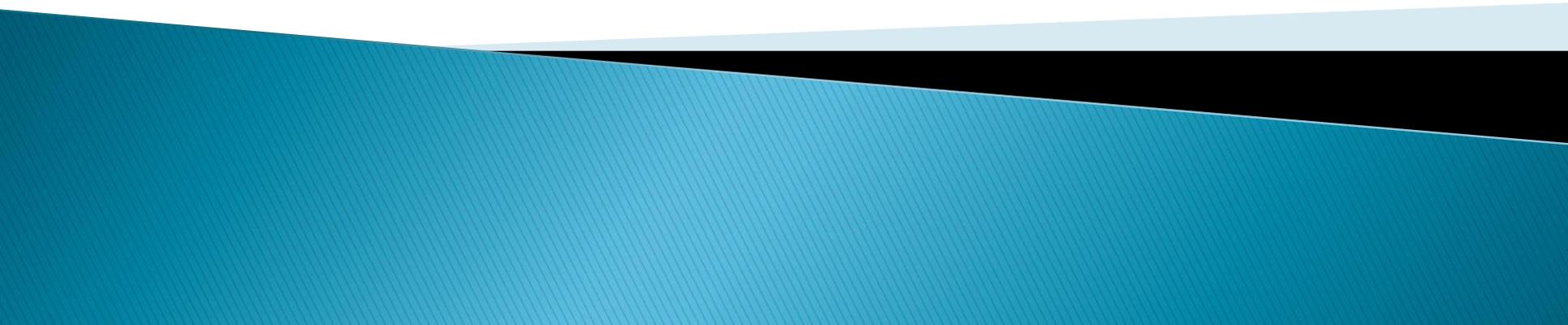


St. James Parish Government

Comprehensive Plan



Vision Statement

St. James Parish will become a community that...

- Fosters a growing economy and educational opportunities
- Promotes affordable housing
- Supports and promotes future business growth
- Protects treasured cultural and historical sites
- Enjoys recreational facilities and a healthy living environment
- Will work together to implement its vision and where all citizens are...



St. James Proud

Plan Development

- ▶ In 2008, The Parish President and Parish Council started discussions on developing a 20 year Comprehensive Master Plan. In February 2010, the Parish President and St. James Parish Council appointed a committee of 19 local citizens representing the varied interests of the parish to serve on this committee and work with South Central Planning and Development on creating a Master Plan.
 - ▶ Over an 18 month period meetings were held addressing issues such as, economic diversity; business success and equity, education and skill development; arts, culture and innovation; social sustainability; human health and public policy; quality of life; land usage; neighborhoods and housing; transportation and access.
 - ▶ The Draft Plan was presented to the Planning Committee on June 20, 2011
- 

Demographics

Table 8: St. James Parish Historical Population Trends

Year	Population	Absolute Numerical Change	% Change
1900	20,197		
1910	23,009	2,812	12.22%
1920	21,228	-1,781	-8.39%
1930	15,338	-5,890	-38.40%
1940	16,596	1,258	7.58%
1950	15,334	-1,262	-8.23%
1960	18,369	3,035	16.52%
1970	19,733	1,364	6.91%
1980	21,495	1,762	8.20%
1990	20,879	-616	-2.95%
2000	21,216	337	1.59%
2010	22,102	886	4.01%

Based upon the 2010 U.S. Census data, the population of all parishes in the SCPDC regional area experienced a growth of 22,208 persons.

St. James Parish's grew by 886 persons.

What the population trends do show us, that St. James Parish has not grown or changed over the past 100 years, and the projection over the next 30 years is to remain about the same.

