

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CADDO PARISH COMMISSION'S
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON THE 18TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2025

The Caddo Parish Economic Development Committee met in legal session on the above date at 2:00 p.m. in the Government Plaza Chambers, with the following members were present constituting a quorum: Commissioners Atkins, Burrell, Cothran, Gage-Watts, Lazarus, Thomas, G. Young, and J. Young (8). ABSENT: None (0).

The invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were administered during a previous committee meeting. There were no Agenda Additions nor Public Comments, so the Committee moved to New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

- *Presentation, discussion, and recommendation related to the advancement and extension of the economic impact of the G-Unit Studios in Caddo Parish.*

Mr. Orville Hall, G-Unit Growth Advisor, came before the Committee and presented the plan to revitalize downtown Shreveport, leveraging G-Unit Studios as a tourist attraction and economic driver. The plan includes redeveloping properties, attracting entertainment, and fostering collaboration among various stakeholders to make Shreveport a premier destination.

Curtis Jackson (50 Cent) envisions Shreveport as a major tourist destination, drawing inspiration from Atlanta's Tyler Perry Studios and HGTV's impact on Waco, Texas. G-Unit aims to revitalize downtown Shreveport by redeveloping key properties, attracting entertainment, and creating a safe and appealing environment for visitors and residents. The project emphasizes collaboration with local organizations, government entities, and community members to achieve sustainable economic growth and improve Caddo's image

Committee members highlighted Shreveport's rich music history, the importance of youth programs, and the need for regional cooperation to achieve economic growth. Mr. Hall emphasized the importance of inclusion, communication, and working within the existing system to effect positive change and make Caddo Parish a shining light for the world.

Mrs. Gage-Watts wanted to know when the next Humor & Harmony Festival is planned. Mr. Hall said that it is scheduled for 2026, and they anticipate an even bigger success than the first one.

Mr. Hall talked about a permanent "dome" where the inflatable one was for the Humor & Harmony Festival. He mentioned that it would also be a park with green areas surrounding the structure.

Mr. G. Young suggested touring all of Caddo Parish, not just Shreveport, to see the hidden gems of Caddo Parish.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:07 p.m.



Michelle Nations
Assistant to the Commission Clerk