

April 28, 2025

**City Council Members**

City of Natchitoches  
P.O. Box 37  
Natchitoches, LA 71458-0037

**Subject: Formal Opposition to Ordinance NO. 012 of 2025, Relocating Main Street from Finance Department to Community Development**

Dear Members of the City Council,

With the recent conversations concerning the transition of the Main Street program under the oversight of Community Development and upon the advice of legal counsel, Allison Jones of Downer, Jones, Marino & Wilhite, L.L.C., we, the undersigned, are compelled to bring to your attention a series of serious and ongoing concerns regarding the operations, conduct, and management within the Community Development Department/Events Center. These concerns include the resignation or departure of at least ten staff members since Fall of 2024 to date, majority citing similar issues identified below which they rationally believe may violate federal and state laws:

- Allegations of harassment and the fostering of a hostile work environment
- Potential violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act
- Incidents of defamation of character

We respectfully submit this letter to formally request a thorough and impartial investigation into the current City of Natchitoches Community Development Director and operations.

Due to the gravity of these matters, we strongly recommend the following:

1. **A formal and independent investigation** into the written and verbal complaints submitted to the City of Natchitoches and discussed with Mayor Ronnie Williams, Jr. pertaining to the aforementioned issues taken place at Community Development under the leadership of Director Shanna LeBrum.
2. **A review and reconsideration of the current administrative structure** of the Community Development Department, with the recommendation to not transition Main Street to said department's oversight until the investigation is complete and appropriate actions are taken.

These issues have caused considerable distress among former employees and have had a detrimental effect on the professional environment and operations of community-related programs and services, undermining public trust and departmental effectiveness. For the sake of transparency, fairness, and the future integrity of our local government departments, we urge you to take immediate and appropriate action.

Thank you for your time and prompt attention to this matter. We trust that you will act with integrity and due diligence in addressing these concerns.

Sincerely,



Stacey Lawrence (Apr 27, 2025 20:41 CDT)

Stacey Lawrence

27/04/2025



Brian Jones (Apr 28, 2025 13:44 CDT)

Brian Jones

28/04/2025



Joseph Jones (Apr 27, 2025 21:30 CDT)

Joseph Jones

27/04/2025



Matthew Dillon (Apr 28, 2025 14:13 CDT)

Matthew Dillon

28/04/2025

*Amy Metoyer-Roberson*

Amy Metoyer-Roberson

27/04/2025



Alicia Christophe (Apr 27, 2025 20:22 CDT)

Alicia Christophe

27/04/2025



Valerie Balthazar (Apr 27, 2025 21:11 CDT)

Valerie Balthazar

27/04/2025