University of Virginia Library and US Census. U.S. Census Bureau American Fact Finder Population and Housing Status 2010



Goals of the Comprehensive Plan

► Preserving Community Assets

- Create strong community ties by the preservation of local history, historical architecture, and plantation homes to create a sense of place.
- Capitalize on the Historic Culture, and geographic locations of the parish to strengthen the local tourism industry.
- Preserve and Protect the Environment from hazardous materials
- Continue and Expand the Existing Parish Programs, to demolish derelict properties and to reduce blight.
- Enhance the Parish's day-trip capacity, with additional attractions to draw tourist from New Orleans and Baton Rouge
- Become More Resilient and sustainable community
- Develop a Vigorous Tax Base



Goals of the Comprehensive Plan

▶ Human Services

- Improve awareness and accessibility of human service opportunities.
- Improve the public perception of the educational system and the perceived division in accessing educational and medical services on each side of the river.
- Improve accessibility and affordability of medial services throughout the parish.
- Develop strategies to stop and reverse the population and tax base decline.

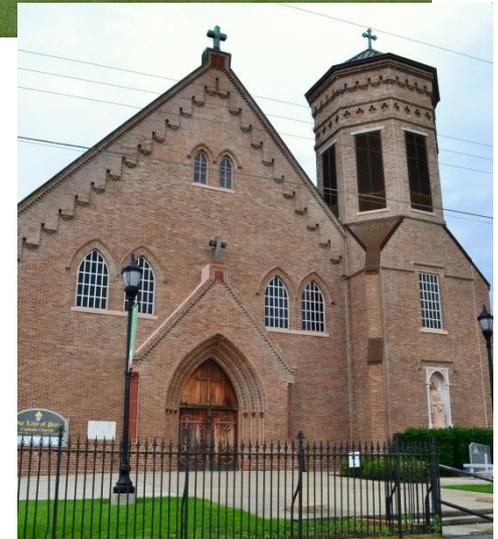


Goals of the Comprehensive Plan

▶ Housing Element

Support a housing needs assessment to determine quality of available housing stock and recommend strategies for development.

- Encourage the development of mixed income housing and senior centers on both sides of the river
- Develop culturally sensitive designs and housing developments suitable for St James Parish environment
- Preserve and enhance the vitality and desirability of St James's residential neighborhoods.



Goals of the Comprehensive Plan

▶ Economic Development

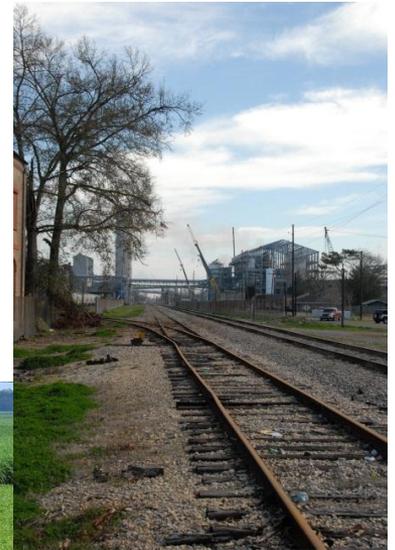
- Improve the quality of life in St James Parish.
- Increase Job Opportunities.
- Improve Parish Infrastructure.
- Encourage and pursue greater economic diversification in St James parish.
- Strengthen the Role of the St James Parish Economic Development Board
- More closely coordinate the Parish's economic development strategy with master planning efforts of the Port of South Louisiana.



Goals of the Comprehensive Plan

► Infrastructure

- Capitalize on St James' natural resources by enhancing existing infrastructure and building new facilities where needed.
- Provide for improved mobility and connectivity especially for transit dependent households
- Improve existing and create more recreational opportunities within the parish
- Prevent point and non-point pollution, especially with regards to wastewater treatment facilities
- To improve the overall communication infrastructure throughout the parish



Goals of the Comprehensive Plan

Land Use

- Reduce the potential for land use conflicts between residential and industrial land uses.
- Preserve historic properties and traditional land uses, downriver from the Convent and St James areas.
- Promote residential development and some higher densities in specific areas of the parish.
- Encourage commercial and mixed use developments along the Hwy 20 corridor between the river and the South Vacherie areas.
- Encourage mixed use development at appropriate highway intersections in the parish.

