

## St. Tammany Parish Government | Changes Made to Address Failure of Jail and Justice Center Tax

January 26, 2021

### PERSONNEL

April 2017	Hiring freeze, 108 vacant positions // exception grants funded and State mandated positions
January 2018	No Cost-of-Living adjustment or merit awarded to Parish Government employees
December 2018	Lay off 24 employees in Parish Administration, Facilities Management, Development Eliminated vehicles allowances and restricted take home vehicles
January 2019	2% cost of living awarded; no merit increases;
January 2020	no cost of living or merit increases
January 2021	no cost of living or merit increases

### FACILITIES

Contracted daily janitorial services reduced to biweekly cleaning of bathrooms; staff handle trash/vacuuming of offices

Reduce operating hours and staffing of Fishing Pier and Camp Salmen from daily to weekends/seasonal

Construction Projects Cancelled or Deferred - Performing Arts Center; Multi Use Facility/Emergency Operations Center; expansion of the Fishing Pier;

Changes implemented by St. Tammany Parish Government to address the loss of revenue from the dedicated sales taxes for the operation of the Jail and Justice Center.

- \$5.5 M In 2016, St. Tammany implemented a Cost Allocation Plan (CAP) for the recovery of costs to provide administrative services. Prior to the CAP, the assessment for administration was based on 4% of revenue received. Recovery of costs increased from \$6M under the fixed fee method to \$11.5 M.
- \$1.4 M In October 2018, St. Tammany Parish Government increased building permit fees to fully fund the cost of the Planning, Permits, Inspections and Code Enforcement in the Office of Development. STPG moved the revenue and expenditures for these departments from the General Fund to an Enterprise Fund. Prior to this, the General Fund supported costs (\$3.2M) in excess of generated revenue (\$1.8M)
- \$1.1M In December 2018, 24 Parish Government employees were laid off. The offices of the CAO/Parish President, Parish Council, HR, Finance, Risk, Public Information, Technology, Legal and Facilities Management were all reduced by 2 or more positions. Other layoffs were in DHHS, Development and the Justice Center.
- \$2.4 M In 2019, the staff in the Department of Health and Human Services and support of community programs for wellness, behavioral health and nutrition were reduced to fund the medical care of parish inmates.
- \$2.0 M In 2018 contracts for security, janitorial, property maintenance and HVAC services were reduced. Additionally, 3 positions in the JC bldg. management were eliminated. These changes and other energy saving measures reduced operating costs 25- 30%
- \$2.5 M In 2018, annual allocations for major repairs and improvements at the Jail and Justice Ctr were deferred
- \$2.8 M In April 2018, after the dedicated sales tax levy ended for the Jail, the St. Tammany Sheriff's General and supported expenses of the Jail previously funded by the Parish tax.
- \$0.7M In 2019, General fund support for Camp Salmen Nature Park, the Fairgrounds Arena, the Regional Airport in excess of generated revenue were eliminated. The operating hours of the facilities were reduced from daily to weekends/seasonal. These costs are funded by other special taxes for Economic Development and from an appropriation of the state hotel/motel tax for CRT.