

DSTAKEHOLDER & PUBLIC OUTREACH PLAN

LOWER ST. BERNARD PARISH, LA
ROADWAY NETWORK & RESILIENCE STUDY

TRANSPORTATION STUDY
Planning For Future St. Bernard

RPC “STAGE 0” FEASIBILITY STUDY

RPC TASK: LIT_STB; STATE PROJECT NO. H.015428

December 7, 2023

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I. PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Regional Planning Commission (RPC), in coordination with the Port of New Orleans (Port NOLA) and St. Bernard Parish, is conducting a “Stage 0” Feasibility Study (herein after referred to as “Study”) to evaluate impacts and assess potential improvements to the surface transportation network in lower St. Bernard Parish, including impacts associated with implementation of the proposed Port NOLA Louisiana International Terminal (LIT) project, in Violet, Louisiana, as well as other downriver developments.

The Louisiana International Terminal (LIT) Project



Port NOLA is planning to build a new intermodal container terminal facility in lower St. Bernard Parish. The planned Louisiana International Terminal (LIT) facility will be a \$1.5 billion container terminal with an anticipated annual capacity of 2 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) annually. The proposed terminal site in Violet, LA was selected following a site feasibility analysis conducted from

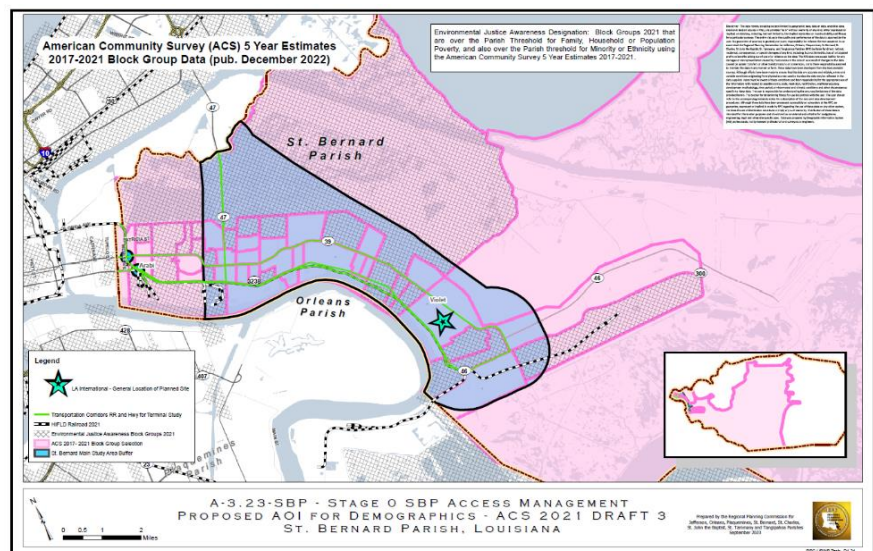
2018-2020 due to its naturally deep water, proximity to existing rail networks, and location inside the levee system. Port NOLA recently finalized the purchase of approximately 1,200 acres in Violet for the proposed LIT site (with an anticipated facility footprint of approximately 400 acres) and has initiated the permitting process with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Learn more at: <https://louisianainternationalterminal.com/>.

The RPC Study aims to broaden the scope of analysis completed by Port NOLA and consider the feasibility of improvements to manage the anticipated increased freight and employment traffic in lower St. Bernard Parish from both the proposed Port NOLA project and other downriver projects impacting the future quality of life in the Parish. This study acknowledges that the future growth in the Parish could pose negative traffic impacts to the region if transportation impacts are not assessed, planned for, and implemented to support the region and impacted communities. To this effect, the Study will identify feasible traffic mitigation options through (but not limited to):

- An assessment of anticipated LIT project impacts;
- Development of conceptual alternatives, including a new direct connection to the Interstate system via the LA 47/I-510 corridor to the LIT site in Violet;
- An analysis of economic, environmental, community, and transportation-related impacts of different alternatives;
- Assessment of vulnerabilities;
- Assessment of financial feasibility; and
- Review and analysis of feedback solicited through a proactive, robust community input process.

At a minimum, this Stakeholder & Public Outreach Plan aims to proactively engage residents and stakeholders and solicit feedback through an effective community input process; meet project requirements; and comply with RPC’s Public Involvement Plan and Title VI Program.

FIGURE 1. PROJECT AREA OF INTEREST (AOI) MAP¹



II. BEST PRACTICES IN OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Development of feasible traffic mitigation improvements that truly anticipate and mitigate the negative effects of the future development in St. Bernard (including anticipated impacts of the Port NOLA LIT Project) must build from historical data,



research on best practices, and analysis of emerging trends and challenges. This information should then be refined, corrected, and prioritized through collaboration and engagement with local organizations, stakeholders, and the public.

This Stakeholder and Public Outreach Plan (herein after referred to as the “Outreach Plan”) was developed at the start of the Study to best ensure that a diverse range of community groups are identified and engaged, that their feedback and experience is included in consideration of alternative concepts, and that the RPC provides the public ample opportunities to participate in the planning process.

To this effect, a variety of engagement strategies will be utilized as part of this Study, including regular monthly Project Leadership Meetings, community workshops, stakeholder meetings, online surveys, social media, and (as needed) interactive in-person activities at festivals and community events.

These methods will facilitate the sharing of diverse perspectives, consultation with critical communities impacted by planned development, and authentic collaboration necessary to envision the future of St. Bernard’s transportation network, including improvements that will ensure a high quality of life for all.

Outreach, engagement, and data-gathering efforts of the Outreach Plan will focus on the needs and experience of residents, businesses, and stakeholders in St. Bernard to develop data-driven, inclusive, and equitable planning documents and associated recommendations. To this effect, outreach efforts will meet locals where they are, draw from specific examples provided through survey and mapping exercises (described in Section VI in more detail), incorporate analysis of common comments or statistically significant data points, and learn from and incorporate outcomes of ongoing, in-person engagement.

III. PARTICIPATION GOALS

1. Inform the public that the RPC Stage “0” Feasibility Study planning process is underway.
2. Inform residents about how they can engage with the planning process and how valuable their participation is to the process and future of the Parish.
3. Capture public sentiment from a large and diverse group of residents and stakeholders through multiple avenues.
4. Present and explain proposed conceptual alternatives to communities and regional stakeholders in a way that is clear and transparent.
5. Demonstrate to residents and stakeholders how their participation impacted the final recommendations of the Study.
6. Track and make a record of all who are participating in the planning process overall.

IV. PARTICIPATION OBJECTIVES

1. Identify specific Title VI vulnerable populations.
2. Leverage previous and ongoing outreach efforts associated with the Port NOLA LIT project.
3. Document and leverage previous and ongoing public comments and survey results to produce Study recommendations tailored to local context and needs.
4. Increase public awareness of planning efforts during the production of the Study by publicizing opportunities for engagement and disseminating project information through a variety of media types.
5. Support meaningful participation in outreach and engagement opportunities and events that are diverse and accessible to all.
6. Facilitate in-person, online survey, and public comment periods to increase resident and stakeholder participation in development of conceptual alternatives during the production of the Study.
7. Produce a final Report that is data-driven, inclusive, equitable, and reflective of the Parish’s long-term transportation needs.



V. DESIRED OUTCOMES

1. Stakeholders are empowered to explain their concerns regarding potential positive and negative impacts associated with future planned development in the Parish, both in the immediate project area and surrounding areas.
2. Port NOLA, the Parish, Stakeholders and the public are confident that their feedback was considered, and final report recommendations represent the values and needs of St. Bernard communities and the region at large.
3. The process of gathering and analyzing feedback prioritized equity and fostered trust among participants.
4. Community participants offered constructive input and sought common ground and understanding with each other and with the project team members and partners.
5. There is consensus within the region in support of the final transportation improvement recommendations and the path forward.
6. The Public and stakeholder groups demonstrate increased awareness, interest, and trust in the RPC's planning processes.

VI. OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

6.1 A LIVING DOCUMENT

This Outreach Plan is a living document: it is intended to be updated, refined, and made more inclusive as a result of an ongoing, interactive, and coordinated engagement process.

6.2 PLAN ALIGNMENT

This Outreach Plan is in alignment with the RPC's **2022 Public Participation Plan (PPP)**: it provides a clear consensus-building process by identifying public participation methods, strategies for public engagement and outreach, and acknowledges the means and methods for ensuring state and federal regulatory compliance for public participation. Further, this Outreach Plan is in alignment with the RPC's **Title VI Non-Discrimination Program and Language Assistance Plan**, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race or national origin under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance, including extensions to Title VI protections to low-income populations.

6.3 PARTICIPATION APPROACH

The Plan approach aims to accurately and effectively communicate to residents and Parish stakeholders the importance of long-term transportation planning and their opportunity to take part in regional and local transportation planning efforts underway. Efforts aim to result in robust, local, lived experience and invaluable institutional knowledge incorporated in the development of draft and final conceptual alternatives and long-term transportation strategies.

Efforts specifically include: project branding, a webpage, a digital mapping survey focused on providing spatially specific transportation improvement comments; two community meetings; monthly project leadership meetings; stakeholder interviews and stakeholder meetings; and in-person outreach at community festivals.

The Outreach Plan approach also incorporates and acknowledges engagement efforts managed by Port NOLA and the Parish to date, the RPC's 3C planning process, a 10-month project timeline, best practices, and the experience of trusted community groups and Parish stakeholders. To this effect:

- Project branding, public messaging, and outreach efforts focus on supporting the public's interest at critical stages of study and throughout the planning process.
- Public messaging will be tailored to an 8th grade reading level to enhance accessibility and tailored to reflect local conditions.
- Community meeting facilitation will also be respectful of local culture and widely publicized in advance to help ensure a representative engagement process.

Pursuant to Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, no individual shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, income, gender, age, or disability in



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any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. The Regional Planning Commission (RPC) is a recipient of federal funding, and thus is subject to the requirements of Title VI, as are all federally funded consultants contracted by the Commission. This Outreach Plan documents how the Title VI requirements are met during the subject study.

Public involvement efforts for this project are designed to meaningfully engage elderly residents, persons with a disability, and the transportation disadvantaged (those without access to an automobile) to assure that these disadvantaged groups are not excluded from participation. All public meetings will be held at central, easily accessible locations that are convenient for the population affected by the project. Meetings will also be held outside of regular work hours to try to accommodate the schedules of those in the community who may have rigid work schedules.

Advertisements for public meetings will be distributed in print (local media and newspaper advertisements) and digital format hosted on the RPC website. Likewise, materials and exhibits included both print and online surveys to collect feedback on the project.

As a part of our mission to develop a nuanced understanding of the affected population, the project team will attend meetings of the Port of New Orleans Community Advisory Councils (for St. Bernard Parish and for Violet). The team has also engaged representatives from local government as members of the Project Leadership Team and plans to “meet stakeholders where they are” by distributing outreach materials at festivals that draw attendees who may otherwise be missed by standard outreach methods including those residents who are busy with family obligations, who have limited schedule availability during the work week, or who may hear about the project through “word-of-mouth” or may share a dwelling with festival attendees.

6.4 THE PROJECT LEADERSHIP TEAM (PLT)

The Project Leadership Team was formed from nominations of the RPC and Project Team to guide the development of the Study. Throughout the course of Project Leadership Team Meetings, members will work to actively expand and broaden the list of stakeholders to ensure the opportunity to comment and be involved in the planning process is as inclusive and transparent as possible. PLT members will meet monthly for a total of seven (7) times over the course of the 10-month planning process, including the following high-level project milestones and dates.

TABLE 1. PROJECT LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETINGS & MILESTONES

| MEETING DATE | HIGH-LEVEL MILESTONES |
|-------------------|---|
| October 2, 2023 | Project Leadership Team Kickoff Meeting to review project goals, objectives, and timeline. |
| October 23, 2023 | Discuss approach to project branding, website, survey, and press release development, as well as the outreach efforts in November re: Project Launch, including live website, published Outreach Plan, live “Mark the Map” Survey; and final press release shared with Parish, Stakeholders and Community groups able to sign up online to be kept informed of project updates. |
| November 20, 2023 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review outcomes of Project Launch, including analysis of survey responses, questions received to-date; and Assess opportunities to boost engagement via RPC, Parish, and Port communication channels, up-coming events; and Review status of Task 2 - Review of Plans/Data and Task 3 - Data Collection. |
| January 22, 2024 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated analysis of survey responses, questions received to-date; and Assess opportunities to boost engagement via RPC, Parish, and Port communication channels, up-coming events; and Outline meeting approach / logistics for Community Meeting No. 1 (4/11/2023), based on findings and comments to-date; and Determine schedule of Stakeholder Interviews/Briefing Sessions held prior to Community Meeting No. 1. |



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| | |
|----------------|--|
| | |
| March 18, 2024 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated analysis of survey responses, questions received to-date; and Assess opportunities to boost engagement via RPC, Parish, and Port communication channels, up-coming festivals/events; and Review outcomes of Task 4 (complete as of 3/14/24); and Review and discuss conceptual plans in development. |
| May 20, 2024 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review outcomes of Community Meeting No. 1 (4/11/2024), including outcomes of meeting exercise, updated analysis of survey responses, and questions received to-date; and Incorporate special considerations and community feedback into final conceptual plan recommendations; and Assess progress on Task 5 – Conceptual Plan Development. Plan for Community Meeting No. 2 (6/6/2024) to review and explain how community feedback was incorporated into final transportation improvement recommendations. Assess opportunities to boost engagement for Community Meeting No. 2 via RPC, Parish, and Port communication channels, up-coming festivals/events; and |
| June 24, 2024 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review outcomes of Community Meeting No. 2 (6/6/2024), including outcomes of meeting, updated analysis of survey responses, and questions received to-date; and Assess completion rate of Task 5 – Conceptual Plan Development (due 6/26/2024); and Determine and complete final decision-points to complete the Study Report (Task 6) due 7/4/2024. |

