## LOUISIANA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## NEWSLETTER

## LOUISIANA DEVELOPMENT READY COMMUNITIES

As we begin a new year, we would like to encourage all of our municipalities to become familiar with our Louisiana Development Ready Communities (LDRC) program. The program, which was launched in 2009, is available to Louisiana municipalities of all sizes.

The 54 Louisiana communities participating in the program are better able to compete for new business because they have a written plan detailing how they will leverage their assets and address their challenges. The plan also allows them to track progress from year to year because of key economic performance indicators identified in their plans.

The process of applying to the Louisiana Development Ready

Lafourche Parish received its LDRC certification at the State Capitol Oct. 12.

From left: LED Asst. Director of Community Competitiveness Robby Abboud; Director of Community Competitiveness Stacey Duvic; Lafourche Parish President Archie Chaisson; LED Secretary Don Pierson; and Lafourche Parish Grants and Economic Development Director Kristi Lumpkin

Community program is initiated by the municipal governing body and executed in collaboration with both private and public sector stakeholders. It can be completed in about 90 days.

To begin building your community support network, click <a href="here">here</a> to visit our partners page.

Upon completion, LDRC program participants are state-certified as development ready, competitive and "open for business" by virtue of adopting a strategic community and economic development plan.

A community's plan must include, at a minimum, strategies to address education, workforce development, infrastructure, leadership and marketing/communications activities. Actions and end results are identified for each, including responsible individuals or entities, necessary programmatic and financial resources and time schedules for completion.

While the LDRC program is a demanding program that will require participation of the community, partners and the project committee, LED is committed to supporting you and will provide you with the tools you need to be successful throughout the process. We encourage all towns, villages and cities to consider the program

Applications can be downloaded here. For more information, contact Stacey Duvic, LED Director of Community Competitiveness, at stacey. duvic@la.gov or 225.342.4703.