



CENTER *for* PLANNING EXCELLENCE  
2022 ANNUAL REPORT

## MISSION

CPEX brings people, culture, and planning together to make great communities happen. CPEX works to address climate, health, and equity through planning, policy, and community engagement.

## VISION

CPEX is working to shape a future for Louisiana that provides opportunities for all residents to thrive in safe, healthy, and resilient towns and cities that are economically strong and sustainable.



## NOTABLE 2022 IMPACTS

### SECURING A CLIMATE RESILIENT FUTURE

CPEX conducted a **Resilient Infrastructure Workshop** for Governor Edwards and key agency staff to prepare Louisiana to capitalize on the nearly \$700 billion available from the IIJA and IRA bills.

In partnership with Louisiana's Chief Resilience Officer, CPEX's **Adaptive Governance Initiative** has helped state agencies identify and take action to address vulnerabilities to climate change.

Working with the Division of Administration, CPEX has achieved a long-standing goal: helping to establish an **Office of State Planning** to facilitate comprehensive planning across state government and support community planning at the local level.

### PLANNING FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

CPEX partnered with the City of Gonzales to develop a **Climate Action and Resilience Plan** – the second in the state – to increase its resilience, reduce carbon emissions, and improve health outcomes for residents.

CPEX worked with the Louisiana Department of Health and the City of Marksville to create "**Get Marksville Moving: An Action Plan for Improving Mobility and Health**," providing guidance on changes to the built environment that support healthy choices.

CPEX led a resident-driven visioning process that resulted in a **comprehensive plan and implementation strategy for St. Charles Parish** to direct growth and meet residents' current and future needs.

CPEX continued our partnership with the LSU AgCenter, working in rural parishes to create and implement **Complete Streets Action Plans** to increase connectivity, create options for active transportation, and enhance parks and green spaces.

### POLICIES THAT DRIVE PROGRESS

With support from the American Heart Association, CPEX is working with the East Baton Rouge City-Parish and local advocates to **strengthen its complete streets policy** to better address health, equity, and performance.

CPEX worked with the Louisiana Department of Health to help the City of Bunkie to adopt a **Complete Streets Policy** and implement two priority projects: a **parklet program** that will transform blighted vacant lots into neighborhood destinations and a **walking tour** that will highlight Bunkie's unique history and cultural assets.

CPEX and the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources partnered to develop a **Model Solar Toolkit**. Tailored to the specific needs of Louisiana communities, this resource will provide a process for communities to identify local goals around alternative energy and model ordinance language to both encourage and regulate placement of solar energy systems.

### ENGAGING PEOPLE & COMMUNITIES

In continued partnership with the Scotlandville community and the Huey and Angelina Wilson Foundation, CPEX hosted community events to help residents access free federal resources for weatherizing their homes, which **helped 192 households improve the efficiency, comfort, and value of their homes**.

The **17th annual Smart Growth Summit drew over 300 hundred participants** who came to learn, engage, and be inspired to tackle the challenges of climate change, health, and equity in Louisiana and seize new opportunities to build resilient futures for our people and communities.



## LOOKING AHEAD

**This is a pivotal time to be in the planning arena. We know that Louisiana's future will be impacted by the realities of climate change, economic shifts, and growing disparities. New federal funding programs present transformative opportunities to address these challenges and build climate resilience, improve quality of life, and create new, more equitable opportunities for our residents and communities.**

In the coming year, CPEX will continue to work with the state government to implement the climate action plan and build capacity to support planning and development of offshore wind and solar power. We are also excited to share that CPEX is launching a statewide initiative we're calling "Power Up Louisiana" that will engage legislators in peer-to-peer learning opportunities to help them better understand the wealth of opportunity surrounding renewable energy in Louisiana and bring tools and resources to local governments seeking to increase their resilience through implementation of community solar and microgrids.

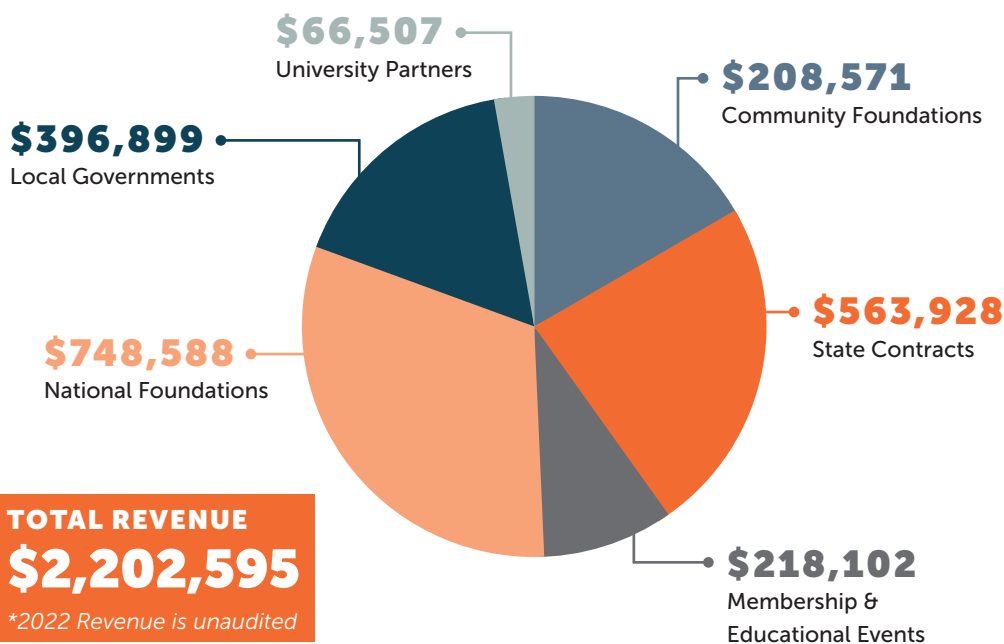
We will continue our work at the community level by providing new and ongoing planning support to rural, urban, and coastal communities across south Louisiana as they navigate intersecting challenges of economy, climate, and equity, and continuing partnerships with the LSU AgCenter and the Louisiana Department of Health to help high-need parishes in rural areas develop healthier environments.

This work, alongside our climate adaptation initiatives, is foundational to our ability to achieve climate resilience, healthy communities, and equitable prosperity in Louisiana.



## FINANCIALS

**Our strong financial position is the result of a diversified business model that includes mission-driven consulting revenue, grant funding, event sponsorships, and membership support.**



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# 2022 MEMBERS

CPEX Members share our commitment to planning for a better future and our vision for a healthy, resilient, and equitable Louisiana. Member support empowers CPEX to take bold steps towards transformative change in Louisiana.

## \$25,000+

Cordell and Ava Haymon ●◆ The Power Coalition ●

## \$10,000+

John A. Thomas and Elizabeth F. Thomas ●◆

## \$5,000+

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## KEY

● Visionary Circle Member ● Corporate Partner ◆ 10+ Year Member

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 The Kresge Foundation  
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