



Monitoring Report 2013



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Overview

Introduction

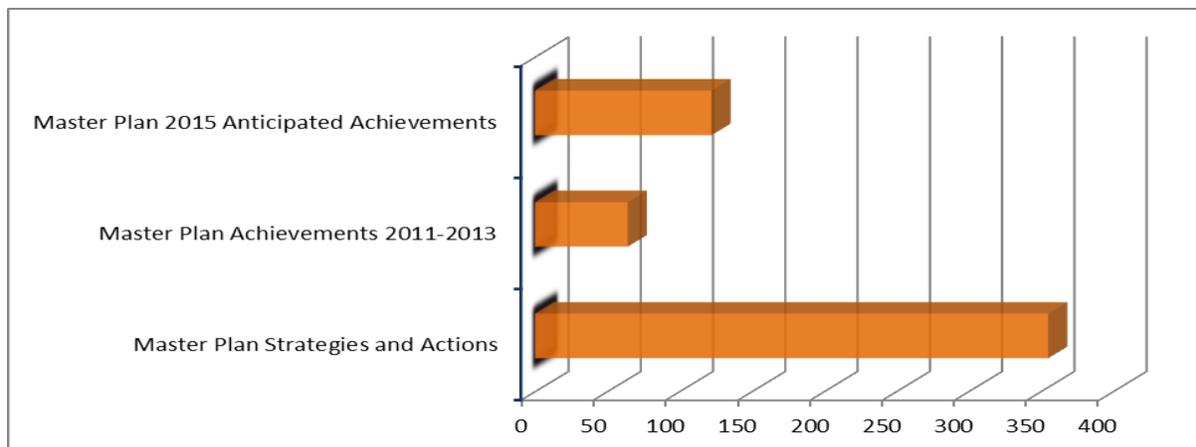
The Great Expectations: Shreveport-Caddo 2030 Master Plan expresses the values and aspirations of Shreveport-Caddo residents for quality of life and prosperity during the next 20 years. It is the result of an intensive community dialogue that began with a public opinion survey, the Visioning Forum and the Speak-Out Meetings, which resulted in a vision for the future and a set of principles to guide decision making. In 2011, the adoption of the plan was complete, creating a framework of goals, policies, strategies, and actions designed to achieve their ambitious vision.

As a 20-year plan, the Great Expectations Master Plan includes many recommendations and strategies, some of which could be implemented quickly and others that require new levels of organization, collaboration, and transparency. This monitoring report is intended to outline the progress of implementing Great Expectations. The reporting period includes the time period from the adoption of Great Expectations in January 2011 to present.

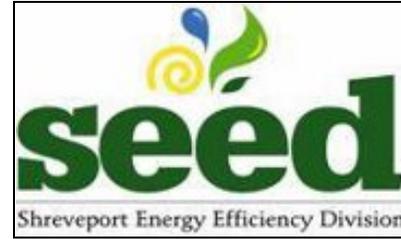
Summary of Findings

Key implementation actions cross many local entities, such as the Shreveport-Caddo Metropolitan Planning Commission, City of Shreveport, Parish of Caddo, Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments, SporTran, and the Shreveport Airport Authority. These actions address natural resources, public infrastructure, historic preservation, and private development in Shreveport-Caddo Parish, and they reflect a significant shift in policy and funding strategies from those of the past.

Many of the short-term actions identified in this monitoring report have been completed within the reporting period, and the majority of the remaining actions are underway with the Shreveport-Caddo Unified Development Code (UDC) project. These achievements represent the dedication of our local governing bodies to realize the values and aspirations of Shreveport-Caddo residents through their organization and collaboration to improve our quality of life and create the places that we have identified as priority. Of the 355 recommended actions identified in the final chapter of the Great Expectations Master Plan (Stewardship and Implementation of the Plan), the Metropolitan Planning Commission has calculated that 64 actions have been achieved or are near completion, accounting for 18% of our recommendations. The final section of this plan identifies 59 UDC-related actions that are expected to be achieved by 2015. These actions account for 16% of our recommendations and 67% of our short-term strategies and actions.