TABLE 2. PROJECT LEADERSHIP TEAM (PLT) MEMBERS

| NAME | ASSOCIATION/ TITLE | NAME | ASSOCIATION/TITLE |
|-----------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| Jeffrey Roesel | RPC, Executive Director | Anthony “Tony” Evett | Port NOLA, Chief Engineer |
| Karen Parsons | RPC, Principal Planner | Chris Cole | LA DOTD, Assistant Pavement Management Engineer |
| Lynn Dupont | RPC, Principal Planner | Scott Boyle | LA DOTD, Assistant Pavement Management Engineer |
| Tosha Shanableh | RPC, Transportation Planner | Kimberly Bryant | LA DOTD, DOTD Traffic Engineering |
| Malissa Givhan | RPC, Public Outreach Coordinator | Bao Le | LA DOTD, District Traffic Ops Engineer |
| Jason Stopa | St. Bernard Parish, Director of Community Development | Kayla Bankston | LA DOTD Environmental, Engineer Intern |
| Jacob M. Loeske | GIS Engineering, Director of Operations | Laura Phillips | LA-FHWA, Transportation Planner |
| Connor McCarthy | GIS, Engineering, Engineer Intern | John Broemmelsiek | LA-FHWA, Traffic Engineer |
| Sam Mestayer | GIS Engineering, Project Manager | David Dupre | Meyer Engineers, Supervising Engineer |
| Brandi Fontenot | GIS Engineering, Deputy Project Manager | Ann Theriot | Meyer Engineers, Project Engineer |
| Nicole Steward | Urban Systems, Inc. President / Transportation Engineer | Alex Gelpi Carter | Meyer Engineers, Public Outreach Coordinator |
| Alison Michel | Urban Systems, Inc. VP / Transportation Engineer | Evelyn Campo | Meyer Engineers, Public Outreach Coordinator |
| Fadi Madi | Urban Systems, Inc. Transportation Engineer | Gregory “Greg” Trahan | AECOM, Civil Engineer |



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| | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Kamran Khan | CDM Smith, Toll Practice Leader | Tom Hunter | AECOM, Planning Department Manager |
| Richard Tillery | CDM Smith, Sr. Project Manager | | |

The Project Leadership team supported the development of this Outreach Plan; will review and provide insight and feedback on the format of Community and Stakeholder meetings; and will review and provide feedback on the Study development, content, strategies and recommendations.

6.5 SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

6.5.1 Stakeholder Meetings and Interviews

Stakeholder meetings and interviews provide a critical opportunity to gather diverse insights, engage participants with specialized knowledge more directly, tailor discussions, address unique needs, and facilitate targeted consensus-building.

The Project Leadership Team will bring additional stakeholder groups (**Table 3**) into the planning process beginning in February/March 2024 upon establishing initial project findings. Stakeholder meetings and interviews help to ensure all perspectives of an issue are well represented in the Study, promote transparency, and increase stakeholders’ ability to influence Study outcomes and recommendations.

As additional special interest groups engage with the project and as the PLT identifies additional special interest or stakeholder groups they will add such groups to the table below.

TABLE 3. STAKEHOLDER AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

| NAME | ROLE / FOCUS | WEBSITE / LOCATION INFORMATION |
|--|--|---|
| ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT / PRIVATE INDUSTRY | | |
| St. Bernard, Harbor & Terminal District “The St. Bernard Port | Local Port, Harbor and Terminal An economic driver in the Parish, the St. Bernard Port manages all lands, waterways, rivers, lakes and navigable bodies comprising and lying within the limits of and boundaries of St. Bernard Parish. | https://www.stbernardport.com/ |
| Norfolk Southern Railroad | Transportation Provider / Railing Shipping - Network extends into study area, serves global trade via port connections; helps move the global economy and support global trade by working with port partners to develop, maintain, and grow rail-supported cargo. | https://www.norfolksouthern.com/en/ship-by-rail/our-rail-network/ports-international/port-directory#accordion-86a9618807-item-800cdb48a5 |
| Trucking Companies / Private Businesses | IMC Intermodal trucking and container drayage company that provides intermodal logistics and transportation services to clients in New Orleans, LA and the surrounding areas | https://www.imcc.com/companies/new-orleans/ |
| Trucking Companies / Private Businesses | ARL Network Provides Flatbed, Dry Van, Refrigerated, and Intermodal Drayage to New Orleans based terminals | https://www.arlnetwork.com/terminals |
| Trucking Companies / Private Businesses | Acme Truck Line, Inc Provides transportation of equipment, materials, and supplies. Operates terminals in | http://www.acmetruck.com/terminal-network/ |



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| NAME | ROLE / FOCUS | WEBSITE / LOCATION INFORMATION |
|--|---|---|
| | New Orleans including multiple terminals throughout Louisiana. | |
| Trucking Companies / Private Businesses | Andy's Freight Terminal, Inc. (<i>1-truck</i>) Andy's Freight Terminal, Inc. is an active DOT registered motor operating under USDOT Number 2215703 and MC Number 253140. | 6128 Old Gentilly Rd, New Orleans, LA 70126 |
| Trucking Companies / Private Businesses | Arst-Alex, Inc. (<i>3 trucks</i>) Arst-Alex, Inc. is an active DOT registered motor carrier operating under USDOT Number 703786 and MC Number 325453. | 1910 - 25th Street Kenner, LA 70062 |
| ISO shipping services & Trucking | Private Business / Boasso Global - Chalmette, Louisiana Boasso Global offers local and long-haul trucking, ISO shipping services, and chemical tank/container refurbishing at their St. Bernard Port ISO Shipping Terminal location in Chalmette, Louisiana since 2002 | https://stage.boassoglobal.com/Depots/North-America/New-Orleans |
| Warehousing & Trucking | Private Business / Meyers Warehouse Meyers Warehouse provides high-quality food-grade warehousing and trucking services to corporations throughout the US including American Sugar Refining-Domino Sugar warehouse located at the Port's Chalmette Terminal and American Sugar Refining-Domino Sugar Chalmette Refinery | 7417 N Peters St Arabi, LA 70032 |
| Entergy Louisiana, LLC | Electricity provider – Serves electric customers in St. Bernard Parish. Planning re: overhead power lines. | |
| RESOURCE AGENCIES AND GOVERNMENT ENTITIES | | |
| Wetlands-DNR | Resource Agency/ Permits/ Mitigation Division - Regulates development activities and manages the resources of the Coastal Zone to help ensure the management and reasonable use of the state's coastal wetlands, including dredge and fill work, bulkhead construction, shoreline maintenance, and other development projects. | |



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| NAME | ROLE / FOCUS | WEBSITE / LOCATION INFORMATION |
|---|--|---|
| US Army Corps of Engineers | Resource Agency/New Orleans USACE District – Reviews permit application submitted by the Port NOLA to construct a new commercial container terminal, realign E. St. Bernard Highway and the Norfolk Southern railroad track segment, relocation of W. Smith Jr. Elementary School, and Violet No. 2 Park. | |
| SE LA flood protection authority | Resource Agency / Regional Levee Authority – Coordinates plans, projects, and procedures to better protect citizens in the event of future storms. | https://www.floodauthority.org/about-us/contact-us/ |
| Coast Guard | Resource Agency/U.S. Coast Guard Sector New Orleans - Supports a wide range of Coast Guard operations to include search and rescue, maritime law enforcement, marine environmental protection, aids to navigation, and ports, waterways, and coastal security. | https://www.atlanticarea.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/District-8/Contact-Information/ |
| St. Bernard Parish Government | Community Development – Enforces the Parish Comprehensive Plan and seeks opportunities to mitigate future flood risk Office of Coastal Zone Management - Processes Coastal Use Permits (CUPs) and serves as a liaison between St. Bernard Parish and all state and federal coastal wetlands regulatory agencies. Public Works Dept. – Manages the operation and improvement of drainage, sewer, and water infrastructure. Capital Projects Dept. – Manages project expenditure of Parish and grant funds. Communications Dept. – Manages public communications on behalf of the Parish. | https://sbpg.net/151/Community-Development |
| St. Bernard Tourist Commission | Local Tourist Commission - Promotes and markets St. Bernard's rich history, culture, festivals and recreational opportunities to enhance the economic fabric of the Parish. Coordination, re: festivals and tabling events. | https://www.visitstbernard.com/play/annual-events |
| Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) | Resource Agency within the U.S. Department of Transportation that supports State and local governments in the design, construction, and maintenance of the Nation's highway system and various federally and tribal owned lands. | Louisiana Division, Federal Highway Administration 5304 Flanders Dr., Ste. A Baton Rouge, LA 70808 |
| State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) | Resource Agency responsible for coordinating and implementing state and federal guidelines for the investigation and | https://www.crt.state.la.us/cultural-development/historic-preservation/section-106-review/index |

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| NAME | ROLE / FOCUS | WEBSITE / LOCATION INFORMATION |
|---|--|---|
| | preservation of prehistoric and historic sites on land and underwater. Division issues permits for archaeological investigations, supports the use of a state-wide GIS Cultural Resource Map, and provides guidance with required site forms and Section 106 inquiries. | |
| Louisiana Department Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) | Resource Agency responsible for managing and protecting Louisiana's abundant natural resources | https://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/ |
| STAKEHOLDERS – COORDINATING AND CONSULTED ENTITIES | | |
| Port NOLA sponsored community groups | Community Advisory Councils (CAC) – Groups meet regularly re: project updates, discussions about terminal-related subjects, and opportunities for members to provide feedback and insight. One CAC consists of Violet residents and community leaders. The other consists of community and business leaders from throughout St. Bernard Parish. CAC members were nominated by community and local government leaders. | https://louisianainternationalterminal.com/community/connect |
| Federally Recognized Tribal Governments | Coordinating Entities with interest in historic sites / tribal land / activities in St. Bernard Parish | <p>Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town P.O. Box 187, Wetumka, OK 74883 http://www.alabama-quassarte.org/</p> <p>Apache Tribe of Oklahoma 511 East Colorado, Anadarko, OK 73005 http://www.apachetribe.org/</p> <p>Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana 155 Chitimacha Loop, Charenton, LA 70523 http://www.chitimacha.gov</p> <p>Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma 1802 Chukka Hina Dr., Durant, OK 74701 http://www.choctawnation.com</p> <p>Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana 1940 C.C. Bel Road, Elton, LA 70532 http://koasatiberitage.org/</p> <p>Jena Band of Choctaw Indians P.O. Box 14, Jena, LA 71342-0014 http://www.jenachoctaw.org</p> <p>Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians 101 Industrial Rd., Choctaw, MS 39350 http://www.choctaw.org</p> |

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| NAME | ROLE / FOCUS | WEBSITE / LOCATION INFORMATION |
|---|------------------|--|
| | | <p>Muscogee (Creek) Nation 1007 East Eufaula St., Okmulgee, OK 74447 http://www.mcn-nsn.gov</p> <p>Seminole Tribe of Florida 6300 Stirling Road, Hollywood, FL 33024 http://www.semtribe.com</p> <p>United Houma Nation 400 Monarch Dr., Houma, LA 70364 https://unitedhoumanation.org/contact/</p> <p>Inter-Tribal Council of Louisiana (ITC) 991 Grand Caillou Rd., Houma, LA 70363</p> <p>Louisiana Governor's Office of Indian Affairs Louisiana State Capitol 900 N. Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70804 https://gov.louisiana.gov/page/indian-affairs</p> |
| Los Isleños Heritage and Cultural Society | Cultural society | https://www.losislenos.org/index |

6.5.2 Stakeholder meetings and interviews included:

1. 10/10/23 - Port NOLA Outreach Stakeholder Meeting

Attendees:

- PortNOLA: Laura Mellem, Anthony Evett, Kylie Mills, Rachel Haney (HDR, Inc), Renee Aragon, Suchitra Satpathi, Kayla Santiago, Jessica Ragusa, Meagan Morvant
- Project Team: Evelyn Campo, Sam Mestayer, Karen Parsons, Brandi Fontenot, Jacob Loeske, Ann Theriot, David Dupre, Malissa Dietch-Givhan, Tosha Shanableh

Meeting Objective: Reviewed project objectives & discussed Port of NOLA outreach efforts to-date; aligned outreach efforts to complement Outreach Plan in development.

2. 10/10/23 - St. Bernard Parish Staff Outreach Stakeholder Meeting

- **Attendees:** Parish: Jason Stopa; Project team: Evelyn Campo, Sam Mestayer, Karen Parsons, Brandi Fontenot, Jacob Loeske, David Dupre, Ann Theriot, Tosha Shanableh
- **Meeting Objective:** Introduced RPC project to the Parish; addressed questions and concerns; and invited insight and input on the development of the Outreach Plan.

3. [date] - Meeting Title

Attendees: *To be completed at a later date*

Key Take-a-ways: *To be completed at a later date*

4. [date] - Meeting Title



Attendees: *To be completed at a later date*

Key Take-a-ways: *To be completed at a later date*

5. [date] - Meeting Title

Attendees: *To be completed at a later date*

Key Take-a-ways: *To be completed at a later date*

6. [date] - Meeting Title

Attendees: *To be completed at a later date*

Key Take-a-ways: *To be completed at a later date*

7. [date] - Meeting Title

Attendees: *To be completed at a later date*

Key Take-a-ways: *To be completed at a later date*

6.6 THE PROJECT AREA AND IMPACTED POPULATIONS

6.6.1 Social Vulnerability Analysis for Outreach Meeting Location Strategy

Methodology

In addition to the Title VI Demographic Profile, the project team considered where social vulnerability markers were the highest and mapped these Census Block Groups in Figure 2 for the purpose of determining where to hold public meetings.

Findings

The study area includes all Census Block Groups in St. Bernard Parish, La, which generally have medium to high overall social vulnerability. All Census Block Groups were assessed against data described in **Table 4** to identify what specific factors are driving this medium to high social vulnerability and to understand if there are geographically significant areas in the Parish to target outreach and engagement efforts. Census Block Groups having the top three unique values of the data assessed in **Table 4** were then sorted and illustrated in **Table 5**, which highlights the highest concentrations of vulnerable population by Census Block Group in the Parish. These seventeen (17) Census Block Groups are mapped in **Figure 2** to support targeting outreach and engagement efforts.

