



Parish of Ascension

OFFICE OF THE PARISH PRESIDENT

KENNY MATASSA
Parish President

Parish Utilizes State Grant for Road Safety Program

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 15, 2016**

GONZALES – With the help of the sun’s power and digital technology working together, Ascension Parish President Kenny Matassa announced parish government is stepping up efforts to make parish roads safer with powered road signs purchased with state grant funding.

The parish’s Grants Department secured just over \$40,000 in grant money from the state’s Local Government Assistance Program (LGAP) to purchase eight solar-powered stop signs, two digital message boards – complete with trailers and hydraulic lifts, and 31 48-by-48-inch metal stop signs.

“Getting financial assistance from our parish delegation in Baton Rouge is always greatly appreciated,” President Matassa said. “But getting funding that goes directly towards making travel in Ascension Parish more safe makes it even more meaningful.”

The solar stop signs were put in locations that were either dark areas or were prone to be missed by motorists.

Parish Grants Officer Martha Collins said the message boards are three line units that will be used during hurricanes, natural disasters, and for re-routing traffic during road work.

Collins said the parish also recently received \$22,000 in grant funding from DOTD’s Louisiana Technical Assistance Program to be used for local road safety improvement projects. She said those funds were used for directional signage.

PICTURE CUTLINES



SIGN 1 – Ascension Parish Department of Public Works employees Curtis Ross (left) and Manuel Oubre tighten a new bracket on a solar-powered stop sign they installed recently at the corner of Ridgewood Avenue and Duplessis Road in Prairieville. The signs are made more visible by red flashing lights powered by the solar cell at the top of the sign.



SIGN 2 – Greg Berthelot, supervisor with the Ascension Parish Department of Public Works inspects one of two new digital message boards the parish received recently. The boards will be used during times of emergency, and for re-routing traffic during road work, officials said.