

Driving Louisiana's economic growth.

Our residents and businesses cannot wait any longer for the expansion of Highway 30 in Ascension Parish. Adding capacity to Highway 30 is a critical investment for Louisiana - one that will not only support a dynamic and rapidly growing workforce, but also generate significant economic benefits for the entire state.

The construction of the Highway 30 project should be a priority transportation project for our state and for the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development. The Highway 30 Coalition supports securing the needed funding and prioritization to accelerate the project's timeline.

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## **The Highway 30 Coalition Platform**

Situated along the 8.5-mile stretch of Highway 30 between I-10 and the parish line are more than ten companies conducting business globally, that contribute to the local and state economy and produce roughly half a billion dollars in direct wages each year for residents in Ascension and nearby parishes including Shell, Methanex, Honeywell, Westlake Chemical, BASF, Huntsman/Rubicon, OxyChem, Honeywell, Lion Copolymer, Nutrien, NovaChem and Eastman Chemical Company.

There are also seven expansion projects underway along the Highway 30 corridor, which when completed, will generate 135 additional jobs and \$13.6 million in new sales tax revenue. Six additional projects are anticipated to be announced soon which would create over 400 new jobs and lead to a total of over \$10.5 million in new sales tax revenue over the next two to three years – this is revenue contributed to the state's general fund that will benefit the entire state.

## The Highway 30 corridor is not only one of the most vital corridors to the local economy, but also to state and national economies.

Highway 30 cannot currently support the amount of traffic congestion due to its significant placement as a connector to industrial plants, retail, businesses, and major new developments such as Heritage Crossing. Also, the alignment of the new Mississippi Bridge will have significant impact by increasing the traffic load traveling to the I-10 interstate. With the anticipated increase of jobs and other developments along this corridor expected over the next couple of years, now is the time for moving this project forward immediately.

The Highway 30 Coalition supports the following objectives:

- Educate and generate awareness of the importance of Highway 30 to the state's economy and quality of life
- Support the promotion and advancement of the Highway 30 project with zero new taxes
- Explore and pursue all state and federal funding opportunities that expedite the timeline for expansion of roadway capacity by leveraging relationships and forming a unified voice
- Identify key project milestones to accelerate design, right of way acquisition, construction and permitting processes and engage state and federal agencies in expediting process, along with property owners along the corridor who can help advance the project

Track adjacent and related transportation projects in the nearby vicinity that may ease the traffic congestion or provide alternative routes

Highlight the project's goals and outcomes that support the broader regional and statewide economic and mobility goals