

Notice of Public Hearing

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting
Washington Parish Courthouse
908 Washington Street, Franklinton, Louisiana 70438
Council Chambers
Monday, August 24, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

Ordinance No. 26-790: Adopt an Ordinance to Amend the 2026 Annual Operating Budget for the Washington Parish Government

Notice of Public Meeting

Washington Parish Council
Regular Meeting
Washington Parish Courthouse
908 Washington Street, Franklinton, Louisiana 70438
Council Chambers
Monday, August 24, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order
2. Invocation
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Roll Call
5. Approval of Minutes: August 10, 2026, Regular Council Meeting
6. Rusty Fornea: ADAPT

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. Ordinance No. 26-790: Adopt an Ordinance to Amend the 2026 Annual Operating Budget for the Washington Parish Government
8. Resolution No. 26-1526: Adopt a Resolution Amending Resolution No. 26-1506, Placing a Moratorium on the Approval and/or Permitting of All Solar Panel Farms, Commercial Solar Power Plants, Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), and Similar Energy Generation or Storage Facilities
9. Resolution No. 26-1527: Adopt a Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement Between Washington Parish Government and the City of Bogalusa for Animal Shelter and Animal Control Services; Authorizing the Parish President to Execute Said Agreement; and Providing for Related Matters
10. Resolution No. 26-1528: Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the Filing of an Application With the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for a Grant Under Any of the Following FTA Programs Managed Through the Louisiana Department of Transportation and

Development

11. Resolution No. 26-1529: Adopt a Resolution Approving the Holding of an Election in Washignton Parish Fire Protection District No. 1, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, December 12, 2026, to Authorize the Renewal of Special Taxes Therein
12. Resolution no. 26-1530: Adopt a Resolution by the Washington Parish Council to Authorize the Use of Opioid Settlement Funds for the Purchase of Resuscitation Equipment for Use at the Washington Parish Jail
13. Resolution No. 26-1531: Adopt a Resolution by the Washington Parish Council to Amend Resolutions No. 26-1476 through 26-1486, to Increase the Amount of Opioid Settlement Funds Authorized for the Purchase of Resuscitation Equipment for the Respective Washington Parish Fire Protection Districts
14. Resolution No. 26-1532: Adopt a Resolution by the Washington Parish Council Accepting the Lowest Responsible and Responsive Bid for the Purchase of Resuscitation Equipment for Washington Parish Fire Protection Districts No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Bogalusa Fire Department and Franklinton Fire Department, utilizing Opioid Settlement Funds, and Authorizing the Parish President to Execute All Necessary Documents
15. Public Participation
16. President's Report
17. Council Discussion
18. Adjourn

Order of Voting

Reginald McMasters	Kim Wagner
Carley King	Clark Harry
Joe Culpepper	Steven Branch
Shawn Rice	

Live meetings can be viewed via Facebook at Mt. Hermon Web TV and are available for viewing afterwards at www.mthermonwebtv.com.

The next meeting will be held on September 14, 2026.

In accordance with the American Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance, please contact Jesse Applewhite, Clerk to the Council, at 985.839.7825, describing the assistance that is necessary. If you wish to submit comment(s) and/or questions to any item on the agenda, please submit same no later than twelve (12) hours prior to this meeting to japplewhite@wpgov.org.

(All Ordinances, Resolutions, and attachments in their entirety are available at the Office of the Clerk of the Council at 909 Pearl Street, Franklinton, Louisiana or at 985.839.7825, or wpgov.org)

****This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.****

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

ORDINANCE No. 26-790

Introduced on _____

Introduced by _____

Public hearing held on _____

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2026 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE WASHINGTON PARISH GOVERNMENT

SECTION I: That the 2026 Annual Operating Budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2026, for the Washington Parish Government is hereby amended and attached hereto and made a part hereof. A copy of the same is available for public inspection in the Clerk of the Council’s Office and on the Washington Parish Government website.

SECTION II: Amounts are amended to reflect projected annual revenues and expenditures for 2026.

The foregoing Ordinance was read in full, the roll was called on the adoption thereof and the Ordinance was adopted by the following votes:

YEAS: ()

NAYS: ()

ABSENT: ()

ABSTAIN: ()

The ordinance was declared adopted on the _____ day of August 2026.

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

By: _____
Reginald McMasters, Chairman

Delivered to the Parish President on the _____ day of August 2026.

WASHINGTON PARISH GOVERNMENT

By: _____
Ryan Seal, President

Returned to the Clerk of the Parish Council on the _____ day of August 2026.

ATTEST:

Jesse Applewhite, Clerk
Washington Parish Council

CERTIFICATION

I, JESSE APPLEWHITE, CLERK OF THE WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL, hereby certify that foregoing is a true and correct copy of an ordinance adopted by the Washington Parish Council, in Regular Session convened on the ____ day of August 2026 in Franklinton, Louisiana.

Jesse Applewhite, Clerk
Washington Parish Council

MEETING MINUTES OF 8/10/2026

Posted: August 6, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.

Notice of Public Meeting

Washington Parish Council
Regular Meeting
Washington Parish Courthouse
908 Washington Street, Franklinton, Louisiana 70438
Council Chambers
Monday, August 10, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

AGENDA:

Item No. 1: Call to Order: Council Chairman McMasters called the meeting to order.

Item No. 2: Invocation: The invocation was led by Councilman Branch.

Item No. 3: Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge was led by Councilman King.

