

# JEFFERSON PARISH POPULAR REPORT



## Patrick F. Taylor

Science & Technology Academy is a unique public school offering a comprehensive college preparatory program emphasizing the sciences, mathematics, and technology. Taylor provides an environment of academic rigor within a school culture of respect and responsibility.

Source: [www.patricktayloracademy.com](http://www.patricktayloracademy.com)



## TPC Louisiana

Located in Westwego, Louisiana, The Players Club (TPC) Louisiana offers an award-winning championship golf course that is open to the public to enjoy. TPC Louisiana serves as the home of the PGA TOUR's Zurich Classic of New Orleans and host many other events throughout the year.

Source: [www\(tpc.com](http://www(tpc.com)



## NOLA Motorsports

Park, a \$70 million, 1,400 acre state-of-the-art sports park. The park has a 2.75 mile world-class track that consists of 16 turns with a 5,200 foot straightaway. NOLA Motorsports Park, located in Jefferson Parish, offers everyone the ability to use the track for recreational or competitive use.

Source: [nolamotor.com](http://nolamotor.com)



## JEDCO

The Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission is committed to helping businesses thrive in Jefferson Parish. Since its inception in 1987, JEDCO has aided thousands of companies through business incubator and loan programs, tax incentives and rebate programs, and workforce development.

Source: [www.jedco.org](http://www.jedco.org)

For the year ended December 31, 2014

Jefferson Parish's future is of continued, controlled, and well-planned growth. This growth includes an active program to attract business and industry to Jefferson Parish, primarily through improving the quality of life throughout the Parish. Noted below are major initiatives, projects, and goals started, completed, or on-going during 2014:

- Introduced the new Jefferson Parish Mobile App: "JP MOBILE". It is free and available to download now in App Stores for smart phones, mobile devices, iPads, and tablets. It is an easy and convenient 'one-touch' access to a variety of Jefferson Parish Government services, as well as helpful and urgent information. It allows users' access to the *Jefferson parish website*, *Parish News Releases*, *Special Notices*, and enables users to watch LIVE JPTV, *Jefferson Parish Government Access Television*, on their smartphone or handheld device or tablet which includes Live broadcasts of Jefferson Parish Council meetings, urgent Parish news conferences, special events, and regular JPTV programming. It also provides immediate access to a comprehensive list of helpful services allowing users to:

Apply for a permit,  
Pay a Jefferson Parish Water Bill,  
Report a code violation,  
Conveniently plan a travel route on Jefferson Transit,  
Access a directory of all Jefferson Parish departments, municipalities and agencies,  
Keep up with traffic problems on Live DOTD traffic cameras,  
And view current dogs and cats available for adoption at our Jefferson Parish Animal Shelters.

- Financed a new State-Of-The-Art Animal Shelter for the Westbank. Construction will begin in 2015. The new shelter will be more than 29,000 square feet and will reflect the progressive direction of animal welfare in Jefferson Parish.
- Refinanced three bond issues saving Jefferson Parish in excess of \$1.57 million. In 2015, at least two additional bond issues will be refinanced at an anticipated savings of in excess of \$1.54 million dollars.
- Tax Incentive Fund (TIF) Districts have been established to stimulate growth and enhance target areas that were deemed to have the potential of increasing future revenue.
- All Departments reserve fund balances were increased to 12 percent in the 2014 budget and are maintained at the 12 percent level in the 2015 budget. Jefferson Parish maintains its goal of 15 percent reserve fund balances and has directed Department Directors to retain the 12 percent reserve fund balance with the goal of increasing 1 percent per year until those funds reach the 15 percent goal reserve.

