of these criteria, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) characterizes a thunderstorm as severe when it produces one or more of the following:

- Hail of 1 inch in diameter or larger
- Wind gusts to 58 mph or greater
- One or more tornadoes

Tornadoes and flooding hazards have been profiled within this report; therefore, for the purpose of thunderstorms, the sub hazards of hail, high winds, and lightning will be profiled.

Thunderstorms occur throughout Louisiana at all times of the year, although the types and severity of those storms vary greatly, depending on a wide variety of atmospheric conditions. Thunderstorms generally occur more frequently during the late spring and early summer when extreme variations exist between ground surface temperatures and upper atmospheric temperatures.

Hazard Description

Hailstorms

Hailstorms are severe thunderstorms in which balls or chunks of ice fall along with rain. Hail develops in the upper atmosphere initially as ice crystals that are bounced about by high-velocity updraft winds. The ice crystals grow through deposition of water vapor onto their surface, fall partially to a level in the cloud where the temperature exceeds the freezing point, melt partially, get caught in another updraft whereupon re-freezing and deposition grows another concentric layer of ice, and fall after developing enough weight, sometimes after several trips up and down the cloud. The size of hailstones varies depending on the severity and size of the thunderstorm. Higher surface temperatures generally mean stronger updrafts, which allows more massive hailstones to be supported by updrafts, leaving them suspended longer. This longer time means larger hailstone sizes. The tables on the next page display the TORRO Hailstorm Intensity Scale along with a spectrum of hailstone diameters and their everyday equivalents.

Table 2-30: TORRO Hailstorm Intensity Scale.

Intensity Category		Hail Diameter (mm)	Probable Kinetic Energy	Typical Damage Impacts
H0	Hard Hail	5	0 - 20	No damage
H1	Potentially Damaging	5 - 15	>20	Slight general damage to plant, crops
H2	Significant	10 - 20	>100	Significant damage to fruit, crops, vegetation
H3	Severe	20 - 30	>300	Severe damage to fruit and crops, damage to glass and plastic structures, paint and wood scored
H4	Severe	25 - 40	>500	Widespread glass damage, vehicle body work
H5	Destructive	30 - 50	>800	Wholesale destruction of glass, damage to tiled roofs, significant risk of injuries
H6	Destructive	40 - 60		Bodywork of grounded aircraft dented, brick walls pitted
H7	Destructive	50 - 75		Severe roof damage, risk of serious injuries
H8	Destructive	60 - 90		Severe damage to aircraft bodywork
H9	Super Hailstorms	75 - 100		Extensive structural damage. Risk of severe or even fatal injuries to persons caught in the open
H10	Super Hailstorms	>100		Extensive structural damage. Risk of severe or even fatal injuries to persons caught in the open

Table 2-31: Spectrum of Hailstone Diameters and their Everyday Description. (Source: National Weather Service)

Spectrum of Hailstone Diameters	
Hail Diameter Size	**Description**
1/4”	Pea
1/2”	Plain M&M
3/4”	Penny
7/8”	Nickle
1” (severe)	Quarter
1 1/4”	Half Dollar
1 1/2”	Ping Pong Ball / Walnut
1 3/4”	Golf Ball
2”	Hen Egg / Lime
2 1/2"	Tennis Ball
2 3/4"	Baseball
3”	Teacup / Large Apple
4”	Softball
4 1/2"	Grapefruit
4 3/4” – 5”	Computer CD-DVD

Hailstorms can cause widespread damage to homes and other structures, automobiles, and crops. While the damage to individual structures or vehicles is often minor, the cumulative cost to communities, especially across large metropolitan areas, can be quite significant. Hailstorms can also be devastating to crops. Thus, the severity of hailstorms depends on the size of the hailstones, the length of time the storm lasts, and where it occurs.

Hail rarely causes loss of life, although large hailstones can cause bodily injury.

High Winds

In general, high winds can occur in a number of different ways, within and without thunderstorms. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) distinguishes these as shown in *Table 2-32*.

Table 2-32: High Winds Categorized by Source, Frequency, and Duration.
(Source: Making Critical Facilities Safe from High Wind, FEMA)

High Winds Categories			
High Wind Type	**Description**	**Relative Frequency in Louisiana**	**Relative Maximum Duration in Louisiana**
Straight-line Winds	Wind blowing in straight line; usually associated with intense low-pressure area	High	Few-minutes – 1 day
Downslope Winds	Wind blowing down the slope of a mountain; associated with temperature and pressure gradients	N/A	N/A
Thunderstorm Winds	Wind blowing due to thunderstorms, and thus associated with temperature and pressure gradients	High (especially in the spring and summer	~Few minutes – several hours
Downbursts	Sudden wind blowing down due to downdraft in a thunderstorm; spreads out horizontally at the ground, possibly forming horizontal vortex rings around the downdraft	Medium-to-High (~5% of all thunderstorms)	~15 – 20 minutes
Northeaster (nor'easter) Winds	Wind blowing due to cyclonic storm off the east coast of North America; associated with temperature and pressure gradients between the Atlantic and land	N/A	N/A
Hurricane Winds	Wind blowing in spirals, converging with increasing speed toward eye; associated with temperature and pressure gradients between the Atlantic and Gulf and land	Low-to-Medium	Several days
Tornado Winds	Violently rotating column of air from base of a thunderstorm to the ground with rapidly decreasing winds at greater distances from center; associated with extreme temperature gradient	Low-to-Medium	Few minutes – few hours

The only high winds of present concern are thunderstorm winds and downbursts. Straight-line winds are common but are a relatively insignificant hazard (on land) compared to other high winds. Downslope winds are common but relatively insignificant in the mountainous areas of Louisiana where they occur. Nor'easters are cyclonic events that have at most a peripheral effect on Louisiana, and none associated with high winds. Winds associated with hurricanes and tornadoes will be considered in their respective sections.

Table 2-33 presents the Beaufort Wind Scale, first developed in 1805 by Sir Francis Beaufort, which aids in determining relative force and wind speed based on the appearance of wind effects.

Table 2-33: Beaufort Wind Scale.
(Source: NOAA's SPC)

Beaufort Wind Scale			
Force	**Wind (MPH)**	**WMO Classification**	**Appearance of Wind Effects on Land**
			Calm, smoke rises vertically
1	1-3	Light Air	Smoke drift indicates wind direction, still wind vanes
2	4-7	Light Breeze	Wind felt on face, leaves rustle, vanes begin to move
3	8-12	Gentle Breeze	Leaves and small twigs constantly moving, light flags extended
4	13-17	Moderate Breeze	Dust, leaves, and loose paper lifted, small tree branches move
5	18-24	Fresh Breeze	Small trees in leaf begin to sway
6	25-30	Strong Breeze	Larger tree branches moving, whistling in wires
7	31-38	Near Gale	Whole trees moving, resistance felt walking against wind
8	39-46	Gale	Twigs breaking off trees, generally impedes progress
9	47-54	Strong Gale	Slight structural damage occurs, slate blows off roofs
10	55-63	Storm	Seldom experienced on land, trees broken or uprooted, "considerable structural damage"
11	54-73	Violent Storm	
12	74+	Hurricane	

Major damage directly caused by thunderstorm winds is relatively rare, while minor damage is common and pervasive, and most noticeable when it contributes to power outages. These power outages can have major negative impacts such as increased tendency for traffic accidents, loss of revenue for businesses, increased vulnerability to fire, food spoilage, and other losses that might be sustained by a loss of power.

Power outages may pose a health risk for those requiring electric medical equipment and/or air conditioning.

Lightning

Lightning is a natural electrical discharge in the atmosphere that is a by-product of thunderstorms. Every thunderstorm produces lightning. There are three primary types of lightning: intra-cloud, cloud-to-

ground, and cloud-to-cloud. Cloud-to-ground lightning has the potential to cause the most damage to property and crops, while also posing as a health risk to the populace in the area of the strike.

Damage caused by lightning is usually to homes or businesses. These strikes have the ability to damage electrical equipment inside the home or business and can also ignite a fire that could destroy homes or crops.

Lightning continues to be one of the top three storm-related killers in the United States per FEMA, but it also has the ability to cause negative long-term health effects to the individual that is struck. The following table outlines the lightning activity level that is a measurement of lightning activity.

Table 2-34: Lightning Activity Level (LAL) Grids.

LAL	Cloud and Storm Development	Lightning Strikes/15 Min
1	No thunderstorms.	-
2	Cumulus clouds are common but only a few reach the towering cumulus stage. A single thunderstorm must be confirmed in the observation area. The clouds produce mainly virga, but light rain will occasionally reach the ground. Lightning is very infrequent.	1-8
3	Towering cumulus covers less than two-tenths of the sky. Thunderstorms are few, but two to three must occur within the observation. Light to moderate rain will reach the ground, and lightning is infrequent.	9-15
4	Towering cumulus covers two to three-tenths of the sky. Thunderstorms are scattered and more than three must occur within the observation area. Moderate rain is common and lightning is frequent.	16-25
5	Towering cumulus and thunderstorms are numerous. They cover more than three-tenths and occasionally obscure the sky. Rain is moderate to heavy and lightning is frequent.	>25
6	Similar to LAL 3 except thunderstorms are dry	

Hazard Profile

Hailstorms

Location

Hailstorms are a meteorological phenomenon that can occur anywhere. Therefore, the entire planning area for Ascension Parish and its jurisdictions are at risk for hailstorms. The worst-case scenario for hailstorms is hail up to a 2.5” diameter.

Previous Occurrences / Extents

Historically, there have been 20 hail incidents in Ascension Parish. Hailstorm diameters have ranged from one inch to two and a half inches per the National Climatic Data Center since 1950. The most frequently recorded hail sizes have been 1-inch in diameter. Since the last update, there have been five hailstorm events in Ascension Parish. *Table 2-35* provides an overview of the hail storm events which impacted the Ascension Parish Planning area since the 2015 Ascension Parish HMP update.

Table 2-35: Hailstorm Events in Ascension Parish since the 2015 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update. (Source: NCEI Storm Events Database)

Date	Recorded Hail Size (inches)	Location
May 1, 2016	1	GONZALES
March 25, 2017	1	GALVEZ
May 9, 2019	1.25	SORRENTO
September 9, 2019	1	OAK GROVE
September 9, 2019	1	OAK GROVE

Frequency

Hailstorms occur frequently within Ascension Parish with an annual chance of occurrence calculated at 29% based on the records for the past 70 years (1950-2019). *Figure 2-26* displays the density of hail storm events in Ascension Parish, while *Figure 2-27* provides an overview of hailstorm size based on location.

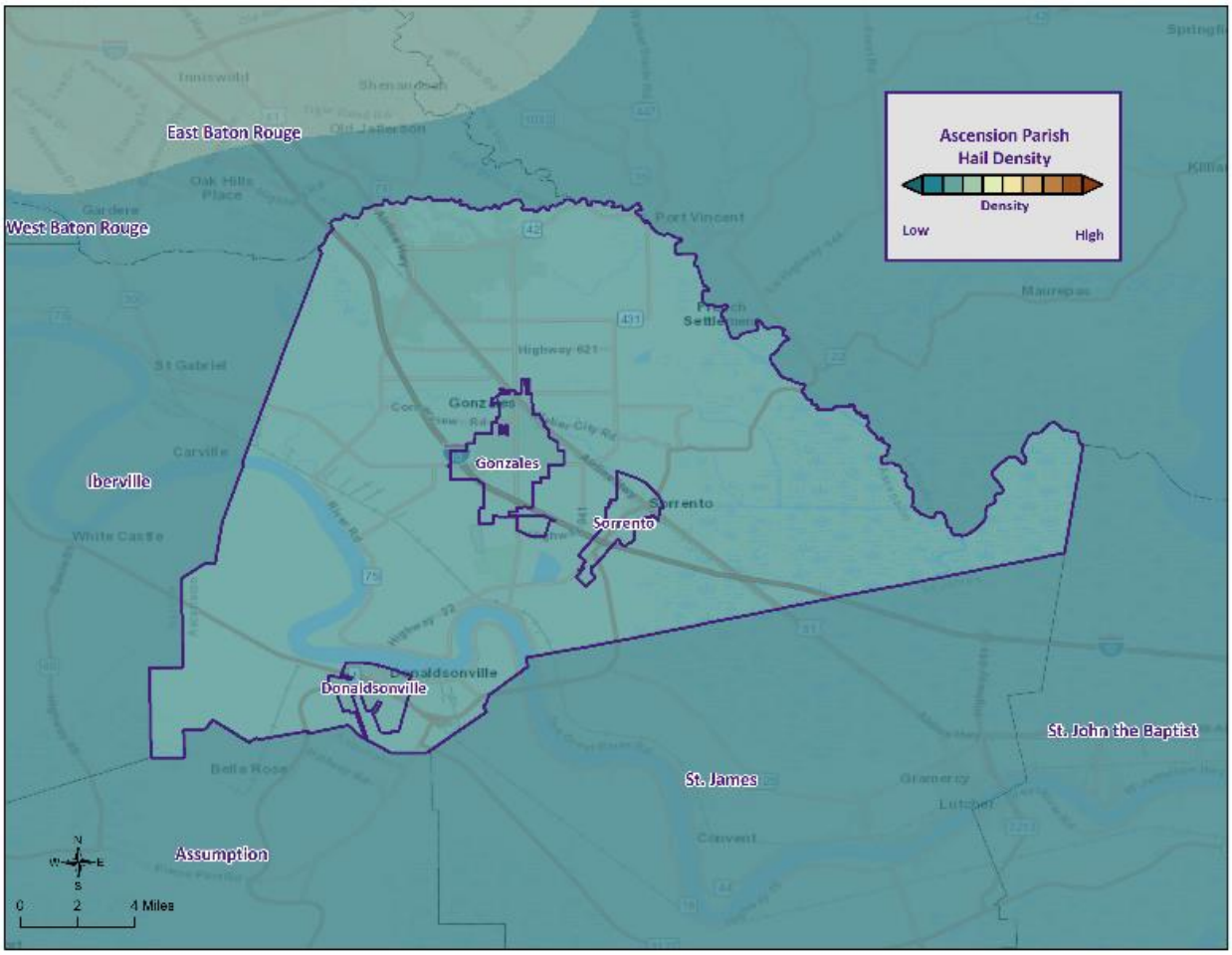

Figure 2-26: Density of Hailstorms by Diameter from 1950-2019.

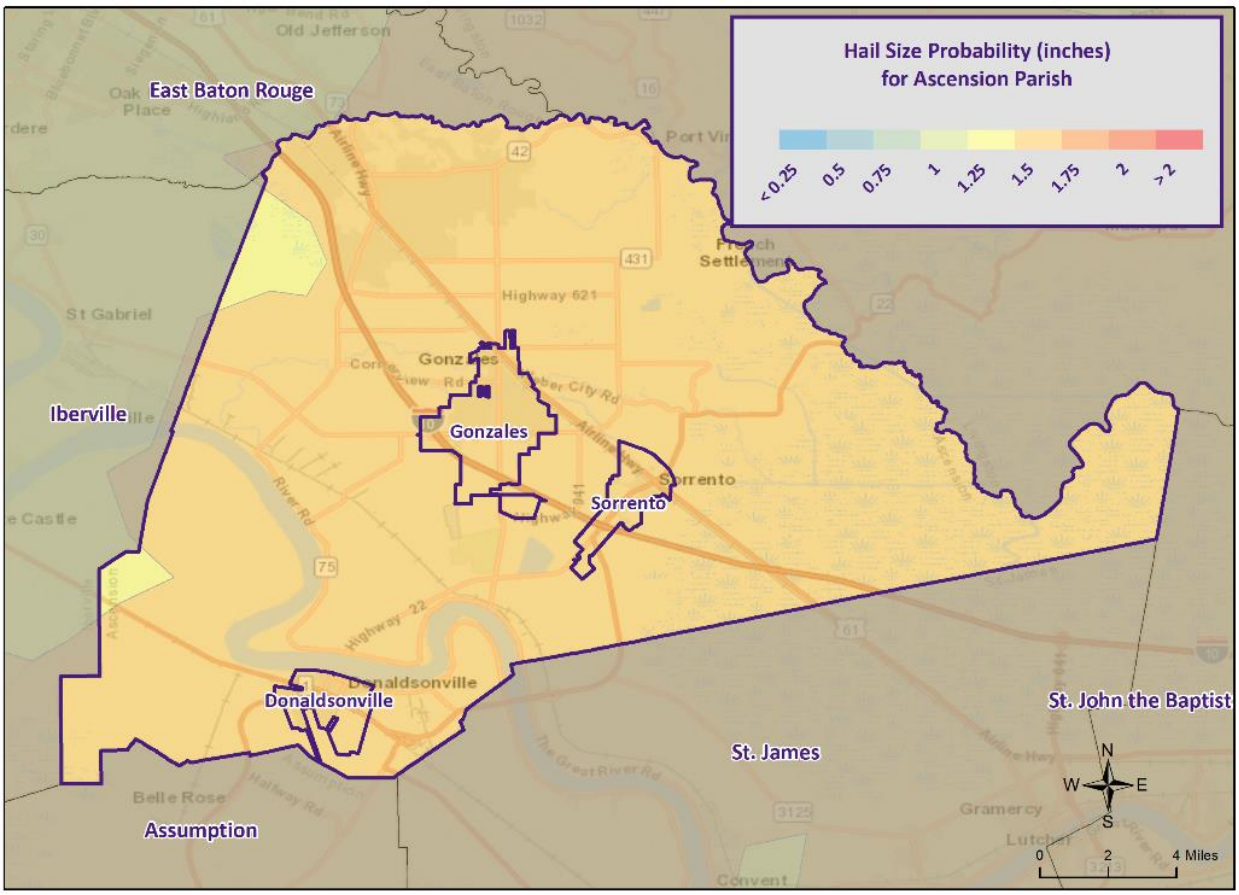

Figure 2-27: Hail Size Probability in Inches for Ascension Parish.

Estimated Potential Losses

Per the NCEI Storm Events Database, there have been 20 hailstorm events in Ascension Parish accounting for approximately $50,000 worth of property damage. The following table provides a breakdown of annual losses for hailstorm events in the Ascension Parish planning area.

Table 2-36: Estimated Annual Losses for Hailstorms in Ascension Parish and its Jurisdictions.

Ascension Parish (Unincorporated)	Donaldsonville	Gonzales	Sorrento
$590	$50	$65	$9

There have been no injuries or deaths due to hailstorm events in the Ascension Parish planning area.

Vulnerability

See Appendix C for parish and municipality buildings that are susceptible to hailstorms.

High Winds

Location

Because high winds are a meteorological phenomenon that can occur anywhere, the entire planning area for Ascension Parish is at risk from high winds. The worst-case scenario for thunderstorm high wind is wind speeds of approximately 100 mph.

Previous Occurrences / Extents

Historically, there have been 68 thunderstorm high wind events in Ascension Parish. High winds have ranged from 57 mph to 69 mph per the National Climatic Data Center since 1950. The most frequently recorded high wind speed has been 57 mph. Since the last update, there have been five high wind events in Ascension Parish. *Table 2-37* provides an overview of the high wind events which impacted the Ascension Parish Planning area since the 2015 Ascension Parish HMP update.

Table 2-37: Previous Occurrences for Thunderstorm High Wind Events since the 2015 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update.
(Source: NCEI Storm Events Database)

Location	Date	Recorded Wind Speeds (mph)	Property Damage	Crop Damage
SORRENTO	May 19, 2016	60	$0	$0
ABEN	April 7, 2019	56	$0	$0
LEMANNVILLE	April 25, 2019	60	$0	$0
BURNSIDE	April 25, 2019	61	$0	$0
LAKE	July 7, 2019	55	$0	$0

Frequency

High winds are a common occurrence within Ascension Parish with an annual chance of occurrence calculated at 97% based on the records for the past 70 years (1950-2019). On the next page, *Figure 2-28* provides an overview of hailstorm size based on location.

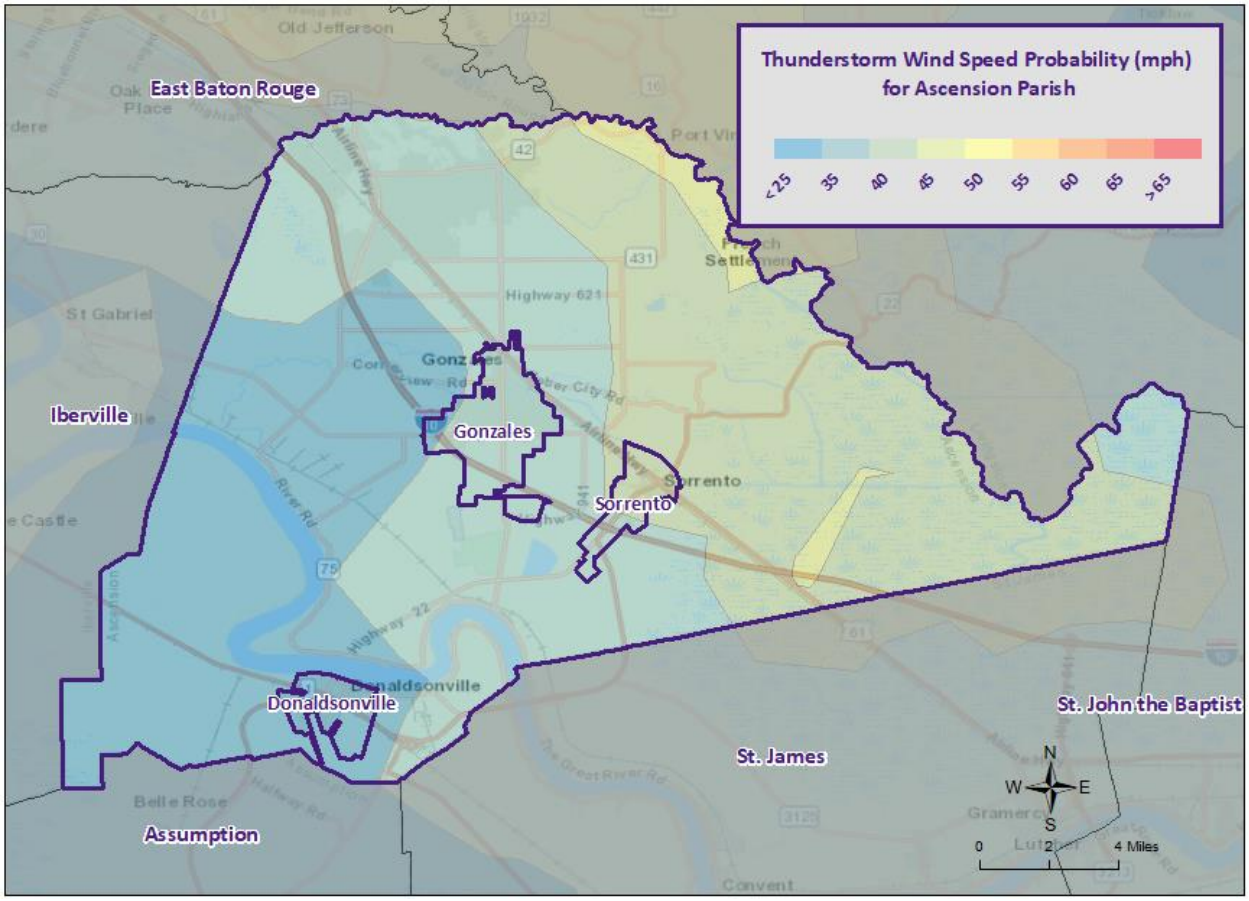

Figure 2-28: Thunderstorm High Wind Speed Probability in Miles Per Hour for Ascension Parish.

Estimated Potential Losses

Since 1950, there have been 68 significant wind events that have resulted in property damages according to NCEI Storm Events Database. The total property damages associated with those storms have totaled approximately $550,010. To estimate the potential losses of a wind event on an annual basis, the total damages recorded for wind events was divided by the total number of years of available wind data in the NCEI Storm Events Database (1950 - 2019). This provides an annual estimated potential loss of $7,857 and $8,088 per event. The following table provides an estimate of potential property losses for Ascension Parish and its jurisdictions

Table 2-38: Estimated Annual Losses for High Winds in Ascension Parish and its Jurisdictions.

Ascension Parish (Unincorporated)	Donaldsonville	Gonzales	Sorrento
$6,493	$545	$717	$103

There has been one reported injuries and no fatalities as a result of a thunderstorm high wind event over the 70-year record.

Vulnerability

See appendix C for parish and municipality buildings that are susceptible to thunderstorm high winds.

Lightning

Location

Like hail and high winds, lightning is a meteorological phenomenon that can occur anywhere within the Ascension Parish planning area. The worst-case scenario for lightning events is a lightning activity level of 4 which is approximately 16 to 25 lightning strikes every 15 minutes.

Previous Occurrences / Extent

Historically, there have been 16 lightning events in Ascension Parish between the years 1996 and 2019. Since the last HMP update, there has been one significant lighting event within the boundaries of Ascension Parish.

Table 2-39: Previous Occurrences for Lightning Events since the 2015 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update. (Source: NCEI Storm Events Database)

Location	Date	Property Damage	Crop Damage
ACY	June 4, 2016	$2,000	$0

Frequency

Lightning can strike anywhere and is produced by every thunderstorm, so the chance of lightning occurring in Ascension Parish is high. However, lightning that meets the definition that is used by the NCEI Storm Events Database that results in damages to property and injury or death to people is a less likely event. Ascension Parish experienced 16 significant lightning events between the years 1996 and 2019 resulting in a 70% annual chance of occurrence.

Estimated Potential Losses

Per the NCEI Storm Events Database, there has been 16 lightning events in Ascension Parish resulting in approximately $9,000 worth of property damage. The annual impact of lightning events is $391 and $563 per event. The following table provides an annualized breakdown of annual cost for lightning events for the parish and each jurisdiction.

Table 2-40: Estimated Annual Losses for Lightning Events in Ascension Parish and its Jurisdictions.

Ascension Parish (Unincorporated)	Donaldsonville	Gonzales	Sorrento
$323	$27	$36	$5

There have been no injuries or fatalities as a result of lightning in Ascension Parish or its jurisdictions.

Vulnerability

See Appendix C for parish and municipality building exposure to lightning hazards.

Tornadoes

Tornadoes (also called twisters and cyclones) are rapidly rotating funnels of wind extending between storm clouds and the ground. For their size, tornadoes are the most severe storms, and 70% of the world's reported tornadoes occur within the continental United States, making them one of the most significant hazards Americans face. Tornadoes and waterspouts form during severe weather events, such as thunderstorms and hurricanes, when cold air overrides a layer of warm air, causing the warm air to rise rapidly, which usually occurs in a counterclockwise direction in the northern hemisphere. The updraft of air in tornadoes always rotates because of wind shear (differing speeds of moving air at various heights), and it can rotate in either a clockwise or counterclockwise direction; clockwise rotations (in the northern hemisphere) will sustain the system, at least until other forces cause it to die seconds to minutes later.

Since February 1, 2007, the Enhanced Fujita (EF) Scale has been used to classify tornado intensity. The EF Scale classifies tornadoes based on their damage pattern rather than wind speed; wind speed is then derived and estimated. This contrasts with the Saffir-Simpson scale used for hurricane classification, which is based on measured wind speed. *Table 2-41* shows the EF scale in comparison with the old Fujita (F) Scale, which was used prior to February 1, 2007. When discussing past tornadoes, the scale used at the time of the hazard is used. Damage and adjustment between scales can be made using the following tables.

Table 2-41: Comparison of the Enhanced Fujita (EF) Scale to the Fujita (F) Scale.

Wind Speed (mph)	**Enhanced Fujita Scale**					
	EF0	**EF1**	**EF2**	**EF3**	**EF4**	**EF5**
	65-85	86-110	111-135	136-165	166-200	>200
	Fujita Scale					
	F0	**F1**	**F2**	**F3**	**F4**	**F5**
	<73	73-112	113-157	158-206	207-260	>261

Table 2-42: Fujita and Enhanced Fujita Tornado Damage Scale.

Scale	Typical Damage
F0/EF0	Light damage. Some damage to chimneys; branches broken off trees; shallow-rooted trees pushed over; sign boards damaged.
F1/EF1	Moderate damage. Peels surface off roofs; mobile homes pushed off foundations or overturned; moving autos blown off roads.
F2/EF2	Considerable damage. Roofs torn off frame houses; mobile homes demolished; boxcars overturned; light-object missiles generated; cars lifted off ground.
F3/EF3	Severe damage. Roofs and some walls torn of well-constructed houses; trains overturned; most trees in forest uprooted; heavy cars lifted off the ground and thrown.
F4/EF4	Devastating damage. Well-constructed houses leveled; structures with weak foundations blown away some distance; cars thrown and large missiles generated.
F5/EF5	Incredible damage. Strong frame houses leveled off foundations and swept away; automobile-sized missiles fly through the air in excess of 100 meters (109 yards); trees debarked; incredible phenomena will occur.

