



Myths and Facts about Sasol and Mossville

We're not in the habit of responding to every criticism; in fact, we welcome constructive criticism. But when accusations are made against us that are egregiously false and misleading, it's our duty to set the record straight. Below are some falsehoods that have been spread about Sasol's engagement with Mossville, along with the truth.

Myth: Sasol's Voluntary Property Purchase Program forced Mossville residents to move to make room for its new facility.

Fact: The property in Sasol's Voluntary Property Purchase Program (VPPP) area is land that Sasol neither needs nor wants. The Voluntary Property Purchase Program was just that – voluntary. No one in the VPPP area was forced to move; in fact, many chose to stay. Sasol instituted the VPPP to give our near neighbors choices – choices they asked for.

Myth: Sasol undervalued Mossville properties.

Fact: The VPPP offered prices well above market value. Independent appraisers evaluated the properties and established fair prices by comparing the homes to recent sales in high-value areas of Calcasieu Parish. Offers on owner-occupied homes typically amounted to the appraised value of the property plus 60 percent, with a minimum offer of \$100,000 plus 60 percent of the appraised value. Other allowances and bonuses were made available to help ease the burden of relocation. All that said, we realize our offers did not make everyone happy.

Myth: Most Mossville residents were unhappy with Sasol's offers for their properties.

Fact: The program's results demonstrate that owners of eligible properties embraced the VPPP. Perhaps that's because they asked for the program. They also had an opportunity to review the program and provide input prior to its launch. Many of the residents who accepted their offers described the program as "a blessing."

Myth: Sasol used heavy-handed tactics to force owners to sell.

Fact: Many Mossville residents who participated in the voluntary property purchase program would tell you just the opposite. The terms of the VPPP were easy to understand and transparent, and we made significant effort to make the process as easy as possible. Honest, open communication and ethical practices are the hallmark of our engagement with our neighbors. If anyone believes they were misled or mistreated, we are eager to speak with them and hear their concerns.



Myth: Sasol’s refusal to negotiate with VPPP participants made the process unfair.

Fact: The design of the VPPP ensured the process was fair for all participants and did not provide an advantage to those with the ability to engage someone to negotiate on their behalf. The process and formulas for determining property valuations were transparent and consistent for all properties. The same allowances and bonuses to help ease the burden of relocation were available to all participants.

Myth: Sasol is being greedy.

Fact: Sasol spent tens of millions of dollars to purchase property we neither need nor want, at prices significantly above market value. And we did this simply because our neighbors asked us to. That is precisely the opposite of greed.

Myth: Sasol received more than \$100 million from the State of Louisiana to purchase property in Mossville.

Fact: Sasol has not received any money from the State of Louisiana for property purchases. Sasol has self-funded the purchase of the VPPP properties and will continue to do so. VPPP expenditures are not reimbursable by the state.

Myth: Sasol bought the VPPP properties to establish a “buffer zone” for its project.

Fact: VPPP properties were not needed for buffer. None has been rezoned for industrial use, and Sasol has no plans to request that the properties be rezoned.

Myth: Sasol ignored the desires of the people of Mossville.

Fact: Just the opposite is true. Every program we put in place in Mossville, including the VPPP, was a direct result of listening to and responding to the desires of Mossville residents.

Myth: Sasol is tried to “greenwash” its image by paying a local museum to preserve Mossville’s history.

Fact: That accusation is a weak, cynical and desperate attempt to turn a positive story into a negative. Mossville residents, who had seen their community change over the last several decades, asked Sasol for help in preserving Mossville’s rich history. As always, our response was, “Let us see what we can do.” The result is an innovative oral history project led by the Imperial Calcasieu Museum and the world-renowned Harry T. Williams Center for Oral History at Louisiana State University. Most Mossville residents are very excited about this project and have enthusiastically participated in its oral history days. Several Mossville residents served on the project’s steering committee.



Myth: Sasol will destroy or restrict access to the historic Morning Star cemetery in Mossville.

Fact: Sasol's agreement with Calcasieu Parish requires Sasol to maintain access to all cemeteries in Mossville, and Sasol is honoring that agreement. Sasol has arranged for the cemetery to be cleaned up and maintained. Again, this was done at the request of community members.

Myth: The entire community of Mossville is displeased with Sasol.

Fact: Many, if not most, residents are pleased with what Sasol is doing in the local community, and we're regularly thanked for the positive difference we're making in the lives of local residents. The most vocal detractors were a small handful of property owners who wanted more money for their properties than the Voluntary Property Purchase Program design allowed and mistakenly believed that spreading falsehoods about Sasol would help them achieve their objectives. This small group falsely claimed to represent all of Mossville.

Myth: Sasol's approach in Mossville is rooted in racism against African-Americans and the apartheid past of Sasol's home country, South Africa.

Fact: That accusation is false, offensive and not constructive to productive dialogue.