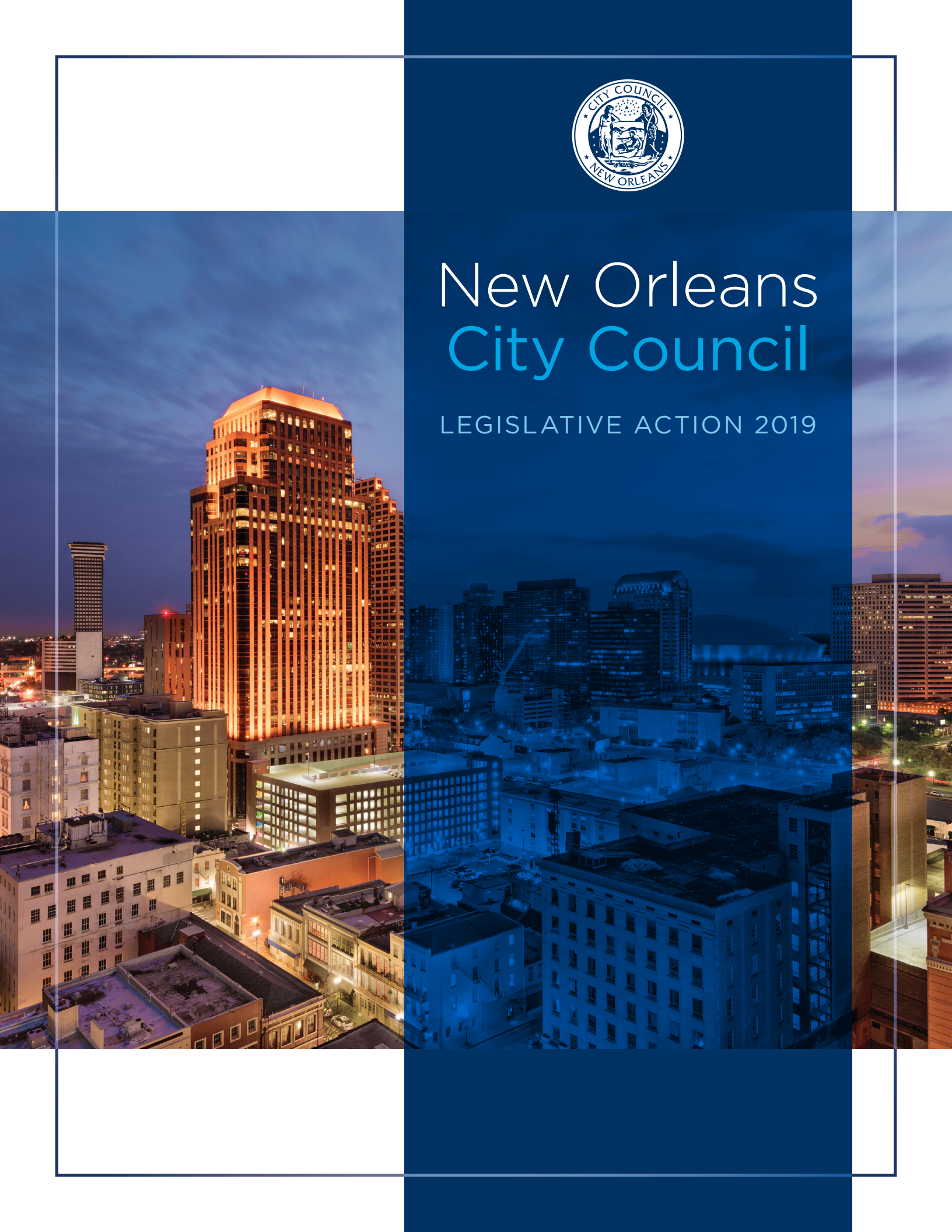




New Orleans City Council

LEGISLATIVE ACTION 2019





JASON WILLIAMS
Councilmember-At-Large



HELENA MORENO
Councilmember-At-Large



JOSEPH GIARRUSSO III
District "A" Councilmember



JAY H. BANKS
District "B" Councilmember



KRISTIN GISLESON PALMER
District "C" Councilmember



JARED BROSSETT
District "D" Councilmember



CYNDI NGUYEN
District "E" Councilmember

The New Orleans City Council

is the legislative branch of New Orleans City government. The Council considers and enacts all local laws that govern the City of New Orleans. The Council approves the operating and capital budgets for the City, as recommended by the Mayor, and continually monitors revenues and expenditures for local government operations. The Council is the regulatory body for public utilities. It also reviews and has the final say on many land use and zoning matters, as well as considers major economic development projects for the City. As the Board of Review for Orleans Parish, the Council examines appeals of property tax assessments for real estate taxes and certifies tax rolls to the Louisiana Tax Commission. Other responsibilities of the Council include overseeing the operation of public access television in Orleans Parish. Annually, the Council establishes its policy priorities for the upcoming year. The City Council is comprised of five district Councilmembers and two Councilmembers-at-large.