TABLE 4. DATA DESCRIPTION AND SOURCE FOR FIGURE 2.

| METRIC | VARIABLE | DESCRIPTION |
|-------------------|-----------|--|
| % Over Age 65 | EP_65OVER | Percentage of persons aged 65 and older estimate |
| % Disabled | EP_DISAB | Percentile percentage of civilian noninstitutionalized population with a disability estimate |
| % Limited English | EP_LIMENG | Percentile percentage of persons (age 5+) who speak English "less than well" estimate |
| % Poverty | EP_150POV | Percentage of persons below 150% poverty estimate |
| % Minority | EP_MINRTY | Percentage minority estimate |
| % No Vehicle | EP_NOVEH | Percentage of households with no vehicle available estimate |



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Data compiled from the American Community Survey (ACS) 5 Year Summary File (2017 – 2021) published December 2022 by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration, U.S. Census Bureau. Data received in text format and joined to spatial geography files by the New Orleans Regional Planning Commission (RPC). Specific tabular data relating to RPC activities formatted for mapping and analytical purposes. For further information please contact RPC, Lynn Dupont, GIS Manager.

FIGURE 2. HIGHEST CONCENTRATIONS OF VULNERABLE POPULATION BY CENSUS BLOCK GROUP MAP

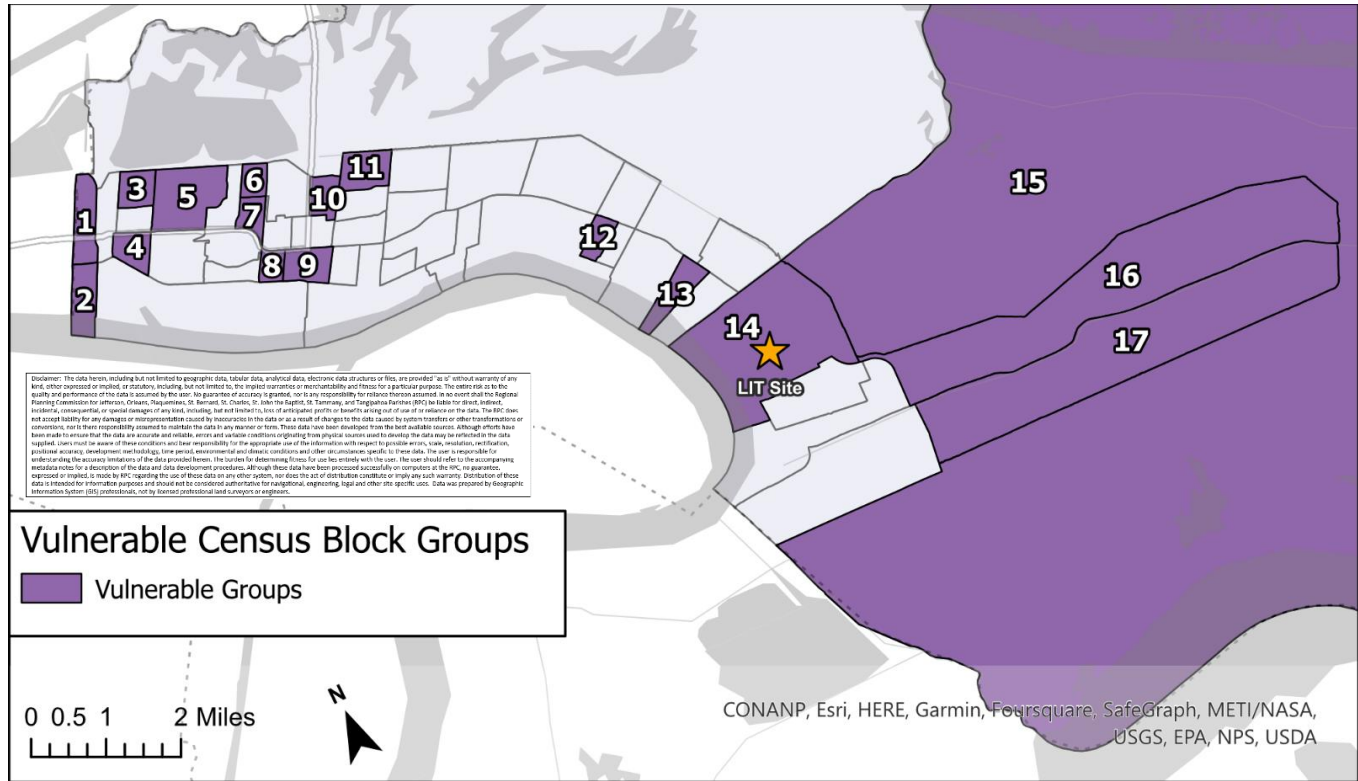


TABLE 5. DATA TABLE FOR HIGHEST CONCENTRATIONS OF VULNERABLE POPULATION BY CENSUS BLOCK GROUP MAP

| Vulnerable Group ID | Census Block Group (BG) | % Over Age 65 | % Disabled | % Limited English | Environmental Justice Awareness | | % No Vehicle |
|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| | | | | | % Poverty | % Minority | |
| 1 | BG 1, Tract 303 | 9.81% | 19.79% | 0.00% | 52.81% | 44.59% | 16.34% |
| 2 | BG 2, Tract 303 | 28.95% | 19.79% | 2.05% | 26.25% | 13.47% | 16.34% |
| 3 | BG 1, Tract 305 | 8.91% | 18.46% | 0.00% | 64.67% | 46.84% | 7.46% |
| 4 | BG 3, Tract 305 | 9.16% | 18.46% | 4.83% | 20.90% | 22.16% | 7.46% |
| 5 | BG 1, Tract 306.01 | 5.74% | 10.60% | 7.65% | 29.51% | 64.09% | 4.77% |
| 6 | BG 1, Tract 306.03 | 1.72% | 13.77% | 3.06% | 56.93% | 83.33% | 19.59% |
| 7 | BG 2, Tract 306.03 | 1.12% | 13.77% | 0.00% | 69.35% | 88.04% | 19.59% |
| 8 | BG 1, Tract 307 | 27.36% | 25.42% | 0.00% | 40.23% | 19.38% | 16.11% |
| 9 | BG 2, Tract 307 | 12.34% | 25.42% | 0.00% | 38.41% | 11.87% | 16.11% |
| 10 | BG 2, Tract 308 | 7.68% | 17.62% | 0.00% | 48.46% | 67.15% | 9.14% |
| 11 | BG 3, Tract 302.07 | 14.08% | 13.40% | 5.99% | 24.61% | 38.33% | 2.38% |
| 12 | BG 3, Tract 302.09 | 19.02% | 23.07% | 0.00% | 21.41% | 8.24% | 1.09% |
| 13 | BG 3, Tract 302.04 | 30.78% | 16.92% | 4.00% | 56.94% | 95.55% | 9.10% |
| 14 | BG 1, Tract 301.03 | 17.97% | 20.48% | 0.00% | 10.97% | 92.53% | 7.80% |
| 15 | BG 2, Tract 301.05 | 38.95% | 16.32% | 0.00% | 45.26% | 33.68% | 3.48% |



Note: The planning products produced in the planning process may be adopted during a subsequent environmental review process.

| | | | | | | | |
|----|--------------------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------|
| 16 | BG 1, Tract 301.04 | 24.93% | 21.27% | 0.00% | 24.67% | 23.34% | 4.80% |
| 17 | BG 2, Tract 301.04 | 8.93% | 21.27% | 0.00% | 24.97% | 41.86% | 4.80% |

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Upon review of **Figure 2** and **Table 5**, there is not a geographically unique proportion of residents having social vulnerabilities, but instead, a more dispersed pattern that extends both east and west across the Parish.

The study area includes a relatively high proportion of residents who self-identify as minorities, with the highest concentrations in Census Block Group 2, Tract 306.03 (88.04%), Census Block Group 3, Tract 302.04 (95.55%), and Census Block Group 1, Tract 301.03 (92.53%), which suggests the Project Team should host community meetings in or near Census Block Group 2, Tract 306.03 and Census Block Group 3, Tract 302.04 (shown as “Vulnerable Group ID” 7 and 13 in Figure 2) to support equitable representation in the outreach and engagement process.

The study area includes a significant, but not geographically unique proportion of residents that are over the age of 65 in Census Block Group 2, Tract 303 (28.95%), Census Block Group 3, Tract 302.04 (30.78%), and Census Block Group 2, Tract 301.05 (38.95%). Residents with a disability are more concentrated in Census Block Group 1, Tract 307 (25.42%), Census Block Group 2, Tract 307 (25.42%), and Census Block Group 3, Tract 302.09 (23.07%). Residents with no vehicle are concentrated in Census Block Group 1, Tract 303 (16.34%), Census Block Group 2, Tract 303 (16.34%), Census Block Group 1, Tract 306.03 (19.59%), Census Block Group 2, Tract 306.03 (19.59%), Census Block Group 1, Tract 307 (16.11%), and Census Block Group 2, Tract 307 (16.11%). This further suggests the Project Team should work in or near Census Block Group 2, Tract 306.03 to support improved accessibility for residents who may experience difficulty attending public meetings, as well as provide online options for enhanced participation within these groups.

The study area includes some areas with residents with limited English proficiency, with the highest concentrations in Census Block Group 3, Tract 305 (4.83%), Census Block Group 1, Tract 306.01 (7.65%), and Census Block Group 3, Tract 302.07 (5.99%), however, the percentages in this category are relatively low, with most residents with Limited English Proficiency speaking Spanish or Vietnamese. Considering the prevalence of residents speaking languages other than English, outreach activities should offer materials that include translation options for Spanish and Vietnamese.

6.6.2 Basic Demographic Profile and Title VI Assessment Data.

Methodology

The project team compiled Parish and State data to produce a basic demographic profile for St. Bernard Parish. Basic demographic profile data was sourced from U.S. Census American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate data and was categorized into the categories for a Title VI assessment, which include:

- Poverty / Households Poverty
- Minority
- Elderly
- Limited English Proficiency
- Disabled Populations
- Zero Car Household
- Environmental Justice (minority + poverty)

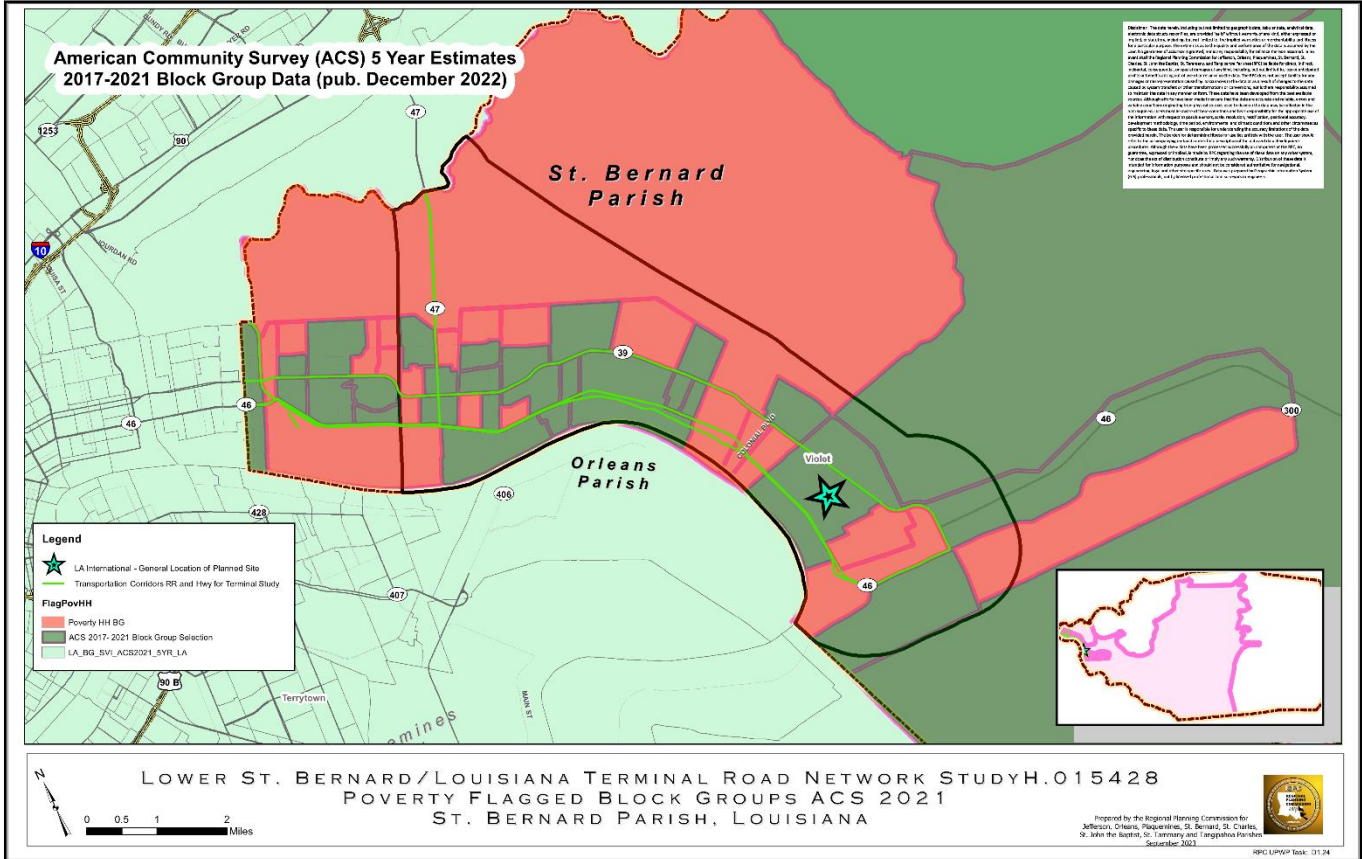


Note: The planning products produced in the planning process may be adopted during a subsequent environmental review process.

Within each category, the project team reviewed Parish, MSA, and State data and identified Census Block Groups where the values for each category exceeded the Parish average, flagging such Block Groups in maps and tables shown in the following sections.