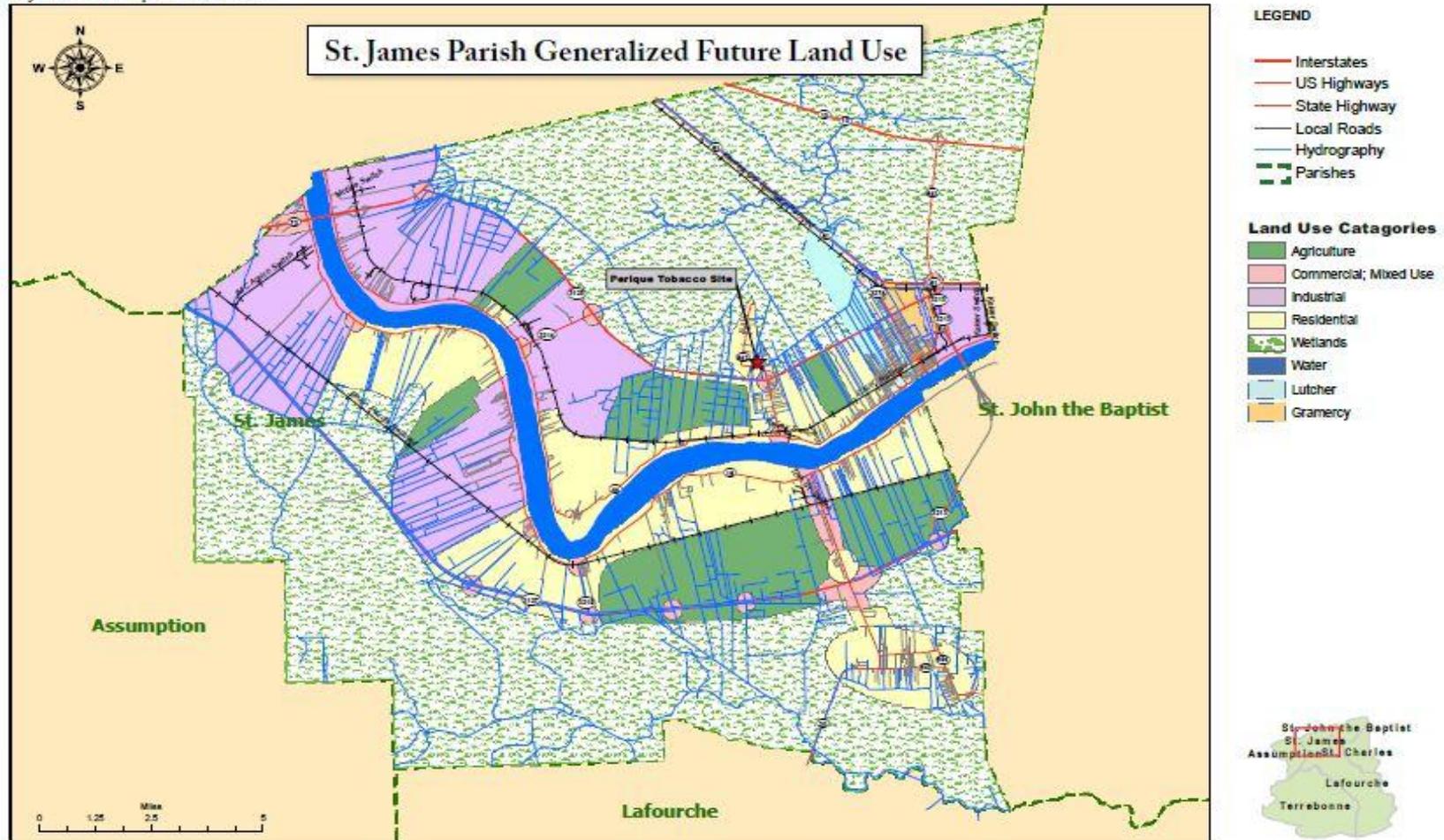


Future Land Use Plan

Future Land Use Plan from the Comprehensive Plan Committee 2011

Land Use Plan was created from comments from open meetings in 2010 – 2011
Legend was created to identify areas of the Parish