2019

A Letter from the New Orleans City Council

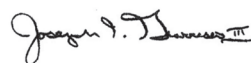
This year, we not only maintained but built upon our incredible momentum coming off our city's tricentennial celebration and the inauguration of the most diverse and representative group of councilmembers in history. 2019 was yet another historic year for this Council and the entire City of New Orleans, with several major accomplishments that significantly enhanced overall quality of life, economic opportunity, public safety, environmental resiliency, and more.

This Council continued to fight for the rights and well-being of all New Orleans citizens through increased accountability of elected officials and utility companies. Following our investigation into Entergy New Orleans last year, we authorized a rate order demanding it lower citywide rates for customers and commit to sustainable pathways towards a cleaner energy future, in addition to a \$1 million fine to address long-running system reliability problems responsible for numerous electric outages between 2014 through 2017 that severely impacted tens of thousands of residents, businesses and visitors. We also held regular meetings with Sewerage and Water Board (S&WB) officials to review and critique the agency's performance during major flood events to minimize the impacts of flooding and improve our aging underground infrastructure.

We made significant strides in the areas of public safety, specifically in our initiatives to support victims of domestic violence and juvenile offenders. We called upon the District Attorney's Office to end the heinous practice of jailing victims of domestic violence and sexual assault as a means of compelling them to testify, approved the establishment of new programming and facilities to serve as alternatives to jail for local youth facing criminal charges and allocated an unprecedented amount of funding for early childhood education and domestic violence prevention in the 2020 City Budget.

In looking to the future, and the most pressing challenges we currently face as a city, we worked together to approve several initiatives that greatly improve our infrastructure and environmental resilience, ensuring a sustainable future for generations to come. Alongside the Administration and Office of Homeland Security, we installed security cameras to identify those illegally dumping trash so they can be arrested or fined. We also committed critical resources to green infrastructure projects across the city, established new stormwater management requirements in the City Code, and put measures in place to promote sustainable agriculture and equitable access to healthy food options.

As outlined in this 2019 year in review report, we remain steadfast in our commitment to this great city and delivering upon those promises made at the time of our inauguration. Our greatest and most powerful asset in New Orleans is our people, and we will continue to put them first in all that we do. Thank you for allowing us to serve you and for working alongside us to create a better New Orleans today, tomorrow and the next 300 years.



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CRIME PREVENTION & PUBLIC SAFETY

Q1

NOPD Chief Harrison Honored for Decades of Service

At the first meeting of 2019, Councilmembers took time to express their deepest gratitude to former New Orleans Police Department (NOPD) Chief Michael Harrison for his nearly thirty years of service following the announcement of his departure from the NOPD to embark on a new chapter as the Baltimore Police Commissioner.

“Not only are you a phenomenal officer and chief, but you are a wonderful man,” said Council President Jason Williams. “Under your leadership, this institution has become a national model for reform despite being largely undermanned and under-resourced. You’ve always known what was needed to get the job done, and as a result, New Orleans crime is down in a historic way. You were open, transparent and took every challenge and turned it into a trophy. I know that Baltimore is just another step of many for you, and I know that you will make them as proud and as awe-inspired as you’ve made each of us.”

The NOPD Superintendent left a lasting legacy in New Orleans for his leadership in overcoming various challenges including a



shortage of officers and high crime rates to implement several significant reforms. At the end of his long and impressive tenure with the NOPD, which began in 1991, New Orleans marked the lowest number of murders in nearly half a century this past year.

“You all have always embraced me and this department, and for that, I am eternally grateful,” said Chief Harrison. “On behalf of the entire NOPD, I want to say thank you to all of you for believing in us, being patient with us, and for giving me an opportunity as a brand new chief to come in and work alongside you. Together, we fought long and hard to transform this department from what it was to what it is today. I consider all of you not just colleagues, but dear friends. We worked together to identify and cultivate young talent at every level so that one day, one of them could rise up and succeed me, and that day has come. I’m so grateful to have had that opportunity, and I know that this department is in great hands.”



On behalf of the Council
and the entire City of
New Orleans,

THANK YOU CHIEF HARRISON!

we will never forget your
exceptional service and
tireless commitment
to keeping us safe.



Council Advocates for Additional Training for First Responders

On Jan. 10, the Council received a presentation from New Orleans Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and authorized a CEA to provide increased training opportunities, such as ride alongs and more, for Emergency Medical Technicians and Emergency Medical Responders.

This cross-agency collaboration increases expertise and efficiency, teaches individuals the important skills needed to help their neighbors and communities respond to different types of disasters, and helps place New Orleans at the forefront of emergency first response and recovery efforts.



New Regulations Approved For Orleans Parish School Buses

The Council unanimously passed an ordinance defining school buses and establishing a category of permits, or Certificate of Public Necessity (CPNC), in an effort to create a uniform regulatory and inspection framework for school buses citywide.

