

December 17, 2012

NLCOG  
Attn: Kent Rogers, Executive Director  
625 Texas Street  
Suite 200  
Shreveport, LA 71101

Re: **COMPLAINT**; Stage 1 Public Meeting for proposed I-49 Inner City Connector at Mount Canaan Baptist Church in the Allendale Neighborhood, December 12, 2012; and general public process complaints

Dear Mr. Rogers:

We are writing on behalf of a newly formed entity to submit a formal complaint concerning the conduct of your organization and consultants at NLCOG's public meeting at Mount Canaan Baptist Church on December 12, 2012. Our growing Allendale neighborhood group we refer to as "Loop-It" have organized to advocate for our neighborhood and for a better Shreveport. We are for the I-49 loop route for through traffic (existing) and for investing in a ground level business boulevard route for local traffic instead of any of the options you have promoted to connect I-49 North to I-49 South in Shreveport (see attached handout). We secured permission from a Mount Canaan representative to assemble and pass out information to attendees encouraging them to submit a ballot in support of our loop-it efforts. Our group conduct was peaceful and within our rights as citizens to share information with our neighbors and fellow citizens. The following is a summary of our complaints against NLCOG's public process.

**Complaint item 1.** Your team representing NLCOG blocked our participation and would not allow us to distribute our information at the December 12, 2012 meeting. Additionally, one of your representatives put hands on one of our group while taking action to remove members of our group from the meeting at Mt. Canaan Church. NLCOG has denied our rights to assemble and express our position at a public meeting on church property where you were a guest.

**Complaint item 2.** We further wish to challenge what we observe to be NLCOG manipulating and abusing the public trust placed in your organization. We view NLCOG's process as designed to pit one neighbor against another; as not providing adequate information to the public about the destructive nature of the proposed project, as providing misleading information to the public; and as limiting our ability as citizens to have meaningful input about our concerns and possible better options. The project you propose wastes limited public resources and threatens efforts to improve prosperity for inner city residents.

**Complaint item 3.** In further public manipulation and restriction of our rights, we were told by a representative of NLCOG, at the Thursday meeting, that our write-in ballots will not be counted as input and that the only acceptable input is the limited options on the ballot you provided participants. Your ballot allows a "no-build" vote, however, we were instructed, anyone voting for the "no build" option is additionally required to vote for one of the destructive 4 build options that all run over our neighborhood and over wetlands. This requirement is a trick to get us to vote for something we do not want. We estimate that over 200 ballots were cast in support of our "loop-

It" option that, we were told by NLCOG's representative, you will not report. We also believe that a "no build" vote should not require a vote to build option and believe that all such votes cast should only be counted as "no build". We want our voices and protest of your injustices heard.

There is a better more cost effective proposal that we as citizens are promoting (attached) and there is good evidence from efforts and accomplishments in other U.S. cities that we are correct. We believe you are attempting to misdirect the future of Shreveport for reasons we do not understand. Please notify us with the specifics of how you intend to address our complaint.

"Loop-It" Representatives denied their rights at the 12.12.12 public meeting,

Louis Brousett

*Louis Brousett*  
Copy with enclosure:

Charles Wiley

*Charles B. Wiley*

Rosie Chaffold

*Rosie Chaffold*

Ray LaHood, US Transportation Secretary  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Senator Mary Landrieu  
431 Dirksen  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Victor Mendez, FHWA Administrator  
Southeast Federal Center Building  
Room E85-336  
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Senator David Vitter  
516 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Sherri LeBas, Louisiana DOT Secretary  
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Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-924

Congressman John Fleming  
416 Cannon HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Lisa Jackson, US EPA Administrator  
USEPA Headquarters  
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Congressman Rodney Alexander  
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Ron Curry, US EPA Region 6 Administrator  
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Billy Pesnell, Attorney  
400 Travis Street, Suite 1100  
Shreveport, Louisiana 71101