The National Weather Service (NWS) has the ability to issue advisory messages based on forecasts and observations. The following are the advisory messages that may be issued with definitions of each:

- *Tornado Watch*: Issued to alert people to the possibility of a tornado developing in the area. A tornado has not been spotted but the conditions are favorable for tornadoes to occur.
- *Tornado Warning*: Issued when a tornado has been spotted or when Doppler radar identifies a distinctive "hook-shaped" area within a thunderstorm line.

Structures within the direct path of a tornado vortex are often reduced to rubble. Structures adjacent to the tornado's path are often severely damaged by high winds flowing into the tornado vortex, known as inflow winds. It is here, adjacent to the tornado's path, that the building type and construction techniques are critical to the structure's survival. Although tornadoes strike at random, making all buildings vulnerable, mobile homes, homes on crawlspaces, and buildings with large spans are more likely to suffer damage.

The major health hazard from tornadoes is physical injury from flying debris or being in a collapsed building or mobile home. Within a building, flying debris or missiles are generally stopped by interior walls. However, if a building has no partitions, any glass, brick, or other debris blown into the interior is life threatening. Following a tornado, damaged buildings are a potential health hazard due to instability, electrical system damage, and gas leaks. Sewage and water lines may also be damaged.

Peak tornado activity in Louisiana occurs during the spring, as it does in the rest of the United States. Nearly one-third of observed tornadoes in the United States occur during April. About half of those in Louisiana, including many of the strongest, occur between March and June. Fall and winter tornadoes are less frequent, but the distribution of tornadoes throughout the year is more uniform in Louisiana than in locations farther north.

Location

While there is a significant tornado record in Ascension Parish with actual locations, tornadoes in general are a climatological based hazard and have the same approximate probability of occurring in Ascension Parish as all of its jurisdictions. Because a tornado has a similar probability of striking anywhere within the planning area for Ascension Parish, all areas in the parish are equally at risk for tornadoes.

Previous Occurrences / Extent

The NCEI Storm Events Database reports a total of 20 tornadoes or waterspouts occurring within the boundaries of Ascension Parish since 1950 ranging in extent from F0 to F3 under the Fujita Scale and EF0 to EF2 on the Enhanced Fujita Scale. Ascension Parish can expect future tornadoes up to an EF4 under the Enhanced Fujita Scale as a worst-case scenario.

Since the 2015 HMP Update, seven tornadoes have occurred within the boundaries of Ascension Parish. Below is a list and brief description of the impacts for each event.

Table 2-43: Historical Tornadoes in Ascension Parish with Locations since the 2015 Update.

Date	Impacts	Property Damage	Location	Magnitude
February 23, 2016	1.61 mile path with a 200 yard width. Tornado occurred in Prairieville just west of Airline Highway causing roof damage and knocking down an exterior wall at Gold's Gym.	$10,000	UNINCORPORATED AREA	EF0
December 5, 2016	3.4 mile path with a width of 30 yards. Tornado occurred on George Rouyea Road near LA 431 and 931. Intermittent damage to trees.	$0	UNINCORPORATED AREA	EF1
February 7, 2017	4.91 mile path with a width of 75 yards. Touchdown near East Bayou Road and Green Gable Road. Damaged the roofs of several homes.	$12,000	DONALDSONVILLE	EF1
April 7, 2019	0.79 mile path with a 50 yard width. Observed in the Rogers A-B-C Roads area off of LA Highway 22. Snapped several trees and caused damage to roofs and siding.	$50,000	UNINCORPORATED AREA	EF1
June 6, 2019	1.73 mile path with a 50 yard width. Touchdown occurred south of Causey Road in Prairieville were it uprooted a tree.	$0	UNINCORPORATED AREA	EF1
June 6, 2019	1.6 mile path with a 50 yard width. Touch downed at a chemical path near Sorrento where it lifted a single wide office trailer.	$20,000	UNINCORPORATED AREA	EF2
October 21, 2019	0.06 mile path with a width of 15 yards. Touch downed near River Road near Geismer where it damaged a roof.	$2,000	UNINCORPORATED AREA	EF0

Frequency / Probability

Tornadoes occur frequently within Ascension Parish with an annual chance of occurrence calculated at 29% based on the records for the past 70 years (1950-2019). *Figure 2-29* displays the density of tornado touchdowns in Ascension Parish.

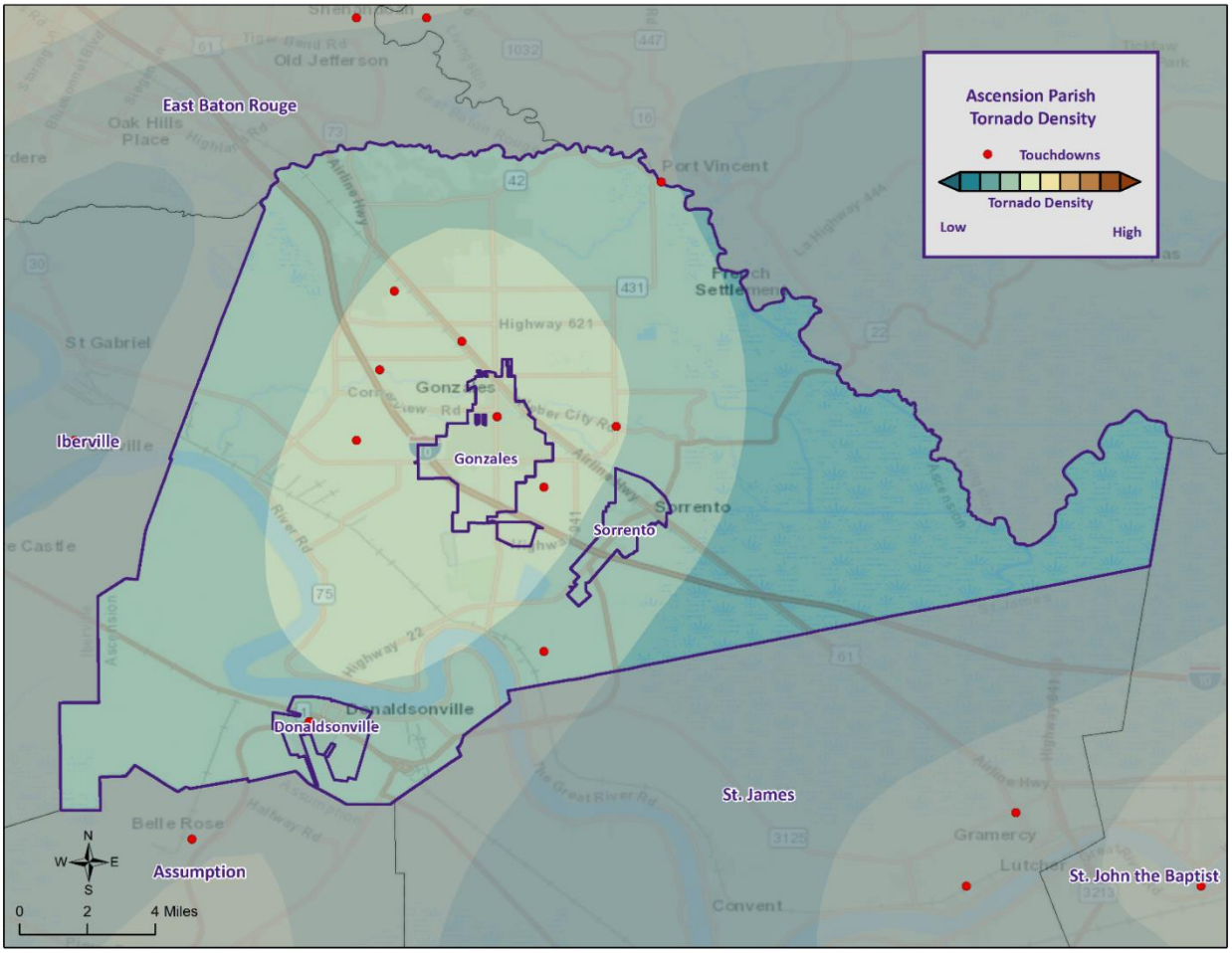

Figure 2-29: Location and Density of Tornadoes to Touchdown in Ascension Parish. (Source: NOAA/SPC Severe Weather Database)

Estimated Potential Loses

According to the NCEI Storm Events Database, there have been 20 tornadoes that have caused some level of property damage. The total damage from the actual claims for property is approximately $3.7 million with an average cost of $185,00 per tornado event. When annualizing the total cost over the 70-year record, total annual loses based on tornadoes are estimated to be $52,857. *Table 2-44* provides an annual estimate of potential losses for Ascension Parish.

Table 2-44: Estimated Annual Losses for Tornadoes in Ascension Parish and its Jurisdictions.

Ascension Parish (Unincorporated)	Donaldsonville	Gonzales	Sorrento
$43,678	$3,666	$4,822	$691

Table 2-45 presents an analysis of building exposure that are susceptible to tornadoes by general occupancy type for Ascension Parish along with the percentage of building stock that are mobile homes.

Table 2-45: Building Exposure by General Occupancy Type for Tornadoes in Ascension Parish. (Source: FEMA's Hazus)

Building Exposure by General Occupancy Type for Tornadoes Exposure Types ($1,000)							
Residential	**Commercial**	**Industrial**	**Agricultural**	**Religion**	**Government**	**Education**	**Mobile Homes (%)**
4,318,900	485,150	170,515	7,677	55,636	18,006	26,990	20.6%

The Parish has suffered through a total of 18 days in which tornadoes or waterspouts have accounted for 21 injuries and no fatalities during this 70-year period. The average injury per event for Ascension Parish is 1.05 per tornado with an average of 0.3 per year for the 70-year period.

Table 2-46: Tornadoes in Ascension Parish by Magnitude that Caused Injuries and/or Deaths.

Date	Magnitude	Deaths	Injuries
April 12, 1969	F3	0	1
January 25, 1976	F2	0	7
November 19, 1983	F1	0	7
June 6, 2019	EF2	0	5
October 21, 2019	EFO	0	1

In accessing the overall risk to population, the most vulnerable population throughout the parish are those residing in manufacturing housing. Approximately 20.6% of all housing in Ascension Parish consists of manufactured housing. Based on location data collected in a previous hazard mitigation project, there are 33 known locations where manufactured housing is concentrated. The location and density of manufactured houses can be seen in *Figure 2-30*.

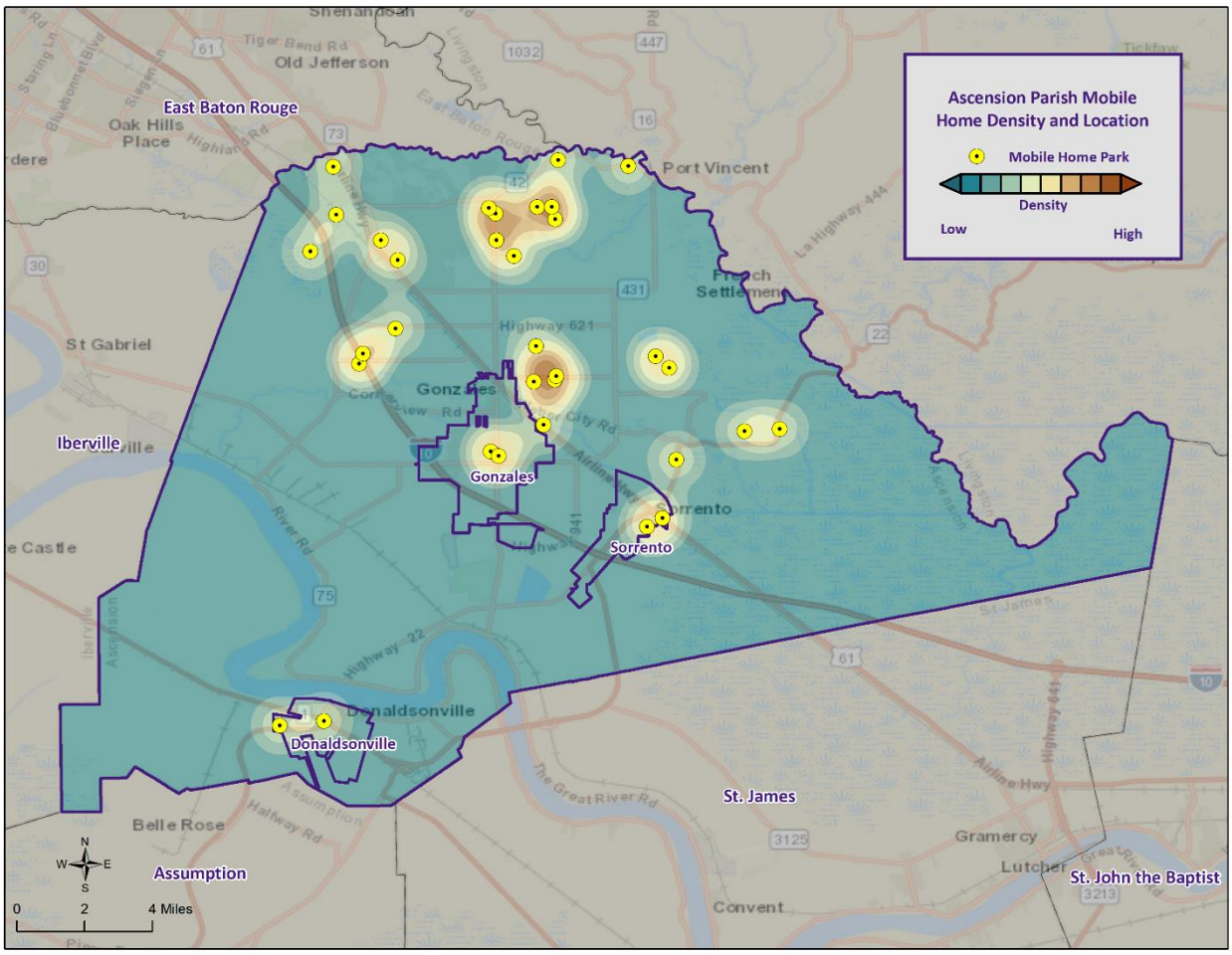

Figure 2-30: Location and Approximate Number of Units in Manufactured Housing Locations throughout Ascension Parish.

Vulnerability

See Appendix C for parish and municipality building exposure to tornadoes.

Tropical Cyclones

Tropical cyclones are among the worst hazards Louisiana faces, especially in the southern and coastal parishes. These spinning, low-pressure air masses draw surface air into their centers and attain strength ranging from weak tropical waves to the most intense hurricanes. Usually, these storms begin as clusters of oceanic thunderstorms off the western coast of Africa, moving westward in the trade wind flow. The spinning of these thunderstorm clusters begins because of the formation of low pressure in a perturbation in the westerly motion of the storms associated with differential impacts of the Earth's rotation. The west-moving, counterclockwise-spinning collection of storms, now called a tropical disturbance, may then gather strength as it draws humid air toward its low-pressure center. This results in the formation of a tropical depression (defined when the maximum sustained surface wind speed is 38 mph or less), then a Tropical Cyclone (when the maximum sustained surface wind ranges from 39 mph to 73 mph), and finally a hurricane (when the maximum sustained surface wind speeds exceed 73 mph). On the next page, the table presents the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale, which categorizes tropical cyclones based on sustained winds.

Table 2-47: Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale

Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale			
Category	**Sustained Winds**	**Pressure**	**Types of Damage Due to Winds**
Tropical Depression	<39 mph	N/A	N/A
Tropical Cyclone	39-73 mph	N/A	N/A
1	74-95 mph	>14.2 psi	Very dangerous winds will produce some damage. Well-constructed frame homes could have damage to roof, shingles, vinyl siding, and gutters. Large branches of trees will snap and shallow-rooted trees may be toppled, especially after the soil becomes waterlogged. Extensive damage to power lines and poles will likely result in power outages that could last several days.
2	96-110 mph	14-14.2 psi	Extremely dangerous winds will cause extensive damage. Well-constructed frame homes could sustain major roof and siding damage. Many shallow-rooted trees will be snapped or uprooted, especially after the soil becomes waterlogged, and block numerous roads. Near total power loss is expected, with outages that could last from several days to weeks.
3	111-129 mph	13.7 -14 psi	Devastating damage will occur. Well-built framed homes may incur major damage or removal of roof decking and gable ends. Many trees will be snapped or uprooted, especially after the soil becomes waterlogged, blocking numerous roads. Electricity and water may be unavailable for several days to weeks after the storm passes.
4	130-156 mph	13.3-13.7 psi	Catastrophic damage will occur. Well-built framed homes can sustain severe damage with loss of most of the roof structure and/or some exterior walls. Most trees will be snapped or uprooted, especially after the soil becomes waterlogged, and power poles downed. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks or months.
5	157 mph or higher	<13.7 psi	Catastrophic damage will occur. A high percentage of framed homes will be destroyed, with total roof failure and wall collapse. Fallen trees and power poles will isolate residential areas. Power outages will last for weeks to possibly months. Most of the area will be uninhabitable for weeks to months.

Many associated hazards can occur during a hurricane, including heavy rains, flooding, high winds, and tornadoes. A general rule of thumb in coastal Louisiana is that the number of inches of rainfall to be expected from a tropical cyclone is approximately 100 divided by the forward velocity of the storm in mph; so a fast-moving storm (20 mph) might be expected to drop five inches of rain while a slow-moving (5 mph) storm could produce totals of around 20 inches. However, no two storms are alike, and such generalizations have limited utility for planning purposes. Hurricane Beulah, which struck Texas in 1967, spawned 115 confirmed tornadoes. In recent years, extensive coastal development has increased the storm surge resulting from these storms so much that this has become the greatest natural hazard threat to property and loss of life in the state. Storm surge is a temporary rise in sea level generally caused by reduced air pressure and strong onshore winds associated with a storm system near the coast. Although storm surge can technically occur at any time of the year in Louisiana, surges caused by hurricanes can be particularly deadly and destructive. Such storm surge events are often accompanied by large, destructive waves (exceeding ten meters in some places) that can inflict a high number of fatalities and economic losses. In 2005, Hurricane Katrina clearly demonstrated the destructive potential of this hazard, as it produced the highest modern-day storm surge levels in the State of Louisiana, reaching up to 18.7 feet near Alluvial City in St. Bernard Parish.

Property can be damaged by the various forces that accompany a tropical cyclone. High winds can directly impact structures in three ways: wind forces, flying debris, and pressure. By itself, the force of the wind can knock over trees, break tree limbs, and destroy loose items, such as television antennas and power lines. Many things can be moved by high winds. As winds increase, so does the pressure against stationary objects. Pressure against a wall rises with the square of the wind speed. For some structures, this force is enough to cause failure. The potential for damage to structures is increased when debris breaks the building “envelope” and allows the wind pressure to impact all surfaces (the building envelope includes all surfaces that make up the barrier between the indoors and the outdoors, such as the walls, foundation, doors, windows, and roof). Mobile homes and buildings in need of maintenance are most subject to wind damage. High winds mean bigger waves. Extended pounding by waves can demolish any poorly or improperly designed structures. The waves also erode sand beaches, roads, and foundations. When foundations are compromised, the building will collapse.

Nine out of ten deaths during hurricanes are caused by storm surge flooding. Falling tree limbs and flying debris caused by high winds have the ability to cause injury or death. Downed trees and damaged buildings are a potential health hazard due to instability, electrical system damage, broken pipelines, chemical releases, and gas leaks. Sewage and water lines may also be damaged. Salt water and fresh water intrusions from storm surge send animals, such as snakes, into areas occupied by humans.

Location

Hurricanes are the single biggest threat to all of South Louisiana. With any single tropical cyclone event having the potential to devastate multiple parishes at once, tropical cyclones are a significant threat to the entire Ascension Parish planning area and the risk has the same probability of impacting anywhere within the planning area. The worst-case scenario for a tropical cyclone event in Ascension Parish is a Category 3 Hurricane.

Previous Occurrences / Extents

Ascension Parish has experienced 10 major tropical cyclone events since 2002. The table on the next page provides a list of tropical cyclones which have impacted Ascension Parish since 2002.

Table 2-48: Historical Tropical Cyclone Events in Ascension Parish from 2002 - 2019.

Date	Name	Storm Type At Time of Impact
2002	Isidore	Tropical Storm
2002	Lili	Tropical Storm
2005	Katrina	Hurricane – Category 1
2005	Rita	Tropical Storm
2008	Fay	Tropical Depression
2008	Gustav	Hurricane – Category 1
2008	Ike	Tropical Storm
2011	Lee	Tropical Storm
2012	Isaac	Tropical Storm
2019	Barry	Tropical Storm

Since the last Ascension Parish HMP update in 2015, there has been one tropical cyclone event which has impacted the parish. Below is a brief description of the event and the impact it had on Ascension Parish.

Tropical Storm Barry (2019)

Hurricane Barry initially developed from a disturbance that moved from Georgia southwest to the northeast Gulf of Mexico on July 8-9, 2019. The weak low-pressure system continued to move west-southwest and strengthen, and was eventually classified as Tropical Storm Barry on the morning of July 11th, 95 miles south-southeast of the mouth of the Mississippi River. Barry continued to move slowly west then northwest and briefly reached hurricane strength on the morning of July 13th before landfall in south-central Louisiana near Intracoastal City, Louisiana in Vermillion Parish. Tropical storm force winds reached the southeast Louisiana coast by midday on Friday, July 12th and spread slowly northwest reaching the Baton Rouge area during the evening of the 12th. Tropical storm wind impacts had ended across all of southeast Louisiana by midday on July 14th. Tropical storm force winds were primarily measured in gusts across southeast Louisiana. The exception was in Terrebonne and Assumption Parishes, close to the landfall location, where sustained tropical storm force winds and frequent gusts caused more significant power line and tree damage. A few tropical storm wind gusts were recorded in the metro New Orleans area but were not very impactful. No hurricane force wind gusts were recorded in southeast Louisiana.

Mostly minor to moderate storm surge flooding occurred across coastal southeast Louisiana, including Lake Pontchartrain, and a small part of the Mississippi Coast. Terrebonne Parish had significant storm surge flooding in the lower portion of the parish with storm tides of five to eight feet, locally up to nine feet. Several local levees were overtopped on the morning of July 13th flooding roads and a few homes. The highest storm tide reading was 9.11 feet NAVD88 at a USGS tide gauge at Caillou Lake near Dulac, Louisiana.

Storm total rainfall was generally between four and eight inches with a maximum rainfall of 8.83 inches recorded northeast of Denham Springs, Louisiana in Livingston Parish. Isolated flash flooding of streets and secondary roadways occurred on July 13th in the greater Baton Rouge area, but flash flooding was not widespread or significant. The lower Mississippi River was at unusually high stages from late August with the state at the New Orleans Carrolton gauge near 16.5 feet. The combination of storm surge entering the lower Mississippi River with very high river stages prompted concern of potential overtopping of levees along the Mississippi River in lower Ascension Parish prompting some evacuations of the area.

In Ascension Parish, frequent tropical storm force wind gusts and some sustained tropical storm force winds led to minor wind damage which was primarily to trees. The Emergency Operations Center in Gonzales reported about an hour of sustained tropical storm force winds with gusts up to 41 knots (41 mph). Rainfall across the parish was approximately two to five inches.

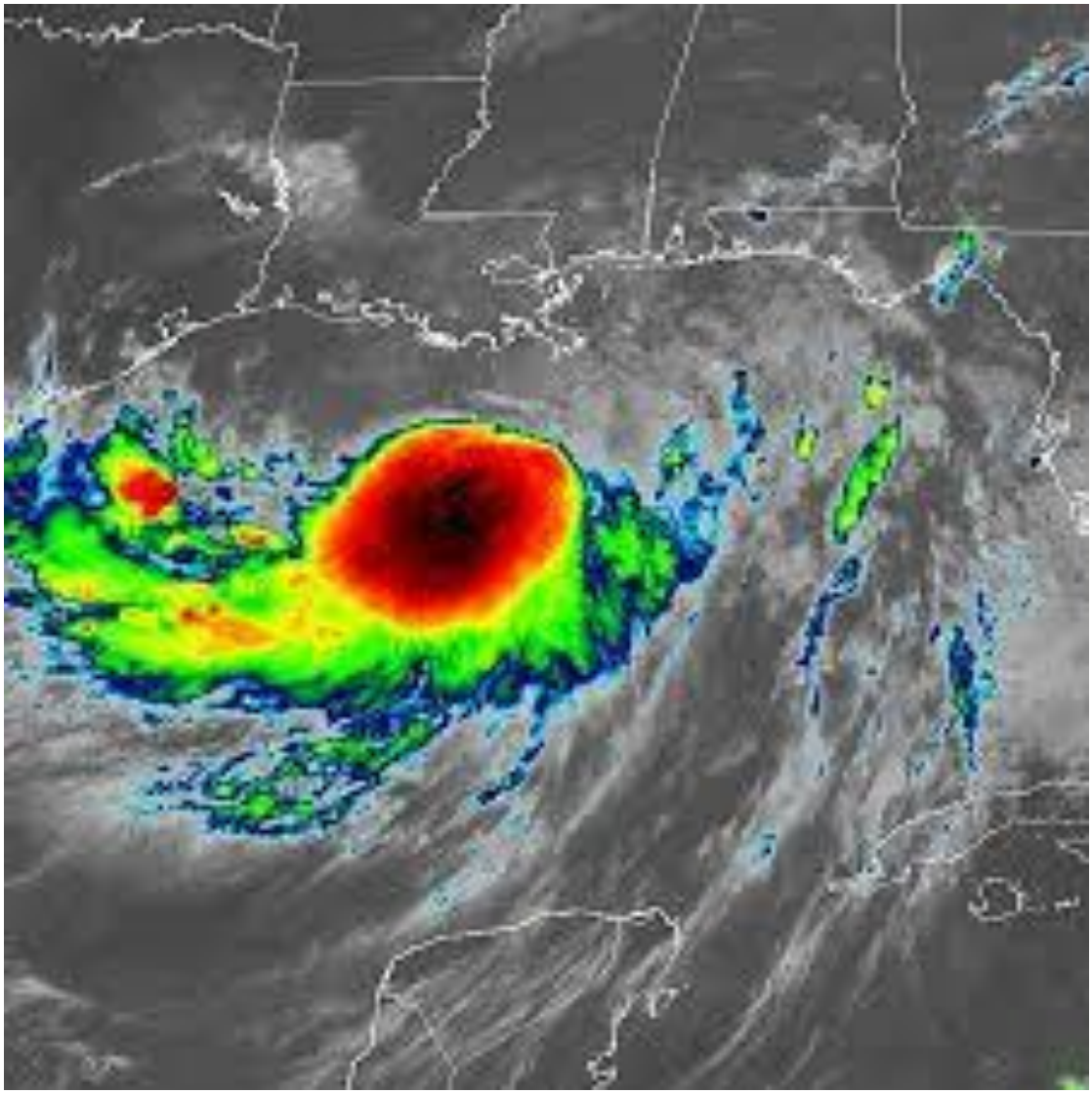

Figure 2-31: Hurricane Barry Rain Bands in the Gulf Coast Area.
(Source: NOAA)

The following figure displays the wind zones that affect Ascension Parish in relation to critical facilities throughout the parish.

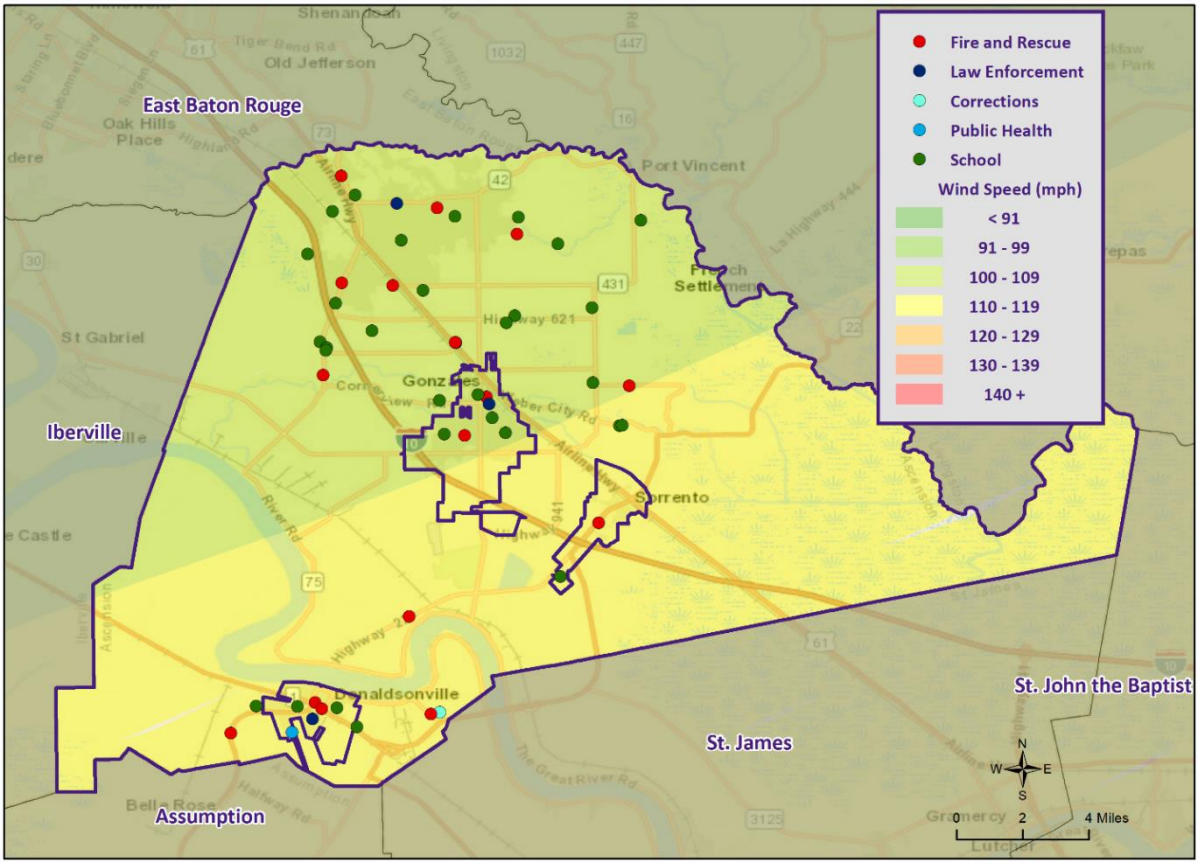

Figure 2-32: Winds Zones for Ascension Parish in Relation to Critical Facilities

Frequency / Probability

Tropical cyclones are large natural hazard events that regularly impact Ascension Parish. The annual chance of occurrence for a tropical cyclone is estimated at 59% for Ascension Parish with 10 events occurring since 2002. The tropical cyclone season for the Atlantic Basin is from June 1st through November 30th, with most of the major hurricanes (Saffir-Simpson Categories 3, 4, & 5) occurring between the months of August and October. Based on geographical location alone Ascension Parish is highly vulnerable to tropical cyclones. This area has experienced several tropical cyclone events in the past and can expect more in the future.