Natural Heritage: Green Systems and Sustainability



Goal: Important natural areas are preserved and protected as usable habitat networks with ecological integrity

- ✓ City of Shreveport and Parish of Caddo promote the use of native plants and low-maintenance landscape designs when incorporating landscaping in street improvements, parks, and other public properties.
- ✓ The LSU AgCenter and Red River Radio raise public awareness about native and invasive plant species.
- ✓ *Support food-security advocates in efforts to establish a model urban agriculture system in Shreveport.* City of Shreveport has supported the LSU AgCenter in their efforts to establish a model urban agriculture system with the creation of the Valencia Park Stoner Hill Community Garden.
- ✓ Parish of Caddo and Environmental Protection Agency created a strategy to integrate water-supply planning with land use planning and bring “Green Streets” approaches to stormwater management (to be incorporated into the Shreveport-Caddo Unified Development Code).

Goal: Water in bayous and other wetlands, lakes, and the Red River meets or exceeds national clean water standards

- ✓ *Promote watershed education.* The City of Shreveport launched the “Used Cooking Oil Collection Event” to prevent improper disposal of used cooking oil, such as in storm sewers or kitchen sinks. Improper disposal of cooking oil can result in overflow of sewage, damage to the environment, and damage to the public sewer system.

Goal: The City of Shreveport has more than 30% tree canopy coverage by 2030

- ✓ *Develop a tree protection and restoration plan.* With the adoption of the SPI-6, Design Overlay District, the Metropolitan Planning Commission and City of Shreveport have adopted regulations intended to preserve and increase the existing tree canopy in one location of the planning area. An area-wide ordinance to preserve and increase tree canopy is expected in the near future with the Unified Development Code.
- ✓ *Expand the city’s capacity to grow and plan trees for public and private property.* City of Shreveport and Parish of Caddo have started programs to plant and maintain trees on public property.
- ✓ *Expand the city’s capacity to grow and plant trees for public and private property.* The Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier and the City of Shreveport formed a partnership to plant 80 trees in the median of Clyde Fant Parkway from Lake Street to the railroad bridge.
- ✓ *Expand the city’s capacity to grow and plan trees for public and private property.* Shreveport Green gave away 253 trees to be planted on private property in 2011 and another 283 in 2012.

Goal: Greenhouse gas emissions are reduced by 20% in 2030

- ✓ *Continue to implement the City Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy*

Cultural Heritage: Historic Preservation, Arts, and Culture



Goal: The integrity and character of historic structures and overall historic character is maintained and enhanced

- ✓ *Create the basic infrastructure within government for historic preservation.* The City of Shreveport adopted the first Historic Preservation Commission in April 2012, which authorized the City to create a Shreveport Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), to create local historic districts, and to create and adopt regulations to preserve historic properties inside the city limits. The HPC was appointed in May 2013 with five (5) members: Mr. Lane Callaway (Chair), Mr. Slattery Johnson (Vice Chair), Ms. Lane King (Secretary), Ms. Leia Lewis Henderson, and Mr. Billy Wayne.
- ✓ *Provide staff time at the Metropolitan Planning Commission to be devoted to historic preservation.* The Metropolitan Planning Commission provided staff assistance to the Mayor's Historic Preservation Committee, which was composed of various City employees and local historic preservation advocates and charged with drafting the Historic Preservation Ordinance.
- ✓ *Provide staff time at the Metropolitan Planning Commission to be devoted to historic preservation.* The Ordinance designed the HPC to include an Ex-Officio member from the Metropolitan Planning Commission staff. This Ex-Officio member has no vote but participates in discussion as it relates to the MPC's land use policies and procedures and the City's policies and goals for historic preservation.
- ✓ *Establish a demolition-delay ordinance.* Prior to the adoption of the Historic Preservation Ordinance, the City of Shreveport enforced a demolition delay ordinance that required City Council approval of any demolition permit in the Downtown Development District only.
- ✓ *Establish a demolition-delay ordinance.* The Historic Preservation Ordinance now requires a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) to be submitted to the HPC for consideration prior to the demolition of any structure within the Shreveport city limits that is 50 years of age or older. This COA and associated criteria are expected to be proposed by the HPC in the near future. All land use regulations are required to be reviewed by the Metropolitan Planning Commission board prior to approval or denial by the City Council.
- ✓ *Develop cultural heritage tourism destinations.* Shreveport Parks and Recreation managed improvements to Oakland Cemetery and the Municipal Auditorium, both listed on the National Register of Historic Places, using bond money from the 2011 bond proposal.
- ✓ *Raise awareness among residents of the metropolitan area about the area's unique history and the contribution of all groups to that history.* Shreveport Times and KTBS have published several stories related to the many historic properties that reflect the diverse story and architecture of Shreveport and Caddo Parish, as well as the City's progress with the Historic Preservation Ordinance and local, private investments in historic properties.

