



# Willie Graves

*Sheriff & Tax Collector*

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Baton Rouge Loop Project Team  
Attn: Suzanne McCain  
9100 Bluebonnet Centre, Suite 301  
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

LA DOTD  
Attn: Sherri LaBas, Secretary  
PO Box 94245  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9245

Federal Highway Administration-LA Division  
ATTN: Carl Highsmith  
5304 Flanders Drive, Suite A  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

RE: Opinion of Baton Rouge Loop through Livingston Parish

I am the Chief Deputy and Sheriff-Elect for Livingston Parish. I am opposed to the "Baton Rouge Loop". I have followed the media coverage and public hearings of the many studies and proposals for this loop over the past several years. The project has been on again and off again on multiple occasions. I write this letter to express concerns that I have about this project and my opposition.

My biggest concern is that I do not believe that any of the studies have assessed or projected the increased demand on the Sheriff's office for the public safety issues that this project will generate. I expect that crime and traffic events will multiply in the rural areas of my Parish. My office has limited manpower and resources.

I believe that the loop will reduce the tax base for Livingston Parish. Any decline in the tax base has a direct economic impact on my office and thus the resources that this office will need for the increased demands for public safety.

I am also of the opinion that the northern loop proposal will cause displacement of a large number of citizens in my parish. This displacement of citizens will have a negative result for this parish and no projected positive impact.

Jason Ard   
Chief Criminal Deputy; Sheriff-Elect