

Monique Blanco Boulet **Mayor-President of Lafayette City-Parish Consolidated Government**



Monique Boulet was sworn in in a public inauguration ceremony on January 3, 2024, as the first female Mayor of Lafayette and the first female President of Lafayette Parish.

Boulet served as the Chief Executive Officer for the Acadiana Planning Commission, APC. She led the U.S. EDA Economic Development District federal designation of Louisiana Planning District 4 with the creation of APC in 2015 and the federal EDD designation following in 2017. She led the 7-parish planning district, the 6-parish MPO, the 9-parish Opportunity Zone initiative, the 16-parish Louisiana Watershed Region 5 Initiative, the Acadiana Fiber-to-the-Home Initiative, and the FHWA/DOTD/MPO I-49 Connector mega project.

Boulet is known for her ability to solve complex problems with public and private collaboration crossing political and economic boundaries. In 2016, Boulet was selected by the National Organizations of Development Organizations to participate in the US Economic Development Administration Emerging Leaders Program, working with peers from throughout the U.S. Following the Louisiana Flood events of 2016, under Boulet's leadership Acadiana became a federal and state "Best Practice" example for regional watershed planning and implementation. In 2017, Acadiana received the first regional mitigation award of \$25 million focused on flooding. This work was recognized in the Fourth National Climate Assessment (NCA4) presented to the President and mandated by Congress. In July 2019, USDA funded APC to conduct a comprehensive assessment of existing broadband facilities and infrastructure needed to support future broadband expansion in eligible rural communities in the APC region. She now leads the Acadiana Rural Fiber-to-the-Home Initiative.

Before working in regional government, Boulet worked in the private sector in a start-up oil field service company, specializing in strategic business planning, advertising, and marketing. Monique and her husband David are celebrating 30 years of marriage this year. Her daughter works for Schlumberger, her middle children are studying for careers in the energy sector, and her youngest son is a cadet at West Point. She earned her Executive MBA from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and is the daughter of Louisiana's only woman governor, the late Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, and the late Raymond "Coach" Blanco. Monique was born and raised in Acadiana. She is proud and passionate about Lafayette!