- ✓ The United States National Parks Service has acknowledged the successful renovation of the Ogilvie Hardware building into apartments. This project not only met the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation, a set of very strict regulations for properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places when using federal money to work on an historic structure, it also achieved LEED Gold status while adhering to the Nation's adopted best preservation practices.

Goal: Downtown is the City's arts and cultural center

- ✓ *Intensify the arts and culture presence and identity of downtown.* The MPC, City, and Parish participate on a team assembled by Mayor Glover to develop and pursue strategies to achieve the Shreveport Common plan to bring a cultural arts identity to downtown.
- ✓ *Amend downtown zoning to specifically allow artists' studios and live-work situations.* Goody Clancy was hired by the City to propose a new zoning district for the Shreveport Common area. This new zoning district is expected to be presented to the MPC for consideration before the end of 2013.
- ✓ *Intensify the arts and culture presence and identity of downtown.* The City of Shreveport and Parish of Caddo have funded the construction of a park in Shreveport Common.

Living in Shreveport-Caddo: Neighborhoods and Housing



Goal: Enhanced character and livability for all neighborhoods with investments to improve quality of life

- ✓ *Create a structured system for neighborhood consultation on significant development projects and land use changes.* City of Shreveport and Metropolitan Planning Commission are in the process of establishing a Council of Neighborhoods to provide a structured method for neighborhood associations, residents, and other stakeholders to be informed of forthcoming development, programs, and other governmental projects.
- ✓ *Update and maintain a list of neighborhood associations.*

Goal: Neighborhood centers providing access to retail and service for all neighborhoods

- ✓ *Develop a façade improvement program for designated older commercial districts.* The Downtown Development Authority and Community Foundation have developed a façade improvement program with a matching grant for properties in the Downtown Development District.

Goal: All housing is in good condition and code-compliant

- ✓ *Establish systems to support enforcement of quality of life regulations.* Shreveport Property Standards continues to improve code enforcement activities with “Operation T.B.O.N.E. (Taking Back Our Neighborhood Everyday)” to educate residents and property owners and give them resources to keeping neighborhoods clean and attractive.
- ✓ *Establish a rental housing code to ensure that rental properties are fit for habitation.* City of Shreveport adopted the Minimal Living Conditions Ordinance in 2012, which identifies the amenities and conditions required for occupied housing.

Goal: Quality housing to meet the diverse needs of households at all income levels and all stages of the life cycle

- ✓ *Support the development of supportive permanent housing for residents who are at risk of homelessness and/or are living in substandard housing, as well as other group homes, while balancing the needs of neighborhoods.* City of Shreveport and Metropolitan Planning Commission have approved a variety of different development requests that would meet the diverse housing needs of households.