District “C” Councilmember and Transportation Committee Chair Kristin Palmer stated that for the 2018-19 school year, New Orleans was using more than 60 third-party transportation operators, which made regulation extremely challenging. The approved ordinance required registration and permits in addition to subjecting drivers to drug tests, inspections, background checks, and other common-practice procedures, to ensure the safety of all New Orleans children.

“The unique model of our school system has required us to think creatively about solutions to problems that weren’t considered when it was established,” said Councilmember Palmer. “I commend the Mayor’s office for working with Orleans Parish School Board (OPSB) and charter schools to strengthen oversight for school bus operators, ensuring they are following state laws and regulations, which ultimately, will improve the safety of our children.”



Council Calls for End to Practice of Jailing to Compel Victims to Testify

The Council received a presentation from Court Watch NOLA and adopted a corresponding resolution calling upon Orleans Parish criminal justice entities, such as the District Attorney (DA), Sheriff's Office, and NOPD, to end the the grievous practice of jailing victims of domestic violence and sexual assault as a means of compelling them to testify.

"We're talking from a place of fact, science and data on this issue," said Councilmember Williams. "DA's in major American cities are starting to use their power to repair their communities, and it is troubling that our DA is hell-bent on inciting further divisions in our society with these types of regressive policies. The effects that such actions have on current and future victims is chilling. These policies, in certain instances, have also led to the survivors



spending more time in jail than the actual perpetrators. The idea that a prosecutor would jail victims of violence and sexual assault is misogynistic, barbaric, and despicable, and frankly, it is embarrassing to have this issue play out on the national stage and receive rebukes from both Democrats and Republicans across the country."



ORLEANS

N.O. council calls for end of jailing victims who won't testify

DA Cannizzaro says use of 'material witness' warrant is rare, but necessary...

Author: Kevin McGill / Associated Press
Published: 3:27 PM CST February 7, 2019
Updated: 3:27 PM CST February 7, 2019

NEW ORLEANS — City Council members in New Orleans unanimously approved a resolution Thursday calling for an end to the jailing of sexual assault or domestic violence victims who resist testifying against their suspected assailants.

The Times-Picayune | nola.com | THE NEW ORLEANS ADVOCATE

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WEATHER NEWS SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT/LIFE OPINIONS NEWSLETTERS OBITUARIES CLASSIFIEDS JOBS HOMES WHEELS

Parking in a New Orleans bike lane will now cost you \$300

Kevin Litterer, NOLA.com | The Times-Picayune | MAR 28, 2019 - 10:25 PM | 1 min to read

Penalties Increased for Bicycle Safety Violations

On March 28, the Council passed an ordinance that increased penalties for operating vehicles and/or parking within designated bicycle lanes. Under Ordinance 32,596, the new fine for parking in a bicycle lane starts at \$300 and increases to \$500 after 30 days.

The approved penalties represented the Council's ongoing commitment to the enhancement of bicycle safety following the tragic deaths of two young cyclists during the 2019 Mardi Gras season. Through these fines and other heightened enforcement efforts, the Council hoped to make New Orleans a safer place for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists alike.



Tourism Officials Asked to Submit New Orleans as Host City for Presidential Debates

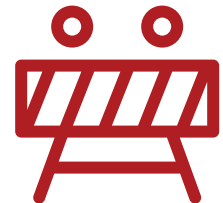
The Council adopted a resolution strongly encouraging tourism officials to submit a proposal for New Orleans to be considered as a host city for presidential or vice presidential debates in 2020. Per the resolution, the Council asked industry leaders to submit the proposal by April 2, 2019, in advance of the Commission on Presidential Debates' announcement of general election debate sites this fall.

The Council argued that the City of New Orleans was well-equipped to handle national debates of this nature and met all the requirements for host cities as listed by the Commission. If chosen as a host city, New Orleans would benefit greatly from increased tourism revenue and positive visibility on an international scale.

Q1 INFRASTRUCTURE, UTILITIES & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Creation of New Infrastructure Maintenance Fund

The Council passed an ordinance to create a special Infrastructure Maintenance Fund to support various infrastructure projects



such as catch basin cleaning, equipment upgrades, street repairs, transportation projects, professional development opportunities, and more. The ordinance included a provision requiring the Director of Finance to give an annual report detailing the revenues and expenditures of the fund to the City's Chief Administrative Officer and the Council.

The Infrastructure Maintenance Fund, which draws revenue generated through existing or newly-created taxes and fees, was established to significantly improve quality of life for residents by addressing major issues plaguing each part of the city.



Council Calls for Implementation of Complete Streets Policy

On March 14, the Council adopted a resolution urging the immediate adoption of an updated and comprehensive Complete Streets Policy in New Orleans, including increased enforcement and educational efforts for those sharing the roadways, and designation of sections of streets for a weekly car-free day.