Item No. 4: Roll call: Council Clerk, Jesse Applewhite called the roll. Present were Clark Harry, Steven Branch, Reginald McMasters, Carley King, Culpepper, and Kim Wagner. Shawn Rice was absent.

Item No. 5: Approval of Minutes: July 27, 2026, Regular Council Meeting.

Council Chairman McMasters: Would anyone from the public like to come forward and speak before the Council votes to approve the minutes? *No one came forward.*

Councilman Culpepper: As no one has come forward, I make a motion to approve the minutes for the July 27, 2026, Regular Council Meeting.

Councilman Harry: Second.

Council Chairman McMasters: I have a motion by Councilman Culpepper and a second by Councilman Harry.

Roll call of vote as follows:

YEAS: (6) Harry, Branch, McMasters, King, Culpepper, Wagner

NAYS: ()

ABSTAIN: ()

ABSENT: (1) Rice

Item No. 6: Michelle Trueschwig: Kushner LaGraize, Audit Report

Michelle Trueschwig, Engagement Partner with Kushner LaGraize, presented the Parish's annual audit report. She stated that the audit was submitted to the Louisiana Legislative Auditor on June 23, ahead of the June 30 deadline, and was reviewed, approved, and issued on July 27. The report was also submitted to and accepted by the Federal Audit Clearinghouse.

Ms. Trueschwig explained that Washington Parish is subject to a single audit, which includes an audit of the Parish's financial statements as well as its major federal grant programs. The Parish received a clean, unmodified opinion on its financial statements, with no internal control findings

noted. The two major grant programs audited were the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, totaling approximately \$1.2 million, and the Recreation Grant, totaling approximately \$498,000. Both programs received unmodified opinions with no findings.

Ms. Trueschwig reported that the Parish's government-wide net position increased approximately \$6.5 million, from \$75.4 million to \$81.9 million, with approximately \$4.8 million of the increase attributed to investment in capital assets. She also noted that a prior-year pension liability of approximately \$600,000 changed to a pension asset of approximately \$605,000 based on the applicable actuarial report.

Governmental fund balances increased from approximately \$1.1 million in the prior year to approximately \$1.2 million. Overall revenues decreased by approximately \$2.8 million, primarily due to a decrease of approximately \$1.2 million in sales tax revenues and approximately \$1.7 million in operating and capital grant revenues. Ms. Trueschwig noted that the prior year included approximately \$4.5 million in ARC funding, while the current year included approximately \$2 million from the DOTD Road Transfer Program and approximately \$498,000 from the Recreation Grant. Ad valorem revenues increased slightly by approximately \$370,000.

Opioid settlement funds increased from approximately \$1.4 million to \$1.9 million. As of December 31, 2025, approximately \$1.9 million remained in cash within the program.

Ms. Trueschwig reported that the General Fund decreased by approximately \$356,000 and had a fund balance of approximately \$1.9 million. Of that amount, approximately \$850,000 was committed, leaving approximately \$1.033 million in unassigned funds available for operational expenditures. She stated that the Parish maintains approximately five months of unrestricted fund balance, which exceeds the Government Finance Officers Association recommendation of approximately two months.

Ms. Trueschwig also discussed procedures performed in connection with the Louisiana State Library requirements. Two exceptions were noted concerning documentation of required sexual harassment and ethics training. Director of Finance/Personnel Lacy Buris clarified that the exceptions involved the absence of training certificates and were not violations involving allegations of sexual harassment or unethical conduct. Ms. Trueschwig stated that administration identified and corrected the issue immediately following year-end.

In conclusion, Ms. Trueschwig reiterated that the Parish received clean opinions on its financial statements and major grant programs, had no internal control findings, had no funds with deficit fund balances, and remained debt-free with no bonds, certificates of indebtedness, or outstanding loans. She thanked President Seal, Lacy Burris, and Parish staff for their assistance throughout the audit process. There were no questions from the Council.

Item No. 7: Theo Jones: Candidate for 22nd Judicial District Court – Division G

Theo Jones of Franklinton addressed the Council and introduced himself as a candidate for 22nd Judicial District Court, Division G. Mr. Jones discussed his background and local ties, noting that he was raised in Franklinton and graduated from Franklinton High School in 1992. He spoke about attending Louisiana State University, serving in the United States Army, and later working in journalism before pursuing a legal career. Mr. Jones stated that he graduated from Southern University Law Center in 2014 and discussed his professional experience and qualifications. He thanked the Council for the opportunity to introduce himself and speak about his candidacy.

Item No. 8: Parish President Ryan Seal: Presentation to recognize employee

Parish President Ryan Seal recognized Mr. Archie McGowan on his recent retirement following 29 years of service to Washington Parish Government. Although Mr. McGowan was unable to attend the meeting, the Parish President expressed appreciation for his many years of dedicated service, hard work, knowledge, and contributions to Washington Parish and its citizens. He also noted Mr. McGowan's roots in the Angie community and his continued service as a pastor. The Parish President thanked Mr. McGowan for his commitment to the Parish and wished him well in his retirement.

Item No. 9: Ordinance No. 26-790: Introduce an Ordinance to Amend the 2026 Annual Operating Budget for the Washington Parish Government.

Council Chairman McMasters: This is an introduction only. We will have a public hearing on this at our next Council meeting.