Estimated Potential Losses

Using Hazus 100-Year Hurricane Model, the 100-year hurricane scenario was analyzed to determine losses from this worst-case scenario. The following table shows the total economic losses that would result from this occurrence.

Table 2-49: Total Estimated Losses for a 100-Year Hurricane Event. (Source: Hazus)

Jurisdiction	Estimated Total Losses from 100-Year Hurricane Event
Ascension Parish (Unincorporated)	$131,524,174
Donaldsonville	$11,038,904
Gonzales	$14,520,107
Sorrento	$2,079,815
Total	**$159,163,000**

Total losses from a 100-year hurricane event for Ascension Parish were compared with the total value of assets to determine the ratio of potential damage to total inventory in the table below.

Table 2-50: Ratio of Total Losses to Total Estimated Value of Assets for Ascension Parish. (Source: Hazus)

Jurisdiction	Estimated Total Losses from 100-Year Hurricane Event	Total Estimated Value of Assets	Ratio of Estimated Losses to Total Value
Ascension Parish (Unincorporated)	$131,524,174	$4,355,000,000	3.0%
Donaldsonville	$11,038,904	$229,428,000	4.8%
Gonzales	$14,520,107	$400,626,000	3.6%
Sorrento	$2,079,815	$48,910,000	4.3%

Based on the Hazus Hurricane Model, estimated total losses for unincorporated Ascension Parish was 3% of the total estimated value of all assets. The estimated losses for the incorporated area of Donaldsonville was 4.8% of total estimated value of assets, 3.6% for the incorporated area of Gonzales, and 4.3% of the incorporated area of Sorrento.

The Hazus Hurricane Model also provides a breakdown for seven primary sectors (Hazus occupancy) throughout the parish. The losses for Ascension Parish by sector are listed in the table below.

Table 2-51: Estimated Losses in Unincorporated Ascension Parish for a 100-Year Hurricane Event. (Source: Hazus)

Ascension Parish (Unincorporated)	Estimated Total Losses from 100-Year Hurricane Event
Agricultural	$682,564
Commercial	$14,395,825
Government	$726,361
Industrial	$5,943,101
Religious / Non-Profit	$1,747,728
Residential	$107,357,600
Schools	$670,995
Total	**$131,524,174**

Table 2-52: Estimated Losses in Donaldsonville for a 100-Year Hurricane Event. (Source: Hazus)

Donaldsonville	Estimated Total Losses from 100-Year Hurricane Event
Agricultural	$57,288
Commercial	$1,208,250
Government	$60,964
Industrial	$498,808
Religious / Non-Profit	$146,688
Residential	$9,010,589
Schools	$56,317
Total	**$11,038,904**

Table 2-53: Estimated Losses in Gonzales for a 100-Year Hurricane Event. (Source: Hazus)

Gonzales	Estimated Total Losses from 100-Year Hurricane Event
Agricultural	$75,354
Commercial	$1,589,281
Government	$80,189
Industrial	$656,111
Religious / Non-Profit	$192,947
Residential	$11,852,147
Schools	$74,077
Total	**$14,520,107**

Table 2-54: Estimated Losses in Sorrento for a 100-Year Hurricane Event. (Source: Hazus)

Sorrento	Estimated Total Losses from 100-Year Hurricane Event
Agricultural	$10,794
Commercial	$227,644
Government	$11,486
Industrial	$93,979
Religious / Non-Profit	$27,637
Residential	$1,697,665
Schools	$10,611
Total	**$2,079,815**

Threat to People

The total population within the parish that is susceptible to a hurricane hazard is shown in the table below:

Table 2-55: Number of People Susceptible to a 100-Year Hurricane Event in Ascension Parish. (Source: Hazus)

Number of People Exposed to Hurricane Hazards			
Location	**# in Community**	**# in Hazard Area**	**% in Hazard Area**
Ascension Parish (Unincorporated)	88,597	88,597	100%
Donaldsonville	7,436	7436	100%
Gonzales	9,781	9781	100%
Sorrento	1,401	1401	100%
Total	**107,215**	**107,215**	**100%**

The Hazus hurricane model was also extrapolated to provide an overview of vulnerable populations throughout Ascension Parish. These populations are illustrated in the following table:

Table 2-56: Vulnerable Populations in Unincorporated Ascension Parish for a 100-Year Hurricane Event. (Source: Hazus)

Ascension Parish (Unincorporated)		
Category	**Total Numbers**	**Percentage of People in Hazard Area**
Number in Hazard Area	88,597	100.0%
Persons Under 5 Years	6,937	7.8%
Persons Under 18 Years	18,481	20.9%
Persons 65 Years and Over	7,850	8.9%
White	64,924	73.3%
Minority	23,673	26.7%

Table 2-57: Vulnerable Populations in Donaldsonville for a 100-Year Hurricane Event. (Source: Hazus)

Donaldsonville		
Category	**Total Numbers**	**Percentage of People in Hazard Area**
Number in Hazard Area	7,436	100.0%
Persons Under 5 Years	675	9.1%
Persons Under 18 Years	1,502	20.2%
Persons 65 Years and Over	956	12.9%
White	1,703	22.9%
Minority	5,733	77.1%

Table 2-58: Vulnerable Populations in Gonzales for a 100-Year Hurricane Event. (Source: Hazus)

Gonzales		
Category	**Total Numbers**	**Percentage of People in Hazard Area**
Number in Hazard Area	9,781	100.0%
Persons Under 5 Years	695	7.1%
Persons Under 18 Years	1,774	18.1%
Persons 65 Years and Over	1,194	12.2%
White	4,772	48.8%
Minority	5,009	51.2%

Table 2-59: Vulnerable Populations in Sorrento for a 100-Year Hurricane Event. (Source: Hazus)

Sorrento		
Category	**Total Numbers**	**Percentage of People in Hazard Area**
Number in Hazard Area	1,401	100.0%
Persons Under 5 Years	98	7.0%
Persons Under 18 Years	268	19.1%
Persons 65 Years and Over	176	12.6%
White	1,136	81.1%
Minority	265	18.9%

Vulnerability

See Appendix C for parish and municipality buildings that are susceptible to tropical cyclones.

Winter Weather

For Louisiana and other parts of the southeastern United States, a severe winter storm occurs when humid air from the Gulf of Mexico meets a cold air mass from the north. As the temperature falls once the cold air mass crosses Louisiana, precipitation may fall in the form of snow or sleet. If the ground temperature is cold enough but air temperature is above freezing, rain can freeze instantly on contact with the surface, causing massive ice storms.

The winter weather events that affect the state of Louisiana are ice storms, freezes, and snow events. Each event can affect any part of Ascension Parish. Of the winter weather types listed above, ice storms are the most dangerous. Ice storms occur during a precipitation event when warm air aloft exceeds 32°F while the surface remains below the freezing point. Ice will form on all surfaces when precipitation originating as rain or drizzle contacts physical structures. These ice storms are usually accompanied by freezing temperatures and occasionally snow.

Winter storms can be accompanied by strong winds creating blizzard conditions with blinding wind driven snow, severe drifting, and dangerous wind chill. These types of conditions are very rare in Louisiana – even north Louisiana- but ice storms are more common. The climatic line between snow and rain often stalls over north Louisiana creating ideal conditions for ice accumulation. In a typical winter weather event, homes and buildings are damaged by ice accumulation, either directly by the weight of the ice on the roofs or by trees and/or limbs falling on buildings. While this type of damage can occur in Louisiana, it is not very prevalent in the state, even in north Louisiana, where it is more likely to occur. Effects of winter weather more likely to occur in Louisiana, especially south Louisiana, include extreme temperatures which can cause waterlines to freeze and sewer lines to rupture, especially with mobile homes since cold air is able to access more of the building's infrastructure. Winter weather can also have a devastating effect on agriculture, particularly on crops (like citrus) that are dependent on warm weather. Long exposures to low temperatures can kill many kinds of crops, and ice storms can weigh down branches and fruit.

Winter storms are not only a direct threat to human health through conditions like frostbite and hypothermia, but they are also an indirect threat to human health due to vehicle accidents and loss of power and heat which can be disrupted for days. These impacts are rarely seen in Louisiana, including north Louisiana. As people use space heaters and fireplaces to stay warm, the risk of household fires and carbon monoxide poisoning increases.

Winter weather events occur throughout Louisiana usually during the colder calendar months of December, January, and February. Severe weather events do not occur with the same frequency within all parts of Louisiana. The northern quarter of Louisiana has historically experienced the most severe winter events between 1987 and 2012. The central and, to an even greater extent, the southern parts of the state such as Ascension Parish experienced the fewest severe winter events. The following table shows the Sperry-Piltz Ice Accumulation Index which is utilized to predict the potential damage to overhead utility systems from freezing rain and ice storms.

Table 2-60: Sperry-Piltz Ice Accumulation Index.

Ice Damage Index	Damage and Impact Descriptions
0	Minimal risk of damage to exposed utility systems; no alerts or advisories needed for crews, few outages.
1	Some isolated or localized utility interruptions are possible, typically lasting only a few hours. Roads and bridges may become slick and hazardous.
2	Scattered utility interruptions expected, typically lasting 12 to 24 hours. Roads and travel conditions may be extremely hazardous due to ice accumulation.
3	Numerous utility interruptions with some damage to main feeder lines and equipment expected. Tree limb damage is excessive. Outages lasting 1 – 5 days.
4	Prolonged and widespread utility interruptions with extensive damage to main distribution feeder lines and some high voltage transmission lines/structure. Outages lasting 5 – 10 days.
5	Catastrophic damage to entire exposed utility systems, including both distribution and transmission networks. Outages could last several weeks in some areas. Shelters needed.

Location

Because a winter storm is a climatological based hazard and has the same probability of occurring in Ascension Parish as all of the adjacent parishes, the entire planning area for Ascension Parish and its jurisdictions are equally at risk for winter storms. Based on historic data, Ascension Parish can expect an ice damage index of 2 on the Sperry-Piltz Ice Accumulation Index as a worst-case scenario.

Previous Occurrences / Extent

The NCEI Storm Events Database reports a total of 15 winter weather events within the boundaries of Ascension Parish since 1960. Since the 2015 Ascension Parish HMP Update, there have been no winter storms impacting the parish and its jurisdictions.

Frequency / Probability

Winter storms have a fairly low frequency of occurrence in Ascension Parish with 15 recorded events on record for the past 59 years (1960 – 2019). This equates to an annual chance of occurrence calculated at 26% based historical records.

Estimated Potential Loses

According to the NCEI Storm Events Database, there have been 15 winter weather events that resulted in over $6 million in property damage. This provides an annual estimated loss of approximately $94,755 with an average cost of $442,192 per winter weather event. *Table 2-61* provides an annual estimate of potential losses for Ascension Parish.

Table 2-61: Estimated Annual Losses for Winter Storm Events in Ascension Parish and its Jurisdictions.

Ascension Parish (Unincorporated)	Donaldsonville	Gonzales	Sorrento
$78,301	$6,572	$8,644	$1,238

There have been no reported injuries or deaths for Ascension Parish and its jurisdictions related to winter storm events.

Vulnerability

See Appendix C for parish and municipality building exposure to winter weather.

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3. Capability Assessment

This section summarizes the results of Ascension Parish jurisdictions and other agency efforts to develop policies, programs, and activities that directly or indirectly support hazard mitigation. It also provides information on resources and gaps in the parish's infrastructure, as well as relevant changes in its law since the last plan update, in order to suggest a mitigation strategy.

Through this assessment, Ascension Parish and the participating jurisdictions are able to identify strengths that could be used to reduce losses and reduce risk throughout the communities. It also identifies areas where mitigation actions might be used to supplement current capabilities and create a more resilient community before, during, and after a hazard event.

Policies, Plans and Programs

Ascension Parish and its jurisdictions' capabilities are unique to the parish as a whole, including planning, regulatory, administrative, technical, financial, and education and outreach resources. There are a number of mitigation-specific acts, plans, executive orders, and policies that lay out specific goals, objectives, and policy statements which already support or could support pre- and post-disaster hazard mitigation. Many of the ongoing plans and policies hold significant promise for hazard mitigation, and take an integrated and strategic look holistically at hazard mitigation in all jurisdictions to continually propose ways to improve it. These tools are valuable instruments in pre and post disaster mitigation as they facilitate the implementation of mitigation activities through the current legal and regulatory framework.

As of the 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, Ascension Parish and its jurisdictions ensure that all building codes adopted are enforced and in compliance, relating to the construction of any within the boundaries of the parish. Building code, permitting, and inspections capabilities in place within Ascension Parish and its incorporated jurisdictions can be found in the following tables.

Some jurisdictions have extensive zoning regulations, which address use and height of buildings, density of populations, open space limitation, and lot and occupancy requirements. The zoning ordinances are consistent with the parish comprehensive plan. Before the Parish Council enacts or amends development regulations or takes any land use action, and before the Zoning Board may make any recommendation to the Parish Council regarding a proposed development regulation or land use action, the Planning Department, or other department responsible for providing findings, recommendations, papers, correspondence, and records related to the regulation, amendment, or action shall provide a written recommendation to the Council and Zoning Board regarding the consistency with the plan. The following tables demonstrate land use, zoning, and ordinance requirements that address many different types of districts in the parish and its incorporated jurisdictions, ranging from suburban, conservation, and mixed-use to industrial.

Table 3-1: Planning and Regulatory Capabilities

Worksheet 4.1: Capability Assessment Worksheet					
Local mitigation capabilities are existing authorities, polices and resources that reduce hazard impacts or that could be used to implement hazard mitigation activities. Please complete the tables and questions in the worksheet as completely as possible.					
Planning and Regulatory					
Please indicate which of the following plans and regulatory capabilities your jurisdiction has in place.					
	Ascension Parish	Donaldsonville	Gonzales	Sorrento	Comments
Plans	Yes / No				
Comprehensive / Master Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
Capital Improvements Plan	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
Economic Development Plan	No	Yes	Yes	No	
Local Emergency Operations Plan	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Continuity of Operations Plan	Yes	No	No	No	
Transportation Plan	No	No	Yes	No	
Stormwater Management Plan	No	Yes	Yes	No	Updated annually
Community Wildfire Protection Plan	No	No	No	No	
Other plans (redevelopment, recovery, coastal zone management)	No	No	No	No	
Building Code, Permitting and Inspections	Yes / No				
Building Code	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	IBC and IRC 2012
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) Score	No	No	No	No	
Fire Department ISO/PIAL rating	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	PIAL Ratings
Site plan review requirements	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Land Use Planning and Ordinances	Yes / No				
Zoning Ordinance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Subdivision Ordinance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Floodplain Ordinance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Natural Hazard Specific Ordinance (stormwater, steep slope, wildfire)	No	No	Yes	No	
Flood Insurance Rate Maps	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Acquisition of land for open space and public recreation uses	Yes	No	No	Yes	
Other	No	No	No	No	

Ascension Parish will work to expand their capabilities by adding to these plans, as well as work to create new plans that will address a long-term recovery and resiliency framework. In instances where there are no existing plans, there will be a commitment to explore opportunities to create new plans that will address long-term recovery and resiliency framework as parish and local resources allow.

Building Codes, Permitting, Land Use Planning and Ordinances

The Ascension Parish Government provides oversight for building permits and codes, land use planning, and all parish ordinances.

As of the 2020 update, Ascension Parish and its communities ensure that all adopted building codes are enforced and in compliance relating to the construction of any structure within the boundaries of the parish. Building permits are required prior to beginning any type of construction or renovation projects, installation of electrical wiring, plumbing or gas piping, moving manufactured/modular or portable buildings, and reroofing or demolitions.

The Ascension Parish Government is also responsible for enforcing the parish ordinances related to health and safety, property maintenance standards, and condemnation of unsafe structures.

The Ascension Parish Government meets regularly to consider any proposed ordinance changes, and to take final actions on proposed changes.

While local capabilities for mitigation can vary from community to community, Ascension Parish as a whole has a system in place to coordinate and share these capabilities through the OHSEP and through this Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Some programs and policies, such as the above described, might use complementary tools to achieve a common end, but fail to coordinate with or support each other. Thus, coordination among local mitigation policies and programs is essential to hazard mitigation.

Administration, Technical, and Financial

As an entire community, Ascension Parish has administrative and technical capabilities in place that may be utilized in reducing hazard impacts or implementing hazard mitigation activities. Such capabilities include staff, skillset, and tools available in the community that may be accessed to implement mitigation activities and to effectively coordinate resources. The ability to access and coordinate these resources is also important. The table below shows examples of resources in place in Ascension Parish.

Table 3-2: Administration and Technical Capabilities

Administration and Technical					
Identify whether your community has the following administrative and technical capabilities. For smaller jurisdictions without local staff resources, if there are public resources at the next higher level government that can provide technical assistance, indicate so in your comments.					
	Ascension Parish	Donaldsonville	Gonzales	Sorrento	Comments
Administration	Yes / No				
Planning Commission	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Mitigation Planning Committee	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
Maintenance programs to reduce risk (tree trimming, clearing drainage systems)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Staff	Yes / No				
Chief Building Official	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Floodplain Administrator	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Emergency Manager	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Community Planner	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Civil Engineer	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Contractor
GIS Coordinator	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Grant Writer	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Other	No	Yes	No	No	Drainage
Technical	Yes / No				
Warning Systems / Service (Reverse 911, outdoor warning signals)	No	No	Yes	Yes	1st Call Networks; Media Overides
Hazard Data & Information	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Grant Writing	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
Hazus Analysis	No	No	No	No	
Other	No	No	No	No	

Financial capabilities are the resources that Ascension Parish has access to or are eligible to use in order to fund mitigation actions. Costs associated with implementing the actions identified by the parish may vary from little to no cost actions, such as outreach efforts, or substantial action costs such acquisition of flood prone properties.

The following financial resources are available to fund mitigation actions in Ascension Parish:

Table 3-3: Financial Capabilities

Financial					
Identify whether your jurisdiction has access to or is eligible to use the following funding resources for hazard mitigation.					
	Ascension Parish	Donaldsonville	Gonzales	Sorrento	Comments
Funding Resource	Yes / No				
Capital Improvements project funding	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Impact fees for new development	Yes	No	Yes	No	Sewer and Transportation
Stormwater Utility Fee	No	No	No	No	
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Other Funding Programs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	LGAP, USDA, Small Business Microlending, Subdivision Road Maintenance

Education and Outreach

A key element in hazard mitigation is promoting a safer, more disaster resilient community through education and outreach activities and/or programs. Successful outreach programs provide data and information that improves overall quality and accuracy of important information for citizens to feel better prepared and educated with mitigation activities. These programs enable the individual communities and the parish as a whole to maximize opportunities for implementation of activities through greater acceptance and consensus of the community.

Ascension Parish has existing education and outreach programs to implement mitigation activities, as well as communicate risk and hazard related information to its communities. Specifically, focusing on advising repetitive loss property owners of ways they can reduce their exposure to damage by repetitive flooding remains a priority for the entire parish. The existing programs are as follows:

Table 3-4: Education and Outreach Capabilities

Education and Outreach					
Identify education and outreach programs and methods, already in place that could be used to implement mitigation activities and communicate hazard-related information.					
	Ascension Parish	Donaldsonville	Gonzales	Sorrento	Comments
Program / Organization	Yes / No				
focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc.	No	Yes	Yes	No	
Ongoing public education or information program (responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Natural Disaster or safety related school program	No	Yes	Yes	No	
Storm Ready certification	No	No	Yes	No	
Firewise Communities certification	No	No	No	No	
Public/Private partnership initiatives addressing disaster-related issues	LEPC	No	Yes	No	
Other	No	No	No	No	

The communities within Ascension Parish rely on Ascension OHSEP and/or Ascension Parish Government agencies for the aforementioned planning and regulatory, administrative and technical, financial, and education and outreach capabilities.

As reflected with above existing regulatory mechanisms, programs and resources within the parish, Ascension Parish remains committed to expanding and improving on the existing capabilities within the parish. Communities, along with Ascension Parish will work together toward increased participation in funding opportunities and available mitigation programs. Should funding become available, the hiring of additional personnel to dedicate to hazard mitigation initiatives and programs, as well as increasing ordinances within the parish, will all enhance and expand risk reduction for all of Ascension Parish.

The following municipalities and entities are recognized by the Parish of Ascension under the Hazard Mitigation Plan allowing them to apply for available hazard mitigation funding for as long as these municipalities and entities notify the Parish of their intentions and the Parish concurs:

Municipalities:

- Parish of Ascension
- City of Gonzales
- City of Donaldsonville
- Town of Sorrento

Unincorporated Settlements:

- Prairieville
- Darrow
- Burnside
- Geismar
- Galvez
- St. Amant

Flood Insurance and Community Rating System

Ascension Parish is a participant in the Community Rating System with a classification of 8. Participation in the CRS strengthens local capabilities by lowering flood insurance premiums for jurisdictions that exceed NFIP minimum requirements.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) administers the Community Rating System (CRS). Under the CRS, flood insurance premiums for properties in participating communities are reduced to reflect the flood protection activities that are being implemented. This program can have a major influence on the design and implementation of flood mitigation activities, so a brief summary is provided here.

A community receives a CRS classification based upon the credit points it receives for its activities. It can undertake any mix of activities that reduce flood losses through better mapping, regulations, public information, flood damage reduction and/or flood warning and preparedness programs.

There are ten CRS classes: Class 1 requires the most credit points and gives the largest premium reduction; Class 10 receives no premium reduction (see *Figure 3-1*). A community that does not apply for the CRS or that does not obtain the minimum number of credit points is a class 10 community.

CLASS	DISCOUNT	CLASS	DISCOUNT
1	45%	6	20%
2	40%	7	15%
3	35%	8	10%
4	30%	9	5%
5	25%	10	–
SFHA (Zones A, AE, A1–A30, V, V1–V30, AO, and AH): Discount varies depending on class.			
SFHA (Zones A99, AR, AR/A, AR/AE, AR/A1–A30, AR/AH, and AR/AO): 10% discount for Classes 1–6; 5% discount for Classes 7–9.*			
Non-SFHA (Zones B, C, X, D): 10% discount for Classes 1–6; 5% discount for Classes 7–9.			

Figure 3-1: CRS Discounts by Class (Source: FEMA)

As of September 2019, 317 communities in the State of Louisiana participate in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Of these communities, 47 (or 15%) participate in the Community Rating System (CRS). Jefferson Parish leads the state with a rating of Class 5, followed by the City of Mandeville in St. Tammany Parish with a Class 6 rating. Of the top fifty Louisiana communities, in terms of total flood insurance policies held by residents, 27 participate in the CRS. The remaining 23 communities present an outreach opportunity for encouraging participation in the CRS.

The CRS provides an incentive not just to start new mitigation programs, but to keep them going. There are two requirements that "encourage" a community to implement flood mitigation activities. Once the parish has obtained a CRS rating and is a participant, the parish will receive CRS credit for this plan when it is adopted. To retain that credit, though, the parish must submit an evaluation report on progress toward implementing this plan to FEMA by October 1 of each year. That report must be made available to the media and the public. Second, the parish must annually recertify to FEMA that it is continuing to implement its CRS credited activities. Failure to maintain the same level of involvement in flood protection can result in a loss of CRS credit points and a resulting increase in flood insurance rates to residents.

In 2011[2], the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) completed a comprehensive review of the Community Rating System (CRS) that resulted in the release of a new CRS Coordinator's Manual. The changes to the 2013 CRS Coordinator's Manual are the result of a multi-year program evaluation that included input from a broad group of contributors to evaluate the CRS and refine the program to meet its stated goals. The changes helped to drive new achievements in the following six core flood loss reduction areas important to the NFIP: (1) reduce liabilities to the NFIP Fund; (2) improve disaster resiliency and sustainability of communities; (3) integrate a Whole Community approach to addressing emergency management; (4) promote natural and beneficial functions of floodplains; (5) increase understanding of risk, and; (6) strengthen adoption and enforcement of disaster-resistant building codes.

Since the revision of the 2013 Coordinator's Manual, FEMA released the 2017 CRS Coordinator's Manual which continued the evolution of the CRS program and its mission to reward communities that prioritize mindful floodplain regulations. As with the 2013 manual, the changes made in the 2017 manual impact each CRS community differently. Some communities see an increase in the points they receive since points for certain activities have increased (e.g., Activity 420 Open Space Preservation). Other communities receive fewer points for certain activities (e.g., Activity 320 Map Information Service). It is likely that some communities with marginal CRS Class 9 programs have to identify new CRS credits in order

[2] https://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-community-rating-system

to remain in the CRS class. Most notably, as it relates to this hazard mitigation plan, more credit was made available for Activity 410 Floodplain Mapping.

Typically, CRS communities do not request credit for all the activities they are currently implementing unless it would earn enough credit to advance the community to a higher CRS Class. A community that finds itself losing CRS credit with the 2017 manual could likely identify activities deserving credit they had not previously received. Due to the changes in both activities and CRS points, community CRS coordinators should speak with their ISO/CRS Specialist to understand how the 2017 manual will impact their community and when.

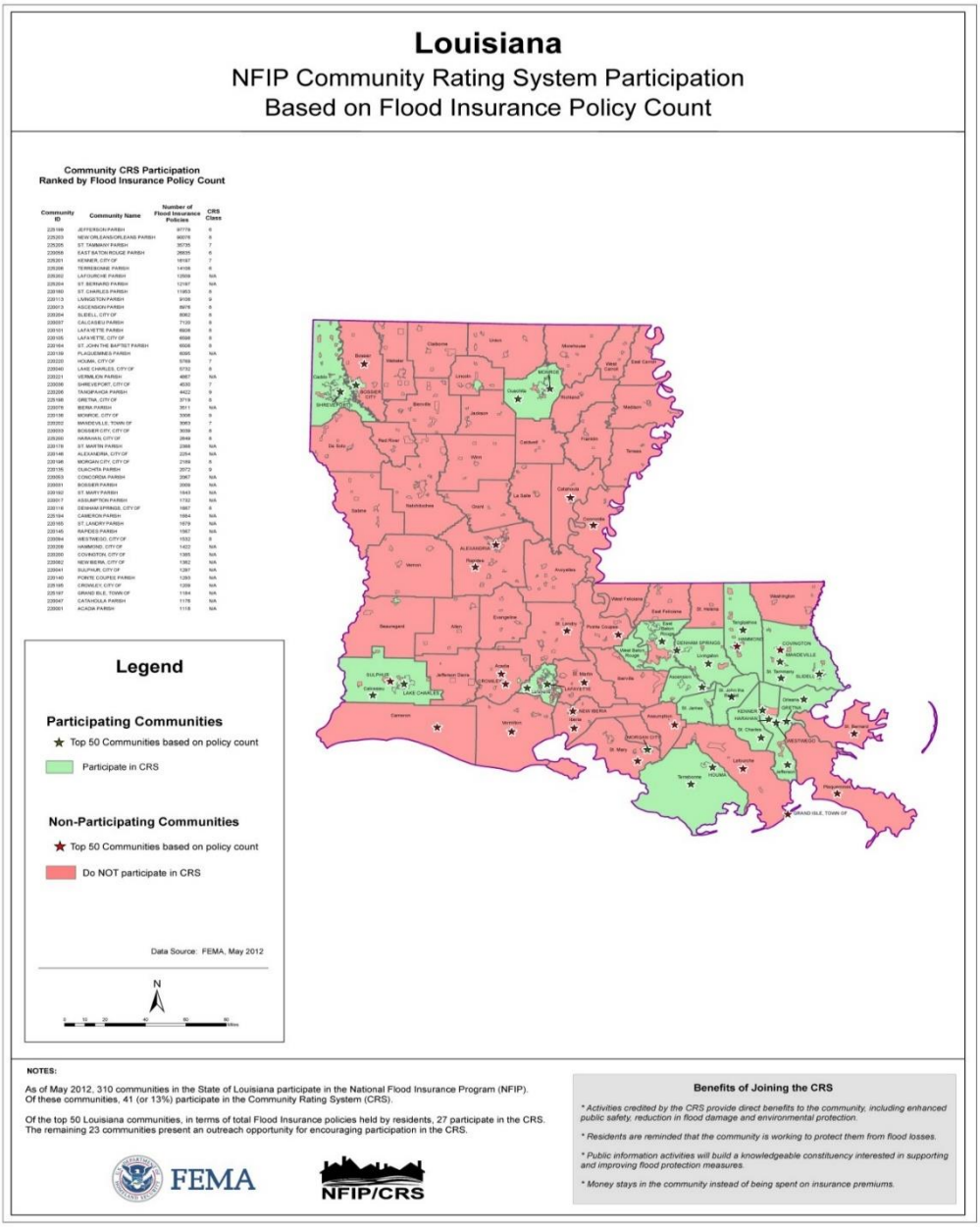


Figure 3-2: Louisiana CRS Participation
(Source: FEMA[3])

[3] http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-2128-31471-9581/ks_ky_la_crs_may_2012_508.zip

In addition to the direct financial reward for participating in the Community Rating System, there are many other reasons to participate in the CRS. As FEMA staff often say, "If you are only interested in saving premium dollars, you're in the CRS for the wrong reason."