- NIMS Center is the regions' primary film production center located in the Orleans- Jefferson Metro Area, with an 111,000 square foot film production center that houses five soundstages, totaling over 48,000 square feet. NIMS recently expanded by adding two soundstages; one of which houses a small green screen area. Soundstage D is 10,000 square feet and is in the final stages of construction. Soundstage E, recently finished construction and is 1,100 square feet and also houses a green screen.
- Fourteen major films and made for television movies and series used Jefferson Parish as a backdrop in 2014. As productions continue to film in 2015 in Jefferson Parish, the industry continues to grow with more than \$107 million spent in Jefferson Parish by the film industry since 2009.
- On-going construction of the Jefferson Parish Performing Arts Center, a state-of-the-art municipal theater, saw substantial completion in 2014 and will provide Jefferson Parish with a high quality venue for cultural functions seating 1,050 people. The Jefferson Parish Performing Arts Center is scheduled for a ribbon cutting on Friday, June 19, 2015 at 2:30 p.m. followed by its grand-opening GALA on Saturday, June 20, 2015 featuring The Branford Marsalis and Joey Calderazzo Duo, each world-renowned Grammy Award winners. The opening act will showcase JPAC artist-in-residence Jefferson Performing Arts Society, led by Mastro Dennis Assaf, along with additional performances by Delta Festival Ballet, Jefferson Chorale, Jefferson Ballet, and local celebrity kingfish "Spud" McConnell.
- In June 2014 the City of Kenner's historic district, Rivertown, was recognized as a Main Street Community by the Louisiana Cultural Districts' division of the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism.
- The Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport announced plans to build a new terminal on the north side of the property. Construction is planned and the total project cost is over \$800 million.
- Smoothie King, the frozen drink franchise, completed the move of its international headquarters to Jefferson Parish. In addition to adding 60 new jobs and launching an international growth plan to build 1,000 stores in five years, Smoothie King has also retained 45 regional jobs. The New Orleans Pelicans play their games in the newly renamed Smoothie King Center, the result of a partnership between the frozen drink franchise and the NBA team.
- NOLA Motorsports Park, a \$70 million, 1,400 acre state-of-the-art sports park with a 2.75 mile racetrack for cars and motorcycles, continues to attract thousands of people to the Westbank in the area of Jefferson Parish that will be re-branded as Fairfield, Louisiana. The Park has hosted major companies such as Subaru, Rotax, Lexus and Ducati and plans a \$10 million expansion and recently reached an agreement with IndyCar for races commencing in 2015. IndyCar, which includes the Indianapolis 500 as its marquee event, is the premier American-based open-wheel racing series.

- A design and marketing plan is being created to attract upscale residential, high-technology and light-industry developments to retain residents and diversify Jefferson's economy in the Fairfield Community which is comprised of more than 9,000 acres, containing a business park, school and recreational amenities.
- Blackwater Midstream, an independent developer and operator of agricultural, petroleum and chemical liquid terminal storage facilities continued its expansion of its Westwego terminal with the addition of new tanks, which will create 35 new jobs.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Source, a systems and information technology company, established its Corporate Headquarters and Service Delivery Center in Jefferson Parish bringing the anticipated creation of 320 direct jobs at an average salary of \$50,000 plus benefits. The company cited the emerging IT industry and the public/private partnerships to enhance information technology curriculums in local colleges and universities as reasons for choosing to locate in Jefferson Parish.
- Chronos Body, Health & Wellness, a state-of-the-art, full-service health and wellness center announced plans to locate in Fat City and is currently undergoing a 13,000 square foot renovation.
- 365 Connect, a growing IT service company that deals with design and maintenance of online platforms for apartment complexes, announced plans to relocate headquarters to Jefferson Parish and plans to open its new office in 2015.
- Central South Carpenters broke ground on an \$8 million training facility with a significant investment in workforce training to provide contractors with skilled workers in the construction industry.
- Zatarain's is undergoing a 77,000 square foot expansion of its current facility with upgrades to machinery with a total investment of \$18 million.
- Laitram machinery continues to grow and the company is adding an additional test facility at its current location, creating 98 new jobs.
- Lakeside Center Shopping recently completed a 9,300 square foot expansion to house the first Cheesecake Factory in the state of Louisiana.
- Several hotels are under construction or awaiting construction on both the east and west banks of Jefferson Parish with projected investment of over \$34 million.
- Boomtown Casino completed its \$20 million expansion, adding a five story 150 room hotel.

