

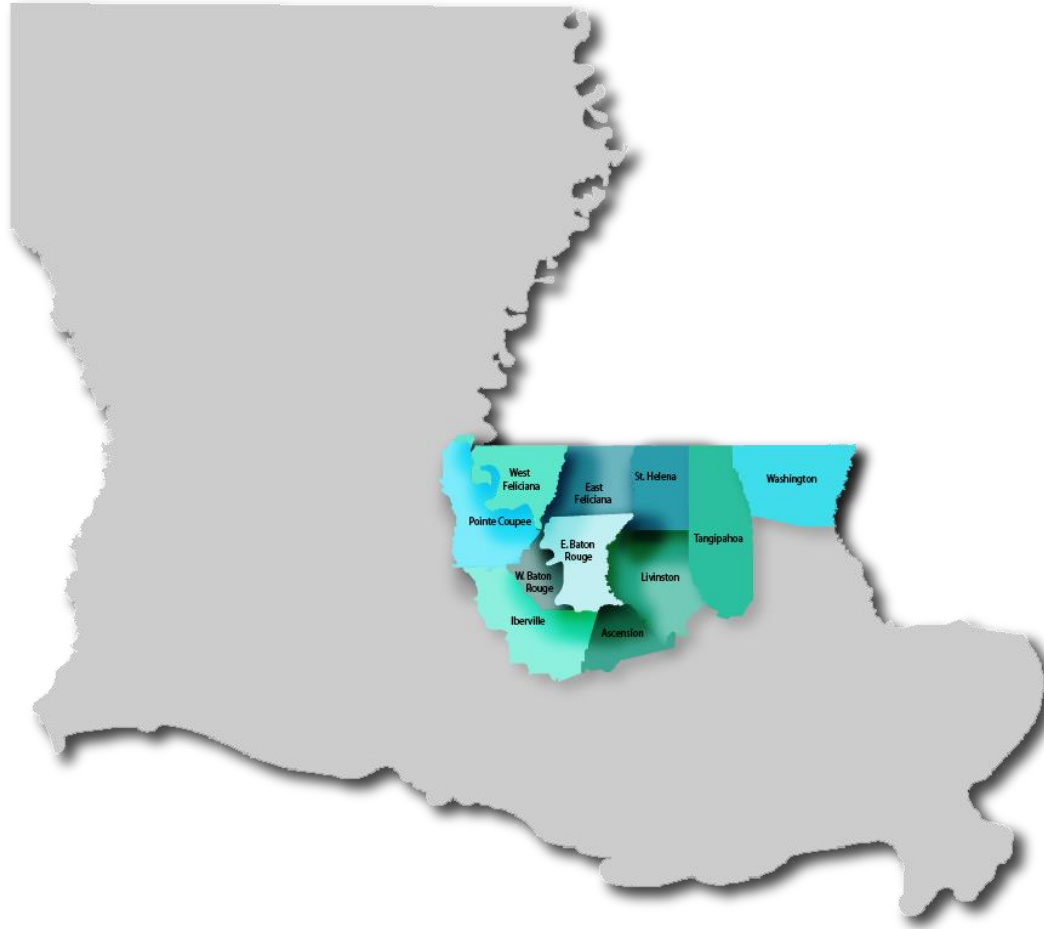


SWREDA CONFERENCE

CAPITAL REGION PLANNING COMMISSION

BATON ROUGE, LA JULY 2017

Capital Region Planning Commission



CRPC is comprised of 11 parishes and 44 municipalities. Parishes include:

Pointe Coupee, West Feliciana, East Feliciana, Iberville, West Baton Rouge, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, Ascension, St Helena, Tangipahoa, Washington

Past experiences with disasters

The greater Baton Rouge area in the past was prepared to receive populations of displaced residents from coastal Louisiana.

Post Katrina/Rita (2005) Baton Rouge saw an immediate spike in population.

Issues: Traffic, school over crowding, housing shortages and cost increases

Post-Katrina Baton Rouge struggles with its identity Updated
2/22/2007 By Kevin Johnson, USA TODAY

