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LA SAFE – Louisiana’s Strategic Adaptations for Future Environments: The Collective Search for Common Ground

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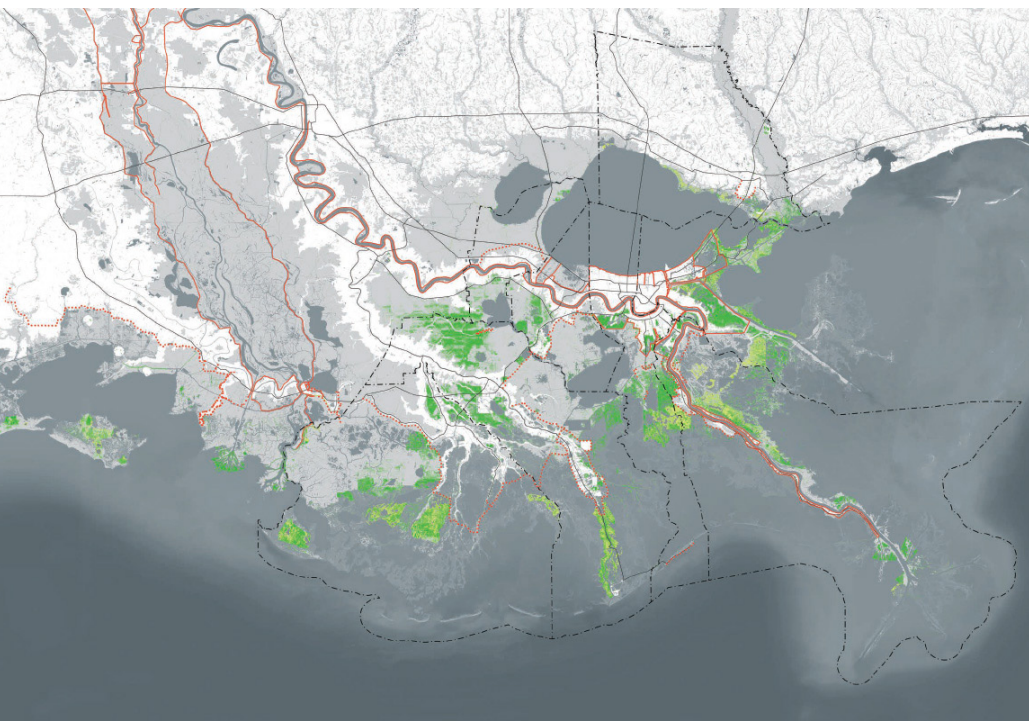
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LASAFE

Louisiana's
Strategic Adaptations
for Future Environments

The Collective Search for Common Ground
An Evaluation

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Executive Summary

In coastal Louisiana, subsidence and sea level rise, plus the threat of hurricanes and flooding, combine to create one of the highest rates of relative sea level rise in the world (Penland & Ramsey, 1990). To help address these issues, the National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC), sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Rockefeller Foundation, awarded funding for LA SAFE – Louisiana’s Strategic Adaptations for Future Environments. The LA SAFE program, a partnership between the Office of Community Development (OCD) and the Foundation for Louisiana (FFL), supported an inclusive public process to identify adaptation strategies to enhance the resilience of coastal Louisiana. This public process involved the six parishes most impacted by Hurricane Isaac in 2012: Jefferson, Lafourche, Plaquemines, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, and Terrebonne.

Throughout the planning and implementation process, UNO-CHART conducted an evaluation in an iterative manner that allowed for continual feedback. The evaluation was a mixed methods process that included both qualitative and quantitative measures, involving both process and outcome measures.

This evaluation is grounded in the literature that encompasses adaptive and resilient practices. Natural hazards (both acute and chronic) are particularly difficult to plan for, and can be more easily tackled at the regional and local level. Consulting stakeholders while making a plan is the best way to involve community members in the planning process, as well as obtain support for the plan (Innes, 1996). Planning a climate adaptation strategy is most effective if the planning methods are adaptive, the strategy examines future climate conditions, the process comes from the local level with local stakeholder support, and the effort has the support of policymakers.

In the process analysis, the evaluation team reviewed team meeting notes, current plans for the six parishes, and ethnographic notes and survey results from the community meetings, in order to document and assess the LA SAFE planning process. From the analysis of the internal meetings, a clear picture emerged of a team that diligently worked to reach out to the community, build relationships with government officials, convey accurate information, and build a replicable model. The review of all the plans shows the overwhelming focus on flooding compared to all other search terms.

The LA SAFE planning process was composed of five rounds of meetings held in each of the six parishes. UNO-CHART provided scribes to take ethnographic notes at each individual meeting. In the first round, the participants listed concerns and ideas for their coastal communities. The issues and ideas identified in the notes reveal the struggle of living on a changing coast. The second round of LA SAFE meetings focused on conversations at the community scale. The notes from this round illuminated the need to adapt to a changing environment, as the environmental changes erode coastal culture and society. At the third round of meetings, the LA SAFE process narrowed the focus to specific projects, programs, and policy options that will support a collaborative vision for the coast. Although environmental issues plague the communities, the projects identified focused on enhancing resources and local economies. This shows the need to maintain quality of life in vulnerable communities. In the fourth round of meetings, LA SAFE sought stakeholder feedback on the draft adaptation strategies. Meeting participants focused on ways to become more resilient and mitigate for risk, while acknowledging barriers to resilience. In the fifth round of meetings, the residents evaluated and ranked the selected policies, programs, and projects. The resident responses emphasized the difficulties associated with asking socially and economically vulnerable communities to adapt further to vulnerable environments.

UNO-CHART distributed surveys at Rounds 1, 2 and 3, which included a series of open and closed ended questions designed to gauge interest in LA SAFE, determine whether LA SAFE achieved the meeting goals, and receive feedback on proposed projects. The surveys showed positive results. Residents thought the meetings were effective, and allowed them to share their ideas.

After the announcement of the selected LA SAFE projects in April 2018, UNO-CHART began to gather information for the outcome part of the evaluation. The evaluation team sent out a digital survey to meeting



participants, including residents, parish officials, and other meeting attendees. The survey had mixed results. A majority of respondents said that they learned something new about the coast, but less agreed that LA SAFE changed how they view the coast. Similarly, a majority said that they better understand their risks, but disagreed that they can better adapt in the future. The answers also showed that the outreach may have missed some members of the community, but it did change how almost half of the attendees participate in public meetings.

The evaluation team conducted a set of interviews with participants and project team members following the planning process. A majority of those interviewed thought that the information was valuable and useful to them. They believed that this program had made a difference. Although there were recommendations to improve the process, the participants and team members thought it was a successful process overall.

The evaluation team revisited the LA SAFE mission and goals, in order to understand if the planned outcomes occurred. In each parish, there is now an extensive plan with specific identified projects. Whether or not they are implemented successfully will be a continuing function of this evaluation. LA SAFE began what could be a long-term engagement process. Ongoing planning processes in the other parishes might model their approach after LA SAFE to ensure consistency, allow for lessons learned, and create opportunities for a more connected region. It is critical that these conversations and planning occur consistently not just in these six parishes, but in all Louisiana parishes.

Based on the data collected, the evaluation points out where the project could be strengthened (more clarity about purpose, greater inclusiveness, better engagement practices for some parishes, greater connection between the findings and the projects), but overall, the project was innovative and in some places, transformative. This model of engagement, integration of knowledge, and project implementation is replicable. The evaluation team is concerned with next steps, and future community engagement. The work of this project is too important and critical to the future of the coast to be left on a shelf.



Figure 1 - Residents interact at an LA SAFE meeting



Introduction -- LA SAFE -- The Collective Search for Common Ground

In coastal Louisiana, subsidence and sea level rise, plus the threat of hurricanes and flooding, combine to create one of the highest rates of relative sea level rise in the world (Penland & Ramsey, 1990). This relative sea level rise and continual damage from hurricanes and flooding has an acute effect on coastal communities in southeast Louisiana. To help address these issues, the National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC), sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Rockefeller Foundation, awarded funding for LA SAFE – Louisiana’s Strategic Adaptations for Future Environments. The LA SAFE program, which was a partnership between the Office of Community Development (OCD) and the Foundation for Louisiana (FFL), supported an inclusive public process to identify adaptation strategies to enhance the resilience of coastal Louisiana, and is providing funding for at least one project in each parish.

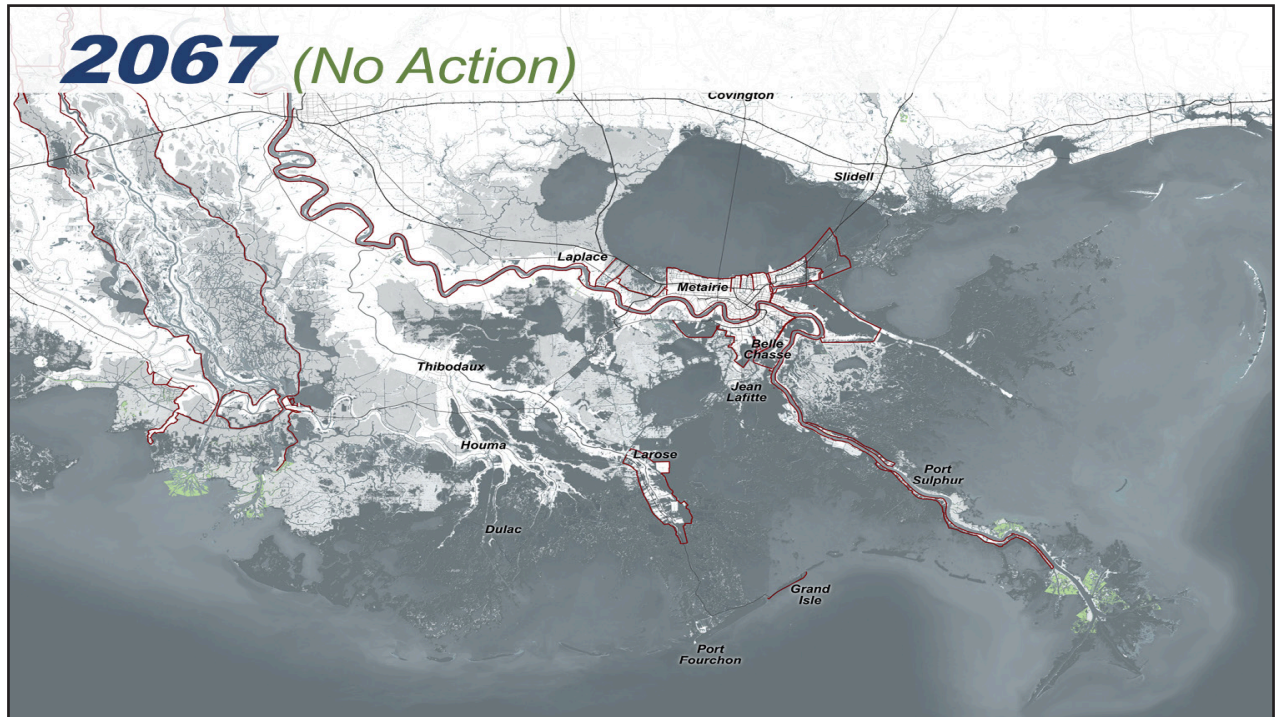


Figure 2 - 2067 land loss with no Coastal Master Plan

Any successful planning project in Louisiana comes with an understanding that this is a complex system with multiple stakeholders and enormous risks. LA SAFE faced this challenge by developing an intensive planning process that involved the six parishes most impacted by Hurricane Isaac in 2012: Jefferson, Lafourche, Plaquemines, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, and Terrebonne.

Throughout the planning and implementation process, UNO-CHART conducted an evaluation through an iterative process that allowed for continual feedback. The evaluation was a mixed methods process that included both qualitative and quantitative measures.

The narrative of this project could be named, “the collective search for common ground” (Innes, 1996). It is the story of collaboration, the integration of knowledge, and hope for the future. Both the process and the outcome measures show a project that worked. This evaluation reveals how participants framed the process from the beginning to the present.

The evaluation points out where the project could be strengthened (more clarity about purpose, greater inclusiveness, better engagement practices for some parishes, greater connection between the findings and the projects), but overall, the project was innovative and in some places, transformative. This model of engagement, integration of knowledge, and project implementation is replicable. The evaluation team is concerned with what is next – how will the community stay engaged now? The work of this project is too important and critical to the



future of Louisiana to be left on a shelf; it must be replicated.

Research Design

Because the LA SAFE planning process is so complex, an evaluation of the process began at the onset of the project. The evaluation team identified, documented, and analyzed the goals and objectives of the six parish planning process, with a focus on the engagement and outreach activities. The evaluation provided information and analysis throughout the planning process that allowed for modifications in the development and progress of the activities.

The major components of the evaluation are:

1. Process Evaluation

In the process evaluation, the team reviewed local plans, to determine where each parish was in its resilience efforts. The team also assessed the planning process, documented the ways in which the team members worked, and documented the planning meetings.

2. Outcomes Evaluation

In the outcomes evaluation, the team examined the outcomes through observation, interviews, and documentation. These steps helped to determine if the strategy had demonstrable effects on defined target outcomes. The outcomes evaluation set the framework for future impact evaluation, which can identify broader overall effects.

The UNO-CHART team collected and analyzed quantitative and qualitative data from multiple sources for this evaluation. The data collected included a content analysis of parish plans, meeting notes, surveys of meeting participants, and interviews with residents and the planning team.

The UNO-CHART team recorded notes at all of the internal team planning meetings. The team also conducted a content analysis of existing plans in all six parishes in order to understand planning priorities in the LA SAFE region. Further, UNO-CHART provided ethnographic note takers, or scribes, at each of the five sets of community meetings, totaling 71 meetings. The scribes noted how the meeting attendees reacted to the presentation, what they said during the table discussions, and what they shared during the report out following the table discussions. In total, the team took 185 sets of notes, totaling 1,044 pages. The team then analyzed the community meeting notes for common codes or ideas.

According to Creswell, qualitative data are “inductive, emerging, and shaped by the researcher’s experience in collecting and analyzing the data” (2012, Loc 705). The evaluation team reviewed all of the transcripts for common emergent codes (ideas) related to the planning process. The coding method includes “aggregating the text or visual data into small categories of information, seeking evidence for the code from different databases being used in a study, and then assigning a label to that code” (Creswell, 2012, Loc 3522). Therefore, the researchers identified codes that emerged from the data. These codes were then developed into smaller and then larger overall themes.

The evaluation team also asked participants to complete a satisfaction survey at rounds 1, 2, and 3. This survey included a series of open and closed ended questions designed to gauge interest in LA SAFE, determine whether LA SAFE achieved the meeting goals, and receive feedback on the proposed projects. The evaluation team collected a total of 980 evaluations. As quickly as possible, the evaluation team shared the results with the project team so that changes could be made in time for the next set of meetings. The complete survey notes are located in the appendix.

Following the planning process, the UNO-CHART team developed and distributed a digital survey to LA SAFE participants, including meeting attendees, table hosts, parish officials, and other parish stakeholders. After



receiving responses from the survey, the team interviewed the respondents who asked to be contacted. The team also called a sample of the over 1,000 meeting attendees as well. Finally, the evaluation team interviewed members of the internal LA SAFE team to get their thoughts on the process.

The content analysis, meeting evaluations, surveys, and interviews helped inform the evaluation of the LA SAFE planning process, including the strengths and challenges during the planning process, the strengths and challenges in the outcomes, and recommendations to improve the process in the future.

Literature Review

This evaluation is grounded in the literature that encompasses adaptive and resilient practices. This review also includes the literature that focuses on best practice for planning. The LA SAFE project was a community-based and designed planning effort. Many planners have found that community-based planning efforts designed with community effort are more successful than those designed by policymakers using top down planning methods. Brody and Highfield (2005) discovered that land use plans designed to protect the environment using top down methods did not stop development in vulnerable areas. They claim that a local, adaptive method of planning over time can be more effective in protecting the environment, and therefore mitigating hazards.

Mitigating hazards can help to lessen the effects of natural disasters. After Hurricane Katrina, Burby (2006) explored the damage after the event in the New Orleans area, and studied the role of federal, state and local hazard mitigation planning programs. He found that a more thorough planning process would have helped to mitigate some of the damage. However, it is often difficult to garner support for hazard mitigation planning at the community level (Godschalk, Brody, & Burby, 2003). This lack of support could stem from citizens who are not aware of the level of risk in their community, and/or local officials who do not adequately communicate the hazardous conditions in the area or the planning processes undertaken to mitigate these conditions (Godschalk, Brody, & Burby, 2003).

Natural hazards (both acute and chronic) are particularly difficult to plan for, and can be more easily tackled at the regional and local level. Mitigating hazards using a regional approach helps every area affected by the hazards to address the environmental concerns as a region, rather than as separate local entities (Godschalk, Beatley, Berke, Brower & Kaiser, 1999). When planning for climate change specifically, it is more effective to assess vulnerabilities at the local level (Wheeler, Randolph & London, 2009). Planning at the local level allows residents who experience the hazards to explore causes and solutions to their issues, consequently reducing their vulnerability (Blaikie, Cannon, Davis & Wisner, 2003).

Planners implement participatory planning processes in various ways. Consulting stakeholders while making a plan is the best way to involve community members in the planning process, as well as obtain support for the plan (Innes, 1996). This allows for consensus building, or a “collective search for common ground” (Innes, 1996, p. 464). Further, public participation can help localities attain social goals if the process consists of well communicated and deliberative participatory processes, and can be successful at both the bottom up and top down levels (Beierle & Konisky, 2000). Public participation also increases the ability to identify shared issues and makes plans more effective (Duram & Brown, 1999). Laukkonen, Blanco, Lenhart, Keiner, Cavric, and Kinuthia-Njenga (2009) point out that a new tool for community participation in climate adaptation strategies is needed, as “responses to climate change require not only local knowledge but also the translation of information into a learning process” (p. 291).

Berkes, Colding and Folke (2000) find that local knowledge is an essential contribution to ecosystem management. Bohnet (2010) further discovers that community and scientific knowledge can be successfully integrated for an effective planning process. Djalante, Holley, and Thomalla (2011) claim that successful adaptation planning includes “polycentric and multilayered institutions, participation and collaboration, self-organization and networks, and learning and innovation.” Measham, Preston, Smith, Brooke, Borddard, Withycombe, and Morrison (2011), on the other hand, explain that effective adaptation planning includes institutional support of these planning efforts.



The evaluation team reviewed literature on evaluating adaptation planning efforts. Butler, Suadnya, Yanuartati, Meharg, Wise, Sutaryono, and Duggan (2016) evaluated an adaptation planning process, and found that while knowledge integration and community empowerment occurred, there was a need for more effective influence on policymakers. Preston, Westaway, and Yuen (2011), evaluated 57 adaptation plans in light of adaptation planning processes. They found that many of the plans are missing climate change preparedness, as well as considerations of adaptive capacity. Baker, Peterson, Brown and McAlpine (2012) also found that adaptation plans lack a discussion of future climate impacts. Fuller and Lain (2018) evaluated a participatory climate change adaptation project, and found that the residents who participated were more prepared after the project, although it did not encourage participation in other planning activities. Plummer and Trimble (2018) explored participatory evaluation, and found that though it increased collaboration, learning, and communication, there were challenges with stakeholder agreement. The team will reexamine these learnings in the conclusion of this evaluation.

Thus, planning a climate adaptation strategy is most effective if the planning methods are adaptive, the strategy examines future climate conditions, the process comes from the local level with local stakeholder support, and the effort has the support of policymakers. The LA SAFE project was designed to build on best planning practice, community vision, and current and future environmental conditions. This process is well documented in disaster and adaptive literature. The planning team involved in the LA SAFE project, led by OCD and FFL, understood the need to involve the community and integrate community knowledge with planning expertise, scientific knowledge, and institutional support. This LA SAFE planning vision is depicted in the figure below.



Figure 3 - The LA SAFE planning vision



The Evaluation: Process Analysis

The evaluation team reviewed team meeting notes, current parish plans, and ethnographic notes from the community meetings in order to document and assess the LA SAFE planning process. This section describes in some detail the results of the process measures.

Team Meetings

Throughout the planning process, the LA SAFE team met to design and critique each round of meetings. UNO-CHART took notes throughout the weekly team meetings, the periodic check in phone calls, and the project reveal.

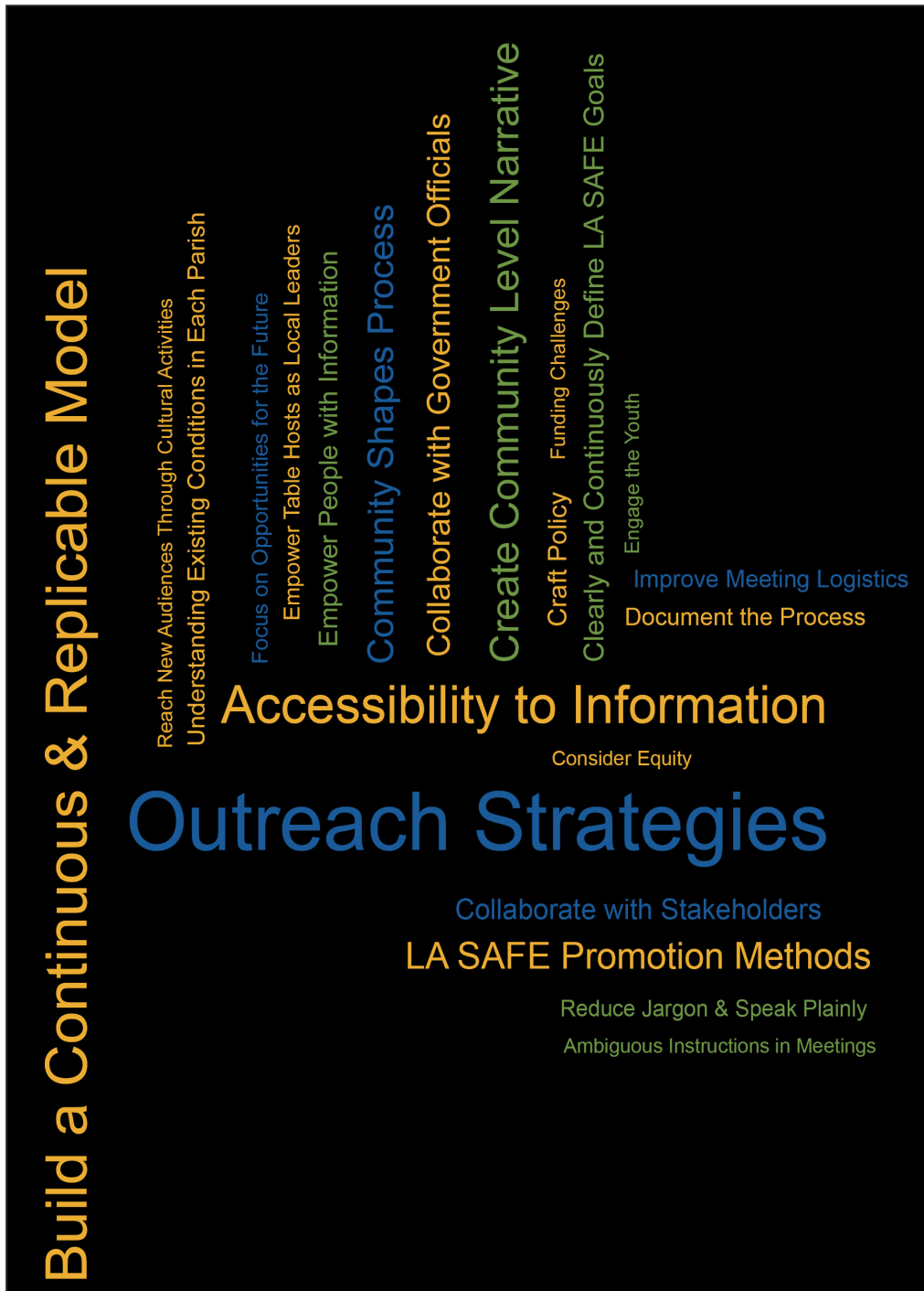


Figure 4 - LA SAFE team meeting codes and themes

In the team meetings, the most common theme was the development of outreach strategies, followed by the need to build a continuous and replicable model, and how to make information accessible. The team meetings also touched on how to allow the community to shape the process. Further topics included logistics, promotion methods, and outreach complications.

Table 1: Team Meeting Themes	
Outreach Strategies as Strategic Tools	110
<p>“Reiterate as much as possible that you are at the table to learn from the participants, and the ultimate goal of the meeting is to get input from everyone.”</p> <p>“Work on table hosts, they are the core of what happens; think about the end; don’t lose the people when we do the project.”</p> <p>“Need to tailor the presentation to each community.”</p>	
Build a Continuous & Replicable Model	75
<p>“Need to think about how to mitigate future damage.”</p> <p>“Show a lot of the process, show that it was grassroots and stakeholder-led.”</p> <p>“Make it so the process continues even after we’re done working on it.”</p>	
Accessibility to Information	64
<p>“Holistic adaptation involves talking about community – what a community can become, and what a community currently is in the light of risk.”</p> <p>“Empower people with information.”</p> <p>“Need to speak plainly.”</p>	
Community Shapes the Planning Process	37
<p>“The projects came from the lived experience and wisdom of the people of Louisiana.”</p> <p>“This is why we must work with residents to solve problems and develop plans.”</p> <p>“Co-design is about working with residents to create a better plan for their community. Sometimes residents feel left out of the decision-making process.”</p>	



LA SAFE Promotion Methods	35
<p>“Reaching out to stakeholders multiple times over the next few weeks to explain importance and urgency.”</p> <p>“Rely on word of mouth and direct outreach to prevent meeting fatigue.”</p> <p>“Want to do a lot more in our messaging to make it more personal and human.”</p>	
Outreach Barriers: Fatigue, Geography, Language, & Politics	20
<p>“Identify those communities that may not have been as heavily involved with previous planning efforts.”</p> <p>“Residents know the reality of the coast, but the politicians of the communities are not ready to accept LA SAFE message.”</p> <p>“Residents will talk more at a Vietnamese only meeting.”</p>	
Improve Meeting Logistics	15
<p>“Start planning for the meetings earlier.”</p> <p>“Staggering meetings may be a bit more beneficial.”</p>	

The table above shows the project teams’ focus on reaching the diverse communities in the six parishes through outreach, formulating a framework, providing information, and working with the community to create a successful process.

The codes reveal that the process of reaching the community is a complex and multifaceted process. The team revisited outreach strategies again and again at each team meeting. The most important part of these strategies was creating a narrative in the community to allow ownership of the planning process, and empowering table hosts to become community leaders. The team also focused on collaborating with government officials. This tension between empowering the community and working with government officials was evident throughout the planning process. The team hoped that the residents of each community could begin to understand their future. The team further discussed reaching new audiences through cultural activities, and engaging the youth in the planning process.