- **FEMA Submerged Roads Program** - This \$100 million federally funded program provides asphalt, concrete, and concrete panel pavement replacements for nearly 2,400 local street blocks.
- **Coastal Restoration** of the wetlands funded through the Coastal Wetland Planning Protection and Restoration Act, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (“ARRA”) and The Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE) continued to be a priority;
- **Dyno Nobel**, a world-renowned chemical company broke ground and continued development of an ammonia production facility with in excess of a \$1 billion investment. The new company will create 65 new jobs, retain 441 jobs and employ 470 people indirectly. Ammonia production is expected to begin in 2016.
- **Beautification** of major thoroughfares and entrances to the Parish through its Commercial Parkway Zone (“CPZ”) program continues to take place and the Regional Planning Commission has undertaken a study for a Master Plan to construct a \$75 million Bike Path throughout the entire Parish. In addition, almost \$1 million in Mardi Gras improvements have been made to develop a site for Mardi Gras amenities named “Family Gras” to accent the family nature of related activities.
- **Dick's Sporting Goods** completed the opening of its store in the Oakwood Shopping Center jumpstarting restoration of the fourth wing of the Oakwood Center which had been dormant since Hurricane Katrina (2005).
- **Starr Textile Services**, a commercial laundry company, opened a new facility at the Elmwood Business Park with a \$10 million investment. The company retained 40 regional jobs and will hire an additional 25 people in the first two years of operation.
- A 65,000 square foot retail expansion in the Elmwood Shopping Center and new retail entrants into the markets in both the Elmwood and Veterans Boulevard areas of Jefferson Parish continued to boost the local economy, and in turn, increase the sales tax revenue collected by the Parish.

*All of the above initiatives were accomplished through current year funding, state capital outlay, federal grants, bond issues, or one-time revenues.*

*Source:* *State of Jefferson Parish as presented by Parish President John F. Young, Jr. and Council Chairman Elton Lagasse; JEDCO (Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission) Annual Report; and other related publications and presentations.*

The following is an overview of the Parish's financial position for the year ended December 31, 2014, as reported in the Parish's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) copies of which can be obtained through the Jefferson Parish Finance Director's Office, 504-364-2767 or on the web at [www.jeffparish.net](http://www.jeffparish.net).

The Parish's financial information is presented in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) except for the elimination of the component units of the Parish which are not included in this financial review. These include the Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission (JEDCO), Jefferson Parish Finance Authority, Hospital Service District No. 1 (West Jefferson Medical Center), Hospital Service District No. 2 (East Jefferson General Hospital) Jefferson Facilities, Inc. (JFI), and Jefferson Redevelopment, Inc. (JRI).

This financial information also does not include the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, Clerk of Court, Assessor, Coroner, District Attorney or Public School System which are governed by their own entities. Nor does this information include incorporated municipalities — Kenner, Grand Isle, Gretna, Harahan, Lafitte and Westwego.

This popular report only includes information pertaining to the primary government which is divided between governmental activities and business-type activities.

Governmental activities are supported by tax dollars for services such as libraries, drainage, fire protection, parks and transit.

Business-type activities are funded through the sale of services or goods and services and include the water and sewerage department.

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Science & Technology  
Academy

Jefferson Parish, Louisiana  
Condensed Statement of Net Position  
(in thousands of dollars)

	<u>Governmental activities</u>		<u>Business-type activities</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
<b>Assets:</b>						
Total assets	\$ 2,085,430	\$ 1,997,243	\$ 672,806	\$ 660,985	\$ 2,758,236	\$ 2,658,228
Total liabilities	708,691	730,370	45,914	32,777	754,605	763,147
Total deferred outflows of resources	8,143	7,537			8,143	7,537
<b>Net Position:</b>						
Net investment in capital assets	877,954	800,435	536,687	546,657	1,414,641	1,347,092
Restricted	399,519	380,678	52,135	45,318	451,654	425,996
Unrestricted	107,409	93,297	38,070	36,233	145,479	129,530
<b>Total net position</b>	<b>\$ 1,384,882</b>	<b>\$ 1,274,410</b>	<b>\$ 626,892</b>	<b>\$ 628,208</b>	<b>\$ 2,011,774</b>	<b>\$ 1,902,618</b>

## GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

**Governmental total net position increased to \$1,384,882 from \$1,274,410 representing an increase of \$110,472 or 8.7% which is mostly due to capitalization of Parish's capital asset expenditures and a decrease in the Parish's long term debt liability.**

Sales taxes increased to \$148,018 from \$146,059 in 2013 representing an increase of \$1,959 or 1.3%. The slight increase reflects the gradual economic recovery being experienced nationwide. Ad valorem (property) taxes increased to \$191,583 from \$187,717 representing an increase of \$3,866 or 2.1% primarily as a result of the taxes on new home construction and sales.

