

NEWS RELEASE

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Long secures \$5 million for capital outlay

Emergency Communications Center included in funding bill..

Natchitoches, LA., June 20, 2012 — According to a recent article published in the Natchitoches Times, despite drastic cuts to the State budget, Sen. Gerald Long said he was able to secure just more than \$5 million for capital outlay projects in Natchitoches Parish during the recent Legislative session. He termed the action a “home run” that came about because of cooperation from his constituents. \$2.9 million was allocated in the 2012 capital outlay bill for the Natchitoches Parish Emergency Communications Center. \$1 million is in Priority 2 funding that will be used for planning and initial stages of the project. The remaining \$1.9 million will follow next year, according to the article. Long attended the June 19th meeting of the Communications Districts Board of Commissioners and made the announcement.

Commission Chairman Larry Atteridge offered his sincere appreciation for the consideration extended to the District by virtue of the inclusion of the “NATCOM” (50/NRO) Public Safety Communications Center project in the H.B. 2 funding package. Atteridge added “the successful completion of the NATCOM project will have a tremendous and very positive impact on the residents, visitors, and those traveling through Natchitoches Parish daily. The successful completion of the NATCOM project will bring all of the public safety agencies who serve Natchitoches parish yet another step closer to complete and reliable interoperable communications.”

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About the Natchitoches Parish Communications District (Natchitoches 9-1-1)

Natchitoches Parish 9-1-1 is committed to providing fast, efficient and effective access to emergency public safety services for all the citizens and visitors to Natchitoches Parish. Since 1988 the “District” has served in a pivotal role ensuring the safety of residents and visitors to Natchitoches Parish by providing the support services, which connects the citizens experiencing emergencies with emergency services via the use of one, easy to remember and simple to use 3-digit number, 9-1-1. The Natchitoches Parish 9-1-1 District provides the equipment and systems necessary to receive 9-1-1 calls from the nearly 40,000 residents of the parish, as well as the ever-increasing numbers of visitors to the area. We are proud to serve as “Natchitoches Parish’s Gateway to Public Safety Services”.

Find out more at www.natchitoches911.org.