The next set of codes focused on how to build a continuous and replicable model. Again, first on the list was the need to collaborate with stakeholders. The need to build a model also included crafting policy for the final stages of the project. As noted, there was a need to understand and know the existing conditions of each parish. Building a model further included documenting the process. Throughout the meetings, the team considered issues of equity and the challenges of funding adaptation planning projects. The model development included a number of moving parts, from the community to the local politicians.

At the meetings, the team focused on the message, and how to ensure that the residents could understand the message. The team wanted to give the community information in a clear, understandable manner. This issue became central to the success of the program. The team also understood that the community should shape the planning process, even while there were barriers to conducting effective outreach, including meeting fatigue, location, language, and local politics.



From the analysis of the internal meetings, a clear picture emerged of a team that diligently worked to reach out to the community, build relationships with government officials, convey accurate information, and build a replicable model. These goals emerged throughout the LA SAFE process.

- From the analysis, the project team focused on:
- ◆ Developing strategies to reach out to the community
 - ◆ Building relationships with government officials
 - ◆ Creating and conveying accurate information
 - ◆ Establishing a replicable model

Parish Plan Review

The previous section underlines the planning team’s need to understand existing conditions of each parish. The intent of the plan review was to allow the LA SAFE team to familiarize themselves with the progress of the parish up to the point of the LA SAFE planning. This information, plus research into the physical and environment conditions, helped the project team to include the most current information in the plan. This information was also used to develop materials for each of the meetings.

In order to have baseline knowledge of the parishes’ current efforts, the evaluation team reviewed multiple resilience, hazard mitigation, and comprehensive plans in each parish. The team also reviewed planning documents, such as codes of ordinances and MS4 reports. By reviewing all of the different types of plans available, the team was able to provide a comprehensive outlook of what was planned in each parish. The researchers searched the plans using keywords, in order to understand the importance placed on certain terms in previous planning efforts in Jefferson, Lafourche, Plaquemines, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, and Terrebonne parishes. The plans reviewed are listed in the table below.

Table 2: Plans Reviewed

State Plans	Jefferson Parish Plans	Lafourche Parish Plans	Plaquemines Parish Plans	St. John the Baptist Parish Plans	St. Tammany Parish Plans	Terrebonne Parish Plans
Louisiana’s Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast	Coastal Master Plan Jefferson Parish Profile	Lafourche Hazard Mitigation Plan	Coastal Master Plan Plaquemines Parish Profile	Coastal Master Plan St. John Parish Profile	Coastal Master Plan St. Tammany Parish Profile	Coastal Master Plan Terrebonne Parish Profile
Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA)	Jefferson EDGE 2020	Lafourche Comprehensive Resiliency Plan	Plaquemines Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan	Cambridge Subdivision Repetitive Loss Area Analysis	FLOAT Program for Public Information	Terrebonne MS4 Year 14 Annual Report 2017
RESTORE Comprehensive Plan Update 2016	Jefferson Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan	Lafourche Parish Coastal Zone Management Plan	Plaquemines Parish Coastal Zone Management Program	FLOAT Program for Public Information	St. Tammany Hazard Mitigation Plan	FLOAT Program for Public Information



	City of Kenner Comprehensive Plan	Lafourche Parish Code of Ordinances	Plaquemines Parish Code of Ordinances	St. John Parish Comprehensive Plan	St. Tammany MS4 Annual Report	TPCG Department of Housing and Human Services Community Development Division 2016 Annual Action Plan
	Jefferson Parish Bicycle Master Plan	Fourchon Beach Shoreline Protection Plan	Plaquemines Parish Comprehensive Master Plan	St. John Parish Community Recovery Strategy	Slidell Unified Development Code	Roberta Grove - Senator Circle Repetitive Loss Area Analysis and Update
	Jean Lafitte Resiliency Plan			St. John Parish Master Plan for Drainage Improvements	Resiliency Plans: B, C, D	An Economic Enhancement Strategy for Terrebonne Parish
	West End Master Plan			St. John Parish Code of Ordinances	St. Tammany Parish Stormwater Management Plan	Bayou Cane Repetitive Loss Area Analysis
	Maplewood Area Repetitive Loss Area Analysis and Revisit			St. John Parish Land Use Plan	St. Tammany Parish Emergency Operations Plan	The Road to 2040
	University City Repetitive Loss Area Analysis				Bayou Liberty Repetitive Loss Area Analysis and Revisit	Terrebonne Parish Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2014
	Walter Road Repetitive Loss Area Analysis and Revisit				St. Tammany Coastal Zone Management Ordinance	Terrebonne Parish Comprehensive Plan Update
	Bucktown Neighborhood Plan				St. Tammany Comprehensive Plan	Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance Update Proposal
	Metairie Cluster Repetitive Loss Area Analysis				St. Tammany Parish Code of Ordinances	Coastal Restoration Comprehensive Plan
	Jefferson Parish Code of Ordinances					A Blueprint for Success: A Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
	Envision Jefferson 2020					A Strategic Plan for Economic Development
	Metairie CBD Land Use & Transportation Plan					Coastal Zone Management Program
	Jefferson Parish Coastal Zone Plan					Emergency Operations Plan
	Greater New Orleans Urban Water Plan					Code of Ordinances

The search terms (deductive codes) included: flooding, risk, resilience, adaptation, sea level rise, and climate change. Table 3 indicates the number of times each of the terms appeared. The most commonly occurring term was flooding, followed by risk and resilience. Adaptation, sea level rise, and climate change appeared much less often. The review of all the plans shows the overwhelming focus on flooding compared to all other search terms. Flooding is the immediate problem that most parishes face, and the immediate issue for which they hope to mitigate. Very few of the plans mentioned to any great extent the causes of the change in the environment.



The LA SAFE project intentionally took a much broader view of how to plan for the future, considering the basis of most previous plans. A review of these plans helped to direct and formulate the LA SAFE plan. The intent of the review was to allow the LA SAFE team to familiarize themselves with the progress of the parish up to the point of the LA SAFE planning.

Flood(ing)	15,586
Risk	2,169
Resilience(t)	1,339
Adapt(ation, ive)	205
Sea level rise	201
Climate change	32

The plan review revealed that the parish plans focused on:

- ◆An overwhelming emphasis on flooding
- ◆Little mention of the causes of environmental change

Community Meetings

Once the team understood the existing planning efforts in each parish, the planning process began. The LA SAFE planning process was composed of five rounds of meetings held in each of the six parishes, for a total of 71 meetings, attended by nearly 3,000 coastal residents. UNO-CHART provided scribes to take ethnographic notes at each individual meeting. This section details each round, and the codes that emerged in the ethnographic notes.

Round 1

During the first round, LA SAFE hosted six community meetings across the six pilot parishes. Project leads from OCD and FFL introduced the project and presented all of the environmental, social, economic, and demographic information that the team compiled. Then, community members participated in two activities and discussions. At round tables, groups of 6-8 residents reflected on the changes that they have seen over their lifetimes in the parish, what they think are their most valuable assets to protect, and what the future goals of their parish should be. At each of the community meetings, UNO-CHART provided scribes to sit at each table and take ethnographic notes of the meeting proceedings. The scribes noted how the meeting attendees reacted to the meeting presentation, what they said during the table discussions, and what they shared during the report out following the table discussions. The UNO-CHART team then analyzed these notes for common codes and themes. The codes and themes are depicted on the following page (Figure 6).





Figure 5 - Residents participate at the first round of LA SAFE meetings

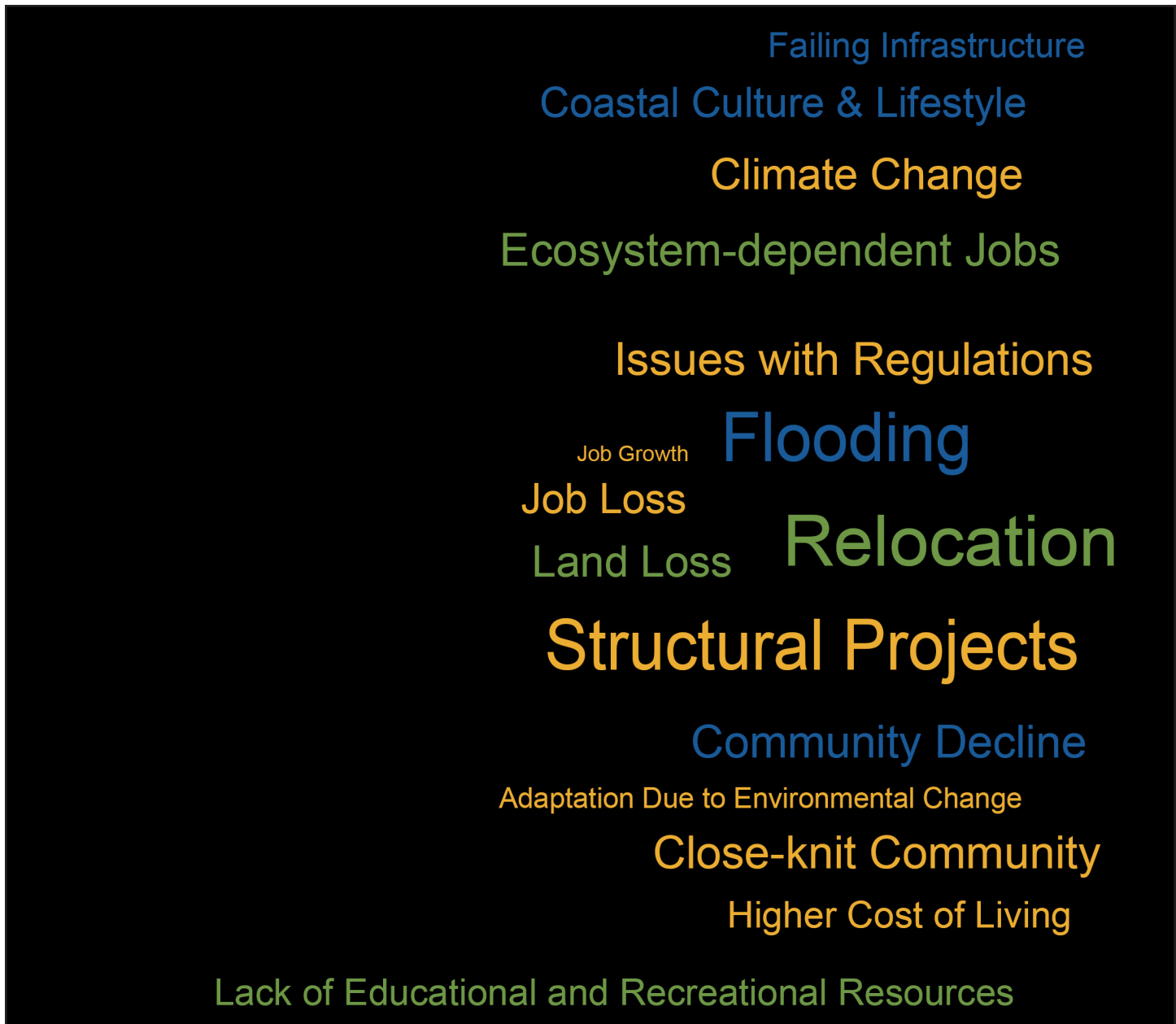


Figure 6 - LA SAFE Round 1 codes and themes



In this first round, the participants listed concerns and ideas for their coastal communities. The most common code was Adaptation Ideas for the Future. This code encompassed all ideas the residents had for continuing to adapt to environmental changes in each parish. As the purpose of the meeting was to ask residents their thoughts on how to plan for the future, the prevalence of this code is appropriate. Relocation was the next most common code, which exposes the fear and uncertainty residents have of leaving their homes. Flooding and structural projects were the next most common codes, which reveal the predominant hazard in these parishes, as well as the most well known reaction to that hazard. The other codes uncover the environmental and community changes that the parishes face as their way of life continues to be threatened. The table on the following page lists each code and the number of occurrences in the transcripts.

Table 4: Round 1 Themes	
Adaptation Ideas for the Future	312
“We elevated when we saw that last one come through, and each storm brought more water, and we finally had to elevate.”	
Relocation	248
“I mean didn’t flood but I saw my neighbors flood. But Gustav definitely flooded us out, so insurance got high and I had to move to the west side.”	
Flooding	218
“You get the right hurricane in here and I dunno how many people will drown.”	
Structural Projects	217
“You know what I would like to see is a levee system that would protect our neighborhood.”	
Issues with Regulations	137
“The cost of flood insurance has gone through the roof.”	
Ecosystem-dependent Jobs	136
“Lost wetlands are affecting the harvest. It’s affecting me, and my entire life.”	
Community Decline	134
“This is the best place in the world and its going away.”	



Close-knit Community	130
“Everybody knows everybody, it’s just a unique place to live.”	
Climate Change	123
“My wife is always talking about how high the water is, and you never used to see this.”	
Land Loss	121
“I wonder, when the land goes, where would we go?”	
Coastal Culture & Lifestyle	119
“We’re trying to keep music alive, the traditions alive, the language alive, but it is so difficult.”	
Job Loss	114
“All those companies are gone, a person can’t make a decent living.”	
Higher Cost of Living	100
“And I guarantee that over the years the cost of building and maintaining is triple what it would’ve been to buy us all out back in the 70s.”	
Lack of Educational and Recreational Resources	93
“Some things we would like to see a bit more of is the youth. We have a lot of youth leaving. We want more education here in the communities.”	
Failing Infrastructure	83
“The parish doesn’t have enough money to fix things that are broken and gone.”	
Adaptation Due to Environmental Change	62
“We built our structures higher and we will continue with that in the future.”	
Job Growth	24
“Things are booming on the Northshore.”	



These issues and ideas expose the struggle of living on a changing coast. From this table, it is clear that the residents deal with a number of issues, and environmental concerns often lead to social issues, such as changes in jobs, declining communities, and failing infrastructure. However, residents have adapted to environmental change, and have ideas on how to adapt in the future. The residents discussed these ideas in more depth in Round 2.

Round 2

The second round of LA SAFE meetings focused on conversations at the community scale. LA SAFE held twenty-one meetings in nineteen towns and cities across the six parishes. The residents who attended the first round of meetings suggested the meeting locations.

Meeting at this level allowed LA SAFE to present a more in-depth view of the issues in each community, and to gather input at the community level. In this series of meetings, the residents pinpointed challenges, proposed solutions, and collectively described a future across different types of environments and different levels of risk. LA SAFE combined residents' ideas and mapped proposed strategies. The community recommendations formed the basis for the projects, programs, and policies that LA SAFE pursued. LA SAFE developed these ideas further according to what is known about current and future environmental risk, as well as best practices in planning. The community meetings took place in three separate communities in each parish. Additionally, there were three extra meetings held for people who speak Vietnamese and Khmer in Lafourche and Plaquemines parishes. At each of the community meetings, UNO-CHART provided scribes to sit at each table and take ethnographic notes of the meeting proceedings. The scribes noted how the meeting attendees reacted to the meeting presentation, what they said during the table discussions, and what they shared during the report out following the table discussions. The UNO-CHART team then analyzed these notes for common codes and themes. The codes and themes are depicted on the following page (Figure 8).



Figure 7 - Residents participate at the second round of LA SAFE meetings





Figure 8 - LA SAFE Round 2 codes and themes

In this second round, the residents expanded on the issues and ideas explored in the first round, providing specific details under each topic. Again, participants focused the most on Adaptation Ideas for the Future, underlining the need to improve transportation and education. The meeting attendees also described their issues with flooding and lack of resources. Declining coastal communities tangled with the need to preserve coastal culture in many discussions. The table below details the main issues identified in the transcripts.

Table 5: Round 2 Themes	
Adaptation Ideas for the Future	697
“We need to establish practices that development happens in a low risk way.”	
Flooding	185
“I have had water in my house three times and I don’t want it again.”	
Lack of Educational and Recreational Resources	171
“There’s nothing for kids to do.”	
Coastal Culture & Lifestyle	107
“Culture is connected with sustainability, if you can’t be sustainable than you can’t keep culture.”	
Issues with Regulations	97
“Maybe loosening the regulations so that people can sell their seafood in more a of a farmer’s market style deal you know. Like just being able to sell their stock like on the side of the road.”	
Community Decline	89
“I know a lot of restaurants looking to sell in that area. They flooded too much. They think it’s too much of a risk. When all of these businesses leave, what do you have left?”	
Higher Cost of Living	66
“My wife and I are closing in on 70, I’m not sure how much longer I’ll be able to afford to live here.”	
Failing Infrastructure	58
“Traffic is horrible, but they continue to build, but don’t think of infrastructure.”	



Ecosystem Dependent Jobs	58
“Fishing is a part of our culture.”	
Adaptation Due to Environmental Change	55
“As we see more flooding, we need to look at raising houses. We need to start getting smarter and build up.”	
Job Growth	55
“The hospital can help educate and create job development and training programs.”	
Relocation	53
“I don’t want to leave. This is home for me.”	
Structural Projects	52
“Protection to keep us here would be the most important thing to keep us here.”	
Job Loss	41
“There are no jobs here at all.”	
Climate Change	36
“Grand Isle not gonna be dere in 10 years if they don’t do nothing.”	
Land Loss	37
“They’ve had to relocate cemeteries – it’s a grizzly job.”	
Close-knit Community	33
“Even if we don’t know each other – we know each other here, know what I mean?”	

Participants placed most of the emphasis on adaptation ideas like improving transportation and education, improving the economy, implementing nonstructural adaptation methods, and improving recreational opportunities. Residents also stressed environmental issues such as increased flooding, which puts already fragile communities at greater risk. Meeting attendees further underlined the lack of educational and recreational resources in their communities, calling for trade schools, recreational space, entertainment and



retail options, as well as improved schooling and out-of-classroom opportunities.

Participants emphasized the importance of their coastal culture and lifestyle, discussing how to preserve their heritage through outdoor recreation, cultural events, and local food. Residents additionally listed issues with regulations, including the high cost of flood insurance, issues with planning choices, problems with nonstructural solutions, and the impact of regulations on fishing.

Meeting attendees mentioned their declining communities, the lack of local amenities, the lack of youth, increased crime, the lack of community cohesion, and completely abandoned communities. As communities decline, they said, the cost of living increases, with expensive adaptation methods, high property values, age related price barriers, and the high price of daily necessities. Along with the decline came failing infrastructure, and participants called for new streets, sidewalks, and bridges, and pointed out that many communities only have one way out.

Many residents have ecosystem dependent jobs, which are really a way of life, even as they are declining due to environmental changes, and other job opportunities. Meeting attendees had ideas on how to adapt these jobs to the changing environment. Even as these jobs decline, other jobs are growing in some coastal communities as populations shift. In other communities, there are no available jobs as people leave.

Relocation was discussed frequently in this round, with some communities growing from relocating populations while others stay in place. As communities implement structural projects, there are issues with both installing and avoiding these solutions. Finally, participants brought up climate change, and the impacts of relative sea level rise and subsidence.

Overall, this round illuminated the need to adapt to a changing environment, as the environmental changes erode coastal culture and society. These issues formed the baseline of the planning needs, as the meetings began to move toward specific implementation ideas.



Round 3

At the third round of meetings, the LA SAFE process narrowed the focus to specific projects, programs, and policy options that supported a vision developed by the community alongside the project team. The meetings centered around three core interactive components. The first was a snap-polling exercise, in which LA SAFE asked the participants multiple-choice questions, and collected and reviewed the results instantly. The questions asked for residents to tell the team whether they agreed or disagreed with certain ideas, and asked participants to tell the project team their preference for certain projects. Questions centered on stormwater management strategies, types of housing, transportation expansion ideas, and the National Flood Insurance Program.

In the second part of the meeting, LA SAFE presented the vision crafted by the community and LA SAFE in the previous meetings. After the project leads discussed each piece of the vision, the participants voted on their level of agreement. The third part of the meeting focused on the individual projects, programs, and policies that could potentially support the vision. On large table sheets, the residents evaluated ideas organized according to planning category and risk level. Meeting attendees placed green dots on the ideas they liked, and red dots on those they did not like. They also added new ideas and commented on the strategies depicted.

The third round of meetings expanded to the parish level, with six general parish meetings and two meetings for the Vietnamese and Cambodian populations. At each of the eight community meetings, UNO-CHART provided scribes to sit at each table and take ethnographic notes of the meeting proceedings. The scribes noted how the meeting attendees reacted to the meeting presentation, what they said during the table discussions, and what they shared during the report out following the table discussions. The UNO-CHART team then analyzed these notes for common codes and themes. The codes and themes are depicted on the following page.



Figure 9 - A young resident participates in the third round of LA SAFE meetings



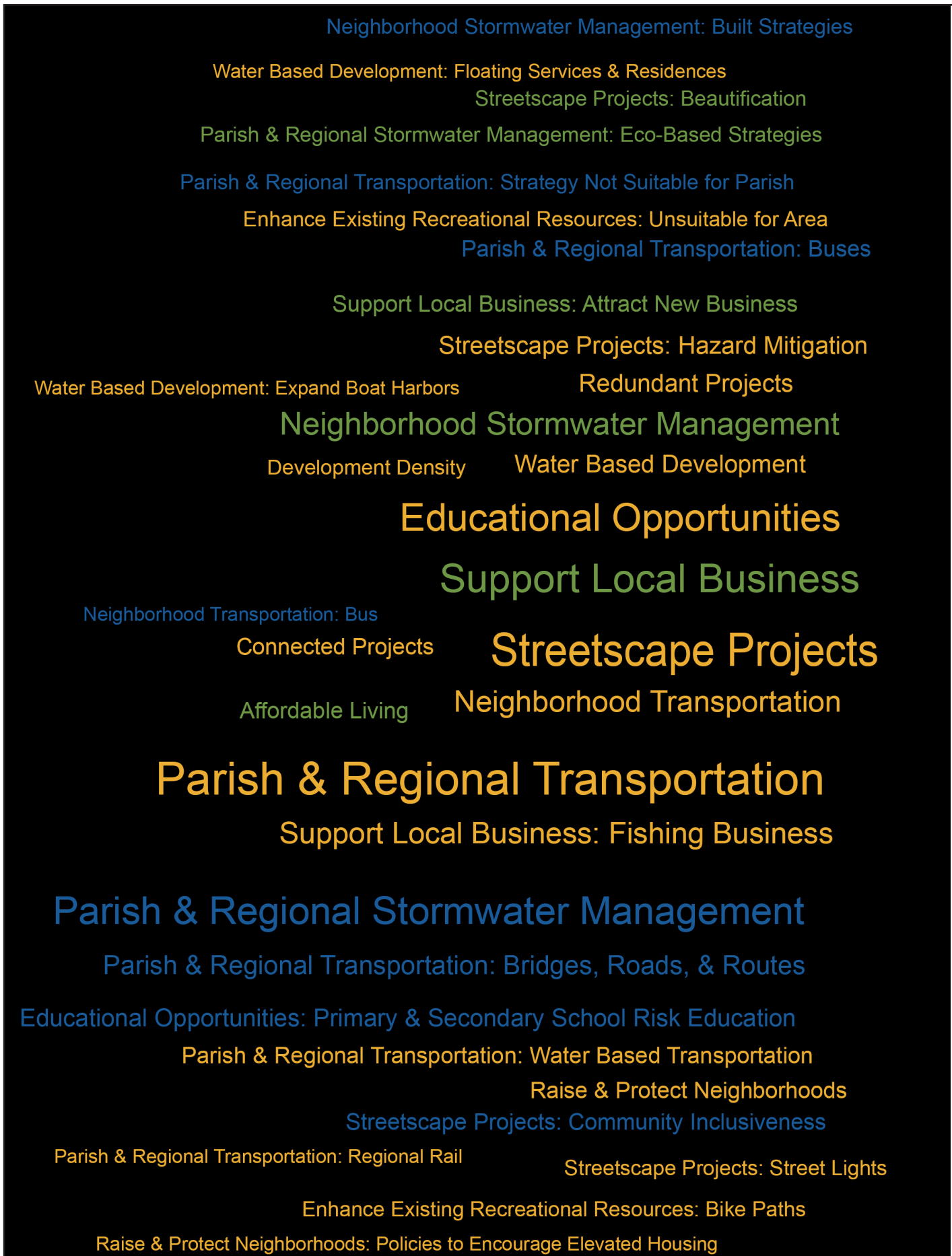


Figure 10 - LA SAFE Round 3 codes and themes



As the purpose of the third round of meetings was to select policies, programs, and projects, the codes identified in the transcripts became much more specific. These codes included enhance existing recreational resources, parish and regional transportation, streetscape projects, support local business, parish and regional stormwater management, educational opportunities, neighborhood stormwater management, neighborhood transportation, water based development, redundant projects, raise and protect neighborhoods, connected projects, affordable living, development density, and residents unaware of risk level. The table below shows the prevalence of these codes in the transcripts.

Table 6: Round 3 Themes	
Enhance Existing Recreational Resources	270
“Add swamp tours and marsh tours; people come here and we have what no one else has; they don’t understand delta country.”	
Parish & Regional Transportation	151
“It would be good to have a bus that would come down the bayou and go back up. A lot of people could go to work that way. A lot of people in school, they could take the bus to school.”	
Streetscape Projects	131
“Increased walkability. We need that. You can’t hardly walk!”	
Support Local Business	124
“You know, I like this business incubator thing. If you hire the right people to do the job, and do it effectively, it can be good.”	
Parish & Regional Stormwater Management	119
“Right now [the parish] has very restrictive drainage standards. But our neighbors up the street don’t have them, so we get all the water.”	
Educational Opportunities	113
“If we start there in the magnet schools and push the kids, and encourage them and gear them towards green jobs.”	
Neighborhood Stormwater Management	77
“Bioswales, we need those. Plant trees, we need that without a doubt. They stop storm surges.”	
Neighborhood Transportation	68
“There’s one way in and one way out. Well now there are two ways in and two ways out.”	



Water Based Development	46
“This project has brought in a group of students to design a floating grocery store. It’s a great investment down there – it’s a food desert. If the storm is coming, they can move the store and bring it back to be in business the next day.”	
Redundant Projects	43
“We promote hunting and fishing, recreation & tourism. We have enough of that.”	
Raise & Protect Neighborhoods	34
“I would move for more raised protective housing. The Cajuns had it right; you need to build up.”	
Affordable Living	33
“If I’m a school teacher, I need to be able to afford to live here.”	
Connected Projects	33
“We have bike paths on the levee on the East Bank and starting on the West Bank. We need to connect that with ferries, then we’d be good.”	
Development Density	31
“We don’t want to build on our wetlands, could mean more expensive housing, and we don’t want that.”	
Residents Unaware of Risk Level	11
“I’m wondering how I know if I’m in a high risk or low risk. I don’t want to tell you how many times I’ve been flooded.”	