Item No. 10: Resolution No. 26-1522: Adopt a Resolution Appointing George Martinez to the Washington Parish Gas Utility District No. 2 Board of Directors

Council Chairman McMasters: The Personnel Committee voted to send this Resolution to the full Council at the Personnel Committee meeting that was held July 27, 2026. Would anyone from the public like to come forward and speak before the Council votes? *No one came forward.*

Councilman King: As no one has come forward, I make a motion to adopt Resolution No. 26-1522.

Councilman Branch: Second.

Council Chairman McMasters: I have a motion by Councilman King and a second by Councilman Branch.

Roll call of the vote as follows:

YEAS: (6) Harry, Branch, McMasters, King, Culpepper, Wagner

NAYS: ()

ABSTAIN: ()

ABSENT: (1) Rice

Item No. 11: Resolution No. 26-1523: Adopt a Resolution by the Washington Parish Council Accepting the Lowest Responsible and Responsive Bid for the Purchase of Resuscitation Equipment for Washington Parish Fire Protection Districts No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, Bogalusa Fire Department and Franklinton Fire Department, Utilizing Opioid Settlement Funds, and Authorizing the Parish President to Execute All Necessary Documents

Lacy Burris: I am going to ask that we table this matter tonight. We are not quite ready to move forward with that just yet.

Council Chairman McMasters: Would anyone from the public like to come forward and speak before the Council votes to table this Resolution? *No one came forward.*

Councilwoman Wagner: As no one has come forward, I make a motion to table Resolution No. 26-1523.

Councilman Harry: Second.

Council Chairman McMasters: I have a motion by Councilwoman Wagner and a second by Councilman Harry.

Roll call of the vote as follows:

YEAS: (6) Harry, Branch, McMasters, King, Culpepper, Wagner

NAYS: ()

ABSTAIN: ()

ABSENT: (1) Rice

Item No. 12: Resolution No. 26-1524: Adopt a Resolution by the Washington Parish Council Authorizing the Retention of Special Legal Counsel to Represent Washington Parish Government in Connection with Claims Arising from the August 22, 2025, Smitty's Supply Explosion, Including Participation in any Class Action or Required Litigation, for the Recovery of Costs Incurred by Washington Parish Government

Lacy Burris: After the explosion we did some environmental testing for our residents just to make sure everything was safe. The Parish spent about \$60,000 on that. We just wanted to join the lawsuit and see if we could recoup some of that expense.

Council Chairman McMasters: Would anyone from the public like to come forward and speak before the Council votes? *No one came forward.*

Councilman Branch: As no one has come forward, I make a motion to adopt Resolution No. 26-1524.

Councilman Culpepper: Second.

Council Chairman McMasters: I have a motion by Councilman Branch and a second by Councilman Culpepper.

Roll call of the vote as follows:

YEAS: (6) Harry, Branch, McMasters, King, Culpepper, Wagner

NAYS: ()

ABSTAIN: ()

ABSENT: (1) Rice

Item No. 13: Resolution No. 26-1525: Adopt a Resolution by the Washington Parish Council to Authorize the Parish President to Execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Southeast Louisiana Pregnancy Center for Women and Children, for the Reimbursement of Eighty Percent (80%) of the Eligible Cost of a Maternal Substance Use Disorder Initiative Using Opioid Litigation Proceeds

Lacy Burris: The Pregnancy Center approached us and would like to employ a counselor to help at-risk women and do some training as well as get some technology to help the center.

Council Chairman McMasters: Would anyone from the public like to come forward and speak before the Council votes? *No one came forward.*

Councilman Culpepper: As no one has come forward, I make a motion to adopt Resolution No. 26-1525.

Councilman Harry: Second.

Council Chairman McMasters: I have a motion by Councilman Culpepper and a second by Councilwoman Harry.

Roll call of the vote as follows:

YEAS: (6) Harry, Branch, McMasters, King, Culpepper, Wagner

NAYS: ()

ABSTAIN: ()

ABSENT: (1) Rice

Item No. 14: Public Participation:

Council Chairman McMasters: We will have our public participation at this time. The Council will allow you five minutes only.

Washington Parish Sheriff Jason Smith gave an update on the jail stating that they are 120 inmates over capacity. Most of the inmates over capacity are DOC and probation and parole

inmates with 83 DOC inmates and 36 probation and parole hold inmates. He also stated they have met with the design team for the construction of the new jail. Smith said he expects to have a design within the next eight months. He described how he met with the Superintendents and developed a security response for any critical incident that may occur at the schools.

Director of Washington Parish Development Foundation D'Ann Davis gave an update that they are continuing to work with the Town of Franklinton on the Fast Sites preparations. She explained that the surveying is done and an appraisal is in the works. She will be announcing press conference dates as soon as they become available. D'Ann also spoke about the continued work with local businesses on how to tap into federal money that they did not know was available. She stated there would be a workshop in September that will be a ten-week program to help businesses. She explained there were some exciting developments coming to Washington Parish.

Andy Jones of Franklinton expressed his opinions and concerns on new businesses and corporations coming into the Parish.

Council Chairman McMasters: Would anyone else like to come forward and speak before the Council votes to close public participation? *No one came forward.*

Councilwoman Wagner: As no one has come forward, I make a motion to close public participation.

Councilman Branch: Second.

Council Chairman McMasters: I have a motion by Councilwoman Wagner and a second by Councilman Branch.

