

REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (RPC) ROADWAY NETWORK & RESILIENCE STUDY

H.015428 - Stage 0 Lower St. Bernard Transportation Network Feasibility Study



St. Bernard Parish School Board

Project Overview

June 11th, 2024



TRANSPORTATION STUDY
Planning For Future St. Bernard

Please note that information collected in support of this study may be used in a future NEPA process.

**Intermodal
Improvements**

**Increased
Accessibility**



TRANSPORTATION STUDY
Planning For Future St. Bernard

**Anticipated
LIT Impacts**

**Road Capacity
Improvements**

STUDY SUMMARY

Planning for Future St. Bernard

The Regional Planning Commission (RPC), in coordination with the Port of New Orleans (Port NOLA) and St. Bernard Parish, is conducting a **feasibility study** to identify future needed transportation network improvements for St. Bernard Parish.

This study investigates impacts and alternative transportation solutions to manage traffic accompanying the proposed Port NOLA Louisiana International Terminal (LIT) project and associated land use development.



WHAT IS THIS STUDY FOR?

Preliminary Purpose

To evaluate feasible **short-term and long-term improvements** to the transportation network within the lower St. Bernard Region, more specifically:

- **Between I-10/I-510 and lower St. Bernard Parish** (including Judge Perez Drive (LA 39), St. Bernard Highway (LA 46) and
- **Paris Road (LA 47)**

To provide efficient access and egress to accommodate projected land use changes, including the Louisiana International Terminal (LIT) intermodal facility and associated traffic.

WHAT IS THIS STUDY FOR? (continued)

Preliminary Need

System Linkage to improve connectivity between I-10/I-510 and Lower St. Bernard Parish to accommodate proposed economic development and growth.

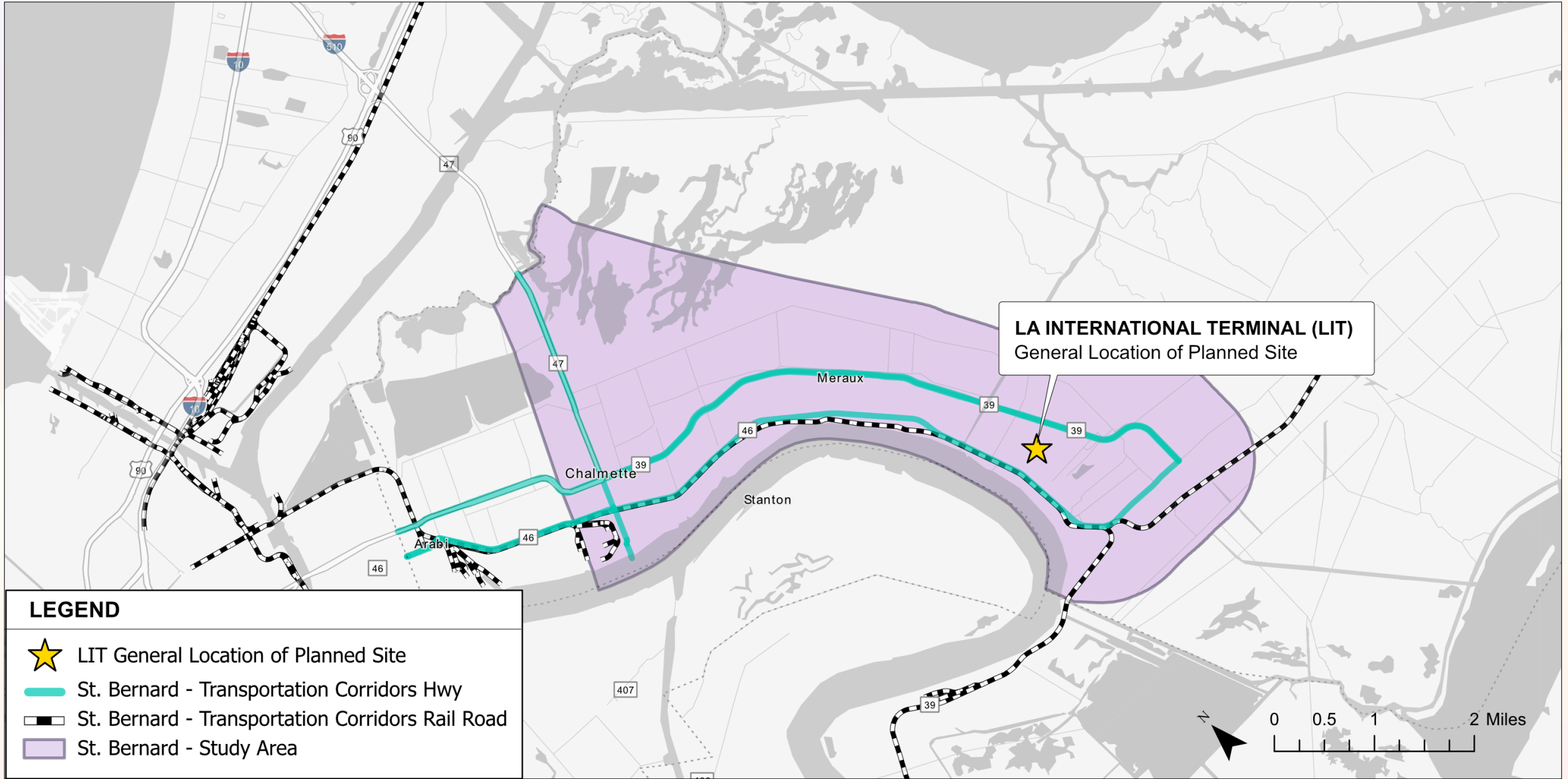
Intermodal Relationships provide improved and efficient access to existing and planned intermodal port and rail facilities within the lower St. Bernard Region.