Residents pointed out the need to enhance existing recreational resources through eco-based recreation, parks and facilities, tourism, bike paths, levees, and healthy living programs. However, they thought some recreational opportunities were unsuitable for their area and dangerous for pedestrians. Participants also suggested ideas for educational opportunities, such as risk education, vocational-technical schools, after school programs, and job training.

The participants also called for transportation and streetscape projects. The transportation ideas at the parish level included bridges and roads, water based transportation, buses, regional rail, and bikes. At the neighborhood level, meeting attendees asked for many of the same things, with an added need for transportation for seniors. The streetscape projects included hazard mitigation, streetlights, beautification, and preservation. Some residents thought these strategies were not suitable for their parish, however.

Meeting participants emphasized the need to support local businesses, such as fishing and coastal restoration.



They also thought water-based development, such as floating services and boat harbors could be effective. While they supported affordable living, most of the attendees were against high-density development.

The residents further underlined the need for stormwater management at the parish and neighborhood level. At both levels, participants asked for eco-based strategies, improved drainage, and less pavement.

To help with vulnerable locations, some meeting attendees asked for policies to encourage elevated housing, and a homeowner tax credit for elevating homes. Still other residents were unaware that they were at risk.

Throughout the discussions, participants pointed out which projects were redundant, and which could be connected. LA SAFE used the residents' selections to identify policies, programs and projects for each individual parish. Although environmental issues plague the communities, the projects identified focused on enhancing resources and enhancing local economies. This shows the need to maintain quality of life in vulnerable communities. LA SAFE sought to improve the quality of life through a series of projects, presented in round 4.

Round 4

In the fourth round of meetings, LA SAFE engaged stakeholders in order to receive feedback on the draft adaptation strategies. This engagement included a roundtable with parish officials, as well as an open house where LA SAFE presented proposals to community members. At both types of meetings, LA SAFE received comments on the proposal ideas. At each of the community and parish official meetings, UNO-CHART provided scribes to sit at each table and take ethnographic notes of the meeting proceedings. The scribes noted how the meeting attendees reacted to the meeting presentation, what they said during the table discussions, and what they shared during the report out following the table discussions. The UNO-CHART team then analyzed these notes for common codes and themes. The codes and themes are depicted on the following page.



Figure 11 - Parish officials provide feedback on LA SAFE projects





Figure 12 - LA SAFE Round 4 codes and themes

Meeting attendees discussed the barriers to resilience, as well as ways to obtain resilience at the meetings. The most discussed barrier was the clash of values between the residents and the government, while the most discussed resilient measure was responsible development. Meeting participants also listed ideas to mitigate risk, such as stormwater management and house elevation. The table on the following page lists the main codes found in the meeting transcripts.



Table 7: Round 4 Themes	
Barriers to Resilience	106
<p>“The problem with the east bank is it cost so much to get things down that way.”</p> <p>“Residents are leaving. Naturally, the population is migrating.”</p> <p>“I’m concerned with underutilization.”</p>	
Resilience: Better Than We Were Before	93
<p>“A bike lane wherever it might be feasible. It would be a beautiful view – cow pastures and wetlands – if you’re someone who appreciates wildlife.”</p> <p>“We encouraged people to do more green infrastructure by giving them more parking.”</p> <p>“I think we should maximize on solar and wind, put some kind of turbine in the water. There are so many options.”</p>	
Mitigation Ideas	80
<p>“Public parks or areas should have retention projects.”</p> <p>“We are doing about 85 elevations with FEMA money, but with this round, we built in stormwater management components to address water around the house.”</p> <p>“Floating public buildings.”</p>	

Residents discussed the barriers to resilience most frequently. These barriers included a clash of values between residents and government; the fact that the projects did not make sense to locals; the disintegration of community; a lack of information; the issue that policies prevent some projects; that the locals were worried about the cost benefit of the projects, coupled with the lack of funding for the projects; the need for a sustainable funding mechanism; private ownership preventing public use; and challenges of the local topography.

On the other hand, there were aspects of the projects that participants thought could help with resilience. This included encouraging responsible development; better bikeability, walkability and recreation; possible development locations; building local knowledge; changing transportation habits; improved access to water; the support of local officials; and affordable housing.

Finally, meeting attendees had ideas for hazard mitigation. These ideas included stormwater management, elevating homes, looking beyond levees, structural protection, replenishing the land, and enhancing existing assets.

Meeting participants focused on ways to become more resilient and mitigate for risk, while acknowledging barriers to resilience. In this way, residents looked to the future to more successfully plan for environmental change through responsible development, stormwater management, and policy changes. In Round 5, the attendees were able to further evaluate the LA SAFE projects.



Round 5

In the fifth round, the residents evaluated and ranked the selected policies, programs, and projects in meetings in each parish. LA SAFE presented the proposals on displays placed throughout the meeting venues. Attendees were able to view the boards, and then select their favorites and least favorites using tokens. At the end of each meeting, the voting results were presented to the meeting participants. Showing the residents how the votes were counted was the highlight of Round 5. At each of the community meetings, UNO-CHART provided scribes to sit at each board, and take ethnographic notes of the meeting proceedings. The UNO-CHART team then analyzed these notes for common codes and themes. The codes and themes are depicted on the following page.

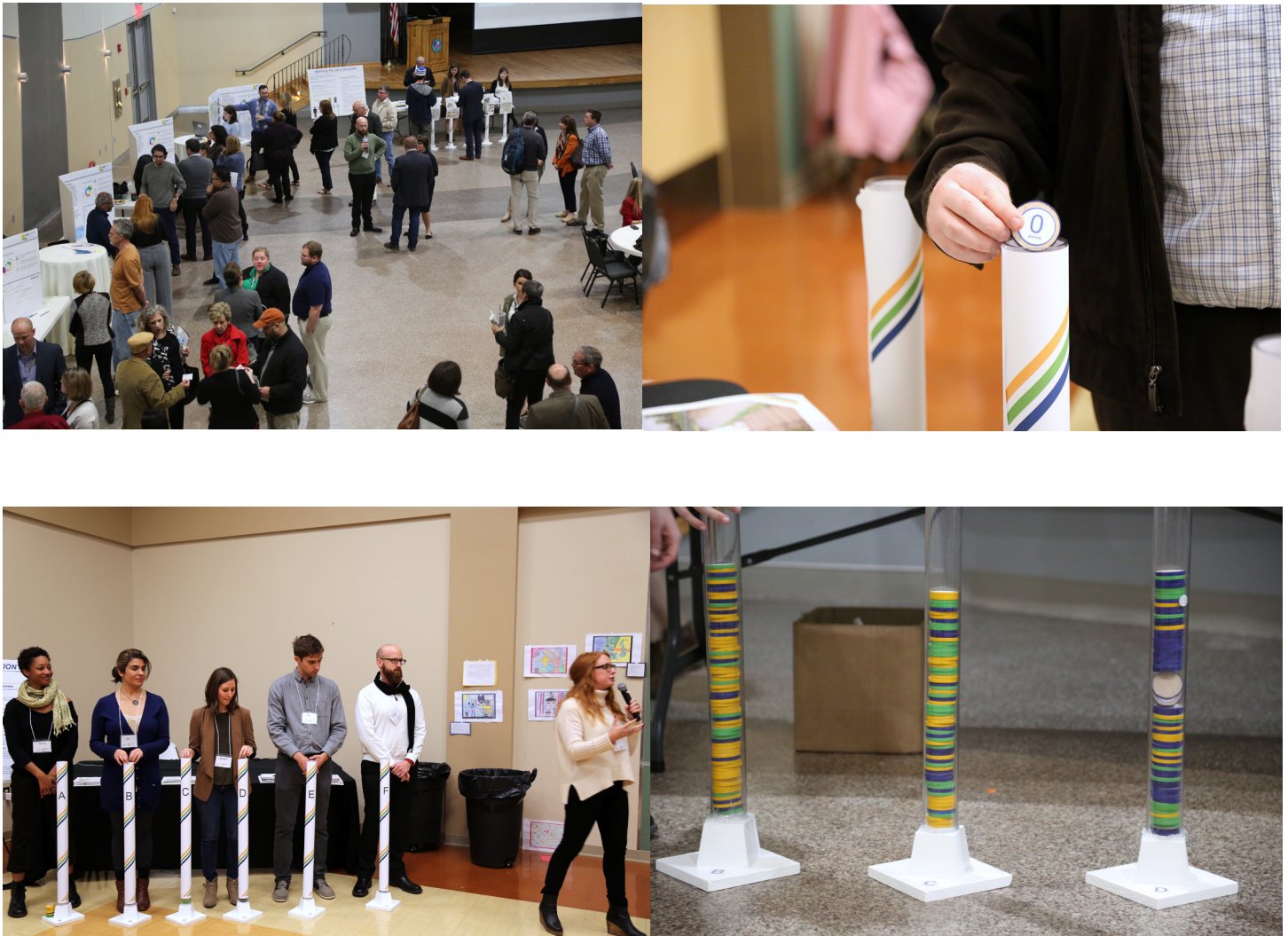


Figure 13 - Images from the fifth round of LA SAFE meetings



Figure 14 - LA SAFE Round 5 codes and themes

As evidenced in the table below, locals were more optimistic than pessimistic when discussing the proposed project, but only by a small margin. This distrust will appear as a factor throughout the evaluation. The residents liked the recreational opportunities, economic development, and new business ideas, but were not sure the projects could be effective, due to flooding or other concerns. The meeting participants underlined the disintegrating communities in the project area, and the need to protect local businesses to keep communities alive.

Table 8: Round 5 Themes	
Locals are Optimistic about Projects	40
<p>“The ideas you are trying to promote – that’s the right way to go. This is the future. We need to manage water. We have a lot of land in Louisiana and much of it is wet.”</p> <p>“I like that it’s educational. I love it.”</p> <p>“I don’t see anything I don’t like. I don’t know how I’m going to vote. I like everything.”</p>	



Locals are Doubtful of Project Success	37
<p>“These projects have changed since the last meeting! I don’t like any of them.”</p> <p>“I hope they learn to maintain all this, otherwise it will be a mess.”</p> <p>“Nothing I saw mitigates... it looks more like beautification rather than stormwater management.”</p>	
Disintegrating Community: There’s Nothing Left	36
<p>“I can remember, honestly, the beacon was at the end...it’s in the middle of the lake right now. I lived there all my life. There’s nothing left.”</p> <p>“We built something like this before. It fell apart and nobody rebuilt it.”</p> <p>“People want to talk about sea level rise, etc., but nobody is talking about wind increase and wave increase. I have heard no one mention this, anywhere. There are increasingly days where I can’t fish offshore because the wind and the waves. There are places that have been restored and I see them getting torn up because of the wind and wave action...”</p>	
Locals Want to Protect Local Businesses	21
<p>“This would help shrimpers get more for their catch.”</p> <p>“I’m not a fisherman, but I want to support them! That’s what community does.”</p> <p>“This is my home. I want to see locally diverse businesses that are investing in the community.”</p>	

The meeting attendees were both optimistic about and doubtful of the success of the projects. Meeting attendees were optimistic about projects that included recreational opportunities, stimulated the economy, included educational opportunities, and helped to mitigate hazards. The participants also wanted to protect local businesses by providing fishing docks and more opportunities for seasonal workers. Locals were doubtful of projects in vulnerable areas with geographical and topographical constraints. The doubt from the projects most likely emerged from the disintegrating coastal communities and difficulty to maintain businesses in those locations. Locals were also worried about the cost versus benefit of some projects, and some did not want affordable housing.

In some communities, residents pointed out that there really was nothing left. The community felt neglected as their population leaves. They described this as a slow disaster. This emphasized the difficulties associated with asking socially and economically vulnerable communities to adapt further to vulnerable environments.

LA SAFE Projects and Policies and Ethnographic Notes

Throughout the meeting process, the LA SAFE team provided already established planning categories to meeting participants to help elicit resident comments and ideas. The team received resident feedback through table activities, facilitated discussions, and in person surveys. The evaluation team also shared the ethnographic



notes after each round to help summarize the attendee input.

The categories provided for the meeting activities evolved after each round. In the first round, the meeting activities focused on ideas for community and culture, environment and sustainability, and economy and jobs. The resident comments in these categories were then organized into opportunities, strengths, and challenges. In the second round, the meeting activities again focused on community and culture, economy and jobs, and environment and sustainability, with an emphasis on flood-related issues. In round three, the categories for the meeting activities expanded to include stormwater management and green space, housing and development, transportation, education, economy and jobs, and culture and recreation. The LA SAFE team asked participants to vote on a series of projects in each category. In rounds 4 and 5, the LA SAFE team narrowed the project ideas down to six projects for each parish, which residents then voted on one final time.

Throughout the LA SAFE process, the meeting activities were designed to gain resident input in order to identify specific policy and project ideas. Therefore, there was a focus on new ideas and concepts in each round. The ethnographic notes, however, provide more details on the ideas expressed by the residents. Many of the ideas emerged from revisions or fixes for policies, projects or infrastructure that already exist. For example, there are policy issues in the communities, such as the high cost of flood insurance, and a need for immediate fixes, such as the repair of deteriorating infrastructure. In addition, participants identified the need to create policies that helps communities build in a low risk way, through changing planning ordinances or providing more funding for elevation. Residents also pointed out the need to mitigate development that is already there. While some of the same issues emerged from the meeting activities and the ethnographic notes, the projects and policies focused on the new, while the residents provided comments to both implement new ideas and fix old ideas that no longer worked. This tension between the focus of the project and the lived experience of the residents was present at all of the meetings.

The ethnographic notes revealed the concerns of the residents:

- ◆Residents describe the struggle of living on a changing coast
- ◆Residents discussed the need to adapt to a changing environment, as the environmental changes erode coastal culture and society
 - ◆Residents are concerned about the need to maintain quality of life in vulnerable communities
- ◆Residents agreed that there was a need to become more resilient and mitigate risk, while acknowledging barriers to resilience
- ◆The difficulties associated with asking socially and economically vulnerable communities to adapt further to vulnerable environments
 - ◆The tension between the focus of the project and the lived experience of the residents



Figure 15 - A resident provides feedback at an LA SAFE meeting



Surveys

LA SAFE asked participants at each of the community meetings during Rounds 1, 2, and 3 to complete a satisfaction survey. This survey included a series of open and closed ended questions designed to gauge interest in LA SAFE, determine whether or not LA SAFE achieved the meeting goals, and receive feedback on proposed projects. Overall, data collected through these evaluations helped to improve the meeting process.

The results of the satisfaction surveys are provided below. The survey provided a series of questions on a Likert scale, where respondents could select strongly agree, agree, neither agree nor disagree, disagree, or strongly disagree. UNO-CHART labeled responses of strongly agree or agree as positive, responses of disagree or strongly disagree as negative, and responses of neither agree nor disagree as neutral. The surveys also asked for responses to open ended questions. The open ended responses are summarized in each corresponding section.

Round 1 Surveys

A total of 345 participants completed surveys during the first round of meetings, and the responses were overwhelmingly positive across all categories of questions. With only one exception, at least 90% of the survey participants provided positive responses to the questions related to the purpose of the meeting, the effectiveness of the presentations and speakers, and the effectiveness of both activities. Over 90% of the respondents agreed that they were able to express themselves during the activities. Nearly all (99%) agreed that they would attend future meetings, and 94% agreed that they would bring friends and family to future meetings.

Table 9: Round 1 – Meeting Purpose, Presentations & Activities

	The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated	The purpose of the meeting is important to me	Presentation 1 was effective	The speaker presented information in a clear manner	Presentation 2 was effective	The speaker presented information in a clear manner	Activity One was effective	Activity Two was effective
Responses	332	325	333	320	314	300	312	271
Positive	93%	98%	89%	96%	90%	95%	91%	91%
Neutral	5%	2%	9%	4%	9%	5%	6%	8%
Negative	2%	0%	2%	0%	2%	0%	3%	1%

Table 10: Round 1 – Participation & Future Meetings

	Were you able to express all of your ideas in Activity 1	Were you able to express all of your ideas in Activity 2	I would attend future meetings	I would bring my friends and family to future meetings
Responses	263	291	316	299
Yes	91%	94%	99%	94%
No	9%	6%	1%	6%



The survey also provided a space for open ended responses. Meeting participants stated that they learned the seriousness about their future risk and the plans the state has to protect them. They also underlined the value of hearing other community members speak, because it revealed commonalities in how they viewed flood risk. Respondents emphasized the importance of spreading awareness of what it means to adapt to a changing environment, so that residents can make educated decisions about their futures and families.

Overall, the meeting participants asked for shorter formal presentations and more table conversation and activities. They asked that the table host direct the conversation to remain productive, so that everyone can get the most out of their time. Residents further requested more time for questions and answers in order to clarify the content of the meeting.

Respondents were interested in the LA SAFE planning process, and asked for more specific details. Meeting participants requested a platform for citizens to stay engaged and connected over the progress of the meetings. They further emphasized the need for more local officials and speakers that can address local issues. They also stated that they wanted to support local businesses. Finally, they underlined the need for immediate action to address flooding, risk education, land loss, and adaptation strategies.

Round 2 Surveys

Over 400 participants participated in the satisfaction surveys for the second round of meetings. Again, the evaluations contained a high level of positive responses. At least 93% of the evaluation respondents provided positive responses to the questions related to the purpose of the meeting, effectiveness of the presentation and speaker, the helpfulness of the video, and the effectiveness of the activity. Almost all of the respondents (99%) agreed that their table host was helpful, and 98% agreed that they were able to express themselves during the activity. Most (98%) agreed that they would attend future meetings, and 95% agreed that they would bring friends and family to future meetings.

Table 11: Round 2 - Meeting Purpose, Video, Presentation & Activity

	The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated	The purpose of the meeting is important to me	The video helped me understand the purpose of the meeting	The meeting presentation was effective	The speaker presented information in a clear manner	The purpose of the activity was clearly stated	The activity instructions were clear	The meeting activity was effective	The table host was helpful	I was able to express all my ideas during the activity
Responses	401	398	395	396	394	399	394	392	397	393
Positive	96%	98%	93%	97%	97%	97%	97%	96%	99%	98%
Neutral	3%	1%	6%	2%	3%	3%	3%	4%	1%	2%
Negative	1%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%



Table 12: Round 2 - Future Meetings

	I would attend future meetings	I would bring my friends and family to future meetings
Responses	326	322
Yes	98%	95%
No	2%	5%

The open ended survey responses from the second meeting reiterated much of the insight gained in the first meeting. Respondents underlined the importance of future planning to adapt to coastal land loss and population displacement. Meeting participants expressed that they enjoyed learning about other’s personal stories and connection to place. Residents emphasized that youth are the key to our future, as they can receive education at a young age to learn how to adapt. Respondents also requested interpreters for the Vietnamese, Cambodian and Spanish communities.

Overall, the meeting participants were most concerned about job security, and would like help adapting to a changing environment, through economic development opportunities. Residents stated they enjoyed the interaction at the table. Further, respondents asked for a way to stay informed and see how their input contributes to the overarching plan.

Round 3 Surveys

The survey results from the third round of meetings were similar to the previous rounds, as 234 attendees provided positive responses across all closed ended questions. Respondents overwhelmingly provided positive responses to survey questions about the purpose of the meeting, the helpfulness of the video, and the effectiveness of Activities 1 and 2. Nearly all participants (98%) agreed that their table host was helpful, and 98% agreed that they were able to express themselves during the activities. Almost all attendees (98%) agreed that they would attend future meetings, and 94% agreed that they would bring friends and family to future meetings.

Table 13: Round 3 - Meeting Purpose, Video, & Activities

	The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated	The purpose of the meeting is important to me	The video helped me to understand the purpose of the meeting	The purpose of Activity 1 was clearly stated	Activity 1 helped to think about Activity 2	Activity 2 instructions were clear	Activity 2 was effective	The table host was helpful	I was able to express my ideas during the activity
Responses	229	224	219	224	218	219	220	216	212
Positive	96%	98%	92%	96%	92%	96%	97%	98%	98%
Neutral	3%	2%	7%	3%	6%	2%	3%	1%	2%
Negative	2%	0%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	0%	0%



Table 14: Round 3 - Future Meetings

Responses	I would attend future meetings	I would bring my friends and family to future meetings
Yes	99%	1%
No	94%	6%

In the Round 3 open ended responses, respondents expressed that they learned the value of future planning, and understood LA SAFE’s vision and how the money will be allocated. They further learned how stormwater management strategies such as green space can reduce local flooding, and the importance of preserving coastal wetlands. Meeting participants underlined the need for mental and behavioral health programs, and requested more economic development opportunities. Respondents explained that a little more clarity on the slides, questions and terms would help to enhance the meeting’s reach. They requested better signage on the street, a larger screen for the presentations, and more centrally located meetings. Again, residents pointed out that they would like to hear more from locals in the affected areas, and requested more transparency about coastal vulnerabilities and the money allocated to for LA SAFE projects.

Community Surveys

LA SAFE further surveyed community members in St. John the Baptist and Terrebonne parishes, in order to get additional feedback on the proposed programs, policies, and projects.

LA SAFE surveyed 63 community members in St. John the Baptist Parish at the Andouille Festival to receive feedback on the proposed projects for the fourth round of meetings. As a part of the survey, LA SAFE presented the high risk, moderate risk and low risk visions from the third round of meetings. The resident responses are in the table on the following page.



Figure 16 - LA SAFE surveys community members



Table 15: Andouille Festival Survey

	Visions	Increase Job Training	Reduce Flood Risk by Managing Stormwater	Create a Pedestrian Network	Fund Homeowner Incentives	Help Fund already Planned Streets	Fund Community Centers
Responses	63	58	63	57	58	62	63
Positive	68%	97%	92%	86%	84%	81%	79%
Neutral	16%	3%	5%	7%	10%	15%	17%
Negative	16%	0%	3%	7%	5%	5%	3%

As evidenced in the table, the majority of attendees agreed or strongly agreed with the visions presented. The most popular projects among the attendees were increase job training and reduce flood risk by managing stormwater, and the majority of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with all of the projects. This revealed that the LA SAFE project visions for St. John aligned with community needs.

LA SAFE also surveyed 43 community members in Terrebonne Parish at the Rougarou Festival, to gain feedback on the proposed projects for the fourth round of meetings. As a part of the survey, LA SAFE presented the high risk, moderate risk and low risk visions from the third round of meetings. The community responses are detailed in the table below.

Table 16: Rougarou Festival Survey

	Visions	Reduce Flood Risk by Managing Stormwater	Support Local Fisheries	Update Parish Ordinances	Revitalize Downtown Houma	Public Boat Launches	Downtown Houma Marina
Responses	43	43	42	42	43	42	42
Positive	84%	93%	93%	90%	88%	83%	74%
Neutral	7%	5%	2%	5%	9%	14%	17%
Negative	9%	2%	5%	5%	2%	2%	10%

The majority of attendees agreed or strongly agreed with the visions presented. The most popular projects among the attendees were reduce flood risk by managing stormwater and support local fisheries, and the majority of respondents slightly agreed, agreed, or strongly agreed with all of the projects. This shows that the project visions for Terrebonne Parish aligned with resident needs as well.

Additionally, LA SAFE surveyed 12 business owners and business community representatives in Terrebonne Parish after the final projects were drafted. The survey was conducted at a meeting with the business members in November. The team showed the business owners each of the proposed projects and asked for their feedback. The results of the survey are detailed in the table on the following page.



Table 17: Terrebonne Parish Business Owner Survey

	200-Acre Parcel Owned by Parish	Prototype Stormwater Management and Rec Use Projects	Public Boat Launch Program	Expand LaTer Program and Seafood Market	Skilled Workforce and Job Training	Continued Revitalization of Downtown Houma	Complete Streets Policy and Implementation Program
Responses	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Strongly Disagree	0%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Disagree	0%	17%	8%	0%	0%	0%	8%
Slightly Disagree	0%	17%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Neutral	0%	0%	33%	17%	17%	8%	0%
Slightly Agree	8%	42%	17%	25%	17%	0%	25%
Agree	25%	8%	25%	50%	0%	50%	25%
Strongly Agree	67%	8%	8%	8%	67%	42%	42%

The most popular projects for Terrebonne Parish business owners were the 200-acre parcel owned by the parish that could be used for stormwater management, skilled workforce and job training, continued revitalization of downtown Houma, and a complete streets policy and implementation program. The business owners were less excited about the park based stormwater management and recreational use projects, as well as the public boat launch program. The final projects selected for Terrebonne Parish, Buyouts Outside of the Morganza-to-the-Gulf Levee System and Lake Boudreaux Living Mitigation, were not presented at the meeting.

Linking to the Global Discussion

LA SAFE collaborated with a team of visiting scholars from Stanford University’s Global Projects Center to develop the following co-design principles. The principles were refined early in the engagement process to specifically address the goals of LA SAFE, and serve as guides and measures for a successful participatory process.

These five co-design principles guided the LA SAFE engagement process from beginning to end.

- Share power: “In a process that shares power, community members get to shape the goals, come up with solutions, and help choose which should be implemented first. All participants get to roll up their sleeves and add ideas to the plans, as well as make decisions on what will happen.”
- Prioritize relationships: “To prioritize relationships means that we take care of one another and take time to actually get to know each other as people. It means that we do not treat people just as a source of survey data or as a means to an end. We value building relationships and trust with community members on the front lines of our coastal challenge.”
- Include all points of view: “This process will include all points of view, which means that we value the many kinds of diversity in our communities – and that we need everyone’s ideas to come up with the smartest solutions. To include all points of view, we have to bring all community members to the table – and we have to make sure that everyone feels respected and comfortable to share their particular point of view.”
- Use all kinds of knowledge: “To use all kinds of knowledge means that we give equal respect to different kinds of knowledge, whether the knowledge comes from technical training or formal education, or whether it comes from life experiences, emotional responses or instinct. When we use all kinds of knowledge, we open up so many more possibilities for brilliant ideas.”



- Test solutions early and often: “We want to test solutions early and often, which means that we share and talk through ideas for solutions before we develop them in detail. We want the community to come up with ideas, choose what is most important, and help figure out how they will work. Because we are not leaping to any final solutions, we will have plenty of time to go back or change plans along the way.”

These measures were included in the process evaluation at each meeting during Rounds 1 and 3. The cumulative results are presented in the following tables.

The overall responses in Round 1 were very positive, as most participants provided a great or good rating to each of the principles, with the highest percentage (65.1%) of great responses assigned to include all points of view. Each of the principles received a response of needs work, with the highest percentage given to test solutions early and often (12.2%). Very few respondents gave a response of poor to any of the principles.

