

Hopefuls

Continued from Page 1A

room for improvement. Our faith-based groups and community groups need to be engaged in the fight against crime. Lafayette Parish is blessed to have a close-knit community, but we need to engage those resources better with our police force.

District 3

URSULA ANDERSON: Lafayette Consolidated Government is not doing enough to battle crime. LCG should address the root causes of crime and allocate more resources to early childhood programs, education and economic development.

PATRICK LEWIS:

The time is now for us to come together as neighbors, friends and most importantly concerned citizens and rally against the violence that has overtaken our area. My vision is to promote police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods a safer and better place to live. We can address crime in our inner-city neighborhoods by heightening crime prevention awareness, generate support for and participation in local anti-crime programs and strengthen neighborhood spirit to send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

JOHN PETERSON:

We should work toward building a more collaborative relationship between law enforcement and the public they serve, which requires absolute transparency. But we should also understand that issues of education and economic opportunity have a direct impact on crime and must be addressed in order for sustainable solutions to occur. Simply funding law enforcement at higher and higher levels is not the answer.

BRANDON SHELVIN: Did not respond.

District 5

JARED BELLARD: Consolidated government has and will always continue to battle crime and in every budget we continue to allocate funds to improve crime fighting. I believe the new sheriff will play a pivotal role in addressing improved crime-fighting techniques such as better community policing and the use of body cameras.

MONIQUE KOLL:

How can the answer to this ever be yes in a real society? I support psychological facilities and resources having more involvement with high-risk children and playing a larger role in preventing crime.

District 6

ALICIA CHAISSON: A more collaborative approach is in order. Having a relationship with your neighbors can combat crime. LCG can work with neighborhood leaders to better understand the needs of citizens. Community-building events are especially important to create a sense of belonging and respect. Revitalizing neighborhoods with basic

repairs, adequate illumination and public art can go a long way to making citizens feel valued. Police can build relationships to become a welcome part of the community rather than an outside force to mistrust.

BRUCE CONQUE:

Improve cooperative efforts between law enforcement agencies and the general public. The issue of crime goes beyond the authority of LCG.

ANDY NAQUIN:

While most people probably feel that their own neighborhood is safe, there is widespread concern about violent crime in the north side of the parish. We need to revive community policing programs to restore trust. Body cameras also is a good idea. Better coordination between law enforcement agencies in the parish is also important.

SEVIE ZELLER:

We need to ensure that law enforcement has the equipment and training they need. I love the community relations programs they have been putting in place and highly encourage them to expand those initiatives. I support programs in place to get individuals help instead of just locking them up. Not only do they save the taxpayer money, but they can help break the repeat-offender cycle. We need to empower our community and churches who make the biggest impact. Get youth involved in mentoring programs, promote rehabilitation programs and encourage watch groups.

District 7

NANETTE COOK:

We need to restore trust between law enforcement and stakeholders in the highest-crime neighborhoods. We need more training and equipment for officers who work in these high-danger areas. Body cameras would also encourage more confidence in law enforcement.

JOSEPH "BOBBY" RICHARD:

I have served as a United States Marine and a Lafayette police officer. In both scenarios, the better resourced they are, the more secure they are. Our local law enforcement agencies should be re-sourced in such a way that they are able to provide strong proactive policing. But even the best re-sourced department will only be as effective as its ability to not only protect but serve its community. Therefore, emphasis on effective community involvement and policing should be an integral part of all enforcement training.

District 8

LIZ WEBB HEBERT:

It would be our responsibility as a council to work closely with our local law enforcement to make sure they have the equipment, training and support to execute their duty properly. City-parish president candidate Dee Stanley wants to form a committee of pastors in inner-city neighborhoods and Joel Robideaux suggests increasing the Crime Stoppers reward. We need to listen to the suggestions of the communities most affected by

crime to hear what they believe would be most effective.

GERALD JUDICE:

One thing LCG can do is encourage education. Additional education at the elementary and middle school levels that would promote options for our youth that may not receive the proper guidance and training at home. We can take steps to prevent future crime if we teach our children to practice self discipline, responsibility for one's actions, a sense of community involvement and civic pride.