Roll call of the vote as follows:

YEAS: (6) Harry, Branch, McMasters, King, Culpepper, Wagner

NAYS: ()

ABSTAIN: ()

ABSENT: (1) Rice

Item No. 15: President's Report:

Parish President Ryan Seal: Michelle Trueschwig from Kushner LaGraize gave the audit report that I am very proud of. That did not happen by accident. I give credit to Lacy Burris for that. She was new to her position, and this was on her. In Parish Government or in any government, two of the biggest things are the audit and the budget. I've said many times, this is the most important role in parish government because it goes back to our credibility. Are we going to be good stewards of our taxpayers' dollars? Are we spending within the law? Are we spending what's right? Are we laboring the citizens for something we don't need to? Are we doing a good job keeping up with our finances? I am very proud of the work that Lacy and her entire staff have done.

Code Enforcement Kelvin Brown gave the Transportation Report for the month of July:

- Drainage Projects: 23 roads totaling 47 miles
- Cold Mix Distributed: 85 tons on 51 roads totaling 58 miles
- Culverts Installed: 9
- Graded Roads: 17 roads totaling 34 miles
- Bushhogged Roads: 105 roads totaling 207 miles
- Trash Picked Up: 336 bags on 51 roads
- Installed Signs: 43 on 21 roads
- Parish Grounds Maintenance: 13 locations
- 10 miles of road paved by in-house crew

Permit Office Report:

- Residential Constructions: 7
- Mobile Homes: 13
- Reconnects: 73
- Total Permits: 169

Director of Public Works Alex Sumrall: Our in-house asphalt crew completed Byron Dillon Rd., Otis Bickham Rd. and Jim Simmons Rd. and has moved to the Meadows subdivision to begin on Finch Rd., Skylark Dr., Pelican Dr., Falcon Dr., Eagle Lane, Sandpiper Rd. Lovebird Rd. and Bluebird Rd. Barriere will be working on asphaltting several roads this week. Together with contract and in-house crews, that will be 40 roads totaling 32 miles.

President Seal: I would like to say that asphalt that comes off the machines is very hot. They are doing a great job, and I am very pleased with Barriere and our in-house crew. They do a great job despite the heat. It is always frustrating hearing about 336 bags of trash that we must spend parish money picking up. Also, 43 signs having to be replaced is another expense to the parish. Stealing road signs is not a game and is a safety issue. Washington Parish Government was awarded a Keep Louisiana Beautiful grant for \$8,470 that will help us continue our litter provision and beautification efforts throughout the parish. Also, the Emergency Operations Center site preparations is underway. Our crews are working to prepare a foundation pad to provide a special base for RV's and temporary housing for emergency personnel during an extended emergency or disaster response. The American Public Works Association luncheon was this past week, and I was proud to be able to speak and take some of our employees with us highlighting the improvements in infrastructure and recognizing the importance we have in the parish to keep the parish moving forward. On the 15th of this month, Washington Parish Government is excited to celebrate participating in a ribbon cutting at Atoka. It has truly been a community effort and with the parish crews and community volunteers working together to prepare the grounds up there. What began with a vision is becoming a reality and we are looking forward to celebrating those milestones as well. I appreciate our employees' hard work from our Finance Department with Lacy and the Public Works Department with Alex and Kelvin's crew moving forward. The state is going to be having a detour on Highway 1055 starting on August 18th for highway construction and will be closed for approximately 69 days.

Item No. 16: Council Discussion:

The Council thanked everyone for their support and attending the meeting.

Councilman Branch recognized Mr. Scott for his 30 years as a Constable. He also encouraged everyone to take advantage of our state park on Labor Day.

Council Chairman McMasters: We will be transparent with all information regarding the solar matters to the public. School is also back in session and we want everyone to please respect school zones and be on alert for our young people. Our next meeting will be August 24, 2026.

Item No. 17: Adjourn:

Council Chairman McMasters: May I have a motion to adjourn?

Councilman King: I make a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Councilwoman Wagner: Second.

Council Chairman McMasters: I have a motion by Councilman King and a second by Councilwoman Wagner.

Roll call of the vote as follows:

YEAS: (6) Harry, Branch, McMasters, King, Culpepper, Wagner

NAYS: ()

ABSTAIN: ()

ABSENT: (1) Rice

Council Chairman McMasters: Meeting adjourned.

Reginald McMasters, Chairman
Washington Parish Council

Jesse Applewhite, Clerk
Washington Parish Council

Order of Voting

Clark Harry	Joe Culpepper
Steven Branch	Shawn Rice
Reginald McMasters	Kim Wagner
Carley King	

The next meeting will be held August 24, 2026.

In accordance with the American Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance, please contact Jesse Applewhite, Clerk to the Council, at 985.839.7825, describing the assistance that is necessary.

(All Ordinances, Resolutions, and attachments in their entirety are available at the office of the Clerk to the Council at 909 Pearl Street, Franklinton, Louisiana or at 985.839.7825, or wpgov.org.)

****This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.****

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

ORDINANCE No. 26-790

Introduced on _____

Introduced by _____

Public hearing held on _____

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2026 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE WASHINGTON PARISH GOVERNMENT

SECTION I: That the 2026 Annual Operating Budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2026, for the Washington Parish Government is hereby amended and attached hereto and made a part hereof. A copy of the same is available for public inspection in the Clerk of the Council’s Office and on the Washington Parish Government website.

SECTION II: Amounts are amended to reflect projected annual revenues and expenditures for 2026.