Table 18: Round 1 - Co-Design Principles

	Share power	Prioritize relationships	Include all points of view	Utilize all kinds of knowledge	Test solutions early and often
Responses	272	268	272	270	255
Great	60.3%	56.7%	65.1%	58.5%	54.9%
Good	29.8%	34.7%	25.4%	31.5%	31.8%
Needs Work	8.5%	8.2%	8.1%	9.6%	12.2%
Poor	1.5%	0.4%	1.5%	0.4%	1.2%

The Round 3 surveys again asked meeting participants to evaluate LA SAFE in terms of the five principles of co-design. In comparison to the Round 1 meetings, these responses showed an improvement for each of the principles. Most respondents gave a great or good response to each of the principles, with 78% of the participants providing a great response to include all points of view. Very few attendees selected needs work, and even fewer respondents selected poor across all principles; two of the principles, share power and prioritize relationships, had no poor responses.

Table 19: Round 3 - Co-Design Principles

	Share power	Prioritize relationships	Include all points of view	Utilize all kinds of knowledge	Test solutions early and often
Responses	183	181	182	183	182
Great	76.0%	69.6%	78.0%	72.7%	66.5%
Good	23.5%	28.2%	17.6%	25.7%	30.2%
Needs Work	0.5%	2.2%	2.7%	1.1%	2.7%
Poor	0.0%	0.0%	1.6%	0.5%	0.5%



In both Rounds 1 and 3, the response to the co-design principles was positive. These principles were the backbone of the planning process.

The process measures showed a mostly positive set of results. Residents thought the meetings were effective, and allowed them to share their ideas. Community members and business owners also had a mostly positive response to the proposed programs, policies and projects. Meeting participants agreed that the process reflected the co-design principles of sharing power, prioritizing relationships, including all points of view, utilizing all kinds of knowledge, and testing solutions early and often. The process survey reviews were mostly positive; however, the outcomes surveys asked more critical questions.

The meeting satisfaction surveys showed:

- ◆ Nearly all the Residents thought that the meetings were effective
- ◆ Participants thought the meetings created an atmosphere where they could share their ideas
- ◆ Community members and business owners had a positive response to the proposed programs, policies, and projects
- ◆ Attendees agreed that the process reflected the co-design principles of sharing power, prioritizing relationships, including all points of view, utilizing all kinds of knowledge, and testing solutions early and often



The Evaluation: Outcome Analysis

After the announcement of the projects in April 2018, UNO-CHART began to gather information for the outcome part of the evaluation. This was a much more difficult process, as time had passed, and people were less willing to revisit the process. At times, long planning processes that ask for community input again and again over an extended period of time can give residents “planning fatigue,” and discourage them from engaging in the entire process (Nelson, Ehrenfeucht, & Laska, 2007).

Surveys

The UNO-CHART team sent out a digital survey to meeting participants, including residents, parish officials, and other meeting attendees. The team created a spreadsheet of survey recipients using the sign in sheets from each round of meetings. There was an error in the first two delivery attempts, but then using UNO’s email server, the survey was sent to all attendees who left an email address, and received 79 responses. This glitch delayed the process, and may have caused fewer people to answer. The responses received are detailed below.

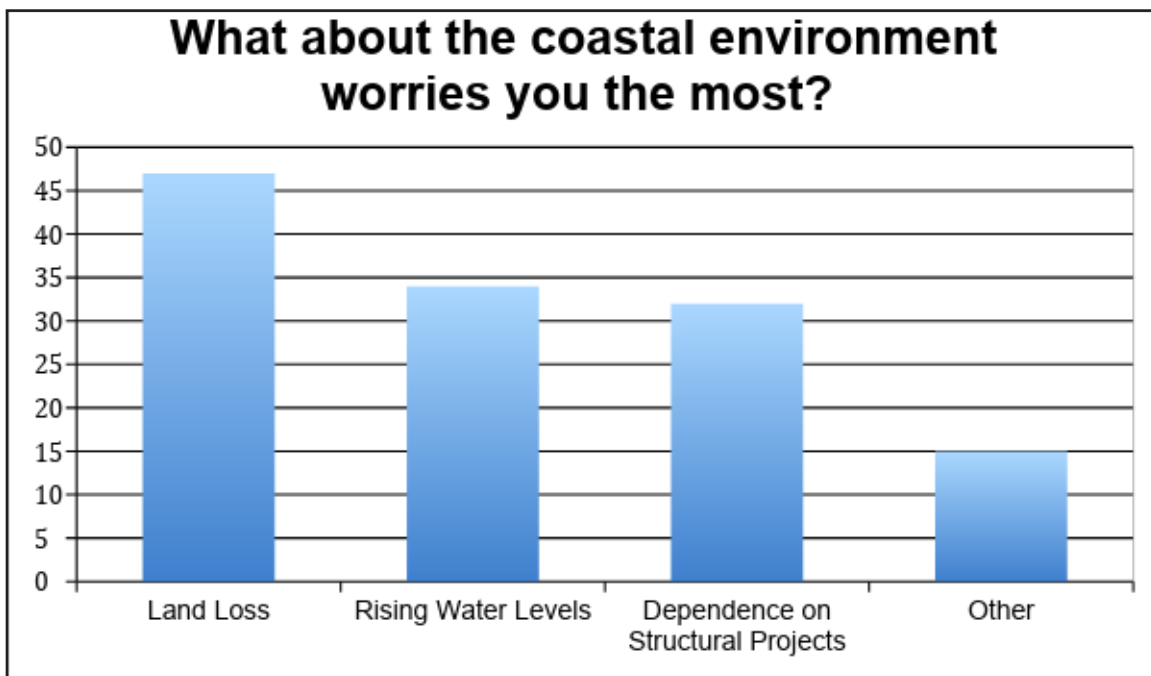


Figure 17 - What about the coastal environment worries you the most?

The first question asked what issues about the coastal environment most often worry respondents. A total of 47 people, or 60.3%, said land loss, 34, or 43.6%, said rising water levels, and 32, or 41%, said the dependence on and need for structural projects. A total of 15 people entered values for “other,” including need for green infrastructure, nonstructural and structural projects, and issues with drainage and overdevelopment in the floodplain. Survey respondents were allowed to enter more than one answer for this question.



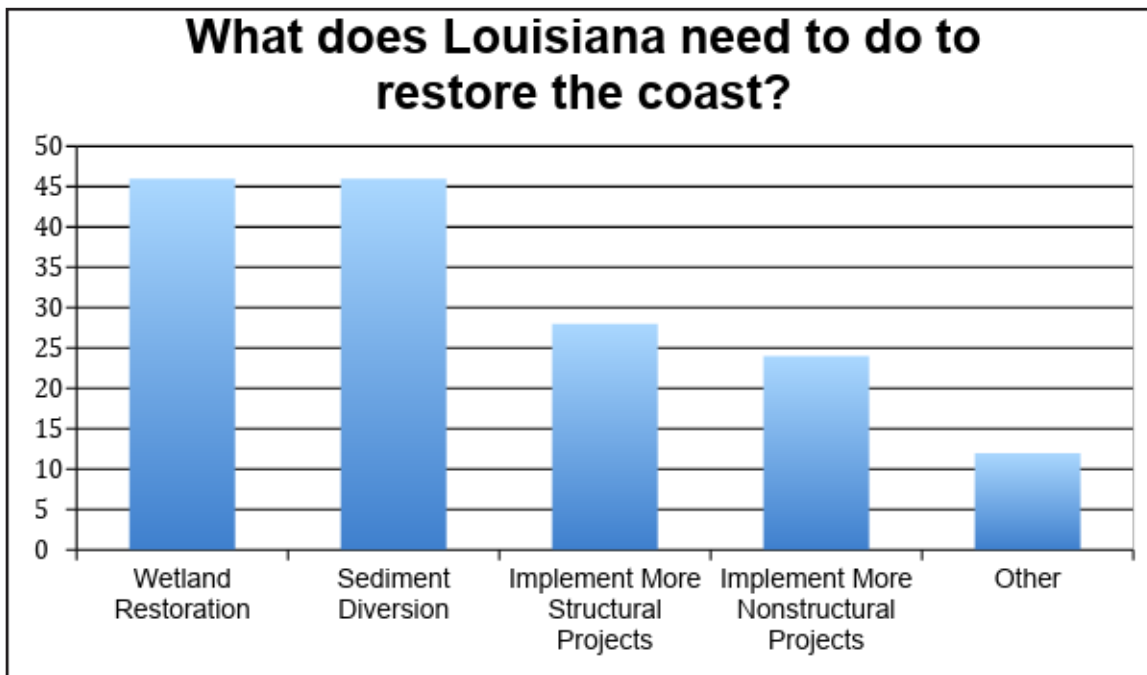


Figure 18 - What does Louisiana need to restore the coast?

The second question asked what Louisiana needs to do to restore the coast. A total of 46 people (59%), selected wetland restoration, 46 respondents (53.8%), selected sediment diversion, 28 (35.9%) selected implement more structural projects, 24 (30.8%) selected implement more nonstructural projects, and 12 (15.4%) selected other. Again, survey respondents were allowed to select more than one answer for this question.

Table 20: What could Louisiana do to make the coast more sustainable?

- “Use resources such as broken concrete to build a barrier.”
- “Stop the development of coastal areas for both industrial and high density/high impact residential uses.”
- “Acknowledge there are areas that cannot be saved and work on infrastructure to accept those people and industries in the areas that will eventually succumb.”

The third question was a short answer question, and asked what Louisiana could do to make the coast more sustainable. Most of the respondents listed methods to restore the coast, including nonstructural and structural projects. The structural projects included levees and rocking the coast. The nonstructural projects included floodplain management, managed migration, and enhancement of natural processes. Many respondents underlined the need to act quickly.

The next question asked respondents to rank coastal strategies from 1 to 8, with 1 representing the most useful idea, and 8 representing the least useful idea. A majority of the respondents ranked natural stormwater management using vegetation and affordable housing that is protected from flooding as number 1, assist local businesses as number 6, safe harbors as number 7, and seafood market, environmental education center, complete streets and improved parks, and property buyouts as number 8. Although the majority of respondents ranked environmental education center last, 22.5% chose it as their second option. The other rankings varied per respondent, without a clear majority choice.



Table 21: What projects should have been included in LA SAFE?

“Actual storm protection from flooding and surges like levees and sea walls and gates.”

“Renewable/sustainable energy education/training for oilfield workers to transition over to new jobs.”

“Flood insurance assistance program.”

The following question asked what projects should have been included in LA SAFE. The answers to this varied, with ideas about education, levees, green infrastructure, and flood insurance.

The second part of the survey asked respondents about the outcomes of the planning process.

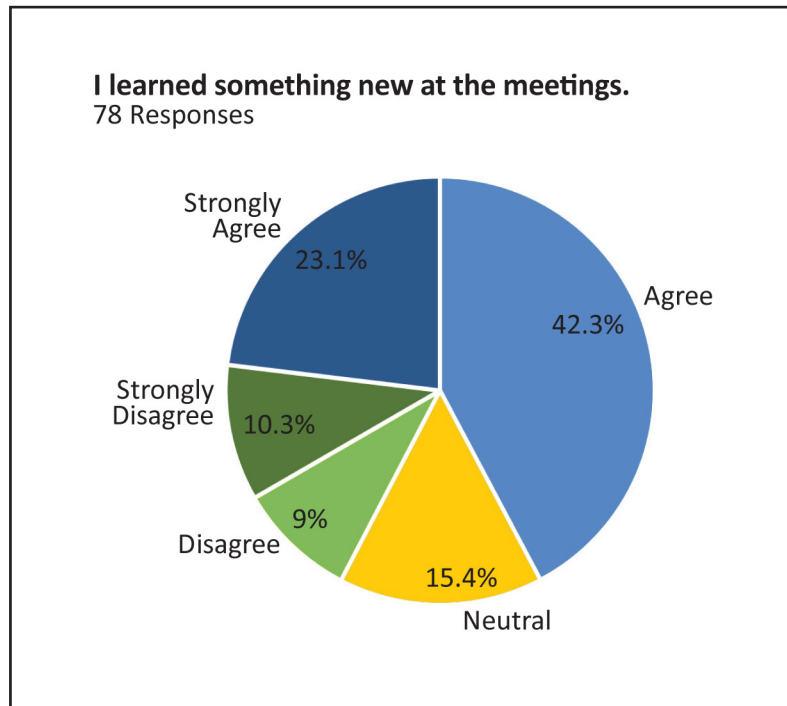


Figure 19 - I learned something new at the meetings.

A total of 65.4% of respondents agreed that they learned something new at the LA SAFE meetings, 15.4% were neutral, and 19.3% disagreed.



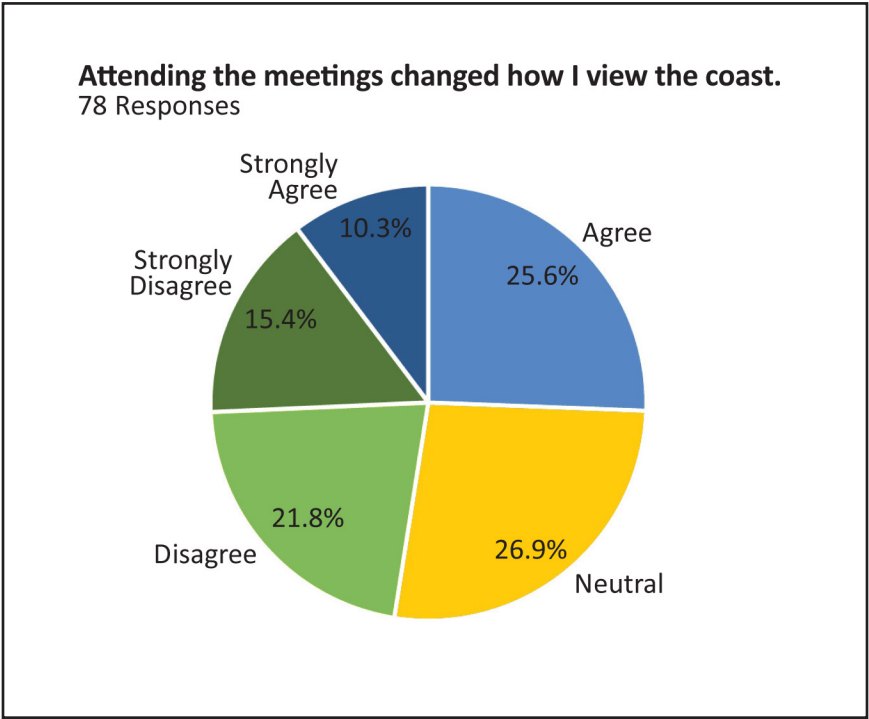


Figure 20 - Attending the meetings changed how I view the coast.

A total of 35.9% of respondents agreed that the meetings changed how they view the coast, 26.9% were neutral, and 37.2% disagreed.

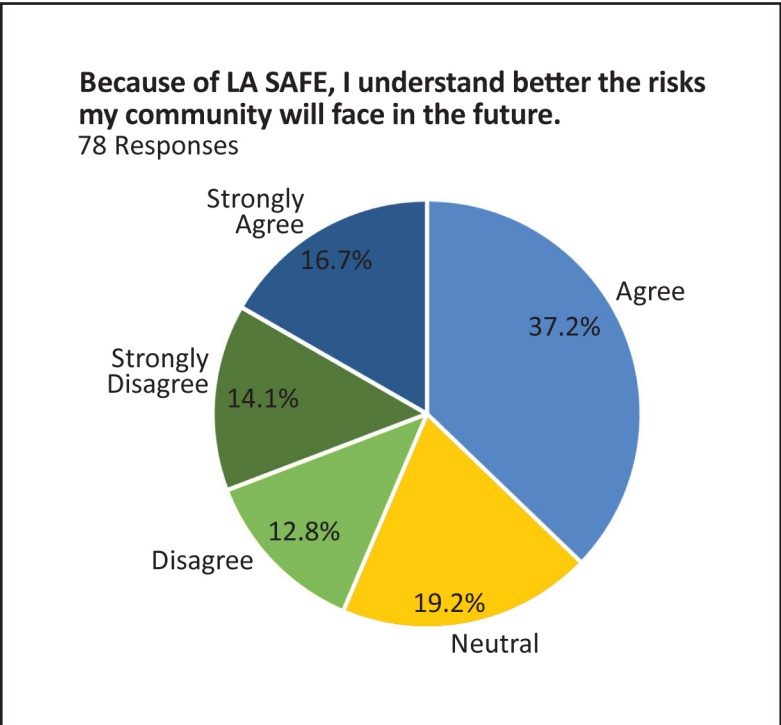


Figure 21 - Because of LA SAFE, I understand better the risks my community will face in the future.

A total of 53.9% of respondents agreed that they understand risks their community will face in the future due to LA SAFE, 19.2% were neutral, and 26.9% disagreed.



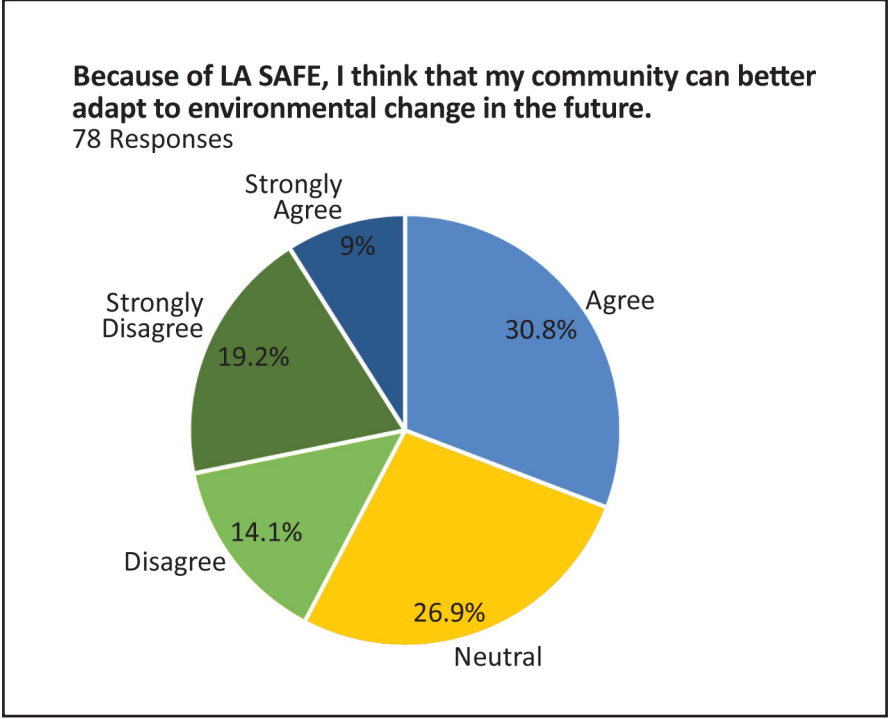


Figure 22 - Because of LA SAFE, I think that my community can better adapt to environmental change in the future.

A total of 39.8% of respondents agreed that their community can better adapt to environmental changes in the future due to LA SAFE, 26.9% were neutral, and 33.3% disagreed.

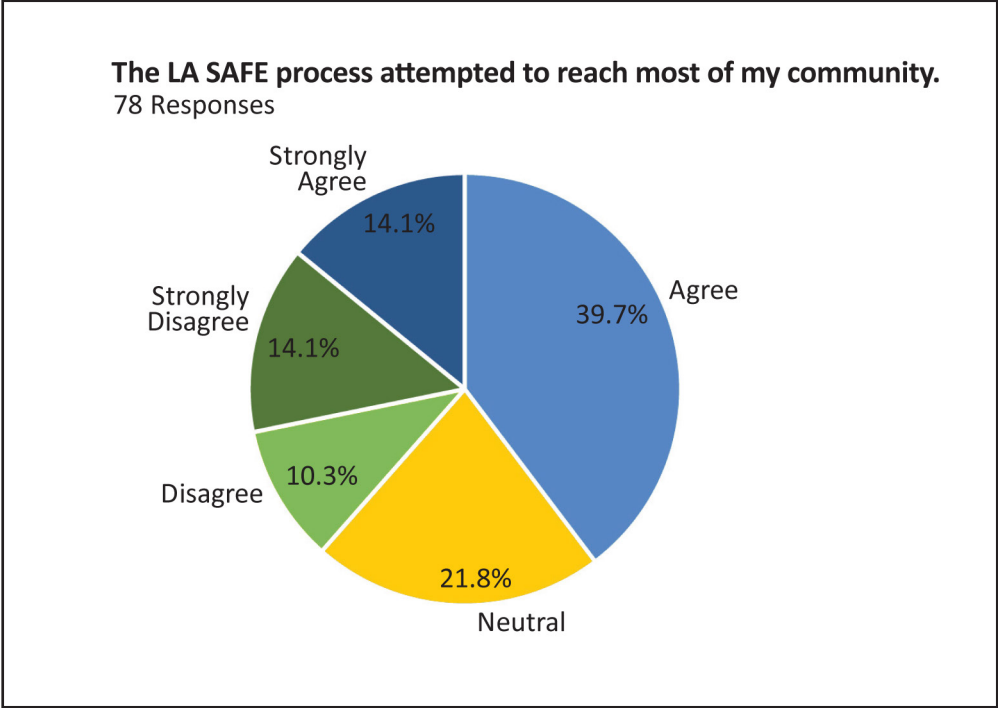


Figure 23 - The LA SAFE process attempted to reach most of my community.

A total of 53.8% of respondents agreed that the LA SAFE process attempted to reach most of their community, 21.8% were neutral, and 24.4% disagreed.



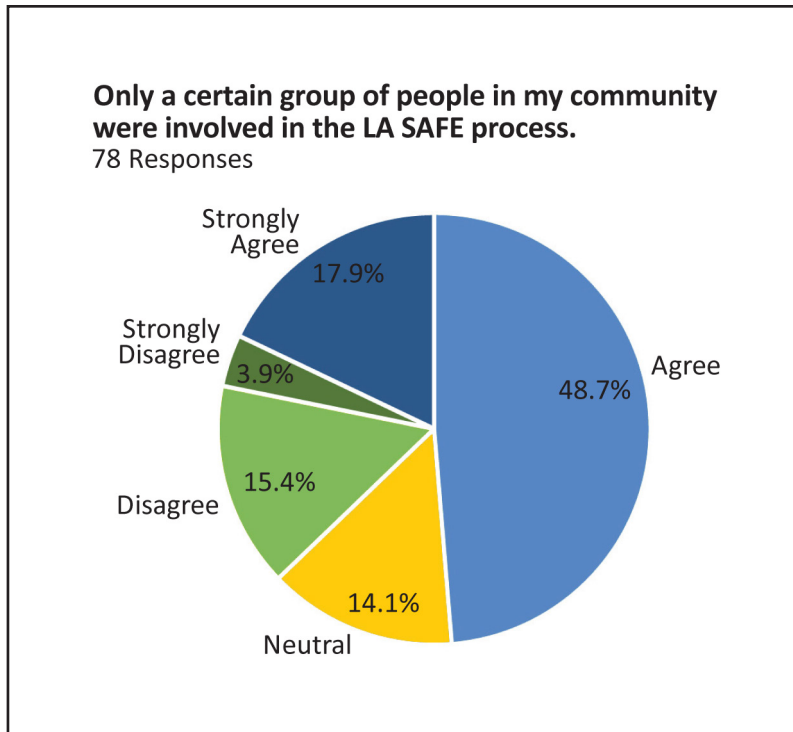


Figure 24 - Only a certain group of people in my community were involved in the LA SAFE process.

A total of 66.6% of people responded that only a certain group of people in their community were involved in the LA SAFE process, 14.1% were neutral, and 19.3% disagreed.

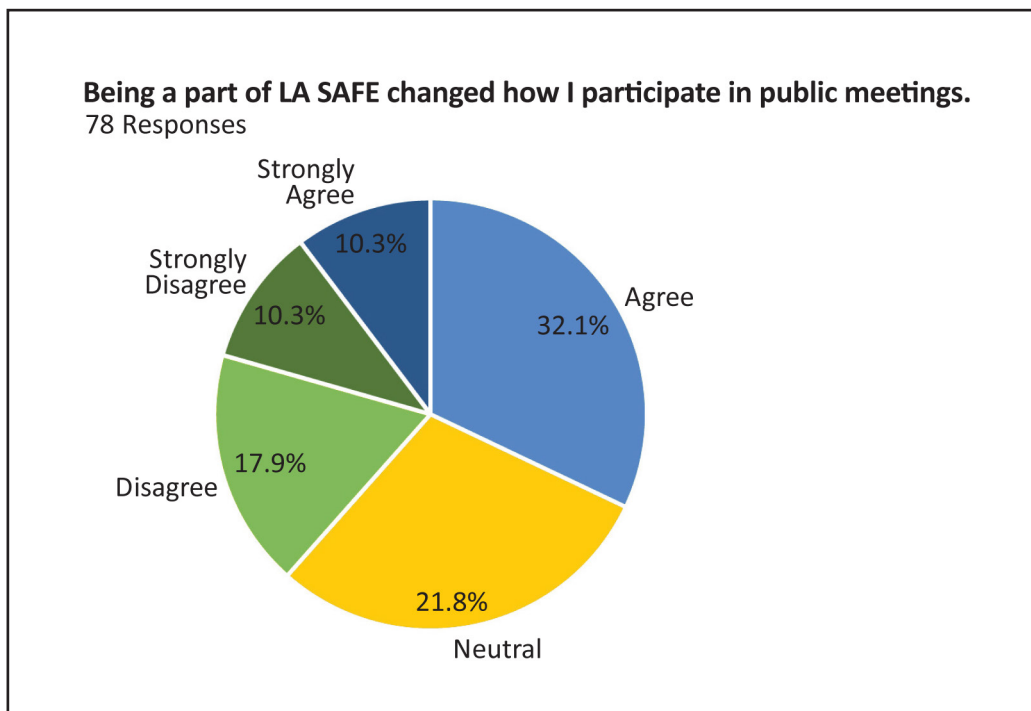


Figure 25 - Being a part of LA SAFE changed how I participate in public meetings.

A total of 42.1% of respondents agreed that LA SAFE changed how they participate in public meetings, 29.5% were neutral, and 28.2% disagreed.



Table 22: What do you think was the greatest benefit to come out of LA SAFE?	
<i>Positive</i>	<i>Negative</i>
<p>“To get informed in what is taking place in my community & those around me.”</p> <p>“Showing residents the important of coastal planning and restoration.”</p> <p>“Community coming together and being a part of the planning process.”</p>	<p>“I tend to believe that LA SAFE is largely preaching to a choir – that it’s targeting is off where decision and policy making are concerned.”</p> <p>“Created a lot of jobs that mostly went to those outside of the 6 parishes.”</p> <p>“There was no benefit. Suggesting parks and recreational areas be built after the next flood is an insult to those of us who live here.”</p>

At the end of the survey, respondents detailed the greatest benefits of LA SAFE. These answers included knowledge, awareness, community collaboration, conversation, local input, and the ability to be heard. Others detailed negative outcomes, such as projects that ignored communities in need, projects that seemed to pander to political interests, and overspending on planning.