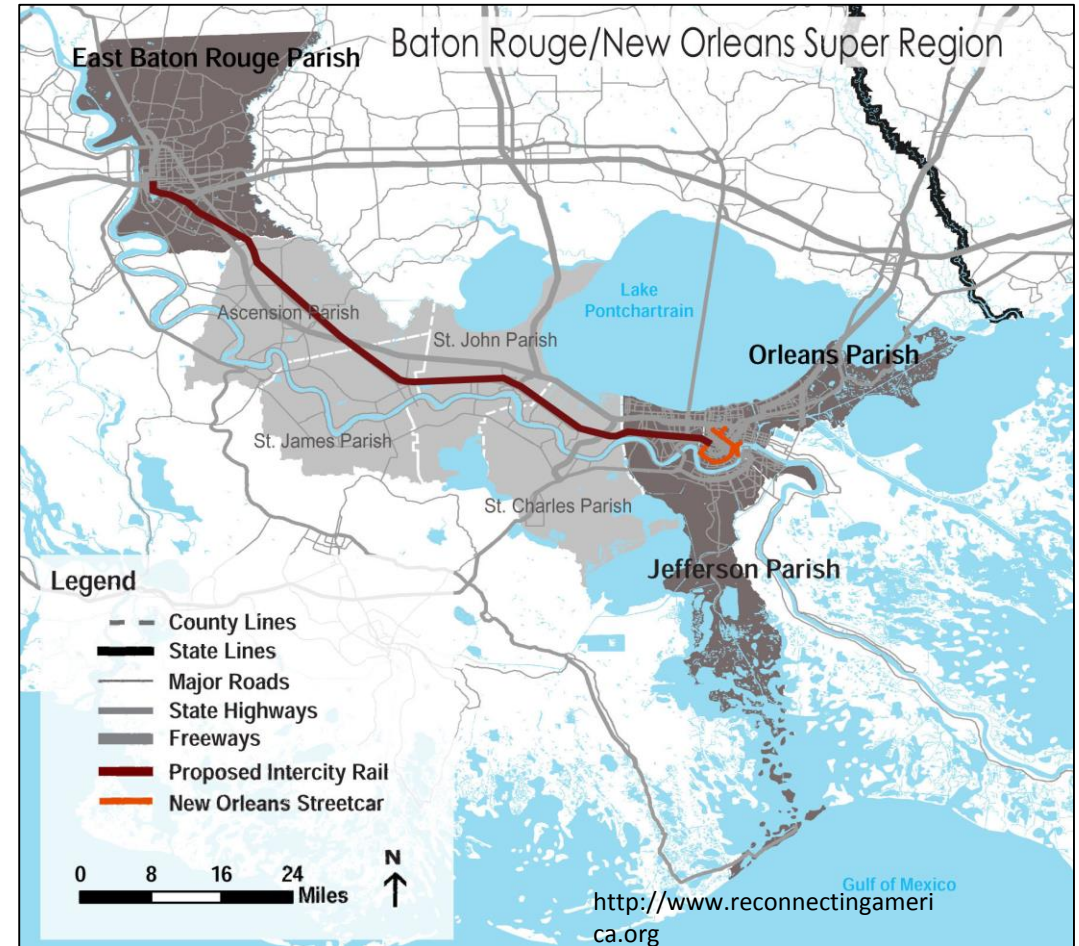
"We'll never be the Baton Rouge we were prior to Katrina," Mayor Melvin "Kip" Holden says.

Evacuees "changed the landscape of this region forever," Baton Rouge police Sgt. Don Kelly says. "None of us really knows what the long-term impact will be."

Disasters led to 'Super Region'

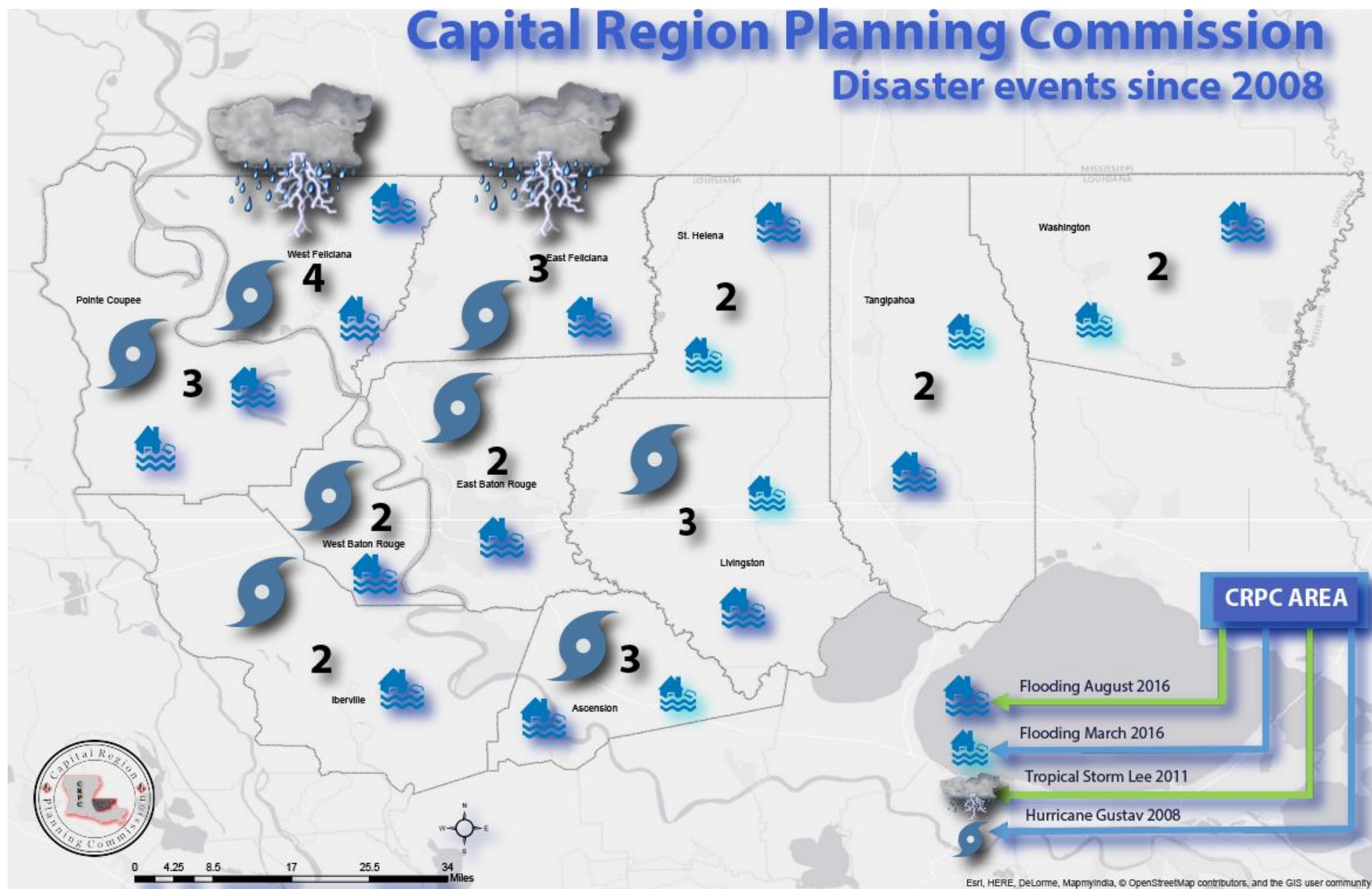
“... New Orleans and Baton Rouge in particular shared so many existing businesses and commercial relationships before the storms, as well as the great river ports. Those ties were given immensely more salience in the post-Katrina era.”