Prosperity and Opportunity: Economic Development



Goal: Expand and diversify the economy through targeted support to key established and emerging economic base industries – industries that “export products and services to non-local customers

- ✓ *Target advanced manufacturing segments that capitalize on the area’s existing manufacturing and transportation infrastructure and workforce.* Parish of Caddo developed a facility-reuse strategy to respond to the GM plant closing that would utilize the facility for manufacturing and supporting services, and the Parish of Caddo, City of Shreveport, and North Louisiana Economic Partnership brought Benteler Steel to the Port of Caddo-Bossier, creating 675 new direct jobs.
- ✓ *Grow the film and digital media industry through increased marketing and creation of a supportive business environment.* Moonbot Studios, Millennium Studios, Robinson Film Center, and City of Shreveport continue to showcase Shreveport’s growing film industry through a variety of means.
- ✓ *Establish a Shreveport-Caddo Economic Development Corporation.* City of Shreveport and Parish of Caddo worked together to create the Shreveport-Caddo Economic Development Authority.

Goal: Develop a more highly-skilled workforce through expanded career education, workforce training, and employment services

- ✓ *Establish additional higher education presence downtown to expand post-secondary education offerings to local students.* Metropolitan Planning Commission and City of Shreveport reduced barriers to establishing additional higher educational presence downtown to expand post-secondary education through an amendment to the downtown zoning district (B-4).

Goal: Create a stronger entrepreneurial environment that supports new business ventures and small business growth.

- ✓ *Establish an entrepreneurial support system to help early-stage businesses survive and grow.* CoHabitat has developed an entrepreneurial support system to help early-stage businesses to survive and grow.

Getting Around: Transportation and Mobility



Goal: Roads and streets are maintained to a high standard for long-term use and that encourage sustainable development patterns

- ✓ *Develop a comprehensive pavement management and maintenance priority-setting process to maximize investment in streets.* City of Shreveport has funded a pavement management project for street improvement and maintenance. The pavement management program will rate the condition of each City street based on established criteria in an effort to provide decision makers better information and data as they consider street improvements.

Goal: A safe and attractive pedestrian and bicycling network integrated with vehicle transportation

- ✓ *Identify appropriate streets to serve as potential "bicycle boulevards".* North Louisiana Council of Governments (NLCOG), the City of Shreveport, and members of the community have identified appropriate streets to serve as potential bike routes to and from the Shreveport Common area.
- ✓ *Identify appropriate streets to serve as potential "bicycle boulevards".* Parish of Caddo has incorporated bicycle amenities into all new street improvement projects near Parish parks and will have 17 miles of bike lane completed in 2013.
- ✓ *Adopt a Complete Streets policy and include examples of complete streets design in regulations for every street functional classification except limited access roadways.* The City of Shreveport has incorporated examples of complete streets design in the King's Highway Corridor Improvement project, which will include wider sidewalks with shade trees, safer pedestrian crossings, and bike lanes.

Goal: A convenient, fast, and efficient public transit system

- ✓ *Improve the frequency and convenience of existing SporTran service.* City of Shreveport and SporTran have secured funding and development approval to construct an inter modal facility, to serve as the main terminal for SporTran and Greyhound, at Texas Avenue and Murphy Street to improve service and efficiency.
- ✓ *Improve the bus system in Shreveport for current riders and attract more "choice riders".* SporTran has included bicycle racks on buses to attract more and meet the needs of all commuters.
- ✓ *Continue implementing the conversion of the bus fleet to CNG vehicles.*
- ✓ *Install on-board GPS units on SporTran buses for performance-management purposes.*

Goal: Improve intercity transportation

- ✓ *Regularly track changing demand at the airport.* The Airport Authority continues to track and report changing demand at and bring new services to the airport.

Public Systems: Infrastructure, Facilities, and Services



Goal: Infrastructure investment and management that supports quality of life, economic development, and redevelopment of the City's inner core.

