



PUBLIC SERVICES/SAFETY

NOVEMBER 2019 UPDATE - ONGOING INITIATIVES





CONTENTS

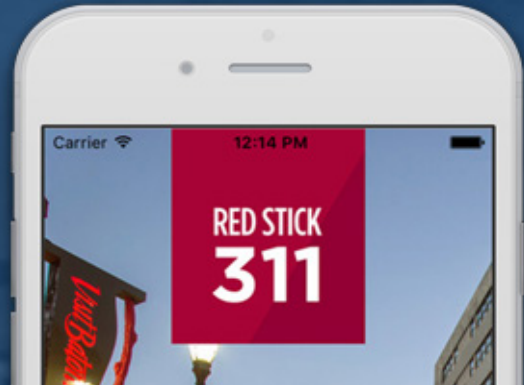
- I. PUBLIC SERVICES**
- II. HOMELESS SERVICES**
- III. SAFETY GOALS**
- IV. CLEAN AND SAFE**

PREPARED BY

**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
247 FLORIDA STREET
BATON ROUGE, LA 70801
225.389.5520
WWW.DOWNTOWNBATONROUGE.ORG**

RED STICK 311

A new way for Baton Rouge citizens to request services and report issues while “on the go.”



PUBLIC SERVICES

POLICE, MAINTENANCE, AND CODE ENFORCEMENT

BATON ROUGE POLICE DEPARTMENT - BRPD

Emergencies / Reporting Nuisances

Emergency Contact - 911

Non-Emergency Contact Info - BRPD (225) 389-2000

Downtown City Police Office

201 Third St.

(225) 389-3854

Captain Murial Hall - mehall@brla.gov

Lieutenant Bryan Taylor - cbtaylor@brla.gov

If you are intimidated by a panhandler, call 389-2000 to file a report.

If you are a victim of or witness a crime, call 389-2000 to file a report.

MAINTENANCE / CODE ENFORCEMENT

Maintenance Issues & Code Enforcement (Blight Issues)

Red Stick 311 – Call 3-1-1

311.brla.gov

Public Works Maintenance Department - **Kyle Huffstickler**, khuffstickler@brla.gov, (225) 389-3158

Public Works Department of Development – **Carey Chauvin**, cchauvin@brla.gov, (225) 389-3160





HOMELESS SERVICES

DOWNTOWN AREA PROVIDERS

CAPITAL AREA ALLIANCE FOR THE HOMELESS, THE ONE STOP

Weston Schild, Executive Director

153 North 17th Street
(225) 388-5800 or (225) 388-5802
wschild@homelessinbr.org

Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-3:00 pm and Friday 8:00 am-1:00 pm
www.homelessinbr.org

- Services Include: Shower, Laundry, Phone and Computer Use, Mailing Address Location, Behavioral Health/ Counseling, Primary Health, Housing Information and Location, Care Coordination, Resource Linkage, Employment and Vocational, Emergency Shelter, Dining Room, Pharmacy, Help with Social Security and SSI Disability Cases
- One Stop Homeless Service Center Push Cards are a good alternative to money when wanting to help. They can be requested by calling the One Stop at (225) 388-5800 or the Downtown Development District at (225) 389-5520.

SAINT VINCENT DEPAUL

Michael Alcado, Chief Executive Officer

220 St. Vincent de Paul Place
225-383-7867
www.svdpr.com

- Serves lunch everyday 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and offers a brown bag supper.
- Saint Vincent DePaul Shelter Bishop Ott Shelter for Women and Children
1623 Convention St
(225) 383-7341
- Bishop Ott Shelter for Men
1623 Convention Street
(225) 383-7343



ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Reverend Christopher Duncan

205 N. 4th Street
(225) 387-5141
stjamesbr.org

Office Hours:

Mon – Thursday 8am – 5pm – August – May

Mon – Thursday 8am – 4pm (June – July)

Friday's 8am – 12noon

- Homeless Breakfast – Every 5th Sunday.
- We Care Lunch bags for homeless distributed ONLY when a church staff is on duty.
- Christmas Dinner in December.

ST. AGNES

Father Charbel Jamhoury

749 East Blvd.
(225) 383-4127
stagnesbr.com

- St. Agnes works in conjunction with the Missionaries of Charity to house and feed women and young children. A Soup Kitchen – They prepare a daily meal for 40-80 homeless people from 10:00-11:00 am, with the exception of Sundays and Thursdays.
- St. Agnes also works in conjunction with the Baton Rouge Food Bank to help supplement qualifying people and families within parish boundaries with food on the first Thursday of the month. They also provide food on an as needed and available basis during the month. In addition, they provide food baskets at Thanksgiving and Christmas to the more needy and shut-ins that they serve.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Oren Conner

Christian Outreach Center
1427 Main Street
(225) 377-8582

- Has a Clothes Closet/Break Room open each Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m. and provides free clothing and a light snack to people in need.

CHURCH ON THE LEVEE

Pastor Keith Richard

k.richard@elevatechurchbr.com
(225) 413-5353

- Provides prayer service and food on Thursday's next to River Center Arena/Riverfront Plaza @ 5:30 p.m.



CHURCH UNDER THE TREE

Ed Doyle

churchunderthetreebr@gmail.com
(225) 268-4247

- Provides prayer service and food Sunday's @ 5:00 p.m. at Repentance Park.