Economic Development accommodations associated with the LIT intermodal port facility and other land use changes within the lower St. Bernard Region.

Capacity Improvements to address the existing and projected future traffic growth within the transportation network of the lower St. Bernard Region.

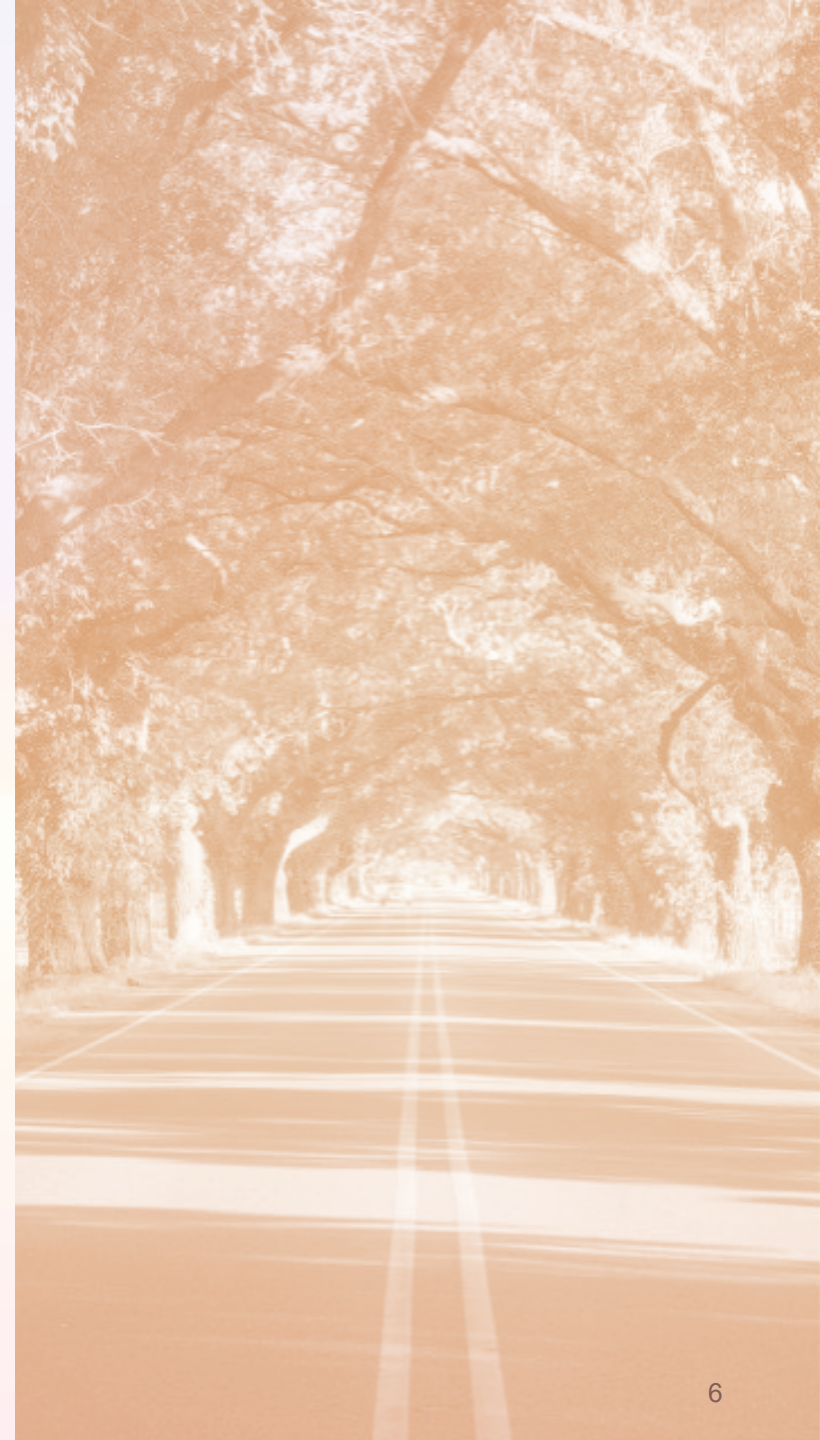
Hurricane Evacuation for residents in Lower St. Bernard Parish and the East Bank of Plaquemines Parish.

STUDY AREA



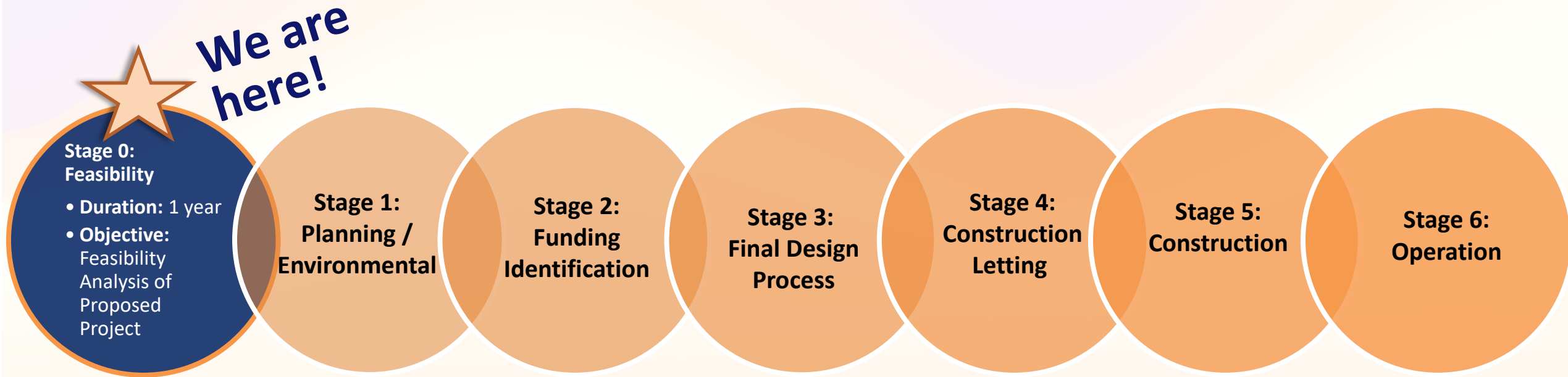
WHAT IS THE ANTICIPATED OUTCOME OF THIS STUDY ?