St. James Parish Comprehensive Plan 2031

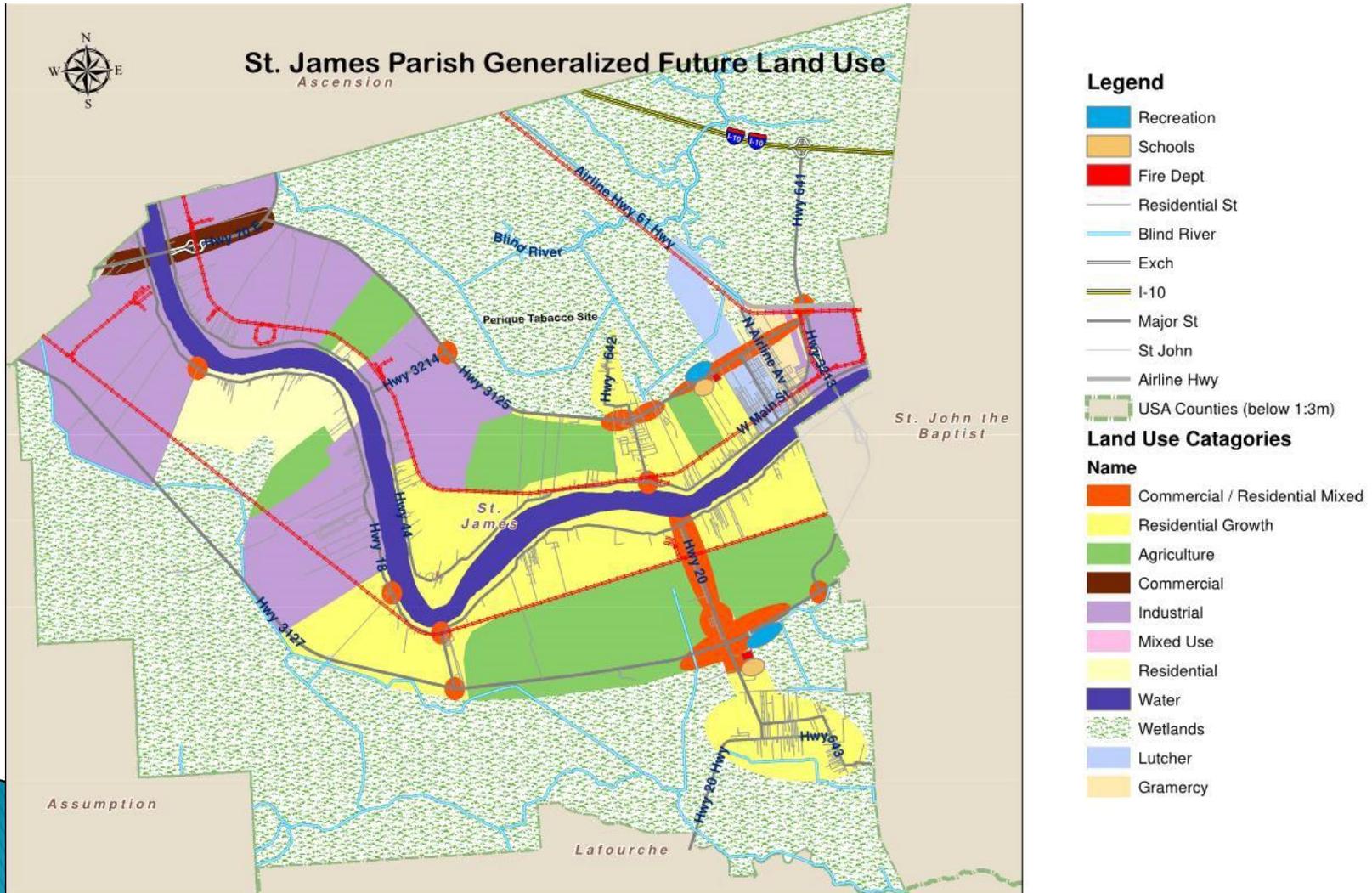


Future Land Use Plan

Future Land Use Plan from the Planning Commission 2013 Revised

Legends added to include future sites for recreation, schools, fire stations.

Commercial mixed use and residential growth color areas were changed to present a clearer view for residents.