Lanny Keller: Katrina effect in Baton Rouge went beyond population growth, brought unity to 'super region'” *The Advocate*, 9/4/15.

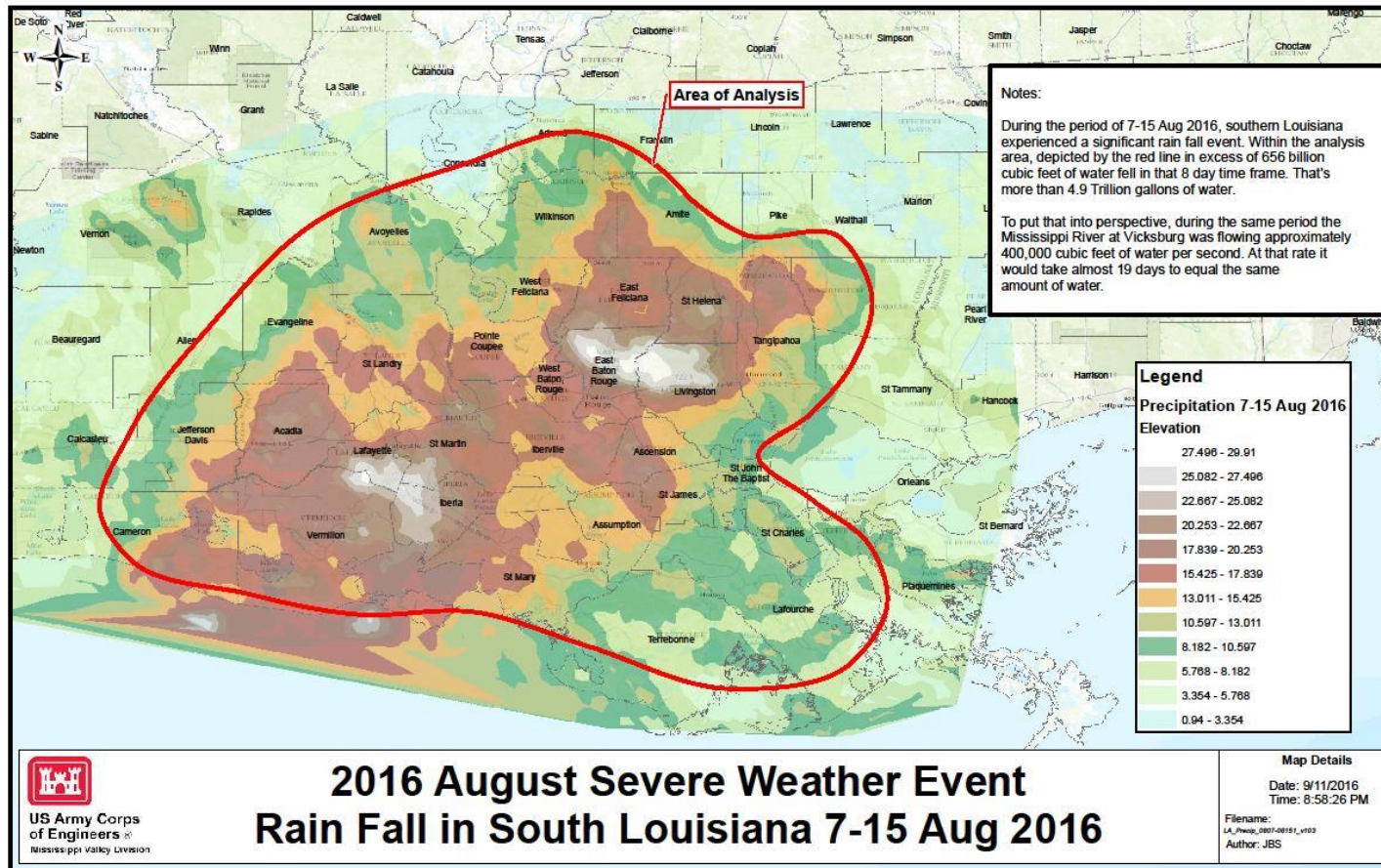