1. Tasks within this Stage 0 Feasibility Study include Inventory of existing documentation and studies, obtaining traffic counts, performing traffic modeling and analyses, performing desktop environmental reviews, conducting community outreach, and evaluating existing and proposed land use. Proposed build alternatives will be developed for future evaluation and screening.
2. Upon completion of this feasibility Study (Stage 0), an Environmental Study (Stage 1) will be conducted by the Louisiana Department of Transp. and Development (LADOTD) to determine the “preferred” alternative and obtain environmental clearance to advance to the funding stage.
3. Once funding is secured, the design and construction for the selected project alternative(s) may begin.



LADOTD PROJECT DELIVERY PROCESS

Each LADOTD Transportation project that anticipates federal funding goes through distinct phases during its life-cycle, from feasibility study to operation.



*This process (from start to finish) could be as early as 4 years.
Depending on the funding source, the project could be operational sooner.*

HOW IS THIS STUDY RELATED TO THE LIT PORT PROJECT?

- Port NOLA traffic analysis is limited and specific to LIT facility operations and construction.
- Regional Planning Commission (RPC) Study is more comprehensive to the roadway network throughout the Lower St. Bernard region and focuses on short and long-range planning.
- Both share data and are not duplicating efforts.
- The RPC Study will result in project alternatives with the aim of improving traffic congestion, pedestrian facilities, and rail operations.



WHO DOES THE STUDY INVOLVE?

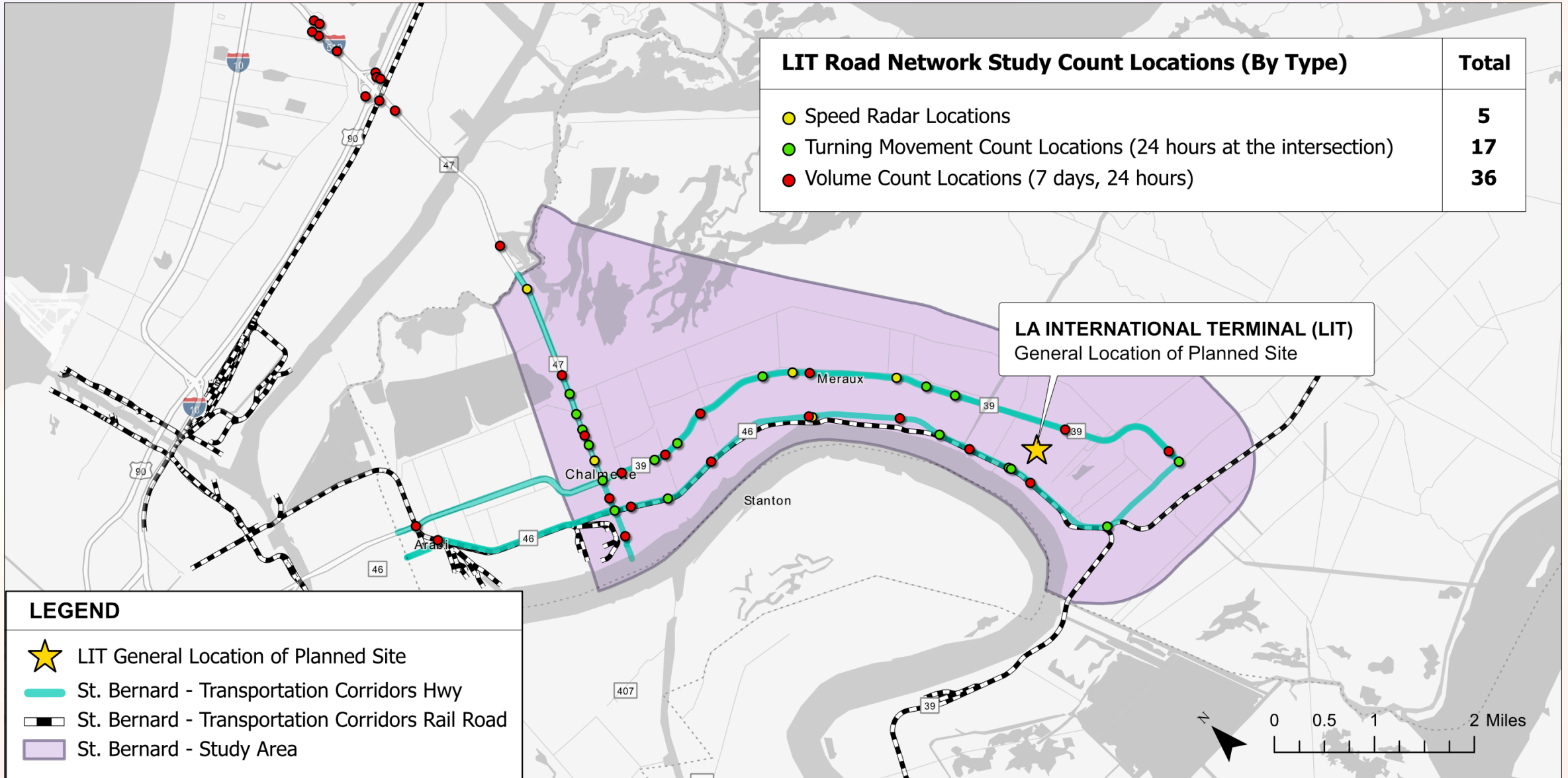
Study Goal: Capture public sentiment from a large and diverse group of residents and stakeholders through multiple avenues

