"East Baton Rouge has experienced tremendous change in the past few years. As we move forward out of the uncertain times of the pandemic, it’s imperative we pull together in the same direction. Our success depends on our perception of this community, and our willingness to continue making Baton Rouge a place of peace, prosperity and progress for all generations.

In this report you will find a snapshot of the work we do in City-Parish on a daily basis. This is a collaborative effort with citizens, faith leaders, businesses and nonprofits. We are addressing issues like violence, building coalitions to rebuild neighborhoods, and meeting the basic needs of our people."

MAYOR-PRESIDENT
SHARON WESTON BROOME
Employment, Young Workers and Public Perception

Mayor Broome launched a $1.8 million partnership with BRAC and Visit Baton Rouge to connect our unemployed with jobs and improve the community’s image. Three initiatives are now underway:

**RE/CONNECT TO JOBS:**
- Job Fairs and Career Training
- Application and Resume Assistance

**YOUTH INTERNSHIP INITIATIVE:**
- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Technology
- Automotive
- Health Care

ENTRY-LEVEL OPPORTUNITIES FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS

**NATIONAL RECRUITMENT OF TOURISTS AND TALENT:**
- Coordinated marketing and media campaigns
- Target new employees and former Baton Rouge residents
- Improve local and national perception

**Office of Supplier Diversity**
- Launched in 2022 to increase competition by helping small businesses owned by women, minorities, and veterans
- Goal is to increase City-Parish contract diversity to 25%
- Current Success: ~25% diversity in MOVEBR’s engineering services contracts
Three-pronged approach to Public Safety

**Law Enforcement**
- 21% reduction in city limits homicides as of Dec 22, 2022
- 13% Pay Raise for Police (2021-2022)

**Mental Health**

**Community Engagement**

**Impact on Violent Crime**
- Firearms Seized 20% Increase; 1,684 in 2022
- Felony Arrests 21% Increase; 4,235 in 2022
- $10k-$15k Recruitment/Retention Bonus for 2023 academy graduates

Real Time Statistics at brla.gov/crimestats

**Public Safety Partnership**
Partnership includes all federal, state and local law enforcement agencies in EBR, US Attorney’s and District Attorney’s Office, Safe Hopeful Healthy BR, and Mayor-President’s Office.

**Goal 1**
Conduct outreach to people involved in violence to provide them with opportunities for a different path in life.

**Goal 2**
Prioritize gun crimes and high risk offenders when prosecuting criminal cases in district and local courts.

**Goal 3**
Address blight and infrastructure that contributes to gun violence in neighborhoods.

**Goal 4**
Utilize data, technology, intelligence sharing and proactive policing resources for violent individuals and locations

Read Full EBR Public Safety Partnership at brla.gov/psp

**Real Time Crime Center and ConnectBlue BR**
- Crime cameras and license plate readers in Sherwood Forest connected to BRPD’s Real Time Crime Center
- Residents and Businesses can sign up for the ConnectBlue BR Camera Directory
- Learn more at brla.gov/connectblue

**License Plate Readers**
- 66 stolen vehicles recovered
- 75 arrests
- $739,000 of property recovered
Mayor Broome’s Safe Hopeful Healthy BR program uses community-based action to attack violence at its source.

**Community-Based Violence Prevention:**
- BATON ROUGE COMMUNITY STREET TEAM: 70802 & 70805
  - High-Risk Interventionists respond to violent incidents and help prevent retaliation.
  - Community Navigators offer supportive counseling, crisis intervention and resource information.
  - Community Walks conducted weekly and after a violent event occurs.
  - Street Team members speak to residents about their needs and concerns related to violence.

**School Outreach Dream Academy**
- School Outreach Dream Academy is a partnership with East Baton Rouge Parish School System, Big Buddy, Health Care Centers in Schools, and Betty’s Hope to provide students, their families, and surrounding communities with social, mental, and emotional resources and on-campus street team.
- Five Schools: McKinley Senior High, Istrouma High, Capitol High, Glen Oaks Magnet High, and Scotlandville Magnet High.

**Safe Hopeful Neighborhoods**
- Resident Leader Academy: graduates receive a $2,500 grant for their neighborhoods and are engaged year-round in community projects.
- Tool Lending Library for neighborhood cleanups: trash bags, grabbers, gloves, drinks, ice sheets, tents, and even graphics to help recruit volunteers.
- Blight Bootcamp teaches residents how to take action on private property.
- Operation Clean-Up are community projects led by Metro Council Members.

