

City of Mandeville Past (2015) and Present

The City of Mandeville succeeded in reaching many goals in 2015. At the top of the list was a reduction in property tax for all property owners. This was accomplished through citizen trust back in 2014 when citizens voted to un-restrict ½ cent sales tax and move money into the General Fund. The Administration and Council responded by living up to the Mayor's promise that a roll back in millage would send money back to the taxpayers.

We continue to use technology to improved services to the citizens. The activation of crime cameras in high use areas will be a force multiplier for police. Online permitting will be available soon and our Finance Department has completed the transition to a new service to allow on-line business license renewals for 2016 and beyond. We set the stage for remote water meter reading in public works that will be installed in 2016 and are hoping for this cost effective analysis to help lead us into faster, more accurate meter reading with less visits for turn on and turn off of service.

New playground equipment was installed at Paul Cordes Park and upgrades were completed in every park in the city. A wildflower garden was installed at East Approach and Hwy 190, a new rain garden on Marigny Avenue and working in cooperation with the St. Tammany Parish Hospital Wellness Center, we revitalized the community vegetable garden on Kleber St. The New Year will see new gardens at the entrance to our City on Girod / Hwy 190 and Hwy 59. We re-established the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee to review our progress and set new priorities. A new Bicycle and Pedestrian path is planned through a state grant on the West Causeway Approach from Shadows to Moore's Road. The Historic District property was updated through a grant, the CLURO was amended for fill and signage and the process was begun for the largest development in Mandeville's history- Port Marigny.

The City received state capital outlay grants for rest rooms at the Dew Drop and Lang House. A new 750,000 gallon water tower was completed on Rapatel Street and water line upgrades were begun in Old Golden Shores and Mariners Village that will be completed in 2016. Check Valves were installed on the drainage outlets to Lake Pontchartrain from Lakeshore Drive as a first layer of protection against rising lake water. We continue to pursue hurricane and flooding protection working with the CORPS of Engineers. Additional elevation grants will take more homes out of harms way.

We saw cultural growth with our new Fourth of July celebration, Ponchatoula Films Festival, and Mandeville ART Collaborative. Other festivals were continued successes, such as Mardi Paws, Sunset Symphony on the Lake with LPO, Winter on the Water, Easter at the Market, Octoberfeast and Summer art and theater camps in collaboration with the St. Tammany Art Association. These events join our already popular Trailhead concerts and Saturday Morning Market. And of course, the Dew Drop has seen its greatest attendance of any previous season. We were once again named a Tree City USA and are now fully staffed in all City departments.

Traffic and road repair continue to top our priority list for 2016. Since 2010 the City has resurfaced over 60% of the roads in Mandeville and provided concrete panel replacements where

needed. In 2015, the City planned a westbound lane on Florida Extension from North Causeway to the West Causeway Approach. This spring we will construct the roadway improving traffic flow and easing traffic congestion. In a partnership with DOTD, the City provided engineering services to gain construction priority for a large intersection improvement where Hwy 22 and Hwy 190 meet. This will ease traffic congestion south on Hwy 190 to Hwy 22 with two lanes going south and a transition lane on Hwy 22. Northbound traffic on Hwy 22 east will increase from one lane to two turning lanes north on Hwy 190. Service road right turn lanes will provide all areas with greater ease of traffic. The City requested a traffic study through the Regional Planning Commission to review traffic requirements from the river to Big Branch and I-12 to the lake. The Causeway, St Tammany Parish, La DOTD and Mandeville are participating. We will provide traffic enhancements at East Causeway Approach and Monroe Street when a development agreement is signed to stay ahead of traffic concerns during the construction of Port Marigny. We're delivering solutions today and planning for tomorrow.