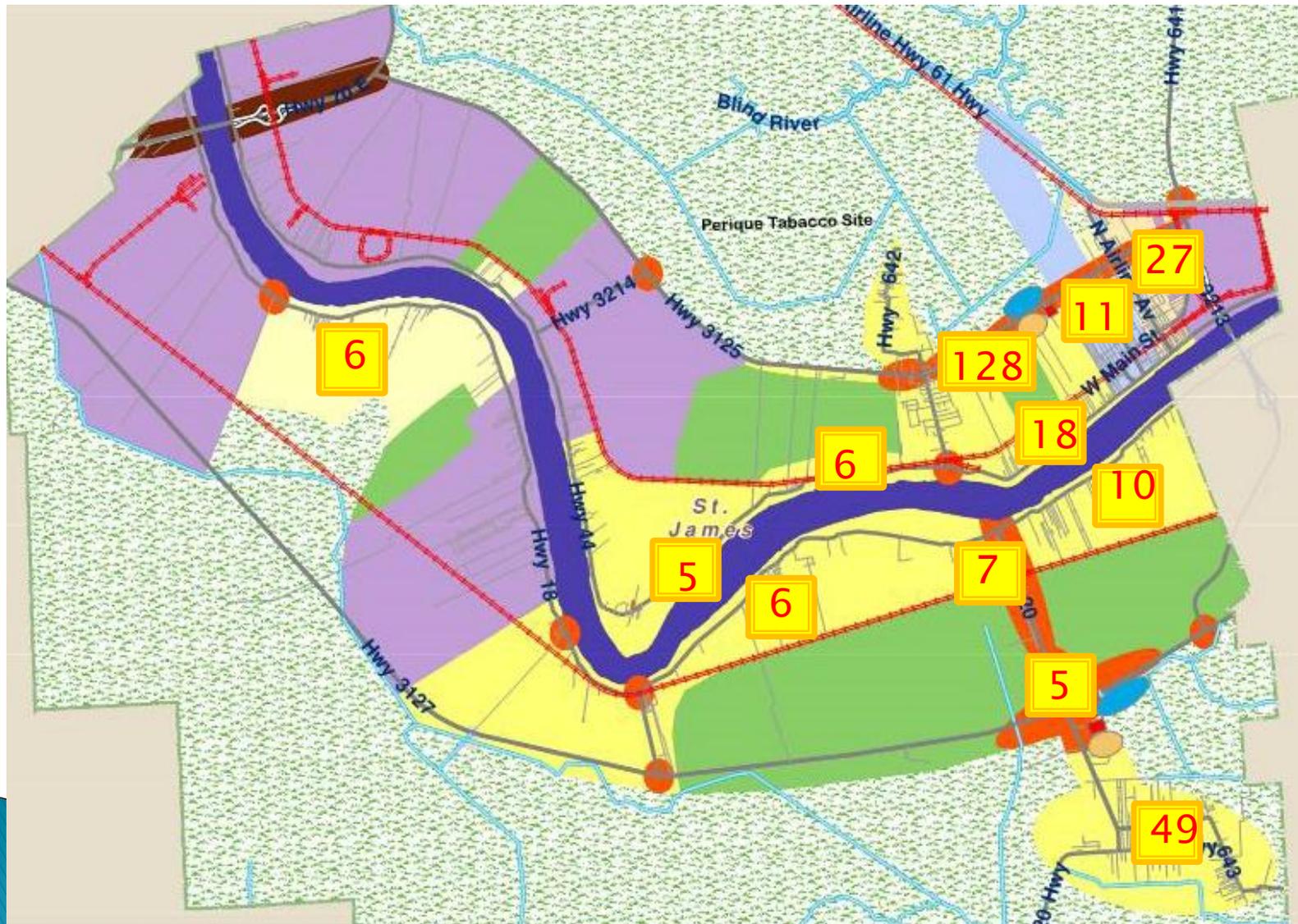


New Residential Construction

Permitted during the Past Five+ Years

2008– Nov 2013

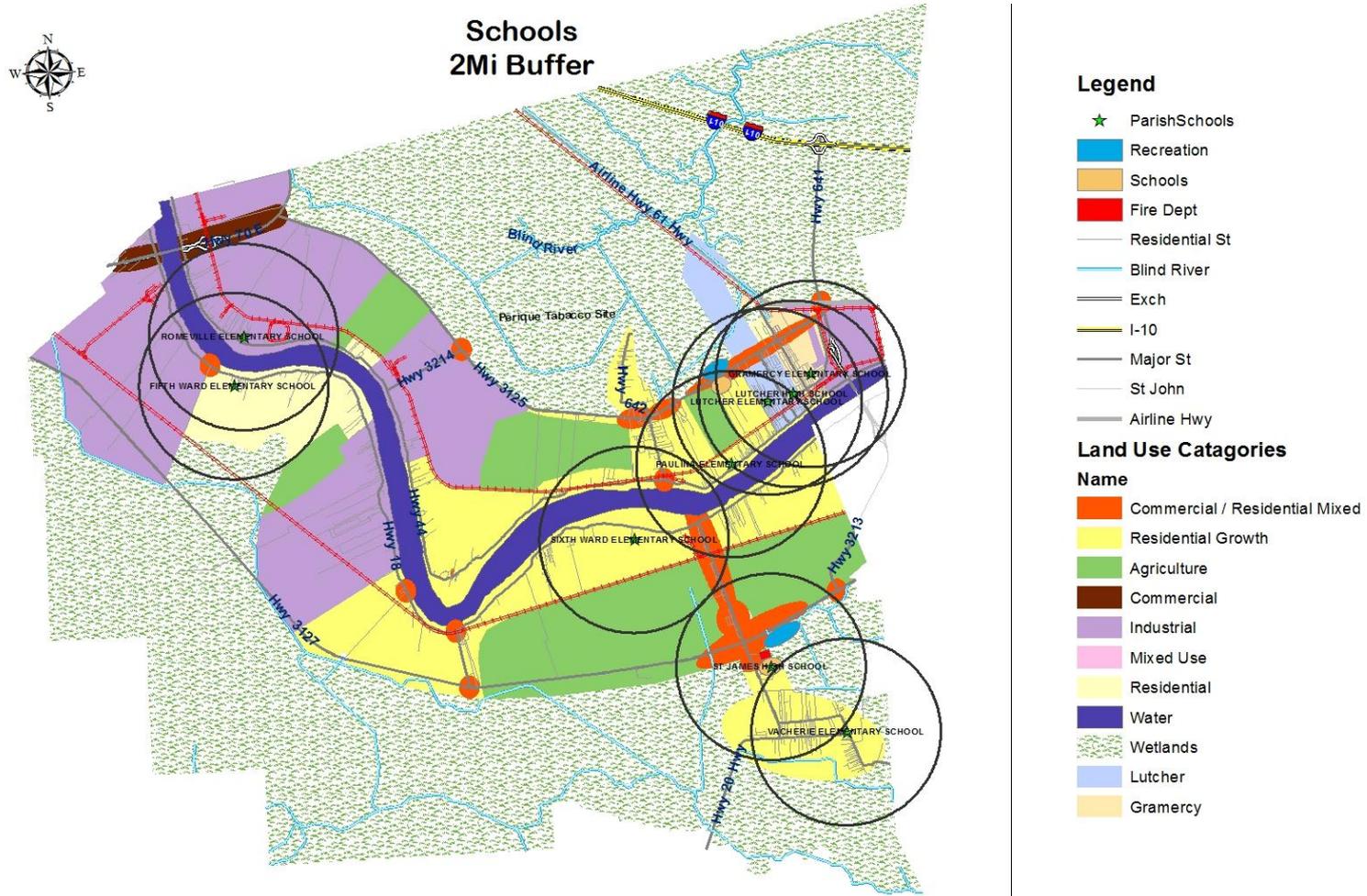
This map illustrates the new permits for new construction throughout the parish over the past five years, what is clearly stated here is that over the past five years the growth of the parish has been on the eastern and southern parts of the parish. Of the 278 total permits issued, no permits have been issued in the areas identified as industrial.