- ✓ *Prepare educational materials/presentations/brochures to highlight the need for infrastructure investment.* The Mayor's office and Department of Water and Sewerage worked together to prepare educational materials and presentations that highlighted the need for sewer infrastructure investment funding by raising municipal water rates.
- ✓ *Set priorities for infrastructure funding.* An infrastructure funding strategy through raising municipal water rates has been adopted and is in effect as of November of 2012.

Goal: Excellent quality and adequate quantity of drinking water to meet all current and future needs of the Shreveport-Caddo Master Plan Area

- ✓ *Prepare a comprehensive water-supply study.* City of Shreveport is preparing a water and sewer master plan with a consultant to address strategically the demand and changes in water and sewer service inside the City limits.
- ✓ *Prepare a comprehensive water-supply study.* Parish of Caddo is preparing a comprehensive water supply master plan to develop strategies to meet all current and future water quality and quantity needs of the Parish.
- ✓ *Continue the Cross Lake Watershed Protection Program, a nonpoint source pollution management program.*
- ✓ *Integrate water-supply planning with land use planning.* Parish of Caddo and Environmental Protection Agency created a strategy to integrate water-supply planning with land use planning and bring "Green Streets" approaches to stormwater management (to be incorporated into the Shreveport-Caddo Unified Development Code)

Goal: Reliable stormwater-management and drainage systems that incorporate best practices

- ✓ *Promote preservation of natural drainage and use of natural channel design in drainage plans and regulations.* Parish of Caddo and Environmental Protection Agency created a strategy to integrate water-supply planning with land use planning and bring "Green Streets" and other natural approaches to stormwater management (to be incorporated into the Shreveport-Caddo Unified Development Code)
- ✓ *Explore strategies to reduce the amount of stormwater runoff entering the citywide drainage system.* Parish of Caddo and Environmental Protection Agency created a strategy to integrate water-supply planning with land use planning and bring "Green Streets" and other natural approaches to stormwater management (to be incorporated into the Shreveport-Caddo Unified Development Code)

Unique Identity: Focus on Downtown



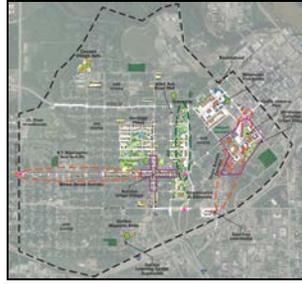
Goal: A mixed-use, live, work, and play center that serves as the economic, historic, and cultural downtown of the region

- ✓ *Incorporate building code standards that promote adaptive reuse of historic buildings, while protecting health and safety.* The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) works to facilitate discussion between property owners and the State Fire Marshal to identify solutions to code impediments that may prevent the reuse of historic buildings downtown.
- ✓ *Identify all historic structures in downtown suitable for reuse.* The DDA continues to identify and support historic structures in downtown that are suitable for reuse and their current condition.
- ✓ *Make Texas Avenue into an events corridor for special activities.* City of Shreveport and DDA support efforts to use Texas Avenue as an events corridor for special activities.
- ✓ *Attract new anchors to spur development within downtown's various subdistricts.* City of Shreveport has worked to increase downtown and riverfront entertainment and dining amenities with improvements to the Red River District anchor.
- ✓ *Work with Millennium Studios to ensure that the building and its operations function as a quality neighborhood anchor.* City of Shreveport and Metropolitan Planning Commission staff continues to work with Millennium Studios to ensure that the studio site and the surrounding properties adhere to the City's vision for the area.
- ✓ *Identify publicly-owned land that could serve as park space within each downtown subdistrict.* The DDA and Shreveport Parks and Recreation have identified land in several areas of downtown that would be suitable for park space, including replacing the existing Greyhound bus station with a pocket park after their relocation, a neighborhood park for Shreveport Common, and a linear park adjacent to the Municipal Auditorium

Goal: Enhanced connections within downtown and improved downtown connections to other parts of the City and region.

