**STATEMENT ON COVID-19**

**March 27, 2020**

The COVID-19 virus has presented our city, state and nation with some unique challenges. However, the City-Parish and MOVEBR Program Management Team are committed to keeping you informed and engaged throughout this crisis. This pandemic has altered how individuals communicate and has impacted how our government, schools, and businesses operate and function.

As each of us evaluates how we navigate during this time, the MOVEBR Program Management Team continues to fulfill the vision of being the industry standard of excellence in delivering transportation solutions that will move our region in a safe and sustainable manner. The Program Management Team is working remotely to ensure the deliverables of this program are achieved. Local government functions as a key stakeholder in our economy and the City-Parish desires to keep the MOVEBR Program on schedule to the best extent possible. However, in the interim, all in-person public meetings are suspended which has delayed the release of additional Request for Qualifications (RFQs). A decision will be made soon on resuming this process and how best to facilitate it.

The Small Business Outreach (SBO) Team continues its efforts to empower and inform small, minority, women, and veteran owned companies. During this season, should one of these businesses need additional support to do business with the MOVEBR Program, please do not hesitate to contact Tyra Banks at tyra@metromorphosis.net. We are currently planning to continue our trainings and engagement opportunities via digital platforms. During this time, please ensure you have registered with [Vendor Self Service](https://selfservice.brla.gov/MSS/Vendors/default.aspx), as well as submitted your company information via the [Engineering and Specialty Services Interest Form](https://movebr.brla.gov/form/engineering-and-specialty-service-interest) for consideration of direct appointments and signed up via the [MOVEBR website](https://movebr.brla.gov/form/contact-us) to receive updates.

Throughout this pandemic we remain committed to the work of further enhancing strong neighborhoods, communities, and the economic vitality for all residents of East Baton Rouge Parish through the deliverables of the MOVEBR Program. There has never been a more critical time to effectively communicate and engage with internal and external stakeholders. The City-Parish and MOVER Program Management Team remain committed to serving during these uncertain times.