# Connect I-49 NOW Faster. Cheaper. Better.

Make Shreveport beautiful & prosperous

**We are FOR  
Smart Investing:**



**1. Through Traffic** – Loop I-49 using existing Highway 3132 and I-220 at **NO COST**

**2. Local Traffic** – Reinvest in US 71 / North Market Business Boulevard route to I-49

Public Investment: (unfunded) **\$60 million**

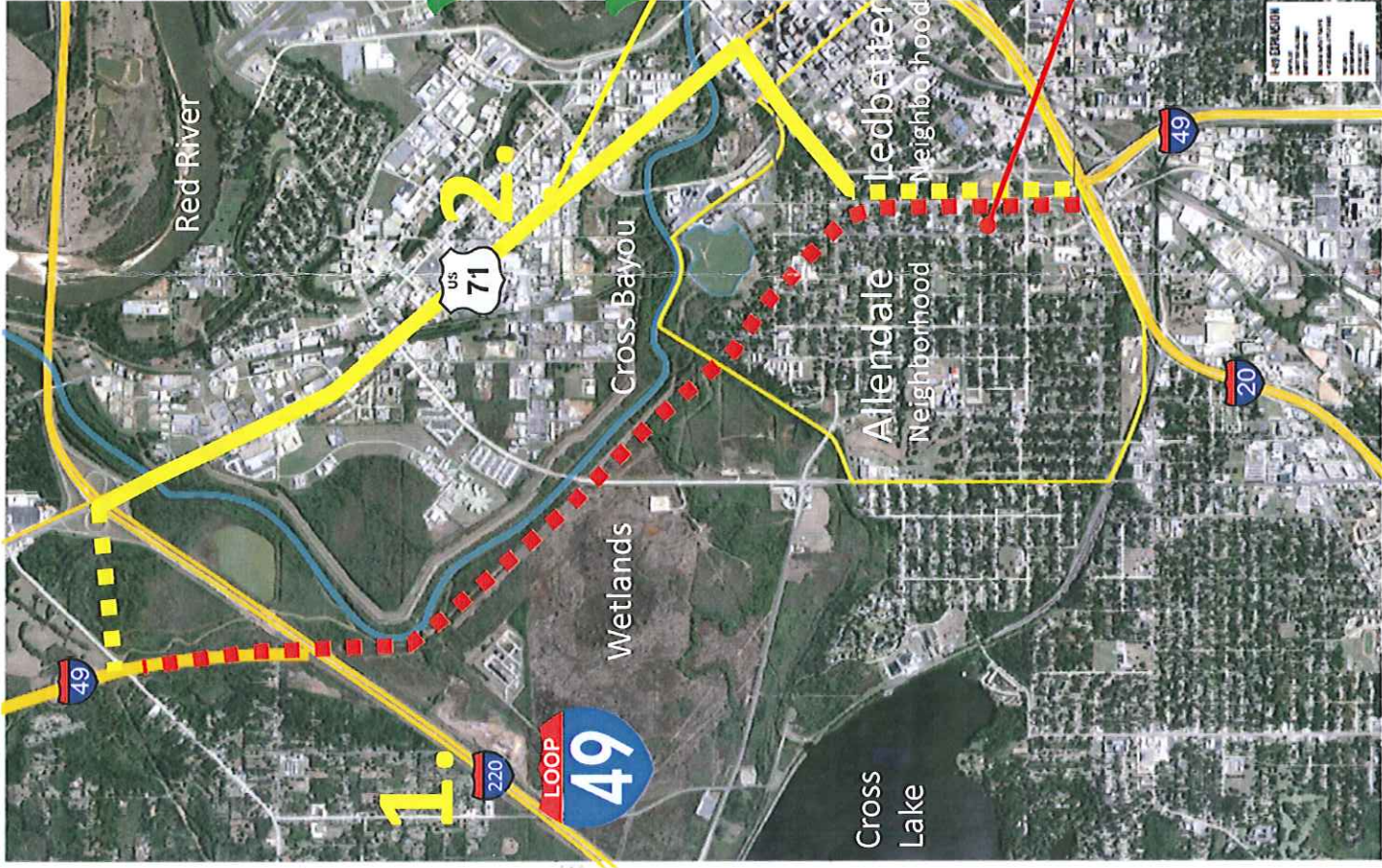
Social and Economic Gains: **+ \$900 million**

**We are Against:**

~~**NLCOG's proposed I-49  
Limited Access Connector**~~

Public Cost: (unfunded) **\$500 million**

Economic & Social Losses: **- \$150 million**





# Connect I-49 NOW Faster. Cheaper. Better.

Make Shreveport beautiful & prosperous

I-49 Shreveport to Arkansas – 34 miles north of US 71 under construction at cost of approximately **\$630 million** and over 30 years to date.

## Local Traffic – Reinvest in US 71 /

North Market Street as **business boulevard** route that connects to I-49

## Through Traffic – Loop I-49 using existing Highway 3132 and I-220 at **NO COST**

