



**JEFFERSON PARISH
POPULAR REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2015**

Magnolia Flower: Designated the state flower of Louisiana in 1900. The southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) decorates the landscape of Jefferson Parish with its large, fragrant white flowers and leathery ever-green leaves.

Source: www.jeffparish.net

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 some of the major initiatives, accomplishments and goals started, completed or on-going during 2015:

- Created a new E-Procurement system which allows vendors to submit and view bids electronically free of charge.
- Continuing, improving and expanding 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 JPTC programming. It also provides immediate access to a comprehensive list of helpful services allowing users to:
 - o Apply for a permit,
 - o Pay a Jefferson Parish water bill,
 - o Report a code violation,
 - o Conveniently plan a travel route on Jefferson Transit,
 - o Access a directory of all Jefferson Parish departments, municipalities and agencies,
 - o Keep up with traffic problems on Live DOTD traffic cameras,
 - o And view current dogs and cats available for adoption at our Jefferson Parish Animal Shelters.
- Installation underway of VOIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) phone system throughout Jefferson Parish Government offices and buildings at an annual savings of \$400,000 each and every year.
- Creative Film Connections, Inc. of Louisiana, a prop supply house for the entertainment industry, moved to the city of Gretna and occupies more than 70,000 square feet of space and supplies furniture, fixtures and historical items to production companies.
- A ribbon cutting ceremony was held June 19, 2015 for the opening of the Jefferson Parish Performing Arts Center, a state-of-the-art municipal theater which provides Jefferson Parish with a much-needed venue for cultural functions seating 1,100 people.
- TriWest Healthcare Alliance in 2015 announced plans to open an operations center in Jefferson Parish which provides military veterans and their families with health care and plans to hire 285 employees in its first year of operations and places priority on hiring veterans.

- Construction has begun on the new State-Of-The-Art Animal Shelter for the Westbank. The new shelter will be more than 29,000 square feet and will reflect the progressive direction of animal welfare in Jefferson Parish.
- Entergy 9 Mile Point Facility is a new \$720 million 650 megawatt plant currently under construction.
- **SUBMERGED ROADS PROGRAM** - This \$100 million federally funded program provides asphalt, concrete, and concrete panel pavement replacements for nearly 2,400 local street blocks . Due to the large number of streets to be repaired, this program has been divided into 27 projects with the majority of the projects completed in 2015 and all work to be completed by the summer of 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 completed a study for a Master Plan to construct a \$75 million Bike Path throughout the entire Parish . The Plan has been recognized as outstanding by the Louisiana Chapter of the American Planning Association. 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. An estimated 100,000 attended Family Gras in February 2015.
- Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission (JEDCO), an independent yet complementary arm of Jefferson Parish Government, serves to proactively influence the Jefferson Parish economy through the retention and creation of quality jobs, entrepreneurship and investment in Jefferson Parish through maintaining a Business Innovation Center to attract technology-based startup companies and an Innovation Loan and Technical Assistance Program to provide economic growth through low interest loans.
- Dyno Nobel continued development of an ammonia production facility with in excess of a \$1 billion investment. The project is 75% complete and the new company will create 65 new jobs, retain 441 jobs and employ 470 people indirectly. Ammonia production is expected to begin in 2016.
- NIMS Center, a division of the University of New Orleans Foundation operated in cooperation with the University of New Orleans, 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; Soundstage D is 10,000 square feet and is in the final stages of construction and Soundstage E, is 1,100 square feet.
- Fairfield Community - Comprised of more than 9,000 acres, containing a business park, school and recreational amenities. 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.

- All Departments reserve fund balances were increased to 12 percent in the 2014 budget and are maintained at the 12 percent level. 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.
- 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.
- Refinancing of two bond issues saved Jefferson Parish in excess of \$1.4 million. In 2016, at least one additional bond issue will be refinanced at an anticipated savings of in excess of \$4.0 million dollars.
- The Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport has begun plans to build a new terminal on the north side of the property. Construction is planned and the total project cost is \$826 million and is to be completed by 2018.
- 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.
- 4th Source, a North American Information Technology Company, announced plans to relocate its headquarters from Georgia to Jefferson Parish. The company has plans to create over 300 high-paying IT jobs.
- Chronos Body, Health & Wellness, a state-of-the-art, full-service health and wellness center opened its \$4 million, 13,000 square foot facility in early 2015 aiding in the continued revitalization of Fat City.
- Smoothie King recently 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.
- Twenty-two major films and made for television movies and series have used Jefferson Parish as a backdrop. As productions continue to film in 2016 in Jefferson Parish, the industry continues to grow with more than \$124,000 million spent in Jefferson Parish by the film industry since 2009.