Capital Region Planning Commission

Disaster events since 2008

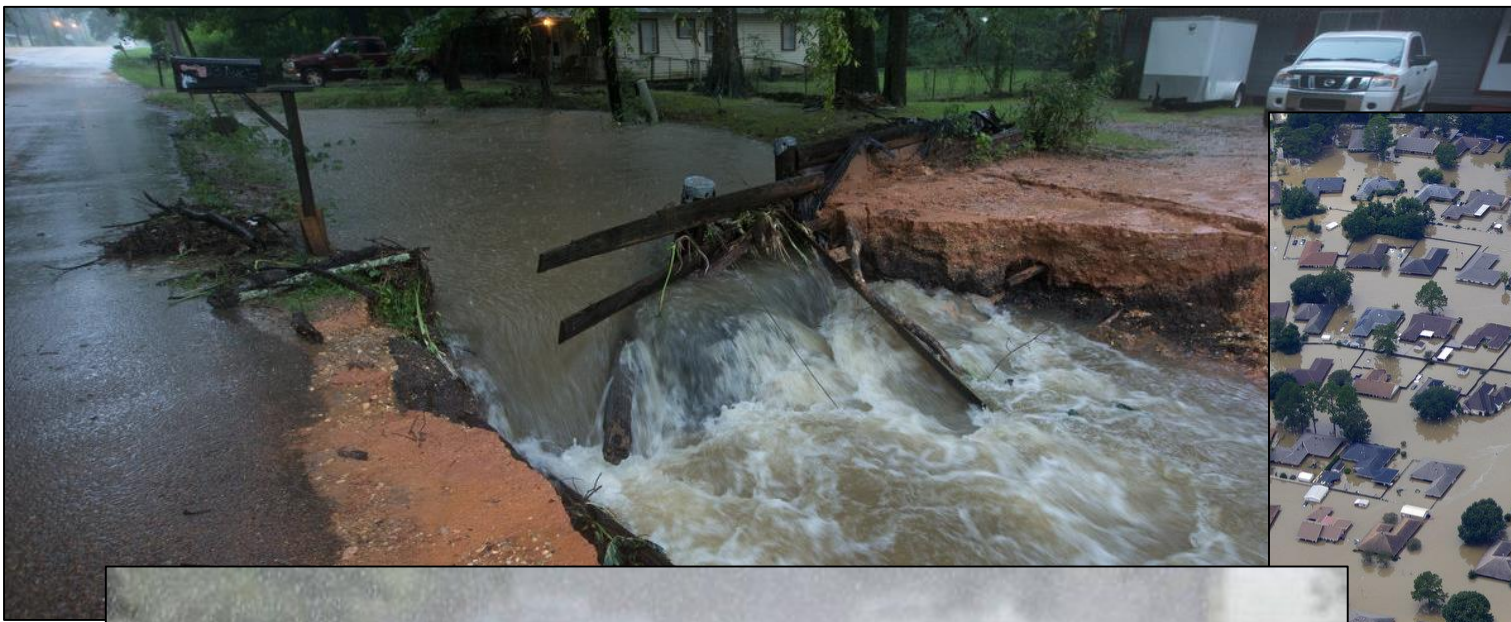


How was this event different



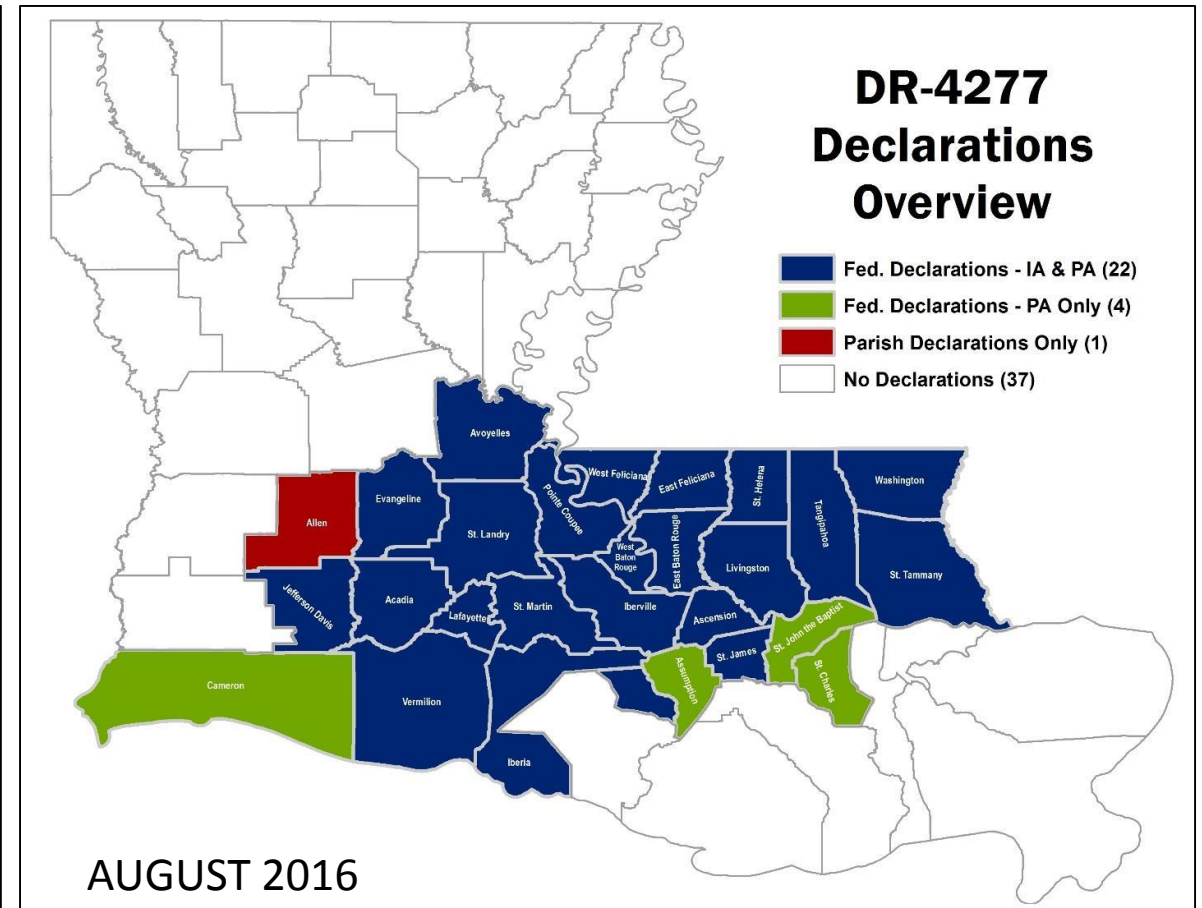
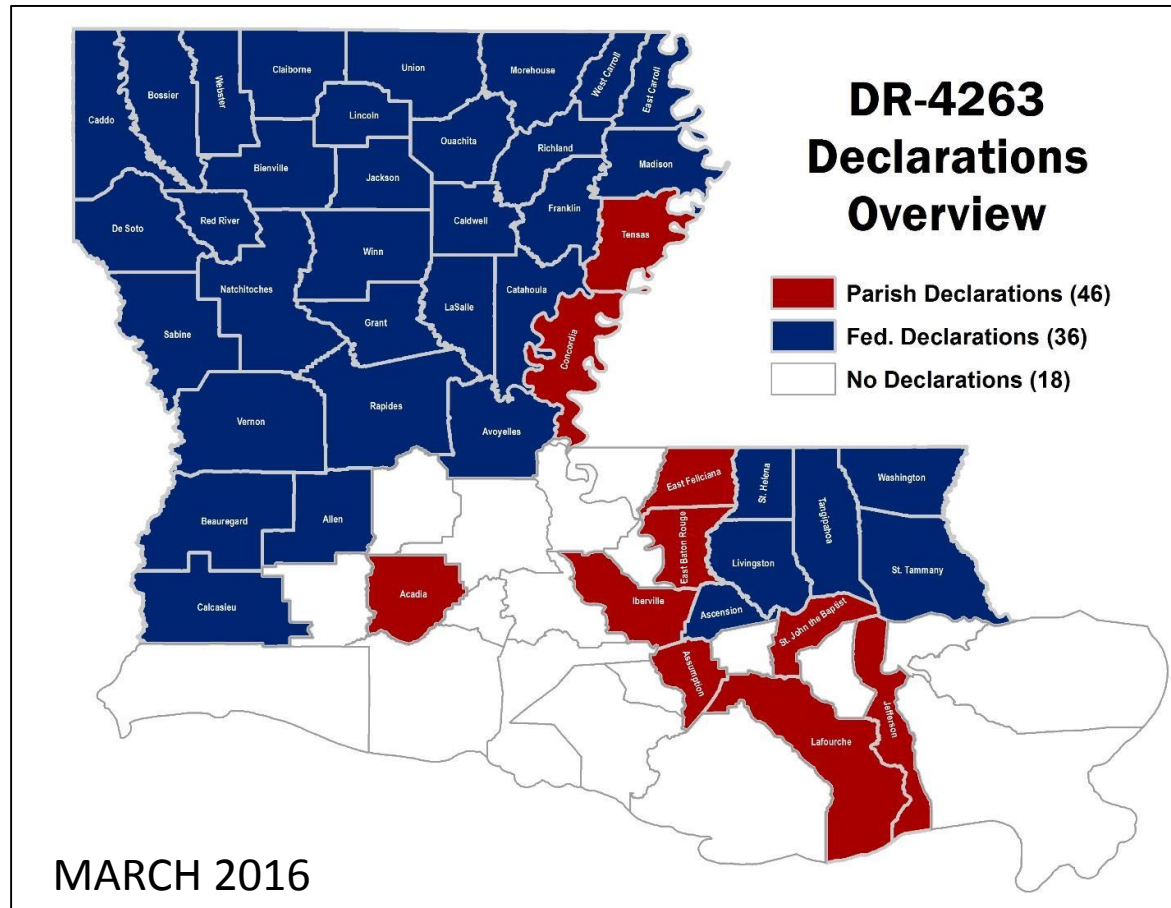
“We’ve been through Hurricane Gustav, Katrina, Isaac and Rita, but this without a doubt is the roughest we’ve ever had in this parish,” said Livingston Parish Sheriff Jason Ard.