Future Land Use Plan

School Locations and Buffers

The Planning Committee created buffer zones to accomplish the goals of the plan to protect these areas, The Schools sites are reflected on this map, which includes the future site of the new high school on the west bank.



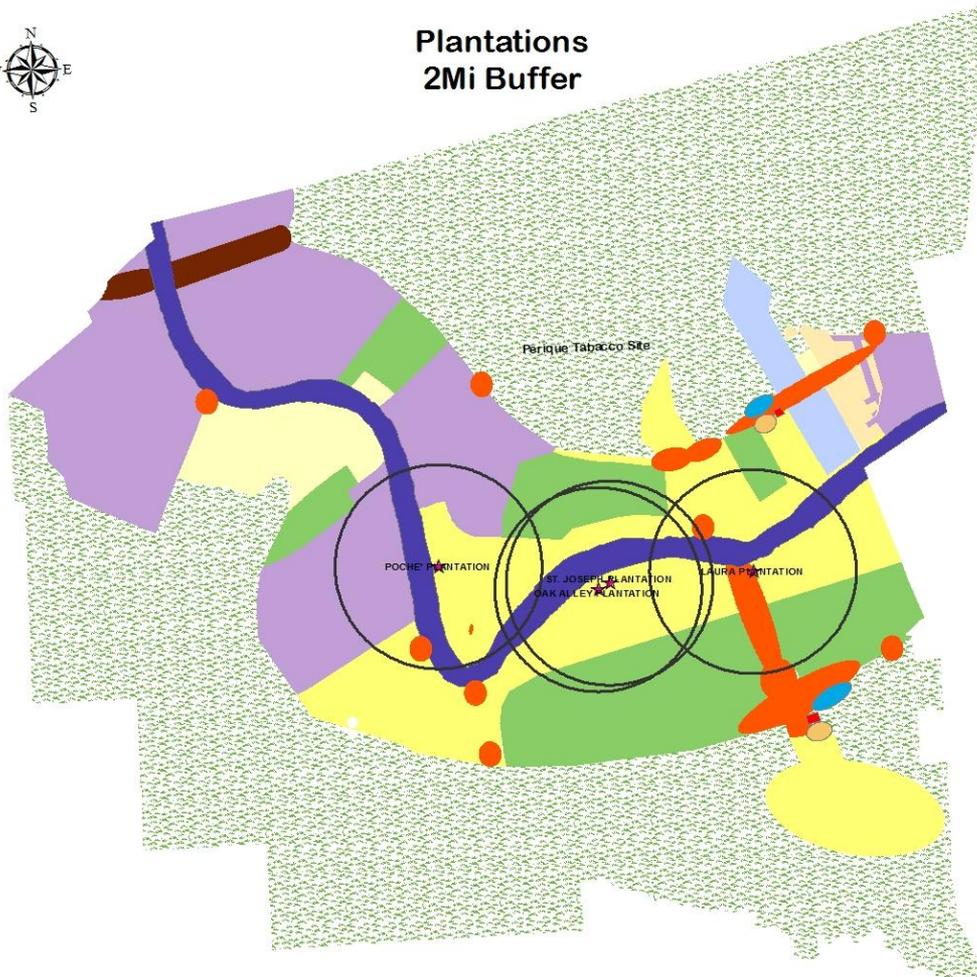
Future Land Use Plan

Plantation Locations and Buffers

Plantation sites are reflected on this map with buffer zones to protect these historical sites.



Plantations 2Mi Buffer



Legend

- ★ Plantations
- Recreation
- Schools
- Fire Dept
- Residential St
- Blind River
- Exch
- I-10
- Major St
- St John
- Airline Hwy

Land Use Categories

Name

- Commercial / Residential Mixed
- Residential Growth
- Agriculture
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Mixed Use
- Residential
- Water
- Wetlands
- Lutcher
- Gramercy