The foregoing Ordinance was read in full, the roll was called on the adoption thereof and the Ordinance was adopted by the following votes:

YEAS: ()

NAYS: ()

ABSENT: ()

ABSTAIN: ()

The ordinance was declared adopted on the _____ day of August 2026.

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

By: _____
Reginald McMasters, Chairman

Delivered to the Parish President on the _____ day of August 2026.

WASHINGTON PARISH GOVERNMENT

By: _____
Ryan Seal, President

Returned to the Clerk of the Parish Council on the _____ day of August 2026.

ATTEST:

Jesse Applewhite, Clerk
Washington Parish Council

CERTIFICATION

I, JESSE APPLEWHITE, CLERK OF THE WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL, hereby certify that foregoing is a true and correct copy of an ordinance adopted by the Washington Parish Council, in Regular Session convened on the ____ day of August 2026 in Franklinton, Louisiana.

Jesse Applewhite, Clerk
Washington Parish Council

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. 26-1526

**A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 26-1506, PLACING A
MORATORIUM ON THE APPROVAL AND/OR PERMITTING
OF ALL SOLAR PANEL FARMS, COMMERCIAL SOLAR POWER PLANTS,
BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS (BESS), AND SIMILAR ENERGY
GENERATION OR STORAGE FACILITIES**

WHEREAS, the Washington Parish Council adopted Resolution No. 26-1506 on July 9, 2026, establishing a temporary ninety (90) day moratorium on the approval and/or permitting of new solar panel farms, commercial solar power plants, battery energy storage systems (BESS), and other similar utility-scale energy generation or energy storage facilities; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 26-1506 provides that the moratorium shall be in effect for a period of ninety (90) days unless further extended or terminated sooner by action of the Washington Parish Council; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Parish Council passed Article 10 of the Comprehensive Development Ordinances for the Parish of Washington, which provides for Utility Scale Solar Project Facility Standards;

WHEREAS, since the passage of Article 10 of the Comprehensive Development Ordinances for the Parish of Washington, technological advancements in utility scale energy projects have occurred in the industry, including but not limited to the development and deployment of on-site and stand-alone battery energy storage systems (BESS), and other similar energy storage technologies;

WHEREAS the Washington Parish Council finds it necessary to develop ordinances and regulations concerning battery energy storage systems (BESS) and other similar energy storage facilities in order to address advancements in technology and to protect the general welfare, safety, health and peace of the Parish; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Parish Council has determined that utility-scale solar panel farms and commercial solar power plants may continue to be considered for approval and permitted pursuant to the existing applicable ordinances and regulations of Washington Parish Government; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Parish Council finds that a temporary moratorium remains necessary with respect to the permitting of battery energy storage systems (BESS) and similar energy storage facilities while the Parish reviews and considers an ordinance to govern such facilities; and

WHEREAS, this moratorium applies to the issuance and/or approval of new permits and/or new projects involving battery energy storage systems (BESS) and similar energy storage facilities only; and

WHEREAS, nothing in this Resolution shall prohibit or otherwise restrict the processing, consideration, approval, or permitting of utility-scale solar panel farms or commercial solar power plants pursuant to the existing ordinances, regulations, and permitting requirements of Washington Parish Government;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington Parish Council hereby lifts and terminates the moratorium previously imposed on the approval and/or permitting of solar panel farms and commercial solar power plants, effective immediately upon adoption of this Resolution, and such projects may be considered and permitted in accordance with the existing applicable ordinances, regulations, and permitting requirements of Washington Parish Government.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Washington Parish Council hereby continues to impose a moratorium on the approval and/or permitting of all new construction, expansion, or development of battery energy storage systems (BESS), stand-alone battery energy storage facilities, and other similar utility-scale energy storage facilities, on all property within the jurisdiction of Washington Parish Government, excluding state-owned land, for a period of ninety (90) days from the effective date of this Resolution, unless further extended or terminated sooner by action of the Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all applications for utility-scale solar panel farms and commercial solar power plants shall be processed and considered in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Comprehensive Development Ordinances for the Parish of Washington and all other applicable laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, and permitting requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all provisions of the prior moratorium inconsistent with this Resolution are hereby amended, superseded, and/or repealed to the extent of such inconsistency, and all other provisions not inconsistent herewith shall remain in full force and effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if any provision of this Resolution is determined to be invalid or unenforceable, such determination shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining provisions of this Resolution.

The above foregoing, having been submitted to a vote thereupon resulted as follows:

YEAS: ()

NAYS: ()

ABSENT: ()

ABSTAIN: ()

The resolution was declared adopted on the ____ day of August 2026.

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

By:_____

Reginald McMasters, Council Chairman

WASHINGTON PARISH GOVERNMENT

By:_____

Ryan Seal, President

CERTIFICATION

I, JESSE APPLEWHITE, CLERK TO THE WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL,
do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted
by the Washington Parish Council, in regular session convened on the ____ day
of August 2026, at which meeting a quorum was present.