Title VI Focus: Poverty

FIGURE 3. POVERTY FLAGGED BLOCK GROUPS





Note: The planning products produced in the planning process may be adopted during a subsequent environmental review process.

TABLE 6. POVERTY FLAGGED BLOCK GROUPS IN THE PARISH

| CENSUS BLOCK GROUP | Block Group Median HH Income (2021 Dollars) | Parish Median HH Income (2021 Dollars) |
|---|--|---|
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 301.04, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$42,344.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 302.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$31,630.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 304, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$46,875.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 307, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$39,205.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 301.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$46,685.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 302.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$50,000.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 3, Census Tract 301.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$46,615.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 4, Census Tract 302.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$36,771.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 4, Census Tract 302.04, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$32,946.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 3, Census Tract 302.04, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$21,094.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 4, Census Tract 308, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$43,553.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 5, Census Tract 302.04, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$43,802.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 302.07, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$46,806.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 306.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$21,563.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 302.09, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$50,238.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 3, Census Tract 302.09, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$50,980.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 303, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$50,625.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 305, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$41,700.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 306.01, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$45,573.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 306.02, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$42,768.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 306.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$31,719.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 308, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$36,165.00 | \$52,538.00 |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 308, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | \$33,125.00 | \$52,538.00 |



Note: The planning products produced in the planning process may be adopted during a subsequent environmental review process.

TABLE 7. PARISH INCOME STATISTICS

| ACS 5 YEAR ESTIMATES (2017 -2021) TITLE VI – INCOME | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Geographic area | Household Income |
| | Median HH Income (2021 Dollars) |
| St. Bernard | \$52,538 |
| New Orleans-Metairie MSA | \$57,656 |
| Louisiana | \$53,571 |

TABLE 8. PARISH POVERTY STATISTICS

| ACS 5 YEAR ESTIMATES (2017 -2021) TITLE VI – POVERTY | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Geographic area | Population in Poverty | | | Households in Poverty | | | Families in Poverty | | |
| | Total Population*1 | Population in Poverty | Percent Population in Poverty | Total Households | Households in Poverty | Percent Households in Poverty | Total Families | Families in Poverty | Percent Families in Poverty |
| St. Bernard | 43,456 | 9,428 | 21.70% | 15,472 | 3,333 | 21.54% | 10,460 | 1,841 | 17.60% |
| New Orleans-Metairie MSA | 988,316 | 185,468 | 18.77% | 396,264 | 74,491 | 18.80% | 227,841 | 31,307 | 13.74% |
| Louisiana | 4,531,545 | 850,486 | 18.77% | 1,748,688 | 322,771 | 18.46% | 1,115,692 | 156,479 | 14.03% |

*1 Poverty population includes individuals in housing units and noninstitutional group quarters. The poverty universe excludes children under the age of 15 who are not related to the householder, people living in institutional group quarters (e.g., nursing homes or correctional facilities), and people living in college dormitories or military barracks.

Poverty Analysis

Based on an analysis of population experiencing poverty, households experiencing poverty, and families experiencing poverty; poverty is most concentrated in the Census Block Groups listed in **Table 6** and shown in red in **Figure 3**.

These block groups were flagged because either the percentage of individuals, households, or families experiencing poverty in the subject block group exceeds the percentage of individuals, households, or families experiencing poverty in the Parish overall. If any of the three populations (individuals, households, or families) exceeded the parish percentage, the subject Census Block Group was flagged. Because Census Block Groups flagged for poverty lie on the east and west side of the subject site and are dispersed further west of the subject site, outreach efforts to members of this group should include numerous advertisements, across multiple channels of communication to attract residents to meetings regarding the subject study and such meetings should be held in two locations across the Parish to make meeting attendance as easy as possible for residents who live toward the eastern or western end of the Parish. In order to accomplish this goal, the project team will attempt to hold two meetings in EJ Awareness locations within the Parish.

KEY STRATEGIES TO ENGAGE RESIDENTS EXPERIENCING POVERTY:



Print advertisements, electronic advertisements, use government access channel, and post paper public notices for meetings



Hold public meetings in two locations



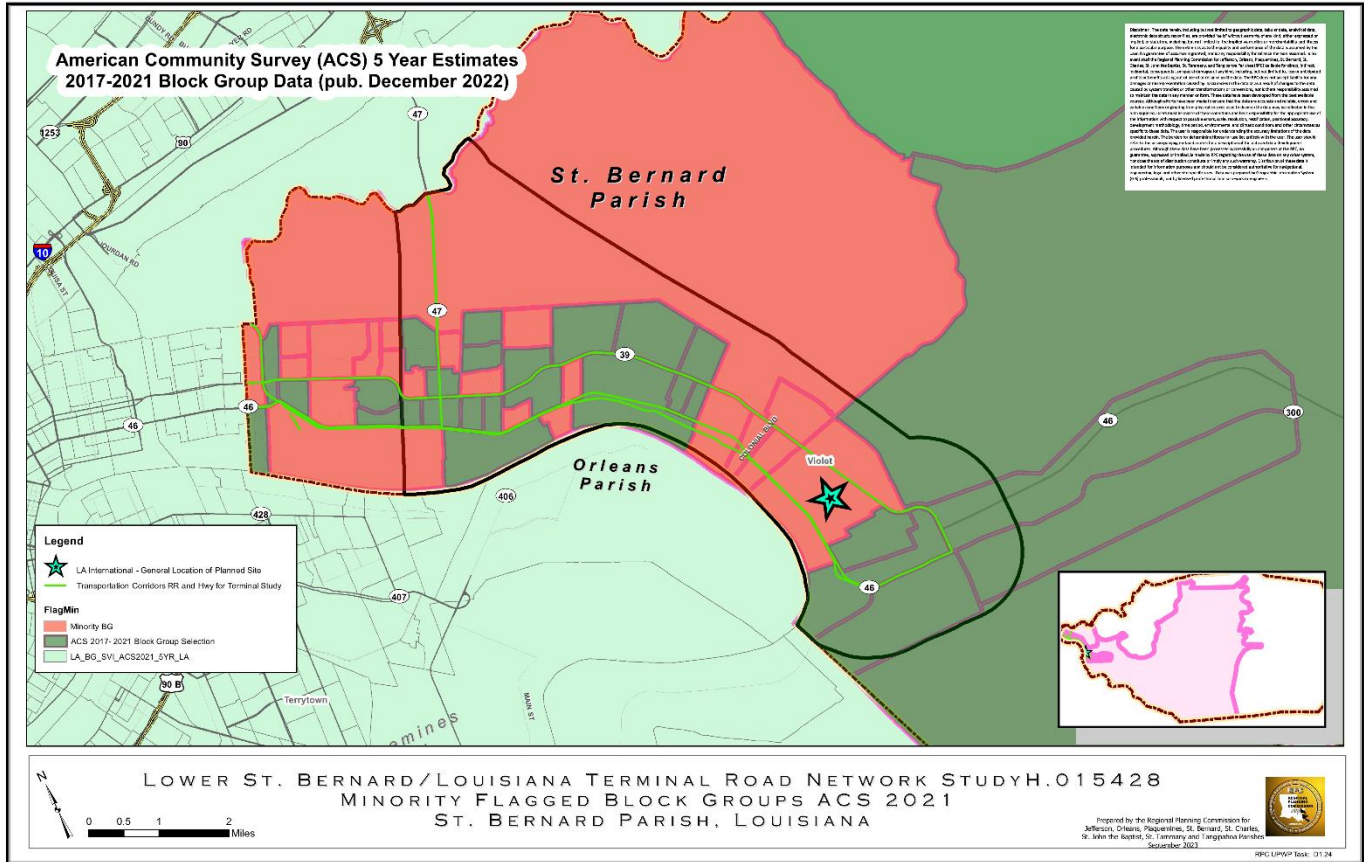
Gather income information from electronic survey respondents, ensure that those experiencing poverty are represented



Note: The planning products produced in the planning process may be adopted during a subsequent environmental review process.

Title VI Focus: Minority Populations

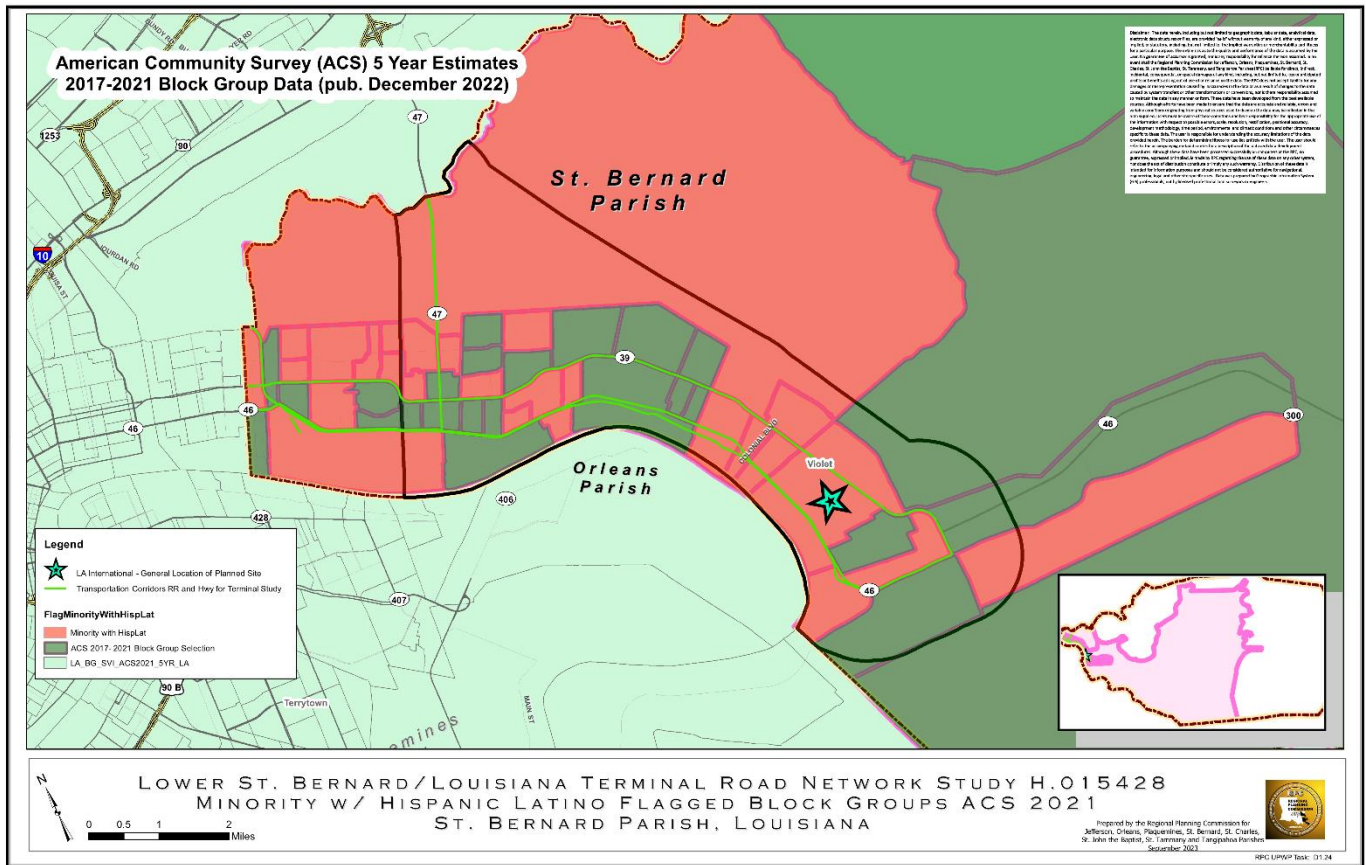
FIGURE 4. MINORITY FLAGGED BLOCK GROUPS





Note: The planning products produced in the planning process may be adopted during a subsequent environmental review process.

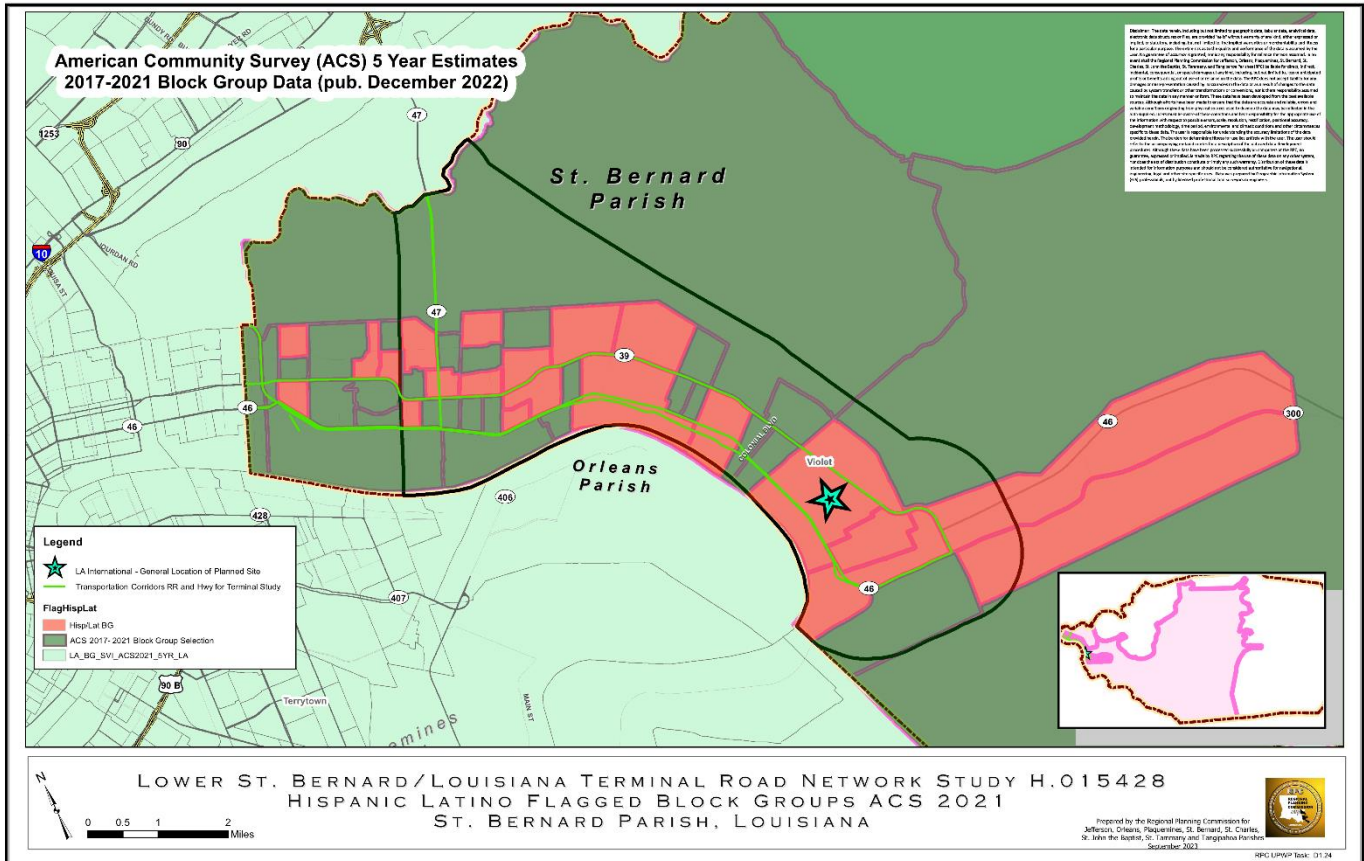
FIGURE 5. MINORITY FLAGGED BLOCK GROUPS (WITH HISPANIC / LATINO FLAGGED BLOCK GROUPS)





Note: The planning products produced in the planning process may be adopted during a subsequent environmental review process.

