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\$2.73 BILLION IN STIMULUS FUNDS POUR INTO LOUISIANA

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City and parish governments in Louisiana, along with universities, nonprofits, private companies, and other organizations in the state received a total of \$2.73 billion from the \$787 billion stimulus package passed in February 2009. The top three awards were made to departments of the State of Louisiana: Transportation and Development (\$411.4 million); Treasury (\$367.4 million); Natural Resources (\$93.7 million). The other two top award recipients were Louisiana Board of Regents (\$80.6 million) and City of New Orleans (\$51.2 million). All information reported here was taken directly from *Recovery.gov*.

In addition to the \$80.6 million award made to the Board of Regents, Louisiana colleges and universities received the following awards. This listing is comprehensive.

LSU	\$ 44,198,065
Tulane	34,016,362
Louisiana Tech	9,241,220
Southern A&M	8,733,621
McNeese	5,811,092
Southern Shreveport	5,554,015
LA Technical College	4,859,040
Xavier	4,141,682
Southern New Orleans	2,303,933
Baton Rouge CC	2,147,491
Southern System	2,019,771
Dillard	1,376,306
ULL	1,282,955
South Louisiana CC	1,234,933
Elaine P. Nunez CC	807,766
UNO	794,262
ULM	786,135
Loyola	326,130
Our Lady of the Lake	270,854
UNO Research & Tech Fdn	226,436
Southeastern	211,946
Board of Supervisors LSU	203,409
Grambling	177,028
Delgado CC	87,321
Northwestern	50,359
Nicholls	40,009
TOTAL (inc Bd of Regents)	\$211,498,556

The combined awards to LSU and Tulane do not match the \$203.6 million awarded to the University of Michigan. Even so, this \$211.5 million funding hole is one that the State legislature currently is struggling to backfill in order to get to a balanced budget.

The following listing is representative of the many other Louisiana organizations getting stimulus funds. It is not a comprehensive listing, excluding as it does local governments such as Crowley, Ball, Gramercy, Epps, and many others with stimulus awards.

Jefferson Parish School Board	\$ 38,960,087
Monroe Regional Airport	30,000,000
Monroe City Schools	9,321,306
ASI Credit Union	2,000,000
Sherman Shaw Jr. Trust	1,704,960
Lower 9 th Ward Neighborhood Empowerment Network Assn	1,700,000
YWCA	1,085,657
Michael Baker Jr. Inc	1,016,900
Cardinal Towing	945,500 *
Children's Hospital	871,750
Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana	231,262
Louisiana State Arts Council	208,000
ACSA Harriet Tubman	161,963
Arcadiana Symphony Association	60,000
Thelonius Monk Institute of Jazz	50,000
New Orleans Ballet Association	50,000
Little Theatre of Monroe	28,000
Opera Louisiane	5,000

* This award appears to be incorrectly assigned to Louisiana. Cardinal Towing, which is headquartered in St. Charles, Missouri, is listed as getting a sub-award under the award to Healthon, Inc. for jetty stone placement in Port Fourchon. Healthon reports an address on St. Charles Avenue in New Orleans. Additionally, the project location of the Cardinal Towing award is Paducah, Kentucky. Mayo Research Institute has reported this apparent error to *Recovery.gov*.

What these two listings demonstrate is that Louisianans who pride themselves on being conservative and advocates of limited federal government are easily enticed to put their convictions aside and take the monies that come from Washington. They seem oblivious that their own children and grandchildren year after year will have to pay interest on the monies borrowed by the U. S. Treasury that made the stimulus funds available.

The News-Star newspaper in Monroe reports that Monroe City Schools will end the 2009-2010 budget year with an \$11.5 million projected surplus based on information from the MCS business manager. How does this surplus square with the \$9.3 million stimulus award? Has MCS not yet received all of the stimulus monies awarded (*Recovery.gov* does not tell us)? Are the stimulus funds being used to cover operating expenses? Are they being set aside in cash reserves as protection against what the MCS business manager characterizes as the leaner times ahead. Are the stimulus monies momentarily bailing out a school system that finds its financial base rapidly deteriorating?

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