“There are words, and then there is action. We must properly honor the legacies of people who have lost their lives by acting quickly, intelligently, and creatively. Other cities

around the world have figured out a way to ensure bicyclists and motorists can live safely together. Car-free zones and days can make our thoroughfares safer. These will encourage people to get out of their cars, get on bikes, get on foot, and really engage with each other. New Orleans is a beautiful place, and the fact that our government hasn’t done enough to protect those trying to see it the way it should be seen is unacceptable,” said Councilmember Williams.

Penalty Fund Established to Receive \$5m Fine Imposed on Entergy

The Council created the Entergy Penalty Settlement Fund as a separate holding place to receive and store the \$5 million fine imposed on Entergy New Orleans (ENO) following the independent investigation into the New Orleans Power Station (NOPS) approval process last year. This fund did not allocate the use of the \$5 million settlement. However, it stated that once the settlement was received, the Council would then

appropriate the money to the City budget with subsequent ordinances.

“The establishment of this fund is an important step toward ensuring that the money we acquire from Entergy through this fine is used only for the direct benefit of our residents in critical areas where they need it most,” said District “D” Councilmember Jared Brossett.



Council Approves Zoning Change to Incorporate Smart Housing Mix Recommendations

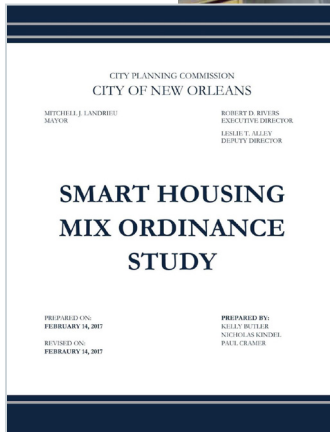
The Council approved an amendment to the City's Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance (CZO) to incorporate certain recommendations and initiatives contained in the "Smart Housing Mix Ordinance Study," including the creation of mandatory inclusionary base zoning sub-districts, as recommended by the City Planning Commission (CPC) staff. All developments including new construction, substantial improvements, expansion, mixed-use projects, or changes in use that contain 10 or more multi-family units, must now provide affordable housing.

The Smart Housing Mix is a citywide policy plan to create more affordable housing by leveraging market rate development activity. In 2016, the Council directed the CPC to study the creation and implementation of a Smart Housing Mix based on an analysis and recommendations by national consulting firms engaged by HousingNOLA and the Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance (GNOHA).

In August 2019, the Council tasked the CPC staff with studying three types of "inclusionary zoning" policies as part of the creation of the Smart Housing Mix. The approved zoning docket (ZD 112/18) captures the following three mandatory inclusionary zoning initiatives:

1. Establishment of a Mandatory Inclusionary Zoning Overlay District

Instituted a mandatory inclusionary zoning requirement via an overlay district in certain areas where disparities in affordable and workforce housing options exist, which requires a mandatory affordable and workforce housing component for all properties.



2. Creation of a New Mandatory Inclusionary Base Zoning District

Instituted a new zoning district and correlated map changes for certain areas with disparities in affordable and workforce housing options to require a mandatory affordable and workforce housing component for all applicable developments, regardless of if the development is new construction or rehabilitation, and offered for rent or for sale.

3. Creation of a Mandatory Inclusionary Zoning Planned Development Classification

Created a new Planned Development type that permits flexibility in zoning regulations for projects incorporating affordable and workforce housing components, which is approved via conditional use.

According to recent studies at the time, the current median income in New Orleans was \$36,999, while the Median Home Value sat at \$227,800. In 2018, 50 percent of all households were cost-burdened, paying more than 30 percent of their gross income on housing. The final approved changes resulted from several years of hard work and collaboration between the Council, the CPC, the Administration, affordable housing advocates and members of the community.

First Step Toward Financial Relief for Homeowners with Increased Property Values

The Council adopted a resolution urging the State delegation and other City officials to approve legislative initiatives and policies that would create financial relief options for longtime property owners suffering the effects of rising property values. The resolution was drafted in response to the city's escalating affordable housing crisis, with approximately half of all households being cost-burdened, or spending more than 30 percent of their annual income on housing costs.

Resolution R-19-63 specifically requested that the State study the feasibility of creating a tax exemption for homeowners whose assessed property value has increased by 100 percent or more in the course of one year. This would provide an exemption from the increased property taxes for those who have owned or lived in their home since 2004 or longer, and those with a yearly income equal or less to 120 percent of the area median income.



Council Establishes Mandatory Inclusionary Zoning Initiatives to Promote Affordable Housing

The Council passed an ordinance and corresponding motion to increase citywide affordable housing stock. Ordinance 32,573 amended the CZO to establish a mandatory inclusionary zoning overlay district, mandatory inclusionary base zoning districts, a mandatory inclusionary zoning planned development classification, and applicable definitions to apply citywide.

