

River Living



www.redriverwaterway.com

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION

Summer 2007



RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION APPROVES ECONOMIC STUDY

In September of 2006, the Red River Waterway Commission began an economic impact study of the J. Bennett Johnston Waterway Project. The study measured the economic impact of the Waterway and the investment made in the seven parishes of the Red River district. This opportunity was made possible through a collaborative effort by The Shaw Group, Dr. Loren C. Scott, and Louisiana State University in Shreveport.

The study also identified social benefits, commercial developments, and future trends. "The Red River Waterway has achieved phenomenal growth in a very short period of time," said Dr. Loren Scott, president of L. C. Scott and Associates. He expects this trend to continue in the future through increased activity in the cargo market along the Red River.

Approved findings of the study indicated that all benefits well surpassed the initial projections.

"This is a good tool that shows the work of the Commission through its recreational areas, port development, and river stabilization. It also highlights the natural beauty of the Red River," said Commission Vice Chairman Marc Dupuy, Jr.

The large presence of events and residents located on the Red River is a strong testament to the benefits of this productive waterway.

Those who visit and live along the river enjoy an enhanced quality of life. This is due to the improved recreational and environmental value as well as the natural beauty of the Red River.

The study was sent to all local government officials and state and federal legislators.

A comprehensive representation of the study is available online at www.redriverwaterway.com.

FINAL OUTCOMES

- ▶ \$4.6 billion in new construction investment
- ▶ Over \$8.4 billion in new business sales
- ▶ An earnings increase of almost \$2.8 billion for households
- ▶ An annual average of 2,107 available jobs
- ▶ Approximately \$58.2 million in new sales taxes for local governments

*These figures triple when gaming is included.

GRAND ECORE MAJOR STOP ON BASS TOURNAMENT

The Louisiana Division of the Wal-Mart Bass Fishing League hosted a tournament at the Grand Ecore Recreational Area in May. Local competitor Trey Morgan, of Goldonna, finished first with a 14 pound, 13 ounce stringer. This



▲ Spectators enjoy nice weather during the recent bass tournament at Grand Ecore

catch outweighed the other top competitors by 1 pound, 8 ounces. The tournament was the fourth of five regular-season stops in the Louisiana division.

Grand Ecore is located in Natchitoches Parish on Highway 6 and includes picnic areas, a concrete boat launch, comfort stations, floating boat dock and large parking lot. It is quickly becoming a popular location for tournaments and other recreational activities.



▲ Randall Johnson's daughter, Teresa Luke, receives plaque from Commissioners Marc Dupuy and Charles Britton.

LATE AVOYELLES PARISH COMMISSIONER HONORED

The memory of Avoyelles Parish Commissioner Randall Johnson was honored at the May 16th meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission. Commissioners Marc Dupuy, Jr. and Charles Britton presented Mr. Johnson's daughter with a framed certificate and expressed their gratitude for his years of service and friendship to the Commission. He was the first representative from Avoyelles Parish to be appointed to the Commission.

RESOLUTION #20 TO FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

The Red River Waterway Commission is developing a report of all its completed port and recreational projects, current and future projects, operating requirements, and funding priorities. The purpose of this document, entitled Senate Resolution 20, is to develop future operation and construction strategies. This process is being facilitated by The Shaw Group through a series of meeting workshops with the Commission.

The Commission will use this information to form a strategic plan that will provide a direction for meeting future standards and expectations. Goals and objectives of the strategic plan relate to social and economic developments along the Red River. Social issues include improved recreational facilities and more festivals and bass tournaments. **Port and channel improvements**, as well as the deepening of the channel itself, are two of the **major economic goals**.

The Commission plans to issue a full report of the outcomes in August 2007.

MUSIC ON THE RED

The Red River was alive with musical rhythm on Saturday, June 9th during the 4th concert series of the Alexandria Music Project (AMP). AMP is a non-profit corporation that delivers a variety of live music at the Red River Amphitheatre in downtown Alexandria. This most recent concert featured the steel guitar rock sounds of The Bottle Rockets from St. Louis, Missouri.

The Bottle Rockets ►
rock on the river



ONGOING PROJECTS *with funding assistance from Red River Waterway Commission*

Avoyelles Parish

Avoyelles Parish Port Commission -
Initial infrastructure

Natchitoches Parish

Port of Natchitoches - Road improvements

Rapides Parish

Ft. Randolph - Civil War park development
Port of Alexandria - Transit shed expansion
Port of Alexandria - Operations Center

Red River Parish

Red River Parish Port - Initial phase

Caddo/Bossier Parish

Port of Shreveport-Bossier - Concrete storage area
Port of Shreveport-Bossier - Paper mill project
City of Bossier City - Riverwalk
Port of Shreveport-Bossier - Steelscape project
Port of Shreveport-Bossier - Material handling equipment

www.redriverwaterway.com

*These projects represent over \$12 million in
funding assistance from the RRWC.*

Johnny B. Bradberry, Chairman; Ed Preau, Acting Chairman; Marc Dupuy, Jr., Vice Chairman;
James F. Maxey, Secretary/Treasurer; Kenneth P. Guidry, Executive Director.
Commissioners: Harmon Belgard, Rapides Parish; Charles E. Britton, At-Large; Wayne Davis, Bossier Parish;
Marc Dupuy, Jr., Avoyelles Parish; Bruce Easterly, At-Large; Paul Fleming, Natchitoches Parish; Randell Fletcher,
Grant Parish; James F. Maxey, At-Large; W. Alvin Owens, At-Large; Rogers "Mickey" Prestridge, Caddo Parish;
Michael Simpson, Red River Parish.

For more information, call the Red River Waterway Commission at 1-800-874-9431.

Four annual editions of this Public Document are published at a total cost of \$29,000.00. Eight thousand copies of this edition of this Public Document were published and distributed at a total cost of \$7899.40. The total cost of the printing only of this edition, including any reprints, is \$2805.00, plus tax and shipping. This document was published for the Red River Waterway Commission, P.O. Box 776, Natchitoches, Louisiana 71457, by KJA Communications Group, Inc., 4615 Parliament Drive, Alexandria, Louisiana 71303, which printed the material to provide updated information regarding scope, benefits and status of the Red River Waterway project to the public under the authority vested in the Red River Waterway Commission.

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Alexandria, LA
Permit No. 52