



Joseph I. Giarrusso III

New Orleans City Council
District A



Friends,

The three most common complaints our office receives now involve sanitation, roadwork, and streetlights. Within the past year, those engagements have only become more frequent. In this special newsletter, I'm going to touch on updates presented to City Council within the past 2 weeks.

SANITATION UPDATE

The Administration is currently advocating for once-weekly garbage pickup service. The Department of Sanitation spoke to the Council's Public Works Committee a couple of weeks ago, updating us on the current state of collections and contracts. However, these new contracts increase the costs of sanitation service without increasing the services themselves. There are remaining questions on why the costs of these contracts is still rising, as covered in [The Advocate](#). Therefore, this Council does not currently plan to vote on these new contracts.

Service Area 1, which covers the rest of District A, is no stranger to missed collections. Sanitation issued a performance letter to Richard's Disposal (RDI) in July, but service disruption continues. This is a quality-of-life issue and, obviously, needs to be remedied immediately.

Service Area 1 Missed Collection Complaints



- As of August 15th, Richard's Disposal (RDI) missed collection complaints for 2022 have already surpassed elevated 2021 levels.



You can download Sanitation's presentation at this link. You can watch the full meeting here.

ROADWORK

The Department of Public Works (DPW) explained the current state of roadwork across the city at our August Public Works committee meeting. Almost every single neighborhood in District A is affected by stalled work, with some projects extended more than six months. The earlier DPW policy prioritized street repair quantity over quality. The Administration is trying to fix those issues now on the back end, but delays nonetheless continue. Below is merely an illustrative and certainly not an exhaustive summary of roadwork issues, just in District A. There are also multiple pain points in Lakeview and Mid-City, and we're asking for updates similar to those shown below.

The Marleyville/Fountainbleau project has been extended by 237 days, simply to add 2 blocks to the project. That's nearly 3 years of continuously undrivable streets with \$3.5 million in add-ons.

Update on RR116 Marlyville-Fontainebleau Group A

Project Team:

- Construction: Hard Rock Construction, LLC
- A/E / Construction Administration: Schrenk, Erdon, & Flanagan L.L.C.
- City Project Manager: Katie Ramon
- SWBNO Construction Manager: Renée Kendrick
- Outreach Specialist: Tiffany Williams

Notice to Proceed for Construction: June 21, 2021

Original Duration of Contract: 450 Working Days

Total Number of Blocks: 142

Added Scope / Days: Plan Changes added \$3.5M / 237 days

Construction Percent Complete: 33%

Anticipated Completion: Spring 2024

Biggest Challenges: Added scope. Subsurface utility point repairs due to conditions of existing lines. Full depth roadway replacement due to existing poor base or non-millable asphalt surface. Full utility line replacements due to conditions of existing lines. Waterline tie-ins - Several failed bacteria tests & scheduling coordination issues. Time restrictions on SSERP work.



Here is another example of delayed work. Taking 305 days to fix 18 blocks is a long time and deeply impacts residents and businesses in this compact area.

Update on RR008 - Black Pearl Group B

Project Team:

- Construction: Infinity Construction
- A/E / Construction Administration: Jacobs Engineering
- City Project Manager: Lindsey Smith
- SWBNO Construction Manager: Renee Kendrick
- Outreach Manager: Lauren Muse

Notice to Proceed for Construction: 11/4/2020
Original Duration of Contract: 270 Calendar Days
Total Number of Blocks: 18
Added Scope / Days: 35 Days

Construction Percent Complete: 85%

Anticipated Completion: Winter 2022

Biggest Challenges: River levels, Hurricane Ida and two other named storms, 2 COVID-19 outbreaks, materials, water valve issues.



Uptown is also experiencing this long repair schedule.

Update on RR002 - Audubon Group B

Project Team:

- Construction: Hard Rock Construction, LLC (C&M sub-contractor)
- A/E / Construction Administration: ITS Regional, LLC
- City Project Manager: Michael Chorazak
- SWBNO Construction Manager: Martin (Chap) Munger
- Outreach Manager: Lauren Muse

Notice to Proceed for Construction: 11/11/2021
Original Duration of Contract: 365 Working Days
Total Number of Blocks: 37
Added Scope / Days: 30 days

Construction Percent Complete: 17% (billed)

Anticipated Completion: Spring 2023

Biggest Challenges: Weather, DBE compliance



Similarly, a project in Hollygrove is going to last 416 days.

