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## **SUPPLEMENTAL ASSISTANCE GRANT AWARDS ANNOUNCED FOR LOUISIANA COMMUNITIES IMPACTED BY HURRICANE HARVEY IN 2017**

*Grants made available through Historic Preservation Fund from National Park Service*

**BATON ROUGE, La.** – Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser and the Louisiana Office of Cultural Development announced the awarding of nearly \$800,000 in federal, supplemental assistance grants through the [Historic Preservation Fund](#) from the National Park Service. The grants will assist in conducting surveys of historic buildings at least 50 years of age or older and listing properties in the National Register of Historic Places in parishes affected by hurricane Harvey in 2017.

“Historic buildings are truly some of the great treasures of our communities, giving us a glimpse into the past and telling the stories you too often don’t get from history books,” said Lieutenant Governor Billy Nungesser. “These grants will help greatly in the preservation, repair, recovery, and resilience of these landmarks and aid in updating mapping in these communities to help identify vulnerable properties to assist in future disaster response efforts.”

The surveys will be completed in accordance with the Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation Survey Guidelines. Data collected in the field will include building age, architectural style and form, and historic significance. Additionally, a damage assessment will be completed for each structure and an effort will be made to identify whether the damage can be directly related to a hurricane Harvey. Once the data has been reviewed, it will be added to the existing Historic Resource Inventory and posted on the Division of Historic Preservation’s public web map. This information may be used by emergency responders, researchers, or other consultants as a useful tool to assess hurricane damage, as well as to identify vulnerable properties and assist with future disaster response efforts. Completed or proposed work on these buildings must be reviewed by Division of Historic Preservation staff and conform to the guidelines set forth by the Secretary of the Interior’s [Standards for Rehabilitation](#).

In addition, listing in the National Register of Historic Places will honor significant buildings in the affected parishes and provide the owners of these structures access to other National Park Service grants and federal Tax Credits to aid in their preservation and rehabilitation.

Following informational meetings in the affected areas in October and November last year, a total of 14 grant applications were received. Due to the limited funding, no more than two applications per applicant would be considered. The 14 applications were reviewed by an outside panel and funding was recommended for the following 10 applications.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
St. Charles Parish Historic Structures	South Central Planning & Development	\$100,000
Red River Historic Structures Survey	South Central Planning & Development	\$57,400
City of Lake Charles Survey	Lake Charles Certified Local Government	\$100,000
Kisatchie High School	Kisatchie Community Center	\$14,532
Natchitoches Parish Structures Survey	Cane River National Heritage Area	\$72,750
Historic Preservation in Hurricanes – Affected Areas of Louisiana (Beauregard & Cameron Parishes)	Louisiana State University	\$179,362
Sabine Parish Historic Resource Survey	Sabine Parish Tourist & Recreation Commission	\$82,450
Beauregard Preservation 2020	Beauregard Parish Police Jury	\$14,092
Standing Structure of Allen Parish	Allen Parish Tourist Commission	\$76,000
Vernon Parish Historic Resources Survey	Vernon Parish Tourism & Recreation Commission	\$72,750
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$769,336</b>

In total, the National Park Service awarded \$48.5 million to several communities in Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Texas, and the U.S. Virgin Islands impacted by hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria in 2017.

Signed into law on September 28, 1976, the Historic Preservation Fund utilizes a portion of royalties paid by energy companies for the drilling of natural gas and oil on the Outer Continental Shelf to provide assistance for a broad range of preservation projects without expending tax dollars.