



# St. George Leader

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Welcome to New City of St. George (pop. 86,000)

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# St. George Votes Yes!

**Woody Jenkins**  
Editor

**ST. GEORGE** - Voters in the southeast part of East Baton Rouge Parish went to the polls in near record numbers on Saturday, Oct. 12 and gave a resounding 'Yes' to a proposal to create the new City of St. George. A total of 32,285 voters cast their ballots and gave a 54-46 victory to incorporation. For volunteers who have dedicated years of their lives to build public support to create a new city, it was a time of joy and celebration.

The returns have been certified, and the volunteers who made it possible are organizing committees to plan all aspects of creating a new city government. The public is awaiting a decision by the governor on who he will appoint as the interim Mayor, Council, and Police Chief.

Opponents of incorporation, including Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome, have threatened to file suit to stop the incorporation. However, such a suit is not expected to stop the incorporation process from moving forward



Photo by Stacy Hudson

**A JOYOUS VICTORY** — Local realtor and former school board member Jim Talbot celebrates victory for City of St. George at City Café on George O'Neal Road in the newly-created City of St. George. Volunteers like Talbot donated their time for the past six years to build support for creating the City of St. George. With a population of 86,000 people, it will be the 5th largest city in the state.

**FOR 17,421 • AGAINST 14,864**

## Historic Victory for Self-Determination



Photo by Woody Jenkins

**CELEBRATING AN HISTORIC VICTORY** — Leaders of the St. George incorporation movement and volunteers celebrated on election night Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019, when voters approved the incorporation of the City of St. George by a 54-46 margin. Shown (1st row, left to right) are Nancy and Chris Rials, Joshua Hoffpauir, attorney Sheri Morris, St. George incorporator Norman Browning, Lorraine Beaman, Lisa Walton, Stacy and Dwight Hudson, Patty Cook, and Montez LeGrande. (2nd row) Trey Cook, Dustin Yates, Lee West, Pam Doran, Allen Beaman, Henry Grace, and Rebekah Gibson. (3rd row) Glenn Kelley, Tommy Doran, and Dr. Lewis Richerson. (4th row) Donnie Walton, Matthew and Abigail Gibson, and Clay LeGrande.