The other benefits that are more difficult to measure in dollars include:

1. The activities credited by the CRS provide direct benefits to residents, including:
   – Enhanced public safety
   – A reduction in damage to property and public infrastructure
   – Avoidance of economic disruption and losses
   – Reduction of human suffering
   – Protection of the environment

2. A community's flood programs will be better organized and more formal. Ad hoc activities, such as responding to drainage complaints rather than an inspection program, will be conducted on a sounder, more equitable basis.

3. A community can evaluate the effectiveness of its flood program against a nationally recognized benchmark.

4. Technical assistance in designing and implementing a number of activities is available at no charge from the Insurance Services Office.

5. The public information activities will build a knowledgeable constituency interested in supporting and improving flood protection measures.

6. A community would have an added incentive to maintain its flood programs over the years. The fact that its CRS status could be affected by the elimination of a flood related activity or a weakening of the regulatory requirements for new developments would be taken into account by the governing board when considering such actions.

7. Every time residents pay their insurance premiums, they are reminded that the community is working to protect them from flood losses, even during dry years.

**More information on the Community Rating System can be found at https://www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program-community-rating-system **

NFIP Worksheets

Parish NFIP worksheets can be found in Appendix E: State Required Worksheets.

4. Mitigation Strategy

Introduction

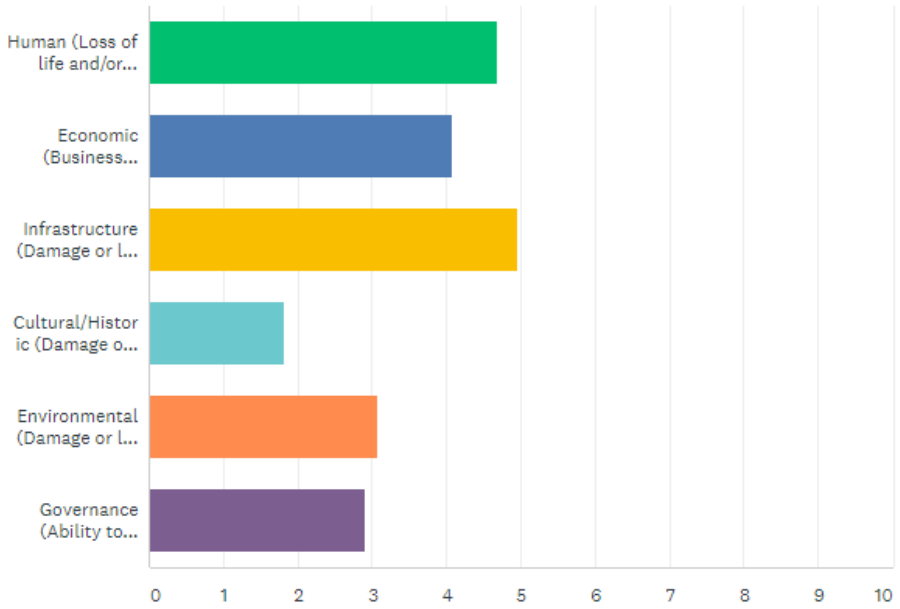
Ascension Parish's Hazard Mitigation Strategy has a common guiding principle and is the demonstration of the parish's commitment to reduce risks from hazards. The strategy also serves as a guide for parish and local decision makers as they commit resources to reducing the effects of hazards.

Ascension Parish confirmed the goals, objectives, actions and projects over the period of the hazard mitigation plan update process. The mitigation actions and projects in this 2020 HMP update are a product of analysis and review of the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Steering Committee under the coordination of the Ascension Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness. The committee was presented a list of projects and actions, new and from the 2015 plan, for review from March 2020 – June 2020.

An online public opinion survey of Ascension Parish residents was conducted between March and June 2020. The survey was designed to capture public perceptions and opinions regarding natural hazards in Ascension Parish. In addition, the survey collected information regarding the methods and techniques preferred by the respondents for reducing the risks and losses associated with local hazards.

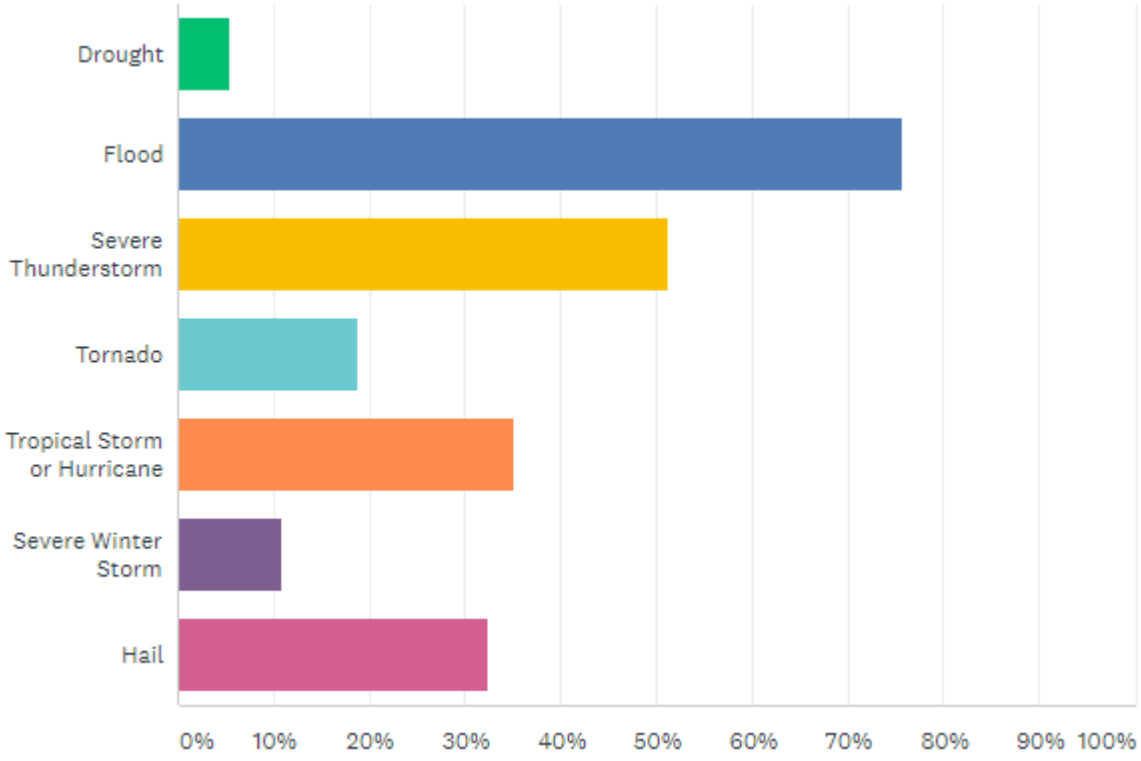
When asked to gauge from a list which categories were most susceptible to impacts caused by natural hazards, the top three categories selected were:

1. Human (Loss of life and/or injuries)
2. Infrastructure (Damage or loss of bridges, utilities, schools, etc.)
3. Economic (Business closures and/or job losses)

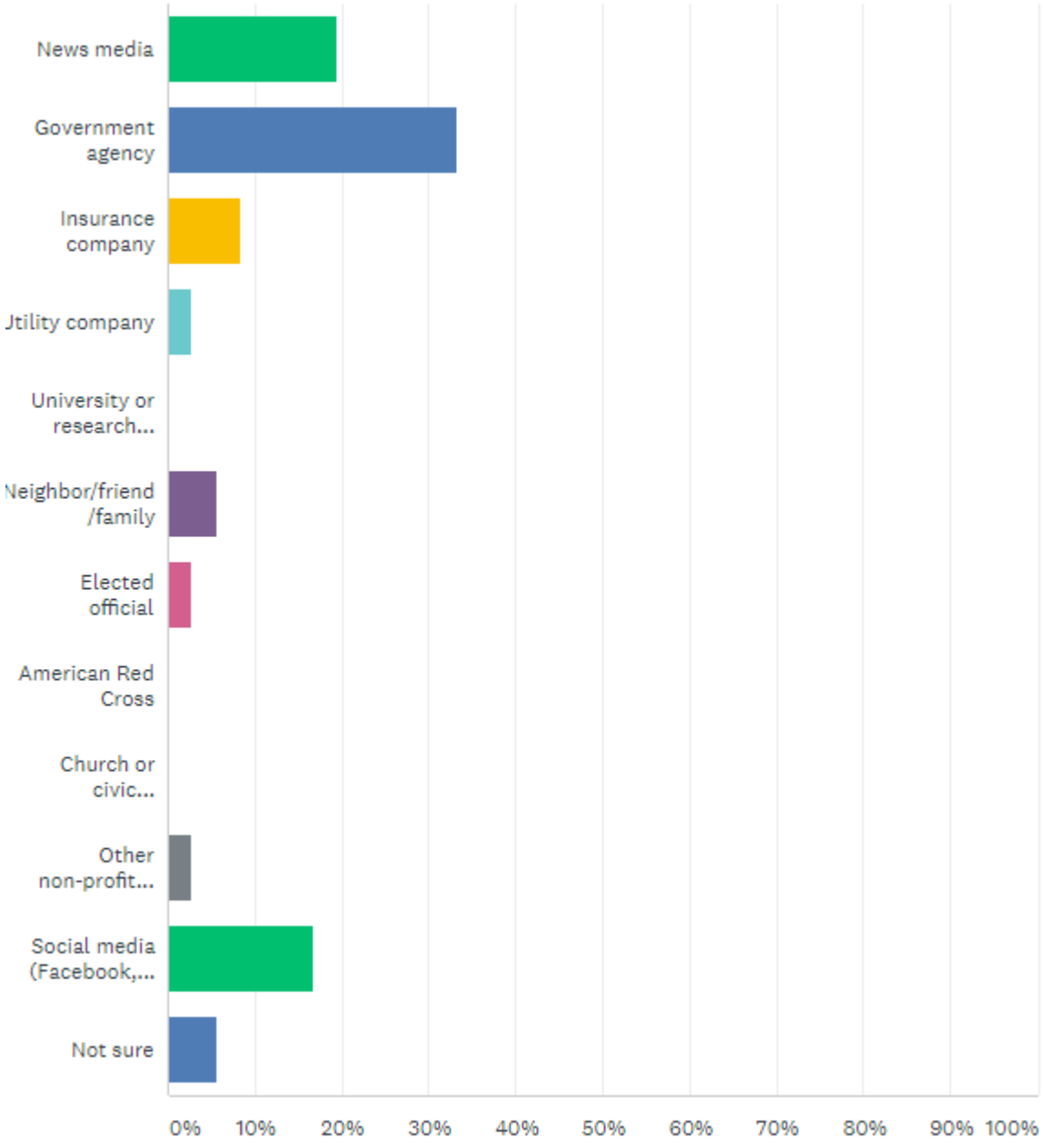


The survey results also indicated which natural disasters citizens were *most concerned* with being affected by in Ascension Parish. The top three natural disasters selected were:

1. Flooding
2. Severe Thunderstorm
3. Tropical Storm or Hurricane



The results below are related to the manner in which the general population receives information on how to make their home safer from natural disasters. These results are encouraging because it shows that the public has high confidence in the information being disseminated by local government agencies. Implementation of the outreach activities put forth by parish officials and offices seem to have been executed in a successful manner.



This activity confirms that the goals and action items developed by the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Steering Committee are representative of the outlook of the community at large. Full survey results can be found here:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-PXP3X39F7/

Goals

The goals represent the guidelines that the parish and its communities want to achieve with this plan update. To help implement the strategy and adhere to the mission of the Hazard Mitigation Plan, the preceding section of the plan update was focused on identifying and quantifying the risks faced by the residents and property owners in Ascension Parish from natural and manmade hazards. By articulating goals and objectives based on the previous plans, the risk assessment results, and intending to address those results, this section sets the stage for identifying, evaluating, and prioritizing feasible, cost effective, and environmentally sound actions to be promoted at the parish and municipal level – and to be undertaken by the state for its own property and assets. By doing so, Ascension Parish can make progress toward reducing identified risks.

For the purposes of this plan update, goals and action items are defined as follows:

- **Goals** are general guidelines that explain what the parish wants to achieve. Goals are expressed as broad policy statements representing desired long-term results.
- **Action Items** are the specific steps (projects, policies, and programs) that advance a given goal. They are highly focused, specific, and measurable.

The current goals of the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Steering Committee represent long-term commitments by the parish. After assessing these goals, the committee decided that the current remain valid.

The goals are as follows:

Goal 1: Identify and pursue preventative structural and non-structural measures that will reduce future damages from hazards.

Goal 2: Enhance public awareness and understanding of disaster preparedness.

Goal 3: Reduce repetitive flood losses in parish and municipalities.

Goal 4: Facilitate sound building practices in the parish and municipalities so as to reduce or eliminate the potential impact of hazards.

Goal 5: Improve the ability of the parish and municipalities to rapidly recover and restore facilities and services to the public.

The Mitigation Action Plan focuses on actions to be taken by Ascension Parish. All of the activities in the Mitigation Action Plan will be focused on helping the parish and its communities in developing and funding projects that are not only cost effective but also meet the other DMA 2000 criteria of environmental compatibility and technical feasibility.

The Hazard Mitigation Plan Steering Committee reviewed and evaluated the potential action and project lists in which consideration was given to a variety of factors. Such factors include determining a project's

eligibility for federal mitigation grants as well as its ability to be funded. This process required evaluation of each project's engineering feasibility, cost effectiveness, and environmental and cultural factors.

2020 Mitigation Actions and Update on Previous Plan Actions

The Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Steering Committee identified new actions that would reduce and/or prevent future damage within Ascension Parish and their respective communities. In that effort, the parish focused on a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions. These actions were identified in thorough fashion by the consultant team and the committee by way of frequent and open communications and meetings held throughout the planning process. The addition of these new actions, coupled with any ongoing and/or carried over projects from their previous update, provide Ascension Parish with a solid mitigation strategy through which risk and losses will be reduced throughout the parish and its communities.

As outlined in the Local Mitigation Planning Handbook the following are eligible types of mitigation actions:

- **Local Plans and Regulations –** These actions include government authorities, policies, or codes that influence the way land and buildings are developed and built.
- **Structure and Infrastructure Projects –** These actions involve modifying existing structures and infrastructure to protect them from a hazard or remove them from a hazard area, and also includes projects to construct manmade structures to reduce the impact of hazards.
- **Natural System Protection –** These actions minimize the damage and losses and also preserve or restore the functions of natural systems.
- **Education and Awareness Programs –** These actions inform and educate citizens, elected officials, and property owners about hazards and potential ways to mitigate them.

The established and agreed upon parish actions relative to the parish-wide goals are below. Additionally, action updates from the previous plan updates can be found below the new actions.

Ascension Parish Previous Completed Actions

Completed Mitigation Projects in Ascension Parish and Municipalities						
Completed Mitigation Projects	**Action Description**	**Funding Source**	**Time**	**Responsible Party, Agency, or Department**	**Hazard**	**Status**
Construct Safe Rooms to protect parish employees	Lamar Dixon Expo Center- 4- H Building.	HMGP	1-2 years	Administration, Grants, Drainage	Tornadoes	Completed
Wind harden municipal and parish structures including new buildings and infrastructure	Lamar Dixon Expo Center- 4- H Building, B, C, & D Arenas, Trade Mart, 4-H, Gym, Commissary; DA's Office (formerly Parish President's Office (flood proofed); Dutchtown High School- flood proofed.	HMGP, local, federal, regional	1-2 years	Administration, Grants	Tropical Cyclone, Tornadoes, Thunderstorms	Completed
Build tornado safe rooms and maintain hurricane shelters	Lamar Dixon Expo Center- Shelter only- Trademart, Gym.	HMGP, local, federal, regional	1-2 years	Administration, Ascension Parish OHSEP	Tropical Cyclone, Tornadoes	Completed

Completed Mitigation Projects	Action Description	Funding Source	Time	Responsible Party, Agency, or Department	Hazard	Status
Continue parish and municipal participation and compliance (Parish of Ascension, Donaldsonville, Gonzales, and Sorrento) in NFIP	NFIP compliance continuation.	Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding	Completed
Radio Communication	Radios are need to establish a frequency for communication during incidents.	HGMP; local budgets	1 year	Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	Completed
Safe Room Construction	Retrofit Existing Structures or construct new structures to act as emergency safe-rooms during severe weather events.	HMGP	1-2 years	Ascension OHSEP, Town of Sorrento, Mayor's Office	Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclone,	Completed
Elevate or acquire all RL and SRL structures in Ascension Parish in flood zones and/or potential levee failure areas	Properties elevated and/or acquired in applicable flood zones.	HMGP, PDM, FMA	n/a	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flood, Tropical Cyclone, Levee	Completed
Enforce the International Building Code requirements for all new construction to strengthen buildings against high wind damage	Continued enforcement of building code requirements to better mitigate damage to public buildings.	No additional funds requested	n/a	Ascension OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	Completed
Upgrade drainage under three railroad crossings	n/a	HMGP, local, and federal	n/a	West Ascension Drainage	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone	Completed
Upgrade existing culverts to increase stormwater conveyance	n/a	HMGP, local, and regional	n/a	West Ascension Drainage	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone	Completed
Generators	Installation of permanent generators at Pump Station A, C, and E.	HMGP	1 year	City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone	Completed
Radio Communication	Radios need to establish frequency for communication during an emergency.	HGMP; local budgets	0-6 months	City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	Completed
Safe Room Construction	Retrofit Existing Structures or construct new structures to act as emergency safe-rooms during severe weather events.	HMGP	1-2 years	Ascension OHSEP, City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclone	Completed

Completed Mitigation Projects	Action Description	Funding Source	Time	Responsible Party, Agency, or Department	Hazard	Status
City Hall Radios	One radio was purchased and is utilized by the Gonzales Police Department at their Ascension OEP station during emergency events.	HMGP; local budgets	0-6 months	City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	Completed
Sandbagging Location Covers	Covers have been constructed at the two sandbag locations: 3413 S. Burnside Ave and 1219 S. Darla Ave	HMGP; local budgets	1 year	City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone	Completed
Sewer Lift Station Generators – Gonzales	All new regional pump stations have generators: LS 11, LS 45, LS 33. And the main Wastewater Treatment Plant now has large generator	HMGP	1-3 years	City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Tropical Cyclone, Thunderstorm	Completed
Drainage System	Widen drainage ditches and upgrade culverts in coordination with other jurisdictions and parishes to ensure waterways are sufficient to move flooding from the jurisdiction.	HMGP	1-2 years	City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding	Completed 11 projects. Additional in progress

Unincorporated Ascension Parish Action Update

Unincorporated Ascension Parish Updated Mitigation Actions						
Jurisdiction-Specific Action	**Action Description**	**Funding Source**	**Time**	**Responsible Party, Agency, or Department**	**Hazard**	**Status**
Floodplain Management Partnerships	Effectively communicate and coordinate all flood mitigation issues.	HMPG; PDM; FMA, local budgets	1-5 years	Ascension OHSEP	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone	Carried Over
Inter-Jurisdictional Flood Risk Assessments	Effectively assess the risk from backwater, headwater, and storm surge flooding through the use of surge and inundation models.	HMGP	1-5 years	Administration, Grants, Drainage, Planning & Development	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone	Carried Over
Storm Surge and Inundation Modeling	Determine changes in storm surge threats due to surge inundation through Lakes Pontchartrain and Maurepas, as well as into the McElroy Swamp.	HMGP, local budgets	1 year	Administration, Grants, Drainage, Planning & Development	Tropical Cyclone	Carried Over
Improve NFIP Compliance	Maintain Parish NFIP compliance by conducting to ensure protocols are followed and actions are taken to improve NFIP ratings in all jurisdictions.	HMGP	1 year	Planning & Development Dept.	Flooding, Dam/Levee Failure	Carried Over
Continue parish and municipal participation and compliance (Parish of Ascension, Donaldsonville, Gonzales, and Sorrento) in NFIP	ongoing lines of communication and participation between Parish and municipalities, continuing education regarding updates related to NFIP requirements.	Local, regional, and federal	n/a	Ascension Parish Planning & Development, City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office, and Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding	Carried Over
Improve Stormwater Management Planning	Complete drainage study to improve stormwater management in areas subject to flooding during flash floods.	HMPG; PDM; FMA, local budgets	0-6 months	Administration, Grants, Drainage, Planning & Development	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone, Dam/Levee Failure	In Progress
Safe Room Construction	Retrofit Existing Structures or construct new structures to act as emergency safe-rooms during severe weather events.	HMGP	1-2 years	Ascension OHSEP	Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclone,	Carried Over
Water Works Generators	Provide backup power to parish-owned water works – ACUD 1.	HMGP	1-2 years	Administration, PUA (Parish Utilities of Ascension), Grants	Tropical Cyclone, Thunderstorms	In Progress
Sewer Auxiliary Power	Provide backup generator power to sewage plants throughout parish to ensure continuous operations during severe weather events.	HMGP	1-2 years	Administration, PUA (Parish Utilities of Ascension), Grants	Tropical Cyclone, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes	In Progress

Jurisdiction-Specific Action	Action Description	Funding Source	Time	Responsible Party, Agency, or Department	Hazard	Status
General Population Shelter Auxiliary Power	Provide backup generator power to sheltering facilities to include schools and the Lamar Dixon Expo Center to ensure the parish can meet extended sheltering requirements.	HMGP	0–6 months	Ascension OHSEP	Tropical Cyclone, Tornadoes, Winter Weather	In Progress
Retrofit Public Buildings	Retrofit public buildings to reinforce them against damages from high velocity wind events.	HMGP	1 year	Ascension OHSEP	Tropical Cyclone, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes	Carried Over
Ascension/St. James Auxiliary Power	Add auxiliary generator power to the Ascension Parish Airport for use during an emergency.	HMPG, local budgets	1-5 years	Ascension OHSEP	Tropical Cyclone, Thunderstorms, Winter Weather	Carried Over
Mitigation Public Outreach	Develop a parish wide outreach and educational campaign, to provide educational materials to libraries, schools, and other public facilities including mitigation measures for all hazards including flooding, levee failure, sinkholes, hail, heavy winds, winter weather, lightning, tornadoes, and tropical cyclones.	HMPG, local budgets	1-5 years	Administration, Ascension OHSEP, Grants	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress
Elevate or acquire all RL and SRL structures in Ascension Parish in flood zones and/or potential levee failure areas	Elevations parish wide of RL & SRL structures	HMGP, PDM, FMA	1-5 years	Administration, Grants, Drainage	Flood, Tropical Cyclone, Levee	In Progress
Ensure that future development does not increase hazard losses	This is being monitored and controlled under mandated ordinances	No additional funds requested	1-5 years	Administration, Planning & Development	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress
Guide future development away from hazard areas while maintaining other parish goals such as economic development and improving the quality of life	This is being monitored and controlled under mandated ordinances	No additional funds requested	1-5 years	Administration, Planning & Development	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress

Jurisdiction-Specific Action	Action Description	Funding Source	Time	Responsible Party, Agency, or Department	Hazard	Status
Enforce the International Building Code requirements for all new construction to strengthen buildings against high wind damage	This is being monitored and controlled under mandated ordinances	No additional funds requested	1-5 years	Administration, Building & Permits	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress
Provide safe locations for files, records, and computer equipment	IT manages the equipment and data to securely store records electronically and off site.	No additional funds requested	1-5 years	Administration, IT, Grants, Finance	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress
Participate in existing programs at the state and federal levels oriented to environmental enhancement and conservation	As required or mandated	Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Administration driven to all departments	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In progress
Purchase additional radios for first responders	As needed	Local, regional, and federal	n/a	Ascension Parish OHSEP	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	Delete
Purchase generators for critical facilities	Continuing to assess the need at critical facilities parish wide	Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Administration, Grants, Ascension Parish OHSEP	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress
Maintain Lamar Dixon and the South Louisiana State Fairgrounds in Donaldsonville as Emergency Management Staging Areas and Points of Distribution to be utilized immediately after an event	As needed	Local, regional, and federal	n/a	Ascension Parish OHSEP	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress
Drainage system upgrades	Widen drainage ditches and upgrade culverts.	HMGP, local and regional	1-5 years	Administration, Drainage, Grants	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone	In progress

Jurisdiction-Specific Action	Action Description	Funding Source	Time	Responsible Party, Agency, or Department	Hazard	Status
Conduct study on effects of sinkholes to surrounding areas.	n/a	Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Administration, Grants,	Sinkholes	Carried Over
Communication System Upgrades	Implement upgrades and additions to communications systems, including the Auto call out system for the Sheriff's Department. Implement a public notification system, such as sirens or a call down system with backup capabilities.	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Administration, Grants,	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	New
Enhanced Public Awareness Campaigns for All-Hazards	Increase public awareness of hazards and hazardous areas. Actions include distribution of public awareness information regarding hazards and potential mitigation measures; implementation of educational program for children and merchants; providing education on the importance of maintaining ditches, promotion of the purchase of flood insurance for public. Sponsor a "Multi-Hazard Awareness Week" to educate the public on all hazards. Utilize social media for mass message distribution.	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Administration, Grants,	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	New
Ordinance development and implementation	Adopt the current International Building Codes by ordinance, which would result in additional techniques to harden structures. Develop and pass out ordinances to help regulate new development in the parish to implement drainage standards, develop codes that will require new subdivision developments to install underground utilities, which would help reduce the chances of power outages.	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Administration, Grants,	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	New
Potable Water Supplies to Critical Facilities	Create redundancy of potable water supply to critical facilities, especially hospitals in the parish, and provide protection of potable water supply by acquisition/installation of backflow preventers at appropriate critical locations in the unincorporated areas	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Administration, Grants,	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	New

Jurisdiction-Specific Action	Action Description	Funding Source	Time	Responsible Party, Agency, or Department	Hazard	Status
Flood Proofing of Critical Facilities	Flood-proof critical structures within the unincorporated areas to help promote continuation of critical services during a storm event	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Administration, Grants,	Flooding, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tropical Cyclones	New
Development of Interoperable Communications Plan	Develop an interoperability/communications plan identifying resources and equipment needed to establish a single, interagency, mobile incident and communications command post.	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Administration, Grants,	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	New
Education and Outreach for NFIP	Continue to promote the purchase of flood insurance. Advertise the availability, cost, and coverage of flood insurance through the NFIP. This enables homeowners to financially recover from the devastating effects of flooding as rapidly as possible. Serves to educate area residents that any homeowner, regardless of location, can purchase flood insurance.	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Administration, Grants,	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone	New
Pump Station Enhancement and Elevations	Elevate or flood proof pump stations; upgrade existing pump stations by installing block valves to prevent/protect against backwater	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Administration, Grants,	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone, Subsidence, Levee Failure	New
Dam/Levee Failure Working Group Identification	Create a working group in order to assess the extent and determine the possible effects of a dam and/or levee failure.	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Administration, Grants,	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone, Subsidence, Levee Failure	New
Dam/Levee Failure data analysis	Seek out and apply for grant funding for the gathering and analysis of data related to a dam and/or levee failure.	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Administration, Grants,	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone, Subsidence, Levee Failure	New
Floodwall and Flood Control Construction Projects	Install and/or upgrade minor flood control structures including erms and floodwalls to protect critical facilities	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Administration, Grants,	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone, Subsidence, Levee Failure	New
Levee Protection Expansion	Expand existing levee protection to ensure levees do not fail during a storm event.	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Administration, Grants,	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone, Subsidence, Levee Failure	New