Table 23: What, in your opinion, would have helped improve the LA SAFE process?
<p>“Diversity and inclusivity of all stakeholders.”</p> <p>“Utilize local facilitators and not spend so much money on the process.”</p> <p>“Less computer stuff--more old fashioned communication. I was intimidated by your methods.”</p>

Respondents were also asked what would have improved the process. Suggestions included better outreach to the most vulnerable, making the process more efficient, and including more community members on the team, rather than consultants. Other respondents emphasized that the process could have been completed at less cost.



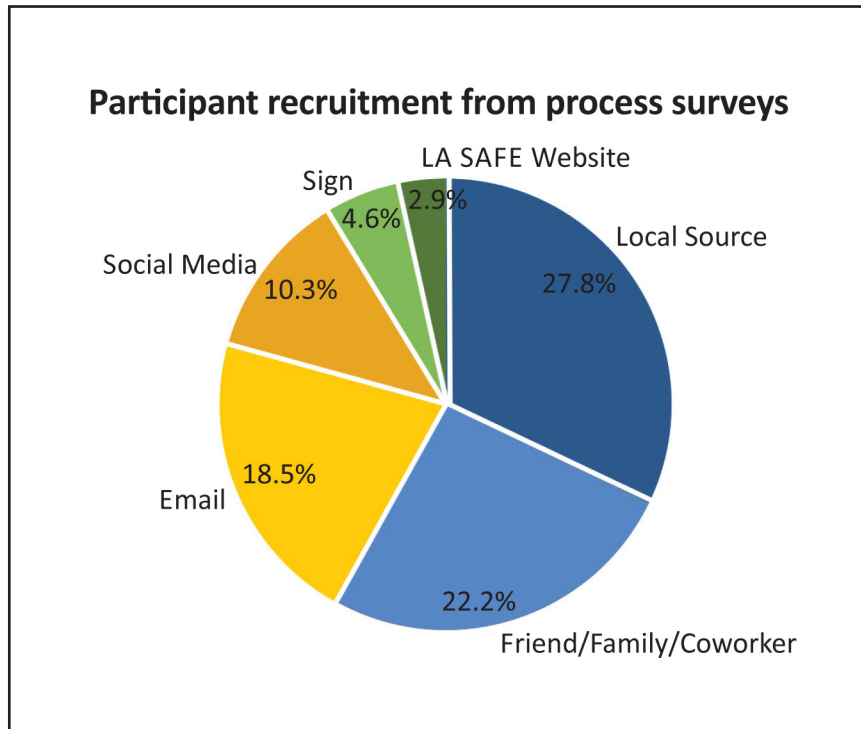


Figure 26 - Participant recruitment from process surveys

The process surveys in Rounds 1 through 3 asked participants how they were recruited for the meetings. The majority (27.8%) were recruited from a local source, including such sources as the newspaper, radio, community organizations, and parish government. Almost a quarter were recruited by a friend/family member or coworker. Only 18.5% were recruited through email, and only 10.3% through social media.

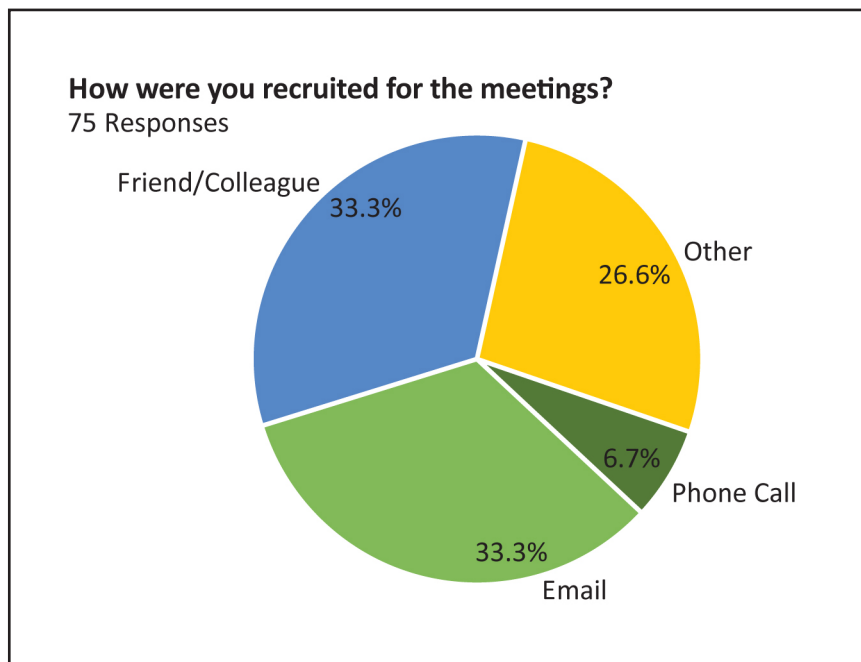


Figure 27 - Participant recruitment from outcome surveys

Similar to the process surveys, the outcome survey asked how attendees were recruited for the meetings. A majority of the outcome respondents attended due to an email or a friend or colleague. Although the process surveys had more nuanced responses, the majority of the outcome surveys were recruited using two methods. This is an important finding because of the attention paid to outreach efforts such as local signage, flyers, and



push cards.

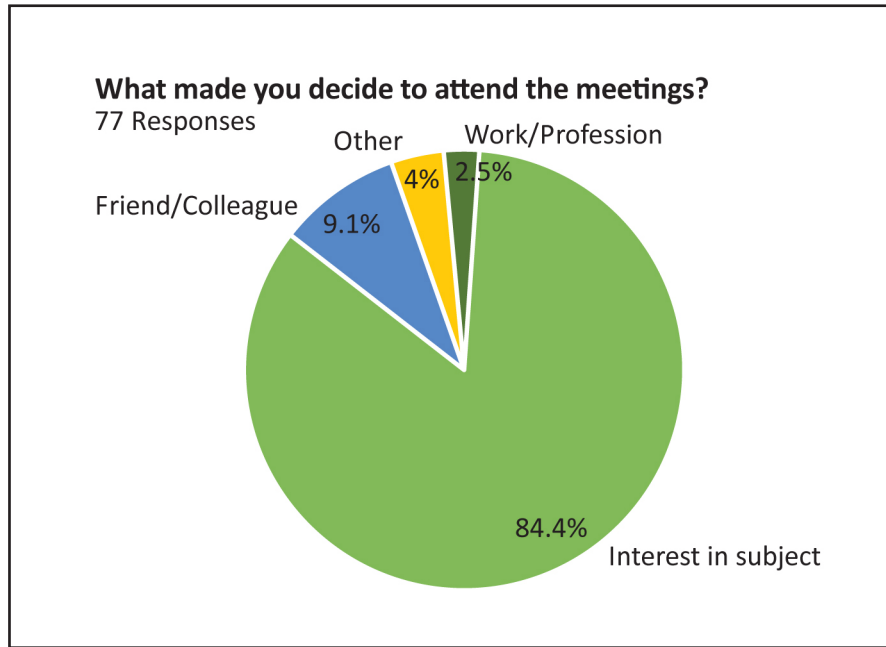


Figure 28 - What made you decide to attend the meetings?

The final question asked respondents why they decided to attend the meetings. A vast majority answered that their attendance was due to their interest in the subject. The survey results reveal that the majority of attendees were interested in what happens on the coast, and would like to combat land loss and rising water levels using both structural and nonstructural strategies.

The adaptation strategies in LA SAFE’s regional and parish plans integrate stormwater management, housing and development, transportation, education, economy and jobs, and culture and recreation to provide community benefits that improve quality of life while mitigating flood risk. The strategies include implementation recommendations for low risk, moderate risk, and high risk areas. While the strategies emerge from resident and stakeholder ideas and input, they appear in the plans at a more abstract level, without providing space for the resident’s voices. The projects chosen for LA SAFE are depicted in the table below.

Parish	Project
Jefferson	Gretna Resilience District Kickstart Louisiana Wetland Education Center
St. Tammany	Safe Haven Blue-Green Campus & Trails
St. John the Baptist	Airline & Main Complete Streets
Terrebonne	Lake Boudreaux Living Mitigation Buyouts for Permanent Resident Households
Lafourche	Emerging Industry Business Incubator Resilient Housing Prototype
Plaquemines	Harbor of Refuge Mental Health & Substance Abuse Program



When reviewing the LA SAFE projects, the outcome survey respondents showed a preference for stormwater management and affordable housing, showing support for the Jefferson, Lafourche, and St. Tammany projects, but, from this data, were less supportive of the Plaquemines, St. John, or Terrebonne projects. The projects with respondent support included a resilience district, a wetlands education center, a business incubator, resilient housing, and a blue-green trail. The projects with less support included a mental health program, complete streets, marsh mitigation, and property buyouts. The fluid and democratic selection process created a framework where not everyone would agree, but a majority of the Round 5 meeting attendees reached a consensus. A majority of the survey respondents said that they learned something new about the coast, but less agreed that LA SAFE changed how they view the coast. Similarly, a majority said that they better understand their risks, but disagreed that they can better adapt in the future. The answers also showed that the outreach may have missed some members of the community, but it did change how almost half of the attendees participate in public meetings.

The outcome survey conducted three months after the end of the program revealed:

- ◆ The meeting participants learned something new about the coast, but the process did not necessarily change how they view the coast
- ◆ From the process, the residents better understand their risk, but are less hopeful about their ability to adapt in the future
 - ◆ Some respondents thought that the outreach methods may have missed some members of the community
 - ◆ The process changed how a majority of the respondents participate in public meetings

Interviews

The evaluation team conducted a set of interviews with participants and project team members. Each set of interviews revealed similar patterns. Interviews with participants included those who stated they would like to be contacted after the digital survey, and then a random selection of interviews were selected from the list of all meeting attendees. The interviews with team members included one to two members from each participating firm, depending on their interest and availability.

Overall, respondents stated that, for the most part, the process worked. Over time, there were more criticisms of the process than reported initially. Both the participants and the project team members viewed the engagement process as the most successful aspect of the project. Also, the interviews brought up issues of clarification of message, a disconnect between the planning process and the chosen projects, and an unclear explanation of the relationship to the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA).

In the beginning, the residents had a hard time understanding the concepts of LA SAFE, and what it really meant for the community. In part, this criticism was mediated by the nature of the process, which asked residents what they thought about their community. However, it is apparent that the planning team crafted the message based on feedback from the meetings, which was confusing for some participants. One of the project team members stated:

“I think we lost participation because of the lack of clarity, but I also think we had competing interests moving at the same time that prevented us from getting more of that awareness out. Basically, they were anti-state, and didn’t realize how LA SAFE complemented the Coastal Master Plan and addressed things the Coastal Master Plan wouldn’t address. I don’t think that was realized until later on in the process.”

Nearly all respondents thought that the main strength of the process was the way that the project engaged the community. Every project team member mentioned the community engagement process as the unique and sustaining part of the project. A project team member stated:

“I think it was the big interest and participation of the communities for all six parishes. It was pretty incredible



how people turned out, and they were so engaged in the process.”

Some thought the way that information was presented at the meetings was overwhelming; others stated that the information on the table was difficult to grasp. Yet, all interview participants agreed that the information, as well as the manner in which it was conveyed, had the possibility to change how they thought about the coast and their lives.

Residents and project team members talked about recruitment and participants of the meetings. Repeatedly, interviewees expressed issues with the outreach methods. Because these meetings depended on interaction, residents noticed who was there and who was missing. One resident from Terrebonne Parish stated:

“I think, I don’t know how well or successful you declared the marketing campaign to be, but what I did notice was the attendance of the minority communities. I didn’t see high attendance in those communities. I don’t know what kind of outreach was done to reach those communities whether through a religious organization or something.”

The interviews with team members, not surprisingly, showed a great deal of knowledge about the process. They discussed the need for smoother communication for the team, and noted that the process was sometimes cumbersome and slow moving. Others pointed out that the process for recruitment varied from parish to parish, and so the results were not as universal as they might have been. Still others pointed out the necessity for a more streamlined process and schedule over all. Additionally, others expressed the need for a clearer vision for the FFL and the OCD roles.

However, all of the interviewees (both participants and team members) thought the partnership between both public and nonprofit agencies was the strength of the project. It brought science and community into one shared space.

From both the participants and the project team there was a disconnect between the process and the projects. One team member stated:

“One of the biggest missteps was the way it was outlined and presented was different than the way it manifested and rolled out. Our impression and the impression we helped promote, that this was going to be an inclusive, reflective planning process. But at the end of the day, it felt like the visions, though perhaps rooted in community feedback, were a little more contrived and prepackaged behind the scenes by what the consultants wanted.”

For some participants, there was a deep sense that nothing would work, that it was too late, and that they were going to die before anything worked. Others were more cynical:

“Actually listen to the input that we gave, because when we gave all they did was turn around and do what the politicians wanted anyway. They were using it as a cover for what politicians wanted. We gave input, and the things that popped up at the meetings. It was a big farce. I went to every meeting all across the parish of St Tammany Parish.”

Still others appreciated the process, but had logistical suggestions. One participant pointed out:

“What I would have liked to see is perhaps smaller groups that could talk in more detail. Rotations or something so that we could all get to discuss all of the opportunities and proposals.”

A majority of those interviewed, however, thought that the information was valuable and useful to them. They thought that this program had made a difference. Another participant mentioned that they liked the focus of the program. The following quotes show the complex understanding of the process by the residents:



“I knew some things about the coastal land loss, but it wasn’t until I was able to sit at the table and look at those maps and see how close it is to home. The idea of losing your property can be scary. You work so hard for what you have, and you can’t leave that legacy for the youth. It opened my eyes up, and not only helped me, but also helped the youth that I work with. They need to see that with their own eyes, because in 25 years that’s gonna be them. They gotta do it before it’s too late.”

“Well, I liked the focus y’all had on resiliency instead of restoration. I think restoration is sort of a futile approach given the hazards that we have to deal with. I think that focusing on resiliency is going to have a better return on investment.”

“Well, I’ve been involved in the coast for a while, but it did broaden the information. Most of the coastal discussions to date have been looking at restoration projects, whereas LA SAFE was looking at, well some were survival activities, some were enhancements to the existing environment, and some were local improvements such as the improved drainage capabilities in Elmwood to prevent street flooding, and like the Gretna proposals. It broadened my understanding of what is possible.”

Although there were recommendations to improve the process, the participants and team members thought it was a successful project overall. After the interviews, the evaluation team moved toward an examination of the LA SAFE mission, and the replicability of the planning process.

The interviews with participants and team members showed:

- ◆The information shared during the LA SAFE process was valuable and useful
 - ◆The LA SAFE program made a difference in the targeted parishes
- ◆There were a number of recommendations on how to improve the process including improving communication, more strategic outreach, and a less intensive meeting schedule

Revisiting the Goals

The evaluation team revisited the LA SAFE mission and goals, in order to understand if the planned outcomes occurred.

LA SAFE Mission



Figure 29 - LA SAFE’s mission



The LA SAFE mission is “working together for community resilience, economic prosperity, and a better quality of life for everyone in Louisiana.” This mission does reflect the focus on providing, “a collective search for common ground,” as the team worked to identify projects to reduce risk (Innes, 1996). LA SAFE’s effort to engage a variety of residents and stakeholders was an ambitious one. From all of the data, it appears that LA SAFE was successful in fulfilling its mission.

Community resilience involves community engagement. Research shows that planning for the future works best if the community is involved (Brody & Highfield, 2005). LA SAFE took this research as the center of its process, at some risk. This type of community engagement can bring out the best in communities (prosocial behaviors and collaboration) or the worst (dismissive, cynical behavior). For the most part, the data show that those that participated were authentically engaged in the process.

Risk communication was a big part of the LA SAFE process. Godschalk, Brody and Burby (2003) point out the difficulty in planning with residents and local politicians who may, for a variety of reasons, not communicate the risks. LA SAFE effectively communicated these risks, by bringing the latest scientific and environmental information directly to the community and, in some cases, with local politicians and planners at the same table. This process allowed for frank conversation about the risk and possible solutions. LA SAFE provided, as well, for a successful partnership between a state agency (OCD) and a philanthropic agency (FFL).

LA SAFE Goals

LA SAFE had three main goals for the outcomes of the planning process.

Goal 1: To generate parish-wide, community-driven adaptation plans focused on opportunities for residents and stakeholders to proactively adapt and prepare for anticipated environmental changes over the next 10, 25, and 50 years.

This goal was accomplished. In each parish, there is now an extensive plan with specific identified projects. The success of this goal is evident in the strengths and challenges of the process.

Goal 2: To implement a catalytic project in each of the six parishes that demonstrates adaptive development practices that conform to current and future flood risks. Furthermore, LA SAFE is intended to identify and support development of resilience-building projects and practices that can serve as models for the entire region

The projects have been identified. The projects chosen for LA SAFE are listed in the table below.

Table 24: LA SAFE Projects by Parish

Parish	Project
Jefferson	Gretna Resilience District Kickstart Louisiana Wetland Education Center
St. Tammany	Safe Haven Blue-Green Campus & Trails
St. John the Baptist	Airline & Main Complete Streets
Terrebonne	Lake Boudreaux Living Mitigation Buyouts for Permanent Resident Households
Lafourche	Emerging Industry Business Incubator Resilient Housing Prototype
Plaquemines	Harbor of Refuge Mental Health & Substance Abuse Program



Whether or not the above projects are implemented and are successful will be a continuing function of this evaluation.

Goal 3: To create a statewide adaptation model that enhances long-term sustainability and resiliency for all Louisiana parishes.

LA SAFE began what could be viewed as a long-term engagement and planning process. And, in this section, we would like to address the question of whether or not this model is replicable. The following is a brief discussion of what we learned, and how to best replicate this model.

What did we learn from the LA SAFE process?

The following analysis reflects all of the data mentioned above.

Strengths of Process

- There were, for the most part, overall positive responses from the community. From all the sources of data, this process engaged the communities. This ground up planning process is a model for how to help communities to understand the risks Louisiana faces.
- The project identified the best practices for outreach using both social media and working through agencies that have relationships with participants.
- There was effective outreach, especially in some of the marginal communities (Vietnamese and Cambodia), but there could have been greater participation from African American and Native American communities.
- Once community members attended, they participated fully in the activities. They completed questionnaires, answered questions, and expressed their opinions.
- From all the data, it appears that the LA SAFE process increased community understanding and knowledge of risk.
- The team worked diligently to garner political buy in, and this was mostly successful. It was not clear at the beginning that this buy-in was going to be such a time consuming process. The participation at the press conference announcing the projects was evidence of this success. From the Governor to the state legislators, all participating officials seemed to support the process.
- LA SAFE has on the whole been viewed as an achievement. In meetings throughout the country, planning practitioners and scholars refer to the LA SAFE process. It was an attempt to bring information, planning, and solutions to the community in an engaging way. This attempt has set a new standard in community collaboration. In that way, LA SAFE has entered the lexicon of coastal planning.

Challenges of Process

- Some parishes had more difficulties than others with participation. For example, parish captains reported that there was planning fatigue in Jefferson Parish. The most contentious participants attended meetings in St. Tammany. The greatest criticism came also from the audience in St. Tammany Parish, who thought that the meetings were political and accomplished little.
- The planning team accessed populations through groups and organizations with whom they had previous relationships, but a more systematic engagement process may have been more successful. The data revealed that the residents sometimes thought that the information presented needed more clarity.
- Meetings were not always managed well. The meeting leaders did not always greet attendees, or seat them in a way that could increase participation. When local politicians arrived, the parish captains appeared to be catering to them.
- The issue of equity was addressed in terms of who was invited, but not explicitly in terms of content.



Challenges with Research and Analysis

- Lack of consistency in the data across communities, parishes, and time frames made analysis difficult.
- In the past 10-15 years, much work has been done in different parishes. While every effort was made to include the most update information, still meeting participants made references to information about the parish that the project team did not have available.

How can we build on the LA SAFE process?

- While LA SAFE is a work in progress, the process revealed how complex the message is and how difficult it is to convey this complexity.
- What worked best in engagement was accessing participants through already established groups. Those parishes that were most successful used groups located in the parish to recruit people to attend. This time consuming in the beginning, but becomes easier if the project is successful.
- It is possible to accomplish a great deal more at these meetings. Some of the materials remained abstract in this project, and some of the exercises too difficult. It would be easier to simplify the message and the outcome well before the first meeting. Additionally, as the team stated, the large number of meetings were not needed – fewer, more directed meetings would be more efficient.
- There should have been more time on analysis of what actually happened at the meetings. The LA SAFE team should have allowed the meeting participants to participate in a verbal evaluation of the process at the end of each meeting, in order to provide an opportunity to review.
- There could have been more local involvement, not only from parish officials, but from actively engaged and connected residents.
- The differences in worldview and priorities across parishes underscored the need to pursue strategies that have multiple benefits, and to vary strategies by area, in order to align with local priorities.
- To build trust and mutual support, the leaders of the project and the community leaders might spend time at the beginning of the project understanding each others' goals and values.
- Residents are aware of what is happening in their communities, and will work together with outsiders. However, professionals will be most successful if they are capable of showing empathy, and are straightforward with the community.
- Residents' relationship to and emphasis on culture and their communities varied across the parishes. In some of the most vulnerable and diverse areas, community members emphasized the importance of saving and continuing unique culture and traditions for future generations. In some areas that were
- relatively safer and more homogenous, residents did not emphasize the importance of culture, or know about existing cultural efforts. It is important to know each area; one size does not fit all.
- People on the ground have a greater understanding of the issues, and the community meetings can build upon this knowledge. If a project team can present abstract scientific concepts in plain language, residents will link these experiences to their everyday lives.
- It could be helpful to set up an apparatus that allows meeting attendees to request interpreters for a meeting, and lets potential participants know that this service is available.
- The planning profession is moving away from large-scale workshop style meetings to more intimate, hands-on conversations. More sensitivity to the reluctance of some of the parishes to hold such large workshops and instead focus on more intimate ways of obtaining input may have been beneficial. LA SAFE has begun to embrace this change.
- It is possible, once the message is clear, to use meetings of regional stakeholders to present some of the information. This process of piggybacking on already established groups may work in some parishes and areas, and be an economical way to continue the model.
- Evaluation is a critical component of any planning process. This evaluation process showed that such an evaluation can help build a sustainable model.



How can future planners use this knowledge for the remaining parishes?

- Ongoing planning processes in the other parishes might model their approach after LA SAFE to ensure consistency, allow for lessons learned, and create opportunities for a more connected region.
- LA SAFE could provide a how-to manual for others to follow, and describe how parishes and other regions can take this on themselves, and lead these efforts internally with minimal outside support. From the state side, this would entail offering a one to two day workshop with leaders and community stakeholders on how to bring together key staff and departments, how to engage the community, and how to evaluate traditional projects to enhance the resilience value. The policy and program recommendations (and even projects, potentially) that emerge from this initial effort should be able to be customized and followed in other areas.
- Other planning teams are working to replicate the LA SAFE process, including the Department of City Planning in New York City, and the Nature Conservancy in Virginia.
- The Rockefeller Foundation in coordination with UNO-CHART, Foundation for Louisiana, and Concordia LLC is in the process of conducting three convenings using the learnings from LA SAFE in relation to global knowledge of resilience and adaptation. An evaluation of this project is ongoing.

Conclusion

Summary

The magnitude of the LA SAFE planning process represents an innovative method of engagement, research and implementation for Louisiana. LA SAFE has yet to implement the projects chosen, but all of the other goals are complete. The future of Louisiana is uncertain; both chronic and acute environmental events have unexpected consequences for planners. Each hurricane season brings with it the chance of destruction, so that planning becomes even more difficult. There exists, of course, the tension of planning for the next event while recovering from the last one. This tension was present in every conversation in every parish. Climate change makes this tension even more pronounced. The people in Louisiana face difficult choices in the coming years, and the LA SAFE process could help inform/improve these choices.

Using LA SAFE as a guide, the evaluation team created a model for successful community engagement and evaluation practices. The below model shows that a successful planning process develops a coherent message through research, uses clear and understandable language, graphics, and pre-tests the message with stakeholders. The engagement process involves evaluating the community groups, their constituents, and their success with LA SAFE. By researching new community partners, such as faith-based organizations and other nonprofits, planners can identify new key partners. Then, planners can collaborate with those partners to reach out to the community to recruit participants. Successful meetings use local knowledge, and include small meetings with stakeholders as well as attendance at local meetings. An effective evaluation includes a process and outcome analysis made up of ethnographic note taking, surveys, and interviews. Throughout the process, the engagement, meeting notes, and evaluation all feed back to the message, which evolves over time.