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**Summer of Hope**

2.1K PIECES OF ART
CREATED THROUGH NEIGHBORHOOD ARTS PROJECT

149K HOURS
OF WORK EXPERIENCE COMPLETED BY EBR YOUTH AGES 14 - 24

33.7K COMMUNITY MEMBERS ENGAGED
KNOCKED ON 76,000 DOORS

226 PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS
PARTNERED, SPONSORED, OR ORGANIZATIONS CONNECTED VIA SUMMEROFHOPE.COM

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**Keys to Hope**

The results of this intensive work was a 20% DECREASE in homicides when compared to the previous summer.

Five or more weekly events typically correlate with lower rates of violence.

Unified positive messages that really speak to the community, and allow residents to speak back.

Focus on solutions, resources and actions versus consistently highlighting problems with no resolve.
DRAINAGE UPDATE

- **$56 million** of ARPA funds for drainage
- **23 Million** Pounds Removed From Storm Drains
- **86 miles** of Pipes Cleaned
- **42,000 feet** of Roadside Ditches Cleaned
- **20,000 Cubic Yards** Removed From Bayou Manchac
- **3,700 Tons** Removed From Claycut Bayou and Ward Creek
- **680 sinkholes**, inlets and pipes repaired
- **Comite and Amite** Rivers To Be Cleaned
- Read more at stormwater.brla.gov

**MOVEBR Notable Projects**

- College Dr project for additional capacity from Perkins Rd to I-10 with walking/biking paths
- Florida Blvd project from I-110 to Airline Hwy with walking/biking paths, improved intersections and enhanced appearance
- 470 Signals connected to Advanced Traffic Management Center
- View all the projects at MOVEBR.brla.gov

**Baton Rouge Electric Vehicle Strategic Plan**

- Expand public charging stations
- Incentivize privately owned charging stations
- Transition municipal fleet to zero-emission vehicles
- Read Vehicle Strategic Plan at brla.gov/evplan

**EBR BRIDGE PROJECTS**

6 Bridges under construction
- Chevelle Street Bridge
- Sarasota Street Bridge
- Cal Road Bridge
- Twin Oaks Bridge
- Alphonse Forbes Bridge
- Moss Side Lane Bridge

2 Bridges Completed in 2022
- Bob Pettit Blvd Bridge
- Congress Blvd Bridge

**ZERO DEATH ROADWAY SAFETY GOAL**

Mayor Broome has committed to a goal of **zero fatalities and serious injuries** on our roads and streets by 2040.

Safety Actions taken so far:

- Redesigning roads, bike paths, sidewalks and pedestrian crossings.
- Adoption of East Baton Rouge Parish Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan
Comprehensive Housing Plan
Mayor Broome has developed a comprehensive housing plan to meet the needs of low to moderate income residents and workers.

Housing Challenges in Baton Rouge
- 52% of EBR residents spend more than one-third of their income on housing.
- More than 6,500 properties in East Baton Rouge are blighted, adjudicated, or in need of major repairs.
- Nearly half the homes in the Parish were built BEFORE 1970.
- 19th highest eviction rate in the United States: Baton Rouge has the 19th highest eviction rate in the United States.
- 27% lower rate of homeownership for black residents compared to white residents.

Housing Solutions

**Affordable Housing**
- Ensure Reliable, Robust Funding for Housing
- Reduce Development Costs
- Increase Diversity of Housing Location/Density
- Improve Developer, Landlord, and Lender Capacity

**Healthy Housing**
- Increase Funding for Home Repairs
- Reduce regulatory barriers to home improvements
- Engage Hospitals, Clinics, Insurance Companies, and Other Medical Industries
- Increase energy efficiency, weather resiliency, mold and lead abatement

**Stable Housing**
- Increase Financial Literacy for Homeownership
- Increase Outreach and Awareness of Housing Services
- Cultivate Quality Rental Opportunities with Landlords
- Improving and resourcing homelessness ecosystem and homeless diversion

Impact on Litter
- 20,000 bags of litter collected
- 100 tons of illegal dumping collected throughout East Baton Rouge
- 20-40 tons of litter after every major parade, festival or public event

**HOT Team: Behavioral Health Homeless Outreach Team**
- Team includes BRPD, EBRSO & Behavioral Health Specialists
- Visit Encampments and Panhandling Hot Spots twice a week, 250 individuals engaged in 2022
- Build trust, find stable housing, provide resources for substance abuse & mental health, clean encampments

$4.5 Million Blight Initiative:
Partnering with local small businesses to remove condemned structures, mow tall grass and clear junk from dozens of private properties in East Baton Rouge.
**Garbage, Trash, Recycling and Household Hazardous Collection**

- **133,000 residential customers**
- **156,000 tons of garbage, 34,000 tons of trash, 14,000 tons of recyclables, and over 40,000 tires, collected in 2022**

- Household hazardous materials were collected from over 2,300 residents during our two collection days, one at Southern University and one at LSU.