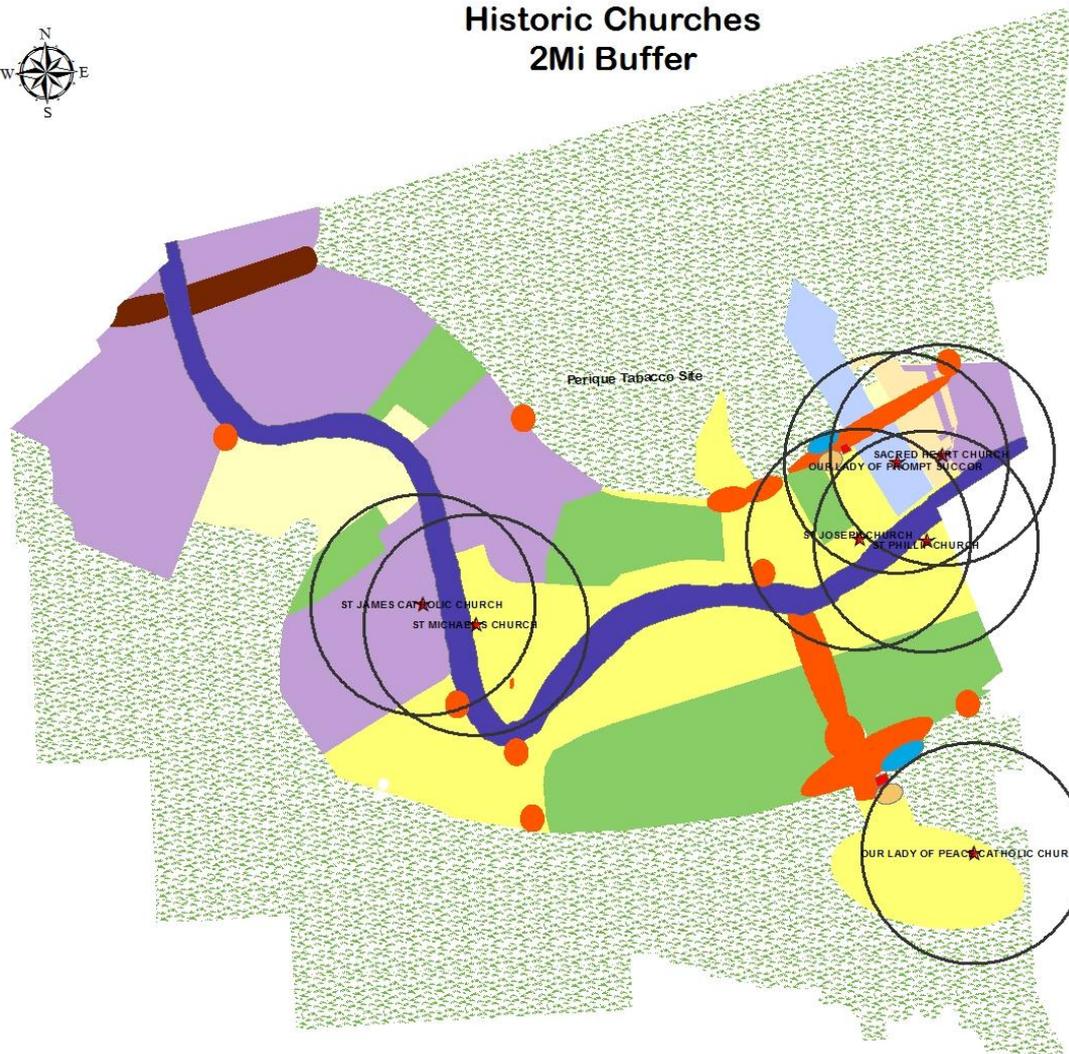
Future Land Use Plan

Historic Churches and Buffers

Historical Church sites are reflected on this map with buffer zones.



Historic Churches 2Mi Buffer



Legend

- ★ Catholic Churches
- Recreation
- Schools
- Fire Dept
- Residential St
- Blind River
- Exch
- I-10
- Major St
- St John
- Airline Hwy

Land Use Categories

Name

- Commercial / Residential Mixed
- Residential Growth
- Agriculture
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Mixed Use
- Residential
- Water
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- Lutzer
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Closing Comments

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St. James Proud