Jurisdiction-Specific Action	Action Description	Funding Source	Time	Responsible Party, Agency, or Department	Hazard	Status
Construction of Renovated/ Retrofitted Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Building	Construction of facility will facilitate the needs of the parish for all hazards. New or updated/upgraded facility will serve as an office space for day to day operations, an Emergency Operations Center for briefings, conferences, meetings, activation of ESF/multi agency coordination seats in the Emergency Operations Center, a JIC, and would allow for expansion for restrooms, dorm spaces and the Citizen Service Center which is now operating out of the Emergency Operations Center. This would also allow for upgrades to technological advancements which all municipalities will benefit from	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Administration, Grants,	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	New

City of Donaldsonville Action Update

City of Donaldsonville Updated Mitigation Actions						
Jurisdiction-Specific Action	**Action Description**	**Funding Source**	**Time**	**Responsible Party, Agency, or Department**	**Hazard**	**Status**
NFIP Compliance	Continue parish and municipal participation and compliance in NFIP	Local, regional, and federal	n/a	Ascension OHSEP, City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Flooding	Ongoing
Wind Hardening of the Lemann Center and City Hall	Retrofit Lemann Center, City Hall, and other facilities for use as a shelter, staging center, and point of commodity distribution during a disaster.	HMGP	1 year	City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Tropical Cyclone, Thunderstorm, Tornado	Carried Over
Flood Risk – Infrastructure Improvements	Drainage improvements for high risk flooding areas, including Opelousas Street, West 7th Street, St. Patrick Street, and all City underpasses.	HMPG; PDM; FMA, local budgets	1-3 years	City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office, Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone, Levee, Thunderstorm	In Progress
Bayou Stormwater Management	Dredging of waterways in surrounding parishes alleviate flooding in 3 surrounding parishes.	HMPG; PDM; FMA, local budgets	1-2 years	West Ascension Drainage, Lafourche Basin Levee District, Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone	In Progress
Pumping Stations at Lafourche Street and Railroad Tracks	Addition of pumping stations at Lafourche Street and railroad crossing.	HMPG; PDM; FMA, local budgets	1-5 years	Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone	In Progress
Elevate or acquire all RL and SRL structures in flood zones and/or potential levee failure areas	n/a	HMGP, PDM, FMA	n/a	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office, Atchafalaya Levee Basin, Lafourche Basin Levee District	Flood, Tropical Cyclone, Levee	In Progress
Ensure that future development does not increase hazard losses	Parish and City Planning and Zoning collaboration on future development and avoiding areas of increased risk.	No additional funds requested	n/a	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress
Regulation of New Development	Parish and City Code Enforcement Inspections. Guide future development away from hazard areas while maintaining other parish goals such as economic development and improving the quality of life	No additional funds requested	n/a	Ascension OHSEP, City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress

Jurisdiction-Specific Action	Action Description	Funding Source	Time	Responsible Party, Agency, or Department	Hazard	Status
Regulation of New Development	Parish and City Code Enforcement Inspections shall enforce and educate on IBC requirements.	No additional funds requested	n/a	Parish of Ascension Code Enforcement, Ascension OHSEP, City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress
Provide safe locations for files, records, and computer equipment	Offsite file storage, daily, and weekly file storage backup.	No additional funds requested	n/a	Ascension OHSEP, City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	Carried Over
Purchase generators for critical facilities	New Generator, Main Pump Station, and Fire Station #110 completed and need to install generator at Lemann Center.	Local, regional, and federal	1-4 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	Carried Over
Communication System Upgrades	Implement upgrades and additions to communications systems, including the Auto call out system for Sheriff's Department. Implement a public notification system, such as sirens or a call down system with backup capabilities.	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	New
Drainage Improvement Projects	Implementation of drainage improvement/flood mitigation projects to relieve flooding problems, reduce flood damage and costs of damage, overtopping of roads with drain water, while also keeping open roadways during periods of high precipitation.	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Flooding, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones	New
Mitigation Outreach and Education	Increase public awareness of hazards and hazardous areas. Actions may include distribution of public awareness information regarding all hazards and potential mitigation measures; implementation of educational program for children and merchants; Integrate "Disaster Resistance Education" into the public school curriculum, providing public education on the importance of maintaining the ditches, promotion of the purchase of flood insurance for public. Sponsor a "Multi-Hazard Awareness Week", to educate the public on all hazards	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	New

Jurisdiction-Specific Action	Action Description	Funding Source	Time	Responsible Party, Agency, or Department	Hazard	Status
Potable Water	Create redundancy of potable water supply to critical facilities and provide protection of potable water supply by acquisition/installation of backflow preventers at appropriate critical locations.	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	New
Flood Proofing Projects	Flood-proof critical structures within the City to help promote continuation of critical services during a storm event	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Flooding Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tropical Cyclones	New
Road Elevation	Elevate roads in vulnerable locations prone to flooding and drainage problems.	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Flooding Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tropical Cyclones	New
Pumping Station Projects	Elevate or flood proof pump stations; upgrade existing pump stations by installing block valves to prevent/protect against backwater	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Flooding Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tropical Cyclones	New
Flood Ordinances	Adopt new regulations reducing development density in floodplains.	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Donaldsonville Mayor's Office	Flooding Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tropical Cyclones	New

City of Gonzales Action Update

City of Gonzales Updated Mitigation Actions						
Jurisdiction-Specific Action	**Action Description**	**Funding Source**	**Time**	**Responsible Party, Agency, or Department**	**Hazard**	**Status**
Continue parish and municipal participation and compliance (Parish of Ascension, Donaldsonville, Gonzales, and Sorrento) in NFIP	The City just completed our 5 year NFIP audit and received a score of 8.	Local, regional, and federal	n/a	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding	In Progress Currently Enforcing
Safe Room Construction	The City did not have a safe room project, but maybe Ascension Parish does	HMGP	1-2 years	Ascension OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclone	Deleted
Elevate or acquire all RL and SRL structures in Ascension Parish in flood zones and/or potential levee failure areas	The City is working with USDA - NRCS to buy out a RL subdivision. All homes on E. Silverleaf Street will be bought and residents are required to relocate to flood zone X. Closings expected by the end of 2020.	HMGP, PDM, FMA	n/a	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flood, Tropical Cyclone, Levee	In Progress
Future Development Outreach	Ensure that future development does not increase hazard losses. Enforcing current drainage ordinance while evaluating development impacts on the watershed and drainage.	No additional funds requested	n/a	Ascension OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress Currently Enforcing
Future Development Outreach	Guide future development away from hazard areas while maintaining other parish goals such as economic development and improving the quality of life. Enforcing current drainage ordinance while evaluating development impacts on the watershed and drainage.	No additional funds requested	n/a	Ascension OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress Currently Enforcing
Enforce the International Building Code requirements for all new construction to strengthen buildings against high wind damage	n/a	No additional funds requested	n/a	Ascension OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress Currently Enforcing
Provide safe locations for files, records, and computer equipment	The City uses cloud based data storage and backup	No additional funds requested	n/a	Ascension OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress
Wind retrofit of parish facilities	Wind retrofit of parish facilities	HMGP	1 year	Ascension OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Tropical Cyclone, Thunderstorm, Tornado	Deleted

Jurisdiction-Specific Action	Action Description	Funding Source	Time	Responsible Party, Agency, or Department	Hazard	Status
Communication System Upgrades	Implement upgrades and additions to communications systems, including the Auto call out system for the Sheriff's Department. Implement a public notification system, such as sirens or a call down system with backup capabilities.	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	New
Enhanced Public Awareness Campaigns for All-Hazards.	Increase public awareness of hazards and hazardous areas. Actions may include distribution of public awareness information regarding all hazards and potential mitigation measures; implementation of educational program for children and merchants; providing public education on the importance of maintaining the ditches, promotion of the purchase of flood insurance for public. Sponsor a "Multi-Hazard Awareness Week", to educate the public on all hazards. Utilize social media for mass message distribution.	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	New
Ordinance development and implementation	Adopt the current International Building Codes by ordinance, which would result in additional techniques to harden structures. Develop and pass out ordinances to help regulate new development in the parish to implement drainage standards, develop codes that will require new subdivision developments to install underground utilities, which would help reduce the chances of power outages.	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	New
Potable Water Supplies to Critical Facilities	Create redundancy of potable water supply to critical facilities, especially hospitals in the parish, and provide protection of potable water supply by acquisition/installation of backflow preventers at appropriate critical locations.	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	New
Flood Proofing of Critical Facilities	Flood-proof critical structures within the parish to help promote continuation of critical services during a storm event	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tropical Cyclones	New

Jurisdiction-Specific Action	Action Description	Funding Source	Time	Responsible Party, Agency, or Department	Hazard	Status
Development of Interoperable Communications Plan	Develop an interoperability/communications plan identifying resources and equipment needed to establish a single, interagency, mobile incident and communications command post.	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	New
Education and Outreach for NFIP	Continue to promote the purchase of flood insurance. Advertise the availability, cost, and coverage of flood insurance through the NFIP. This enables homeowners to financially recover from the devastating effects of flooding as rapidly as possible. Serves to educate area residents that any homeowner, regardless of location, can purchase flood insurance.	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone	New
Pump Station Enhancement and Elevations	Elevate or flood proof pump stations; upgrade existing pump stations by installing block valves to prevent/protect against backwater	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone, Levee Failure	New
Dam/Levee Failure Working Group Identification	Create a working group in order to assess the extent and determine the possible effects of a dam and/or levee failure.	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone, Levee Failure	New
Dam/Levee Failure Data Analysis	Seek out and apply for grant funding for the gathering and analysis of data related to a dam and/or levee failure.	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone, Levee Failure	New
Floodwall and Flood Control Construction Projects	Install and/or upgrade minor flood control structures including erms and floodwalls to protect critical facilities	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone, Levee Failure	New
Levee Protection Expansion	Expand existing levee protection to ensure levees do not fail during a storm event.	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, City of Gonzales Mayor's Office	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone, Levee Failure	New

Town of Sorrento Action Update

Town of Sorrento Updated Mitigation Actions						
Jurisdiction-Specific Action	**Action Description**	**Funding Source**	**Time**	**Responsible Party, Agency, or Department**	**Hazard**	**Status**
Sewer System	A drainage project between St. James Parish and Ascension Parish to clear and maintain Bayou Conway will help alleviate repetitive loss areas and the sewer problems in Sorrento.	HMGP	1 year	Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding	In Progress
Drainage System	Clearing of ditches, waterways and bayous is needed to alleviate the backwater and stormwater after an incident.	HMGP	1-3 years	Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding, Tropical Cyclones	In Progress
Elevate or acquire all RL and SRL structures in Ascension Parish in flood zones and/or potential levee failure areas	Elevation and acquisition of identified RL and SRL structures.	HMGP, PDM, FMA	n/a	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone, Levee	In Progress
Ensure that future development does not increase hazard losses	Continuing education, outreach and planning with stakeholders to avoid future development in areas impacted by hazards.	No additional funds requested	n/a	Ascension OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress
Guide future development away from hazard areas while maintaining other parish goals such as economic development and improving the quality of life	Continuing education, outreach and collaboration with future development stakeholders to avoid areas impacted by hazards. Working with stakeholders to continue to plan collaboratively with economic development playing a critical role in the quality of life for citizens of Sorrento.	No additional funds requested	n/a	Ascension OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress
Provide safe locations for files, records, and computer equipment	Locate and provide locations for files and records in the event of hazardous weather.	No additional funds requested	n/a	Ascension OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress
Wind retrofit of parish facilities	Wind retrofit of parish facilities.	HMGP	1 year	Ascension OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Tropical Cyclone, Thunderstorm, Tornado	In Progress
Widen drainage ditches and upgrade culverts.	Widen drainage ditches and upgrade culverts.	HMGP, local and regional	n/a	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding, Tropical Cyclone	In Progress
Purchase generators for critical facilities	Procurement of generators to provide power to critical facilities within Sorrento.	Local, regional, and federal	n/a	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	In Progress and Carried Over

Jurisdiction-Specific Action	Action Description	Funding Source	Time	Responsible Party, Agency, or Department	Hazard	Status
Drainage Improvement Projects	Implementation of drainage improvement/flood mitigation projects to relieve flooding problems, reduce flood damage and costs of damage, overtopping of roads with drain water, while also keeping open roadways during periods of high precipitation.	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones	New
Mitigation Outreach and Education	Increase public awareness of hazards and hazardous areas. Actions may include distribution of public awareness information regarding all hazards and potential mitigation measures; implementation of educational program for children and merchants; Integrate "Disaster Resistance Education" into the public school curriculum, providing public education on the importance of maintaining the ditches, promotion of the purchase of flood insurance for public. Sponsor a "Multi-Hazard Awareness Week", to educate the public on all hazards	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	New
Potable Water	Create redundancy of potable water supply to critical facilities, and provide protection of potable water supply by acquisition/installation of backflow preventers at appropriate critical locations.	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	New
Flood Proofing Projects	Flood-proof critical structures within the City to help promote continuation of critical services during a storm event	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tropical Cyclones	New
Road Elevation	Elevate roads in vulnerable locations prone to flooding and drainage problems.	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tropical Cyclones	New
Pumping Station Projects	Elevate or flood proof pump stations; upgrade existing pump stations by installing block valves to prevent/protect against backwater	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tropical Cyclones	New
Flood Ordinances	Adopt new regulations reducing development density in floodplains.	HMGP, Federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tropical Cyclones	New
Communication System Upgrades	Implement upgrades and additions to communications systems, including the Auto call out system for Sheriff's Department. Implement a public notification system, such as sirens or a call down system with backup capabilities.	HMGP, Local, regional, and federal	1-5 years	Ascension Parish OHSEP, Town of Sorrento Mayor's Office	Flooding, Sinkhole, Levee Failure, Thunderstorms, Tornadoes, Tropical Cyclones, Winter Weather	New

Action Prioritization

During the prioritization process, the steering committee considered the costs and relative benefits of each new action. Costs can usually be listed in terms of dollars, although at times it involves staff time rather than the purchase of equipment or services that can be readily measured in dollars. In most cases, benefits, such as lives saved or future damage prevented, are hard to measure in dollars. Therefore, many projects were prioritized with these factors in mind. In addition, prioritization of the mitigation actions was performed based on the following economic criteria: i) whether the action can be performed with the existing parish resources; ii) whether the action requires additional funding from external sources; and iii) relative costs of the mitigation actions.

In all cases, the committee concluded that the benefits (in terms of reduced property damage, lives saved, health problems averted and/or economic harm prevented) outweighed the costs for the recommended action items.

The steering committee prioritized the possible activities that could be pursued. Steering committee members consulted appropriate agencies in order to assist with the prioritizations. The results were items that address the major hazards, are appropriate for those hazards, are cost-effective, and are affordable. The steering committee met internally for mitigation action meetings to review and approve Ascension Parish mitigation actions. On-going actions, as well as actions which can be undertaken by existing parish staff without need for additional funding, were given high priority. The actions with high benefit and low cost, political support, and public support but require additional funding from parish or external sources were given medium priority. The actions that require substantial funding from external sources with relatively longer completion time were given low priority.

Ascension Parish will implement and administer the identified actions based off of the proposed timeframes and priorities for each reflected in the portions of this section where actions are summarized. The inclusion of any specific action item in this document does not commit the parish to implementation. Each action item will be subject to availability of staff and funding. Certain items may require regulatory changes or other decisions that must be implemented through standard processes, such as changing regulations. This plan is intended to offer priorities based on an examination of hazards.

Appendix A: Planning Process

Purpose

The Hazard Mitigation Plan Update process prompts local jurisdictions to keep their hazard mitigation plan current and moving toward a more resilient community. The plan update builds on the research and planning efforts of previous plans while reviewing recent trends. The steering committee followed FEMA's hazard mitigation planning process per the FEMA Local Mitigation Planning Handbook. This planning process assured public involvement and the participation of interested agencies and private organizations. Documentation of the planning process for the updated plan is addressed in this section.

The Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

The Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Update process began in February 2020 with a series of meetings and collaborations between SDMI and the participating agencies. Update activities were intended to give each participating agency the opportunity to shape the plan to best fit their community's goals. Community stakeholders and the general public were invited to attend and contribute information to the planning process during specific time periods or meetings.

The table below details the meeting schedule and purpose for the planning process:

Date	Meeting or Outreach	Location	Public Invited	Purpose
2/4/2020	Kick Off Meeting	Gonzales, LA	No	Discuss with Parish HM Director and staff the expectations and requirements of the project.
3/4/2020	Initial Planning Meeting	Gonzales, LA	No	Discuss with the plan Steering Committee expectations and requirements of the project. Assign plan worksheets to Parish.
5/19/2020	Risk Assessment Overview	Multiple Locations/ ZOOM	No	Discuss and review the Risk Assessment with the Steering Committee. Discuss and review expectations for Public Meeting.
5/20/2020	Public Meeting	Multiple Locations/ ZOOM	Yes	The Public Meeting allowed the public and community stakeholders to participate and provide input into the hazard mitigation planning process. Chat and Q&A were available. The Survey was reinforced. Current survey results were provided.
2/2020 – 5/2020	Public Survey Tool	Online	Yes	This survey asked participants about public perceptions and opinions regarding natural hazards in Ascension. In addition, questions covered the methods and techniques preferred for reducing the risks and losses associated with these hazards. Survey Results: https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-PXP3X39F7/
Selected timeframe by Parish	Public Plan Review (Digital)	Multiple	Yes	Parish Website or other locations determined by Steering Committee

Planning

The plan update process consisted of several phases:

	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6
Plan Revision						
Data Collection						
Risk Assessment						
Public Input						
Mitigation Strategy and Actions						
Plan Review by GOHSEP and FEMA						
Plan Adoption						
Plan Approval						

Coordination

The Ascension Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (OHSEP) oversaw the coordination of the 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Steering Committee during the update process. The parish OHSEP was responsible for identifying members for the committee.

The Parish OHSEP was responsible for inviting the steering committees and key stakeholders to planned meetings and activities. SDMI assisted the Parish OHSEP with press releases and social media statements for notification to the media and general public for public meetings and public outreach activities.

SDMI was responsible for facilitating meetings and outreach efforts during the update process.

Neighboring Community, Local and Regional Planning Process Involvement

From the outset of the planning process, the steering committee encouraged participation from a broad range of parish entities. The involvement of representatives from the city, state, and regional agencies provided diverse perspectives and mitigation ideas.

Formal participation in this plan includes but is not limited to the following activities:

- Participation in Hazard Mitigation Team meetings at the local and parish level
- Sharing local data and information
- Action item development
- Plan document draft review
- Formal adoption of the Hazard Mitigation Plan document following provisional approval by the State of Louisiana and FEMA

The 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Steering Committee consisted of representatives from the following parish, municipal or community stakeholders:

- Parish of Ascension
- City of Gonzales
- City of Donaldsonville
- Town of Sorrento
- Ascension Parish Public Works
- Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office
- Ascension Parish Council Office
- Ascension Parish School Board
- Ascension Parish Fire and EMS Services
- Ascension Parish Schoolboard
- Healthcare
- Ascension Rotary

The Parish of East Baton Rouge was invited to participate as a neighboring community. SDMI assisted Ascension Parish with encouraging the collaboration with neighboring communities. The participation of the GOHSEP Region 2 Coordinator during the process also contributed to neighboring community representation.

As part of the coordination and planning process, the parish was provided the State Required Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Worksheet. The completed worksheets can be found in Appendix E – State Required Plan Update Worksheets.

Below is a detailed list of the 2020 HMPU Steering Committee:

Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee			
Name	**Title**	**Agency**	**Email**
Rachael Wilkinson	Interim Director	Ascension Parish OHSEP	rachael.wilkinson@apsb.org
Michele Rayborn	Planning Section Chief	Ascension Parish OHSEP	michele.rayborn@apgov.us
Dustin Montelius	Operations Section Chief	Ascension Parish OHSEP	dustin.montelius@apsb.org
Martha Collins	Grants Officer	Ascension Parish Government	martha.collins@apgov.us
Alvin Broussard	Public Works	City of Gonzales	alvin@gonzalesla.com
Scot Byrd	Chief Administrative Officer	City of Gonzales	scot@gonzalesla.com
Barney Arceneaux	Mayor	City of Gonzales	mayora@gonzalesla.com
Jackie Baumann	Chief Engineer	City of Gonzales	jackie@gonzalesla.com
Sherman Jackson	Police Chief	City of Gonzales	sjackson001@gonzalespd.org
Steven Nethken	Police Rep	City of Gonzales	snethken@gonzalespd.org
Justin Dupuy	Chief Building Official	City of Gonzales	justin@gonzalesla.com
Leigh LeBlanc	Technician - Permits	City of Gonzales	leigh@gonzalesla.com
Mike Lambert	Mayor	Town of Sorrento	mayor@sorrentola.gov

Paige Robert	Town of Sorrento	Town of Sorrento	probert@sorrentola.gov
Leroy Sullivan	Mayor	City of Donaldsonville	mayorofc@donaldsonville.brcoxmail.com
Lee Melancon	Director	Donaldsonville Community & Economic Development	lee@visitdonaldsonville.org
Clint Cointment	Parish President	Ascension Parish Government	Clint.Cointment@apgov.us
John Diez	Chief Administrative Officer	Ascension Parish Government	John.Diez@apgov.us
Ron Savoy	Deputy Director of Operations	Ascension Parish Public Works	ron.savoy@apgov.us
Thomas "Tom" Pittman	Professional Engineer	Ascension Parish Transportation Dept.	Thomas.Pittman@apgov.us
Marcia Shivers	Floodplain Manager	Ascension Parish Government	mshivers@apgov.us
Lance Brock	Assistant Director - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government	lbrock@apgov.us
Jerome Fournier	Director - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government	JFournier@apgov.us
Eric Poche	Senior Planner - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government	EPoche@apgov.us
Ricky Compton	General Manager	Ascension Parish Government	Ricky.Compton@apgov.us
Joey Tureau	Chief Engineer - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government	jtureau@apgov.us
Mike Enlow	Assistant Director - Drainage & Capital Projects	Ascension Parish Government	Michael.Enlow@apgov.us
Gavin Fleming	Director - Utilities	Ascension Parish Government	Gavin.Fleming@apgov.us
Kyle Rogers	General Manager - Lamar Dixon	Ascension Parish Government	KRogers@lamardixonexpocenter.com
David Weil	Executive Assistant to the Parish President	Ascension Parish Government	David.Weil@apgov.us
Brandon ODeay	Director - Technology	Ascension Parish Government	Brandon.ODeay@apgov.us
Brian Martinez	Systems Administrator (GIS) - Technology	Ascension Parish Government	bmartinez@apgov.us
Terri Casso	Council Chair - District 8	Ascension Parish Government	tcasso@apgov.us
Dempsey Lambert	Councilman, Chairman East Ascension Drainage Commission	Ascension Parish Government	dlambert@apgov.us
Alvin "Coach" Thomas Jr.	Councilman, West Ascension Drainage Board	Ascension Parish Government	alvin.thomas@apgov.us
Aaron Lawler	Councilman, Transportation Committee Chairman	Ascension Parish Government	alawler@apgov.us
Bobby Webre	Sheriff	Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office	bwebre@ascensionsheriff.com

Craig Berteau	Representative	Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office	cberteau@ascensionsheriff.com
David Alexander	Superintendent	Ascension Parish School Board	david.alexander@apsb.org
Chad Lynch	Director Of Planning and Construction	Ascension Parish School Board	chad.lynch@apsb.org
Anther "Shay" Jurilla	Safety and Security Coordinator	Ascension Parish School Board	anther.jurilla@apsb.org
Barker Dirmann	President/CEO	Ascension Chamber of Commerce	bdirmann@ascensionchamber.com
Juanita Pearley	Executive Director	Donaldsonville Chamber of Commerce	dvillecoc@bellsouth.net
Rick Boyer	Environmental Safety Manager	OLOL Regional Medical Center	Richard.Boyer@fmolhs.org
Justin Brown	Manager of Facilities	OLOL Ascension	Justin.Brown@fmolhs.org
Vince Cataldo	Administrator	Prevost Memorial Hospital	wendyc@prevosthospital.net
James Breaux	Safety Risk Manager	Prevost Memorial Hospital	jamesb@prevosthospital.net
James Leblanc	Chairman for Industry	CAER	james.leblanc@honeywell.com
Sherry Denig	Executive Director	Volunteer Ascension	sherry@volunteerascension.org
Tracey Normand	Fire Chief	City of Gonzales Fire Dept	tnormand@gonzalesfd.com
Mark Stewart	Fire Chief Of Prairieville	Fire District #3	mstewart@prairievillefire.com
Adam Gautreaux	Fire Chief Of Donaldsonville	Fire District #2	dfdfirechief@gmail.com
Gene Witek	Fire Chief	Fire District #1	gene.witek@apfire.org
Josh Wingerter	Assistant Fire Chief	Fire District #1	josh.wingerter@apfire.org
Nelson Pinion	Fire Chief	Town of Sorrento Fire Dept	npinion@sorrentofire.org
Jason Ball	Airport Manager	Ascension/St. James Airport	laregional@eatel.net
Jason Bonaventure	President	East Ascension Rotary	jason@bonaventurelaw.com
Dale Doty	President	Gonzales Rotary	ddoty@rpcc.edu
Robin Penn-Delaney	President	Donaldsonville Rotary	lrpdelaney1@bellsouth.net
Jeff Parent	Supervisor of Planning and Construction	Ascension Parish School Board	jeff.parent@apsb.org

Program Integration

Local governments are required to describe how their mitigation planning process is integrated with other ongoing local and area planning efforts. This subsection describes Ascension Parish programs and planning.

A measure of integration and coordination is achieved through the HMPU participation of Steering Committee members and community stakeholders who administer programs such as: floodplain management under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), parish planning and zoning and building code enforcement.

Ascension Parish will continue to integrate the requirements of this Hazard Mitigation Plan into other local planning mechanisms that are to be identified through future meetings of the Parish, and through the five-year review process described in the Plan Maintenance section. The primary means for integrating mitigation strategies into other local planning mechanisms will be through the revision, update and implementation of any individual city/town plans that require specific planning and administrative tasks (e.g. risk assessment, plan amendments, ordinance revisions, capital improvement projects, etc.).

The members of the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee will remain charged with ensuring that the goals and strategies of new and updated local planning documents for their communities or agencies are consistent with the goals and actions of the Hazard Mitigation Plan, and will not contribute to increased hazard vulnerability in the Parish. Existing plans, studies, and technical information were incorporated in the planning process where applicable. Examples include flood data from FEMA, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE or Corps), and the U. S. Geological Survey. Much of this data was incorporated into the Risk Assessment component of the plan relative to plotting historical events and the magnitude of damages that occurred. The parish's 2015 Hazard Mitigation Plan was also used in the planning process. Other existing data and plans used in the planning process include those listed below:

- Ascension Parish Master Plan and Land Use Plan
- Ascension Parish Water and Sewer Plan
- Louisiana Transportation Center Plan
- East Ascension Drainage District
- State of Louisiana Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Flood Insurance Rate Maps

Further information on the plans can be found in the Capabilities Assessment, Section 3.

Meeting Documentation and Public Outreach Activities

The following pages contain documentation of the meetings and public outreach activities conducted during this hazard mitigation plan update for Ascension Parish.

Meeting #1: Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Kick-Off

Date: February 4, 2020

Location: Gonzales, Louisiana

Purpose: Discuss the expectations and requirements of the hazard mitigation plan update process and establish an initial project timeline with the Parish's OHSEP Director and additional parish government staff.

Meeting Invitees:

Name	Title	Agency
Rachael Wilkinson	Director	Ascension Parish OHSEP
Michele Rayborn	Planning and Intel Lead	Ascension Parish OHSEP
Martha Collins	Grants Administrator	Ascension Parish Government
Jeffrey Giering	State Hazard Mitigation Officer	GOHSEP
Lauren Morgan	Associate Director	Stephenson Disaster Management Institute
Chris Rippetoe	Program Manager	Stephenson Disaster Management Institute

Meeting #2: Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Initial Planning Meeting

Date: March 4, 2020

Location: Gonzales, Louisiana

Purpose: Discuss the expectations and requirements of the hazard mitigation plan update process and establish an initial project timeline with the Parish's Hazard Mitigation Plan Steering Committee. Assign each individual the parish data collection for the plan update.