ST. JOSEPH CATHEDRAL

Father Paul Counce

401 Main Street
(225) 387-5928

- Provides snack bags to the homeless on Tuesday's and Thursday's from 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

OPEN AIR MINISTRIES

Pastor Joseph Moore

17th Street and Florida Street
www.openairministriesbr.org

- Open Air Ministries is an ecumenical ministry that partners with area churches including First Presbyterian Church and St. Vincent DePaul. Provides clothing, toiletries, food, and other items on Mondays, Wednesday, and Fridays from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

130 St. Vincent de Paul Dr
(225) 443-0780
www.ittakesavillagebr.org
Ittakesavillage.br@gmail.com

- Free meals on Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH CENTER

1427 Main St
(225) 377-8582
www.christianoutreachcenterbr.com

- Christian Outreach's Life Touch program focuses on the homeless community in Downtown Baton Rouge, but do offer services to homeless in the Baton Rouge metro area. They provide meal bags (Mon-Fri), hygiene bags (Mon), clothes and blankets (Mon-Fri), computer lab services (Mon-Fri), eviction service, utility cut off assistance, ID cards, and bus passes for employment/medical.

**EMPOWER 225**

info@empower225.org
19202 Highland Road
(225) 286-9344

- Provides services to homeless and at-risk youth ages 12-21 including survival aid, laundry, housing referrals, leadership training, employment assistance, case management, nutritional support, hygiene kits, shower facilities, and mentorship.

VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA GREATER BATON ROUGE

3949 North Boulevard
(225) 387-0061

- Provides a range of services designed to meet people where they are and encourages them to play an active role in their own recovery.



SAFETY GOALS

SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM

SHORT TERM:

- Encouraging outreach by Capitol Area Alliance for the Homeless to **communicate information about services and housing options.**
- Educating the public about area **services available to help in lieu of giving cash.**
- Working closely with, and supporting the BRPD's efforts to **increase security during events and large gathering downtown.**
- **Working as a liaison** between the local business community and the BRPD and other public services.
- Helping the police **identify issues related to aggressive panhandling** and public nuisances.
- Identifying areas that **lack adequate lighting and/or have overgrown vegetation**, and work with City-Parish and Entergy officials to correct and enhance safety.
- Working with Homeless Providers to **identify and service the vulnerable homeless population.**
- **Educating the public/organizations** on public feeding woes (litter, sanitary food conditions, etc.) and help coordinate them with available facilities (SVDP).

LONG-TERM:

- Continue working with property owners and BRPD to **identify areas prone to criminal activity.**
- Supporting the Capitol Area Alliance for the Homeless in their efforts to **increase the permanent housing stock.**
- Continue educating the public about **best practices for dealing with aggressive panhandlers.**
- Researching and implementing **design based approaches** to combat criminal nuisances.
- **Monitoring the safety of the downtown public realm** in close communication with the Mayor's office and BRPD.
- Working with local service providers and churches to **mitigate litter and sanitation issues** after events.
- Advocating for St. Vincent DePaul and Capitol Area Alliance for the **Homeless expansion of service and staff hours.**
- Identify resources to fund and implement a **Clean and Safe Program** downtown.



POSSIBLE NEW/REVISED ORDINANCES

CITY-PARISH

- Aggressive Panhandling / Solicitation
- Sitting or Lying in Sidewalks Prohibition/ Obstruction
- Disorderly Conduct
- Camping Prohibitions
- Traffic / Roadway Panhandling or Obstruction Laws

STATE

- Traffic / Roadway Panhandling or Obstruction Laws





CLEAN & SAFE

DOWNTOWN CLEAN AND SAFE PILOT PROGRAM

Among the long-term goals of the DDD is to have the resources to provide and manage a well-branded and effective clean and safe program for Downtown Baton Rouge. As downtown continues to grow, the need for this type of program is increasing daily. The information below communicates the anticipated scope and possibilities of a pilot program that addresses these goals.

To increase the beautification standard in our downtown, it is imperative to consider a comprehensive strategy that addresses both cleanliness and safety. The DDD is currently evaluating the possible funding opportunities to support a clean and safe program, as well as developing a detailed scope of work with operational costs. Contributions from the City/Parish, Visit Baton Rouge, DDD budget, donations, and possible creation of additional taxing districts are possible resources to fund an initial pilot program.

ANNUAL SCOPE OF PROPOSED PILOT PROGRAM

STREETSCAPE MAINTENANCE

To supplement the maintenance provided by the EBR City-Parish Maintenance Department, private landscape contracts are being explored for the Central Business District including weeding, weed preventatives, mulching, light tree pruning, and sidewalk crack weeding. Quarterly pressure washing of Arts and Entertainment District core is also being considered as part of the propose pilot program.

SAFETY AND HOSPITALITY

To provide a safe and welcoming environment in the Central Business District, a certified small staff is proposed to provide visitors with downtown information and simple cleaning services including daily broom and tray service, light general labor, etc. The trained staff would provide directions and information about activities, attractions, history, development, businesses, and services. In addition, the employees would offer daily reports on events, activities, and maintenance or safety conditions requiring attention.

BRANDING, TRAINING, AND COMMUNICATION

The proposed pilot program would be branded with a logo and program name unique in the context of our downtown and region. Employees would be thoroughly trained in security, radio and patrol procedures, health and safety awareness, history and geography of downtown, and hospitality and customer service skills. It is also proposed that staff would utilize two-way radios to respond to calls and to communicate directly with the Baton Rouge Police Department.