Charges for Services increased to \$68,614 from \$62,229 representing an increase of \$6,385 or 10.2% primarily as a result of revenues in the Off Track Betting, Video Poker, Tourism and Riverboat Gaming Special Revenue funds that were classified as miscellaneous revenues in the Roads and Streets Capital Project fund in prior years. In addition, revenues of the Special Revenue Off Duty Witness fund had been recorded in an Agency Fund in prior years.

Miscellaneous revenues increased to \$29,676 from \$27,278 representing an increase of \$2,398 or 8.8% primarily as a result of revenues recorded in the new Special Revenue Fund Health Premium Return and capital asset related activities.

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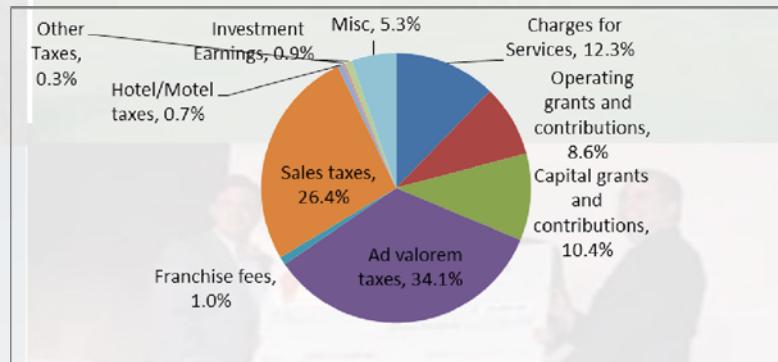
**TOTAL AND NET COST OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES**  
(in thousands of dollars)

	<u>Total Cost of Services</u>	<u>Charges for Services</u>	<u>Grant Funding</u>	<u>Net Cost of Services</u>
<b>General Government</b>	<b>70,717</b>	<b>15,168</b>	<b>905</b>	<b>54,644</b>
<b>Public Safety</b>	<b>100,987</b>	<b>16,261</b>	<b>10,208</b>	<b>74,518</b>
<b>Public Works</b>	<b>133,188</b>	<b>20,297</b>	<b>47,858</b>	<b>65,033</b>
<b>Transit</b>	<b>17,961</b>	<b>3,589</b>	<b>3,174</b>	<b>11,198</b>
<b>Health and Welfare</b>	<b>47,945</b>	<b>4,266</b>	<b>32,406</b>	<b>11,273</b>
<b>Culture and Recreation</b>	<b>48,043</b>	<b>9,033</b>	<b>7,493</b>	<b>31,517</b>
<b>Economic Development</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>(60)</b>
<b>Urban Redevelopment</b>	<b>9,380</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,401</b>	<b>4,979</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>19,721</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>19,721</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>447,942</b>	<b>68,614</b>	<b>106,505</b>	<b>272,823</b>

# GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

## REVENUES

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
<b>Charges for Services</b>	68,614	62,229
<b>Operating grants and contributions</b>	48,151	58,391
<b>Capital grants and contributions</b>	58,354	49,280
<b>Ad valorem taxes</b>	191,583	187,717
<b>Franchise fees</b>	5,515	5,141
<b>Sales taxes</b>	148,018	146,059
<b>Hotel/Motel taxes</b>	3,651	3,515
<b>Other Taxes</b>	1,609	1,512
<b>Investment Earnings</b>	4,784	3,955
<b>Gain on extinguishment of debt</b>	-	50,241
<b>Misc</b>	29,676	27,278
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<u>559,955</u>	<u>595,318</u>



## GENERAL FUND AND OTHER MAJOR FUNDS

The General Fund, which is the primary operating fund of the Parish, had a fund balance of \$23,504 compared to \$25,967 at the end of 2013 representing a decrease of \$2,463 or 9.5%. This decrease is largely due to the prior year return of funds set aside for repayment of the SCDL Loan as a result of total cancellation of the debt by FEMA.

