

Mr. Gibbs: Good evening and welcome to the Planning & Zoning Commission meeting for November. This is a public hearing and everyone in the audience will have the opportunity to speak for or against the items coming before us. As with all meetings we'd like to start with a moment and the Pledge of Allegiance please.

We'll attempt to have a slight change in the agenda. We'd like to have a motion to take the last item #39 on the agenda and move it to the front.

Mr. Booth: I'll make that motion.

Mr. Frangella: I'll second it.

Mr. Gibbs: Cast your vote please.

YEAS: Pierre, Loupe, Gibbs, Booth, Frangella, Galliano

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Foster

Mr. Gibbs: That passes unanimously. First item on the agenda will be PZRES-2014-01 requested by St. Charles Parish Planning & Zoning Department for a Resolution of the St. Charles Parish Board of Planning Commission approving and adopting the Paul Maillard Road Revitalization Plan. Mr. Albert you want to address this and give the good news I would hope.

Thank you Mr. Chairman. I believe that's largely up to you all at the end of this. Thank you for the chance to speak on this. The Paul Maillard plan is an effort from a lot of different angles of the parish and what you're doing with this plan is really a progressive planning effort and an extension of the Comprehensive Plan that you all previously adopted. This is the kind of neighborhood work that really makes a difference in your community. Last night we unveiled a plan publically at the German Coast Farmers Market and we had close to 500 people in attendance and I'll speak for myself but for the others that were there as well I don't think I heard a negative word from the people that were coming in looking at the plan, it was very well received. I'm going to take a minute before I carry on, I want to thank Buddy Boe and Kim Marousek for laying the ground work for this and really doing the vision and legwork to put this into motion and to Marny Stein here for putting in the heavy lifting and getting this plan to you. Also, I like to thank Ed Elam and Paul Wadehouse from BKI who are here with us tonight as well as Leah Jemison from Jemison Partners, they will be available to answer questions before you move forward with your resolution. I would also like to thank Bob Monti with Quality Supply for donating the generator to help make that event possible last night. Any questions, please direct them to our colleagues who helped us put this plan together.

Mr. Gibbs: Thank you Mr. Albert. This is a public hearing, so if there is anyone that would like to speak in favor, would like to speak against the agenda item before us, this would be your opportunity.

Fred Martinez, CEO of St. Charles Parish Hospital. I just wanted to say that I participated through the years in other efforts by the parish to do effective community planning and this has got to be one probably of the best efforts I've seen in the years that I've been at the hospital. It was very broad based, it was very thorough. Obviously with any planning and any future planning such as this, there are a lot of concerns. We saw concerns from some of our citizens and some of them are located along Paul Maillard but I think that they were all given the opportunity to discuss those concerns. Obviously the hospital has a lot at stake with the revitalization plan. We feel that it's a very good plan. I'd like to be able to see some of this come to fruition in the years that I have left here. It's a great effort and a good plan. It's got a lot of good things, good feels to it. A lot of good things if we can accomplish them, I think they would go along for the future generation for the people that will live in St. Charles and travel along Paul Maillard. I would urge you to ask whatever questions you have and consider this for adoption tonight. Thank yall.

Mr. Gibbs: Mr. Martinez we appreciate all your kind words. I unfortunately had to utilize the hospital a couple of times in the last 8-10 years and the experience there was overwhelming, it was outstanding. This program, this revitalization I think can only enhance what a well run hospital that you have right now. I don't see how it could ever deteriorate what you have. I guess

my whole point is you run a very, very good hospital. Thank you we really appreciate that and we will continue supporting this effort because we got a lot at stake on this particular future plan and we want to be helpful to the parish and the community as they try to improve Paul Maillard. I think it could be, it's already a very vital thoroughfare for St. Charles and I think it would be a lot more with this type.

Mr. Booth: Mr. Martinez, just a side note, the doctor's offices on the east bank near the 310, I know it's not part of this deal, I'm just curious, what percentage of completion do you think you are at that building right now?

Mr. Martinez: As of right now, we're due to complete that project probably in late May of 2015, it's moving along very well.

Mr. Booth: We've only heard positive comments from people who would be using those doctor's offices, that's why I brought it up thank you.

Mr. Martinez: We will have a lot more new physicians. I think really even though it's not on Paul Maillard it will be a lot of synergy for Paul Maillard because of it.

Mr. Booth: Thank you.

Good evening my name is Paula Peete. I'm Director of Housing and Family Resources in New Orleans, we're located at 2222 Paul Maillard. I sat on the committee as a housing chair, guiding the housing piece making sure that housing would be available for everyone, as we age we can stay in the parish, as we get married we can have housing available, if we need apartments, we need that as well. The program is very holistic, it includes everyone, it's a multi-generational plan. I've sat in a lot of plans from Baton Rouge to New Orleans, from Plaquemine to St. Bernard and it's really a family friendly quality of life plan. I just hope that you digest what you hear tonight, that you look at it really well, that everyone's involved and everyone participate. It's a walkable community plan like other cities you can walk in the community, you can ride bicycles so it's a really good friendly plan and I that you take it in and support it. Thank you.

Mr. Gibbs: Thank you ma'am and thank you for your participation too. This is a public hearing for PZRES-2014-01 is there anyone else that would care to speak?

I'm Bryce Steinlage, I'm a stakeholder, I live at 223 Paul Maillard on the corridor. My family we've raised them there. We live in the community, we don't work in the community, we have to go out of the community to work. When we go out on a date we go out of the community, when we bring our kids to have a birthday party we go out of the community and one of the points of us being a part of this is to have a draw for our community, places for people to do all of those things that we mentioned. We walk our streets and it's not the safest thing to do, we do it at night because it's when we have the chance and I wish it were a little safer and also wish that for my neighbors down to the other end of the corridor as well so they can enjoy the same thing. There are plenty of times when I see folks walking on the side of the road and there is a big ditch right there and I fear for them. I'd love for them to safely be able to ride their bikes and walk up and down the streets and I'm sure you've all seen the same things. I want to see that change, I would like to see that in my lifetime. I'd also like to see a draw, I'd like to see more businesses come to our area that can keep more jobs in our area and also allow us to stay closer to our house, where we're going to work, where we're going to play and the places we can bring our kids. We have a lot to offer here in the parish but we can have a lot more if we have a stronger anchor and I believe that this project is right in line to make that happen. Thank you.

Mr. Gibbs: Thank you I appreciate it. Anyone else to speak on PZRES-2014-01? Seeing none. Commissioner members any comments/concerns? I can tell you I went to the presentation, the presentation is wonderful. I didn't look to see if I could find any negatives but there weren't any. So it's got my full support and if there is no comment I would like to call for a vote.

YEAS: Pierre, Loupe, Gibbs, Booth, Frangella, Galliano
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Foster

Mr. Gibbs: That passes unanimously and good luck. Onward and forward.