'Like nothing we've ever seen': Flood danger is not over in Louisiana.” LA Times, 8/17/2016

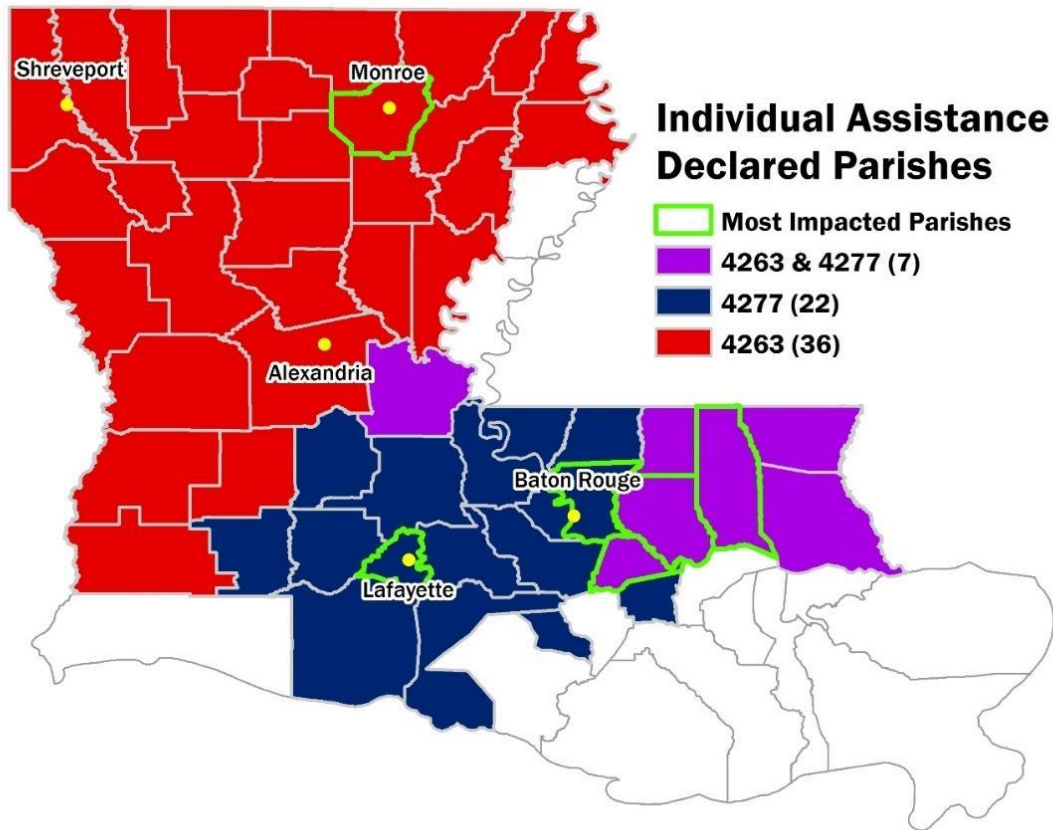


2016 NOLA.com/The Times-Picayune

State level impacts – declarations



State level impacts - housing



113,312 households damaged across both disasters

Of these 84,842 owner occupied and 28,470 renters

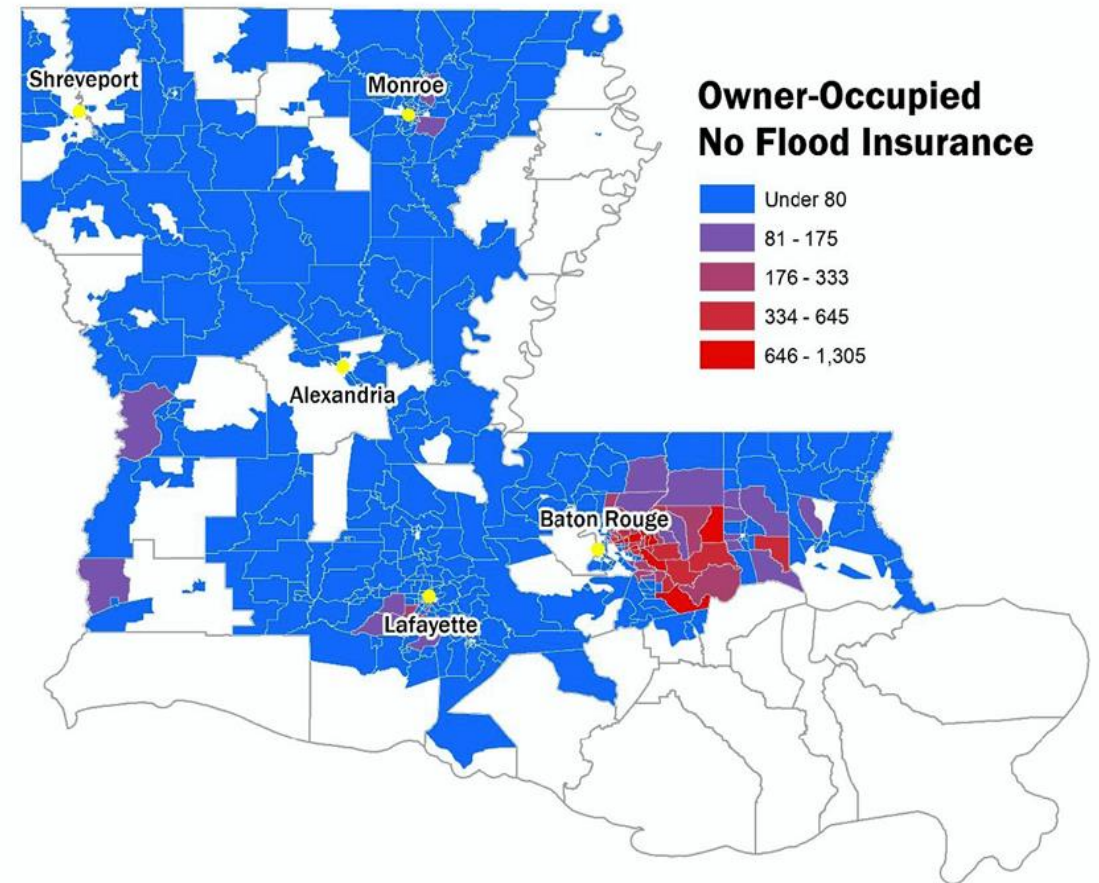
81% of household reported damage (91,628) were caused by August flood