- 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 in 2015 hosted the first ever Indy Grand Prix of Louisiana which will draw an estimated 80,000 people to Fairfield over a three year period.
- Zatarain's underwent an 80,000 square foot expansion of their manufacturing and warehouse facility , adding ten production lines with a total investment of \$26 million with jobs retained.
- Elmwood Shopping Center, a 65,000 square foot retail expansion including new retailers has helped boost the local economy and increase sales tax collections and additional retailers continue to be added along Veterans Boulevard where the Parish continues to concentrate beautification efforts through its Commercial Parkway Zone (CPZ) Program.
- Delgado River City Campus and Advanced Manufacturing Center of Excellence broke ground in May 2015 on a 10.5 acre site at the Churchill Technology and Business Park which will serve 3000 students enrolled in programs that support Mississippi River commerce, including transportation/logistics, maritime technology and marine engineering.
- Lakeside Shopping Center recently completed a 9,300 square foot expansion to house the first Cheesecake Factory in the state of Louisiana.
- 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 2016.
- Several hotels are under construction or awaiting construction on both the east and west banks of Jefferson 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 Christopher 1. Roberts; JEDCO (Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission) Annual Report; and other related publications and presentations.

Although the nation currently is recovering from a recession, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, at the end of 2015, Jefferson Parish's average annual unemployment rate was at 5.7% compared to the statewide rate of 6.3% and the nationwide rate of 5.3%.

The following is an overview of the Parish's financial position for the year ended December 31, 2015, 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.

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 Popular Report. These include the Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission (JEDCO), Jefferson Parish Finance Authority, 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 departments and Hospital Service District No. 1. Effective October 1, 2015, Hospital District No. 1 entered into a cooperative endeavor agreement and lease agreement for operation of the West Jefferson Medical Center and facilities (WJMC). The financial statements of the Hospital Service District No. 1 are no longer included as a discretely presented component unit; rather they are included as a blended component unit. The Service District's financial information is presented as a major proprietary fund.

Implementation of GASB Statement No. 68 "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions" and GASB Statement No. 71 "Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date" an amendment of GASB No. 68 required a prior period adjustment to recognize the net pension liability and deferred inflows and outflows of resources and expenditures for its participation in the single employer and multi-employer pension plans.

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>2015</u>	<u>2014*</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014*</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014*</u>
Assets:						
Total assets	\$ 2,233,154	\$ 2,085,430	\$ 937,464	\$ 1,006,463	\$ 3,170,618	\$ 3,091,893
Total deferred outflows of resources	44,672	27,259	11,559	3,022	56,231	30,281
Total liabilities	752,046	746,772	323,649	282,896	1,075,695	1,029,668
Total deferred inflows of resources	4,096	3,829	399	-	4,495	3,829
Net Position:						
Net investment in capital assets	991,422	877,954	674,982	561,149	1,666,404	1,439,103
Restricted	443,291	399,519	79,079	70,094	522,370	469,613
Unrestricted	86,971	84,615	(129,086)	95,346	(42,115)	179,961
Total net position	\$ 1,521,684	\$ 1,362,088	\$ 624,975	\$ 626,892	\$ 2,146,659	\$ 2,088,677

*Restated

GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Governmental total net position increased to \$1,521,684 from \$1,362,088 representing an increase of \$159,596 or 11.7% 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 \$148,448 from \$148,018 in 2014 representing an increase of \$430. The slight increase reflects the gradual economic recovery being experienced nationwide. Ad valorem (property) taxes increased to \$193,784 from \$191,583 representing an increase of \$2,201 or 1.1% primarily as a result of the taxes on new home construction and sales.

Charges for Services increased to \$71,839 from \$68,614 representing an increase of \$3,225 or 4.7% primarily as a result of an increase in garbage collection fees.

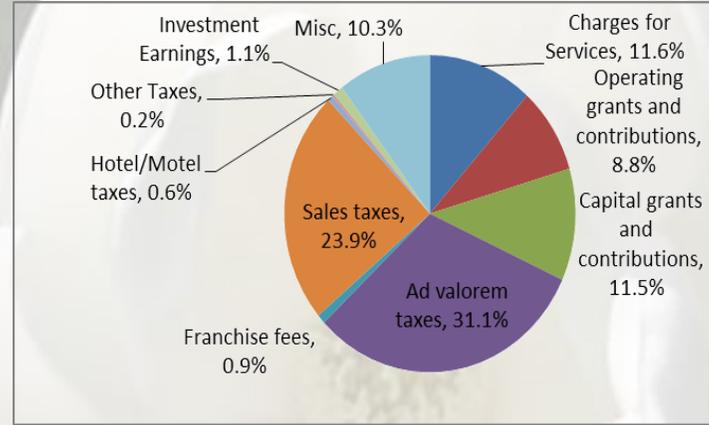
Miscellaneous revenues increased to \$64,354 from \$29,676 representing an increase of \$34,678 or 116.8% primarily as a result of revenues recorded in the new Special Revenue Fund BP Settlement Fund.

