

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COUNCIL

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION COUNCIL SERIES NO: C-3673

COUNCIL SPONSOR: BINDER/BRISTER

PROVIDED BY: GRANTS

RESOLUTION TO DECLARE URGENT NEED FOR THE PURPOSES OF OBTAINING FUNDING FOR EXPANSION OF THE EMERGENCY SHELTER AND LIVESTOCK FACILITY ADDITION FROM THE LOUISIANA OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

WHEREAS, the Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") regulations define the urgent need national objective in 24 CFR Section 570.483 to include activities designed to meet community development needs which have a particular urgency; and

WHEREAS, St. Tammany Parish Government ("Parish") has determined that expansion of the Emergency Shelter and Livestock Facility is both an urgent need and a priority; and

WHEREAS, in response to Hurricane Katrina emergency sheltering needs sustained by St. Tammany Parish and other parishes in Louisiana, Federal funds have been appropriated to address the urgent need and aid parishes with recovery; and

WHEREAS, the St. Tammany Parish Fairgrounds facility in Covington serves as a 21,000 square foot regional emergency facility due to its location near the Causeway Bridge and north of Interstate 12, its fifteen (15) acres being available for staging utility and emergency response vehicles and equipment, its covered shelter for storage and distribution of emergency supplies, and its proximity to the Parish's Office of Emergency Preparedness, Department of Public Works and Department of Animal Services.

WHEREAS, the facility will double in size to 42,000 square feet as a result of the \$ 1,000,000 in CDBG funding, enabling it to expand its use as a livestock and pet holding area during emergencies, pre-stage and post-stage area for livestock and pet rescue groups, a staging area for Department of Health and Hospitals and Emergency Medical Services to deploy ambulance units for pre-disaster and post-disaster evacuation zones in Southeast Louisiana to remove medically dependent personnel to outside impact areas, point of distribution for regional and Parish distribution of food and water, staging area for personnel and equipment for any large or small scale disasters which are developed by an Emergency Mutual Aid Compact, as well as a regional and Parish staging and refueling site.

WHEREAS, the Parish has determined this project to be of urgent need and that the facility addition should be underway prior to the 2013 hurricane season to avoid putting the health, safety and welfare of the Parish's residents at risk; and

WHEREAS, the Parish does not have sufficient funds available to construct the addition as its sales taxes are dedicated to roads and drainage and its permitting fees have declined due to a slowed economy; and

WHEREAS, this body has authorized the Parish President to take all actions necessary to prepare the necessary submission to the Office of Community Development (formerly "Louisiana Recovery Authority") to access this funding.

THE PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY HEREBY RESOLVES that it is an Urgent Need to expand the Emergency Shelter and Livestock Facility. Furthermore, President Patricia Brister should take all necessary measures to utilize funding available through the Office of Community Development to expand the facility before the 2013 hurricane season.

THIS RESOLUTION HAVING BEEN SUBMITTED TO A VOTE, THE VOTE THEREON WAS AS FOLLOWS:

MOVED FOR ADOPTION BY: _____ SECONDED BY: _____

YEAS: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

ABSENT: _____

THIS RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED ON THE 7 DAY OF MARCH, 2013, AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, A QUORUM OF THE MEMBERS BEING PRESENT AND VOTING.

JERRY BINDER, COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

THERESA L. FORD, COUNCIL CLERK

Administrative Comment

This Council resolution is necessary in order to access \$1,000,000 of Community Development Block Grant funding to be awarded by the Office of Community Development through the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry to expand the Covington Fairgrounds facility as a result of the CDBG national objective for community development activities having a particular urgency.