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Deputy Director

**October 15, 2008**  
Board Meeting



## Hurricanes Gustav and Ike

The storms, which impacted Louisiana on September 1<sup>st</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>:

- Caused 51 deaths.
- Flooded 12,000 – 13,000 homes and damaged 150,000 to 300,000.
- Gustav severely impacted 43 parishes; Ike severely impacted 14.
- Caused an estimated \$8 - \$20 billion in physical damage. (source: LED)
- Caused more than \$1 billion in public infrastructure damage.
- Caused \$2-7 billion in housing damages, including \$1.7 billion in uninsured losses.
- Economic activity losses could reach \$5 billion.





## Hurricanes Gustav and Ike: LRA's Role

### During hurricanes Gustav and Ike, LRA staff members filled vital roles:

- Governor Jindal embedded Executive Director Paul Rainwater in New Orleans and Lake Charles, to act as liaison between the cities and the state;
- Communications staff members worked round-the-clock at the state Emergency Operations headquarters, staffing the Joint Information Center;
- Some staffers volunteered to man out-of-state shelters so that those seeking shelter from the storms in Alabama and elsewhere had by their side representatives from home.



At right, flooding from Hurricane Ike inundated a high school football field in Delcambre.

Photo courtesy of The Advocate



## Hurricanes Gustav and Ike: After the Storms

**On September 15, Governor Jindal issued an executive order tasking the LRA with leading Louisiana's recovery after hurricanes Gustav and Ike.**



Exec. Dir. Paul Rainwater serves as the Governor's Authorized Representative to FEMA for the Public Assistance program.

The LRA serves as the State Hazard Mitigation Team.



## Hurricanes Gustav and Ike: IA and PA declarations

### Hurricane Gustav Declared Parishes

**Individual Assistance (43):** Acadia, Allen, Ascension, Assumption, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Catahoula, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Evangeline, Franklin, Grant, Iberia, Iberville, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, Lafourche, LaSalle, Livingston, Orleans, Plaquemines, Pointe Coupee, Rapides, Sabine, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Vermilion, Vernon, Washington, West Baton Rouge, and West Feliciana parishes.

**Public Assistance:** All 64 Parishes are declared for all categories.

*A request has been made to add 10 more parishes to the IA declaration.*

### Hurricane Ike Declared Parishes

**Individual Assistance (20):** Acadia, Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Iberia, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Lafourche, Livingston, Orleans, Plaquemines, Sabine, St. Martin, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Vermilion, and Vernon parishes.

**Public Assistance (24):** Acadia, Allen, Beauregard, Bienville, Calcasieu, Cameron, Concordia, DeSoto, Iberia, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Lafourche, Plaquemines, Red River, Sabine, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Terrebonne, Union, Vermilion, and Vernon Parishes for debris removal and emergency protective measures (Category A and B).

*All 24 PA-declared Parishes have been approved for 100% federal cost share for Categories A & B.*



## Hurricanes Gustav and Ike: After the Storms

### The Times-Picayune A one-two punch

Louisiana is asking FEMA to treat Ike and Hurricane Gustav as a single disaster for public assistance to towns and parishes. Communities across South Louisiana were still cleaning up after Hurricane Gustav when they were hit by another powerful storm. The gap between Gustav and Ike wasn't even two weeks. That's even quicker than the gap between Katrina and Rita. So the Louisiana state is asking FEMA to treat the purposes of disaster relief by both hurricanes as one. And what difference does it make whether disaster was destroyed by one or the other? FEMA's purpose is to help communities that were destroyed. Singularity, each storm is a disaster, LRA Executive Director Paul Rainwater said. That is an added benefit. The main reason FEMA ought to grant this request, though, is because it would allow communities to heal faster. If a community hit by both storms has to fight with FEMA

**"The main reason FEMA ought to grant this request, though, is because it would allow communities to heal faster."**

On October 7, LRA Executive Director Paul Rainwater requested that FEMA consider hurricanes Gustav and Ike one disaster in Louisiana.

Combining the storms into one disaster would allow the state and federal government to process requests for aid more quickly and simply and cut down on administrative costs.

On October 13, the Times-Picayune published an editorial supporting the move.

Louisiana is waiting to hear word on its request.



## Joint Housing Task Force Update

The LRA is leading the Joint Housing Task Force, a coordinated effort between state and federal partners, including FEMA, to address immediate, short- and long-term temporary housing needs after the 2008 storms.