The ordinance outlined various categories of development where the minimum

number of affordable units needed would be calculated by multiplying the total number of proposed units by 12 percent. This new requirement helps support a full range of housing choices for New Orleans households of all incomes in addition to promoting public health, safety and welfare. Per Motion M-19-115, the Council directed the CPC to conduct a public hearing to consider certain recommendations from the HR&A New Orleans Housing Study relative to density bonuses, parking reduction and payments in lieu of compliance.

New HDLC Guidelines Approved

The Council received a report and adopted a resolution approving 2018 revisions to the Design Guidelines

adopted by the Historic District Landmarks Commission (HDLC) and the Central Business District Historic District Landmarks Commission (CBDHDLDC). In compliance with the City Code, the Executive Director

of the CBDHDLDC submitted a report to the Council detailing updates to the Design Guidelines. Those updates were approved by the Commissions following a public hearing process to receive input on various efforts to protect and preserve the city's historic districts and architecture.

The Council adopted a corresponding resolution approving the revised guidelines submitted in the report. While the majority of the edits were minor, several larger changes were implemented to clarify existing guidelines or establish and add guidelines for topics that previously had none.

City Planning Commission Directed to Study New STR Policies

Following nearly seven months of public input and studying the issue of short term rental (STR) regulations throughout the city, the Council unanimously approved two motions and a resolution to update New Orleans' STR Program in January 2019.

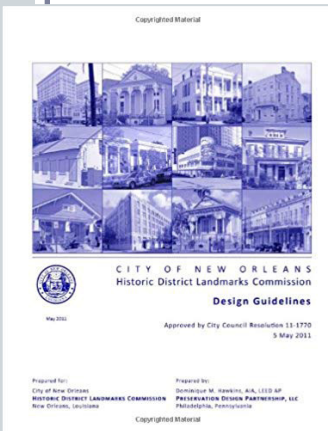
Motion M-19-4 directed the CPC to conduct a public hearing to consider incorporating several recommendations from its 2018 "Short Term Rental Study" into the CZO where STR zoning laws are housed. The motion recommends the creation of two types of STR permits (Residential and Commercial) similar to the existing Accessory and Commercial permits.

The approved Residential STR permit requires a homestead exemption and on-site host and allows owners to obtain up to three permits for additional units that may exist on their property, within residential zoning districts. The motion establishes three new categories of Commercial STR permits (Single Unit, Small Scale and Large Scale) within the City's mixed-use and commercial zoning districts. The motion also maintains a total prohibition of STRs in the French Quarter (with the exception of the Vieux Carré Entertainment (VCE) District and provides for a prohibition

in the Garden District. Additionally, it asks the CPC to reconcile CZO provisions regarding bed and breakfasts and other similar uses.

Motion M-19-6 directed the CPC to conduct a study on the possibility of special programs or conditions that would allow for the issuance of two or more Residential STR licenses to a single license holder to incentivize development in certain areas of the city.

Resolution R-19-7 emphasized the Council's intention to address and legislate outstanding key issues regarding STRs including platform accountability, enhanced and reliable enforcement and the increase of fees to expand affordable housing in the city. Along with recommending additional funding to be allocated into the Neighborhood Housing Improvement Fund (NHIF), the resolution directs the Chief Administrative Officer to determine the feasibility of creating a unified STR enforcement office. The resolution also directs the Director of Safety and Permits to submit recommendations to the Council to address platform data sharing, platform registration, platform tax and fee remissions, and other improvements so the Council can legislate accordingly.



Council Amends Citywide Zoning Standards

The Council passed an amendment to the City's Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance (CZO) relative to General Standards for Planned Developments to reduce the threshold for institutional structures. The approved text amendment reduced the previous threshold of 10,000 square ft. to provide a mechanism for the adaptive reuse of smaller institutional, industrial, and commercial structures.

The unique structural characteristics and size of these institutional buildings paired with the limited use allowances have created a barrier to their adaptive reuse. This change will facilitate the process of bringing vacant, small institutional structures that contribute to the character of neighborhoods back into commerce, in a way that is compatible with surrounding residential areas.



New Orleans Slashes Prices on Mural Permits as Street Art Popularity Skyrockets

BY SEAN SCHMIDT
JUNE 16, 2019

COMMENTS
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Approved Zoning Change Eases Burden on Local Art Community

The Council approved Zoning Docket No. 11/19 amending the City's CZO to create a less burdensome application process for those wishing to erect murals in New Orleans. The text amendment streamlines the lengthy and unnecessarily convoluted permitting process to facilitate the installation of more murals citywide.



New IZD Created to Spur Development in Lower Ninth Ward

The Council approved the creation of a new IZD named the Lower Ninth Ward Housing Development IZD to establish standards for the redevelopment of non-conforming lots in the area bounded by N. Claiborne Avenue, the Industrial Canal, Florida Avenue, and Delery Street. The new IZD reconciled an error made with the adoption of the new CZO in 2015, when these areas were assigned to the “Suburban Neighborhoods” place category despite having a historic development pattern more consistent with the “Historic Urban Neighborhoods” place category.