FIGURE 6. HISPANIC / LATINO FLAGGED BLOCK GROUPS





Note: The planning products produced in the planning process may be adopted during a subsequent environmental review process.

TABLE 9. MINORITY POPULATIONS IN THE PARISH

| Census Block Group | Block Group Percent Minority Population | Parish Percent Minority Population | Block Group Percent Hispanic/Latino Population | Parish Percent Hispanic/Latino Population | Block Group Percent Minority w/ Hispanic/Latino Population | Parish Percent Minority w/ Hispanic/Latino Population |
|--------------------|---|------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| BG 2, Tract 301.04 | 22.44% | 33.34% | 41.13% | 10.27% | 41.86% | 39.13% |
| BG 2, Tract 302.03 | 39.14% | 33.34% | 11.31% | 10.27% | 42.71% | 39.13% |
| BG 1, Tract 304 | 42.79% | 33.34% | 7.10% | 10.27% | 45.96% | 39.13% |
| BG 1, Tract 307 | 10.75% | 33.34% | 12.21% | 10.27% | 19.38% | 39.13% |
| BG 2, Tract 301.03 | 16.85% | 33.34% | 11.59% | 10.27% | 20.67% | 39.13% |
| BG 3, Tract 301.03 | 23.88% | 33.34% | 28.67% | 10.27% | 49.95% | 39.13% |
| BG 2, Tract 302.04 | 75.73% | 33.34% | 13.09% | 10.27% | 80.54% | 39.13% |
| BG 4, Tract 302.04 | 45.19% | 33.34% | 1.18% | 10.27% | 46.37% | 39.13% |
| BG 3, Tract 302.04 | 95.55% | 33.34% | 1.78% | 10.27% | 95.55% | 39.13% |
| BG 4, Tract 308 | 44.27% | 33.34% | 4.43% | 10.27% | 47.18% | 39.13% |
| BG 5, Tract 302.04 | 76.96% | 33.34% | 6.43% | 10.27% | 81.25% | 39.13% |
| BG 1, Tract 302.06 | 43.38% | 33.34% | 1.85% | 10.27% | 45.23% | 39.13% |
| BG 3, Tract 302.07 | 30.43% | 33.34% | 12.90% | 10.27% | 38.33% | 39.13% |
| BG 2, Tract 306.03 | 63.93% | 33.34% | 42.43% | 10.27% | 88.04% | 39.13% |
| BG 2, Tract 302.08 | 23.64% | 33.34% | 13.63% | 10.27% | 29.19% | 39.13% |
| BG 1, Tract 305 | 45.06% | 33.34% | 11.99% | 10.27% | 46.84% | 39.13% |
| BG 2, Tract 306.01 | 54.68% | 33.34% | 15.50% | 10.27% | 59.80% | 39.13% |
| BG 1, Tract 306.01 | 61.95% | 33.34% | 2.80% | 10.27% | 64.09% | 39.13% |
| BG 1, Tract 306.02 | 48.60% | 33.34% | 7.67% | 10.27% | 50.72% | 39.13% |
| BG 1, Tract 306.03 | 82.22% | 33.34% | 8.76% | 10.27% | 83.33% | 39.13% |
| BG 2, Tract 308 | 67.15% | 33.34% | 7.68% | 10.27% | 67.15% | 39.13% |

Key: Value above flag threshold (Parish percentage)

TABLE 10. PARISH MINORITY POPULATION STATISTICS

| ACS 5 YEAR ESTIMATES (2017 -2021) TITLE VI – MINORITY AND ETHNIC POPULATIONS | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Geographic area | Minority & Ethnic Populations | | | |
| | Total Population | Percent Minority Population | Total Population | Percent Hispanic/Latino |
| St. Bernard | 43,821 | 33.34% | 43,821 | 10.27% |
| New Orleans-Metairie MSA | 1,006,238 | 51.71% | 1,006,238 | 9.89% |
| Louisiana | 4,657,305 | 39.75% | 4,657,305 | 5.34% |

Race and Ethnicity data from ACS 5 year estimates (2017-2021) block group estimates coinciding with RPC GIS geographic mapping scale for Title VI and summed by parish.

Minority Analysis

Based on an analysis of minority populations and Hispanic / Latino populations, minority populations are most concentrated in the Census Block Groups shown in **Table 9** and shown in red in **Figures 4 - 6**.



Note: The planning products produced in the planning process may be adopted during a subsequent environmental review process.

These block groups were flagged because the percentage of minority population exceeded the parish percentage (Figure 4), because the percentage of minority population including Hispanic / Latino populations exceeded the parish percentage (Figure 5), or because the percentage of respondents identifying as Hispanic or Latino exceeded the parish percentage (Figure 6). Census block groups featuring residents identifying as minorities or Hispanic / Latino are concentrated in the area of the subject study and dispersed broadly across the Parish. This means that an outreach strategy based on meetings / events in two locations will enable these residents to participate. An electronic survey including self-disclosed information on race / ethnicity will also enable the outreach team to make sure that survey responses include representation from minority and Hispanic / Latino community members.

KEY STRATEGIES TO ENGAGE MEMBERS OF MINORITY POPLATIONS:



Hold public meetings in two locations.



Collect race / ethnicity information in electronic surveys.



Focus outreach efforts on cultural events that include minority or Hispanic / Latino-identifying communities.

Title VI Focus: Elderly Population

FIGURE 7. ELDERLY FLAGGED BLOCK GROUPS

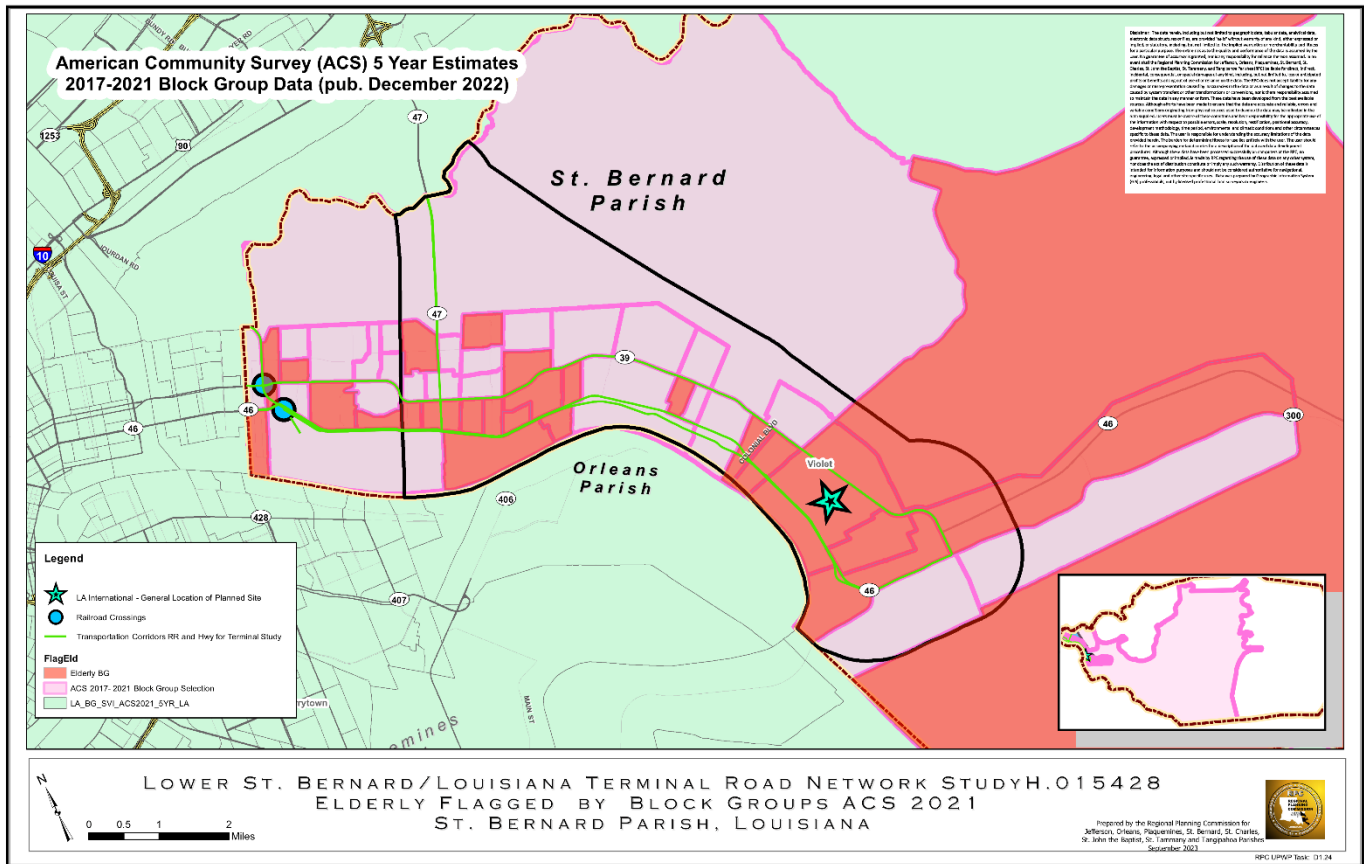




TABLE 11. ELDERLY POPULATION FLAGGED BLOCK GROUPS IN THE PARISH

| Census Block Group | Block Group Percent Elderly Ages 65 and Over | Parish Percent Elderly Ages 65 and Over |
|---|--|---|
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 301.04, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 24.93% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 301.05, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 38.95% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 302.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 14.29% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 307, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 27.36% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 301.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 17.97% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 301.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 16.98% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 302.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 17.22% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 3, Census Tract 301.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 12.59% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 3, Census Tract 302.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 20.05% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 4, Census Tract 302.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 17.46% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 4, Census Tract 302.04, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 19.06% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 3, Census Tract 302.04, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 30.78% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 302.06, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 12.13% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 3, Census Tract 302.07, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 14.08% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 302.09, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 15.57% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 3, Census Tract 302.09, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 19.02% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 303, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 28.95% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 304, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 19.95% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 305, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 12.64% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 306.02, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 13.97% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 307, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 12.34% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 306.02, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 12.20% | 11.63% |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 308, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 22.55% | 11.63% |

TABLE 12. PARISH ELDERLY STATISTICS

| ACS 5 Year Estimates (2017 -2021) Title VI – Elderly Population | | |
|---|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Geographic area | Elderly Population | |
| | Total Population | Percent Elderly Ages 65 and Over |
| St. Bernard | 43,821 | 11.63% |
| New Orleans-Metairie MSA | 1,006,238 | 15.83% |
| Louisiana | 4,657,305 | 15.51% |

Population by age and sex from ACS 5 year estimates (2017-2021) block group estimates coinciding with RPC GIS geographic mapping scale for Title VI and summed by parish.

Elderly Analysis



Based on an analysis of population ages 65 and over, elderly residents are most concentrated in the Census Block Groups shown in **Table 11** and shown in red in **Figure 7**.



Note: The planning products produced in the planning process may be adopted during a subsequent environmental review process.

These block groups were flagged because the percentage of individuals age 65 or older in each census block group shown as red in **Figure 7** below exceeds the percentage of individuals age 65 or older in the Parish. Because Census Block Groups flagged for elderly populations are dispersed across the Parish, two outreach meetings will be needed to provide engagement opportunities for elderly residents. Meetings should also be advertised well in advance of their occurrence so that residents can plan for transportation or family support in attending these meetings and should be advertised in print and electronic media to reach residents who may subscribe to print media rather than email. Finally, the stakeholders for this project should include entities like the St. Bernard Council on Aging and other groups that may have specific access and insight regarding the elderly population.