The LRA, working with affected parishes, has requested a 'Direct Housing Mission' from FEMA to include following housing solutions:

- Utilizing available rental units
- Utilizing other federal housing stock (USDA, VA, HUD, etc.)
- Utilizing available rental resources under HUD
- Employing Mobile Homes, Park Model units and other alternative forms of acceptable THUs (at request of parish and/or municipal officials)
- Rehabilitating rental units not in commerce now
- Employing Cottages and other Alternative Models for interim housing (with a commitment to reimburse the state if the state is able to construct them in a timelier manner than FEMA)
- Authorizing Permanent Housing Construction
- Accelerating a program for the sale of THUs to homeowners who qualify through FEMA
- Donating THUs to Volunteer Agencies who may assist renters and other individuals who may not qualify to purchase the THU
- Other available alternatives

The task force meets weekly with daily follow up.

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## Katrina/Rita Public Assistance Update

### Statewide

	Obligated	Paid Out
<b>Total</b>	\$7.219 B	\$3.752 B
<b>Emergency (A&amp;B)</b>	\$3.272 B	\$2.506 B
<b>Rebuilding (C-G)</b>	\$3.861 B	\$1.172 B

As of October 2, 2008



### Fire Station #1 Reopens in St. Bernard

In August, St. Bernard Parish cut the ribbon on the first fire station in the parish to complete renovations and reopen.

FEMA and the state invested more than \$112,000 in Public Assistance funds to renovate the station, flooded with 11-feet of water during Hurricane Katrina.

During renovations, the station's living quarters were moved to the second floor to ensure the station can remain operational during future disasters.



## Katrina/Rita Public Assistance Update

### By Parish

	Obligated	Paid Out
Calcasieu	\$88 M	\$69 M
Cameron	\$124 M	\$48 M
Iberia	\$14 M	\$11 M
Jefferson	\$347 M	\$198 M
Orleans	\$2.32 B	\$953 M
Plaquemines	\$534 M	\$141 M
St. Bernard	\$1.17 B	\$631 M
St. Tammany	\$399 M	\$267 M
Vermilion	\$42 m	\$23 M
Washington	\$129 m	\$85 M
Other Parishes and State Agencies	\$2.15 B	\$1.29 B
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7.219 B</b>	<b>\$3.752 B</b>

As of October 2, 2008

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## Comprehensive Housing Strategy Update

### Achievements:

- ✦ Worked with federal and state partners to create mission, goals and framework for Comprehensive Housing Strategy.
- ✦ State partners created unified Rental Housing Pipeline report in late August.
- ✦ Worked with FEMA to get weekly updates of the available rental units resource databases.
- ✦ Working with federal partners to track the number of residents receiving federal rental assistance.
- ✦ Reaching out to non-profits for input.

### Next Steps:

- ✦ Continue to develop and execute strategies to ensure permanent, sustainable housing solutions for storm victims.
- ✦ Incorporate hurricanes Gustav and Ike housing needs in Comprehensive Housing Strategy.



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## Louisiana Land Trust Update

- **NORA** – First phase environmental complete on 1,000 properties
- **Jefferson Parish** – First phase environmental complete on 115 properties. (Jefferson changed use of properties. As a result, the required second-tier review will take longer).
- **OCD's full Environmental Assessment on New Orleans districts** underway and will be complete by mid-November. This will ensure that no more environmental will be necessary if the city changes use of property.
- **Deadline for CEAs to NORA and Jefferson Parish is the week of October 13**, so transfers can begin. NORA properties will begin transfer first. (Some transfers can begin in New Orleans before full Environmental Assessment is complete). Jefferson Parish changed method of disposition and requires a new timeline.



Louisiana Land Trust

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## RTA Success



### FEMA to Cover Full Replacement Cost of 204 Flooded Buses

New Orleans' public transportation authority, the RTA, has reached an agreement with FEMA.

On September 30, 2008, FEMA sent RTA a letter stating that the federal agency will write Project Worksheets for the full replacement value, with all needed modifications, of the 204 buses flooded during hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The total cost is around \$44 million.

This ruling allows RTA to apply \$44 million for an improved project of up to 115 new shuttles & bio-diesel buses.



## Alternative Housing Pilot Program Update

### **New Orleans (Jackson Barracks)**

- 91 units on a planned site
- Exclusive use by LNG uniformed and base personnel
- Project moved site in June due location due to infrastructure impediments
- Infrastructure in final design
- Environmental approval expected by month-end
- Construction beginning mid-November



### **New Orleans (NORA sites)**

- 20 - 50 infill sites across the city
- Cooperative Agreement with NORA finalized
- Initial lots received environmental approval
- Construction beginning this month

### **Lake Charles (Off 5th Avenue)**

- 82 units on a planned site
- Homeownership opportunities
- Subdivision approved by Lake Charles Zoning in September
- Expect Wetlands permit this month which will allow engineering of the property
- Construction beginning by early January

### **Baton Rouge**

- 50 units on developed site
- Renaissance Village site eliminated due to difficulty with disposing state lands
- Site identified and working towards an agreement with local nonprofit.
- Construction to commence before year-end