Meeting Invitees:

Name	Title	Agency
Rachael Wilkinson	Interim Director	Ascension Parish OHSEP
Michele Rayborn	Planning Section Chief	Ascension Parish OHSEP
Dustin Montelius	Operations Section Chief	Ascension Parish OHSEP
Martha Collins	Grants Officer	Ascension Parish Government
Alvin Broussard	City of Gonzales Public Works	City of Gonzales
Scot Byrd	Chief Administrative Officer	City of Gonzales
Barney Arceneaux	Mayor	City of Gonzales
Jackie Baumann	Chief Engineer	City of Gonzales
Sherman Jackson	Police Chief	City of Gonzales
Steven Nethken	Police Rep	City of Gonzales
Justin Dupuy	Chief Building Official	City of Gonzales
Leigh LeBlanc	Technician - Permits	City of Gonzales
Mike Lambert	Mayor	Town of Sorrento
Paige Robert	Town of Sorrento	Town of Sorrento
Leroy Sullivan	Mayor	City of Donaldsonville
Lee Melancon	Director	Donaldsonville Community &
Clint Cointment	Parish President	Ascension Parish Government
John Diez	Chief Administrative Officer	Ascension Parish Government
Ron Savoy	Deputy Director of Operations	Ascension Parish Public Works
Thomas "Tom" Pittman	Professional Engineer	Ascension Parish Transportation Dept.
Marcia Shivers	Floodplain Manager	Ascension Parish Government
Lance Brock	Assistant Director - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government
Jerome Fournier	Director - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government
Eric Poche	Senior Planner - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government
Ricky Compton	General Manager	Ascension Parish Government
Joey Tureau	Chief Engineer - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government
Mike Enlow	Assistant Director - Drainage & Capital Projects	Ascension Parish Government
Gavin Fleming	Director - Utilities	Ascension Parish Government
Kyle Rogers	General Manager - Lamar Dixon	Ascension Parish Government
David Weil	Executive Assistant to the Parish President	Ascension Parish Government

Brandon ODeay	Director - Technology	Ascension Parish Government
Brian Martinez	Systems Administrator (GIS) - Technology	Ascension Parish Government
Terri Casso	Council Chair - District 8	Ascension Parish Government
Dempsey Lambert	Councilman, Chairman East Ascension Drainage Commission	Ascension Parish Government
Alvin "Coach" Thomas Jr.	Councilman, West Ascension Drainage Board	Ascension Parish Government
Aaron Lawler	Councilman, Transportation Committee Chairman	Ascension Parish Government
Bobby Webre	Sheriff	Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office
Craig Berteau	Representative	Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office
David Alexander	Superintendent	Ascension Parish School Board
Chad Lynch	Director Of Planning and Construction	Ascension Parish School Board
Anther "Shay" Jurilla	Safety and Security Coordinator	Ascension Parish School Board
Barker Dirmann	President/CEO	Ascension Chamber of Commerce
Juanita Pearley	Executive Director	Donaldsonville Chamber of Commerce
Rick Boyer	Environmental Safety Manager	OLOL Regional Medical Center
Justin Brown	Manager of Facilities	OLOL Ascension
Vince Cataldo	Administrator	Prevost Memorial Hospital
James Breaux	Safety Risk Manager	Prevost Memorial Hospital
James Leblanc	Chairman for Industry	CAER
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Adam Gautreaux	Fire Chief Of Donaldsonville	Fire District #2
Gene Witek	Fire Chief	Fire District #1
Josh Wingerter	Assistant Fire Chief	Fire District #1
Nelson Pinion	Fire Chief	Town of Sorrento Fire Dept
Jason Ball	Airport Manager	Ascension/St. James Airport
Jason Bonaventure	President	East Ascension Rotary
Dale Doty	President	Gonzales Rotary
Robin Penn-Delaney	President	Donaldsonville Rotary
Jeff Parent	Supervisor of Planning and Construction	Ascension Parish School Board

Meeting #3: Risk Assessment Overview

Date: May 19, 2020

Location: Ascension Parish, Louisiana – ZOOM Meeting

Purpose: Members of the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Steering Committee were presented the results of the risk assessment and an overview of the public meeting presentation during this overview. The assessment was conducted based on hazards identified during previous plans and on any newly identified risks. The ZOOM meeting had 63 people in attendance.

Meeting Invitees:

Name	Title	Agency
Rachael Wilkinson	Interim Director	Ascension Parish OHSEP
Michele Rayborn	Planning Section Chief	Ascension Parish OHSEP
Dustin Montelius	Operations Section Chief	Ascension Parish OHSEP
Martha Collins	Grants Officer	Ascension Parish Government
Alvin Broussard	City of Gonzales Public Works	City of Gonzales
Scot Byrd	Chief Administrative Officer	City of Gonzales
Barney Arceneaux	Mayor	City of Gonzales
Jackie Baumann	Chief Engineer	City of Gonzales
Sherman Jackson	Police Chief	City of Gonzales
Steven Nethken	Police Rep	City of Gonzales
Justin Dupuy	Chief Building Official	City of Gonzales
Leigh LeBlanc	Technician - Permits	City of Gonzales
Mike Lambert	Mayor	Town of Sorrento
Paige Robert	Town of Sorrento	Town of Sorrento
Leroy Sullivan	Mayor	City of Donaldsonville
Lee Melancon	Director	Donaldsonville Community & Economic Development
Clint Cointment	Parish President	Ascension Parish Government
John Diez	Chief Administrative Officer	Ascension Parish Government
Ron Savoy	Deputy Director of Operations	Ascension Parish Public Works
Thomas "Tom" Pittman	Professional Engineer	Ascension Parish Transportation Dept.
Marcia Shivers	Floodplain Manager	Ascension Parish Government
Lance Brock	Assistant Director - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government
Jerome Fournier	Director - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government
Eric Poche	Senior Planner - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government
Ricky Compton	General Manager	Ascension Parish Government
Joey Tureau	Chief Engineer - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government
Mike Enlow	Assistant Director - Drainage & Capital Projects	Ascension Parish Government

Gavin Fleming	Director - Utilities	Ascension Parish Government
Kyle Rogers	General Manager - Lamar Dixon	Ascension Parish Government
David Weil	Executive Assistant to the Parish President	Ascension Parish Government
Brandon ODeay	Director - Technology	Ascension Parish Government
Brian Martinez	Systems Administrator (GIS) - Technology	Ascension Parish Government
Terri Casso	Council Chair - District 8	Ascension Parish Government
Dempsey Lambert	Councilman, Chairman East Ascension Drainage Commission	Ascension Parish Government
Alvin "Coach" Thomas Jr.	Councilman, West Ascension Drainage Board	Ascension Parish Government
Aaron Lawler	Councilman, Transportation Committee Chairman	Ascension Parish Government
Bobby Webre	Sheriff	Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office
Craig Berteau	Representative	Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office
David Alexander	Superintendent	Ascension Parish School Board
Chad Lynch	Director Of Planning and Construction	Ascension Parish School Board
Anther "Shay" Jurilla	Safety and Security Coordinator	Ascension Parish School Board
Barker Dirmann	President/CEO	Ascension Chamber of Commerce
Juanita Pearley	Executive Director	Donaldsonville Chamber of Commerce
Rick Boyer	Environmental Safety Manager	OLOL Regional Medical Center
Justin Brown	Manager of Facilities	OLOL Ascension
Vince Cataldo	Administrator	Prevost Memorial Hospital
James Breaux	Safety Risk Manager	Prevost Memorial Hospital
James Leblanc	Chairman for Industry	CAER
Sherry Denig	Executive Director	Volunteer Ascension
Tracey Normand	Fire Chief	City of Gonzales Fire Dept
Mark Stewart	Fire Chief Of Prairieville	Fire District #3
Adam Gautreaux	Fire Chief Of Donaldsonville	Fire District #2
Gene Witek	Fire Chief	Fire District #1
Josh Wingerter	Assistant Fire Chief	Fire District #1
Nelson Pinion	Fire Chief	Town of Sorrento Fire Dept
Jason Ball	Airport Manager	Ascension/St. James Airport
Jason Bonaventure	President	East Ascension Rotary
Dale Doty	President	Gonzales Rotary
Robin Penn-Delaney	President	Donaldsonville Rotary
Jeff Parent	Supervisor of Planning and Construction	Ascension Parish School Board

Meeting #4: Public Meeting

Date: May 20, 2020

Location: Ascension Parish, Louisiana – ZOOM Meeting

Purpose: The Public Meeting allowed the public and community stakeholders to participate and provide input into the hazard mitigation planning process through the ZOOM Platform. Maps of the Ascension Parish communities were provided for the meeting attendees to identify specific areas where localized hazards occur. The hazard mitigation planning process overview, current status of mitigation projects, as well as initial survey results were presented and communicated to participants. The ZOOM chat function was used throughout the meeting to communicate with participants and for any questions/answers at the conclusion of the presentation.

Public Initiation: Yes. Ascension Parish sent out press releases which provided the meeting information. The local news also aired the meeting details.

Meeting Invitees: Steering Committee Members and Public

Name	Title	Agency
Rachael Wilkinson	Interim Director	Ascension Parish OHSEP
Michele Rayborn	Planning Section Chief	Ascension Parish OHSEP
Dustin Montelius	Operations Section Chief	Ascension Parish OHSEP
Martha Collins	Grants Officer	Ascension Parish Government
Alvin Broussard	City of Gonzales Public Works	City of Gonzales
Scot Byrd	Chief Administrative Officer	City of Gonzales
Barney Arceneaux	Mayor	City of Gonzales
Jackie Baumann	Chief Engineer	City of Gonzales
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Steven Nethken	Police Rep	City of Gonzales
Justin Dupuy	Chief Building Official	City of Gonzales
Leigh LeBlanc	Technician - Permits	City of Gonzales
Mike Lambert	Mayor	Town of Sorrento
Paige Robert	Town of Sorrento	Town of Sorrento
Leroy Sullivan	Mayor	City of Donaldsonville
Lee Melancon	Director	Donaldsonville Community & Economic Development
Clint Cointment	Parish President	Ascension Parish Government
John Diez	Chief Administrative Officer	Ascension Parish Government
Ron Savoy	Deputy Director of Operations	Ascension Parish Public Works
Thomas "Tom" Pittman	Professional Engineer	Ascension Parish Transportation Dept.
Marcia Shivers	Floodplain Manager	Ascension Parish Government
Lance Brock	Assistant Director - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government
Jerome Fournier	Director - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government
Eric Poche	Senior Planner - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government
Ricky Compton	General Manager	Ascension Parish Government

Joey Tureau	Chief Engineer - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government
Mike Enlow	Assistant Director - Drainage & Capital Projects	Ascension Parish Government
Gavin Fleming	Director - Utilities	Ascension Parish Government
Kyle Rogers	General Manager - Lamar Dixon	Ascension Parish Government
David Weil	Executive Assistant to the Parish President	Ascension Parish Government
Brandon ODeay	Director - Technology	Ascension Parish Government
Brian Martinez	Systems Administrator (GIS) - Technology	Ascension Parish Government
Terri Casso	Council Chair - District 8	Ascension Parish Government
Dempsey Lambert	Councilman, Chairman East Ascension Drainage Commission	Ascension Parish Government
Alvin "Coach" Thomas Jr.	Councilman, West Ascension Drainage Board	Ascension Parish Government
Aaron Lawler	Councilman, Transportation Committee Chairman	Ascension Parish Government
Bobby Webre	Sheriff	Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office
Craig Berteau	Representative	Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office
David Alexander	Superintendent	Ascension Parish School Board
Chad Lynch	Director Of Planning and Construction	Ascension Parish School Board
Anther "Shay" Jurilla	Safety and Security Coordinator	Ascension Parish School Board
Barker Dirmann	President/CEO	Ascension Chamber of Commerce
Juanita Pearley	Executive Director	Donaldsonville Chamber of Commerce
Rick Boyer	Environmental Safety Manager	OLOL Regional Medical Center
Justin Brown	Manager of Facilities	OLOL Ascension
Vince Cataldo	Administrator	Prevost Memorial Hospital
James Breaux	Safety Risk Manager	Prevost Memorial Hospital
James Leblanc	Chairman for Industry	CAER
Sherry Denig	Executive Director	Volunteer Ascension
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Gene Witek	Fire Chief	Fire District #1
Josh Wingerter	Assistant Fire Chief	Fire District #1
Nelson Pinion	Fire Chief	Town of Sorrento Fire Dept
Jason Ball	Airport Manager	Ascension/St. James Airport
Jason Bonaventure	President	East Ascension Rotary
Dale Doty	President	Gonzales Rotary
Robin Penn-Delaney	President	Donaldsonville Rotary
Jeff Parent	Supervisor of Planning and Construction	Ascension Parish School Board

Outreach Activity: Public Opinion Survey

Date: Ongoing throughout planning process

Location: Web survey

Public Initiation: Yes – public was provided the opportunity to participate in the survey, and were also provided an update on survey results at the public meeting.

Appendix B: Plan Maintenance

Purpose

The section of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) pertaining to Local Mitigation Plans lists five required components for each plan: a description of the planning process; risk assessments; mitigation strategies; a method and system for plan maintenance; and documentation of plan adoption. This section details the method and system for plan maintenance, following the CFR's guidelines that the Plan Update must include (1) "a section describing the method and schedule of monitoring, evaluating, and updating the mitigation plan within a five-year cycle," (2) "a process by which local governments incorporated the requirements of the mitigation plan into other planning mechanisms such as comprehensive or capital improvement plans" and (3) "discussion on how the community will continue public participation in the plan maintenance process."

Monitoring, Evaluating, and Updating the Plan

The Ascension Parish Planning Committee will be responsible for monitoring, evaluating, and documenting the plan's progress throughout the year. Part of the plan maintenance process should include a system by which local governing bodies incorporate the HMP into the parish's comprehensive or capital improvement plans. This process provides for continued public participation through the diverse resources of the parish to help in achieving the goals and objectives of the plan. Public participation will be achieved through availability of copies of HMP in parish public library and parish website. This section describes the whole update process which includes the following:

- Responsible parties
- Methods to be used
- Evaluation criteria to be applied
- Scheduling for monitoring and evaluating the plan

Responsible Parties

The Ascension Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (OHSEP) is the parish department directly responsible for maintaining the plan. Within that department, the department Director is the individual responsible for assuring that plan monitoring and evaluating are done in accordance with the procedures outlined in this section. The Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Evaluation Committee, consisting of the following representation, is responsible for developing updates to the plan, initiated by the Ascension Parish OHSEP Director:

- Ascension Parish OHSEP Director
- Ascension Parish President
- Ascension Parish CAO
- Ascension Parish Director of Planning and Zoning
- Ascension Parish Grants Officer
- Ascension Parish Sheriff
- Mayors of each of the three municipalities or his/her designee
- Chairpersons of each drainage district or his engineering representative.

The following basic schedule will be undertaken for monitoring, evaluating and updating the plan:

- At a minimum, monitoring activities by the Ascension Parish OHSEP should be done on a quarterly basis;
- Notices regarding annual evaluations should be sent by the Ascension Parish OHSEP to the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Evaluation Committee in December of the first four years of the plan and in August of the fifth year;
- The timetable for evaluations for the first four years is expected to last up to four months (January–April), and up to six months for the update in the fifth year for re-submittal to FEMA (November–April).

Methods for Monitoring and Evaluating the Plan and Plan Evaluation Criteria

Ascension Parish has developed a method to ensure monitoring, evaluating, and updating of the HMP occurs during the five-year cycle of the plan. The planning committee will become a permanent body and will be responsible for monitoring, evaluating, and updating of the plan.

On an annual basis (and as warranted by circumstances such as a major disaster declaration), the Ascension Parish OHSEP Director will monitor the plan in order to assess the degree to which assumptions and underlying information contained in the plan may have changed. For example, the Ascension Parish OHSEP Director will look for the following:

- Changes in the information available to perform vulnerability assessments and loss estimates. For example: as the parish and municipal Risk Assessments and plans are integrated into this Plan Update, the Ascension Parish OHSEP will be soliciting feedback from parish and municipal officials about any changes in their real or perceived risks.
- Changes in laws, policies, and regulations. Changes in parish or jurisdictional departments and/or their procedures, including the Ascension Parish OHSEP and the administration of grant programs.

The results of these monitoring efforts will be made available to the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Evaluation Committee as they are produced.

Using the compiled results of ongoing monitoring efforts, the plan will be evaluated annually, generally starting in the month of January (unless circumstances indicate otherwise). The Ascension Parish OHSEP Director will initiate the evaluations by contacting each of the committee members, who will in turn have a one-month period to respond by initiating a meeting or addressing an issue. Should a hazard event occur and the need for update surface, a meeting may be called by the OHSEP Director or requested by a committee member through the OHSEP Director.

The initial contacts will be made no later than December of each year for the first four years and in August in the fifth year (in anticipation of the required Plan Update for FEMA re-approval). The initial contact will advise the appropriate agencies/organizations that the plan will be re-evaluated in the coming months, and request their participation in the process.

The Ascension Parish OHSEP also has the authority to evaluate and update the plan at times other than those identified in this section under the following general conditions: (1) After a major disaster declaration; (2) At the request of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency

Preparedness (GOHSEP); or (3) When significant new information regarding risks or vulnerabilities is identified.

Progress on the mitigation action items and projects will be reviewed annually. The criteria that would be utilized in the project review will include the following:

1) Whether the action was implemented and reasons, if the action was not implemented

2) What were the results of the implemented action

3) Were the outcomes as expected, and reasons if the outcomes were not as expected

4) Did the results achieve the stated goals and objectives

5) Was the action cost-effective

6) What were the losses avoided after completion of the project

7) In case of a structural project, did it change the hazard profile

Plan Evaluation Criteria

The evaluations will consider several basic factors which are similar to those addressed in the monitoring process, and any additional review indicated by GOHSEP or the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Evaluation Committee. The factors that will be taken into consideration during these periodic evaluations of the plan include the following:

1. Changes in vulnerability assessments and loss estimations. The evaluation will include an examination of the analyses conducted for hazards identified in the plan and determine if there have been changes in the level of risk to the state and its citizens to the extent that the plan (in particular the strategies and prioritized actions the parish/jurisdiction is considering) should be modified.
2. Changes in laws, policies, ordinances, or regulations. The evaluation will include an assessment of the impact of changes in relevant laws, policies, ordinances, and regulations pertaining to elements of the plan.
3. Changes in parish/jurisdiction departments or their procedures (in particular the Ascension Parish OHSEP, which is responsible for maintaining the plan) that will affect how mitigation programs or funds are administered.
4. Significant changes in funding sources or capabilities.
5. Progress on mitigation actions (including project closeouts) or new mitigation actions that the parish/jurisdiction is considering.

Updating the Plan

The HMP will be updated every five years to remain eligible for continued HMGP funding. Updates will follow the original planning process outlined in Appendix A. The update process will entail a detailed and structured re-examination of all aspects of the original plan, followed by recommended updates. The update process will be initiated by Ascension Parish OHSEP and assisted and tracked by the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Steering Committee and GOHSEP. The steering committee will be responsible for updating the HMP. The OHSEP Director will be the lead person for the HMP update. The HMP update process will commence prior to the expiration of the plan. The HMP will be updated after a major disaster

if an annual evaluation of the plan indicates a substantial change in hazard profile and risk assessment in the parish.

Additionally, the public will be canvassed to solicit input to continue Ascension Parish's dedication to involving the public directly in review and updates of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Meetings will be scheduled as needed by the plan administrator to provide a forum for which the public can express their concerns, opinions, and/or ideas about the plan. The plan administrator will be responsible for using parish resources to publicize the annual public meetings and maintain public involvement through the newspapers, radio, and public access television channels. Copies of the plan will be catalogued and kept at all appropriate agencies in the city government, as well as on the parish website.

The review by the steering committee and input from the public will determine whether a plan update is needed prior to the required five-year update.

2020 Plan Version Plan Method and Schedule Evaluation

For the current plan update, the previously approved plan's method and schedule were evaluated to determine if the elements and processes involved in the required 2020 update were adequate. Based on this analysis, the method and schedule were deemed to be acceptable and carried into the 2020 update.

Incorporation into Existing Planning Programs

When appropriate, local governments, by way of the individuals who served on the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Evaluation Committee, will address the need to incorporate requirements of the mitigation plan into their respective zoning ordinances, comprehensive plans, and/or capital improvement plans if deemed necessary and if not previously included. An effort will be made by all Hazard Mitigation Evaluation Committee members to ensure consistency in all future planning efforts with the mitigation goals and Risk Assessment presented in this plan. Consistency between all planning efforts will ensure a decrease in losses related to hazard events within future and existing developments. During the life of the plan since the previous update process, the Hazard Mitigation Evaluation Committee was not incorporated into other formal planning mechanisms as none occurred during that time period. However, goals and actions items were frequently discussed at both Parish and Municipal council meetings.

If amendments to existing ordinances or new ordinances are required, each political jurisdiction will be responsible for its respective updates. However, based upon the findings of this plan, little need exists for creating new ordinances or revising existing ordinances as the parish has been dealing with the flood mitigation issues for decades as its livelihood depends on it.

On behalf of the jurisdictions of Gonzales, Donaldsonville, and Sorrento, Ascension Parish has the authority to incorporate contents of the Hazard Mitigation Plan into the parish's existing regulatory mechanisms. Agreements are currently in place with each jurisdiction to allow for the parish incorporation mechanisms to take place.

It is the responsibility of the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Steering Committee to determine additional implementation procedures when appropriate. This may include integrating the requirements

of the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan into planning documents, processes, or mechanisms as follows:

- Ordinances, Resolutions, Regulations
- Floodplain Ordinances
- Comprehensive Master Plan
- Capital Improvements Plan
- Economic Development Plan
- Emergency Operations Plan

During the planning process for new and updated local planning documents, such as a Risk Assessment, Comprehensive Plan, Capital Improvements Plan, or Emergency Operations Plan, the parish will provide a copy of the Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan to the appropriate parties and recommend that all goals and strategies of new and updated local planning documents are consistent with and support the goals of the Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan and will not contribute to increased hazards.

Although it is recognized that there are many possible benefits to integrating components of this plan into other parish planning mechanisms, the development and maintenance of this stand-alone Hazard Mitigation Plan is deemed by the steering committee to be the most effective and appropriate method to ensure implementation of parish and local hazard mitigation actions. And while the development and maintenance of this stand-alone plan has been recognized as the most effective course of mitigation action implementation, individual facets of this plan have been used to bolster other planning and mitigation efforts. The following parish plans incorporate requirements of the Ascension Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Update as follows:

- Comprehensive Master Plan – Updated as needed by Ascension Parish Government
- Capital Improvements Plan – Updated as needed by Ascension Parish Government
- Economic Development Plan – Updated as needed by Ascension Economic Development
- All Hazards Emergency Plan/COOP Plan/ Emergency Operations Plan – Updated as needed by Ascension Parish OHSEP
- Stormwater Management Plan – Updated as needed by Ascension Parish Government

Continued Public Participation

Public participation is an integral component of the mitigation planning process and will continue to be essential as this plan evolves over time. Significant changes or amendments to the plan require a public hearing prior to any adoption procedures. Other efforts to involve the public in the maintenance, evaluation, and revision process will be made as necessary. These efforts may include:

- Advertising meetings of the Mitigation Committee in the local newspaper, public bulletin boards, and/or city and county office buildings
- Designating willing and voluntary citizens and private sector representatives as official members of the Mitigation Committee
- Utilizing local media to update the public of any maintenance and/or periodic review activities taking place
- Utilizing city and Parish web sites to advertise any maintenance and/or periodic review activities taking place
- Keeping copies of the plan in appropriate public locations.

Responsibility for continued public participation will be that of the Ascension Parish OHSEP Director. Copies of the plan will be kept on file at the Ascension Parish OHSEP Office and with each municipality. Contained in the plan is a list of the Hazard Mitigation Evaluation Committee that can be contacted when needed. In addition, copies of the plan and any proposed changes will be posted on the parish government website. This website will also have an email address and phone numbers in which the public can direct their comments or concerns.

Appendix C: Essential Facilities

Ascension Parish Essential Facilities

Ascension Parish Unincorporated Essential Facilities											
Type	Name	Flooding	Hail	Wind	Lightning	Levee Failure	Sinkholes	Subsidence	Tornadoes	Tropical Cyclones	Winter Weather
Fire and Rescue	Fire District 1 Public Safety Center	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Fifth Ward Volunteer Fire Department	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Geismar Fire Dept.	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Prairieville Volunteer Fire Department	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Prairieville Volunteer Fire Department	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Galvez Lake Volunteer Fire Department	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Fire Station 33	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	St. Amant Volunteer Fire Department	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Prairieville Volunteer Fire Station #31	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Government	Ascension Parish Courthouse	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Ascension Parish Govt. Complex	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Ascension Parish Courthouse West	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Governmental Complex West	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Law Enforcement	Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office District 1 Substation	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office District 2 Substation	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office District 3 Substation	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X

Ascension Parish Unincorporated Essential Facilities											
Type	Name	Flooding	Hail	Wind	Lightning	Levee Failure	Sinkholes	Subsidence	Tornadoes	Tropical Cyclones	Winter Weather
Corrections	Ascension Parish Jail	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Public Health	Ascension Parish Health Unit West	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Ascension Parish Health Unit East	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Mental Health East	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Mental Health West	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Schools	Ascension Head Start	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Bluff Middle	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Bluff Ridge Primary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Bullion Primary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Central Middle	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Central Primary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Donaldsonville High	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Donaldsonville Primary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Duplessis Primary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Dutchtown High	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Dutchtown Middle	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Dutchtown Primary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	East Ascension High	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	G.W. Carver Primary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Galvez Middle	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Galvez Primary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Gonzales Middle	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Gonzales Primary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Lake Elementary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Lakeside Primary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Lowery Elementary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Lowery Middle	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Oak Grove Primary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X

Ascension Parish Unincorporated Essential Facilities											
Type	Name	Flooding	Hail	Wind	Lightning	Levee Failure	Sinkholes	Subsidence	Tornadoes	Tropical Cyclones	Winter Weather
	Pecan Grove Primary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Prairieville Middle	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Prairieville Primary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Sorrento Primary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Spanish Lake Primary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	St. Amant High	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	St. Amant Middle	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	St. Amant Primary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Sugar Mill Primary	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X

City of Donaldsonville Essential Facilities											
Type	Name	Flooding	Hail	Wind	Lightning	Levee Failure	Sinkholes	Subsidence	Tornadoes	Tropical Cyclones	Winter Weather
Fire and Rescue	Donaldsonville Fire Department	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Fire District 2 Fire Department	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Fire District 2 Fire Department	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Donaldsonville Fire Department	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Ronald Morris Fire Department	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Government	Donaldsonville City Hall	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Public Health	Prevost Memorial Hospital	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X

City of Gonzales Essential Facilities											
Type	Name	Flooding	Hail	Wind	Lightning	Levee Failure	Sinkholes	Subsidence	Tornadoes	Tropical Cyclones	Winter Weather
Fire and Rescue	Fire Station - Caldwell	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
	Fire Station - Orice Roth	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Government	Gonzales City Hall Municipal Building	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Law Enforcement	Gonzales City Police Station	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X

Town of Sorrento Essential Facilities											
Type	Name	Flooding	Hail	Wind	Lightning	Levee Failure	Sinkholes	Subsidence	Tornadoes	Tropical Cyclones	Winter Weather
Fire and Rescue	Sorrento Volunteer Fire Dept	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Government	Sorrento Town Hall	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X

Appendix D: Plan Adoption

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF ASCENSION

A RESOLUTION OF THE PARISH OF ASCENSION ADOPTING THE ASCENSION PARISH – MULTI JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2020

WHEREAS the Parish of Ascension recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within Ascension Parish; and

WHEREAS the Parish of Ascension has prepared a multi-hazard mitigation plan, hereby known as THE ASCENSION PARISH – MULTI JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2020 in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

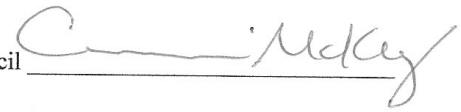
WHEREAS THE ASCENSION PARISH – MULTI JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2020 identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in Ascension Parish from the impacts of future hazards and disasters; and

WHEREAS adoption by the Ascension Parish Council demonstrates their commitment to the hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in THE ASCENSION PARISH – MULTI JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2020.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASCENSION COUNCIL THAT:

Section 1. In accordance with Ascension Parish Home Rule Charter, the Ascension Parish Council adopts THE ASCENSION PARISH – MULTI JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2020.

I hereby certify that I am the duly acting and qualified Secretary of the Ascension Parish Council and that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of the Resolution duly adopted at a meeting of the Council held on August 6, 2020, at which meeting a quorum was present and voted in favor of said Resolution, said Resolution never having been modified or rescinded and is still in full force and effect.

Secretary, Ascension Parish Council 
Date: 8/10/20

Regular Meeting – Ascension Parish Council
August 6, 2020

Martha Collins presented the **Resolution – to adopt the Ascension Parish Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan – Update 2020.** Councilman Chase Melancon made them motion to approve the plan. The motion was seconded by Councilman Michael Mason. The motion passed with no objection and no discussion.

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Ascension Parish Council, State of Louisiana, do hereby certify that the foregoing page constitutes a true and correct copy of the minutes of the August 6, 2020 Regular Couuncil Meeting approving the **Resolution – to adopt the Ascension Parish Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan – 2020.**

IN FAITH WHEREOF, witness my official signature on this 11th date of August, 2020.