The Federal and State Grants Special Revenue Fund reported a fund balance of \$4,390 compared to \$3,142 in 2013 representing a \$1,248 increase or 39.7% in fund balance for the year ended December 31, 2014. This increase is largely due to the Parish portion of funding for the Federal Transit Administration grants which have not yet been expended.

The East Bank Consolidated Fire District reported a fund balance of \$13,307 compare to \$9,724 in 2013 representing a \$3,583 increase or 36.8% primarily due to an increase in ad valorem taxes.

The Library Special Revenue Fund reported a fund balance of \$29,990 compared to \$25,695 in 2013 representing a \$4,295 increase or 16.7% primarily due to minimal transfers of operating funds to capital project funds as experienced in the prior year as well.

The Drainage and Pump Station Capital Projects Fund reported a fund balance of \$134,806 compared to \$130,678 in 2013 representing and increase of \$4,128 or 3.2%.

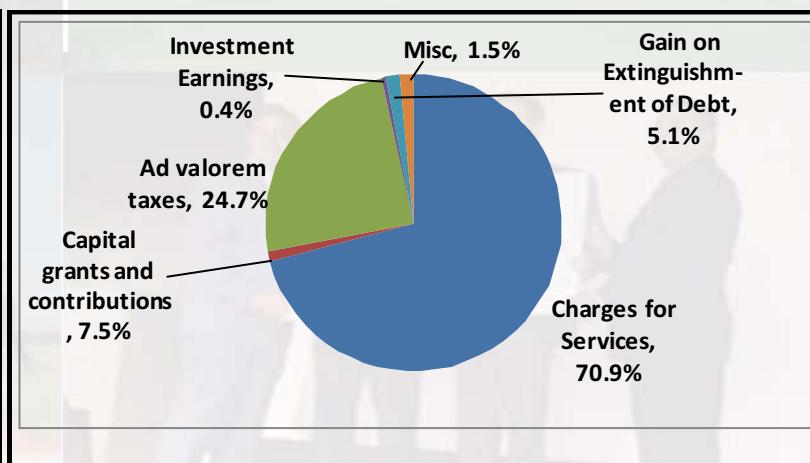
The Roads and Streets Capital Improvements Fund reported a fund balance of \$91,712 compared to \$109,536 in 2013 representing a decreased of \$17,824 or 16.2% primarily due to increased construction and maintenance or roads and streets.

# BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES

In 2014, charges for services for both the Sewer and Water Departments decreased to \$56,989 from \$57,022 because of a fluctuation in billing cycles.

Capital grants and contributions decreased due to the prior year receipt of FEMA revenues related to damages from Hurricane Isaac in 2012

	Business-type Activities	
	2014	2013
Charges for Services	\$ 56,989	\$ 57,022
Capital grants and contributions	839	6,661
Ad valorem taxes	19,831	19,456
Sales taxes	-	-
Investment Earnings	347	278
Misc	1,195	889
Gain on Extinguishm-ent of Debt	1,175	4,569
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 80,376</u>	<u>\$ 88,875</u>



# BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES

Consolidated Sewerage District No. 1 total net position was \$389,765 compared to \$398,097 in 2013 representing a decrease of \$8,332 or 2.1% primarily due to the expenditures needed to repair damages resulting from Hurricane Isaac in 2012. Most of this fund's assets are capital assets net of related debt in the amount of \$365,398. Unrestricted net position amount to \$17,239 with \$6,990 restricted for future capital improvements and the remaining \$138 restricted for debt service.

Consolidated Waterworks District No. 1 total net position was \$237,127 compared to \$230,111 in 2013 representing an increase of \$7,016 or 3.0% primarily due to conservative fiscal policy to budget for forecasted capital expenditure requirements. Most of this fund's assets are capital assets net of related debt in the amount of \$171,289. Unrestricted net position amount to \$20,831 with \$45,007 restricted for future capital improvements.

