

October 12, 2011

9-1-1 Officials Tour Emergency Communications Centers

In preparation for the design work on the Natchitoches Parish combined public safety Emergency Communications Center, public safety officials and representatives of the Natchitoches Parish 9-1-1 Commission conducted site visits on October 11th. Destinations included the Rapides Parish Emergency Communications Center, the St. Francisville Emergency Communications and Control Center, and the Point Coupee Emergency Communications Center. These sites were chosen both because of their physical size, and because of commonality of functions that mirror the Natchitoches Parish Plan.

The Natchitoches Parish Communications District Board of Commissioners voted in 2009 to move the Natchitoches 9-1-1 system and emergency communications services to the next level of expanded services for Natchitoches Parish through the development of a multi-tiered capital project. The project, which is centered on the development of a combined public safety emergency communications/emergency operations center, will bring together the communications operations of seven (7) primary public safety agencies located within our parish. When completed, Natchitoches Parish 9-1-1, Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office, Natchitoches Police Department, Natchitoches Parish Emergency Medical Services, Natchitoches Fire Department, Natchitoches Parish Office of Homeland Security, and the ten Natchitoches Parish Fire Districts will all benefit by having their respective communications functions centralized in a single state-of-the-art facility, designed specifically to support public safety emergency communications operations.

Participating in the site visits on October 11th were: Fire Chief Denny Boyt, Police Chief Micky Dove, EMS Director Larry Atteridge, NPD Lieutenant Nikeo Collins, NPSO Deputy LeQuita Collins, project architect George Minturn, and 9-1-1 Director Willis Carter.