



St. Charles Parish Local Coastal Program Staff Report – Text Amendment Case No. 1

**INTRODUCED BY: MATTHEW JEWELL, PARISH PRESIDENT
WALTER PILIÉ, COUNCILMAN, DISTRICT III
MICHELLE O'DANIELS, COUNCILWOMAN, DISTRICT V**

An ordinance to amend Chapter 26-2 and 26-4 of the St. Charles Parish Code of Ordinances to update the composition of the Coastal Zone Advisory Committee

BACKGROUND

In 2015, St. Charles Parish became an “approved local coastal program” as the result of work by the Coastal Zone Advisory Committee (CZAC or committee) in completing *The Local Coastal Program Document* and getting it approved by the federal and state Offices of Coastal Management. The Parish Council adopted Ordinance 15-10-13 establishing Chapter 26 in the Code of Ordinances. It describes the responsibilities of the Coastal Zone Manager (CZM) and the CZAC in operating the approved local coastal program. The CZAC has not convened since 2017.

With a coastal restoration strategy document nearing completion after a robust planning effort, the CZM wishes to reestablish the CZAC to help promote the priority projects and programs recommended in the plan. Conflicting provisions regarding the composition of the committee and the terms members serve have made the work of reestablishing the committee difficult.

The proposed ordinance corrects conflicting language in Chapter 26 regarding the composition of the CZAC and deletes language that has been interpreted to suggest a lifetime appointment.

POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

Conflicting language will be changed to make it clear that the advisory committee associated with St. Charles Parish’s approved local coastal program comprises seven members.

The Parish Council will be able to appoint seven members to serve staggered four-year terms on the Coastal Zone Management Committee which should make the committee more resilient.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Approval