



For Immediate Release: Thursday, December 17, 2020

Contact: Jolie Bernard, 985.590.0700 jbernard@sttammanycorp.org www.sttammanycorp.org

## St. Tammany Corporation Releases New Quarterly Economic Report

Key metrics show signs of a slow economic recovery nationally and locally

MANDEVILLE, La – Today, Chris Masingill, CEO of St. Tammany Corporation, announced the latest release of the organization's digital research publication, *The AnalyST*, presented as a Quarterly Economic Trends Report. *The AnalyST* is a curated collection of economic indicators designed to interpret our regional and national economies and the interconnectivity with St. Tammany Parish.

The Economic Trends Report, combined with the December edition of *Snapshot*: Impacts of COVID-19, focuses on the third quarter of 2020, a time when St. Tammany's economic and health landscape was and continues to be impacted by a global pandemic and economic recession.

"Benchmarking the impacts of the pandemic and understanding how those impacts evolve over the course of time is crucial to making fact-based and data-driven decisions. The information featured in this edition of *The AnalyST* emphasizes the impacts to our labor force and highlights an increase in new business formation," said Masingill.

This publication, led by St. Tammany Corporation's Research Analyst Elizabeth Lee, covers a range of St. Tammany-focused indicators in topics including new business formations, new commercial and residential construction, and housing, plus national economic indicators such as consumer price index and GDP.

Key indicators such as unemployment rate, weekly unemployment claims, and job postings show that the economic damage due to the pandemic has waned, but recovery continues to be a process as jobs are slow to return to the economy: only 765 people in St. Tammany were able to return to work from September to October, while the labor force is still down more than 5,000 people from the same time last year. During the third quarter of the year, key metrics also seem to indicate the national economy slowly recovering, including GDP, consumer price index, and industry-specific indexes.

This publication will be housed with others like it on St. Tammany's innovative website, <u>www.sttammanystats.com</u>, a platform focused specifically on telling the story of St. Tammany through analysis of its economic characteristics. Through its suite of data publications, St. Tammany Corporation continues to prioritize its mission of being economic truth-tellers and providing meaningful, thoughtful analysis that lays the groundwork for transformational, results-driven economic development.

Masingill added, "Tracking and understanding economic trends is important for economic developers, public officials, business professionals, and other users who want to engage with information that

determines how to make the best possible decisions for St. Tammany to thrive. Through these initiatives, each day we are working to achieve our vision of strategically aligning the economic landscape of St. Tammany to be the destination of choice for highly skilled talent and business formation, expansion and retention."

## ###

**About St. Tammany Corporation:** As the lead economic development organization for St. Tammany, the St. Tammany Corporation functions as the comprehensive resource center for business services throughout the parish. The services provided by the St. Tammany Corporation include, but are not limited to, business retention, site selection, workforce development, research and data services, state and local incentives, business attraction, talent retention, certified site development, relocation support, and marketing St. Tammany.