FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Jennifer C. Gerbasi

June 12, 2013 Recovery Planner, TPCG 985-873-6565

**Parish Seeks Community Input on Flood Issues**

(HOUMA) Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government announces four upcoming public meetings to get feedback from residents on potential enhancements to parish rules designed to protect your property from flooding and help you save money on flood insurance premiums.

**Public Meetings Will Be Held Day and Evening Across the Parish:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Wednesday, June 19 – Noon  Holiday Inn – Houma Rotary Club Lunch  1800 Martin Luther King Blvd., Houma | Tuesday, June 25 – Noon  Gibson Elementary School  6357 South Bayou Black Drive, Gibson |
| Wednesday, June 19 – 6:00 pm  Dulac Community Center –  125 Coast Guard Road, Dulac | Tuesday, June 25 – 6:00 pm  Montegut Gym  107 Recreation Drive, Montegut |

Dulac Community Center and Bayou Grace have graciously offered to host community dinners for the June 19 and June 25 evening meetings, respectively. Lunch may be purchased or not at the Holiday Inn.

“Now more than ever, as federal policy threatens to make flood insurance out of reach for many of our residents, it is important that we do everything possible to reduce the risk of damage to our homes and businesses in a flood event and earn discounts on our flood insurance premiums,” explains Terrebonne Parish Planning and Zoning Director Pat Gordon.

“We encourage residents to attend one of these public meetings to tell us which parish flood ordinance improvements they can support in return for better protection of their homes and businesses and savings of up to 20 percent on current flood insurance costs,” concludes Gordon.

The enhancements are intended to improve Terrebonne Parish’s ranking as part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Community Rating System. The program encourages communities to share information about flood risk reduction with residents, and build better and smarter to avoid harming current buildings and future risk to new ones. It rewards communities that go beyond minimum requirements with discounts on insurance premiums.

Terrebonne Parish plans to implement flood ordinance changes that cover three primary areas including home elevation and construction/renovation requirements, real estate disclosures, and storm water and drainage management. Parish residents are asked to review the proposed ordinance enhancements and submit their comments on which modifications they are willing to support at the public meetings on June 19 and 25, or online at [www.FloodSafeTerrebonne.com](http://www.FloodSafeTerrebonne.com).

The Terrebonne Parish Planning and Zoning Department expects to present the flood ordinance modifications to the Terrebonne Parish Council sometime this summer for consideration and adoption.



Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance Research and Outreach paid for by the Office of Community Development and LRAP Comprehensive Resiliency Program with grants from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.