State level impacts – no flood insurance

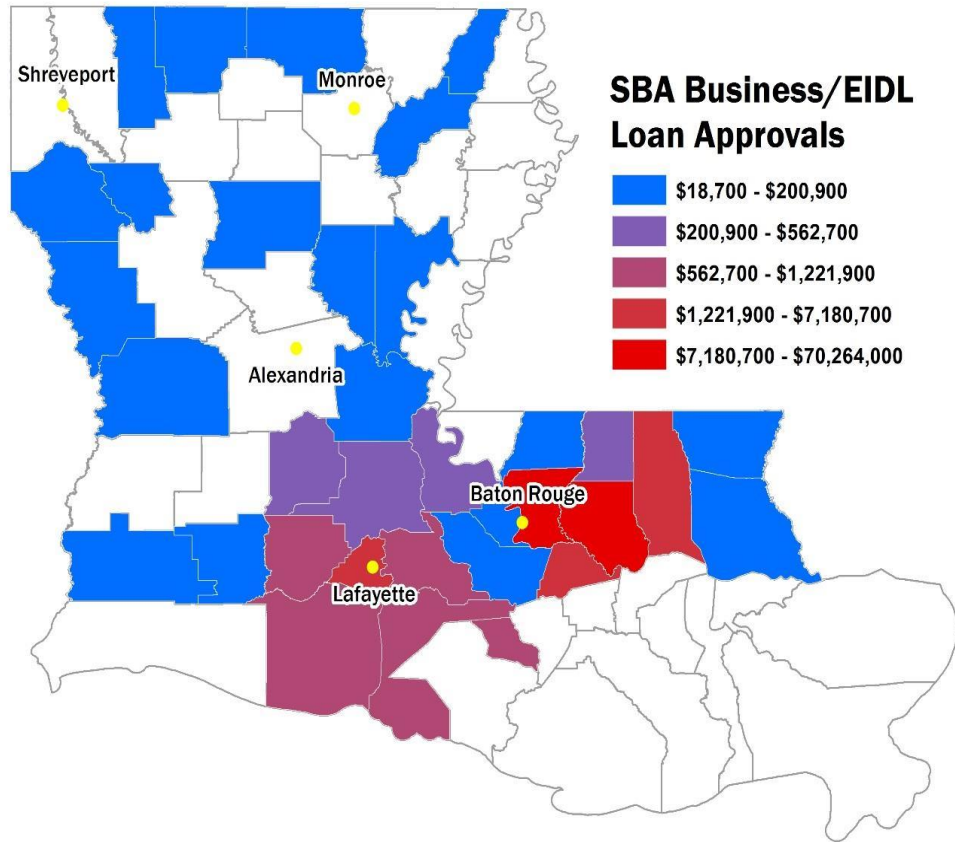
72 percent, or 61,069, owner-occupied households reported no flood insurance

12,921 impacted renter households were located outside of flood zone

at least 31 percent (26,783 households) of the owner-occupied households has a member that is 62 or older



State level impacts - Economic



- Approximately 6,000 businesses flooded
- 22,000 businesses referred to SBA for recovery assistance
- A disruption of 14 % of the workforce occurred at the peak of the flooding event
- Total of \$1.4 billion in inventory damaged by DR-4277 flooding
- Agricultural losses of over \$110 million

Regional housing impacts

In the 9-parish Baton Rouge Area Chamber geography (approx. 1,000 square miles):

- **359,619 Baton Rouge MSA residents live in areas identified flooded.**
- **The estimated total value of those homes located in areas identified as flooded is \$30.4 billion.**
- **60.8% of the homes in flood areas were owner-occupied, 28.5% were renters; 8.1% were vacant.**

CRPC regional impacts



Across the 11-parish CRPC region 117,593 applications were made for FEMA Individual Assistance

34.8% of businesses in the Capital Region employ 32.8% of area workers.

60 % of businesses in Livingston, 19% in Ascension and 15 % in East Baton Rouge experienced flooding.

How did CRPC address resilience in CEDS

2014 CEDS updated with new resilience requirements

Goal: Work to improve and participate in regional hazard mitigation and emergency preparedness plans and coordinating functions for local and regional economic recovery support.

- Build regional and local capacity to respond to natural disasters, strengthen land use and transportation planning
- Coordinate educational efforts and training with local development districts and other partners in resiliency



Regional resiliency in practice

Regional leaders who cross governmental and functional boundaries

Partnered with Acadiana PC to bring local issues to FEMA and State

Assisted in the development and hosting of a Resiliency Symposium – partnership with state and federal agencies

Coordinated with SCPDC to bring recovery-related RLF to the region



Regional resiliency in practice

Strong networks and deep knowledge of federal funding opportunities

Arranged tours with federal partners to meet with community leaders, economic leaders and elected officials to express recovery needs.

Coordinators and Managers of external funding streams

Worked with FEMA - CPCB prioritize planning efforts in region to leverage opportunities for local communities.