These standards directly benefit the Lower Ninth Ward community, which has experienced a slower recovery than other neighborhoods, by making it easier for residents and developers to rebuild homes on existing lots in the neighborhood.



New Orleans Takes Action Against Illegal Dumping Cameras

Illegal dumping has become a well-known problem in New Orleans, with hot spots in Algiers, the Lower Ninth Ward, and New Orleans East. In early 2019, Councilmember Brossett worked with the Office of Homeland Security to find money in the City’s budget for the installation of 10 illegal dumping cameras throughout New Orleans. The new cameras are used to identify people illegally dumping trash so they can be arrested or fined. Now integrated into the Real-Time Crime Center, the cameras have already proven effective at reducing illegal dumping, especially of used tires, improving quality of life.

Council Celebrates Successful Saints Season and Directs NFL to Review Officiating Policies

On Jan. 24, the Council welcomed New Orleans native and well-known rapper Darwin “Choppa” Turner who presented the remix to his hit single ‘Choppa Style,’ which was released earlier this month in honor of Drew Brees’ birthday. The Council also adopted a corresponding resolution filed by Councilmember Helena Moreno earlier this week calling upon the NFL to initiate a thorough review of officiating rules, use of replay technology, and evaluation of how they assess conflicts of interest within the Officiating Department. Following the NFC Championship game when the Saints season was effectively ended by an inexplicably “missed” pass interference call, there has been a widespread public outcry and protest both here in New Orleans and nationwide.

Earlier that week, Governor John Bel Edwards wrote a letter to NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell on behalf of Saints fans everywhere expressing his “deep disappointment” in the referees’ failure to call a blatantly obvious penalty against the Rams. The Council’s resolution echoes the Governor’s sentiment and demands action to ensure that no other team or fanbase has to suffer the real, long-term consequences of this type of mistake by the NFL in the future.



“What occurred during Sunday’s game has been referred to by Saints fans and sports analysts alike as one of worst calls in NFL history within the last 50 years,” said Councilmember Moreno. “While it’s true that we have much more important and pressing issues to address, we simply cannot turn a blind eye to this injustice because New Orleans is hurting, not just emotionally, but financially as a result. Our team lost, our fans lost, but so did our city and local businesses. According to GNO, Inc., a Saints Superbowl would have generated \$11 million in sales taxes to the City’s General Fund. We stand with Saints Owner Gale Benson and Governor Edwards in demanding the NFL address the glaring conflicts of interest and faulty rules and regulations brought to light this past Sunday.”

New Orleans City Council, Cantrell call for change to NFL rules in response to Saints-Rams game

BY JEFF ADELSON | jadelson@theadvocate.com JAN 24, 2019 - 5:40 PM 2 min to read



Were you waiting for input from New Orleans city officials before taking a view on the atrocious call that cost the Saints a trip to the Super Bowl?

If so, wait no longer: They’re all against it, too.

Both the City Council and Mayor LaToya Cantrell on Thursday called for changes to NFL rules to prevent the sort of blown pass interference call that helped the Los Angeles Rams secure the NFC Championship victory Sunday.

**BLESS
YOU
BOYS**

**Congratulations
on an incredible
2018-19 season!**



Unanimous Support for Legalized Sports Betting

The Council adopted a resolution pledging to work in partnership with the State Legislature to formulate a regime for the legalization and regulation of sports betting in Louisiana, and to utilize the anticipated additional tax revenue to support early childhood education initiatives. The resolution also called for the creation of a local option to establish, assess, and collect additional local fees or taxes, as the Council felt this new revenue source could directly benefit thousands of New Orleans children.

“Investments in early childhood programs have been proven time and time again to save millions in public safety costs down the line. This resolution is another important step toward investing in our city’s young people when they need us most,” said Councilmember Williams.



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MENU

ON AIR LOCAL TRAFFIC WEATHER SAINTS LSU CONTESTS

New Orleans looking into 'Ticket Amnesty Day' for unpaid tickets



DON AMES

MARCH 17, 2019 - 11:44 AM



Council Calls Upon Mayor Cantrell to Hold Citywide Ticket Amnesty Day

The Council adopted a resolution urging Mayor LaToya Cantrell to host a one-time Ticket Amnesty Day to allow residents to resolve overdue camera and parking tickets at reduced rates. The Council stressed the need for the event as a means of creating pathways to compliance rather than barriers, and increasing revenue for the City, all while easing the financial burden on New Orleans residents.

Q2

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Council Approves Community-Based Center for Youth Offenders

The Council passed an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into a multi-year CEA to allow the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) to operate an Evening Reporting Center (ERC) as a non-secure alternative for youth pending adjudication. The center was established to serve a great purpose as a community-based alternative to detention for New Orleans youth facing criminal charges by providing them with critical support services including mental and physical health treatment, school enrollment, social interaction, and more, to increase their chances of success.

