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## **Allendale Strong Opportunities for Inclusion in the One Shreveport Master Plan Update** (9.12.2024)

***String of Pearls...*** A citywide concept to connect attractions and neighborhoods with linear parks along waterways in Shreveport, from SUSLa on the north side to LSUS on the south side. This is a multi-generational project. The waterways include Cross Bayou, Twelve Mile Bayou, Red River, and other bayous within the city. There are a number of linear park segments along waterways that already exist: the 10-mile linear park along the Red River, RiverView Park, Coates Bluff nature area, the “Duck Park” along East Kings Highway (Old RR oxbow), Bickham Dickson Park, Bayou Pierre linear park segments, ... The String of Pearls concept invests in places-connecting parks and green spaces to create a citywide system for pedestrians to experience the beauty of Shreveport. One new investment proposed by Allendale Strong:

***SWEPCO Park as a pearl on the String...*** Expand the park to Cross Bayou to connect to a linear park along the bayou. Improvements to existing park include a pavilion, playground, and appropriate commemoration of Fort Albert Sydney Johnson that was located in the existing park. Expand the park to the bayou as a nature area.

### ***Friendship House Area Collaborations as a catalyst and template for renewing neighborhoods – Learning from the Allendale Experience, doing it again, and doing it better...***

Embracing Strong Towns concepts for small incremental development combined with the Community Renewal Village Framework... Collaborations for growing local citizen and community relational capacities and ownership.

### ***Kings Highway Corridor as a citizen led ‘unstroading’ demonstration project...***

Kings Highway between Youree Drive and I-49 can and should be unstroaded into segments that are wealth-building streets and segments that are place connecting roads. Engaging community resources in learning-doing groups, creating citizen led ‘[Street Design Teams](#),’ evaluating 2 of the top 6 most dangerous intersections in [Crash Analysis Studio](#), and aligning partners are among the collaborative actions for revitalizing this historically important corridor.

## ***Allendale Strong Collaboration Proposals to address critical planning issues for Shreveport's future...***

### 1. ***Shift from a city hollowing out by driving more to a city growing in by driving less...***

Transportation planning technical methods and justifications have developed based upon the assumption that driving more, driving farther, and driving faster produces positive outcomes that justify continual capacity expansions while ignoring maintenance. This flawed technical assumption works against citizen value assumptions about placemaking and well-being that are reflected in the citizen-driven Great Expectations 2030 master plan. The transportation plan gets funded, the master plan does not get funded. The impacts of building a city to increasingly drive more, faster, and farther makes the master plan frustratingly irrelevant and harms the city socially, economically and environmentally. *Replace transportation planning assumptions with citizen value assumptions.*

### 2. ***Reconnect land use and transportation planning in ways that prioritize citizen and community well-being values...***

Seventy years ago Shreveport intentionally disconnected land use and transportation planning. In the 1950's this change in how cities grow was a new and untested idea based upon unproven promises of autocentric living. This new approach has produced a sprawling infrastructure that set in motion what we now know as the '[Growth Ponzi Scheme](#)' that has created an illusion of wealth by ignoring accruing maintenance costs that are now beyond cities' financial capacities. It is a complex problem we can no longer ignore, despite the desires of the powerful highway industrial complex that uses their influence to continue profiting from a system that has failed.

### 3. ***Engage citizens in meaningful Learning-Doing opportunities to holistically co-***

***create solutions to problems generated by current growth pattern realities...*** Current public processes treat citizens as consumers, not as citizens being empowered to create their shared future through the planning process. Allendale Strong is an example of citizens forming a learning-doing group. Learning from their experience and encouraging more groups like AS could grow citizen relational capacities to implement the plan that they co-create. ***Public engagement goal... Create a communitywide Culture of Collaboration across the city by using the Strategic Doing discipline.***