CAROL ROSS:

I believe Lafayette Police Chief Jim Craft has worked hard to build trust with the minority community, but no amount of police involvement can fix problems like the breakdown of the family unit and the pernicious effect of drugs on the community. I like the idea of neighborhood precincts or greater police visibility, more programs that strengthen the family unit and empower the neighborhood groups working together.

Q: Do you support Plan Lafayette? What do you like and dislike about it?

District 2

JAY CASTILLE: I do support Plan Lafayette. I like the controlled-growth aspect. It'll allow the city to develop in a more diverse way. Higher density development and redevelopment of the inner city. It allows more input from the people of the community on how they would like to see their city developed. The downside is the amount of funding available to reach some of the goals in the plan. We will need to set priorities and try and fund them as we go along.

CHARLOTTE CLAVIER: I served on the precursor for this initiative LINC — Lafayette in the Next Century Commission — years ago and believe we can only grow as a community if we have a plan, then work the plan.

District 3

URSULA ANDERSON: I am in full support of Plan Lafayette in that it includes a detailed 20-year vision of action to accelerate Lafayette's growth. However, I am concerned about the method of payment to implement the plan.

PATRICK LEWIS: I support Plan Lafayette. This is the first time in our history we are motivated by unified vision, one that reflects shared values as well as diversity. We have an action agenda that will ensure we will gain immediate traction and sustained progress and success building upon over time.

JOHN PETERSON: I support Plan Lafayette and look forward to continuing its implementation, particularly when it comes to revitalization of our community's core. I think it's great we have a road map for the future that includes so much public input and I'll ensure our decision-making is done with Plan Lafayette in mind.

BRANDON SHELVIN: Did not respond.

District 5

JARED BELLARD: I do support Plan Lafayette. Within the whole Plan Lafayette presentation, the word "drainage" was listed maybe twice. Also, Plan Lafayette never focused on growth inside District 5. District 5 has the largest area for future growth.

MONIQUE KOLL: I support a plan for the city to grow. Plan Lafayette is a huge undertaking that had a lot of thought by qualified and caring people going into it. There is inherently going to be kinks and an adjustment period with something that is such a large undertaking, but in the long run we will minimize sprawl and maximize ease of travel and connectivity with a unified plan.

District 6

ALICIA CHAISSON: I do support Plan Lafayette. I truly appreciated being part of the process and that local government cared about my ideas. I like that the people had a say in the long-term planning re-

garding their home. I dislike that it feels like the plan is finished. It still needs to be prioritized, funded and executed. The plan can be re-evaluated and change as Lafayette grows.

BRUCE CONQUE: As chairman of the Lafayette Planning Commission, I provided leadership or crafting and final adoption of Plan Lafayette. We must always remember that it is a vision, a framework for how we grow Lafayette in the next 20 years and beyond. It will be the council that determines its implementation and funding.

ANDY NAQUIN: I support efforts to improve our "front door" where people come into our city from Interstate 10. I don't approve many elements of the Unified Development Code and comprehensive plan, particularly those that attempt to force development into downtown and to restrict it in other parts of the parish.

SEVIE ZELLER: We must utilize our existing resources better, which includes looking at the return on investment before spending money on capital improvement projects, and strengthening and revitalizing key neighborhoods and corridors. We also must address adjudicated properties, see the Interstate 49 Connector to fruition, make arts and culture more visible, develop transit options to improve the health of Bayou Vermilion. The downside is that it all costs money.

District 7

NANETTE COOK: Lafayette is growing quickly and in order to maintain its integrity, a plan for future growth is important. The Unified Development Code was developed with much thought and input from stakeholders, and I believe it was designed with Lafayette's best interest in mind. I think it's an effective tool we can use for future growth planning. I agree we need to upgrade our "front door," however I am concerned of the possibility of making growth more difficult.