YEP will maintain its role as a mentorship-based organization and will not act as a clinical provider but instead, provide its

recommendations based on identified needs. Additionally, YEP will be required to provide regular reports to the City on the ERC's performance such as the number of youth connected to community-based services through participation in the ERC, number of youth who successfully complete its programming and measures of youth and guardian satisfaction.

"We've got to do all that we can to keep our young people on the right track, and out of the criminal justice system," said District "B" Councilmember Jay H. Banks. "I'm supporting this in the hope that it will discourage kids from making potentially life-altering wrong choices by showing them that there's another way."

New Orleans Adopts International Fire Code

The Council approved an ordinance and heard a corresponding presentation from the New Orleans Fire Department supporting the adoption of the International Fire Code (IFC). The IFC is a comprehensive, modern and up-to-date set of rules and regulations designed to safeguard the public health and safety

of local communities. Founded on broad-based principles that make possible the use of new materials and new system designs, the code reflects both traditional and innovative approaches to fire prevention and protection.

Ordinance 32, 652 formally adopted the IFC and subsequently repeals the Fire Code of the City of New Orleans, bringing the city in line with the 42 states in which the IFC has been adopted or is currently in use. It also establishes a fire prevention bureau called the Fire Prevention District to implement, administer, and enforce the provisions of the code. The officers of the Fire Prevention District will be tasked with a variety of duties such as investigating the causes of fires, issuing subpoenas, conducting criminal follow-up investigations, obtaining and executing warrants, and making arrests in instances where arson has been determined.



Equal Pay Advisory Committee Established

The Council established an Equal Pay Advisory Committee to provide guidance and advise them on how best to remedy the consequences of wage disparity in the City of New Orleans. Pay inequality has detrimental effects on local women and families. Women are often out-earned by men with less education, and make less over the course of their careers resulting in lower retirement income. In Louisiana, women earn just 69% on average to that of their male counterparts, and the gap widens substantially for women of color.

The Equal Pay Advisory Committee consists of 11 members appointed as follows:

- Each Councilmember appoints one member to the committee
- The Director of the Office of Workforce

Development serves on the committee or select a designee

- The Director of the Civil Service Department serves on the committee or select a designee
- The Chief Administration Officer (CAO) serves on the committee or select a designee; and
- The Director of the Human Relations Commission serves on the committee or select a designee.

“This Council has continuously proven that it’s committed to addressing economic and social inequities,” said Councilmember Brossett. “Pay inequality isn’t just a women’s issue; it is a family issue. Establishing the Equal Pay Advisory Committee is another important step in creating a fair, equitable and prosperous New Orleans for generations to come.”

Council Urges State Legislature to Grant Cities Authority to Raise Minimum Wage

The Council adopted a resolution petitioning the State Legislature to allow local governments to raise the minimum wage in their respective cities. Under the current state law, municipalities are unable to set their own minimum wages and worker protection policies. Through the resolution, the Council has asked the Legislature to support House Bill (HB) 422 and repeal the current law preempting local control of the minimum wage.

“Louisiana is one of only five states that does not have a set minimum wage, and therefore our citizens are grossly underpaid,” said Councilmember Moreno. “We in local government should have the ability to remedy this issue on behalf of our constituents, and HB 422 would finally allow us to do so.”



Additional Requirements Approved for Junk Dealers

Thefts involving catch basin covers have steadily increased around the city in recent months, leaving many dangerously exposed. As a result, the Council passed an ordinance that amended Section 130-39 of the City Code to provide additional requirements for junk dealers. The new law prohibits the sale of storm drain materials or utility manhole covers with the name and/or initials of a political subdivision or otherwise identified as the property of a political subdivision. In the event of an attempted sale, junk dealers must immediately notify the NOPD.

Additionally, junk dealers are now required to keep a written record of all purchases and/or acquisitions of the outlined materials to be submitted to the NOPD. Any junk dealer



who refuses to exhibit the written record required, or who destroys that record within three years after making the final entry of any purchase or sale of junk, will be charged with a misdemeanor.

Council Approves Reallocation of Public Funds to Regional Transit Authority

The Council adopted a non-binding resolution calling for the rededication of revenues to the RTA. Resolution R-19-80 requested a one-percent sales tax be rededicated to the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) from the New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corporation (NOTMC).

In 1985, New Orleans voters approved a one-percent sales tax dedicated to the City's transit system. However, a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) signed in 2000 redirected 40 percent of the millions of dollars in annual revenue to NOTMC. The Council supports the RTA in its efforts to terminate the CEA and reclaim tax revenues in order to invest in transit services, improve amenities for riders and replace aging vehicles. The Council also recognizes the invaluable role that NOTMC plays in fostering jobs and economic

growth by developing the City's tourism industry and will support the organization as it seeks out alternative sources of funding.