- EPA building blocks on green infrastructure – Denham Springs
- National Renewable Energy Lab – Baker

Regional resiliency in practice

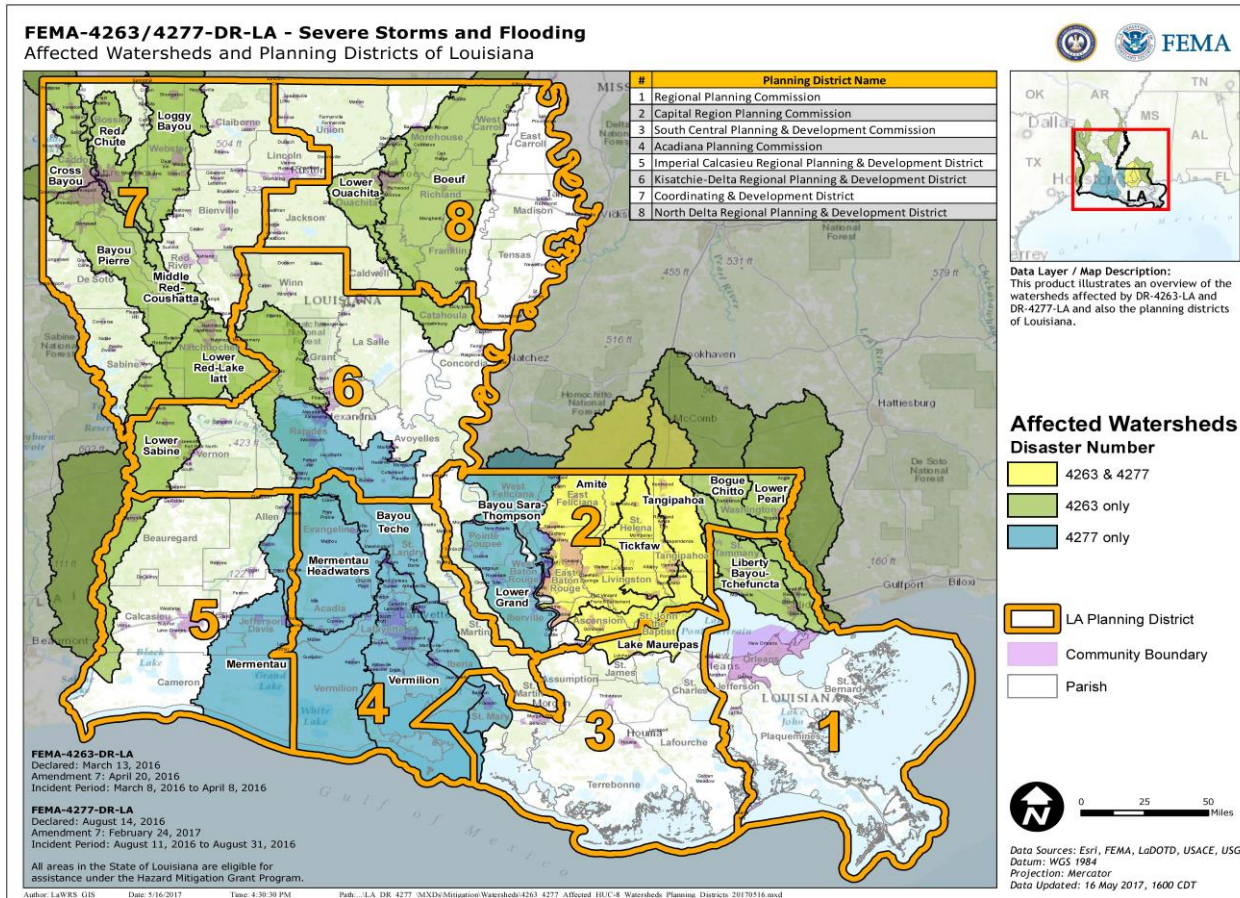
As Planners

Transit planning ● Disaster data mapping ● General community and land use planning ● Regional Disaster Recovery Managers

As communicators

Trusted agents in communities and can leverage existing relationships. Denham Springs and Baker recovery planning efforts.

Regional resiliency in practice



As Networkers

Acadiana – CRPC partnership

Worked with Livingston Econ. Dev. Council to identify business recovery needs - led to EDA funding

As Conveners

Watershed planning

Regional resiliency in practice

Able to reach out to vulnerable populations

Launched transportation needs survey working with regional transit provider, FEMA, DOT, GOHSEP, DOTD

Identify and assist citizens who lost vehicles in the storm who still had transportation issues



Regional resiliency in practice

Provide additional staff capacity

Lifted the issues of local elected officials up to FEMA / State during weekly briefings

Provided technical assistance for EDA and EPA grant applications in the most heavily impacted communities.

Provided GIS spatial and data analysis to local communities as they were assessing disaster impacts

Regional disaster recovery managers funded by EDA and LA Office of Community Development

Lessons learned

Amend CEDS to reflect the work that was done over the last year with a broader understanding of regional resiliency needs and disaster response

It's ok to advocate for the needs of the region among state and federal partners

Business continuity planning would help build regional resiliency

Watershed planning can be a springboard to a broader dialogue about regional issues and will build resiliency

Continue dialogue with federal and state partners to bring opportunities to local partners

Planning commissions are “trusted agents” for the elected officials in our regions