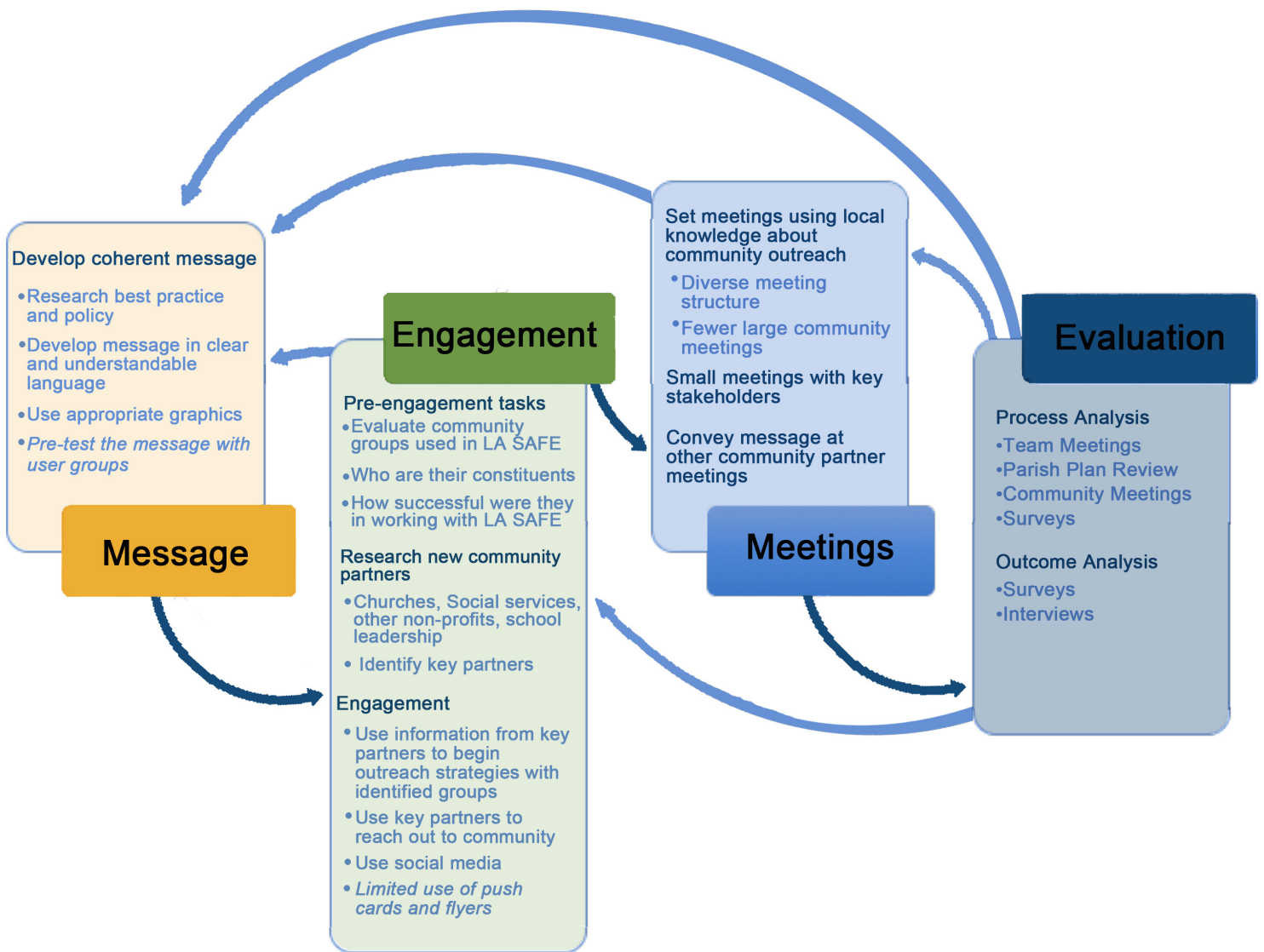


Figure 30 - LA SAFE Process Model

The evaluation showed that much of the program worked well – attendance, participation, planning, and perhaps implementation. However, what is of some concern is that this planning effort will be the last one of its kind. Engagement is a process that must be continuous, not a one-off experience. This project clearly showed that given accurate information presented well, community residents think creatively. Moreover, the project showed that scientific knowledge could be combined with interests and knowledge from residents – this was a transformative process.



Figure 31 - Resident participation at LA SAFE meetings

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Plan Review Deductive Codes

Flood(ing)	15,586
Risk	2,169
Resilience(t)	1,339
Adapt(ation, ive)	205
Sea level rise	201
Climate change	32

Team Meeting Codes and Themes

Outreach Strategies	110
Create Community Level Narrative	43
Collaborate with Government Officials	30
Focus on Opportunities for the Future	11
Empower Table Hosts as Local Leaders	10
Reach New Audiences Through Cultural Activities	8
Engage the Youth	7
Build a Continuous & Replicable Model	75
Collaborate with Stakeholders	20
Craft Policy	18
Document the Process	15
Understanding Existing Conditions in Each Parish	13
Consider Equity	6
Funding Challenges	6
Accessibility to Information	64
Clearly and Continuously Define LA SAFE Goals	23
Empower People with Information	18
Reduce Jargon & Speak Plainly	12

Ambiguous Instructions in Meetings	7
Community Shapes Process	37
Improve Meeting Logistics	15
LA SAFE Promotion Methods	35
Outreach Barriers: Fatigue, Geography, Language, & Politics	20

Round 1 Codes and Themes

Adaptation Ideas for the Future	312
Relocation	248
Flooding	218
Structural Projects	217
Issues with Regulations	137
Ecosystem-dependent Jobs	136
Community Decline	134
Close-knit Community	130
Climate Change	123
Land Loss	121
Coastal Culture & Lifestyle	119
Job Loss	114
Higher Cost of Living	100
Lack of Educational and Recreational Resources	93
Failing Infrastructure	83
Adaptation Due to Environmental Change	62
Job Growth	24

Round 2 Codes and Themes

Adaptation Ideas for the Future	697
Improve Transportation	138
Provide Opportunities for Education	108
Economic Development	89
Nonstructural Adaptation	72
Improve Recreational Opportunities	56
Enhance Existing Resources	50
Ecosystem-based Economic Development	45
Promote Tourism	39
Structural Protection Ideas	36
Provide Education for Future Risk	35
Need Essential Services	34
Improve Stormwater Management	33
Attract Population	23
Resources for Fishermen	18
Services for the Elderly	11
Flooding	185
Drainage Issues	80
Fragility and Vulnerability	38
Increase in Flooding	31
Against Adaptation/Hold Your Ground	20
Impact of Flooding	17
Adaptation to Flooding	16
Subsidence	7
Lack of Educational and Recreational Resources	171

Need for Trade Schools	61
Lack of Public Recreational Space	31
Lack of Entertainment Options	20
Lack of Retail Options	19
Failing School Systems	17
Lack of out-of-Classroom Programs	16
Coastal Culture & Lifestyle	107
Preserve Heritage	40
Outdoor Recreation	30
Cultural Events	26
Local Food	8
Rural Living	6
Issues with Regulations	97
High Cost of Flood Insurance	44
Issues with Planning Regulations	30
Issues with Nonstructural Solutions	9
Issues with Regulations that Affect Fishing	8
Community Decline	89
Lack of Local Amenities	36
Losing Young People	21
Increased Crime	14
Lack of Community Cohesion	9
Abandoned Communities	9
Higher Cost of Living	66
Expensive Adaptation Methods	20
High Property Value	19

Regulations Raise Cost	14
Age Related Price Barriers	11
High Price of Daily Necessities	6
Failing Infrastructure	58
Need for New Streets and Sidewalks	27
Need for New Bridges	19
One Way Out	16
Ecosystem Dependent Jobs	58
Fishing as a Way of Life	18
Decline in Ecosystem-dependent Jobs	8
Fresh Local Seafood	8
Environmental Changes Affecting	7
Shipping and Oil-based Jobs	7
Adaptation Due to Environmental Change	55
Nonstructural Adaptation	27
Adaptation Through Relocation	16
Ecosystem Dependent Adaptation	9
Job Growth	55
Job Loss	41
New Economic Development	26
Dependence on Industrial Jobs	19
Consequence of Population Shift	17
Relocation	53
Communities Growing	23
Consequence of Relocation	22
Communities Staying	5

Structural Projects	52
Problems with Structural Adaptations	29
Lack of Structural Protection	14
Advantages to Structural Adaptations	6
Job Loss	41
No Available Jobs	27
Population Change Causes Job Loss	5
Climate Change	36
Relative Sea Level Rise	16
Subsidence	8
Increased Weather Changes	6
Consequence of Saltwater Inundation	6
Land Loss	37
Consequence of Relative Sea Level Rise	24
Decreasing Coastal Barriers	10
Adaptation to Land Loss	8
Close-knit Community	33
Safety and Security	16
Everybody Knows Everybody	12
Family-Oriented	8

Round 3 Codes and Themes

Enhance Existing Recreational Resources	270
Enhance Existing Recreational Resources: Eco-Based Recreation	86
Enhance Existing Recreational Resources: Parks & Facilities	69
Enhance Existing Recreational Resources: Recreation for Tourism	63
Enhance Existing Recreational Resources: Unsuitable for Area	29

Enhance Existing Recreational Resources: Bike Paths	24
Enhance Existing Recreational Resources: Using Levees	17
Enhance Existing Recreational Resources: Healthy Living Programs	11
Enhance Existing Recreational Resources: Dangerous to Pedestrians	7
Parish & Regional Transportation	151
Parish & Regional Transportation: Bridges, Roads, & Routes	53
Parish & Regional Transportation: Water Based Transportation	36
Parish & Regional Transportation: Buses	34
Parish & Regional Transportation: Strategy Not Suitable for Parish	26
Parish & Regional Transportation: Regional Rail	19
Parish & Regional Transportation: Bikes	8
Streetscape Projects	131
Streetscape Projects: Hazard Mitigation	41
Streetscape Projects: Community Inclusiveness	33
Streetscape Projects: Street Lights	25
Streetscape Projects: Beautification	23
Streetscape Projects: Project Doesn't Suit Community	14
Streetscape Projects: Site Preservation	9
Streetscape Project: Concerned with Project Neglect	6
Support Local Business	124
Support Local Business: Fishing Business	68
Support Local Business: Attract New Business	36
Support Local Business: Coastal Restoration Jobs	14
Support Local Business: Unsuitable for Parish	9
Support Local Business: Regulations are Obstacles	5
Parish & Regional Stormwater Management	119

Parish & Regional Stormwater Management: Government & Citizen Programs	42
Parish & Regional Stormwater Management: Eco-Based Strategies	29
Parish & Regional Stormwater Management: Built Strategies	21
Parish & Regional Stormwater Management: Insufficient Drainage Measures in Place	17
Parish & Regional Stormwater Management: Increase in Flooding	8
Parish & Regional Stormwater Management: Unsuitable for Local Area	7
Parish & Regional Stormwater Management: Pavement Exacerbates Flooding	5
Educational Opportunities	113
Educational Opportunities: Primary & Secondary School Risk Education	42
Educational Opportunities: College and Vo-Tech Opportunities	20
Educational Opportunities: Primary & Secondary After School Programs	16
Educational Opportunities: Retain or Attract Good Teachers	13
Educational Opportunities: ESL	11
Educational Opportunities: Job Training - Renewable Energy	10
Educational Opportunities: Not Suitable for Area	5
Neighborhood Stormwater Management	77
Neighborhood Stormwater Management: Built Strategies	23
Neighborhood Stormwater Management: Eco-Based Strategies	16
Neighborhood Stormwater Management: Government & Citizen Programs	13
Neighborhood Stormwater Management: Attracts Unwanted Wildlife	9
Neighborhood Stormwater Management: Insufficient Drainage in Place	6
Neighborhood Stormwater Management: Pavement Exacerbates Flooding	6
Neighborhood Stormwater Management: Concerned with Project Neglect	5
Neighborhood Transportation	68
Neighborhood Transportation: Bus	16

Neighborhood Transportation: Bridges & Roads	14
Neighborhood Transportation: Water Based Transportation	14
Neighborhood Transportation: Senior/Elderly Transportation	13
Neighborhood Transportation: Bike	8
Neighborhood Transportation: Strategy Not Suitable for Neighborhood	8
Water Based Development	46
Water Based Development: Floating Services & Residences	22
Water Based Development: Expand Boat Harbors	17
Water Based Development: Not Suitable for Area	11
Redundant Projects	43
Raise & Protect Neighborhoods	34
Raise & Protect Neighborhoods: Policies to Encourage Elevated Housing	22
Raise & Protect Neighborhoods: Homeowner Tax Credit for Elevating Homes	14
Affordable Living	33
Connected Projects	33
Affordable Living: Incentivize Essential Services	14
Affordable Living: Affordable Housing Options	12
Affordable Living: Seasonal Housing	5
Development Density	31
Development Density: Against High Density Housing	20
Development Density: High Density Development	8
Development Density: Medium Density Housing	6
Residents Unaware of Risk Level	11

Round 4 Codes and Themes

Barriers to Resilience	106
Clash of Values: Residents vs. Govt.	29

Projects are Inconsistent with Local Experience	19
Disintegration of Community	17
Lack of Information	13
Policy Prevents Projects	11
Locals Worried About Cost vs Benefit	10
Locals Lack Financial Means for Resilience	10
Need for Sustainable Funding Mechanism	9
Private Ownership Blocks Public Intervention	6
Topographical Challenges	6
Resilience: Better Than We Were Before	93
Encouraging Responsible Development	27
Better Bikability, Walkability, & Recreation	18
Possible Development Locations & Business Opportunities	16
Building Local Knowledge	16
Adjusting Transportation Habits	10
Public Access to Water	8
Parish Officials Willing to Cooperate	5
Building Affordable Housing	5
Mitigation Ideas	80
Stormwater Management	29
Elevating Homes	21
Locals Looking Beyond Levees	14
Structural Protection	13
Replenishing the Land	12
Enhance Existing Assets	8
Local Ideas That Compliment LA SAFE Projects	6

Round 5 Codes and Themes

Locals are Optimistic about Projects	40
Locals Value Recreational Opportunities	20
Local Suggestions to Stimulate Economy	13
Locals Value New Business & Growth	13
Locals Value Educational Opportunities	8
Locals Value Hazard Mitigation Efforts	7
Locals are Doubtful of Project Success	37
Locals Not Convinced of Project Effectiveness	11
Too Much Flooding in Project Area	10
Geographical & Topographical Constraints	7
Locals Worried about Cost / Benefit	5
Against Affordable Housing	4
Disintegrating Community: There's Nothing Left	36
Community Feels Neglected	11
When You Grow Up, You Leave	9
Slow Disaster	8
Poor Transportation Options	6
Locals Want to Protect Local Businesses	21
Need Inexpensive Docking Options	18
Inconsistent Income from Seasonal Job	7

Community Meeting #1 - Evaluation Summary for All Six Parishes

Number of Evaluations Submitted 345

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated	172	136	16	6	2
The purpose of the meeting is important to me	233	86	5	1	0
Presentation 1 was effective	148	150	30	4	1
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	161	145	14	0	0
Activity One was effective	143	140	19	9	1
Presentation 2 was effective	137	145	27	5	0
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	133	153	14	0	0
Activity Two was effective	120	127	22	2	0

of Responses
332
325
333
320
312
314
300
271

Positive	Neutral	Negative
93%	5%	2%
98%	2%	0%
89%	9%	2%
96%	4%	0%
91%	6%	3%
90%	9%	2%
95%	5%	0%
91%	8%	1%

	Yes	No
Were you able to express all of your ideas in Activity 1	240	23
Were you able to express all of your ideas in Activity 2	273	18
I would attend future meetings	313	3
I would bring my friends and family to future meetings	281	18

of Responses
263
291
316
299

Yes	No
91%	9%
94%	6%
99%	1%
94%	6%

	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor
Share power	164	81	23	4
Prioritize relationships	152	93	22	1
Include all points of view	177	69	22	4
Utilize all kinds of knowledge	158	85	26	1
Test solutions early and often	140	81	31	3

of Responses
272
268
272
270
255

Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor
60%	30%	8%	1%
57%	35%	8%	0%
65%	25%	8%	1%
59%	31%	10%	0%
55%	32%	12%	1%

Round 1

Jefferson Parish - 48 evaluations

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated	30	16	2	0	0	48	96%	4%	0%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me	34	12	0	0	0	46	100%	0%	0%
Presentation 1 was effective	27	14	6	0	1	48	85%	13%	2%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	24	16	2	0	0	42	95%	5%	0%
Activity One was effective	22	17	1	1	0	41	95%	2%	2%
Presentation 2 was effective	27	13	2	0	0	42	95%	5%	0%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	21	15	2	0	0	38	95%	5%	0%
Activity Two was effective	18	13	0	0	0	31	100%	0%	0%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
Were you able to express all of your ideas in Activity 1	34	2	36	94%	6%
Were you able to express all of your ideas in Activity 2	38	2	40	95%	5%
I would attend future meetings	45	0	45	100%	0%
I would bring my friends and family to future meetings	43	1	44	98%	2%

	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor	# of Responses	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor
Share power	15	16	4	0	35	43%	46%	11%	0%
Prioritize relationships	16	15	3	0	34	47%	44%	9%	0%
Include all points of view	19	12	2	0	33	58%	36%	6%	0%
Utilize all kinds of knowledge	17	15	2	0	34	50%	44%	6%	0%
Test solutions early and often	17	14	3	0	34	50%	41%	9%	0%

Round 1
Lafourche - 42

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated	29	13	0	0	0	42	100%	0%	0%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me	34	7	0	0	0	41	100%	0%	0%
Presentation 1 was effective	27	13	2	0	0	42	95%	5%	0%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	30	11	1	0	0	42	98%	2%	0%
Activity One was effective	24	15	2	0	0	41	95%	5%	0%
Presentation 2 was effective	23	12	3	0	0	38	92%	8%	0%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	22	15	0	0	0	37	100%	0%	0%
Activity Two was effective	22	13	2	0	0	37	95%	5%	0%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
Were you able to express all of your ideas in Activity 1	27	2	29	93%	7%
Were you able to express all of your ideas in Activity 2	31	0	31	100%	0%
I would attend future meetings	38	0	38	100%	0%
I would bring my friends and family to future meetings	36	1	37	97%	3%

	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor	# of Responses	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor
Share power	19	9	3	0	31	61%	29%	10%	0%
Prioritize relationships	16	13	2	0	31	52%	42%	6%	0%
Include all points of view	19	9	2	0	30	63%	30%	7%	0%
Utilize all kinds of knowledge	16	10	5	0	31	52%	32%	16%	0%
Test solutions early and often	15	14	2	0	31	48%	45%	6%	0%

Round 1

Plaquemines - 85 evaluations submitted

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated	51	29	4	0	0	84	95%	5%	0%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me	57	26	0	0	0	83	100%	0%	0%
Presentation 1 was effective	37	41	4	0	0	82	95%	5%	0%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	39	36	2	0	0	77	97%	3%	0%
Activity One was effective	37	39	2	1	0	79	96%	3%	1%
Presentation 2 was effective	36	41	4	0	0	81	95%	5%	0%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	36	38	1	0	0	75	99%	1%	0%
Activity Two was effective	36	33	1	0	0	70	99%	1%	0%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
Were you able to express all of your ideas in Activity 1	61	7	68	90%	10%
Were you able to express all of your ideas in Activity 2	69	6	75	92%	8%
I would attend future meetings	81	0	81	100%	0%
I would bring my friends and family to future meetings	73	2	75	97%	3%

	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor	# of Responses	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor
Share power	59	14	4	0	77	77%	18%	5%	0%
Prioritize relationships	55	19	3	0	77	71%	25%	4%	0%
Include all points of view	61	14	1	1	77	79%	18%	1%	1%
Utilize all kinds of knowledge	63	10	4	0	77	82%	13%	5%	0%
Test solutions early and often	55	16	1	1	73	75%	22%	1%	1%

Round 1
St. John - 49

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated	15	26	2	1	1	45	91%	4%	4%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me	30	15	0	0	0	45	100%	0%	0%
Presentation 1 was effective	18	24	3	1	0	46	91%	7%	2%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	21	21	2	0	0	44	95%	5%	0%
Activity One was effective	19	20	4	1	1	45	87%	9%	4%
Presentation 2 was effective	21	23	3	1	0	48	92%	6%	2%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	21	24	2	0	0	47	96%	4%	0%
Activity Two was effective	16	19	1	1	0	37	95%	3%	3%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
Were you able to express all of your ideas in Activity 1	36	3	39	92%	8%
Were you able to express all of your ideas in Activity 2	41	1	42	98%	2%
I would attend future meetings	44	0	44	100%	0%
I would bring my friends and family to future meetings	40	1	41	98%	2%

	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor	# of Responses	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor
Share power	19	11	5	1	36	53%	31%	14%	3%
Prioritize relationships	17	13	5	0	35	49%	37%	14%	0%
Include all points of view	19	12	5	0	36	53%	33%	14%	0%
Utilize all kinds of knowledge	17	15	4	0	36	47%	42%	11%	0%
Test solutions early and often	14	12	8	0	34	41%	35%	24%	0%

Round 1
St. Tammany - 64 evaluations

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated	26	21	7	5	1	60	78%	12%	10%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me	42	10	5	0	0	57	91%	9%	0%
Presentation 1 was effective	23	27	8	3	0	61	82%	13%	5%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	28	29	5	0	0	62	92%	8%	0%
Activity One was effective	20	25	6	4	0	55	82%	11%	7%
Presentation 2 was effective	13	28	9	3	0	53	77%	17%	6%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	15	29	6	0	0	50	88%	12%	0%
Activity Two was effective	11	25	13	1	0	50	72%	26%	2%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
Were you able to express all of your ideas in Activity 1	44	6	50	88%	12%
Were you able to express all of your ideas in Activity 2	45	7	52	87%	13%
I would attend future meetings	56	1	57	98%	2%
I would bring my friends and family to future meetings	44	10	54	81%	19%

	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor	# of Responses	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor
Share power	26	10	4	3	43	60%	23%	9%	7%
Prioritize relationships	24	11	6	1	42	57%	26%	14%	2%
Include all points of view	27	11	6	2	46	59%	24%	13%	4%
Utilize all kinds of knowledge	23	13	7	1	44	52%	30%	16%	2%
Test solutions early and often	18	9	9	2	38	47%	24%	24%	5%

Round 1

Terrebonne Parish - 57 evaluations

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated	21	31	1	0	0	53	98%	2%	0%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me	36	16	0	1	0	53	98%	0%	2%
Presentation 1 was effective	16	31	7	0	0	54	87%	13%	0%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	19	32	2	0	0	53	96%	4%	0%
Activity One was effective	21	24	4	2	0	51	88%	8%	4%
Presentation 2 was effective	17	28	6	1	0	52	87%	12%	2%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	18	32	3	0	0	53	94%	6%	0%
Activity Two was effective	17	24	5	0	0	46	89%	11%	0%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
Were you able to express all of your ideas in Activity 1	38	3	41	93%	7%
Were you able to express all of your ideas in Activity 2	49	2	51	96%	4%
I would attend future meetings	49	2	51	96%	4%
I would bring my friends and family to future meetings	45	3	48	94%	6%

	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor	# of Responses	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor
Share power	26	21	3	0	50	52%	42%	6%	0%
Prioritize relationships	24	22	3	0	49	49%	45%	6%	0%
Include all points of view	32	11	6	1	50	64%	22%	12%	2%
Utilize all kinds of knowledge	22	22	4	0	48	46%	46%	8%	0%
Test solutions early and often	21	16	8	0	45	47%	36%	18%	0%

Community Meeting #1 – Evaluation Takeaways

- Important things learned
 - Risk we face is real
 - We need to assist our community with information so that our people will understand adaptation
 - Many realized most have same loves, concerns related to parish but different priorities
 - The state is planning for the future
- Shorten formal presentation time
 - Provide more time for discussion
 - Participants liked table discussions and appreciated opportunity to participate in process
- Include time for Q & A
- Share ideas during/after meeting
 - Develop online twitter stream of ideas; encourage tweets
 - Scribe during meeting
 - Share written comments on website
- Improve meeting direction/facilitation
 - Some voiced concern that meeting could have been more productive if focus was kept on LA SAFE and adaptation; not an opportunity to “vent anger and frustration” and promote individual agendas
 - Need for stronger facilitation of table discussions
 - Set time limit for group report out
- Increase education and outreach
 - Some residents lack knowledge about parish
 - Expand outreach prior to meetings as to date/time/purpose
- Provide more details about LA SAFE
 - Overall project
 - Timeline
 - Provide more details about how ideas will be used in process
- Recommendations for future meeting content
 - Identify adaptation ‘objectives’
 - Address more local issues
- Recommendations for future meeting speakers
 - Include more local officials
 - Include local speakers who can address “our issues”
- Emphasis on local presence
 - Local table hosts
 - Local presenters
 - Local catering
- Need for immediate action regarding
 - Local shrimpers/fishers
 - Flooding
 - Land loss
- *Suggestion to include BTNEP as a partner*

The first community meeting across the parishes was very insightful. Citizens learned the seriousness about their future risk and the plans the State has been working on to protect them. They also learned the value of hearing fellow community members speak because it showed them their solidarity on this issue of flood risk. One major takeaway is the importance of spreading awareness of what it means to adapt to a changing environment so citizens can be empowered to make educated decisions about their futures and families. Overall, citizens would prefer shorter formal presentations and more table conversation and activities. It's important that the table host direct the conversation to remain productive so that everyone can get the most out of their time. It's also important to leave plenty of time for questions and answers in order to clarify the content of the meeting. Citizens are very captivated by the LA SAFE planning process and would like to know specific details about it. It would also be beneficial to have some platform for citizens to stay engaged and connected over the progress of the meetings. Going forward, it would help to have more local officials present and speakers that can address local issues. Anything the meeting can do to support local businesses would be advantageous. Immediate action should be taken to address and continue to educate on flooding, land loss and strategies to help shrimpers/fishers adapt.