- ✓ *Improve the pedestrian and bicycle environment throughout downtown.* Sidewalk improvements, street trees, and bike racks have been installed to create a comfortable and safe environment for pedestrians and cyclists.
- ✓ *Create a parking management district.* The DDA has taken the first steps toward addressing downtown parking by obtaining a parking study identifying all existing parking, current parking deficiencies, and projected parking needs.
- ✓ *Use various methods, such as bike lanes, multi-use paths, crossing improvements, and wayfinding signage to improve connectivity within downtown and between downtown and surrounding neighborhoods.* North Louisiana Council of Governments (NLCOG), the City of Shreveport, and members of the community have identified appropriate streets to serve as bicycle connections to and from the Shreveport Common area, a subdistrict of downtown.

Smarter Growth: City Revitalization



Goal: A comprehensive coordinated program to eliminate blight

- ✓ *Lead a campaign with other Louisiana cities to amend the tax lien and adjudication system on the model of Michigan or other states. City of Shreveport Community Development and Property Standards successfully campaigned with other Louisiana cities to amend the adjudication system, which resulted in a significant reduction in the required waiting period for a clear title.*
- ✓ *Continue the \$1 lot next door program that offers vacant properties to abutting property owners after one year of maintenance.*
- ✓ *Continue to use expropriation of adjudicated properties as needed to acquire land for permanent open space and greenway purposes.*

Goal: Strategic and comprehensive redevelopment with critical mass that creates neighborhoods, not projects

- ✓ *Connect and support existing and planned initiatives in Allendale to create a housing neighborhood plan. City of Shreveport Community Development and North Louisiana Council of Neighborhoods has partnered on the Choice Neighborhoods Grant awarded to create a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization plan for the Allendale, Ledbetter Heights, and West Edge neighborhoods.*

Future Land Use, Zoning, and Urban Design

Goal: A unified development code that reflects the Master Plan vision and goals

- ✓ *Implement the Master Plan by rewriting the zoning code and other development standards in a unified development code.* The Metropolitan Planning Commission, with the funding support of the City of Shreveport and Parish of Caddo, has hired a consultant to conduct an open and public process for producing the Shreveport-Caddo Unified Development Code. This project is currently underway and is expected to be completed before the summer of 2015.

Stewardship and Implementation of the Plan

Goal: Regular review of Master Plan implementation

- ✓ *Continue the work of the Community Advisory Group (CAG) members to serve as continuing advocates, public stewards, and monitors of the Master Plan.* The Master Plan Administrator updates the CAG regularly on the progress of Master Plan implementation and has called on them for support in Master Plan related efforts.
- ✓ *Review implementation progress in annual public hearings at the MPC and a joint City Council and Parish Commission hearing.* By way of this report, the MPC, City Council, and Parish Commission will have the opportunity to review the implementation progress to-date.

Goal: Incorporation of the Master Plan in decision-making at multiple levels

- ✓ *Make an MPC staff member into the Commission's expert on the Master Plan to serve as coordinator of implementation.* The Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) hired the Master Plan Administrator in 2012 to educate and assist the local governments, neighborhoods, community groups, and stakeholders with Master Plan implementation.
- ✓ *Identify Master Plan related actions on agendas of the City Council and Parish Commission.* The Master Plan Administrator is asked to comment on Master Plan related actions on all regulatory agendas, including the Metropolitan Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Property Standards Board, Historic Preservation Commission, City Council, and Parish Commission.

Great Expectations: Shreveport-Caddo 2030 Master Plan

2014-2015 Expected Implementation Achievements

The items identified as expected implementation achievements are primarily associated with the creation and adoption of the Shreveport-Caddo Unified Development Code (UDC) and are extracted from the strategies and actions identified in Chapter 13, Stewardship and Implementation of the Plan. However, many more achievements not related to the UDC are recommended in the short-term goals of Chapter 13. The Metropolitan Planning Commission, City of Shreveport, and Parish of Caddo will continue to consider the recommendations and goals of the Master Plan throughout the year.