**EAST BATON ROUGE SEWERAGE COMMISSION**

- Constructing 40,000 feet of sewer lines from Hoo Shoo Too Road to the Old Jefferson Highway Corridor, an area that currently discharges into Bayou Manchac.
- Constructing 30,000 feet of sewer lines from Port Hudson Plains Road to Highway 964 an area that currently discharges into Comite River.
- Awarded the new Solids Handling Facility at the South Wastewater Treatment plant, to automate and improve sewage treatment.

**DATA, TRANSPARENCY AND CYBERSECURITY**

- Data, Transparency and Cybersecurity
- New virtual Chief Information Security Officer service to lead cybersecurity efforts
- BRPD Public Safety Dashboard: brla.gov/crimestats
- Baton Rouge made Top 10 Digital City rankings by Center for Digital Government for 8th year in a row
- Winner of 2022 Government Experience Award from Center for Digital Government for City-Parish Citizen Data Academy: https://www.brla.gov/2636/Citizen-Data-Academy

**EAST BATON ROUGE SEWERAGE COMMISSION**

Construction for a new headquarters for the Baton Rouge Department of Environmental Services began in summer of 2021 and is expected to be complete in mid 2023. Located at the site of the former All Star Nissan on Florida Boulevard, this facility will house approximately 100 employees from four DES divisions — wastewater collections, environmental, pump stations, and supervisory control and data acquisition — that currently work out of three facilities across East Baton Rouge Parish.
FIRST RESPONDER SAFE ROOM
The First Responder Safe Room is the first of its kind in East Baton Rouge Parish. Adjacent to the EBR Emergency Operations Center on Harding Boulevard, the facility will serve as a staging area for:
East Baton Rouge Parish Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
75 volunteers were trained as members of the EBR Community Emergency Response Teams. The volunteers learned skills to assist in disaster response and recovery efforts in East Baton Rouge.

WANT LOCAL INFORMATION DURING AN EMERGENCY?
Visit brla.gov/emergency

JUVENILE SERVICES

MANAGED 200+
family and youth cases through Family In Need of Services, Probation and Court Orders

TWENTY-SEVEN
community service providers for families and youth

NO ESCAPES
from the Juvenile Detention Center
OFFICE OF SOCIAL SERVICES

- Utility Assistance for 9,308 Families
- 1,250 Food Gift Certificates ($100 each)
- 375 air purifiers to eligible Seniors
- 241 Adults completed Employ BR program
- Served approximately 700 children through EBR Head Start

- Partnered with Domestic Violence programs to provide clothing for children and women, sheet sets, personal hygiene items (toothbrush, combs, brushes, deodorant, etc.), diapers/wipes, shoes, towels, kitchen cleaning supplies, strollers, laundry baskets and duffle bags
- Billboards and TV/Radio Ad Campaign to create awareness and education on Domestic Violence

EBR HEAD START
- Served approximately 700 children.
- Provided eligible staff a $1,500 stipend.
- $5,000 recruiting and retention bonus for teachers and teacher aides.
- Purchased new HVAC and air purifying systems for all centers

EMPLOY BR; WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
- 241 Adults completed program; 78% employed with $6,082 median income after 6 months
- 146 Dislocated Workers completed program; 73% employed with $9,202 median income after 6 months
- 60 Youth completed program; 72% employed with $2,702 median income after 6 months

311 SERVICE REQUEST
- Annual Average of Opened Service Requests: 1,718 Per Week
- Annual Average of Closed Service Requests: 1,958 Per Week
- Opened Requests 2022 versus 2021: Down 27%, decrease of 30,256 open requests
- 92% of open requests of closed in last year

Request service through Red Stick 311 mobile app or online at 311.brla.gov
Dashboards, GIS Maps and Open Data

Visit brla.gov/opendata to view all dashboards
"The future is not something we enter. The future is something we create." ~ Leonard I. Sweet