KEY STRATEGIES TO ENGAGE ELDERLY RESIDENTS:

-  Print advertisements, electronic advertisements, use government access channel, and post paper public notices for meetings
-  Work with stakeholder groups engaged with elderly residents

Title VI Focus: Residents with Limited English Proficiency

FIGURE 8. LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY FLAGGED BLOCK GROUPS

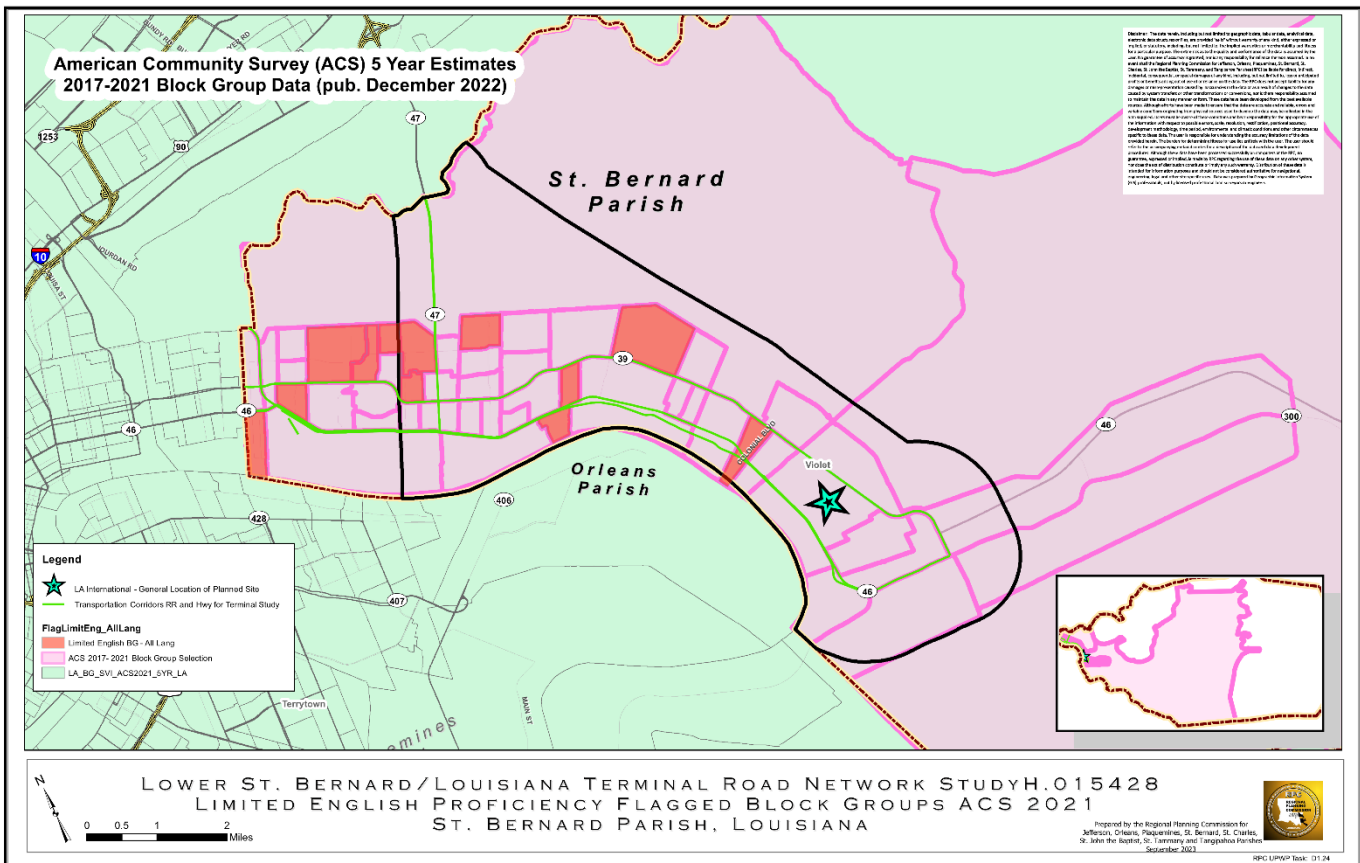




TABLE 13. LIMITED ENGLISH-SPEAKING HOUSEHOLDS IN THE PARISH

| Census Block Group | Block Group Percent Limited English-speaking HH | Parish Percent Limited English-speaking HH |
|---|---|--|
| Block Group 3, Census Tract 305, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 4.83% | 0.86% |
| Block Group 3, Census Tract 302.04, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 4.00% | 0.86% |
| Block Group 4, Census Tract 308, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 4.29% | 0.86% |
| Block Group 3, Census Tract 302.07, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 5.99% | 0.86% |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 302.08, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 2.69% | 0.86% |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 302.09, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 4.74% | 0.86% |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 303, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 2.05% | 0.86% |
| Block Group 2, Census Tract 306.01, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 1.40% | 0.86% |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 306.01, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 7.65% | 0.86% |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 306.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 3.06% | 0.86% |
| Block Group 1, Census Tract 308, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 4.48% | 0.86% |

TABLE 14. PARISH LIMITED ENGLISH-SPEAKING HOUSEHOLD STATISTICS

| ACS 5 YEAR ESTIMATES ('17 – '21) TITLE VI LIMITED ENGLISH-SPEAKING HOUSEHOLDS | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Geographic area | Limited English-Speaking Households | | |
| | Total Households | Limited English-speaking HH | Percent Limited English-speaking HH |
| St. Bernard | 15,472 | 133 | 0.86% |
| New Orleans-Metairie MSA | 396,264 | 12,269 | 3.10% |
| Louisiana | 1,748,688 | 31,553 | 1.80% |

Household Language data from ACS 5 year estimates (2017-2021) block group estimates coinciding with RPC GIS geographic mapping scale for Title VI and summed by parish.

Limited English Proficiency Analysis

Based on an analysis of limited English-speaking households shown in **Table 21**, limited English-speaking households are most concentrated in the Census Block Groups shown in the table below and shown in red in **Figure 8**.

These block groups were flagged because the percentage of limited English-speaking households in each census block group shown as red in **Figure 8** below exceeds the percentage of limited English-speaking households in the Parish. The largest proportion of limited English-speaking households lie in the northern part of the Parish. According to the U.S. Department of Justice – Civil Rights Division LEP map¹, the majority of residents in the study area with limited English-proficiency speak either Spanish / Spanish Creole or Vietnamese, therefore outreach materials should specifically include translations of content into these languages.

¹ U.S. DOJ Civil Rights Division LEP Viewer, <https://www.lep.gov/maps/lma2015/Final> accessed on 12/5/23.



Note: The planning products produced in the planning process may be adopted during a subsequent environmental review process.

KEY STRATEGIES TO ENGAGE RESIDENTS WITH LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY:



Provide translation services at meetings and provide materials in Spanish and Vietnamese.



Hold public meetings in two locations.

Title VI Focus: Residents with Disabilities

FIGURE 9. DISABILITY FLAGGED BLOCK GROUPS

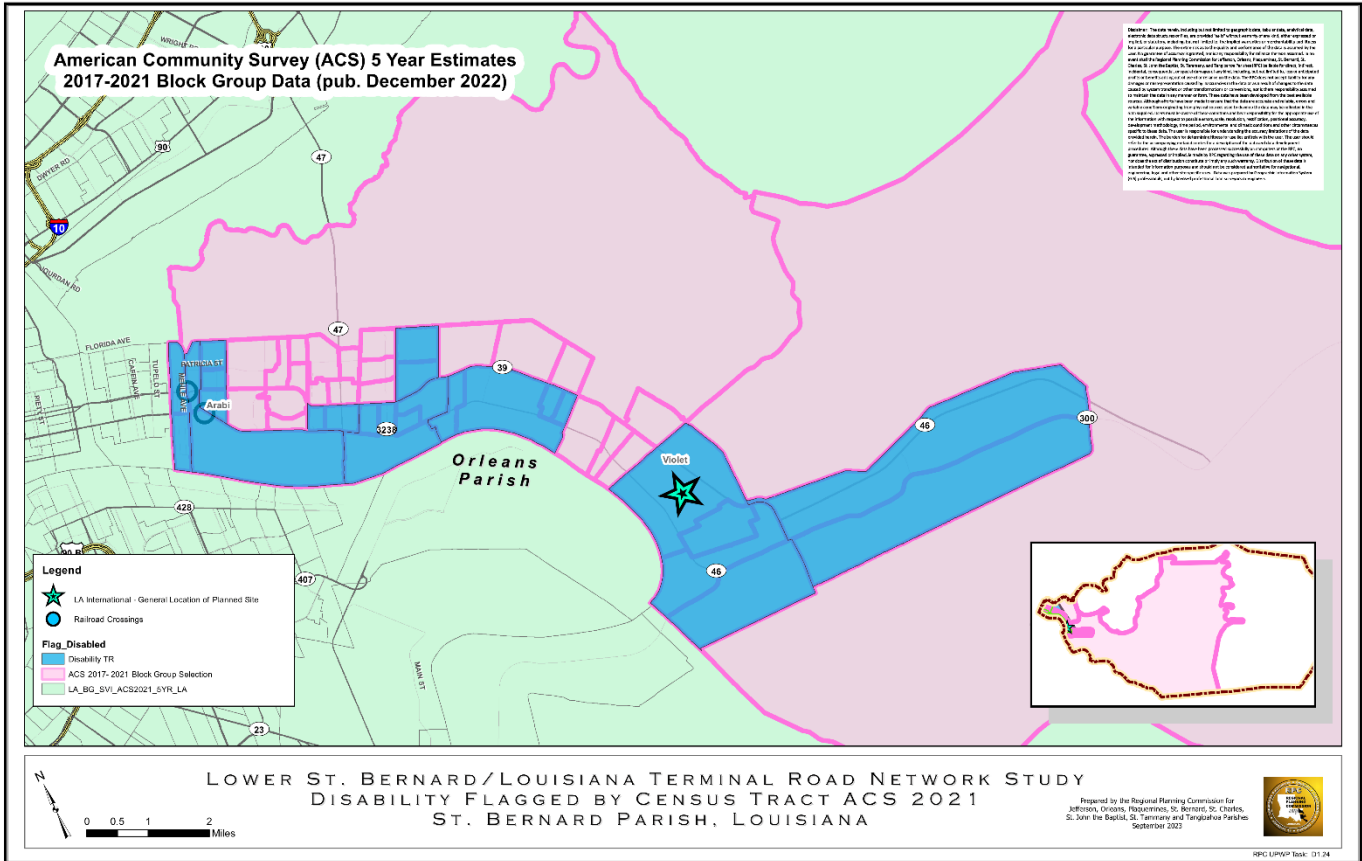




TABLE 15. RESIDENTS WITH A DISABILITY IN THE PARISH

| Census Tract | Tract Percent of Civilian Noninstitutional Population with a Disability | Parish Percent of Civilian Noninstitutional Population with a Disability |
|--|---|--|
| Census Tract 301.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 20.48% | 18.01% |
| Census Tract 301.04, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 21.27% | 18.01% |
| Census Tract 305, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 18.46% | 18.01% |
| Census Tract 302.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 21.76% | 18.01% |
| Census Tract 302.06, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 19.67% | 18.01% |
| Census Tract 302.09, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 23.07% | 18.01% |
| Census Tract 303, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 19.79% | 18.01% |
| Census Tract 304, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 18.64% | 18.01% |
| Census Tract 307, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 25.42% | 18.01% |

TABLE 16. PARISH DISABILITY STATISTICS

| ACS 5 YEAR ESTIMATES (2017 -2021) TITLE VI - DISABILITY | | |
|---|---|---|
| Geographic Area | Overall Disability Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population | |
| | Total Civilian Noninstitutional Population | Percent of Civilian Noninstitutional Population with a Disability |
| St. Bernard | 43,572 | 18.01% |
| New Orleans-Metairie MSA | 993,896 | 14.68% |
| Louisiana | 4,555,079 | 15.48% |

Population by age and disability from ACS 5 year estimates (2017-2021) Census Tract estimates coinciding with RPC GIS geographic mapping scale for Title VI and summed by parish. Noninstitutional Population (0 thru 18 Yrs) equates to ACS attribute for Under 19.

Disability Analysis

Based on an analysis of residents with a disability in the Parish, residents with a disability are spread geographically across the Parish and are especially concentrated in the Census Block Groups shown in **Table 15** and shown in blue in **Figure 9**.

To equitably engage residents with a disability, outreach efforts should ensure use of multiple modes of communication, the availability of remote meeting options, and the use of venues that are accessible for those with physical limitations or limited mobility.

KEY STRATEGIES TO ENGAGE RESIDENTS WITH A DISABILITY:



Use accessible venues across the Parish.



Ensure materials are available in different modes of communication.



Note: The planning products produced in the planning process may be adopted during a subsequent environmental review process.

