



ELLEVATE

LOUISIANA

2026 Policy Positions

Environment & Infrastructure

Coastal Protection, Restoration, & Flood Protection

Louisiana's coast is disappearing at one of the fastest rates in the world, threatening ecosystems, communities, and the state's economy. Ellevate supports maintaining the integrity of the Coastal Master Plan and ensuring restoration decisions remain grounded in science and long-term resilience. We advocate for increased transparency and accountability in coastal spending, including clear reporting of project budgets, expenditures, and outcomes to ensure that restoration funds are used effectively and maintain public trust.

It is also crucial that the non-federal flood authorities responsible for the operation and maintenance of the HSDRRS pump stations and levees that protect the greater New Orleans area from hurricanes are governed by board members qualified with appropriate technical expertise. These systems require informed, science-based oversight to ensure their continued effectiveness. Additionally, millage funds should be responsibly allocated toward regular levee lifts and ongoing maintenance, which are essential to strengthening the system and maintaining federal certification.

Utility Transparency & Consumer Protection

Reliable utilities are essential to Louisiana's economy and quality of life, and this reliance requires trust and good-faith operations by providers. The state should reinforce that trust through strong oversight, transparency, and clear accountability measures. As major economic development investments come to Louisiana, individual ratepayers should not bear the costs of infrastructure built primarily to support private development. Louisiana welcomes new economic opportunities, but policies should ensure that ratepayers remain protected and that costs are allocated fairly.



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Resilient Housing Development

Facing increasing storm severity and sky-high insurance premiums, resilient homebuilding and fortification are critical to the future of life in Louisiana. Ellevate supports expanding affordable access to wind mitigation studies, maintaining strong building standards and other resilience measures that help homeowners better withstand severe weather. Strengthening building practices and supporting programs that help offset the cost of fortification can mitigate long-term disaster losses, stabilize insurance markets, and protect Louisiana families and communities.

Broadband Access & Expansion

Reliable broadband access is essential for economic development, education, healthcare, and quality of life across Louisiana. Ellevate supports policies that expand broadband access while ensuring transparency, accountability, and consumer protections in broadband programs. Oversight mechanisms should ensure that publicly funded broadband investments deliver reliable service, clear pricing, and equitable access for rural and underserved communities.

Infrastructure Improvement & Development

Ellevate Louisiana supports the improvement and expansion of our state's infrastructure network, including ports, rail, roads, utilities, and site readiness needed to attract and sustain economic development. These systems are essential levers of commerce and should remain a priority for the state, as trade is the lifeblood of Louisiana's economy. However, infrastructure initiatives must be paired with sustainable funding and project delivery. The state should ensure that new programs and requirements are not unfunded mandates and that projects identified as priorities are supported with the resources necessary to complete them.