

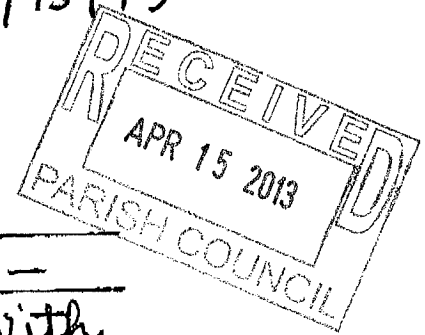
Council (Persons to Address the Council); Floods

2013-0153

PETITION TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Today's Date: 4/15/13

St. Charles Parish Council Chairman
P. O. Box 302
Hahnville, LA 70057
(985) 783-5000



Dear Chairman:

Please place my name to address the Council on:

DATE: 4-22-13

SPECIFIC TOPIC: Biggert-Waters act of 2012 -

(*see specific guidelines on reverse and refer to Parish Charter- Article VII., Sec. 1.)

Suggestions for Dealing With Proposed New Flood Zones and Extreme Flood Rates

DOCUMENTS, IF ANY: SUMMARY YES / NO

NAME: Frank Whiteside

MAILING ADDRESS: 150 Bayou Estates South Des Allemands, LA 70030 (Bayou Gauche)

PHONE: 985-758-8295

SIGNATURE: Frank Whiteside

Dear Constituent:

Thank you for your active participation. Your views and comments will be considered by the Council in making our decisions. The Council has a considerable amount of business to conduct in a limited amount of time, therefore, please note the following items that are expected of you:

- > The Home Rule Charter provides for citizens to address the Council. It makes no provision for initiating debate, discussion, or question and answer sessions with Councilmembers or Administration Officials. Your right is also guaranteed to examine public documents as you prepare your presentation. Should you have any questions for Councilmembers and/or Department Heads as you prepare, please forward such inquiries to the Council Office to insure a timely response. Should you wish to speak to any Official or Department personally, a complete list of contact information will be furnished at your request.
- > Please be brief and limit your comments to the specific subject matter on which you have requested to address the Council.
- > Please forward supporting documents to the Council Secretary for distribution to the Parish Council before your scheduled appearance in order for the Council to prepare themselves, if necessary.
- > Upon completion of your allotted time to address the Council, please respect the time given to Councilmembers to respond to your comments by not interrupting or interjecting remarks.
- > Slanderous remarks and comments will not be tolerated. If slanderous remarks or comments are made, your opportunity to address the Council will end, regardless of the remaining time left to address the Council.
- > Repetitious comments and subject matter will be strictly limited.

A confirmation letter will follow when your name is placed on the agenda.

Sincerely,
Wendy Benedetto

WENDY BENEDETTO
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

(OVER)

Summary: Biggert-Waters Act of 2012---Suggestions for Dealing with Proposed New Flood Zones and Extreme Flood Insurance Rates

Frank Whiteside Bayou Gauche

1. **The Parish President, Council members and residents of affected areas must UNITE in our effort to fight the injustice of proposed new flood zones and extreme flood insurance rates. Both East Bank and West Bank will be severely affected by the consequences if the proposed items go into effect.**
2. **We must all work together to immediately create a workable flood-protection plan for the Sunshine Drainage District and a source of funding.**
3. **I ask that Parish officials send a unanimous resolution to our U.S. Senators and Representatives to attempt a REPEAL (or AMEND parts of the act that severely impact us if full repeal does not have enough support). They need to make Congress aware of the horrible impact that this Act will have on many of our residents.**
4. **Appeal the West Bank FEMA maps and the horrendously high flood insurance rates and keep the "grandfather" clauses in effect permanently for affected homeowners and business owners and those who might purchase these properties.**
5. **As a last resort, St. Charles Parish should help affected residents file a class action lawsuit for the economic destruction the Act and FEMA is attempting to inflict on us. The argument could center on the fact that residents of the affected areas were already living/building in a government-designated "X" (non-flood) zone (since 1983), and therefore, all residents/businesses must be "grandfathered" at the "X" zone flood insurance rates. To change the law after-the-fact (ex-post-facto) to deprive residents of rights under a previous law to force them into an "AE" (flood zone) and force unbearable flood insurance rates on them, would destroy their families, their property values (homes, businesses, land), jobs and financial stability which could result in loss of their homes and property. To unlawfully remove the "grandfather" clause is not only illegal, but IMMORAL. Not only would this damage residences and businesses, but it would deprive St. Charles Parish of population and a major tax base.**
6. **Should legal action fall short of victory, impacted residents/businesses/landowners should be entitled to a "buyout" by the federal government at a value that existed before these unjust laws were cast upon us.**