Round 2 Evaluation Data

Parish: All
 Number of Evaluations Collected: 403

Locations:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated.	254	132	11	4	0	401	96%	3%	1%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me.	292	100	5	1	0	398	98%	1%	0%
The video helped me understand the purpose of the meeting.	205	163	23	4	0	395	93%	6%	1%
The meeting presentation was effective.	220	166	8	2	0	396	97%	2%	1%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	244	140	10	0	0	394	97%	3%	0%
The purpose of the activity was clearly stated.	231	157	10	1	0	399	97%	3%	0%
The activity instructions were clear.	243	140	10	1	0	394	97%	3%	0%
The meeting activity was effective.	247	128	14	3	0	392	96%	4%	1%
The table host was helpful.	285	110	2	0	0	397	99%	1%	0%
I was able to express all my ideas during the activity.	262	122	7	2	0	393	98%	2%	1%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
This is my first LA SAFE meeting.	190	96	286	66%	34%
I would attend future meetings.	321	5	326	98%	2%
I would bring my friends and family to future meetings.	307	15	322	95%	5%

Parish: Jefferson Parish
Number of Evaluations Collected: 47

Locations: EB Regional Library, WB Medical Center, Lafitte

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated.	30	15	2	0	0	47	96%	4%	0%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me.	34	9	3	0	0	46	93%	7%	0%
The video helped me understand the purpose of the meeting.	20	20	6	0	0	46	87%	13%	0%
The meeting presentation was effective.	24	20	2	1	0	47	94%	4%	2%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner.	27	17	2	0	0	46	96%	4%	0%
The purpose of the activity was clearly stated.	26	18	2	1	0	47	94%	4%	2%
The activity instructions were clear.	29	17	1	0	0	47	98%	2%	0%
The meeting activity was effective.	33	11	1	2	0	47	94%	2%	4%
The table host was helpful.	35	12	0	0	0	47	100%	0%	0%
I was able to express all my ideas during the activity.	33	12	1	0	0	46	98%	2%	0%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
This is my first LA SAFE meeting.	27	4	31	87%	13%
I would attend future meetings.	30	1	31	97%	3%
I would bring my friends and family to future meetings.	26	4	30	87%	13%

"I learned how important it is to attend community meetings and take part in saving our land." - Lafitte

"Proactive leadership is thinking about our community for future years." - Westbank Location

Parish: Lafourche **Locations:** South, Central, North, Vietnamese Community
Number of Evaluations Collected: 61

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated.	45	14	2	0	0	61	97%	3%	0%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me.	48	13	0	0	0	61	100%	0%	0%
The video helped me understand the purpose of the meeting.	37	20	2	0	0	59	97%	3%	0%
The meeting presentation was effective.	41	19	2	0	0	62	97%	3%	0%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	42	16	2	0	0	60	97%	3%	0%
The purpose of the activity was clearly stated.	46	14	1	0	0	61	98%	2%	0%
The activity instructions were clear.	44	15	2	0	0	61	97%	3%	0%
The meeting activity was effective.	41	18	1	0	0	60	98%	2%	0%
The table host was helpful.	45	14	2	0	0	61	97%	3%	0%
I was able to express all my ideas during the activity.	44	14	2	1	0	61	95%	3%	2%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
This is my first LA SAFE meeting.	29	13	42	69%	31%
I would attend future meetings.	53	0	53	100%	0%
I would bring my friends and family to future meetings.	51	1	52	98%	2%

I thoroughly enjoyed being part of this meeting. I am fully invested in helping our parish to recover from the deteriorating lands. Our parish needs to be informed and allow their voice to be heard. - Galliano

Appreciate being able to voice concerns and listen to other's concerns and ideas! - Lockport Fire Station

Happy to know that these meetings are taking place and these discussions are happening - St. Thomas Aquinas Church

Buras (Cambodian & Vietnamese), Belle Chasse, Davant, Buras

Parish: Plaquemines Parish

Locations: Community Center

Numer of Evaluations Collected: 116

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated.	83	31	1	1	0	116	98%	1%	1%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me.	85	29	0	1	0	115	99%	0%	1%
The video helped me understand the purpose of the meeting.	61	52	1	1	0	115	98%	1%	1%
The meeting presentation was effective.	64	48	0	0	0	112	100%	0%	0%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	77	36	1	0	0	114	99%	1%	0%
The purpose of the activiety was clearly stated.	72	41	1	0	0	114	99%	1%	0%
The activity instructions were clear.	80	34	0	0	0	114	100%	0%	0%
The meeting activity was effective.	75	37	1	0	0	113	99%	1%	0%
The table host was helpful.	80	32	0	0	0	112	100%	0%	0%
I was able to express all my ideas during the activity.	73	38	1	0	0	112	99%	1%	0%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
This is my first LA SAFE meeting.	39	38	77	51%	49%
I would attend future meetings.	105	0	105	100%	0%
I would bring my friends and family to future meetings.	106	0	106	100%	0%

"The most important thing I've learned was our communities needs more support and not just by one person, everyone." - Belle Chasse

"There's still people who care and are willing to help our voices be heard." - Belle Chasse

"We need to do something before it's to late." - Davant

"Everything was wonderful, looking forward to the next meeting! Thank you" - Buras

Parish: St. John the Baptist
Number of Evaluations Collected: 54

Locations: Reserve, Edgard, Pleasure Bend

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated.	22	29	2	0	0	53	96%	4%	0%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me.	31	21	1	0	0	53	98%	2%	0%
The video helped me understand the purpose of the meeting.	26	24	2	0	0	52	96%	4%	0%
The meeting presentation was effective.	25	28	0	0	0	53	100%	0%	0%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	26	26	0	0	0	52	100%	0%	0%
The purpose of the activity was clearly stated.	20	32	1	0	0	53	98%	2%	0%
The activity instructions were clear.	21	28	0	0	0	49	100%	0%	0%
The meeting activity was effective.	28	18	1	1	0	48	96%	2%	2%
The table host was helpful.	37	17	0	0	0	54	100%	0%	0%
I was able to express all my ideas during the activity.	32	20	0	0	0	52	100%	0%	0%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
This is my first LA SAFE meeting.	29	6	35	83%	17%
I would attend future meetings.	35	1	36	97%	3%
I would bring my friends and family to future meetings.	34	2	36	94%	6%

"Future is closer than what you might think." - Reserve meeting participant

"Edgard has a real chance at a new future if it is properly prepared." - Edgard

"If half of the goals for LA SAFE come to fruition, we will be truly blessed in Louisiana." - Vacherie/Pleasure Bend

Parish: St. Tammany Parish
Number of Evaluations Collected: 73

Locations: Slidell, Covington, Mandeville

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated.	37	30	4	2	0	73	92%	5%	3%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me.	53	18	1	0	0	72	99%	1%	0%
The video helped me understand the purpose of the meeting.	32	30	8	3	0	73	85%	11%	4%
The meeting presentation was effective.	33	34	4	1	0	72	93%	6%	1%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	36	31	5	0	0	72	93%	7%	0%
The purpose of the activity was clearly stated.	31	38	4	0	0	73	95%	5%	0%
The activity instructions were clear.	34	31	6	1	0	72	90%	8%	1%
The meeting activity was effective.	36	27	10	0	0	73	86%	14%	0%
The table host was helpful.	46	27	0	0	0	73	100%	0%	0%
I was able to express all my ideas during the activity.	41	28	2	1	0	72	96%	3%	1%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
This is my first LA SAFE meeting.	46	11	57	81%	19%
I would attend future meetings.	54	3	57	95%	5%
I would bring my friends and family to future meetings.	48	7	55	87%	13%

"very interesting and glad to see someone taking interest in the future of our community" - Mandeville Participant

Parish: Terrebonne Parish
Number of Evaluations Collected: 52

Locations: Chauvin, Montegut, Gray

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated.	37	13	0	1	0	51	98%	0%	2%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me.	41	10	0	0	0	51	100%	0%	0%
The video helped me understand the purpose of the meeting.	29	17	4	0	0	50	92%	8%	0%
The meeting presentation was effective.	33	17	0	0	0	50	100%	0%	0%
The speaker presented information in a clear manner	36	14	0	0	0	50	100%	0%	0%
The purpose of the activity was clearly stated.	36	14	1	0	0	51	98%	2%	0%
The activity instructions were clear.	35	15	1	0	0	51	98%	2%	0%
The meeting activity was effective.	34	17	0	0	0	51	100%	0%	0%
The table host was helpful.	42	8	0	0	0	50	100%	0%	0%
I was able to express all my ideas during the activity.	39	10	1	0	0	50	98%	2%	0%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
This is my first LA SAFE meeting.	20	24	44	45%	55%
I would attend future meetings.	44	0	44	100%	0%
I would bring my friends and family to future meetings.	42	1	43	98%	2%

"We have such strong community members & no matter our opinions - WANT THE SAME THING." - participant in Gray

"People are willing and able to come together to solve important issues." - participant at LUMCON meeting

Community Meeting #2 – Evaluation Takeaways

- Important things learned
 - Future planning is essential for land loss and population displacement
 - General consensus and concern among community members
 - Proactive state leadership cares and is preparing for our future
 - There is money available to do projects
 - Youth can hold the key to our future
 - Outdated thinking is a huge obstacle
 - Hearing personal stories of living on the landscape
 - There's hope
 - People still want to live here in 10, 25, 50 years
 - Risk of decrease value of property and increase in insurance rates
- LA SAFE was a new concept to some people
 - More opportunity to have our thoughts and ideas heard and discussed
 - Translation for Vietnamese/Cambodian community
- Master Plan and land loss projections
 - Confusion around why time increments of 10, 25, 50 were chosen
 - Forcing people to leave is not an option
- Needs and desires of community
 - Industrial jobs and higher levees
 - Safer harbor, commercial fisherman loan idea
 - Protect job security (listed 9 times)
 - Recreation services and support from government
 - Studying other states and countries to learn about successful eco-tourism businesses
 - Geohazard survey based on zoning districts
 - Creation of arboretums, wetland parks and education centers
- Community comments on meeting
 - Interactivity of the table was amazing and the information was very interesting
 - Table hosts did a great job; great youth leadership training
 - Really liked card strategy at tables
- Recommendations to engage community
 - More advertising in schools and churches (church bulletins), newspapers, TV, neighborhood stores
 - Locals hired to spread awareness
 - A way for citizens to know end results of the meeting
- Recommendations to improve meeting
 - Table hosts especially the youth need to be trained in managing the people that talk too much
 - Paper literature in layman's terms
 - More detailed maps
 - Purpose is very big and can be more clearly stated
 - Provide recycling bins

The second meeting reiterated much of the insight gained in the first meeting. The importance of future planning to adapt to coastal land loss and population displacement was addressed. Citizens also enjoyed learning about other's personal stories of the landscape and the fact that people want to still live here in 10,25,50 years from now. One major insight was that youth can hold the key to our future relaying the importance of educating them at a young age so they can have the tools and know-how to adapt. Learning about LA SAFE was very interesting to people but it would help if there was an interpreter for the Vietnamese, Cambodian and Spanish communities. Overall, the citizens are most concerned about job security and would like help to adapt opportunities to a changing environment. One of those opportunities could be eco-system services such as, wetland parks, arboretums or eco-tourism businesses that can provide jobs and sustain the local economy. The citizens loved the interactivity at the table especially the card strategy. The table host position provided a great opportunity for youth to take leadership roles, but it would be wise for them to have more training in facilitation. These local advocates could be responsible for continuing to spread awareness of the issues and inform more people especially at churches and neighborhood stores. Ultimately, the citizens would like a way to stay informed and to see how their input contributes to the overarching plan.

Round 3 Evaluation Data
All Meetings - 234 Submitted

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated.	154	65	6	2	2	229	96%	3%	2%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me.	174	45	5	0	0	224	98%	2%	0%
The video helped me to understand the purpose of the meeting.	124	77	15	3	0	219	92%	7%	1%
The purpose of Activity 1 was clearly stated.	140	74	7	2	1	224	96%	3%	1%
Activity 1 helped to think about Activity 2.	126	75	13	3	1	218	92%	6%	2%
Activity 2 instructions were clear.	136	75	5	2	1	219	96%	2%	1%
Activity 2 was effective.	140	74	4	1	1	220	97%	2%	1%
The table host was helpful.	173	39	3	0	1	216	98%	1%	0%
I was able to express my ideas during the activity.	151	56	4	0	1	212	98%	2%	0%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
I will attend future meetings	206	2	208	99%	1%
I will bring my friends and family to future meetings	184	12	196	94%	6%

	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor	# of Responses	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor
Share power	139	43	1	0	183	76%	23%	1%	0%
Prioritize relationships	126	51	4	0	181	70%	28%	2%	0%
Include all points of view	142	32	5	3	182	78%	18%	3%	2%
Utilize all kinds of knowledge	133	47	2	1	183	73%	26%	1%	1%
Test solutions early and often	121	55	5	1	182	66%	30%	3%	1%

Jefferson Parish - 38 evaluations submitted

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated.	27	9	1	0	0	37	97%	3%	0%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me.	27	9	1	0	0	37	97%	3%	0%
The video helped me to understand the purpose of the meeting.	21	14	1	0	0	36	97%	3%	0%
The purpose of Activity 1 was clearly stated.	26	9	0	1	0	36	97%	0%	3%
Activity 1 helped to think about Activity 2.	23	13	0	0	0	36	100%	0%	0%
Activity 2 instructions were clear.	26	10	1	0	0	37	97%	3%	0%
Activity 2 was effective.	26	11	0	0	0	37	100%	0%	0%
The table host was helpful.	34	3	0	0	0	37	100%	0%	0%
I was able to express my ideas during the activity.	32	4	0	0	0	36	100%	0%	0%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
I will attend future meetings	35	0	35	100%	0%
I will bring my friends and family to future meetings	24	5	29	83%	17%

	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor	# of Responses	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor
Share power	31	3	0	0	34	91%	9%	0%	0%
Prioritize relationships	32	1	0	0	33	97%	3%	0%	0%
Include all points of view	32	2	0	0	34	94%	6%	0%	0%
Utilize all kinds of knowledge	32	3	0	0	35	91%	9%	0%	0%
Test solutions early and often	31	4	0	0	35	89%	11%	0%	0%

Lafourche - 39 evaluations submitted

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated.	23	12	1	1	1	38	92%	3%	5%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me.	26	8	3	0	0	37	92%	8%	0%
The video helped me to understand the purpose of the meeting.	23	10	3	1	0	37	89%	8%	3%
The purpose of Activity 1 was clearly stated.	18	16	2	0	0	36	94%	6%	0%
Activity 1 helped to think about Activity 2.	18	12	3	2	0	35	86%	9%	6%
Activity 2 instructions were clear.	21	16	0	0	0	37	100%	0%	0%
Activity 2 was effective.	19	16	2	0	0	37	95%	5%	0%
The table host was helpful.	29	8	0	0	0	37	100%	0%	0%
I was able to express my ideas during the activity.	26	10	1	0	0	37	97%	3%	0%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
I will attend future meetings	29	2	31	94%	6%
I will bring my friends and family to future meetings	25	4	29	86%	14%

	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor	# of Responses	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor
Share power	23	7	0	0	30	77%	23%	0%	0%
Prioritize relationships	16	11	2	0	29	55%	38%	7%	0%
Include all points of view	16	10	2	0	28	57%	36%	7%	0%
Utilize all kinds of knowledge	22	7	1	0	30	73%	23%	3%	0%
Test solutions early and often	16	13	1	0	30	53%	43%	3%	0%

Plaquemines - 15 evaluations submitted

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated.	8	5	2	0	0	15	87%	13%	0%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me.	9	5	0	0	0	14	100%	0%	0%
The video helped me to understand the purpose of the meeting.	5	7	1	1	0	14	86%	7%	7%
The purpose of Activity 1 was clearly stated.	8	5	2	0	0	15	87%	13%	0%
Activity 1 helped to think about Activity 2.	5	8	0	1	0	14	93%	0%	7%
Activity 2 instructions were clear.	8	5	0	1	0	14	93%	0%	7%
Activity 2 was effective.	8	5	0	0	0	13	100%	0%	0%
The table host was helpful.	11	0	1	0	0	12	92%	8%	0%
I was able to express my ideas during the activity.	8	5	0	0	0	13	100%	0%	0%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
I will attend future meetings	13	0	13	100%	0%
I will bring my friends and family to future meetings	13	0	13	100%	0%

	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor	# of Responses	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor
Share power	10	3	0	0	13	77%	23%	0%	0%
Prioritize relationships	9	3	1	0	13	69%	23%	8%	0%
Include all points of view	9	3	1	0	13	69%	23%	8%	0%
Utilize all kinds of knowledge	9	4	0	0	13	69%	31%	0%	0%
Test solutions early and often	8	4	0	0	12	67%	33%	0%	0%

St. John the Baptist Parish - 22 evaluations submitted

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated.	16	6	0	0	0	22	100%	0%	0%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me.	19	2	1	0	0	22	95%	5%	0%
The video helped me to understand the purpose of the meeting.	8	12	1	1	0	22	91%	5%	5%
The purpose of Activity 1 was clearly stated.	12	9	1	0	0	22	95%	5%	0%
Activity 1 helped to think about Activity 2.	12	7	3	0	0	22	86%	14%	0%
Activity 2 instructions were clear.	12	8	0	0	0	20	100%	0%	0%
Activity 2 was effective.	13	7	0	0	0	20	100%	0%	0%
The table host was helpful.	17	3	0	0	0	20	100%	0%	0%
I was able to express my ideas during the activity.	15	4	0	0	0	19	100%	0%	0%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
I will attend future meetings	20	0	20	100%	0%
I will bring my friends and family to future meetings	17	1	18	94%	6%

	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor	# of Responses	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor
Share power	15	3	0	0	18	83%	17%	0%	0%
Prioritize relationships	13	5	0	0	18	72%	28%	0%	0%
Include all points of view	15	2	1	0	18	83%	11%	6%	0%
Utilize all kinds of knowledge	13	5	0	0	18	72%	28%	0%	0%
Test solutions early and often	13	4	1	0	18	72%	22%	6%	0%

St. Tammany - 30 evaluations submitted

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated.	18	8	1	1	1	29	90%	3%	7%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me.	23	5	0	0	0	28	100%	0%	0%
The video helped me to understand the purpose of the meeting.	14	8	4	0	0	26	85%	15%	0%
The purpose of Activity 1 was clearly stated.	16	9	2	1	1	29	86%	7%	7%
Activity 1 helped to think about Activity 2.	18	4	6	0	1	29	76%	21%	3%
Activity 2 instructions were clear.	14	8	1	1	1	25	88%	4%	8%
Activity 2 was effective.	17	7	1	0	1	26	92%	4%	4%
The table host was helpful.	21	3	1	0	1	26	92%	4%	4%
I was able to express my ideas during the activity.	17	4	3	0	1	25	84%	12%	4%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
I will attend future meetings	26	0	26	100%	0%
I will bring my friends and family to future meetings	24	1	25	96%	4%

	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor	# of Responses	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor
Share power	15	7	1	0	23	65%	30%	4%	0%
Prioritize relationships	13	9	1	0	23	57%	39%	4%	0%
Include all points of view	15	6	1	1	23	65%	26%	4%	4%
Utilize all kinds of knowledge	16	5	1	1	23	70%	22%	4%	4%
Test solutions early and often	14	6	2	1	23	61%	26%	9%	4%

Terrebonne Parish - 39 evaluations submitted

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree no Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	# of Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
The purpose of the meeting was clearly stated.	23	14	1	0	0	38	97%	3%	0%
The purpose of the meeting is important to me.	32	6	0	0	0	38	100%	0%	0%
The video helped me to understand the purpose of the meeting.	19	13	5	0	0	37	86%	14%	0%
The purpose of Activity 1 was clearly stated.	23	13	0	0	0	36	100%	0%	0%
Activity 1 helped to think about Activity 2.	18	15	1	0	0	34	97%	3%	0%
Activity 2 instructions were clear.	24	9	3	0	0	36	92%	8%	0%
Activity 2 was effective.	26	8	1	1	0	36	94%	3%	3%
The table host was helpful.	31	4	1	0	0	36	97%	3%	0%
I was able to express my ideas during the activity.	26	7	0	0	0	33	100%	0%	0%

	Yes	No	# of Responses	Yes	No
I will attend future meetings	34	0	34	100%	0%
I will bring my friends and family to future meetings	33	1	34	97%	3%

	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor	# of Responses	Great	Good	Needs Work	Poor
Share power	23	4	0	0	27	85%	15%	0%	0%
Prioritize relationships	23	4	0	0	27	85%	15%	0%	0%
Include all points of view	23	2	0	0	25	92%	8%	0%	0%
Utilize all kinds of knowledge	21	4	0	0	25	84%	16%	0%	0%
Test solutions early and often	17	7	1	0	25	68%	28%	4%	0%

Community Meeting #3 – Evaluation Takeaways

- Important things learned
 - Plans are in the works to improve our area
 - The community cares about this work
 - LA SAFE’s vision and where the money is being allocated
 - How to keep priorities for each risk level in perspective
 - There is hope for the next 50 years
 - Community’s voice may affect the future
 - How proper stormwater management and green space can help flooding issues
 - Reason to protect the wetlands
 - Living with water
 - Mental and behavioral health important to over 80% of those present
 - Thought process of plan leaders
- Community comments
 - The clickers were a great interactive tool for the polling and seeing what other people thought
 - A good exchange of ideas
 - We would like to continue receiving notices of all meetings
 - I would like to see more development with jobs and small business development.
 - Other insurance for floods that everyone needs to know about
 - Surprised at how much attention green energy is getting
 - Continue with more events like these
 - Need zoning in parish (Lafourche) to handle migration
- Improve the meeting framework
 - Some slides (polls) weren't very clear
 - It was a bit difficult for some folks to understand
 - You never defined what you meant by “adaptive”
 - Map of parish with low/moderate/high risk would be helpful
 - More time
 - Leave questions for table leaders to save time for activities
- Improve meeting logistics
 - Centrally located within parish and more locations for smaller meetings
 - More advertising on TV/news
 - Better signage on street
 - Don't use styrofoam cups
 - Large screen for presentations
 - Multi-lingual speaker
- Recommendations on meeting content
 - Hear more from the people themselves in outlying areas
 - More focus on the hard truth about coastal vulnerability and realistic discussion of the budget

After meeting three, there was still hope for the next 50 years. Citizens learned the value of future planning and LA SAFE's vision and how the money will be allocated. They learned how storm water management strategies such as green space can reduce local flooding and the importance of preserving the coastal wetlands and living with water. One of the big takeaways was the value citizens put on mental and behavioral health programs. Citizens loved the clicker engagement tool for polling questions. They would like to see more development with jobs and small business development opportunities. Overall, a little more clarity on the slides, questions and terms would help to enhance the meeting's reach. It's important to think about all the different types of people that could attend and make sure their needs are met. For example, better signage on the street, larger screen for the presentations and more centrally located meetings can help the overall effectiveness and efficiency of people's time. Citizens would like to hear more from the locals in the outlying areas and more hard truths about coastal vulnerabilities and the money allocated to for these projects.

Community Surveys

Andouille Festival Survey				
	Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
Visions	63	68%	16%	16%
Increase Job Training	58	97%	3%	0%
Reduce Flood Risk by Managing Stormwater	63	92%	5%	3%
Create a Pedestrian Network	57	86%	7%	7%
Fund Homeowner Incentives	58	84%	10%	5%
Help Fund already Planned Complete Streets	62	81%	15%	5%
Fund Community Centers	63	79%	17%	3%

Rougarou Festival Survey				
	Responses	Positive	Neutral	Negative
Visions	43	84%	7%	9%
Reduce Flood Risk by Managing Stormwater	43	93%	5%	2%
Support Local Fisheries	42	93%	2%	5%
Update Parish Ordinances	42	90%	5%	5%
Revitalize Downtown Houma	43	88%	9%	2%

Public Boat Launches	42	83%	14%	2%
Downtown Houma Marina	42	74%	17%	10%

Response	200-Acre Parcel Owned by Parish	Prototype Stormwater Management and Rec Use Projects	Public Boat Launch Program	Expand LaTer Program and Seafood Market	Skilled Workforce and Job Training	Continued Revitalization of Downtown Houma	Complete Streets Policy and Implementation Program
Strongly Disagree	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Disagree	0	2	1	0	0	0	1
Slightly Disagree	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
Neutral	0	0	4	2	2	1	0
Slightly Agree	1	5	2	3	2	0	3
Agree	3	1	3	6	0	6	3
Strongly Agree	8	1	1	1	8	5	5
Total Responses	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
% Strongly Disagree	0%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
% Disagree	0%	17%	8%	0%	0%	0%	8%
% Slightly Disagree	0%	17%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%
% Neutral	0%	0%	33%	17%	17%	8%	0%
% Slightly Agree	8%	42%	17%	25%	17%	0%	25%
% Agree	25%	8%	25%	50%	0%	50%	25%
% Strongly Agree	67%	8%	8%	8%	67%	42%	42%

What issues about the coastal environment worry you the most?	What do you think Louisiana needs to do to restore the coast?	What could Louisiana do to make the coast more sustainable?	Property buyouts	Natural stormwater management using vegetation Assist local businesses	Complete streets and improved parks	Environmental education center	Affordable housing that is protected from flooding	Seafood market	Safe harbors	Please list projects you think should have been included in LA SAFE.	I learned something new at the meetings.	Attending the meetings changed how I view the coast.	Because of LA SAFE, I understand better the risks my community will face in the future.	Because of LA SAFE, I think that my community can better adapt to environmental change in the future.	The LA SAFE process attempted to reach most of my community.	Only a certain group of people in my community benefited in the LA SAFE process.	Being a part of LA SAFE changed how I participate in public meetings.	What do you think was the greatest benefit to come out of LA SAFE?	What, in your opinion, would have helped improve the LA SAFE process?	How were you recruited for the meetings?	What made you decide to attend the meetings?
Land loss, Rising water levels, The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)	Use resources such as broken concrete to build a barrier	8	1	3	4	2	7	5	All great projects, not well represented in the slidell area	Agree	Agree	Agree	Neutral	Neutral	Agree	Neutral	Knowledge	Participation	Facebook	Interest in subject
Wastewater untreated entering estuaries	Sediment diversion	More diversion projects and restoration, and more levees		1		2	3		4	Wastewater collection and treatment projects expanded to areas where cesspool and septic systems still in use.	Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Agree	Neutral	A plan I had national and global experience to contribute to the final retreat, but was turned away. What a shame, especially when there were some who attended, because of politics, that did not have 1/10th of my experience. Exposed political cronyism as ZERO funding and ZERO voting was provided to Jefferson Eastbank which is where the majority of parish residents live!	Greater marketing and satellite engagements	Email	Interest in subject
Land loss, Rising water levels	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.), Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)	Start working on projects that have been suggested in the past and eliminate all the repetitive studies that are costing money to pay someone to conduct. Take action.	8	1	6	2	5	3	7	4	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Disagree	Agree	Neutral		Diversity and inclusivity of all stakeholders.	Email	Interest in subject
Drainage and Green Infrastructure in Dense Urban Areas	Other	Fund areas of high populations rather than lower population areas	3	2	4	1	6	5	8	Fat City Green Infrastructure, Library, & Pocket Park Plan	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	Strongly disagree		Have a vote in the primary population area. Partnering agencies should be locals...this area is unique!	Friend/colleague	Interest in subject
The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Sediment diversion	sediment diversion, mangrove planting, wetland restoration	8	2	3	4	1	1	2	2	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Neutral	Neutral	Agree	Neutral	Awareness	Don't give them the millions of dollars to waste and spend it dredging and pumping	Email	CFM
Land loss	Wetland restoration, Other	Dredge and pump silt	0,00	ging	ging	onal	ging	and	ping	Yes	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	Strongly disagree	None	Through applied cynicism. Finding a way to have decision and policy makers held more directly accountable for 'coastal solutions' in communities where voter turnouts can be less than 30%. LA SAFE needs to train its attendees as much or more on advocacy than on observations of land loss/sea level rise/flooding. We all know what wet feet feel like. What we don't know, as plain folks, is how to make State, Parish and City Leaders care enough to act decisively - and courageously in the face of the donor class. Should never have taken place. In the end a councilman decided his priorities took 1st place. Nothing mattered besides his choices!	Friend/colleague	Interest in subject
Land loss, Rising water levels, Uncontrolled development in flood plains	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.), Other	Stop the development of coastal areas for both industrial and high density/high impact residential uses.	4	1	8	8	3	8	8	Rethinking approaches to stewardship. Retreating from civil engineering's belief in better living through concrete.	Neutral	Disagree	Neutral	Disagree	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Possibly introduced certain people to issues they had not been aware of. However, I tend to believe that LAsafe is largely preaching to a choir- that it's targeting is off where decision and policy making are concerned. Decision/policy makers/enforcement are arguably 'captive' to interests who tend to deprecate 'environmental' concerns as anti-economic. How do you effectively confront that? Not with sandwiches and PowerPoints.		Newspaper as I remember.	Interest in subject
The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)	Look into planting saltwater resistant mangroves like exist in Florida coastal environments.	3	4	8	2	7	1	6	5	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	Strongly disagree	Public being shown pre-existing ideas were at the forefront of the leadership presenters. To get informed in what is taking place in my community & those around me.		Solicited as community activist	Interest in subject
Rising water levels	Sediment diversion		3	1	7	2	8	4	5	6	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Disagree	Agree			Friend/colleague	Interest in subject
Rising water levels	Wetland restoration		4	1	3	4	4	8	3	7	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Neutral	Kept wetlands and coastal restoration in the public view		I have participated in St Tammany Parish 2025 planning approximately 15 years ago, continue to go to Parish Council, League of Women Voters. I get e-mail from Gulf Restoration Network and Coalition to Restore Coastal LA	Interest in subject
Land loss	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration	Preserve/restore the natural wetlands which means saying no to developers who want to build in fragile environment; No to oil/gas pipelines-fracking.	4	1	3	4	4	8	3	7	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Disagree	Strongly agree	Neutral	Unsure of any	Less computer stuff--more old fashioned communication. I was intimidated by your methods. Utilize local facilitators and not spend so much money on the process		Interest in subject