Jesse Applewhite, Clerk
Washington Parish Council

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. 26-1527

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
BETWEEN WASHINGTON PARISH GOVERNMENT AND THE CITY OF
BOGALUSA FOR ANIMAL SHELTER AND ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES;
AUTHORIZING THE PARISH PRESIDENT TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT;
AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS**

WHEREAS, Washington Parish Government owns and operates the Washington Parish Animal Shelter (“WPAS”) and provides animal sheltering and related services within Washington Parish; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bogalusa has responsibilities for animal control matters arising within the corporate limits of the City of Bogalusa; and

WHEREAS, Washington Parish Government and the City of Bogalusa desire to cooperate in providing animal sheltering support and animal control services for animals originating within the corporate limits of the City of Bogalusa; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Intergovernmental Agreement establishes the respective duties and responsibilities of Washington Parish Government, the Washington Parish Animal Shelter, and the City of Bogalusa, including the assignment of a city-employed Animal Control Officer and the provision of shelter space and related animal care services by WPAS; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement provides that the City shall remain responsible for the employment-related costs, workers’ compensation, vehicle, fuel, equipment, uniforms, training, and other costs associated with the City Animal Control Officer, except as otherwise agreed in writing; and

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 14(C) of the Louisiana Constitution authorizes the State and its political subdivisions, for a public purpose, to engage in cooperative endeavors with each other, with the United States or its agencies, or with any public or private association, corporation, or individual; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Parish Council finds that the cooperative provision of animal control and sheltering services promotes public safety, humane animal care, rabies control, efficient use of governmental resources, and the health and welfare of the citizens of Washington Parish and therefore serves a valid public purpose.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Washington Parish Council, governing authority of Washington Parish, Louisiana, that the Intergovernmental Agreement between Washington Parish Government and the City of Bogalusa for Animal Shelter and Animal Control Services is hereby approved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Parish President Ryan Seal is hereby authorized and empowered, on behalf of Washington Parish Government, to

execute the Intergovernmental Agreement and any documents reasonably necessary to carry out its terms and purposes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that nothing contained herein shall authorize the expenditure of Parish funds beyond amounts lawfully budgeted and appropriated or otherwise authorized by the Washington Parish Council.

The above foregoing, having been submitted to a vote thereupon resulted as follows:

YEAS: ()

NAYS: ()

ABSENT: ()

ABSTAIN: ()

The resolution was declared adopted on the ____ day of August 2026.

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

By: _____
Reginald McMasters, Council Chairman

WASHINGTON PARISH GOVERNMENT

By: _____
Ryan Seal, President

CERTIFICATION

I, JESSE APPLEWHITE, CLERK TO THE WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Washington Parish Council, in regular session convened on the ____ day of August 2026, at which meeting a quorum was present.

Jesse Applewhite, Clerk
Washington Parish Council

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. 26-1528

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION
WITH THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND
DEVELOPMENT FOR A GRANT UNDER ANY OF THE FOLLOWING FTA
PROGRAMS MANAGED THROUGH THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

- **49 CFR 5311, FORMULA GRANT FOR RURAL AREAS**
- **49 CFR 5339, GRANT FOR BUS AND BUS FACILITY PROGRAM**
- **49 CFR 5310, FORMULA GRANTS FOR THE ENHANCED MOBILITY
OF SENIOR AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

WHEREAS, the Secretary of Transportation and Development is authorized to make grants for mass transportation projects; and

WHEREAS, the contract for financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon the applicant, including the provisions by it of the local share of project costs; and

WHEREAS, it is required by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, that in connection with the filing of an application for assistance, it will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the U.S. Department of Transportation requirements thereunder; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the applicant that minority business enterprise be utilized to the fullest extent possible in connection with this project, and that definitive procedures shall be established and administered to ensure that minority businesses shall have the maximum feasible opportunity to compete for contracts when procuring construction contracts, supplies, equipment, or consultant and other services:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Washington Parish Council:

1. That the Washington Parish President is authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the Washington Parish Government with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to aid in the financing of operating and/or capital assistance projects pursuant to FTA transit programs.
2. That the Washington Parish President is authorized to execute and file with such applications an assurance or any other document required by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development effectuating the purposes of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended.

3. That the Washington Parish President is authorized to furnish such additional information as the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development may require in connection with the application or financial reimbursement of the project.
4. That the Washington Parish President is authorized to set and execute affirmative minority business policies in connection with the project's procurement needs.
5. That the Washington Parish President is authorized to execute grant contract agreements on behalf of the Washington Parish Government with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for aid in the financing of the operating or capital assistance projects.
6. That the Washington Parish President is authorized to sign and submit financial activity reports on behalf of the Washington Parish Government with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development for aid in the financing of the operating or capital assistance projects.

This resolution is applicable for a period of one year, unless revoked by the governing body and copy of such revocation shall be furnished to the Department of Transportation and Development.

The above foregoing, having been submitted to a vote thereupon, resulted as follows:

YEAS: ()

NAYS: ()

ABSENT: ()

ABSTAIN: ()

The resolution was declared adopted on the ____ day of August 2026

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

By: _____
Reginald McMasters, Council Chairman

WASHINGTON PARISH GOVERNMENT

By: _____
Ryan Seal, President

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CERTIFICATION

I, JESSE APPLEWHITE, CLERK TO THE WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL,
do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted
by the Washington Parish Council, in regular session convened on the ____ day
of August 2026, at which meeting a quorum was present.