Expenditures for the Sewer Department decreased from \$50,426 in 2013 to \$44,544 in 2013 primarily due to expenditures in 2013 to repair damages caused by Hurricane Isaac which occurred in 2012. The Water Department decreased slightly from \$39,186 in 2013 to \$38,689 in 2014.

## CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET POSITION

	Business-type Activities	
	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Expenses		
Water	\$ 38,689	\$ 39,186
Sewer	44,544	50,426
Total Expenses	\$ 83,233	\$ 89,612

# LONG TERM DEBT

	BEGINNING OF YEAR	BALANCE AT YEAR END
<b><u>Governmental Activities:</u></b>		
Bonds	\$ 283,140	\$ 254,903
Certificates of Indebtedness	7,035	5,565
Loan Programs	90,427	93,606
Bond Premium	9,079	8,082
Capital Leases	3,482	3,014
Compensated Absences	19,681	19,397
Landfill Postclosure Costs	19,210	18,131
Net Pension Obligation	83	-
Net Post-Employment Obligation	30,932	35,500
Pension Payable - Judges Annuities	1,681	1,862
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 464,750</u>	<u>\$ 440,060</u>
<b><u>Business-type Activities:</u></b>		
Bonds	\$ 4,126	\$ 9,474
Special Assessments	663	597
Total business type activities	\$ 4,789	\$ 10,071

The total debt decreased to \$24,690 or 5.3% from the prior year due to efforts to pay down existing bond debt. Seen below is the significant long term debt transaction for the year:

- The Parish issued \$4,010 of Second Parish Court Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2014) to redeem \$3,885 of the Second Parish Court Revenue Bonds (Series 2003).
- The Parish issued \$9,010 of 24th Judicial District Court Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2014) to redeem \$8,385 of the 24th Judicial District Revenue Bonds ( Series 2004) bonds.
- The Consolidated Sewerage District No. 1 entered into an agreement with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) for the issuance of Taxable Sewer Revenue Bonds with an authorized amount of \$20,000. Loan proceeds of \$1,180 were drawn down in 2014.

# CAPITAL ASSETS

## Parish's capital assets net of accumulated depreciation

	Governmental activities		Business-type activities		Total	
	2014		2014			
	\$		\$			
Land	\$ 66,997		\$ 13,591		\$ 80,588	
Construction in progress	166,705		5,756		172,461	
Buildings	204,704		12,867		217,571	
Plants	-		139,266		139,266	
Improvements other than buildings	107,336		10,640		117,976	
Vehicles	11,401		2,970		14,371	
Machinery & equipment	50,155		1,023		51,178	
Infrastructure	619,165		360,645		979,810	
Total	\$ 1,226,463		\$ 546,758		\$ 1,773,221	

## 2014 Significant Capital Asset Events

Project	Department	Amount Expended in 2014
Concrete and Asphalt Repairs	Streets	\$30,090
Katrina Arbitration Funds		
Performing Arts Center	LaSalle Park	9,097
Sewer Rehab Program	Sewerage	7,709
Distribution Point Repairs	Water	3,546
Lancaster Drive Drainage Improvements	Drainage	3,183

## **AWARDS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to Jefferson Parish for its comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013. This was the 28th consecutive year the Parish has achieved this prestigious award.

In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual financial report. This report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles, applicable legal requirements as well as the reporting requirements of GFOA.

A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. We believe that our current comprehensive annual financial report continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement Program's requirements and we are submitting it to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.

The preparation of this report on a timely basis could not have been accomplished without the dedicated services of the highly qualified Accounting staff. Credit must also be given to our Parish Council and Parish President, both of which are highlighted below.

**John F. Young, Jr. — Parish President**

**Elton M. Lagasse—Council Chairman/Councilman At-Large Division B**

**Chris L. Roberts—Councilman At-Large Division A**

**Ricky J. Templet—Councilman, District 1**

**Paul D. Johnston—Councilman, District 2**

**Mark D. Spears, Jr.—Councilman, District 3**

**Ben Zahn, III—Councilman, District 4**

**Cynthia Lee-Sheng—Councilwoman, District 5**