JOSEPH "BOBBY" RICHARD: I love the idea of a comprehensive plan that supports the vision of our community. To not have a plan to succeed is to have a plan to fail. It is an attempt to provide a long-term strategic plan that in theory should result in the savings of tax dollars. One concern with the plan is the proposed narrowing of major arteries like Pinhook along the Oil Center from four lanes to two. We need to carefully move through each thumbnail of Plan Lafayette asking questions like "Is it appropriate? Does government need to be involved? Is it functional? Will that solution really work? Is it moral? Does it really put people first?"

District 8

LIZ WEBB HEBERT: I do support Plan Lafayette. It's a vision for our future driven by public input and what they want to see for the future of Lafayette. It is not a plan made by government bodies or a selected group but decided on by the community. The council can use the plan as a blueprint for future decisions. It is not a legal document so it can be modified or adjusted as needed.

GERALD JUDICE: I support the general nature of the plan as it had input from the community and community leaders. It should be utilized as a guideline, but I believe it will need to be amended or adjusted as we move forward to incorporate the changes in the needs and feasibility of each project or goal.

CAROL ROSS: Generally speaking, centralized planning initiatives come with lots of devilish details and costly mandates. Plan Lafayette is a very ambitious undertaking that is very detailed and gives a lot of regulatory power to government. I believe it will require a lot of oversight to assure that it is implemented properly and does not harm business and inhibit economic growth.

PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Proposed BP Settlement Consent Decree and Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Draft Programmatic Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan for the Gulf of Mexico

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustees (Trustees) invite the public to a series of meetings as they seek public comments on two documents. DOJ is asking for public comment on a proposed Consent Decree with BP. This Consent Decree sets forth a settlement between BP, the United States, and the five Gulf states resolving claims for federal civil penalties and natural resource damages related to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

The Trustees are seeking public comment on the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Draft Programmatic Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan (PDARP) and Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS). The draft plan would allocate funds for restoration from a settlement with BP for up to \$8.8 billion for natural resource injuries.

There will be eight meetings—seven within the Gulf region and one in Washington D.C. Information about the Louisiana meetings listed below.

LOUISIANA PUBLIC MEETINGS

Date	Times	Location
10/19/2015	5:30 PM – Open House 6:00 PM – Meeting	Courtyard by Marriott – Houma
		Versailles Parlour 142 Liberty Drive Houma, LA 70360
		Hilton Garden Inn New Orleans Convention Center Garden Ballroom 10001 South Peters Street New Orleans, LA 70130
10/22/2015	5:30 PM – Open House 6:00 PM – Meeting	

To download the proposed Consent Decree, visit <http://www.justice.gov/enrd/deepwater-horizon>. To view the Trustees' draft programmatic damage assessment and restoration plan, as well as a list of locations where copies of the documents have been placed for public review and a list of all public meetings, visit www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov. To facilitate public review of documents, information on the Consent Decree and a link for making comment is also posted at www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov.

In addition to verbal comments received at public meetings, the public may submit written comments through December 4, 2015:

For the Consent Decree:

- Online: <http://www.justice.gov/enrd/deepwater-horizon>
- By U.S. Mail: U.S. Department of Justice, P.O. Box 7611, Washington, D.C. 20044-7611, and should refer to U.S. v. BP Exploration and Production et al, Civil No. 10-4536 (E.D. La.) (centralized in MDL 2179; In Re: Oil Spill by the Oil Rig "Deepwater Horizon" in the Gulf of Mexico, April 20, 2012), D.J. Ref. 90-5-1-1-10026

For the draft plan:

- Online: www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov
- By U.S. Mail: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 49567, Atlanta, GA 30345

MEETING CONTACTS:

STATE: Jenny Kurz, 225-342-0168, jenny.kurz@la.gov
 NOAA: Courtney Groeneveld, 301-427-8666, courtney.groeneveld@noaa.gov
 DOJ: Nanciann Regalado, 678-296-6805, nanciann_regalado@fws.gov

Persuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in this meeting is asked to advise the Trustees at least five days before the meeting by calling Nanciann Regalado at the contact information above.

LA100807080