Update on RR067 - Hollygrove-Leonidas Group A

Project Team:

- Construction: Wallace C. Drennan
- A/E / Construction Administration: Waggoner Engineering
- City Project Manager: Lindsey Smith
- SWBNO Construction Manager: Keiron Williams
- Outreach Manager: Chris Lloyd

Notice to Proceed for Construction: 4/6/2020
Original Duration of Contract: 240 Working Days
Total Number of Blocks: 173
Added Scope / Days: 176 Days

Construction Percent Complete: 67%

Anticipated Completion: Winter 2023

Biggest Challenges: Surcharge in the sewer system is delaying the completion point repairs and it's holding up CCTV'ing of lines that need to be verified as complete.



By comparison, the Empire State Building – which is 102 stories high -- only took 1 year and 45 days to build in the early 1930s.



You can view DPW's full presentation [at this link](#).

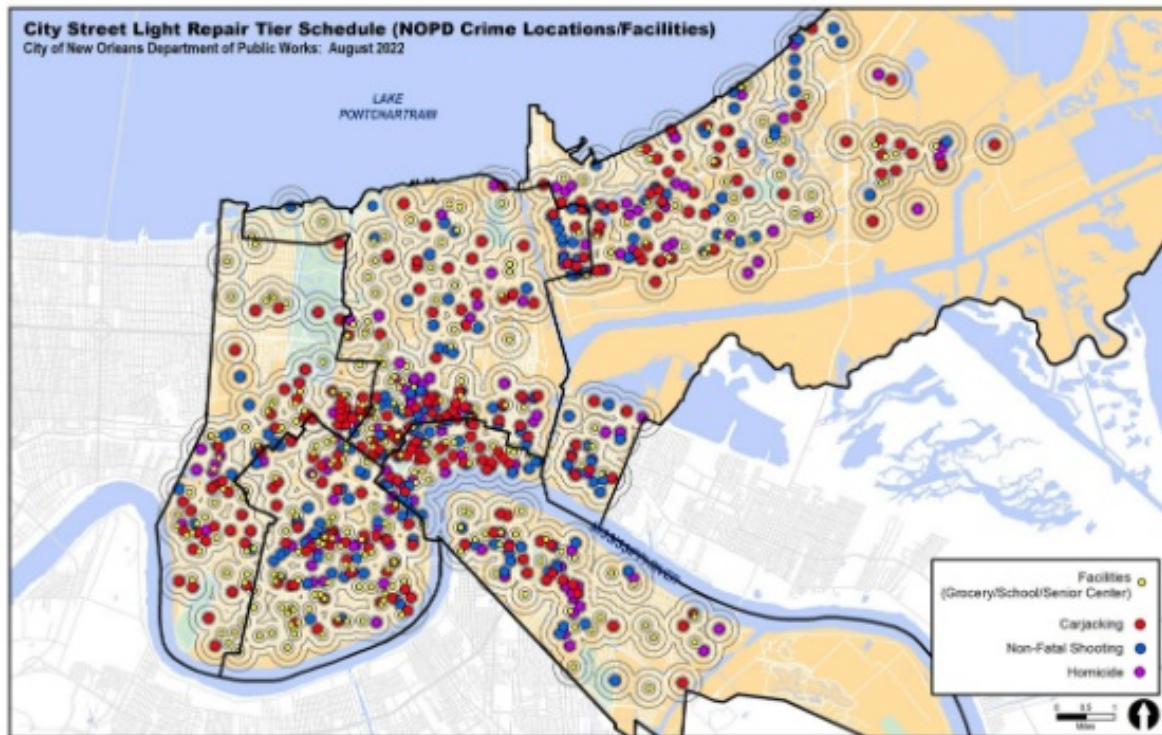
My office is currently trying to schedule a DPW/Roadworks District A community event in October. The goal is to provide residents direct, clear answers to questions about street repairs and other DPW work in their neighborhood. More information will be provided as we finalize this event.

STREETLIGHTS

DPW also discussed its plans, processes, and timelines for repair at the August Public Works Committee. Here is the City's prioritization plan for streetlights:

- Tier 1: 600 ft proximity to Population Centers (such as schools, parks, grocery stores and senior centers)
- Tier 2: 1200 ft from Population Centers
- Tier 3: Remaining 311 cases

We have been regularly reporting streetlight issues since Hurricane Ida. Our office maintains a list of streetlight issues and their status separate and apart from 311. You can see the entire list [at this link](#). Each incident has been reported to DPW, and we've asked them to provide timelines for those repairs. Maintenance crews are expected to make 80 repairs a day, with complete light restoration within 60 days.



Best,

New Orleans City Council
Joseph I. Giarrusso III — District A