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>
General Government	68,180	15,470	5,197	47,513
Public Safety	108,588	16,881	7,146	84,561
Public Works	128,706	22,238	57,272	49,196
Transit	17,231	3,652	2,973	10,606
Health and Welfare	51,142	4,280	36,717	10,145
Culture and Recreation	50,641	9,318	11,159	30,164
Economic Development	-	-	50	(50)
Urban Redevelopment	10,551	-	5,495	5,056
Other	21,623	-	-	21,623
Total	456,662	71,839	126,009	258,814

GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES REVENUES

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Charges for Services	71,839	68,614
Operating grants and contributions	54,727	48,151
Capital grants and contributions	71,282	58,354
Ad valorem taxes	193,784	191,583
Franchise fees	5,844	5,515
Sales taxes	148,448	148,018
Hotel/Motel taxes	3,752	3,651
Other Taxes	1,517	1,609
Investment Earnings	6,885	4,784
Gain on extinguishment of debt	-	-
Misc	<u>64,354</u>	<u>29,676</u>
Total Revenues	<u>622,432</u>	<u>559,955</u>



GENERAL FUND AND OTHER MAJOR FUNDS

The General Fund, which is the primary operating fund of the Parish, had a fund balance of \$28,099 compared to \$23,504 at the end of 2014 representing an increase of \$4,595 or 19.5% primarily due to the settlement of the matter Redflex Traffic Systems, Inc. v. The Parish of Jefferson , 24th JDC for \$3,000.

The Federal and State Grants Special Revenue Fund reported a fund balance of \$7,545 compared to \$4,390 in 2014 representing a \$3,155 increase or 71.9% in fund balance for the year ended December 31, 2015. 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 \$15,391 compare to \$13,307 in 2014 representing a \$2,624 increase or 8.6% primarily due to conservation of funds for subsequent year expenditures, efforts to reduce spending and/or budgeting for anticipated expenditures not realized in 2015.

The Library Special Revenue Fund reported a fund balance of \$32,580 compared to \$29,990 in 2014 representing a \$2,590 increase or 24.7% primarily due to efforts to reduce spending and/or budgeting for anticipated expenditures not realized in 2015

The Drainage and Pump Station Capital Projects Fund reported a fund balance of \$136,919 compared to \$134,806 in 2014 representing an increase of \$2,113 or 1.6% due to conservation of funds for subsequent year expenditures, efforts to reduce spending and/or budgeting for anticipated expenditures not realized in 2015.

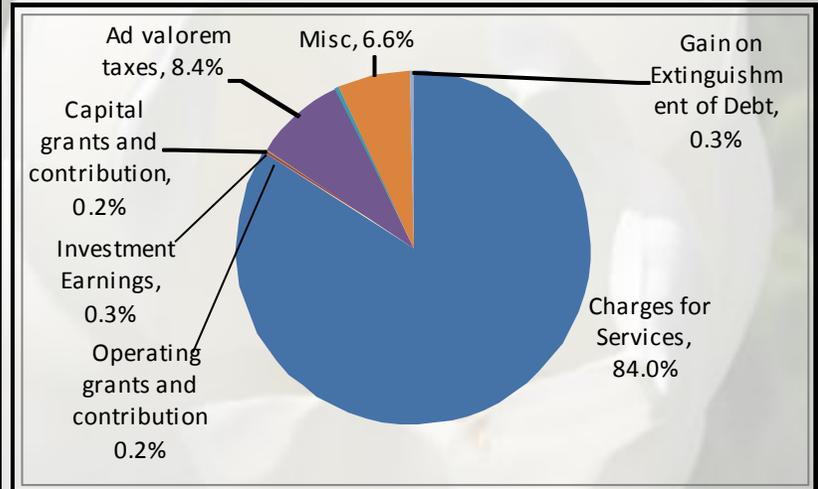
The Roads and Streets Capital Improvements Fund reported a fund balance of \$86,798 compared to \$91,712 in 2014 representing a decrease of \$4,914 or 5.4% primarily due to increased construction and maintenance of roads and streets.

BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES

In 2015, charges for services for both the Sewer and Water Departments decreased slightly to \$56,874 from \$56,989. Hospital District No. 1 is presented as a business-type activity. Revenues and expenditures include hospital operations for the first nine months of the fiscal year. Hospital District No. 1 lease and related revenues were reported from October 1 through December 31.

