



# Report Highlights

## Lafayette Consolidated Government

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### Why We Conducted This Audit

The Louisiana Legislative Auditor initiated this audit to determine the validity of complaints we received regarding Lafayette Consolidated Government's (LCG) use of public assets and funds.

### What We Found

#### Unauthorized Public Spending and Permit Failures

In February 2022, the LCG undertook a public works project involving the removal of a spoil bank originally constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in the 1950s. The spoil bank was located on the St. Martin Parish side of the Vermilion River and was excavated and reconstructed on the Lafayette Parish side, allegedly for flood mitigation purposes. Our investigative audit determined that LCG executed this project without securing the required legal authority, land rights, or permits — raising significant legal, regulatory, and intergovernmental concerns. Specifically, LCG expended public funds outside of its jurisdiction without a joint service agreement or cooperative endeavor agreement, as required by its Home Rule Charter and Louisiana law; performed work on land that LCG did not fully own, without documented consent from a known co-owner; failed to obtain a local permit from St. Martin Parish; withdrew its federal permit application from USACE but proceeded with the project regardless. These actions potentially violated LCG's charter, a St. Martin Parish ordinance, and multiple provisions of state and federal law.

View the full report, including management's responses, at [www.la.la.gov](http://www.la.la.gov).