Jesse Applewhite, Clerk
Washington Parish Council

Page 3 of Resolution No. 26-1528

The following resolution was offered by _____ and seconded
by _____ :

RESOLUTION NO. 26-1529

A resolution approving the holding of an election in Washington Parish Fire Protection District No. 1, State of Louisiana, on Saturday, December 12, 2026, to authorize the renewal of special taxes therein.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Washington Parish Fire Protection District No. 1, State of Louisiana (the "Governing Authority"), acting as the governing authority of Washington Parish Fire Protection District No. 1, State of Louisiana (the "District"), plans to adopt a resolution on September 8, 2026, calling a special election in the District on Saturday, December 12, 2026, to authorize the renewal of special taxes therein; and

WHEREAS, the governing authority of the District has requested that this Parish Council, acting as the governing authority of the Parish of Washington, State of Louisiana, give its consent and authority for the District to hold the aforesaid election, and in the event that the election carries to continue to levy and collect the special taxes provided for therein; and

WHEREAS, as required by Article VI, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, it is now the desire of this Parish Council to approve the holding of said election and in the event that the election carries, to authorize the District to continue to levy and collect the special taxes provided for therein;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Parish Council of the Parish of Washington, State of Louisiana, acting as the governing authority of said Parish, that:

SECTION 1. In compliance with the provisions of Article VI, Section 15 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974, and in accordance with the request of the Board of Commissioners of Washington Parish Fire Protection District No. 1, State of Louisiana, this Parish Council hereby approves the holding of an election in the District, on Saturday, December 12, 2026, at which election there will be submitted the following propositions, to-wit:

**PROPOSITION NO. 1 OF 2
(MILLAGE RENEWAL)**

Shall Washington Parish Fire Protection District No. 1, State of Louisiana (the "District"), continue to levy a special tax of 7.75 mills (the "Tax") on all property subject to taxation in the District (an estimated \$95,500 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the Tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2027 and ending with the year 2036, for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, improving, maintaining and/or operating fire protection facilities and equipment in and for the District, including the cost of obtaining water for fire protection purposes, provided that a portion of the Tax proceeds is required to be contributed to state and statewide retirement systems as provided in R.S. 11:82?

**PROPOSITION NO. 2 OF 2
(MILLAGE RENEWAL)**

Shall Washington Parish Fire Protection District No. 1, State of Louisiana (the "District"), continue to levy a special tax of 4.58 mills (the "Tax") on all property subject to taxation in the District (an estimated \$56,400 reasonably expected at this time to be collected from the levy of the Tax for an entire year), for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 2027 and ending with the year 2036, for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, improving, maintaining and/or operating fire protection facilities and equipment in and for the District, including the cost of obtaining water for fire protection purposes, provided that a portion of the Tax proceeds is required to be contributed to state and statewide retirement systems as provided in R.S. 11:82?

SECTION 2. In the event the election carries, this Parish Council does hereby further consent to and authorize the District to continue to levy and collect the special taxes provided for therein.

This resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

And the resolution was declared adopted on this, the 24th day of August, 2026.

/s/ Jesse Applewhite
Council Clerk

/s/ Reginald McMasters
Chairman

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF WASHINGTON

I, the undersigned Council Clerk of the Parish Council of the Parish of Washington, State of Louisiana, do hereby certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by said Parish Council on August 24, 2026, approving the holding of an election in Washington Parish Fire Protection District No. 1, State of Louisiana, to authorize the renewal of special taxes therein.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, witness my official signature, on this, the 24th day of August, 2026.

Council Clerk

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION No. 26-1530

**RESOLUTION BY THE WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS FOR THE
PURCHASE OF RESUSCITATION EQUIPMENT FOR USE AT THE
WASHINGTON PARISH JAIL**

WHEREAS, the Washington Parish Government is the recipient of proceeds from the Federal Opioid Litigation, as regulated by the Louisiana State-Local Government Opioid Litigation Memorandum of Understanding; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Parish Government is responsible for the payment of medical expenses for the care of inmates housed at the Washington Parish Jail; and

WHEREAS, resuscitation equipment is needed at the Washington Parish Jail in order to timely and effectively respond to medical emergencies, including suspected opioid-related overdoses; and

WHEREAS, funding for the purchase of resuscitation equipment falls under the approved uses in the Prevent Misuse of Opioids and First Responders sections of the Louisiana State-Local Government Opioid Litigation Memorandum of Understanding; and

WHEREAS, Washington Parish Government desires to purchase resuscitation equipment with Opioid Litigation Settlement funds for use at the Washington Parish Jail; and

WHEREAS, the purchase of said resuscitation equipment shall not exceed the sum of Twelve Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$12,500.00).

BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington Parish Council hereby approves the use of Federal Opioid Litigation Settlement funds in an amount not to exceed Twelve Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$12,500.00) for the purchase of resuscitation equipment for use at the Washington Parish Jail.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washington Parish Government Finance Office is hereby authorized to disburse Federal Opioid Litigation Settlement funds for the purchase of said resuscitation equipment in accordance with the approved uses of the Louisiana State-Local Government Opioid Litigation Memorandum of Understanding.

The above and foregoing, having been submitted to a vote, the vote there upon resulted as follows:

YEAS: ()

NAYS: ()

ABSENT: ()

ABSTAIN: ()

The resolution was declared adopted on the ____ day of August 2026.

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

By: _____
Reginald McMasters, Chairman

WASHINGTON PARISH GOVERNMENT

By: _____
Ryan Seal, President

CERTIFICATION

I, **JESSE APPLEWHITE, CLERK OF THE WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**, hereby certify that foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Washington Parish Council, in Regular Session convened on the ____ day of August 2026, in Franklinton, Louisiana.