Topic	Project Description	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8							
Land loss, Rising water levels, The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Sediment diversion										Grants to existing homeowners to raise their house.	Neutral	Agree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Created a lot of jobs that mostly went to those outside of the 6 parishes.	Have locals manage the program. They could defined reality better than the managers who live outside the region.	Adds	Interest in subject																					
The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)										Help businesses to keep economy strong for the community to survive.	Disagree	Disagree	Strongly agree	Strongly disagree	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Understanding how funding is miss used.	For the people of the project to hear the people.	Phone call	Interest in subject																					
Land loss, Rising water levels	Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)										Make large water brakes at the barrier islands. Close all passes to none navigable waters to reduce the in flow.	Strongly agree	Agree	Agree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Agree	More visible process	Yard sign		Interest in subject																					
Land loss nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.)	Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.)										Zone tolerance and construction in Terrebonne.	Strongly agree	Agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly disagree	Agree	Educate the general public on Non-Structural protection to flooding	More information regarding the Local CRS programs. Residents didn't even realize that Lafourche doesn't even participate!! This could substantially reduce their Flood Insurance Premiums! Sad!	Email Friend/colleague	Interest in subject																					
Land loss Rising water levels The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Sediment diversion										Community education on conservation; teaching our children to value their natural heritage.	Strongly disagree	Neutral	Agree	Neutral	Strongly agree	Neutral	Agree	getting to know neighbors who agree that we need a plan to protect Louisiana coastline.	Getting schoolchildren to participate more, through class projects, contests, etc.	Friend/colleague	Interest in subject																					
Rising water levels	Wetland restoration, Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)										Have more state and federally funded projects to restore wetlands	Disagree	Disagree	Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Strongly agree	Disagree	Some people who know little about the coast was somewhat educated in that area	don't bus people in. that created a false vote for certain topics. bad idea	Friend/colleague	Interest in subject																					
The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.), Other										LA SAFE should have filled in the protection gaps not addressed in the CPRA's Master Plan by exploring unique innovative scientific methods to protect communities from storm surge and flooding by developing methods to integrate economic development with storm surge protection. This would encourage recreational and commercial development and economic growth along the Lake Pontchartrain shoreline, (St. Tammany Parish's greatest and most valuable asset).	Agree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Strongly agree	Disagree	Not a damn thing, it was a total waste of time and money! LA SAFE ignored comments and suggestions made by individuals and only focused on predetermined projects that St. Tammany Parish Administration wanted. Conversations about much-needed community improvement projects	LA SAFE should have listened to the people that wanted a program that would address the gaps in St. Tammany's protection plan and develop policies, techniques and projects to save their homes from destruction.	Email	Interest in subject																					
Land loss	Sediment diversion										Build permanent surge protection projects such as ring levees, sea walls and breakwaters. Marsh creation is temporary and does not provide surge protection. At the CPRA Master Plan/Annual Plan Public Hearing on Jan 25, 2017 in Mandeville, the CPRA referred to their marsh creations objectives as developing "Coastal Habitats" and "Cultural Heritage" not "Flood Protection".	Agree	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Neutral																									
Land loss	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.)										Establish priorities for what can be sustained or preserved.	Agree	Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Disagree	Some few people had some money thrown at them.	A better understanding of what was trying to be accomplished would have helped a lot. Today it is very important to include more minorities since the minority population continues to grow. Using the resources and plan already available and implementing those. The process reinvented the wheel and ended with no firm solutions for further implementation.	Email	Interest in subject																					
Land loss, Rising water levels	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.)											Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Neutral	Strongly disagree	Agree	Neutral				Interest in subject																					
Land loss, Rising water levels, The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)											Disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly disagree	Some sort of coastal project will be created.		Phone call	Interest in subject																					

Issue	Category	Description	8	1	3	7	2	4	6	5	N/A	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Neutral	Disagree	Agree	Agree	Community collaboration	Awareness of the budget. Most of the proposals exceeded the available dollars.	Friend/colleague	Friend/colleague
Rising water levels	Sediment diversion	multi-state collaboration for northern Gulf coast protection that enables multi state congressional collaboration for funding priorities. Education, education, and more education outreach to teachers of children and young adults-- they are the future!!!!	8	1	3	7	2	4	6	5	N/A	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Neutral	Disagree	Agree	Agree	Community collaboration	Awareness of the budget. Most of the proposals exceeded the available dollars.	Friend/colleague	Friend/colleague
The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Sediment diversion		8	4	5	2	3	1	6	7		Agree	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Neutral	Agree	Neutral	project proposals		Email	Interest in subject
The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.) Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.)											Neutral	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Agree	Neutral	Awareness of LA SAFE not being concerned with proactive flood protection but only post flood opportunities	Proactive flood protection evaluation and action	Phone call	I did not
Land loss, Rising water levels	nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.)		1	7	2	5	8	6	4	3		Strongly agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Agree	Strongly agree	showing residents the important of coastal planning and restoration	I thought it was well presented	Friend/colleague	Interest in subject
Rising water levels, The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.) Wetland restoration, Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)	Work to potentially implement the "Changing Course" recommendation of abandoning the current way ships move up the Ms River from the Gulf and have the entrance further up into that area around Venice, thus abandoning the Birdsfoot where most of the sediment goes into deeper offshore areas that do not benefit the current basins. The abandonment would allow those sediments to be reworked and moved into the current interior bays - and allowing high water times of the year to push sediment into the adjacent basins.	6	5	7	2	2	6	2	6	yet.	Strongly agree	Neutral	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Introducing a very tough subject of how to deal with our future, kind of like discussing funeral arrangements etc on your personal funeral before you actually pass away, it's extremely necessary and uncomfortable, but absolutely crucial to Southern Louisiana's future growth.	Discussing more of basics of LaSAFE, the evolution of the State Master Plans, and the role LaSAFE has as we move forward with Master Plans. Where does it fit and how is the policy going to be utilized by the State. I have always said this La Safe provides the State a very proactive strategy of moving forward in the future. The Master Plan says for \$50B we will create 800 sq miles of land, which is appalling to me for that cost \$50B-100B to achieve, but if you combine that 800Sq miles of protection to strategic areas suggested in LA Safe, then I have a plan for the future, we may actually have a REAL plan for the future.	I knew about the original grant submitted that Matt got funded, and really loved the idea with my background in La Coastal Restoration since 1990.	Interest in subject
Land loss, Rising water levels	Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)	Shore up levees	1	1	5	1	2	1	5	1	flooding.	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Dealing with flooding issues and issues about the coast. The education - I was already exposed to most of this program as part of APA's involvement- but it was great to see the community embracing the magnitude of the message	More information to home to read.	Newspaper	Interest in subject
Land loss, The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration	Create a balance between development and maintenance of the natural elements necessary to combat storm surge Move forward w/ the Coastal Restoration components of the Master Plan (sediment diversions, barrier island restoration, marsh creation and ridge restoration) and the Structural Components of the Master Plan (Westshore Hurricane protection Project, Lafitte Levee Projects, Upper Barataria Risk Reduction Project, Morganza to the Gulf Project, Bayou Chene Floodgate, and the Central Louisiana Flood Protection Project) simultaneously. The Master Plan is a \$50B Plan with \$25B of Restoration and \$25B of Structural Protection included int so we should be spending equal amount of dollars on each type effort.	2	1	7	5	6	3	8	4		Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Agree	Neutral		Nothing - I think LA SAFE met the community where they live and work - kudos for that approach!	Friend/colleague	Interest in subject
The need for structural protection asap	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)		8	8	2	8	8	1	8	8	8 protection exists)	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	Strongly disagree		Listen more to the people that are living in the areas in need of becoming more reliant to flooding.	Email	Interest in subject

											They never left the community, they continue to return to help us think through this process.											
Land loss	Wetland restoration	Only allow development on areas which are not floodplains or require elevation &/or permeable surfaces that wouldn't interfere with wetland flora/fauna &/or water flow	3	2	6	3	4	1	5	4	Strongly agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Disagree	Neutral	Community education	Don't let the final approved project be what the area politicians & developers wanted anyway...disregarding what was discussed and agreed upon in the meetings.	Friend/colleague	Interest in subject	
Land loss	Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.)	flora/fauna &/or water flow legislative level to get changes at that political level. Regarding the increased subsidence that comes from forced drainage: Forced drainage allows people to build on lands that once were inundated limiting the time that the water can percolate into the ground and causing subsidence from land compaction. This compounds sea level rise issues, but the building techniques/elevation requirements do not recognize the subsidence. If a structure is expected to be used for 50 years, and subsidence is expected to be .5 inches per year, the structure should be built to accommodate that projected subsidence. Build above the water (but for roads that interrupt the floodplain functions - use pervious pavement) rather than moving the water. Building in a more resilient fashion (no fill in the floodplain, freeboard until FEMA includes future	3	1	8	5	2	4	6	7	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Community education		Email	Interest in subject	
		The above answers are only scored this way because there was no way to show any reasoning for the answers. None of these really spoke to restoring and protecting our marshes, ridges and wetlands that already provide storage in their natural place. None mentioned reconstitution of natural wetlands in areas now developed. Complete streets can be great but often take up more room and focuses on "streets" as a necessity when we may want to focus on more of a POD development style that has movement without vehicle access being the priority. State incentivized higher standards for building and natural beneficial function protection needs to be a focus. Economic development that encourages safer building and habitat/natural function protection should be available.												Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	The ability for anyone to come out, listen, and provide their opinion.					
Land loss	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.), Other	FEMA includes future	3	1	4	8	6	2	5	7	Agree	Disagree	Neutral	Neutral	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral		A really indepth public discussion about the evidence and modeling behind the maps. People still don't know if they should get behind the CPRA maps, the FEMA maps, or if neither includes what they would do. Also, I don't know if this message was brought specifically to the professional groups such as appraisers, mortgage bankers, insurers, and realtors to have a private discussion that they may not have in the public setting.	Email	profession	
		As a resident of Oak Harbor outside the levee area, the above solutions are a waste of taxpayer dollars! We need a levee on Hwy 11 and on Lakeshore Drive. You don't need a study to show that need...just look at the Katrina flood path.									Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Disagree	There was no benefit. Suggesting parks and recreational areas be built after the next flood is an insult to those of us who live here.	Look at ways to mitigate flooding, not ways to reclaim flooded land. Can't think of anything. Many people from various locations and social strata took part. More environmental awareness. We cannot drill drill and expect a different result.	Friend/colleague	Interest in subject	
The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)										Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	A safer community.					
Rising water levels	Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)										Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Bottom up approach to brainstorming.			Email	Interest in subject	
The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Wetland restoration, Other	Stop drilling for oil. Become a leader in sustainable energy. Need offshore under water dams like Holland , after all our politicians went there after Katrina to see what they do successfully but I guess that was just a boondoggle ! We need the money to go to what has been proven by the Dutch !	8	1	4	5	2	6	7	3	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Disagree			Email	Interest in subject	
The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Other										Agree	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Disagree	Yet to see any !	Too long of a process ! You make it complicated and it will be ! I believe in simple fast solutions ! Being able to increase participation from various community members. But that goes along with many members of the communities belief that either nothing can be done, it won't matter or its all made up.	Email	I want to be part of the solution not be a problem	
Land loss, Rising water levels, The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.), negligence on part of community members and politicians to see the seriousness of this issue.	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.), Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)		3	2	8	6	4	1	7	5	Strongly agree	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Neutral	Brilliant work and efforts by the team with actual results for the community.			Phone call	Interest in subject

Land loss, Rising water levels, The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.), Funding and Extensive Studies	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.)	Since we are starting behind the eight ball, there is no one silver bullet solution. Besides doing the sediment diversion, wetland restoration, elevating homes, we need to form and forge partnerships of solutions and funding with the oil/gas industry, petrochemical industry, home builders, real estate developers, industrial seafood harvestors, and blitz the public with PSAs and educational forums. We also need to establish an environmental school of higher learning in the state. Install river outlets to build up sediment along the floodplain. Limit industrial development to non-wetland areas. Reduce number of building/development permits. Pair sediment diversions with veg plantings and soil surface roughening structures to improve accretion. Support residential water collection basins. Support the use of permeable building materials on roads, parking lots, etc. Encourage the development of more sustainable energy (wind, solar, biofuels), more sediment diversion projects.	1	4	7	5	3	2	6	8	Recap meeting with the final selected project or projects in each parish. It was done for the elected officials, however, the local participants may or may not know what the results were. Additionally, develop a 1 pager of the parish outcomes that would be communicated on the local parish websites. In other words, we must start saturating the marketplace with this information in the hope of grabbing the attention of the locals.	Agree	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Disagree	Neutral	It started the dialogue about coastal erosion and climate change impact on our community even though we are inland (away from the coast). It also expose one to the different options on how one can better manage water. Personally, it expose me to all of the wonderful resources we have in the state trying to work on this important matter---erosion and restoration and co-existing with water.	Since I like big picture concepts, a 1 page flow chart or listing with a brief description of the various organizations working on the "water matter." In other words, a resource listing and how do they interplay with each other or not. Although, it has been explained during various meetings I have participated, I like a simple 1 page reference concept.	Read about the meetings it in the local newspaper initially, then subsequent emails.	Interest in subject
Land loss, Rising water levels, The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.), water quality	Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.), Other	Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.), Other	8	1	6	7	3	2	5	4	support for a federal natural disaster insurance policy; sponsor more residential structural/safety options (concrete homes, floating/tethered houses, oil rig escape/survival pods, 4 etc.)	Strongly agree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Planners heard directly from community members. Hopefully they take that to heart and actually listen to what residents need!	More informed representatives at the project booths. I had questions about the different projects that the hosts could not answer. I know me and some other residents agreed that we knew more about the region and its natural processes than some of the representatives, so it felt weird that "they" were in charge of the process and not us.	Email	Interest in subject
Rising water levels	Sediment diversion	Sediment diversion projects.	8	1	8	1	8	1	1	1		Agree	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Agree	Disagree	Agree			Friend/colleague	Interest in subject
Land loss	Wetland restoration	Hold the industries that damage our coast accountable for both the damage and future maintenance of their projects. Full environmental impact assessments should be required of all future industrial projects.	4	6	3	8	2	1	5	7	Utilize comments and observations to propose legislation that would benefit the coast.	Agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Disagree	Agree	Agree	Agree	It made community members who participated in the process, myself included, more knowledgeable about the planning process of proposed projects.	An attempt to reach those who are most vulnerable in coastal communities. Even in a small town there are those who actually in danger of loosing their homes to flooding and those who will not see that in their lifetime and in my experience at the meetings, the voices of the later of drowned out those of the most vulnerable.	Friend/colleague	Friend/colleague
Land loss, Rising water levels, The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.)	Allow the Mississippi River to flood its banks. Be more aggressive in getting off fossil fuels as an energy source since that is driving global warming and the rise of the oceans. Louisiana needs to launch a statewide environmental protection campaign that aims to educate citizens about protecting the environment; people need to learn the importance of conservation practices and those that reduce flooding, i.e., clearing storm drains of debris. The state should provide some sort of incentives to residents that recycle, that use rain water barrels, etc.	5	1	6	3	2	4	8	7	Bio swales. Rain gardens. There were other beautiful environmentally friendly ideas put forth that I cannot recall. When I saw the final choices for us to vote on, I got the distinct feeling that the whole event had been a greenwash. It seemed that we had 6 choices of development ideas from which to choose. I also did not like how several attendees were allowed to hijack the microphone. There should have been a time limit on how long a person could speak.	Agree	Strongly disagree	Agree	Strongly disagree	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	I don't think there was any great benefit.	Building levees and dredging has not solved the flooding problems. Slab houses and unbridled development has made it worse. I've heard of at least one truly innovative idea from Holland where a house is tethered to keep it in place, but it can float in flood waters and the tethers keep it from moving. I'd like to see pervious pavers for parking lots, streets and driveways. I'd like to see more innovation included. I'd like to see more concern given to our environment. I live on the North Shore because I like to see forests and swamps, but it is slowly turning into Metairie.	Friend/colleague	Interest in subject
All of the above. The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Wetland restoration	More beatification projects. Recycle center.	4	3	6	2	1	5	7	8		Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Strongly agree	Community coming together and being a part of the planning process.	Spanish speaking interpreters and more outreach to their community. Also, old school, grassroots outreach campaigning.	Friend/colleague	Friend/colleague
	Wetland restoration		4	6	5	3	8	1	2	7		Agree	Neutral	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Agree	Disagree			Social media	Interest in subject

Project ID	Project Name	Lead	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23				
18% Planning & Engineering Cost throughout CPRA budgets.	Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)	acknowledge there are areas that cannot be saved and work on infrastructure to accept those people and industries in the areas that will eventually succumb.															Neutral	Disagree	Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Neutral	Spending \$40MM on projects that have very little impact on the problems. Nothing. This was another waste of our taxpayer dollars. 13 years after Katrina and the Northshore still does not have any flood protection. Our parish government has done nothing except give excuses. They should all be fired!	Comments on building the West Pontchartrain District Levee was specifically disallowed in your process. That would have been a beneficial use of that \$40MM.	Participation in Coastal Restoration meetings.	Interest in subject		
Flooding	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.), Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)	Capture excess sediment that is now washed into the Gulf. Soil pumped from coastal sedimentation at outflows could be used to build up banks and surge protection.	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8		Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Strongly agree	A comprehensive flood control project to protect our way of life	Talk about flood protection and how to develop a cost effective plan to protect the Northshore from I-12 south.	Email	Interest in subject
Land loss	Sediment diversion		7	1	6	2	8	3	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4		Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Protect wetlands and barrier areas from development. Promote growth of cypress and other tolerant forest growth in marginal areas.	Local input on local proposed solutions. Some local impacts did not appear to have been considered. Local knowledge helped refine solutions.	Better advance understanding of the meeting process and expectation. Time was limited and the groups lost time getting the ground rules clear.	Email	Interest in subject
Land loss	Wetland restoration		3	1	2	5	8	4	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7		The state-wide and national interest generated by the initiative, and subsequent funding.			Interest in subject
Rising water levels	Wetland restoration	Force exploration companies to contribute financially to restoration	3	1	4	2	7	5	8	6	6	6	6	6	6	6		Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Wastewater collection and treatment expansions	Expanded vision from facilitators	Learn through media	Friend/colleague	Friend/colleague
Land loss	Sediment diversion		4	1	6	5	2	3	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7		Neutral	Neutral	Disagree	Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Neutral	Information			Interest in subject	
Land loss, The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.), The time and money required to counter our enormous coastal problems.	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.), Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)	Let each coastal parish set its own priorities for sustainability and then work these types of projects into the Coastal Master Plan.	1	2	5	6	4	3	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7		Agree	Neutral	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Perhaps structural projects, but given the limitations of the funding source, this may have not been possible.	The planning process brought more people into the discussion and generated some new idea.	Not sure.	Email	Interest in subject
Land loss, Rising water levels	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.), Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)	Retrofitting existing neighborhoods with stormwater management features; Creation of holistic drainage, flood protection and planning statutory authorities with oversight, accountability, and authority to govern development decisions and their implications for flood protection, drainage and community resiliency.	2	1	6	7	8	3	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4		Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	The elevation of the conversation at the policy level regarding resiliency.	Drop the over consultative model which wasted time and money engaging people who did not understand and did not care about actual resiliency projects which will make communities safer as opposed to gravitating to more nebulous motherhood type projects with very little actual value to make communities safer. This process actually disenfranchised the community members, leaders and public officials who have the most insight on these issues and with them went the actually useful ideas.	All of the above	Interest in subject	
Land loss	Sediment diversion	Stop issuing permits for more destruction. It has to let nature run it's course. It used to flood and that would allow the sediment to build up the land. We came in and decided to build levees to keep flooding down which in turn stopped the sediment from being spread out. All this has allowed coastal erosion to race forward. plant trees, create berms as natural barriers	2	1	6	8	3	4	7	5	5	5	5	5	5	5		Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Agree	Disagree				Friend/colleague	Friend/colleague
Land loss, The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration		8	1	6	5	4	3	2	7	7	7	7	7	7	7		Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Neutral	Neutral	I had like the seafood market/safe harbor that was suggested near Chet Morrison.	getting the community involved with making decisions	I think it went well as can be expected. I can't think of anything that would have improved it much.	facebook	Interest in subject
Land loss	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Other		1															Neutral	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Disagree	Disagree					Interest in subject	
Land loss, Rising water levels	nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.)	Structural projects, wetlands, forest areas	2	1	3					4								Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Agree	Disagree	How wrong the answers were	Put more \$ into levee protection, raise homes, eliminate coastal erosion	Never was		
Land loss	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration		4	1	7	5	2	6	8	3	3	3	3	3	3	3		Agree	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Prevention more coastal erosion	More people involved, more publicity about meetings	Friend/colleague	Friend/colleague	
Land loss	Wetland restoration		2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Gaining more information about what LA SAFE is and what's they can do for our community.	everything is always wonderful.	Email	Interest in subject	
Doing nothing but talk	Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)	Gates @ Rigolets & Chef	8															Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Agree	Neutral	Neutral	No benefit, it showed they plan nothing constructive	Explore steps to fight the problem, not just run away.	St. Tammany notice	Interest in subject	

Land loss, The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Wetland restoration, Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)		8	1	2	7	3	6	4	5	Strongly agree	Agree	Agree	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Agree		Facebook	Interest in subject			
	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.), Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.), Other	Do something NOW instead of consistently wasting money with studies that we all know will produce the same results. Temporary structures like trees can help in the interim until ACTION is taken.	8	1	7	4	2	5	6	3	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	Agree	Nothing for the community, restore the coast	Reaching more residents for input and encouraging them to stay involved throughout the process.	Friend/colleague	Interest in subject		
Land loss, Rising water levels	Wetland restoration	dont know	2	8	6	8	8	6	6	8	Agree	Agree	Agree	Agree	Neutral	Agree	Agree		Friend/colleague	Interest in subject			
The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.), Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.), Other		1	2	3	10	9	8	6	2	3	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly disagree	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	Strongly disagree	Funding for Flood Protection Authorities with no local taxes. Use state and federal revenue sharing from BP oil spill and oil and gas production	Opening public's eyes to government hiring facilitators to push what the government thinks is right regardless of what the public thinks.	Honestly as to what the process of having the meetings were all about. Such as we're here to present OUR list of priorities and get your input. By the time we're through we're sure you'll agree with us.	Email	Interest in subject
Land loss, Rising water levels, The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.), lack of non-structural protection for commercial properties	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.), Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.), Other	implement man-made solutions that most closely resemble natural processes	2	5	4	8	3	1	7	6	Strongly agree	Neutral	Agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Disagree	Strongly agree	Real projects with real dollars	Clear explanation of where eligible projects are to be located	Phone call	Interest in subject		
Land loss, Rising water levels	Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.)	Close off the pipeline channels and redistribute the excavated sediment that was piled on the side of some of the channels when they were dredged. The existing condition creates at least two problems: 1) the channels contribute to eroding and destroying the coastal wetlands and 2) the dredged material creates small levees that hinder natural water, sediment, and nutrient movement within the coastal wetlands.	2	1	3	7	6	4	8	5	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Neutral	Agree	Neutral	Strongly disagree	Awareness, particularly to the plight of Isle de Jean Charles residents. I must say that the meetings I attended were well run.	Have licensed Landscape Architects on the team since they design outdoor spaces, particularly parks and natural areas, and understand natural habitats, plants, and natural hydrology. Yet architects (who design buildings) were chosen to conceptually design all of the outdoor spaces (most of the projects were outdoors) for LA SAFE. Consistently the #1 undergrad school and #2 graduate school (second only to Harvard Graduate School of Design) for Landscape Architecture in the nation is at LSU! Yet none were on the team. Why?	Email	Interest in subject		
Land loss, Rising water levels, The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)	Rocks	8	8	4	8	8	3	4	1	Agree	Disagree	Strongly agree	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Agree	Awareness that our community is in trouble. Lack of vision.	Better understanding the focus of the project.	Friend/colleague	Interest in subject		
Land loss, Rising water levels, The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Wetland restoration, Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)	Put more money into coastal restoration.	8	8	7	8	8	8	8	8	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly disagree	Strongly agree	The information the La Safe group provided.		Nothing	New paper	Interest in subject		
Land loss	Wetland restoration	listen to CHART	8	8	5	1	8	8	1	7	Strongly agree	Disagree	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Agree	Neutral			real estate broker	Interest in subject		
Land loss, Rising water levels, The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.), poverty	Other	Figure out what the priorities of coastal communities are, the programs and resources they need, and try to fund those.	8	7	1	8	8	1	5	5	Disagree	Disagree	Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Disagree	Bringing the conversation about coastal programs to smaller, isolated communities.	Better defining what HUD money can be used (and not used) for and communicating this to coastal communities.	Email	Interest in subject		
The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.)	Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.)		3	2	7	4	1	5	8	6	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Strongly agree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Public education and input	Church outreach	Email	Interest in subject		
Land loss	Sediment diversion, Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)	Rocks on barrier islands	5	4		8	7	6	4	1	Agree	Agree	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Agree	Disagree	Not sure		Church outreach	Friend/colleague	Interest in subject	
Land loss, Rising water levels	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.), Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)	No one approach is enough. Need to have multiple solutions like the ones listed above.	7	3	2	4	5	1	6	8	Agree	Agree	Neutral	Agree	Neutral	Agree	Disagree	really giving the locals a chance to share their perspective and be heard		Friend/colleague	Interest in subject		
Land loss, Rising water levels, The dependence on and need for structural projects (levees, etc.), Pipelines crossing the wetlands creating unnatural barriers	Sediment diversion, Wetland restoration, Implement more nonstructural projects (house elevation, etc.), Implement more structural projects (levees, etc.)	More eco-tourism, investigate sustainable ways to use and grow the wetlands that have payback of invested money, potential for fish /shrimp /oyster farming that also increase natural infrastructure growth while providing food and money.	7	1	5	able	8	2	3	rise	Agree	Neutral	Agree	Neutral	Agree	Neutral	Neutral	Plans	If the funding for the solutions were possible given our current legislative budget impasse. Funding before starting would have given the process more credibility.	Friend/colleague	Interest in subject		