- St. Bernard Residents
- Local Businesses
- Local Government
- Community Groups
- Economic Development Organizations
- Stakeholders in the Transportation Industry
- Tribes with ancestral interests in St. Bernard



TRAFFIC COUNTS

Data collection points



RAILROAD DATA

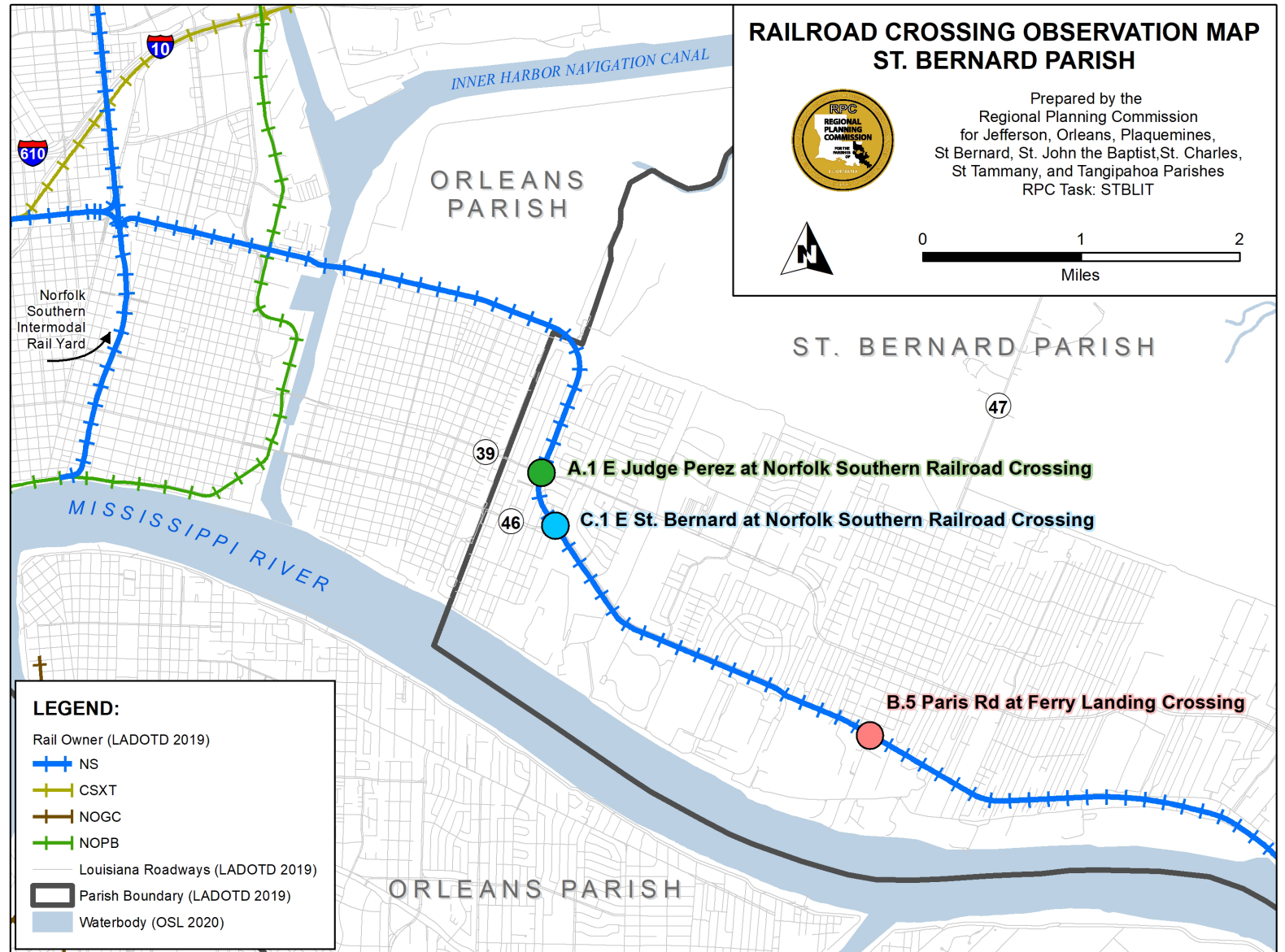
Data collection at Railroad Crossings

Data collected at the following railroad crossings:

- E Judge Perez
- E St Bernard
- Paris Rd by Ferry Landing

What is being observed:

- Train Timing
- Vehicle Delay Time
- Vehicle Queue Length



HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

Help us understand your transportation needs and challenges. What's working, what isn't, and what improvement(s) would aid mobility (vehicular, pedestrian, multimodal) in St. Bernard Parish?



Shape Your Community

Your opinions ensure projects meet the community's needs and preserve its character



Informed Decision-Making

Feedback provides critical insights for planning and decision-making



Enhanced Quality of Life

Participation aids in decisions on traffic flow, public safety, the environment, and accessibility

SURVEY RESPONSES TO DATE

Feedback We've Received From the Community



Community Survey

274

RESPONSES



Mark the Map Survey

43

RESPONSES



Mailing List Sign-Ups

27

SIGN UPS

WHAT WE'RE HEARING SO FAR...

Common themes from survey respondents to date include the following concerns:



Increased Traffic Congestion

74%



Traffic Safety

59%



Emergency Vehicle Access

44%

The feedback we've received underscores the community's need for **improved transportation networks** to **address existing issues** and **accommodate future growth** efficiently and safely.

HOW WE WILL UTILIZE FEEDBACK

1. **We'll continuously review feedback and ideas** from surveys, maps, interviews, and meetings to identify transportation system needs, challenges, and opportunities in St. Bernard.
2. **We'll focus on what matters most to you.** Input will help us to understand your priorities and identify community goals.
3. **Our meetings will refine transportation alternatives and inform the preliminary purpose and need statement** for future consideration as part of the potential LADOTD environmental review process.
4. **All feedback will be considered** and incorporated into the final report and – to the extent that there is broad consensus - reflect the values and needs of St. Bernard Parish and the broader region.

STUDY TIMELINE and MILESTONES





Stay Informed and Get Involved

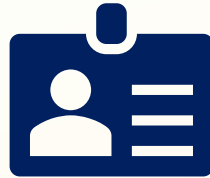
Go to: <http://tinyurl.com/sb-study> or scan the QR code here:



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THANK YOU!!!