Jesse Applewhite, Clerk
Washington Parish Council

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION No. 26-1531

**RESOLUTION BY THE WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
TO AMEND RESOLUTIONS NO. 26-1476 THROUGH 26-1486, TO
INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS
AUTHORIZED FOR THE PURCHASE OF RESUSCITATION
EQUIPMENT FOR THE RESPECTIVE WASHINGTON PARISH FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICTS**

WHEREAS, the Washington Parish Government is the recipient of proceeds from the Federal Opioid Litigation, as regulated by the Louisiana State-Local Government Opioid Litigation Memorandum of Understanding; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Parish Council previously adopted Resolutions No. 26-1476 through 26-1486 on April 20, 2026, authorizing the use of Federal Opioid Litigation funds for the purchase of resuscitation equipment for use by the respective Washington Parish Fire Protection Districts; and

WHEREAS, each of said resolutions authorized an amount not to exceed Sixteen Thousand Dollars (\$16,000.00) for the purchase of resuscitation equipment for the respective Fire Protection District; and

WHEREAS, the actual cost of the resuscitation equipment obtained through the public bid process requires an increase in the amount previously authorized for each respective Fire Protection District; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Parish Council desires to amend Resolutions No. 26-1476 through 26-1486 to increase the amount authorized for each respective Fire Protection District from Sixteen Thousand Dollars (\$16,000.00) to an amount not to exceed Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$18,500.00).

BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington Parish Council hereby amends Resolutions No. 26-1476 through 26-1486 solely to increase the amount of Federal Opioid Litigation funds authorized for the purchase of resuscitation equipment from Sixteen Thousand Dollars (\$16,000.00) to an amount not to exceed Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$18,500.00) for each respective Fire Protection District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the increase authorized herein shall apply separately to each respective Fire Protection District identified in Resolutions No. 26-1476 through 26-1486 and shall not constitute an aggregate limit for all Fire Protection Districts.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all other provisions, terms, conditions, and authorizations contained in Resolutions No. 26-1476 through 26-1486 shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

The above and foregoing, having been submitted to a vote, the vote there upon resulted as follows:

YEAS: ()

NAYS: ()

ABSENT: ()

ABSTAIN: ()

The resolution was declared adopted on the ____ day of August 2026.

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

By:_____
Reginald McMasters, Chairman

WASHINGTON PARISH GOVERNMENT

By:_____
Ryan Seal, President

CERTIFICATION

I, **JESSE APPLEWHITE, CLERK OF THE WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**, hereby certify that foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Washington Parish Council, in Regular Session convened on the ____ day of August 2026, in Franklinton, Louisiana.

Jesse Applewhite, Clerk
Washington Parish Council

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. 26-1532

**A RESOLUTION BY THE WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
ACCEPTING THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE AND RESPONSIVE BID FOR THE
PURCHASE OF RESUSCITATION EQUIPMENT FOR WASHINGTON PARISH
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS NO. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, BOGALUSA
FIRE DEPARTMENT AND FRANKLINTON FIRE DEPARTMENT, UTILIZING
OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS, AND AUTHORIZING THE PARISH
PRESIDENT TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS**

WHEREAS, by Resolution Nos. 26-1476, 26-1477, 26-1478, 26-1479, 26-1480, 26-1481, 26-1482, 26-1483, 26-1484, 26-1485, and 26-1486, adopted on April 20, 2026, and subsequently amended by Resolution No. 26-1531, the Washington Parish Council approved the purchase of resuscitation equipment with the use of Federal Opioid Litigation Settlement Funds for use by the respective Washington Parish Fire Protection Districts and authorized the Washington Parish President to execute the necessary Intergovernmental Agreements; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to those resolutions and applicable provisions of the Louisiana Public Bid Law, sealed bids were solicited for the purchase of the approved equipment; and

WHEREAS, bids were advertised in The Era Leader, the Official Journal of Washington Parish Government, on July 15 and 26, 2026 and publicly opened on July 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Coro Medical, LLC submitted the lowest responsive bid in the total amount of \$86,307.00 for Disposable Resuscitators and Mechanical CPR Devices to be provided to the participating Fire Protection Districts, and Front Line Basics, LLC submitted the lowest responsive bid in the total amount of \$82,131.00 for Aluminum Oxygen Cylinders, Oxygen Regulators, AED Plus, and First Responder Trauma O2 Backpacks to be provided to the participating Fire Protection Districts; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Parish Council finds it to be in the best interest of the Parish and the participating Fire Protection Districts to accept said bids.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington Parish Council hereby accepts the lowest responsive bids submitted by Core Medical, LLC in the amount of \$86,307.00 and Front Line Basics, LLC in the amount of \$82,131.00 for the purchase of resuscitation equipment utilizing opioid settlement funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Parish President is authorized to execute all contracts and other documents necessary to complete the procurement and distribution of the equipment in accordance with the previously approval Intergovernmental Agreements.

The above foregoing, having been submitted to a vote thereupon resulted as follows:

YEAS: ()

NAYS: ()

ABSENT: ()

ABSTAIN: ()

The resolution was declared adopted on the ____ day of August 2026.

WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

By:_____
Reginald McMasters, Council Chairman

WASHINGTON PARISH GOVERNMENT

By:_____
Ryan Seal, President

CERTIFICATION

I, JESSE APPLEWHITE, CLERK TO THE WASHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL,
do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted
by the Washington Parish Council, in regular session convened on the ____ day
of August 2026, at which meeting a quorum was present.

Jesse Applewhite, Clerk
Washington Parish Council

