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Meeting Memorandum

To: Attendees (listed below)
From: Jose Barro
CC: Project File
Date: October 17, 2005 (**Revised**)
Re: **10989.0 – Ascension Parish Riverfront Development** – Project Kick-off meeting held on October 13, 2005 in Donaldsonville, LA

Meeting Attendees:

- Joey Furr, JFDS
- Mark Wingate, USACE
- Lamar Hale, USACE
- Samuel Washington, S.U.
- Joe Cancienne, Shaw
- Tom Holden, Holden Associates
- Carl Capone, City of Donaldsonville
- B.J. Francis, Jr., City of Donaldsonville
- Mayor Leroy Sullivan, City of Donaldsonville
- Ken Schexnaydre, Ascension Parish
- Lance Brock, Ascension Parish
- George Rodeillat (?sp)

The purpose of this meeting was to kick off the project. Mark Wingate open the meeting by requesting an introduction of all attendees. Mark explained the purpose of the Ascension Parish Riverfront Development Report. Then he asked Jose Barro to proceed with the agenda.

Jose explained to the group that the purpose of the meeting was to fulfill Taks No. 1 of the work. Task No. 1 is to define the project purpose, identify vision, goals and objectives, identify local sponsors and study area. Jose asked the members of the Committee to share with the design team what were their ideas and visions of the riverfront. Some of the items brought forth were:

1. An amphitheater – similar to Vidalia
2. Outdoor market
3. Tourism
4. Recreation
5. Unique place

6. Natural areas for trails
7. Biking
8. Overlook
9. Low maintenance
10. Relationship with existing historical bldgs to encourage economic development.

Joey Furr requested that the Committee focus on activities and not on details. The group discussed the following activities:

1. Walking/Biking
2. Cultural Events
3. Economic development (engine at river)
4. Fairs
5. Festivals
6. Bank fishing
7. Recreation – passive
8. Boating
9. Dining
10. Hotel accommodations

Each of the above lists was discussed further using examples and expanding on the ideas.

Next item on the agenda addressed the identification of local sponsors (public and private) that would have a direct or indirect interest in the project. Among those named are:

- Ascension Parish Council
 - City of Donaldsonville
 - Bayou LaFourche Fresh Water District
 - BR. Port Authority
 - Levee District – Atchafalaya Basin - Sandra Thompson
 - Levee District – Bayou LaFourche
 - Federal and State entities (to be determined)
 - Donaldsonville Tourist Commission
 - Ascencion Parish Tourist Commission
 - Donaldsonville Chamber of Commerce
 - Property owners of adjacent properties
 - Charles Thibaut and Thibaut Family
 - Lehman Family
 - Ft. Butler Foundation – Andrew Capone
- (Please note this list will fluctuate as sponsors are added or deleted)

(Revisions added)

Other topics of discussion:

- The concept of connection between the east and west banks was mentioned. Possible ferry landing on east and west bank. Tying bike trails on top of the levee to the ferry.
- Mark Wingate made a comment about the limits of this project being the parish lines.

- Continuing on the connection theme: the geographic position of the city along the river, and its relationship to the river and the bayous since Donaldsonville is at the headwaters of the bayou; point of origin and ending to nice trips to Lake Verret/Atchafalaya Basin or plantations down the bayou. **(End of Revisions)**

The meeting ended with the setting of the next meeting to be held on Nov. 15 at 3:30 p.m. in Donaldsonville. At that meeting, the design team will present the findings of the inventory, constraints and opportunities and present some conceptual ideas for discussion.