

AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION





St. Tammany Parish Government

December 13, 2005



Impact Of Katrina

Due to communications breakdowns in the aftermath of Katrina, many citizens are still unaware of the catastrophic damage that occurred in every corner of St. Tammany Parish.

Katrina Damage – Parish Wide

Oak Harbor



Covington



Mandeville



Abita Springs



Highway 11



Apple Pie Ridge





Impact Of Katrina

- ❑ 100% utility service down
- ❑ 100% of major roads blocked
- ❑ Communication lines down except for 800 radio system
- ❑ Twin spans impassable
- ❑ US 90 bridge blocked by debris fields at both ends
- ❑ 30,000+ structures damaged
- ❑ US11 bridge blocked by debris
- ❑ Boats floating on I-10 south of Slidell
- ❑ Majority of sewer and water systems were down

Good News



- ❑ While significant portions of lakeshore subdivisions were devastated, there has been a minimal loss of life as a direct result of the storm.
- ❑ Many people heeded our call to evacuate.
- ❑ The evacuation plan worked this time.
- ❑ Regional coordination was working this time until communication systems failed.

Initial Emergency Response



- ❑ EOC activated from Aug 27 at 6:15 PM until September 14 at 5:00 PM for 426.75 hours
- ❑ 125 personnel worked EOC during storm
- ❑ 13,020 task orders issued. Does not include power loss reports, power reconnects or debris tasks
- ❑ Additional 350 Red Cross volunteers post-storm





Initial Recovery Plan

- ❑ Clear all roadways within one week.
- ❑ Get 100% of hospitals operational and on power within one week.
- ❑ Maintain control of parish from a security standpoint.
- ❑ Get schools up and operating by 10/3/05.
- ❑ Get critical businesses operating within one week (gas stations, groceries, pharmacies).
- ❑ Get food, water, and essentials operating on a consistent basis.

Current Infrastructure Status



- Almost 1500 miles of parish road opened –over of 98% STP roads passable
- 3.4 million cubic yards of debris picked up as of 10/5
- Some watersheds cleared, others going through federal processes



Special Needs Shelter

- ❑ Maximum over-night population – approximately 400 shelterees w/ medical & mental health needs plus 200 nursing home patients w/ their staff
- ❑ Walk-Up Emergency Care – over 1500 citizens treated
- ❑ Personnel during the storm: approximately 8 medical volunteer, 17 clerical volunteers & counselors, 6 trustees with 2 STP employees kept shelter running from Aug 27 through Aug 31
- ❑ Approximate 75 medical volunteers rotated through since storm along with 2 DMAT teams

The More Significant Executive Orders

- ❑ Establishment of a parish-wide curfew.
- ❑ Ban on burning of debris of any kind.
- ❑ Ban on alcohol sales parish-wide.
- ❑ Opened Abita Water to gain needed water supplies.
- ❑ Opened two buildings for use as emergency facilities, distribution sites, etc.
- ❑ Took control on a private water system that serviced approximately 2000 homes.
- ❑ Took control of a local AM radio station to get communication from the parish to the outside world.



Permits

- ❑ Permits for mild and moderate damage given at no charge
- ❑ Levee Board Bldg. on Military, North of Browns switch now a fully operational permit office for Slidell area
- ❑ Over 5,000 permits issued



The Future Plan

- **Communications**

- Secure & enhance technologies, including lower- tech systems
- Reduce reliance on south-shore media

- **Public health**

- Establish neighborhood by neighborhood plan
- Ease of mobilization of resources

- **Public utilities**

- Continue sewer-water regionalization plan
- Examine emergency restoration plans for all businesses & utilities using our rights-of-way

- **Business development**

- Work with Chambers, EDF & other business oriented agencies



The Future Plan

- Infrastructure
 - Redefine priority structure
 - Shorten time-table for 10 year plan
- Parish development issues
 - Respect vision of New Directions 2025
 - Restore, then enhance, quality of life
- Financial strategy
 - Diversify general fund revenue sources
 - Conservative, but flexible, financial planning



Current Financial Strategy

- ❑ Still assessing costs
- ❑ FEMA has obligated over \$87 million to parish. \$300,000 received.
- ❑ Debris cleanup could exceed \$100 million.
- ❑ Requesting an advance of funds to cover cash flow
- ❑ Holding down other costs in anticipation of additional costs of storm impact.



Current working issues

- ❑ Temporary Housing
- ❑ Phasing out shelter program
- ❑ Permitting and inspection program
- ❑ Easing traffic congestion
- ❑ Maintaining on-going programs
- ❑ Speed up master plan implementation