Cinnamon McKey
Parish Secretary
Ascension Parish Council

City of Donaldsonville

State of Louisiana
Resolution

2020-26

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF ASCENSION

A RESOLUTION OF THE PARISH OF ASCENSION ADOPTING THE ASCENSION PARISH – MULTI JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2020

WHEREAS the Parish of Ascension recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within Ascension Parish; and

WHEREAS the Parish of Ascension has prepared a multi-hazard mitigation plan, hereby known as THE ASCENSION PARISH – MULTI JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2020 in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS THE ASCENSION PARISH – MULTI JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2020 identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in Ascension Parish from the impacts of future hazards and disasters; and

WHEREAS adoption by the Donaldsonville City Council demonstrates their commitment to the hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in THE ASCENSION PARISH – MULTI JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2020.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE DONALDSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL THAT:

Section 1. In accordance with Donaldsonville City Home Rule Charter, the Ascension Parish Council adopts THE ASCENSION PARISH – MULTI JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2020.

I hereby certify that I am the duly acting and qualified Secretary of the Ascension Parish Council and that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of the Resolution duly adopted at a meeting of the Council held on August 6, 2020, at which meeting a quorum was present and voted in favor of said Resolution, said Resolution never having been modified or rescinded and is still in full force and effect.

Secretary, Donaldsonville City Council Sandra Capone

Date: 7/28/2020

City of Gonzales

State of Louisiana

Resolution

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GONZALES AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE ASCENSION PARISH, LA MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN - UPDATE 2020

RESOLUTION # 2902

WHEREAS, all jurisdictions within Ascension Parish have exposure to natural hazards that increase the risk to life, property, environment, and the County and local economy; and

WHEREAS; pro-active mitigation of known hazards before a disaster event can reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property; and

WHEREAS, The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390) established new requirements for pre and post disaster hazard mitigation programs; and

WHEREAS; a coalition of Ascension Parish municipalities with like planning objectives has been formed to pool resources and create consistent mitigation strategies within Ascension Parish; and

WHEREAS, the coalition has completed a planning process that engages the public, assesses the risk and vulnerability to the impacts of natural hazards, develops a mitigation strategy consistent with a set of uniform goals and objectives, and creates a plan for implementing, evaluating and revising this strategy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing authority of the City of Gonzales, Parish of Ascension, and State of Louisiana hereby:

1) Adopts in its entirety, the Ascension Parish Multi-Jurisdictional All-Hazards Mitigation Plan Update (the "Plan") as the jurisdiction's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions identified in the Plan that pertain to this jurisdiction.

2) Will use the adopted and approved portions of the Plan to guide pre- and post-disaster mitigation of the hazards identified.

3) Will coordinate the strategies identified in the Plan with other planning programs and mechanisms under its jurisdictional authority.

4) Will continue its support of the Mitigation Planning Committee as described within the Plan.

5) Will help to promote and support the mitigation successes of all participants in this Plan.

6) Will incorporate mitigation planning as an integral component of government and partner operations.

7) Will provide an update of the Plan in conjunction with the County no less than every five years.

This resolution having been offered by, Councilman Kirk Boudreaux, seconded by, Councilman Tyler Turner

YEAS: Councilman Tyler Turner, Councilman Neal Bourque, Councilman David Guitreau, Councilman Kirk Boudreaux, Councilman Harold Stewart

NAYS: NONE ABSENT: NONE ABSTAINED: NONE

And the Resolution was declared adopted on this, the 10th day of August, 2020.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, hereunto set my hand and have caused to be affixed the official Seal of the City of Gonzales, Parish of Ascension, State of Louisiana, on this the 10th day of August, 2020.

Barney D. Arceneaux, Mayor

ATTEST:

Scot Byrd, City Clerk

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
STATE OF LOUISIANA
PARISH OF ASCENSION
TOWN OF SORRENTO

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF SORRENTO ADOPTING THE ASCENSION PARISH – MULTI JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2020

WHEREAS the Town of Sorrento recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within Town of Sorrento; and

WHEREAS the Town of Sorrento has prepared a multi-hazard mitigation plan, hereby known as THE ASCENSION PARISH – MULTI JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2020 in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS THE ASCENSION PARISH – MULTI JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2020 identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in the Town of Sorrento from the impacts of future hazards and disasters; and

WHEREAS adoption by the Town of Sorrento Council demonstrates their commitment to the hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in THE ASCENSION PARISH – MULTI JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2020.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF SORRENTO COUNCIL THAT:

Section 1. The Mayor and Council acting as the governing body of the Town of Sorrento adopts THE ASCENSION PARISH – MULTI JURISDICTION HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN – UPDATE 2020.

I hereby certify that I am the duly acting and qualified Town Clerk of the Town of Sorrento and that the above and foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of the Resolution duly adopted at a meeting of the Council held on August 4, 2020, at which meeting a quorum was present and voted in favor of said Resolution, said Resolution never having been modified or rescinded and is still in full force and effect.

Town Clerk: Paige K. Robert

Date: 8-5-2020

Mayor:

Appendix E: State Required Worksheets

During the planning process (Appendix A) the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Steering Committee was provided state-required plan update process worksheets to be filled out. The worksheets were presented at the Initial Planning Meeting by SDMI as tools for assisting in the update of the Hazard Mitigation Plan, but also as a State Requirement (Element E) for the update. The plan update worksheets allowed for collection of information such as planning team members, community capabilities, critical infrastructure and vulnerable populations and NFIP information. The following pages contain documentation of the state required worksheets.

Mitigation Planning Team

Name	Title	Agency
Rachael Wilkinson	Interim Director	Ascension Parish OHSEP
Michele Rayborn	Planning Section Chief	Ascension Parish OHSEP
Dustin Montelius	Operations Section Chief	Ascension Parish OHSEP
Martha Collins	Grants Officer	Ascension Parish Government
Alvin Broussard	City of Gonzales Public Works	City of Gonzales
Scot Byrd	Chief Administrative Officer	City of Gonzales
Barney Arceneaux	Mayor	City of Gonzales
Jackie Baumann	Chief Engineer	City of Gonzales
Sherman Jackson	Police Chief	City of Gonzales
Steven Nethken	Police Rep	City of Gonzales
Justin Dupuy	Chief Building Official	City of Gonzales
Leigh LeBlanc	Technician - Permits	City of Gonzales
Mike Lambert	Mayor	Town of Sorrento
Paige Robert	Town of Sorrento	Town of Sorrento
Leroy Sullivan	Mayor	City of Donaldsonville
Lee Melancon	Director	Donaldsonville Community & Economic Development
Clint Cointment	Parish President	Ascension Parish Government
John Diez	Chief Administrative Officer	Ascension Parish Government
Ron Savoy	Deputy Director of Operations	Ascension Parish Public Works
Thomas "Tom" Pittman	Professional Engineer	Ascension Parish Transportation Dept.
Marcia Shivers	Floodplain Manager	Ascension Parish Government
Lance Brock	Assistant Director - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government
Jerome Fournier	Director - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government
Eric Poche	Senior Planner - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government
Ricky Compton	General Manager	Ascension Parish Government
Joey Tureau	Chief Engineer - Planning and Development	Ascension Parish Government

Mike Enlow	Assistant Director - Drainage & Capital Projects	Ascension Parish Government
Gavin Fleming	Director - Utilities	Ascension Parish Government
Kyle Rogers	General Manager - Lamar Dixon	Ascension Parish Government
David Weil	Executive Assistant to the Parish President	Ascension Parish Government
Brandon ODeay	Director - Technology	Ascension Parish Government
Brian Martinez	Systems Administrator (GIS) - Technology	Ascension Parish Government
Terri Casso	Council Chair - District 8	Ascension Parish Government
Dempsey Lambert	Councilman, Chairman East Ascension Drainage	Ascension Parish Government
Alvin "Coach" Thomas Jr.	Councilman, West Ascension Drainage Board	Ascension Parish Government
Aaron Lawler	Councilman, Transportation Committee Chairman	Ascension Parish Government
Bobby Webre	Sheriff	Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office
Craig Berteau	Representative	Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office
David Alexander	Superintendent	Ascension Parish School Board
Chad Lynch	Director Of Planning and Construction	Ascension Parish School Board
Anther "Shay" Jurilla	Safety and Security Coordinator	Ascension Parish School Board
Barker Dirmann	President/CEO	Ascension Chamber of Commerce
Juanita Pearley	Executive Director	Donaldsonville Chamber of Commerce
Rick Boyer	Environmental Safety Manager	OLOL Regional Medical Center
Justin Brown	Manager of Facilities	OLOL Ascension
Vince Cataldo	Administrator	Prevost Memorial Hospital
James Breaux	Safety Risk Manager	Prevost Memorial Hospital
James Leblanc	Chairman for Industry	CAER
Sherry Denig	Executive Director	Volunteer Ascension
Tracey Normand	Fire Chief	City of Gonzales Fire Dept
Mark Stewart	Fire Chief Of Prairieville	Fire District #3
Adam Gautreaux	Fire Chief Of Donaldsonville	Fire District #2
Gene Witek	Fire Chief	Fire District #1
Josh Wingerter	Assistant Fire Chief	Fire District #1
Nelson Pinion	Fire Chief	Town of Sorrento Fire Dept
Jason Ball	Airport Manager	Ascension/St. James Airport
Jason Bonaventure	President	East Ascension Rotary
Dale Doty	President	Gonzales Rotary
Robin Penn-Delaney	President	Donaldsonville Rotary
Jeff Parent	Supervisor of Planning and Construction	Ascension Parish School Board

Capability Assessment

Ascension Unincorporated

Worksheet 4.1: Capability Assessment Worksheet - Unincorporated Ascension

Local mitigation capabilities are existing authorities, polices and resources that reduce hazard impacts or that could be used to implement hazard mitigation activities. Please complete the tables and questions in the worksheet as completely as possible.

Planning and Regulatory

Please indicate which of the following plans and regulatory capabilities your jurisdiction has in place.

Plans	Yes / No	Comments
Comprehensive / Master Plan	Yes	n/a
Capital Improvements Plan	Yes	n/a
Economic Development Plan	Yes	n/a
Local Emergency Operations Plan	Yes	n/a
Continuity of Operations Plan	Yes	n/a
Transportation Plan	No	n/a
Stormwater Management Plan	No	n/a
Community Wildfire Protection Plan	No	n/a
Other plans (redevelopment, recovery, coastal zone management)	No	n/a
Building Code, Permitting and Inspections	**Yes / No**	**Comments**
Building Code	Yes	n/a
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) Score	No	Part of the LA Uniform Construction Code
Fire Department ISO/PIAL rating	Yes	n/a
Site plan review requirements	Yes	n/a
Land Use Planning and Ordinances	**Yes / No**	**Comments**
Zoning Ordinance	Yes	n/a
Subdivision Ordinance	Yes	n/a
Floodplain Ordinance	Yes	n/a
Natural Hazard Specific Ordinance (stormwater, steep slope, wildfire)	No	n/a
Flood Insurance Rate Maps	Yes	n/a
Acquisition of land for open space and public recreation uses	Yes	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a

Administration and Technical		
Identify whether your community has the following administrative and technical capabilities. For smaller jurisdictions without local staff resources, if there are public resources at the next higher level government that can provide technical assistance, indicate so in your comments.		
Administration	**Yes / No**	**Comments**
Planning Commission	Yes	n/a
Mitigation Planning Committee	Yes	n/a
Maintenance programs to reduce risk (tree trimming, clearing drainage systems)	Yes	n/a
Staff	**Yes / No**	**Comments**
Chief Building Official	Yes	n/a
Floodplain Administrator	Yes	n/a
Emergency Manager	Yes	n/a
Community Planner	Yes	n/a
Civil Engineer	Yes	n/a
GIS Coordinator	Yes	n/a
Grant Writer	Yes	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a
Technical	**Yes / No**	**Comments**
Warning Systems / Service (Reverse 911, outdoor warning signals)	No	n/a
Hazard Data & Information	Yes	n/a
Grant Writing	Yes	n/a
Hazus Analysis	No	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a

Financial

Identify whether your jurisdiction has access to or is eligible to use the following funding resources for hazard mitigation.

Funding Resource	Yes / No	Comments
Capital Improvements project funding	Yes	n/a
Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	Yes	n/a
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	No	n/a
Impact fees for new development	Yes	Sewer and Transportation
Stormwater Utility Fee	No	n/a
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	Yes	n/a
Other Funding Programs	Yes	Subdivision road maintenance

Education and Outreach

Identify education and outreach programs and methods, already in place that could be used to implement mitigation activities and communicate hazard-related information.

Program / Organization	Yes / No	Comments
Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc.	No	n/a
Ongoing public education or information program (responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education)	No	n/a
Natural Disaster or safety related school program	No	n/a
Storm Ready certification	No	n/a
Firewise Communities certification	No	n/a
Public/Private partnership initiatives addressing disaster-related issues	LEPC	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a

Donaldsonville

Worksheet 4.1: Capability Assessment Worksheet - City of Donaldsonville

Local mitigation capabilities are existing authorities, polices and resources that reduce hazard impacts or that could be used to implement hazard mitigation activities. Please complete the tables and questions in the worksheet as completely as possible.

Planning and Regulatory

Please indicate which of the following plans and regulatory capabilities your jurisdiction has in place.

Plans	Yes / No	Comments
Comprehensive / Master Plan	Yes	
Capital Improvements Plan	Yes	
Economic Development Plan	Yes	
Local Emergency Operations Plan	No	In Progress
Continuity of Operations Plan	No	
Transportation Plan	No	
Stormwater Management Plan	Yes	
Community Wildfire Protection Plan	No	
Other plans (redevelopment, recovery, coastal zone management)	No	
Building Code, Permitting and Inspections	**Yes / No**	**Comments**
Building Code	Yes	
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) Score	No	
Fire Department ISO/PIAL rating	Yes	
Site plan review requirements	No	
Land Use Planning and Ordinances	**Yes / No**	**Comments**
Zoning Ordinance	Yes	
Subdivision Ordinance	Yes	
Floodplain Ordinance	Yes	
Natural Hazard Specific Ordinance (stormwater, steep slope, wildfire)	No	
Flood Insurance Rate Maps	Yes	
Acquisition of land for open space and public recreation uses	No	
Other	No	

Administration and Technical

Identify whether your community has the following administrative and technical capabilities. For smaller jurisdictions without local staff resources, if there are public resources at the next higher level government that can provide technical assistance, indicate so in your comments.

Administration	Yes / No	Comments
Planning Commission	Yes	
Mitigation Planning Committee	Yes	
Maintenance programs to reduce risk (tree trimming, clearing drainage systems)	Yes	
Staff	**Yes / No**	**Comments**
Chief Building Official	No	
Floodplain Administrator	Yes	
Emergency Manager	No	
Community Planner	Yes	Fulltime
Civil Engineer	No	
GIS Coordinator	No	
Grant Writer	Yes	Fulltime
Other	Yes	Economic Development Staff-Fulltime
Technical	**Yes / No**	**Comments**
Warning Systems / Service (Reverse 911, outdoor warning signals)	No	
Hazard Data & Information	No	
Grant Writing	Yes	
Hazus Analysis	No	
Other	No	

Financial

Identify whether your jurisdiction has access to or is eligible to use the following funding resources for hazard mitigation.

Funding Resource	Yes / No	Comments
Capital Improvements project funding	Yes	n/a
Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	Yes	n/a
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	No	n/a
Impact fees for new development	Yes	Sewer and Transportation
Stormwater Utility Fee	No	n/a
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	Yes	n/a
Other Funding Programs	Yes	Subdivision road maintenance

Education and Outreach

Identify education and outreach programs and methods, already in place that could be used to implement mitigation activities and communicate hazard-related information.

Program / Organization	Yes / No	Comments
Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc.	No	n/a
Ongoing public education or information program (responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education)	No	n/a
Natural Disaster or safety related school program	No	n/a
Storm Ready certification	No	n/a
Firewise Communities certification	No	n/a
Public/Private partnership initiatives addressing disaster-related issues	LEPC	n/a
Other	n/a	n/a

Gonzales

Worksheet 4.1: Capability Assessment Worksheet - City of Gonzales

Local mitigation capabilities are existing authorities, polices and resources that reduce hazard impacts or that could be used to implement hazard mitigation activities. Please complete the tables and questions in the worksheet as completely as possible.

Planning and Regulatory

Please indicate which of the following plans and regulatory capabilities your jurisdiction has in place.

Plans	Yes / No	Comments
Comprehensive / Master Plan	Yes	Updated & Adopted December 2016
Capital Improvements Plan	Yes	
Economic Development Plan	Yes	
Local Emergency Operations Plan	Yes	
Continuity of Operations Plan	No	
Transportation Plan	Yes	Included in Master Comprehensive Plan
Stormwater Management Plan	Yes	
Community Wildfire Protection Plan	No	
Other plans (redevelopment, recovery, coastal zone management)	No	
Building Code, Permitting and Inspections	**Yes / No**	**Comments**
Building Code	Yes	
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) Score	No	
Fire Department ISO/PIAL rating	Yes	
Site plan review requirements	Yes	
Land Use Planning and Ordinances	**Yes / No**	**Comments**
Zoning Ordinance	Yes	
Subdivision Ordinance	Yes	
Floodplain Ordinance	Yes	
Natural Hazard Specific Ordinance (stormwater, steep slope, wildfire)	Yes	
Flood Insurance Rate Maps	Yes	
Acquisition of land for open space and public recreation uses	No	
Other	No	

Administration and Technical

Identify whether your community has the following administrative and technical capabilities. For smaller jurisdictions without local staff resources, if there are public resources at the next higher level government that can provide technical assistance, indicate so in your comments.

Administration	Yes / No	Comments
Planning Commission	Yes	
Mitigation Planning Committee	No	
Maintenance programs to reduce risk (tree trimming, clearing drainage systems)	Yes	
Staff	**Yes / No**	**Comments**
Chief Building Official	Yes	
Floodplain Administrator	Yes	
Emergency Manager	Yes	Thru Cooperative Endeavor with Ascension Parish Government OEP
Community Planner	Yes	
Civil Engineer	Yes	
GIS Coordinator	Yes	
Grant Writer	Yes	
Other	No	
Technical	**Yes / No**	**Comments**
Warning Systems / Service (Reverse 911, outdoor warning signals)	Yes	
Hazard Data & Information	Yes	
Grant Writing	Yes	
Hazus Analysis	No	
Other	No	

Financial

Identify whether your jurisdiction has access to or is eligible to use the following funding resources for hazard mitigation.

Funding Resource	Yes / No	Comments
Capital Improvements project funding	Yes	Thru Cooperative Endeavor with 911 Board and OEP
Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	Yes	
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	Yes	
Impact fees for new development	Yes	
Stormwater Utility Fee	No	
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	Yes	
Other Funding Programs	Yes	LGAP/CWEF/USDA

Education and Outreach

Identify education and outreach programs and methods, already in place that could be used to implement mitigation activities and communicate hazard-related information.

Program / Organization	Yes / No	Comments
Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc.	Yes	
Ongoing public education or information program (responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education)	Yes	
Natural Disaster or safety related school program	Yes	
Storm Ready certification	Yes	
Firewise Communities certification	No	
Public/Private partnership initiatives addressing disaster-related issues	Yes	
Other	No	

Sorrento

Worksheet 4.1: Capability Assessment Worksheet - Town of Sorrento

Local mitigation capabilities are existing authorities, polices and resources that reduce hazard impacts or that could be used to implement hazard mitigation activities. Please complete the tables and questions in the worksheet as completely as possible.

Planning and Regulatory

Please indicate which of the following plans and regulatory capabilities your jurisdiction has in place.

Plans	Yes / No	Comments
Comprehensive / Master Plan	No	
Capital Improvements Plan	No	
Economic Development Plan	No	
Local Emergency Operations Plan	No	
Continuity of Operations Plan	No	
Transportation Plan	No	
Stormwater Management Plan	No	
Community Wildfire Protection Plan	No	
Other plans (redevelopment, recovery, coastal zone management)	No	
Building Code, Permitting and Inspections	**Yes / No**	**Comments**
Building Code	Yes	IBC
Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) Score	No	
Fire Department ISO/PIAL rating	Yes	PIAL Class 4
Site plan review requirements	Yes	Ascension Parish Government/Town Engineer
Land Use Planning and Ordinances	**Yes / No**	**Comments**
Zoning Ordinance	Yes	
Subdivision Ordinance	Yes	
Floodplain Ordinance	Yes	
Natural Hazard Specific Ordinance (stormwater, steep slope, wildfire)	No	
Flood Insurance Rate Maps	Yes	
Acquisition of land for open space and public recreation uses	Yes	
Other	No	

Administration and Technical

Identify whether your community has the following administrative and technical capabilities. For smaller jurisdictions without local staff resources, if there are public resources at the next higher level government that can provide technical assistance, indicate so in your comments.

Administration	Yes / No	Comments
Planning Commission	Yes	
Mitigation Planning Committee	Yes	
Maintenance programs to reduce risk (tree trimming, clearing drainage systems)	Yes	
Staff	**Yes / No**	**Comments**
Chief Building Official	Yes	Contract with Ascension Parish Government
Floodplain Administrator	Yes	
Emergency Manager	Yes	Contract with Ascension Parish Government
Community Planner	Yes	Ricky Compton
Civil Engineer	Yes	All South Engineer
GIS Coordinator	Yes	Contract with Ascension Parish Government
Grant Writer	Yes	All South Engineer
Other	No	
Technical	**Yes / No**	**Comments**
Warning Systems / Service (Reverse 911, outdoor warning signals)	Yes	
Hazard Data & Information	No	
Grant Writing	No	
Hazus Analysis	No	
Other	No	

Financial

Identify whether your jurisdiction has access to or is eligible to use the following funding resources for hazard mitigation.

Funding Resource	Yes / No	Comments
Capital Improvements project funding	Yes	
Authority to levy taxes for specific purposes	Yes	
Fees for water, sewer, gas, or electric services	Yes	
Impact fees for new development	No	PENDING APPROVAL
Stormwater Utility Fee	No	
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	Yes	
Other Funding Programs	Yes	

Education and Outreach

Identify education and outreach programs and methods, already in place that could be used to implement mitigation activities and communicate hazard-related information.

Program / Organization	Yes / No	Comments
Local citizen groups or non-profit organizations focused on environmental protection, emergency preparedness, access and functional needs populations, etc.	No	
Ongoing public education or information program (responsible water use, fire safety, household preparedness, environmental education)	Yes	Sorrento Volunteer Fire Department
Natural Disaster or safety related school program	No	
Storm Ready certification	No	
Firewise Communities certification	No	
Public/Private partnership initiatives addressing disaster-related issues	No	
Other	No	

Building Inventory

Ascension Parish and Jurisdiction Owned Building Information								
Ascension Unincorporated								
Name of Building	Purpose of Building	Address	City	Latitude	Longitude	Assessed Value	Date Built	Construction Type
Lamar Dixon Expo Center	Recreation	9039 St. Landry Rd.	Gonzales	30.196893	-90.957809	$20,868,605.00	2003	Reinforced Masonry
Fire District 1 Public Safety Center	Fire & SAR	13192 Airline Hwy	Prairieville	30.259426	-90.931451	$821,449	1965	Metal
Fifth Ward Volunteer Fire Department	Fire & SAR	39110 Louisiana 22	Burnside	30.139471	-90.951723	$444,073	1998	Metal
Geismar Fire Department	Fire & SAR	12171 Louisiana 73	Geismar	30.245067	-90.989457	$207,234	1980	Metal
Prairieville Volunteer Fire Department	Fire & SAR	17899 Old Jefferson Hwy	Prairieville	30.33225	-90.981494	$594,168	2001	Metal
Prairieville Volunteer Fire Department	Fire & SAR	14517 Highway 73	Prairieville	30.285436	-90.981264	$2,660,819	2008	Metal
Galvez Lake Volunteer Fire Department	Fire & SAR	16288 Joe Sevario Road	Prairieville	30.306801	-90.904594	$444,073	1978	Metal
Fire Station 33	Fire & SAR	38484 Duplessis Rd	Prairieville	30.284384	-90.958839	$1,200,000	2014	Metal
St. Amant Volunteer Fire Department	Fire & SAR	44465 Stringer Bridge Rd	St. Amant	30.240383	-90.855462	444,073	1990	Metal
Prairieville Volunteer Fire Station #31	Fire & SAR	17183 Louisiana 929	Prairieville	30.318426	-90.939516	$519,896	1993	Metal
Ascension Parish Health Unit East	Public Health	1024 East Ascension Complex Blvd.	Gonzales	30.224926	-90.912716	$863,400.00	1973	Reinforced Masonry
Mental Health East	Public Health	1112 S. East Ascension Complex Blvd.	Gonzales	30.224527	-90.912706	$1,100,000.00	1979	Reinforced Masonry

Name of Building	Purpose of Building	Address	City	Latitude	Longitude	Assessed Value	Date Built	Construction Type
District Attorney East	Civil Government	120 E. Railroad	Gonzales	30.239244	-90.920001	$250,000.00	1973	Reinforced Masonry
District Attorney East - White House	Civil Government	208 E. Railroad	Gonzales	30.239402	90.919556	$1,500,000.00	1995	Reinforced Masonry
Clerk of Court East	Civil Government	815 E. Worthey St.	Gonzales	30.225428	-90.913835	$859,000.00	2005	Reinforced Masonry
Ascension Parish Courthouse	Civil Government	828 S. Irma Blvd.	Gonzales	30.226627	-90.912684	$10,005.00	Reno 2006	Reinforced Masonry
Ascension Parish Public Works Office	Public Works	42077 Churchpoint Rd.	Gonzales	30.239833	-90.901371	$3,797,245.00	1968 +	Reinforced Masonry
Henderson Bayou Pump Station	Pump Station		Galvez	30.190623	-90.513436	$7,981,000.00	2016	Reinforced Masonry
Marvin Braud Pump Station	Pump Station		St. Amant	30.112403	-90.47104	$20,424,400.00	1991	Reinforced Masonry
Mosquito Control	Civil Government	14233 LA Hwy 431	St. Amant	30.276066	-90.871681	$434,000.00	2019	Reinforced Masonry
Mosquito Control Warehouse	Civil Government	14233 LA Hwy 431	St. Amant	30.276066	-90.871681	$151,877.00	1995	Reinforced Masonry
Animal Control	Civil Government	9894 Airline Hwy.	Sorrento	30.207978	-90.875732			Metal
Ascension Parish Governmental Complex	Civil Government	615 E. Worthey Rd.	Gonzales	30.224638	-90.914921	$8,100,000.00	2015	Reinforced Masonry
Admin Building Warehouse	Civil Government	615 E. Worthey Rd.	Gonzales	30.224638	-90.914921	$260,000.00	1967	Reinforced Masonry
Human Resources/Maintenance	Administrative	9606 Airline Hwy.	Sorrento	30.197658	-90.862361	$527,767.00	2000	Reinforced Masonry
St Amant Park - Recreation Office	Recreation	45404 Stringer Bridge Rd.	St. Amant	30.244048	-90.837774			Metal

Name of Building	Purpose of Building	Address	City	Latitude	Longitude	Assessed Value	Date Built	Construction Type
St Amant Park - Recreation Maintenance	Recreation	45404 Stringer Bridge Rd.	St. Amant	30.244211	-90.838505			Reinforced Masonry
Stevens Park Concession / Restrooms	Recreation	43230 Cannon Rd.	Gonzales	30.256114	-90.87973			Reinforced Masonry
Geismar Community Center	Recreation	12060 LA Hwy 73	Geismar	30.241898	-90.988361	$701,979.00	2004	Reinforced Masonry
Darrow Community Center	Recreation	37112 Martin Luther King St.	Darrow	30.120629	-90.984365	$341,000.00	1981	Reinforced Masonry
Oak Grove Community Center	Recreation	37433 LA-42	Prairieville	30.320043	-90.976124	$122,000.00	1974	Reinforced Masonry
Butch Gore Memorial Park Concession / Restrooms	Recreation	14550 Harry Savoy Rd.	St. Amant	30.278325	-90.858425	$80,000.00		Reinforced Masonry
Paula Park Concession / Restrooms	Recreation	16470 Pailette St	Prairieville	30.311671	-90.897666	$0.00	1998	Reinforced Masonry
Southwood Park Concession / Restrooms	Recreation	14318 Parkview Dr.	Prairieville	30.280151	-90.972536	$0.00	1973	Reinforced Masonry
Hillaryville Pavilion and Restrooms	Recreation	5120 Galaxy Blvd	Darrow	30.14091	-90.958737	$184,000.00	2019	Reinforced Masonry
Boxing Club Building	Recreation	435 W Cypress St	Gonzales	30.241895	-90.924677			Reinforced Masonry
Ascension Parish Courthouse West	Civil Government	300 Houmas St.	Donaldsonville	30.104445	-90.990614	$4,150,000.00	2000	Reinforced Masonry
District Attorney West A	Civil Government	305 Chetimatches St.	Donaldsonville	30.105159	-90.990412			Reinforced Masonry
District Attorney West B	Civil Government	313 Chetimatches St.	Donaldsonville	30.104827	-90.990717	$166,240.00	1969	Reinforced Masonry