Natural Heritage: Green Systems and Sustainability

- Permanently protect public park land, such as the Red River park land, with an open-space zoning designation or a conservation servitude
- Establish conservation setbacks from wetlands and bayous that may provide opportunities for greenways and water-quality protection
- Establish planning practices and ordinances that require or encourage the creation of new green space as a component of new development projects
- Ensure public access to the water for recreation and nature experiences in any Cross Bayou development plan
- Revise land use and zoning codes to include more tree and landscaping requirements
- Include street trees in all street improvements
- Conserve existing active agricultural land
- Adopt land use and zoning regulations to explicitly allow farmers' markets and other fresh food vending in appropriate locations
- Explore ways to increase energy efficiency requirements in zoning and building codes
- Adopt clear zoning guidelines for urban agriculture on private property, including cultivation of chickens, bees, and other small livestock, where appropriate
- Explore conservation options, such as easements or servitudes, in collaboration with private owners and conservation organizations
- Permanently protect public park land, such as the Red River park land, with an open-space zoning designation or conservation easement
- Integrate natural stormwater-management features in rights-of-way of new and updated roadways and streetscapes
- Amend land use regulations to require new development to enhance and facilitate greenway linkages

Cultural Heritage: Historic Preservation, Arts, and Culture

- Amend downtown zoning to encourage residential reuse of historic buildings
- Amend downtown zoning to specifically allow artists' studios and live-work situations
- Establish and maintain a thorough inventory of historic properties and structures for the City and integrate this inventory into permitting and other land use databases
- Identify priority properties for preservation by means of a rating system
- Consider creating a pilot local historic district in downtown after demolition delay, new zoning, building code changes, and incentives are in place
- Consider creating neighborhood conservation districts
- Create a "one-stop shop" for information on historic preservation
- Inventory, improve, and expand existing interpretative signage for historic resources

Living in Shreveport-Caddo: Neighborhoods and Housing

- Revise residential zoning to reflect existing and desired character
- Identify a set of planning districts defined by geography and character
- Establish standards in the zoning ordinance to guide the scale and character of new infill development to fit with the character of established residential areas and to ensure appropriate transitions from those areas to redevelopment of underutilized sites on neighborhood edges
- Create a design catalogue to provide examples of housing designs compatible with neighborhood character in different Shreveport-Caddo neighborhoods
- In areas with security issues, apply established techniques of crime prevention through environmental design in new development
- Amend commercial strip zoning along arterial roads to promote more compact, mixed-use districts
- Designate intersections and sections of commercial corridors for different intensities of commercial development and introduce mixed-use zoning options that create “urban villages”
- Improve the functions and design for all neighborhood centers, including access management, internal circulation, buildings at the street edge, pedestrian networks, landscaped and distributed parking fields, and so on, through enhanced development standards in development regulations
- Revise zoning and subdivision regulations to promote a well-designed, attractive, and functional urban design context and public realm
- Establish building, street, infill, and subdivision design standards that focus on people rather than vehicles
- Ensure sensitive transitions from residential to nonresidential areas through zoning and design standards
- Revise the sign ordinance to ensure that signs are compatible with desired character of the surrounding context
- Preserve and enhance the character of older neighborhoods by preserving the street grid, orienting new development to fit in with older character (in terms of dimensions and placement on the lot) and to harmonize with the design character of existing development without necessarily copying older forms
- Ensure that new subdivision or apartment complexes connect with the surrounding context, including any future roads, rather than create isolated developments with connections to only one road
- Ensure that new subdivisions provide sidewalks, street trees, public open space, and similar amenities
- Permit and encourage low-impact development in subdivision regulations, such as narrower residential streets, natural drainage, and other innovative infrastructure approaches
- Develop design principles and standards for private and public development in all commercial districts

