

*Luling, Town of; Parish President (Vetoed Ord + Reso); P+Z (Dept of)*



ALBERT D. LAQUE  
PARISH PRESIDENT

# ST. CHARLES PARISH

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May 8, 2006

Hon. Brian Fabre, Chairman  
St. Charles Parish Council  
P.O. Box 302  
Hahnville, LA 70057

Re: Veto of Ordinance No. 06-5-1

Dear Councilman Fabre,

On Monday, May 1, 2006 the Council approved Ordinance No. 06-5-1. The ordinance approved the change of zoning classification from W to R-1B even though this property is subject to frequent inundation by normal tidal exchange. Approximately two years ago, on June 7, 2004 the Council approved Ordinance No. 04-6-2, Kerry's Pointe Waterfront Community. Likewise, this property is subject to inundation from tidal exchange also. But that is where the similarities end.

In this post-Katrina era, we have all seen the substantial impact wrought on Louisiana, and particularly St. Charles Parish, from tropical systems as the storm surges generated threaten areas previously thought to be safe in years past. In fact, Hurricanes Katrina and Rita monumentally impacted our wetlands buffer. According to some published reports, these 2 storms did damage to our wetlands that would normally have taken 50 years to accomplish.

There was a great deal of discussion as to the ability of St. Charles Parish Government to ensure that future development at this location would be constructed to standards that would protect the investments and properties of the landowners. At this time, the parish is very limited as to what it can enforce in this type of proposed subdivision. Simultaneous to the writing of this correspondence, I am instructing the Planning and Zoning department to develop requirements governing allowed uses in this zoning classification so that our government has the necessary enforcement regulations to ensure the health, safety and welfare of our citizens, even those who develop in private subdivisions.

It is for these reasons that I have vetoed Ordinance No. 06-5-1.

I humbly request that the Council sustain my veto.

Sincerely,

Albert D. Laque  
Parish President

Cc: Parish Council