Name of Building	Purpose of Building	Address	City	Latitude	Longitude	Assessed Value	Date Built	Construction Type
District Attorney West C	Civil Government	201 Opelousas St.	Donaldsonville	30.10461	-90.990802	$248,000.00	1979	Reinforced Masonry
Clerk of Court West	Civil Government	300 Houmas St.	Donaldsonville	30.104455	-90.990635	$1,076,080.00	1953	Reinforced Masonry
Governmental Complex West	Civil Government	114 Nicholls St.	Donaldsonville	30.105465	-90.990927	$528,400.00	1993	Reinforced Masonry
Ascension Parish Health Unit West	Public Health	901 Catalpa St.	Donaldsonville	30.103874	-91.001016	$850,000.00	1994	Reinforced Masonry
Mental Health West	Public Health	419 Memorial	Donaldsonville	30.087251	-91.002166	$800,000.00	1981	Reinforced Masonry
DPW West / Recreation	Public Works	2171 D Thibaut Dr.	Donaldsonville	30.09748	-90.981154	$1,300,000.00	2015	Metal
ACUD Water Tower #1	Public Works	1572 Hwy 70	Donaldsonville	30.081877	-90.951944		2010	
ACUD Water Tower #2	Public Works	Hwy 1	Donaldsonville				2004	
ACUD Water Tower #3	Public Works	34082 Hwy 944	Donaldsonville	30.092147	-91.038114		2010	
PUA (Parish Utilities of Ascension)	Public Works	38 Veterans Blvd	Donaldsonville	30.106828	-90.987782	$6,560,000.00	2016	
Tourist Center	Recreation	6967 Hwy 22	Sorrento	30.166344	-90.881886		2003	
Ascension Parish Public Works	Public Works	721 Church Street	Donaldsonville	30.097902	-90.985638	$300,000	1951	Metal
Council on Aging	Civil Government	526 S. Irma Blvd	Gonzales	30.228976	-90.912533	$985,770.00	1981	

Ascension Parish and Jurisdiction Owned Building Information								
City of Donaldsonville								
Name of Building	**Purpose of Building**	**Address**	**City**	**Latitude**	**Longitude**	**Assessed Value**	**Date Built**	**Construction Type**
Donaldsonville City Hall	Administration	609 Railroad Avenue	Donaldsonville	30.101066	-90.990347	$1,500,000	1975	Reinforced Masonry
Office of the District Attorney	Administration	201 Opelousas	Donaldsonville	30.104596	-90.99078	$248,000	1979	Reinforced Masonry
Donaldsonville Fire Department	Fire & SAR	700 Lafourche St	Donaldsonville	30.10174	-90.993011	$920,000	1960	Reinforced Masonry
Ronald Morris Fire Department	Fire & SAR	2801 Louisiana 1	Donaldsonville	30.088273	-91.029896	$250,000	1978	Metal
Clerk of Courts / National Guard Armory	Civil Government	321 Houmas Street	Donaldsonville	30.1043044	-90.9901594			Reinforced Masonry
Prevost Memorial Hospital	Public Health	301 Memorial Drive	Donaldsonville	30.08875	-91.00301	$850,000		Reinforced Masonry
Fire District 2 Fire Department	Fire & SAR	2411 Lemanville Cutoff Road	Donaldsonville	30.0966937	-90.9422502			Metal
Fire District 2 Fire Department	Fire & SAR	Highway 405	Donaldsonville					Metal
Donaldsonville Fire Department	Fire & SAR	911 Marchand Drive	Donaldsonville	30.09907	-90.99009	$2,500,000	2019	Reinforced Masonry
City of Donaldsonville Dept. of Public Works	Public Works	2175 D Thibaut Drive	Donaldsonville	30.096386	-90.982325	$400,000	2016	Metal

Ascension Parish and Jurisdiction Owned Building Information								
City of Gonzales								
Name of Building	**Purpose of Building**	**Address**	**City**	**Latitude**	**Longitude**	**Assessed Value**	**Date Built**	**Construction Type**
City Hall Municipal Building	Civil Government	120 S Irma Blvd	Gonzales	90d 54' 47.222"W	30d 13' 56.204"N	$763,400	1996	Concrete
Gonzales Civic Center	Recreation	219 S Irma	Gonzales	90d 54' 51.586"W	30d 13' 53.302"N	$1,538,000	1967	Concrete
Gonzales City Police Station	Law Enforcement	415 E. Cornerview	Gonzales	90d 55' 0.111"W	30d 13' 57.033"N	$4,000,000	2012	Metal
Fire Station - Caldwell	Fire & SAR	325 E. Caldwell	Gonzales	90d 55' 4.741"W	30d 14' 7.866"N	$191,000	1956	Metal
Fire Station - Orice Roth	Fire & SAR	724 W. Orice Roth	Gonzales	90d 55' 38.806"W	30d 13' 7.099"N	$1,000,000	2002	Metal
Public Safety Center	Training	736 W. Orice Roth	Gonzales	90d 55' 40.246"W	30d 13' 7.31"N	$384,000	2004	Reinforced Masonry
City Room	Location for River Region Art Association	1006 W. Hwy. 30	Gonzales	90d 55' 52.326"W	30d 12' 40.679"N	$231,000	1974	Reinforced Masonry
Tourist Center	Recreation	1006 W. Hwy. 30	Gonzales	90d 55' 51.198"W	30d 12' 40.799"N	$110,000	2003	Reinforced Masonry
Recreation Shop / Office	Recreation	911 Meylan	Gonzales	90d 54' 45.614"W	30d 13' 16.178"N	$200,000	1982	Reinforced Masonry
T. Joe Museum	Recreation	217 W Main Street	Gonzales	90d 55' 20.748"W	30d 14' 21.025"N	200,000	1910	Unreinforced Masonry
Environmental Enhancement Facility Shop/Office - Equipment & Machinery	Wastewater Treatment Facility	3213 S. Burnside	Gonzales	90d 55' 20.659"W	30d 12' 12.21"N	$560,000	1999	Concrete
T. Joe Ballpark Concession Stand	Recreation	524 Orice Roth	Gonzales	90d 55' 36.285"W	30d 13' 11.298"N	$100,000	2001	Concrete

Name of Building	Purpose of Building	Address	City	Latitude	Longitude	Assessed Value	Date Built	Construction Type
Jambalaya Park Pool House	Recreation	1015 E. Cornerview	Gonzales	90d 54' 41.301"W	30d 13' 56.241"N	$200,000	2002	Concrete
Jambalaya Park Amphitheatre	Recreation	1015 E. Cornerview	Gonzales	90d 54' 43.917"W	30d 13' 54.803"N	$150,000	2002	Metal
Pool Pump House w/ Equipment	Recreation	1015 E. Cornerview	Gonzales	90d 54' 41.522"W	30d 13' 56.712"N	$23,000	2002	Concrete
Warehouse / Meeting Room	Administrative	1006 W. Hwy. 30	Gonzales	90d 55' 52.433"W	30d 12' 41.439"N	$110,000	2008	Concrete
Chelsea St. Pumping Station	Pumping Station	101 E. Chelsea Street	Gonzales	90d 55' 13.058"W	30d 12' 51.435"N	$40,000	1999	Concrete
Carver Park Rec Building	Recreation	616 N. Tobey Ave	Gonzales	90d 55' 35.467"W	30d 14' 53.214"N	$195,000	2005	Metal
City Maintenance Building	Administrative	2919 S. Darla	Gonzales	90d 56' 15.214"W	30d 12' 23.777"N	$1,000,000	2006	Reinforced Masonry
Kidz Kove Park	Recreation		Gonzales			$250,000	2014	Metal
Gonzales Middle School	Education	1502 W ORICE ROTH	Gonzales	30.219444	-90.935556	$9,000,000	1965	Reinforced Masonry
East Ascension High School	Education	612 E WORTHY	Gonzales	30.228056	-90.918889	$16,000,000	1965	Reinforced Masonry
Gonzales Primary School	Education	521 N BURNSIDE	Gonzales	30.236944	-90.923889	$9,000,000	1936	Reinforced Masonry
Pecan Grove Primary School	Education	1712 S PECAN GROVE	Gonzales	30.221944	-90.910556	$12,000,000	2008	Reinforced Masonry
Sewer Lift Station 1	Sewer Lift Station	315 W New River	Gonzales	30.240044	-90.923103	$175,000	2007	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 2	Sewer Lift Station	914 S Hwy 44	Gonzales	30.226139	-90.920466	$500,000	1996	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 3	Sewer Lift Station	840 E Rome	Gonzales	30.22257	-90.913507	$200,000	1994	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 4	Sewer Lift Station	101 E Chelsea	Gonzales	30.214296	-90.92027	$1,500,000	1999	Fiberglass

Name of Building	Purpose of Building	Address	City	Latitude	Longitude	Assessed Value	Date Built	Construction Type
Sewer Lift Station 5	Sewer Lift Station	303 E Neal	Gonzales	30.219099	-90.918533	$90,000	2002	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 6	Sewer Lift Station	920 N Patricia	Gonzales	30.239843	-90.926668	$50,000		Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 7	Sewer Lift Station	612 E Toby	Gonzales	30.247525	-90.926676	$50,000		Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 8	Sewer Lift Station	2911 Southwood	Gonzales	30.207225	-90.911804	$490,000	2010	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 9	Sewer Lift Station	1731 E Bocage	Gonzales	30.218061	-90.902067	$135,000		Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 9A	Sewer Lift Station	1900 Evergreen	Gonzales	30.217351	-90.89979	$125,000	1996	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 9B	Sewer Lift Station	1840 Bell Helene	Gonzales	30.214422	-90.900289	$90,000	1996	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 10	Sewer Lift Station	1501 E Tiffani	Gonzales	30.217091	-90.904147	$125,000	2002	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 11	Sewer Lift Station	750 W Edenborne Parkway	Gonzales	30.189199	-90.920421	$473,000	2017	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 13	Sewer Lift Station	2700 S Hwy 44	Gonzales	30.209678	-90.920243	$375,000	2000	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 14	Sewer Lift Station	2615 W Hwy 30	Gonzales	30.210482	-90.951472	$90,000		Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 15	Sewer Lift Station	2215 S Darla	Gonzales	30.214651	-90.937398	$500,000	2013	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 16	Sewer Lift Station	1301 W Orice Roth	Gonzales	30.218114	-90.93378	$400,000	2013	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 17	Sewer Lift Station	800 W Orice Roth	Gonzales	30.218421	-90.928126	$400,000	1997	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 18	Sewer Lift Station	918 E Worthy	Gonzales	30.225888	-90.912952	$132,000	1996	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 19	Sewer Lift Station	1008 E Cornerview	Gonzales	30.233068	-90.911622	$2,000,000	2010	Fiberglass

Name of Building	Purpose of Building	Address	City	Latitude	Longitude	Assessed Value	Date Built	Construction Type
Sewer Lift Station 20	Sewer Lift Station	813 W Hwy 30	Gonzales	30.210818	-90.913865	$175,000	2000	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 21	Sewer Lift Station	834 W Worthy	Gonzales	30.225688	-90.928754	$132,000	2005	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 22	Sewer Lift Station	1600 W Worthy	Gonzales	30.225546	-90.937553	$200,000	2007	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 23	Sewer Lift Station	1440 E Hwy 30	Gonzales	30.210945	-90.936215	$400,000	2010	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 24	Sewer Lift Station	1535 S Purpera	Gonzales	30.22104	-90.904163	$400,000	2000	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 25	Sewer Lift Station	820 W New River	Gonzales	30.24331	-90.929404	$125,000		Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 26	Sewer Lift Station	815 E Bayou Narcisse	Gonzales	30.247206	-90.91342	$125,000	2011	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 27	Sewer Lift Station	543 W Oak	Gonzales	30.244462	-90.925619	$125,000		Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 28	Sewer Lift Station	2799 Roth	Gonzales	30.208937	-90.92955	$125,000		Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 29	Sewer Lift Station	812 N Airline Hwy	Gonzales	30.238401	-90.913351	$125,000		Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 31	Sewer Lift Station	1800 E Nelson	Gonzales	30.222147	-90.901609	$125,000		Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 32	Sewer Lift Station	301 E New River	Gonzales	30.239895	-90.918795	$125,000		Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 33	Sewer Lift Station	2601 S Veterans	Gonzales	30.210892	-90.94427	$640,000	2019	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 34	Sewer Lift Station	902 N Airline Hwy	Gonzales	30.238919	-90.913816	$125,000		Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 37	Sewer Lift Station	1206 E Grace	Gonzales	30.225059	-90.909818	$125,000		Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 38	Sewer Lift Station	426 E Bayou Narcisse	Gonzales	30.247472	-90.917411	$125,000		Fiberglass

Name of Building	Purpose of Building	Address	City	Latitude	Longitude	Assessed Value	Date Built	Construction Type
Sewer Lift Station 41	Sewer Lift Station	2519 Orice Roth	Gonzales	30.217936	-90.949654	$130,000	2004	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 42	Sewer Lift Station	2929 S Darla	Gonzales	30.206692	-90.937275	$125,000	2004	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 43	Sewer Lift Station	712 S Oleana	Gonzales	30.227487	-90.930222	$130,000	2004	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 44	Sewer Lift Station	3135 S Outfitters	Gonzales	30.206445	-90.948751	$640,000	2005	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 45	Sewer Lift Station	8140 S Hwy 44	Gonzales	30.185712	-90.920048	$503,000	2017	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 46	Sewer Lift Station	1309 Point Andrew Drive	Gonzales	30.243436	-90.911389	$190,089	2016	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 47	Sewer Lift Station	1910 W Orice Roth	Gonzales	30.218399	-90.940803	$132,000	2016	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 48	Sewer Lift Station	1213 Thorning Drive	Gonzales	30.180857	-90.912557	$225,000	2017	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 49	Sewer Lift Station	430 Belle Crest Ave	Gonzales	30.179271	-90.91654	$236,000	2017	Fiberglass
Sewer Lift Station 50	Sewer Lift Station	1211 Meadow Crossing	Gonzales	30.222364	-90.935341	$325,000	2018	Fiberglass
Wastewater Treatment Plant	Wastewater Treatment Plant	3213 S Hwy 44	Gonzales	30.203523	-90.921861	$12,000,000	1999	Concrete
Water Well #3	Water Well	13296 Roddy Rd	Gonzales	30.262812	-90.90402	$1,500,000	1995	Fiberglass
Water Well #2	Water Well	13048 Roddy Rd.	Gonzales	30.256082	-90.903915	$1,500,000	1995	Fiberglass
Water Well #1	Water Well	14049 Roddy Rd.	Gonzales	30.269626	-90.904476	$1,500,000	1995	Fiberglass
Water Tower	Water Tower	220 N Marchand	Gonzales	30.233928	-90.923471	$1,250,000	1972	Metal
Water Tower	Water Tower	317 E City Park	Gonzales	30.231918	-90.918361	$2,000,000	1958	Metal
Water Tower	Water Tower	3151 S Outfitters	Gonzales	30.206445	-90.948751	$3,500,000	2009	Metal

Ascension Parish and Jurisdiction Owned Building Information								
Town of Sorrento								
Name of Building	Purpose of Building	Address	City	Latitude	Longitude	Assessed Value	Date Built	Construction Type
Sorrento Volunteer Fire Dept	Emergency Response	8096 Main St	Sorrento	30.180361	-90.868813		1965	Reinforced Masonry
Sorrento Town Hall	Administration	8173 Main St	Sorrento	30.186118	-90.857913	$1,358,140	1965	Reinforced Masonry
Sorrento Maintenance Bldg.	Maintenance	8165 Main St.Sorr	Sorrento	30.186118	-90.857913		1965	
Sorrento Community Center	Command Center/Rec.	7471 Main St.	Sorrento	30.181204	-90.861571		2014	

Ascension Parish and Jurisdiction Owned Building Information								
Educational Facilities								
Name of Building	Purpose of Building	Address	City	Latitude	Longitude	Assessed Value	Date Built	Construction Type
Apple Digital Academy & Ed	School	9697 Airline Hwy	Sorrento					
Ascension Head Start	School	603 Lee Avenue	Donaldsonville					
Bluff Middle	School	15464 Bluff Road	Prairieville					
Bluff Ridge Primary	School	14191 Hwy 73	Prairieville					
Bullion Primary	School	17005 Sills Drive	Prairieville					
Central Middle	School	14101 Roddy Road	Gonzales					
Central Primary	School	41469 Hwy 621	Gonzales					
Donaldsonville High	School	100 Tiger Drive	Donaldsonville					

Name of Building	Purpose of Building	Address	City	Latitude	Longitude	Assessed Value	Date Built	Construction Type
Donaldsonville Primary	School	38210 Hwy 3089	Donaldsonville					
Duplessis Primary	School	38101 Hwy 621	Gonzales					
Dutchtown High	School	13165 Hwy 73	Geismar					
Dutchtown Middle	School	13078 Hwy 73	Geismar					
Dutchtown Primary	School	13046 Hwy 73	Geismar					
East Ascension High	School	612 East Worthey Street	Gonzales					
G.W. Carver Primary	School	11310 Legacy Oaks Lane	Gonzales					
Galvez Middle	School	42018 Hwy 933	Prairieville	30.314233	-90.903918	$6,000,000	1956	Reinforced Masonry
Galvez Primary	School	16093 Henderson Bayou Rd.	Prairieville	30.30271	-90.886592	$5,000,000	1986	Reinforced Masonry
Gonzales Middle	School	1502 W. Orice Roth St.	Gonzales					
Gonzales Primary	School	520 N. Pleasant Ave	Gonzales					
Lake Elementary	School	14185 Hwy 431	St. Amant					
Lakeside Primary	School	16500 Hwy 431	Prairieville	30.31301	-90.850385	$15,000,000	8/16/2009	Reinforced Masonry
Lowery Elementary	School	2389 B Hwy 1 S.	Donaldsonville					
Lowery Middle	School	2389 A Hwy 1 S.	Donaldsonville					
Oak Grove Primary	School	17550 Old Jefferson Hwy	Prairieville	30.324034	-90.975541	$6,000,000	1996	Reinforced Masonry
Pecan Grove Primary	School	1712 South Pecan Grove Ave.	Gonzales					
Prairieville Middle	School	16200 Hwy 930	Prairieville	30.304142	-90.955263	$5,000,000	1951	Reinforced Masonry

Name of Building	Purpose of Building	Address	City	Latitude	Longitude	Assessed Value	Date Built	Construction Type
Prairieville Primary	School	40228 Parker Road	Prairieville	30.31461	-90.931769	$13,000,000	7/29/2008	Reinforced Masonry
Sorrento Primary	School	42211 N. City Parc Dr.	Sorrento					
Spanish Lake Primary	School	13323 Bluff Road	Geismar					
St. Amant High	School	12035 Hwy 431	St. Amant					
St. Amant Middle	School	44317 Hwy 429	St. Amant	30.222889	-90.859584	$5,000,000	1937	Reinforced Masonry
St. Amant Primary	School	44365 Hwy 429	St. Amant	30.223205	-90.858513	$5,000,000	1990	Reinforced Masonry
Sugar Mill Primary	School	39319 Germany Road	Prairieville					
LeBlanc Special Services	Education	611 North Burnside	Gonzales					
BC Alwes	Education	501 Lee Avenue	Donaldsonville					
Data Center	Education	1707 South Purpera STE 100	Gonzales					
Darrow Conference and Technology Centers	Education	38608 Hwy 22	Darrow					
Operations Center	Education	9690 Airline Highway	Sorrento					
Old G. W. Carver	Education	518 West Oak Street	Gonzales					
Student Services and RVTO	Education	1707 South Purpera STE 200	Gonzales					
School Board Office	Education	1100 Webster Street	Donaldsonville					
Supply Chain Office	Education	932 West Orice Roth Road	Gonzales					

Ascension Parish and Jurisdiction Owned Building Information								
Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office Facilities								
Name of Building	Purpose of Building	Address	City	Latitude	Longitude	Assessed Value	Date Built	Construction Type
Ascension Parish Jail	Law Enforcement	2384 Lemannville Cutoff Rd	Donaldsonville	30.097358	-90.93833	$11,490,000.00	1989-2009	Reinforced Masonry
Ascension Sheriff's Training Center	Law Enforcement	9094 S St Landry Ave	Burnside	30.197557	-90.952534	$3,200,000	2014	Reinforced Masonry
District 2/911 Center	Law Enforcement	13200 N. Airline Hwy.	Gonzales	30.259172	-90.932388			
District 3 (Leased)	Law Enforcement	38567 Hwy 42	Prairieville	30.259172	-90.932388			
APSO Training Center	Law Enforcement	9094 S. St. Landry Rd.	Gonzales	30.320562	-90.957131			
APSO Range	Law Enforcement	9134 S. St. Landry Rd.	Gonzales	30.199352	-90.953666			
District 1/Hickley M. Waguespack Center	Law Enforcement	1201 Maginnis St.	Donaldsonville	30.197804	-90.953632			

Vulnerable Populations

Vulnerable Populations Worksheet					
Ascension Parish					
All Hospitals (Private or Public)	**Address**	**City**	**Zip Code**	**Latitude**	**Longitude**
Lake Urgent Care	1702 N Burnside Ave	Prairieville	70737	30.280834	-90.981657
Premier Medical Center	17188 Airline Highway	Prairieville	70769	30.321894	-90.977911
Ochsner Urgent Care Clinic	16250 Airline Highway	Prairieville	70769	30.303788	-90.971757
St. James Behaviorial Health Hospital	39066 Vindez Road	Burnside	70737	30.203451	-90.951933
St. Michael Hospice	16260 Airline Highway	Prairieville	70769	30.304498	-90.971858
Prevost Memorial Hospital	301 Memorial Drive	Donaldsonville	70346	30.08875	-91.00301
Options for Living	101 Memorial Drive	Donaldsonville	70346	30.09063	-91.00342
Our Lady of the Lake Ascension	1125 W HWY 30	Gonzales	70737	30.209167	-90.931944
Magnolia Assisted Living	1604 S Burnside	Gonzales	70737	30.220556	-90.918611
Ascension Oaks Nursing & Rehab	711 W Cornerview	Gonzales	70737	30.231389	-90.926944
Promise Rehab Hospital	615 E Worthey Rd	Gonzales	70737	30.225334	-90.954163
St. James Behavioral Hospital	3136 S St Landry Ave	Gonzales	70737	30-203550	-90.951958
Lake Urgent Care	1702 N Burnside Ave	Prairieville	70737	30.280834	-90.981657
Premier Medical Center	17188 Airline Highway	Prairieville	70769	30.321894	-90.977911
Ochsner Urgent Care Clinic	16250 Airline Highway	Prairieville	70769	30.303788	-90.971757
St. James Behaviorial Health Hospital	39066 Vindez Road	Burnside	70737	30.203451	-90.951933
St. Michael Hospice	16260 Airline Highway	Prairieville	70769	30.304498	-90.971858
Nursing Homes (Private or Public)	**Address**	**City**	**Zip Code**	**Latitude**	**Longitude**
Chateau D'Ville Rehab and Retirement	401 Vatican Drive	Donaldsonville	70346	30.094068	-90.99756
Ascension Oaks Nursing & Rehabilitation Center	711 West Cornerview St	Gonzales	70737	30.232197	-90.926957
Gonzales Health Care Center	905 West Cornerview St	Gonzales	70737	30.232279	-90.929623
Azalea Estates	2305 S Purpera Ave	Gonzales	70737	30.212830	-90.905030
Francois Bend	326 E Industry St	Gonzales	70737	30-228130	-90.920650
Magnolia Assisted Living	1604 S Burnside	Gonzales	70737	30.220556	-90.918611

Mobile Home Parks	Address	City	Zip Code	Latitude	Longitude
B&B RV Park	48A Bellina Drive	Donaldsonville	70346	30.099215	-91.012902
Landry RV Park	712 Veterans Drive	Donaldsonville	70346	30.10112	-90.99412
Vesta Trailer Park	2228 S BURNSIDE	Gonzales	70737	30.216111	-90.923056
S&M Trailer Park	5 Agnes Segura Rd	Gonzales	70737	30.30613	-90.92061
Power's RV Park	11056 Airline Highway	Gonzales	70737	30.227398	-90.900544
Vista Mobile Home Park	206 East Chelsea Street	Gonzales	70737	30.214146	-90.91963
Eddy's Mobile Home Park	8210 Pond St.	Sorrento	70778	30.18761	-90.8499
Hambrick Properties	44452 Braud St.	Sorrento	70778	30.18391	-90.85646
Oak Place Trailer Park	10037 Louisiana 22	St. Amant	70774	30.212489	-90.844043
Jackson's Trailer Park	44283-10 Lousiana 42	St. Amant	70769	30.337806	-90.864457
St. Amant Trailer Park	13039 Lamar Moran Rd	St. Amant	70774	30.256558	-90.852873
Countryside Mobile Home Community	10534 Louisiana 22	St. Amant	70774	30.225574	-90.799972
KTB Mobile Home Park	17140 Louisiana 44	Prairieville	70769	30.317503	-90.920929
Lynch's Trailer Park	3 West Lynch Street	Prairieville	70769	30.297664	-90.962696
Henry Road Trailer Park	38072 Henry Road	Prairieville	70769	30.306121	-90.969893
Unkown	10291 Gonzales Road	St. Amant	70774	30.251645	-90.847002
Planton Village	10474 Acy Road	St. Amant	70774	30.224743	-90.815019
Colonial Oaks	12206 Colonial Oaks Rd	Prairieville	70737	30.246521	-90.895676
Roddy Road Village	12229 Roddy Road	Prairieville	70769	30.245725	-90.904666
Wayne's Mobile Home Park	16119 Gene's Trailer Park	Prairieville	70769	30.299431	-90.913207
Mallard Point Mobile Home Park	17001 Muyrl Lane	Prairieville	70769	30.315123	-90.89566
Pine Park Village	42284 Bayou Narcisse Road	Prairieville	70737	30.248154	-90.89515
Mobile Home Park	Cobb's Trailer Park Road	Prairieville	70737	30.260856	-90.903656
Moody Dixon Place	172110 Beverly Lane	Prairieville	70769	30.320287	-90.896992
Old Galveztown Mobile Home Estate	18288 Blanche Rd	Prairieville	70769	30.340275	-90.894346
CMI Mobile RV Park	17867 Airline Highway	Prairieville	70769	30.337435	-90.990048
Achoros Trailer Park	36000 Paille Drive	Prairieville	70769	30.301377	-90.999831
Raybon's Mobile Home Park	17091 East Swamp Rd	Prairieville	70769	30.316908	-90.988804
Country Living Mobile Home Park	40506 Nicholas Melancon	Prairieville	70769	30.319895	-90.923929
Community Mobile Home Park	Jombri Dr	Prairieville	70769	30.32032	-90.903179
Oak Place Trailer Park	Oak Place Rd	Dutchtown	70737	30.2685	-90.963631
Twin Lakes	1237 Alex King Rd	Dutchtown	70734	30.25342	-90.979108

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)				
	Ascension Unincorporated	**Donaldsonville**	**Gonzales**	**Sorrento**
Insurance Summary				
How many NFIP polices are in the community? What is the total premium and coverage?	13866	245; $158,356; $70,995,800	1362; Avg. Coverage $258,703.45	328
How many claims have been paid in the community? What is the total amount of paid claims? How many of the claims were for substantial damage?	2205	47; $864,004; 4	346	178
How many structures are exposed to flood risk with in the community?	About 21,000 homes are located in the SFHA	Unknown	1169	600
Describe any areas of flood risk with limited NFIP policy coverage.	None	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Staff Resources				
Is the Community FPA or NFIP Coordinator certified?	Yes	Parish	Parish	Parish
Is flood plain management an auxiliary function?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Provide an explanation of NFIP administration services (e.g., permit review, GIS, education or outreach, inspections, engineering capability)	Yes	Parish	Parish	Parish
What are the barriers to running an effective NFIP program in the community, if any?	n/a	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Compliance History				
Is the community in good standing with the NFIP?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Are there any outstanding compliance issues(i.e., current violations)?	Yes, one	No	No	No
When was the most recent Community Assistance Visit (CAV) or Community Assistance Contact(CAC)?	October, 2011	October, 2011	3/17/2016	8/1/2015
Is a CAV or CAC scheduled or needed? If so when?	Fall 2016	Needed	No	Fall 2021

Regulation				
When did the community enter the NFIP?	12/12/1978	6/7/1974	8/16/1982	6/28/1974
Are the FIRMs digital or paper?	The Parish of Ascension FIRMs are Digital and on paper. We also keep copies of the historic maps on file.	The Parish of Ascension FIRMs are Digital and on paper. We also keep copies of the historic maps on file.	Both	Both
Do floodplain development regulations meet or exceed FEMA or State minimum requirements? If so, in what ways?	The Parish exceeds regulations. We have a 1ft freeboard adopted in our ordinance and we also have fill regulations up to 36 inches.	The Parish exceeds regulations. We have a 1ft freeboard adopted in our ordinance and we also have fill regulations up to 36 inches.	The Parish exceeds regulations. We have a 1ft freeboard adopted in our ordinance and we also have fill regulations up to 36 inches.	The Town of Sorrento exceeds regulations. We have a 1ft freeboard adopted in our ordinance and we also have fill regulations up to 24 inches.
Community Rating System (CRS)				
Does the community participate in CRS?	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
What is the community's CRS Class Ranking?	8	n/a	8	9
Does the plan include CRS planning requirements?	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A