Prosperity and Opportunity: Economic Development

- Develop a regional marketing initiative to expand the health care industry’s role as a regional center of specialized care in areas such as cancer, cardiovascular, and neurosurgical treatment
- Reinvigorate Shreveport’s music scene by development more performance venues and events
- Establish a one-stop shop to handle permitted and licensing issues

Getting Around: Transportation and Mobility

- Adopt, codify, and enforce a local access management policy that conforms with State policy
- Adopt a Complete Streets policy and include examples of complete streets design in regulations for every street function classification except limited access roadways
- Adopt transit-ready development regulations
- Establish roadway impact fees to help pay for new roadway infrastructure
- Establish impact fee abatement strategies, such as geographic zones, for areas with designated development areas

Public Systems: Infrastructure, Facilities, and Services

- Revise regulations to promote best management practices and default language that reflects a preference for natural drainage and natural channel design
- Explore Green Streets approaches to stormwater management and replace some stormwater drains with natural areas and native plant species that absorb the majority of stormwater
- When repaving municipal parking areas, explore permeable surface construction and other stormwater best management practices

Unique Identity: Focus on Downtown

- Establish new zoning districts - with clear, understandable design and development standards - that encourage desired development specific to the planning area's various subdistricts and that create an inviting environment for workers, residents, and visitors
- Encourage active groundfloor uses in all new or renovated structures within the downtown core, and require them on major streets such as Texas, Milam, and Travis
- Identify appropriate strategies for streamlining permitting for residential development or redevelopment within the downtown/waterfront planning area
- Improve the pedestrian and bicycle environment throughout downtown
- Apply complete streets design to all roadway improvements to provide for safe and attractive travel by all modes, as appropriate to the type of street

Smarter Growth: City Revitalization

- Create a comprehensive community and economic development initiative in the medical district located in the Ingleside and Queensborough neighborhoods

Future Land Use, Zoning, and Urban Design

- Preserve existing occupied single- and two-family residential neighborhoods
- Devise subdivision policies and regulations that discourage leapfrog development
- Follow a few basic, interrelated urban design principles in public projects and in development standards for private projects

Conclusion

The measures in Master Plan implementation that Shreveport-Caddo Parish has taken since its adoption pave the way for achieving other key goals and recommendations in the future. The following are only a few examples:

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The pavement management system, currently underway, will create the framework necessary for the City to adopt and implement a comprehensive asset management system. This comprehensive system involves taking care of physical (infrastructure, equipment, buildings, etc) needs so that they deliver the desired level of service at the most reasonable cost and would address the needs of all municipal departments, including roadway, utility, vehicle, building, and other conditions.

Asset-Management System

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The Shreveport-Caddo Unified Development Code, currently underway, will modernize and revise our current inadequate regulations so that they reflect the specific technology, transportation, development, and service needs of our neighborhoods and community. Once our regulations are updated and reflect the needs of Shreveport-Caddo Parish, the Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC) can partner with the City of Shreveport and Parish of Caddo to create the Master Plan recommended system for Area Plans.

Area Plans

The Master Plan identifies seven planning districts within the MPC's jurisdiction and recommends preparing, with the public and stakeholders, a framework plan for each of these areas. These plans would include policies specific to each area related to infill development, subdivision character and connectivity, mixed use and commercial districts, open space and green systems, and infrastructure and services.

Without an updated set of regulations (a Unified Development Code), the MPC, City, and Parish do not have the tools to effectively address and enforce the specific policies recommended and adopted in each area plan.

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The City of Shreveport established its current Major Street Plan in the late 1970s in response to local development patterns. This document serves as the framework by which the City approves, constructs, and maintains streets. Since Shreveport has been operating for many years without a planning framework for physical development (Future Land Use plan and area plans), the Major Street Plan required by the State government has not been kept up and used.

Major Street Plan

The Master Plan recommends adopting a new Major Street Plan that is integrated with the Future Land Use Plan and provides roadway space for bicycles, pedestrians, automobiles, and transit vehicles and integrates greenway and off-road routes with the roadway system