Title VI Focus: Zero Car Households

FIGURE 10. ZERO CAR HOUSEHOLDS

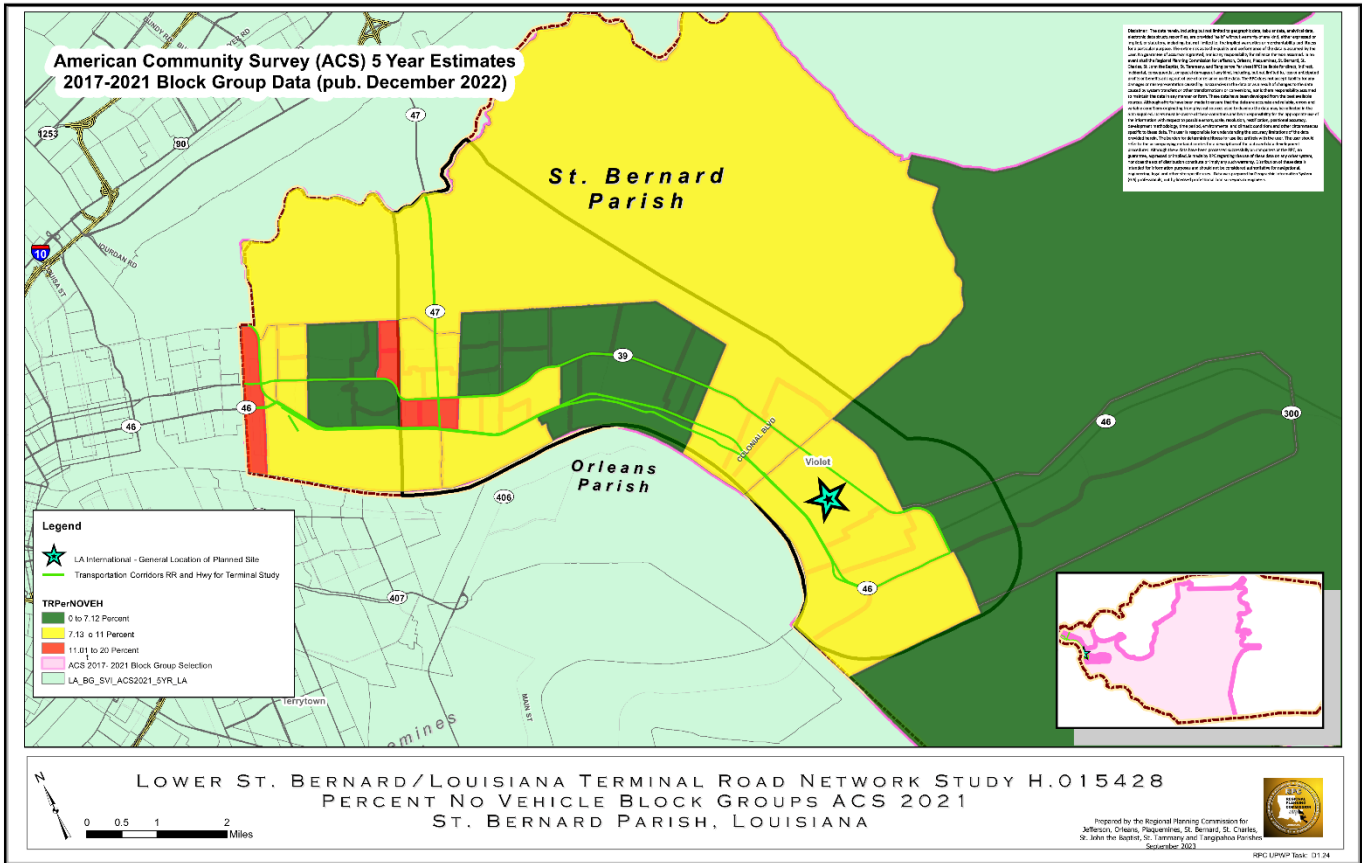


TABLE 17. ZERO CAR HOUSEHOLDS IN THE PARISH

| Census Tract | Tract Percent Households without a Car | Parish Percent Households without a Car |
|--|--|---|
| Census Tract 301.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 7.80% | 7.12% |
| Census Tract 302.04, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 9.10% | 7.12% |
| Census Tract 305, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 7.46% | 7.12% |
| Census Tract 302.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 10.31% | 7.12% |
| Census Tract 303, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 16.34% | 7.12% |
| Census Tract 304, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 10.48% | 7.12% |
| Census Tract 306.03, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 19.59% | 7.12% |
| Census Tract 307, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 16.11% | 7.12% |
| Census Tract 308, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana | 9.14% | 7.12% |



Note: The planning products produced in the planning process may be adopted during a subsequent environmental review process.

TABLE 18. PARISH ZERO CAR HOUSEHOLD STATISTICS

| ACS 5 YEAR ESTIMATES (2017 -2021) TITLE VI – ZERO CAR HOUSEHOLDS | | | |
|--|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Geographic area | Zero car households | | |
| | Total Households | Households without a Car | Percent Households without a Car |
| St. Bernard | 15,472 | 1,102 | 7.12% |
| New Orleans - Metairie MSA | 495,557 | 47,759 | 9.64% |
| Louisiana | 1,748,688 | 144,906 | 8.29% |
| U.S. Census Bureau. "PHYSICAL HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS FOR OCCUPIED HOUSING UNITS." American Community Survey, ACS 5-Year Estimates Subject Tables, Table S2504, 2021 | | | |

Zero-Car Household Analysis

Based on an analysis of the percentage of households in each Census Tract without access to a vehicle, the greatest percentages of such households lie in the western and central portions of the parish, however the subject study area includes Census Tracts with between 5 and 20% of households without a vehicle.

In order to equitably engage residents and households without access to a vehicle, the project team must seek two locations for public meetings and must use multiple channels of receiving feedback from interested parties and residents so that residents do not miss an opportunity to give input simply because they are unable to get to an in-person meeting. Online survey methods can support empowered participation by those without a vehicle.

KEY STRATEGIES TO ENGAGE HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT A CAR:



Hold public meetings in two locations



Ensure materials are available online and in-person

Title VI Focus: Environmental Justice

FIGURE 11. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FLAGGED BLOCK GROUPS

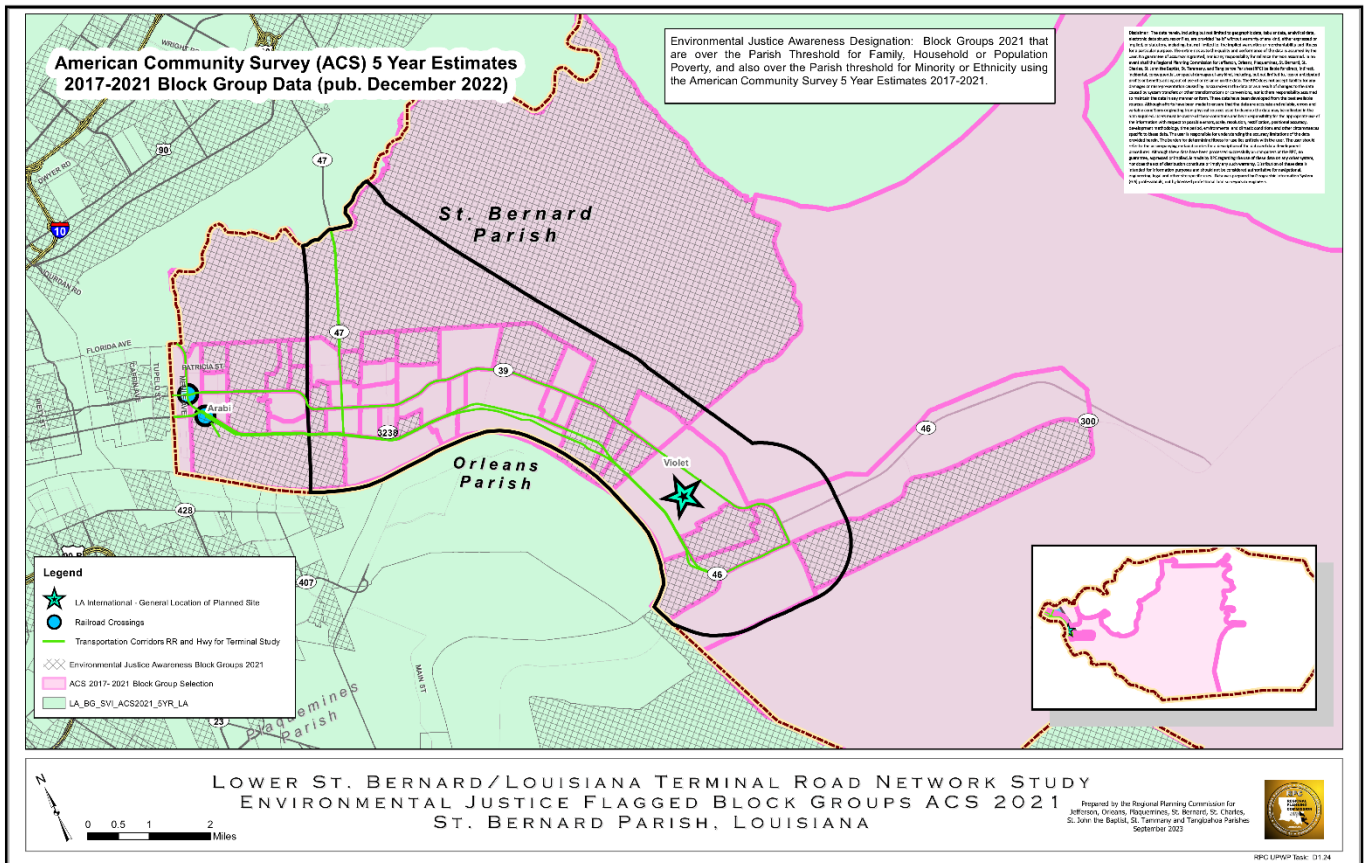


TABLE 19. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN THE PARISH

| Census Block Groups | BG Percent Minority Pop | Parish Percent Minority Pop | BG Percent Hispanic/Latino Pop | Parish Percent Hispanic/Latino Pop | BG Percent Minority w/ Hispanic/Latino Pop | Parish Percent Minority w/ Hispanic/Latino Pop | BG Percent Pop in Poverty | Parish Percent Pop in Poverty | BG Percent Families in Poverty | Parish Percent Families in Poverty | BG Percent HH in Poverty | Parish Percent HH in Poverty |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| BG 2, Tract 301.04 | 22.44% | 33.34% | 41.13% | 10.27% | 41.86% | 39.13% | 19.90% | 21.70% | 23.81% | 17.60% | 29.26% | 21.54% |
| BG 2, Tract 302.03 | 39.14% | 33.34% | 11.31% | 10.27% | 42.71% | 39.13% | 24.26% | 21.70% | 26.71% | 17.60% | 36.00% | 21.54% |
| BG 1, Tract 304 | 42.79% | 33.34% | 7.10% | 10.27% | 45.96% | 39.13% | 11.25% | 21.70% | 8.80% | 17.60% | 23.48% | 21.54% |
| BG 1, Tract 307 | 10.75% | 33.34% | 12.21% | 10.27% | 19.38% | 39.13% | 24.59% | 21.70% | 16.67% | 17.60% | 23.01% | 21.54% |
| BG 2, Tract 301.03 | 16.85% | 33.34% | 11.59% | 10.27% | 20.67% | 39.13% | 28.24% | 21.70% | 25.71% | 17.60% | 22.86% | 21.54% |
| BG 3, Tract 301.03 | 23.88% | 33.34% | 28.67% | 10.27% | 49.95% | 39.13% | 18.48% | 21.70% | 24.44% | 17.60% | 22.98% | 21.54% |
| BG 2, Tract 302.04 | 75.73% | 33.34% | 13.09% | 10.27% | 80.54% | 39.13% | 35.79% | 21.70% | 22.12% | 17.60% | 30.51% | 21.54% |
| BG 4, Tract 302.04 | 45.19% | 33.34% | 1.18% | 10.27% | 46.37% | 39.13% | 27.15% | 21.70% | 14.78% | 17.60% | 35.00% | 21.54% |
| BG 3, Tract 302.04 | 95.55% | 33.34% | 1.78% | 10.27% | 95.55% | 39.13% | 26.33% | 21.70% | 17.31% | 17.60% | 25.60% | 21.54% |
| BG 4, Tract 308 | 44.27% | 33.34% | 4.43% | 10.27% | 47.18% | 39.13% | 30.99% | 21.70% | 30.15% | 17.60% | 30.00% | 21.54% |
| BG 5, Tract 302.04 | 76.96% | 33.34% | 6.43% | 10.27% | 81.25% | 39.13% | 27.14% | 21.70% | 15.21% | 17.60% | 24.29% | 21.54% |
| BG 1, Tract 302.06 | 43.38% | 33.34% | 1.85% | 10.27% | 45.23% | 39.13% | 24.16% | 21.70% | 20.42% | 17.60% | 27.51% | 21.54% |
| BG 3, Tract 302.07 | 30.43% | 33.34% | 12.90% | 10.27% | 38.33% | 39.13% | 18.80% | 21.70% | 26.79% | 17.60% | 25.00% | 21.54% |
| BG 2, Tract 306.03 | 63.93% | 33.34% | 42.43% | 10.27% | 88.04% | 39.13% | 60.56% | 21.70% | 70.16% | 17.60% | 56.91% | 21.54% |
| BG 2, Tract 302.08 | 23.64% | 33.34% | 13.63% | 10.27% | 29.19% | 39.13% | 25.34% | 21.70% | 21.83% | 17.60% | 23.42% | 21.54% |
| BG 1, Tract 305 | 45.06% | 33.34% | 11.99% | 10.27% | 46.84% | 39.13% | 39.38% | 21.70% | 37.76% | 17.60% | 38.10% | 21.54% |
| BG 2, Tract 306.01 | 54.68% | 33.34% | 15.50% | 10.27% | 59.80% | 39.13% | 16.52% | 21.70% | 14.74% | 17.60% | 23.26% | 21.54% |
| BG 1, Tract 306.01 | 61.95% | 33.34% | 2.80% | 10.27% | 64.09% | 39.13% | 16.29% | 21.70% | 21.39% | 17.60% | 20.77% | 21.54% |
| BG 1, Tract 306.02 | 48.60% | 33.34% | 7.67% | 10.27% | 50.72% | 39.13% | 17.24% | 21.70% | 19.64% | 17.60% | 21.46% | 21.54% |
| BG 1, Tract 306.03 | 82.22% | 33.34% | 8.76% | 10.27% | 83.33% | 39.13% | 44.48% | 21.70% | 39.72% | 17.60% | 41.94% | 21.54% |
| BG 2, Tract 308 | 67.15% | 33.34% | 7.68% | 10.27% | 67.15% | 39.13% | 42.82% | 21.70% | 32.81% | 17.60% | 41.72% | 21.54% |

Key: Value above threshold



Note: The planning products produced in the planning process may be adopted during a subsequent environmental review process.

TABLE 20. PARISH ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE STATISTICS

| ACS 5 YEAR ESTIMATES (2017 -2021) TITLE VI – POVERTY | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Geographic area | Population in Poverty | | | Households in Poverty | | | Families in Poverty | | |
| | Total Population*1 | Pop in Poverty | Percent Pop in Poverty | Total Households | HH in Poverty | Percent HH in Poverty | Total Families | Families in Poverty | Percent Families in Poverty |
| St. Bernard | 43,456 | 9,428 | 21.70% | 15,472 | 3,333 | 21.54% | 10,460 | 1,841 | 17.60% |
| New Orleans-Metairie MSA | 988,316 | 185,468 | 18.77% | 396,264 | 74,491 | 18.80% | 227,841 | 31,307 | 13.74% |
| Louisiana | 4,531,545 | 850,486 | 18.77% | 1,748,688 | 322,771 | 18.46% | 1,115,692 | 156,479 | 14.03% |

*1 Poverty population includes individuals in housing units and noninstitutional group quarters. The poverty universe excludes children under the age of 15 who are not related to the householder, people living in institutional group quarters (e.g., nursing homes or correctional facilities), and people living in college dormitories or military barracks.

| ACS 5 YEAR ESTIMATES (2017 -2021) TITLE VI – MINORITY AND ETHNIC POPULATIONS | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Geographic area | Minority & Ethnic Populations | | | |
| | Total Population | Percent Minority Population | Total Population | Percent Hispanic/Latino |
| St. Bernard | 43,821 | 33.34% | 43,821 | 10.27% |
| New Orleans-Metairie MSA | 1,006,238 | 51.71% | 1,006,238 | 9.89% |
| Louisiana | 4,657,305 | 39.75% | 4,657,305 | 5.34% |

Race and Ethnicity data from ACS 5 year estimates (2017-2021) block group estimates coinciding with RPC GIS geographic mapping scale for Title VI and summed by parish.

