



## Federation of Greater Baton Rouge Civic Associations

# PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBER

You may have seen or read recent news reports where established neighborhoods became concerned about a proposed nearby real estate development, compelling them to contact the media to voice their opposition. Have you ever wondered why that happens? As an organization, the Federation of Greater Baton Rouge Civic Associations (the Federation) exists to educate Homeowner and Civic Associations (HOAs/CAs) on how City-Parish processes work and provide you with the needed tools and network contacts to effectively intervene. We invite you to attend several meetings as our guest and then consider becoming a member.

**What is the Federation?** We are a 47 year old *all-volunteer* non-profit organization, representing tens of thousands of East Baton Rouge Parish homeowners. The Federation is a unique umbrella organization serving the needs of numerous Homeowner, Civic, Property and Residential Associations. The Federation is one of only a few such organizations in the United States. We participate in and sit on numerous City-Parish committees (many at the request of the Mayor) in an advisory capacity, representing the views and concerns of our members. The issues we study generally apply to existing and proposed codes and ordinances. The Federation's primary mission is to educate its members so that they can take appropriate actions to preserve their property values and the character and integrity of residential neighborhoods, which is critically important as Baton Rouge continues to grow.

### **What are the benefits of Membership?**

The Federation sponsors numerous informational forums on important new City-Parish initiatives and programs, such as, MovEBR, the St. George Incorporation, Parish drainage and regional flooding, an issue which has gained significant importance since the 2016 flood event. Maybe your association could benefit from learning new ways of effectively managing an HOA/CA or meeting with our community and government leaders. Utilizing the power of the group rather than going it alone will ultimately help your association improve its learning curve.

### **How often and where does the Federation meet?**

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month (except for July and December) in the large first floor meeting room at the Main Public Library, 7711 Goodwood Blvd, Baton Rouge. Meetings start at 7:00 PM and typically conclude around 8:30 PM to 9:00 PM.





**What kinds of topics are presented during these meetings?**

Monthly meetings feature guest speakers covering a broad range of topics of interest to HOAs/CAs. Everything from flooding and drainage to addressing problems with deed restrictions, zoning and new developments. We educate our members on proposed government initiatives (such as MovEBR, taxing issues, St. George Incorporation). As an educational organization, we sponsor seminars such as the legal and parliamentary procedural aspects of HOAs/CAs. We regularly ask our members to share their association experiences (both successes and challenges) with each other. During the campaign season, we have had meet and greets with Mayoral, City Council and Congressional prospective candidates.

If you are interested in past meeting topics, a brief summary of all meetings is available at [www.fgbrca.org](http://www.fgbrca.org) —> Meetings.

On behalf of the Federation, I thank you for taking the time to read this letter of introduction. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 225.315.1206.

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**Why should my HOA/CA join?** The Federation can help you understand how the City-Parish functions, or just simply knowing who to contact. We will guide you on where and how to find information on planning related issues and/or revisions to the City ordinances, codes, zoning and land use. These items typically have the greatest potential to negatively impact the value of your home and subdivision. And, there are plenty of opportunities for networking with community and government leaders as well as your counterparts in other HOA/CAs. Our motto is: *“Neighbors helping Neighbors”*



**How can you join?** To join, simply go to: [www.fgbrca.org](http://www.fgbrca.org), fill in the online Membership Application - Dues Form and send the completed form in with your association's check. The annual dues structure is outlined on the form. Joining not only strengthens your respective association, but it also enhances the overall influence the Federation enjoys with the City-Parish.