



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
New Orleans District

Project Fact Sheet

Official Project Name

PAS - Tunica - Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana Master Plan

Location

The project is located at the Tunica - Biloxi Indian Reservation Property in Marksville, Louisiana.

Purpose

The purpose of this study is to develop a new Master Plan to guide future development of the reservation property in Marksville.

Background

The Master Plan for the Tunica-Biloxi Indian Reservation is intended to guide the patterns and extent of development on the reservation for the next twenty years. The concepts and development proposed in a previous Master Plan prepared some twenty years ago have largely been realized. Many of the goals set at that time have been met.

The current study reflects the goals and visions for the future as expressed by many of the Tribal Members in interviews conducted during the fall of 2002. These ideals have been considered in the context of good land use and environmental planning criteria and, where appropriate, have been made a part of the recommended Master Plan.

This study illustrates the continued commitment of the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe to maintain development upon the reservation within the guidelines of a unified development plan. Upon Federal recognition as a tribe, the Tunica-Biloxi began securing funds for improvements to the reservation. They recognized the need for a Master Plan to identify where best to locate infrastructure and facilities. In 1984, funding was secured for preparation of a Master Plan to guide development on the reservation. Since its completion, many of the original Master Plan's elements have been achieved. Recent changes, most notably the construction and operation of a tribal casino and adjoining hotel, dictate the reevaluation and prioritization of short-term and long-term goals. A major focus of the current plan is on the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe's long held goal of self-sufficiency and economic independence.

Authority

Section 22 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1974 provides authority for the Corps of Engineers to assist the states, local governments, and other non-Federal entities in the preparation of comprehensive plans for the development, utilization and conservation of water and related land resources. Section 208 of WRDA of 1992 amended the WRD of 1974 to include federally recognized Native American Tribes as equivalent to a state.

Scope

The scope of the master plan is to reflect the ideas and ideals of the Tribal Members while being in accord with good planning guidelines.

Progress to Date

The Tunica - Biloxi Reservation Master Plan was completed on June 22, 2005.

Partners/Sponsors

Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana (www.tunica.org)