Environmental Justice Analysis

Preceding sections describe poverty and minority status within the Parish. Environmental Justice awareness designation for the purpose of this analysis indicates Census Block Groups that are over the Parish threshold for family, household, or population poverty and are also over the Parish threshold for minority or ethnicity using the American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates 2017 – 2021.

Census Block Groups flagged as Environmental Justice Awareness Block Groups are dispersed throughout the Parish, with concentration of these Block Groups toward the northwestern side of the Parish. Because of the geographic spread of this characteristic, the project team should focus on parish-wide outreach so that residents from these block groups can participate effectively. Materials gathering public comment should also include questions about income and race / ethnicity to verify that outreach methods have been effective in equitable representation.

In order to effectively conduct outreach to residents of Environmental Justice Awareness Block Groups, the project team should ensure that public meetings are held in two locations across the Parish and are available electronically and in-person. The project team should also provide translators/interpreters for meetings, if requested, and ensuring take-a-way materials are developed at an 8th grade or below reading level for the broadest accessibility.

KEY STRATEGIES TO ENGAGE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AWARENESS BLOCK GROUP RESIDENTS:



Hold public meetings in two locations.



Ensure materials are available online and in-person.



Collect race / ethnicity information in electronic surveys.

6.6.2 Measures to be taken to ensure compliance and equitable representation

The Project Team has made a significant effort to reduce barriers to participation and to support more equitable representation in this Study's planning process, including:

- Requesting (via public records request) stakeholder and resident contact information from Port NOLA project planning efforts to leverage existing, extensive ongoing community engagement – and to keep those involved in the process informed of RPC Study events and findings.
- Hosting Community Meetings at locations accessible to persons with a disability, bus riders, and bicyclists, that are convenient to neighborhoods with a concentration of minority and low-income persons.
- Providing translators/interpreters for meetings, if requested, and ensuring take-a-way materials are developed at an 8th grade or below reading level for the broadest accessibility.
- Providing translators/interpreters for meetings, if requested, and ensuring take-a-way materials are developed at an 8th grade or below reading level for the broadest accessibility.
- Providing both in-person and online engagement opportunities.
- Including a statement at the bottom of all meeting notices in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese indicating that an interpreter, materials in alternate formats, or other accommodations will be made available, if requested at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.
- Providing information, including meeting notices and press releases, to news media, including the St Bernard Voice, the St. Bernard Parish CivicEngage platform, the PortNOLA newsletter and news releases, and the St. Bernard Government Access Channel.

6.7 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

6.7.1 Alignment and Coordination with Previous and Ongoing Efforts

Members of the Project Leadership Team met with both Port NOLA and St. Bernard Parish Leadership on October 10, 2023, to support the Outreach Plan development, specifically with a focus on:

1. Maximizing residents limited time for engagement by leveraging existing, effective communication outlets for the purposes of this study; and
2. Avoiding confusion between Port NOLA's LIT planning and permitting processes and the RPC's assessment of future transportation improvements needed to mitigate impacts of the Port NOLA LIT Project; and
3. Incorporating and building upon ongoing and previous outreach and engagement efforts (including community feedback provided to-date) to avoid asking unnecessary questions of the community and to focus project goals on



isolating transportation solutions needed to address anticipated challenges of the LIT Project and other downriver projects.

Both entities were asked a series of questions to support these goals, including:

1. Describe the Port NOLA LIT Project planning process to date.
 - a. What methods of engagement have been employed?
 - b. Have these been successful?
 - c. What would you do differently?
2. How has the Community responded?
 - a. What has been the main focus of comments submitted to date?
 - b. How have you responded to these comments?
 - c. Would you say that most community members and stakeholders understand the context, challenges, and opportunities associated with the LIT Project?
3. Have you tracked community comments by location, resident age, or disability?
 - a. What efforts have been made to improve accessibility?
 - b. Have there been any complaints, re: accessibility?

6.7.2 Port NOLA and Parish Meeting Outcomes / Lessons Learned

Port NOLA has made extensive efforts to engage the community in visioning the LIT project. Some of the most successful outreach has been targeted to specific neighborhoods anticipating site impacts and has countered disinformation disseminated about the project. Transportation concerns (associated with demand for a connector road and concerns about train traffic leading to congestion in Arabi) emerged repeatedly throughout the public engagement process surrounding LIT. Port NOLA tracked public comments through the use of a database. Port NOLA also recommended public information be provided in venues that many are familiar with, with ADA accessibility, with a virtual attendance option, and takeaway materials that are at an 8th grade or below reading level for the broadest accessibility.

The Parish highlighted the need to clearly explain the distinction between the RPC study and the LIT project and to examine and acknowledge that the Parish is changing and has land use changes downriver of the LIT site. The Parish recommended the Project Team describe the full process of funding and constructing any transportation improvements that are considered in the feasibility study. The Parish also recommended posting advertisements for outreach events in the newspaper, and to maintain contact with Parish staff throughout the course of the project.

6.7.3 Communication Tools

The Project Leadership Team will implement the communication methods and tools described in **Table 28** to expand awareness and solicit feedback on the RPC Study planning process.

TABLE 28. COMMUNICATION METHODS

| TOOL | PURPOSE OR UTILITY |
|--|---|
| Parish, RPC, and Port NOLA website | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leverage established web presence to share information related to project activities such as presentations, press releases/eblasts, updates and events. • Update calendars with Community meetings open to the public. • Coordinate the posting of press releases at critical project milestones. |
| Local news media advertisements | Provide information, including meeting notices and press releases, to the St Bernard Voice, the St. Bernard Parish CivicEngage platform, the PortNOLA newsletter and news releases, and the St. Bernard Government Access Channel. |
| Emails (e.g., e-blasts to regional list) | Provide semi-regular program updates to Parish and Port NOLA list serve communication channels, re: the status of outreach and engagement efforts and project updates. |



Note: The planning products produced in the planning process may be adopted during a subsequent environmental review process.

| | |
|--|---|
| Virtual or in-person meetings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder Meetings: Engage specific stakeholders or audiences on topics that require interactive discussion or input and are crucial to the refinement of conceptual plan recommendations. • Community Workshops: Facilitate presentations, round-table discussion of study findings and host a community open house to discuss and review project recommendations. |
| Parish, RPC, and Port NOLA social media accounts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute information about upcoming meetings or key project updates. • Share photos or videos that educate and inform the public and help to creatively encourage public participation in the process. |
| Interactive “Mark the Map” Online Comment Portal | An Interactive “Mark the Map” Comment Portal in ArcGIS Online and Survey123 to leverage local knowledge and understand traffic and transportation network concerns to incorporate into Study analysis and recommendations. The Comment Portal is a valuable tool for collecting feedback and input from residents and travelers in St. Bernard Parish regarding transportation-related matters. It is a great way to understand the community's needs, identify opportunities for improvement, and plan for future transportation projects. |
| Community Survey | <p>The Community survey is designed to gather information to develop a detailed understanding of transportation-related issues and needs in St. Bernard Parish. It focuses on gathering information and insight on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <i>Survey Response Assessment:</i> Understanding the characteristics of survey respondents is crucial for ensuring that data collected is representative of the area's population. This can help in identifying potential disparities in transportation needs based on age, income, and other factors. 2) <i>Connectivity to the Larger Region:</i> Assessing residents' access to goods and services, as well as their access to a vehicle, is essential for understanding the level of connectivity within the community. This information can reveal whether there are areas or populations with limited access to essential services and transportation options. 3) <i>Transportation Usage for Work and Evacuation:</i> Investigating how residents use the transportation network for commuting to work and for evacuation purposes is highly relevant, particularly in a region prone to natural disasters. This data can help in planning for more effective evacuation routes and disaster preparedness. 4) <i>Level of Difficulty:</i> Examining the difficulties residents face in using the transportation network for work and evacuation can highlight specific pain points and areas that require attention. This feedback can be instrumental in identifying areas for improvement. |
| Community Event / Tabling | Interact with the public by meeting them where they are. Materials presented at tabling events may include infographics, surveys, and other interactive exhibits. |

6.7.4. In-person Community Event / Festival Outreach Efforts (as needed)

- **March 2024 - Los Islenos Fiesta; Louisiana Crawfish Festival**
Goals: Distribute 1-page project flyer, direct traffic to “Mark the Map” survey, answer community questions, and advertise upcoming Community Meeting in April.
- **May 2024 – Tomato Festival**
Goals: Distribute 1-page project flyer, direct attendees to survey, answer community questions, and advertise upcoming Community Meeting in June.

6.7.5 Community Meetings

Two Community Meetings are planned to support the project planning process:

- **Community Meeting No. 1: April 11, 2023**
Hosted in or near Census Block Group 2, Tract 306.03, including presentations and round-table discussion of study findings, collection of feedback on initial project recommendations.
- **Community Meeting No. 2 – June 6, 2023**



Hosted in or near Census Block Group 3, Tract 302.04 or Census Block Group 1, Tract 301.03, held as an open house to discuss and review study recommendations prior to finalization.

6.8 COVID-19 RESPONSIVENESS

The Project Team continually monitors the state’s COVID safety statistics and updates (<https://ldh.la.gov/Coronavirus/>) and is prepared to adjust plans for in person meetings accordingly, should the need arise.

VII. MEETING STRATEGY & SEQUENCING OF EVENTS

The following is a summary of planning activities anticipated to take place during the project 10-month timeline (October 2023 - July 2024). The Project Team will use a meeting invite, agenda, sign in sheet, and summary template to ensure concise and consistent communication across all meetings, as well as a monthly reporting form to track and adaptively manage the outreach and engagement process.

- **October 2023**
 - Project Kick-Off and Outreach Plan Development, including strategic meetings with the Parish (10/11) and Port NOLA (10/11) and the PLT (10/2, 10/23) to inform the Public Engagement Strategy.
 - Assessment of the project area and impacted populations.
 - Identification and collection of outreach efforts/outcomes to-date.
 - Review and assemble initial list of stakeholder and special interest groups.
 - Begin preparation of project branding materials, webpage, one-page summary, “Mark the Map” interactive survey, social media, contact forms, and press releases for November Project Launch.
- **December 2023**

Project Launch includes an introduction of the project to local and regional stakeholders including launch of the “Mark the Map” online survey, public press releases, social media posts, and release of an informational project 1-pager shared and released by the RPC.
- **December 2023 – January 2024**

Initial Project Findings and Stakeholder Meeting Preparation.
- **February – March 2024**

Stakeholder Meetings and Interviews take place both in person and online (as preferred by the stakeholder). As needed community event outreach at festivals.
- **April 2024**

Community Meeting No. 1, includes presentations and a **round-table meeting format** utilized to review and assess initial Project Findings, as well as a demonstration and available hands-on support re: how to utilize the “Mark the Map” Survey.
- **May – June 2024**

As needed community event outreach at festivals. Community Meeting No. 2, includes an **open house meeting format** review of engagement analysis and the impact of engagement efforts on final study recommendations.
- **July 2024**

Final Stage 0 Feasibility Report Completion.

VIII. RESPONSE PROCEDURES

The Project Team is committed to an inclusive and transparent feedback process. The following steps outline a procedure for collecting feedback and providing responses.



1. Ensure all meetings have a sign-in sheet, registration log, or written record of attendees.
2. Use comment cards for all in-person meetings.
3. Call for feedback multiple times during a virtual meeting, have clear rules for feedback, such as a time limit per speaker, enabled chat functions, and clear audio/usage instructions.
4. Provide a mailing address and email address for written comment and have this included on all project communications.
5. Set a deadline for feedback.
6. Assign staff to monitor all feedback and compile it on a regular basis.
7. Issue a brief report-out document following the completion of outreach events that tracks responses to stakeholder feedback and questions and include this report as part of the final Outreach Plan.

IX. PROJECT BRANDING APPROACH

9.1 UNIQUE CONSIDERATIONS

Confusion can create mistrust and upend much needed transportation improvements for the Parish. To this effect, branding for this Study requires careful consideration of a number of critical project features that may create additional challenges if not addressed in a deliberate and consistent manner, including:

1. **Branding differentiation is needed between the Port NOLA Terminal project and this RPC Study.** Because—while these projects are related—they are not the same. Namely, this RPC study is focused on isolating long-term, sustainable transportation alternatives in Lower St. Bernard Parish, and—as part of this assessment—must account for the potential impacts of the LIT project amongst other considerations.
2. **Branding cannot be so different to disassociate the two efforts and becoming misleading.** If the branding between the RPC projects is extremely different than the Port NOLA LIT project, the public may infer there is a purposeful intent to avoid association with the Port NOLA LIT project, which is not the intent of this Study.
3. **Language must clearly and consistently denote the broader RPC study intent (beyond the Port NOLA LIT project) to assess and recommend long-term transportation improvements in the Parish.**



9.2 BRANDING APPROACH

Project Branding includes:

1. **Uniting color schemes** associated with the Port NOLA, St. Bernard Parish, and the RPC (see color pallet, below).
2. **Emphasizing broader transportation implications** of this Study, where the project logo resembles a map, roads, safety, and transportation resilience (see logo, below).



R: 145 / G: 103 / B: 171



R: 191 / G: 85 / B: 43



R: 14 / G: 23 / B: 106



R: 84 / G: 79 / B: 159



R: 65 / G: 165 / B: 170

TRANSPORTATION STUDY
Planning For Future St. Bernard