	Business-type Activities	
	2015	2014*
Charges for Services	\$ 201,228	\$ 270,059
Operating grants and contributions	405	-
Capital grants and contributions	404	839
Ad valorem taxes	19,982	19,831
Investment Earnings	752	4,287
Misc	15,841	16,158
Gain on Extinguishment of Debt	650	1,175
Total Revenues	\$ 239,262	\$ 312,349

*Restated



BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES

Consolidated Sewerage District No. 1 total Net position was \$386,889 compared to \$390,867 in 2014 representing a decrease of \$3,978 or 1.0% due to contributions to capital assets. Most of this fund's assets are capital assets net of related debt in the amount of \$367,933. Unrestricted Net position amounts to \$12,990 with the remaining \$5,583 restricted for future capital improvements and \$127 restricted for debt service.

Consolidated Waterworks District No. 1 total Net position was \$242,726 compared to \$238,583 in 2014 representing an increase of \$4,143 or 1.7% 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 \$166,429. Unrestricted net position amounts to \$23,193 with \$53,109 restricted for future capital improvements.

Hospital Service District No. 1 total Net deficit was \$4,640. Most of this fund's assets are net investments in capital assets in the amount of \$140,621 and \$20,000 of restricted net position set aside for the settlement of the final specified working capital amount pursuant to the CEA executed on February 26, 2015. Unrestricted Net deficit amounts to \$165,260.

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET POSITION

	Business-type Activities	
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014*</u>
Expenses		
Water	\$ 41,618	\$ 37,233
Sewer	44,549	43,442
Hospital District No. 1	227,584	306,628
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 313,751</u>	<u>\$ 387,303</u>

*Restated

LONG TERM DEBT

	<u>BEGINNING OF YEAR</u>	<u>BALANCE AT YEAR END</u>
<u>Governmental Activities:</u>		
Bonds	\$ 254,903	\$ 234,670
Certificates of Indebtedness	5,565	4,815
Loan Programs	93,606	89,750
Bond Premium	8,082	7,013
Capital Leases	3,014	2,536
Compensated Absences	19,397	22,127
Landfill Postclosure Costs	18,131	18,792
Net Pension Liability*	38,081	51,302
Net Post-Employment Obligation	35,500	40,227
Pension Payable - Judges Annuities	1,862	1,923
Total governmental activities	\$ 478,141	\$ 473,155
<u>Business-type Activities:</u>		
Bonds	\$ 153,209	\$ 16,420
Special Assessments	597	531
Net Pension Liability*	48,230	61,921
Total business type activities	\$ 202,036	\$ 78,872

*Restated

The total debt decreased to \$126,807 or 22.9% from the prior year due primarily due to the defeasement of \$140,610 of Hospital District No. 1 bonds. Seen below is the significant long term debt transactions for the year:

- The Parish issued \$36,165,000 of Special Sales Tax Revenue Refunding Bonds (Series 2015) for the purpose of redeeming \$31,490,000 of the Special Sales Tax Revenue Bonds (Series 2007B).
- The Parish issued \$11,320,000 LCDA Revenue Refunding Bonds Series 2015 for the purpose of redeeming \$10,265,000 aggregate principal amount of the Series 2007 LCDA Revenue Bonds.
- Hospital District No. 1 defeased Series 1998B, Series 2009A-2, and Series 2011 bonds in the amount of \$25,000,000, \$5,300,000, and \$110,310,000 at September 30, 2015, respectively by placing a portion of the prepaid lease revenues into an irrevocable trust to provide for all future debt service payments on the defeased bonds.

CAPITAL ASSETS

Parish's capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation)

	Governmental	Business-type	Total
	activities	activities	
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2015</u>
Land	\$ 67,251	\$ 39,278	\$ 106,529
Construction in progress	135,733	11,328	147,061
Buildings	259,836	94,162	353,998
Plants	-	138,812	138,812
Improvements other than buildings	111,816	3,150	114,966
Vehicles	10,413	2,850	13,263
Machinery & equipment	53,784	40,864	94,648
Infrastructure	677,009	359,282	1,036,291
Total	\$ 1,315,842	\$ 689,726	\$ 2,005,568

2015 Significant Capital Asset Events

<u>Project</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Expended in 2015</u>
Concrete and Asphalt Repairs Katrina Arbitration Funds	Streets	\$34,680
Canal St Drainage Improvements	Drainage	4,925
New Westbank Animal Shelter	Animal Shelter	4,036
Terry Parkway Drainage Improvements	Drainage	3,911
Oakwood-Terrytown Drainage Improvements	Drainage	3,695

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, 2014. This was the 29th 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

Chris L. Roberts—Council Chairman/Councilman At-Large Division A

Elton M. Lagasse—Councilman At-Large Division B

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