"This resolution in no way seeks to disparage the NOTMC or their important work in the hospitality and tourism industry. The hospitality industry is vital to our city's success, but we need to support the tens of thousands of employees who allow the industry to flourish and depend on public transit. Furthermore, these are funds the public intended to go to the RTA specifically for public transit. Our aging bus fleet was replaced after Katrina and is at the end of its lifespan. We need a new fleet, more bus routes and expanded services, especially for hospitality workers," said Councilmember Palmer.

Lead Awareness Week to Take Place in October in New Orleans

The Council adopted a resolution proclaiming the final week of October 2019 as Lead Awareness Week to promote community efforts, prevention and awareness around lead contamination in the City of New Orleans. According to the resolution, medical researchers have reported an alarming increase in the city's lead levels in recent years. Exposure to lead can have serious, long-term consequences for young children and adults including severe neurological

damage, seizures, learning disabilities, and behavioral problems.

With only around 16% of Louisiana children having been tested for lead exposure over the past four years, it is imperative to raise awareness around this potentially deadly health risk. With the proclamation of Lead Awareness Week, the Council hoped to educate the local community and prevent future contamination to ensure generations of healthy, active New Orleanians.

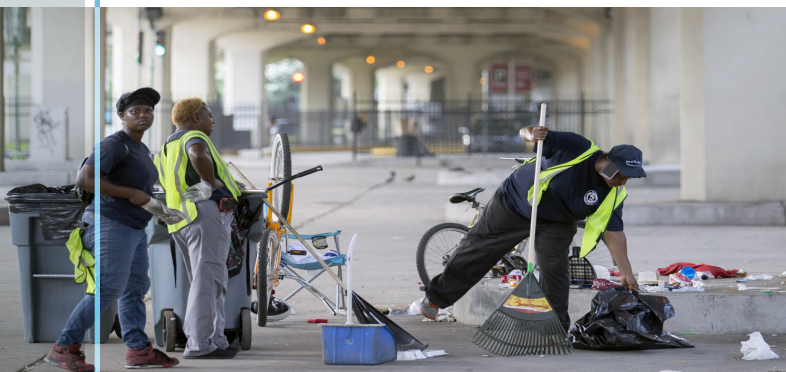
Council Codifies City Policies Regarding Mitigation of Hazardous Homeless Encampments

The Council approved an ordinance to remediate unauthorized encampments on public property, including the removal and storage of personal property, cleaning, and outreach. Addressing the issue of homelessness and examining how resources are being used to support the city's homeless population has long been a priority of the Council's.

Ordinance 32, 626 codified existing City policies that allow New Orleans Health Department workers to remove homeless encampments that are in frequent sight and require them to separate personal property left behind and store it for at least 30 days in a location accessible by public transit.



The ordinance also set guidelines for prioritizing the remediation of encampments based on objective hazards, criminal activity, garbage or debris, health hazards, criminal activity, and more. The law states that no personal property may be removed from an encampment prior to the City providing notice. If individuals are present at the time the notice is being delivered, oral notice of remediation must be given as well. Once proper notice has been provided, the City is authorized to take necessary and reasonable steps to segregate personal property for storage purposes and immediately remove and dispose of items determined to be garbage, waste, or hazardous materials.





The Council approved modified approval of Zoning Docket 31/19 for the proposed HANO mixed-income development at 4100 Royal Street. HANO requested to rezone the entire site to HM-MU for a five-story, 150 unit affordable housing development. HANO's developer, ITEX group, has since reduced the unit number to 136; however, the HM-MU zoning would allow for up to 184 units.

Councilmember Palmer proposed to modify the zoning, capping the units at 143, and also initiated a planned development for the site newly available under the City's inclusionary zoning laws. Through this process, HANO can continue its dialogue with the community to design a building appropriate for its residents and the neighborhood.

Council Advocates for Free Youth Access to Public Transit

The Council adopted a resolution supporting the creation of a municipal youth card providing free access to public transit for those between the ages of 13 and 18. The number of New Orleans households without a car is twice that of the national average, and many New Orleans students are currently not provided with free and adequate transportation to reach schools, recreational activities, and public libraries without being financially burdened. The lack of such transportation has been proven to have a detrimental impact on students' education and overall well-being. Job opportunities for youth in New Orleans are not equally distributed, nor do they align with where most currently reside.

Plans for Affordable HANO Development in Bywater Approved to Move Forward

"By initiating a planned development for this project, this Council can craft appropriate provisos and continue to have oversight to ensure that we are building the proposed number of affordable units in a way that benefits both the new residents and neighbors alike. Some provisos we're requesting the CPC to consider include building and site design, landscaping, stormwater management, and adding a covered bus stop. Additionally, the neighborhood has clearly stated to me that they have concerns regarding the impact of increased traffic and infrastructure, including streets and sewage. I expect that various City agencies overseeing these areas will provide analysis and help address neighbors' concerns. The final project plan will have to be clearly laid out for all stakeholders, voted on by the Council for final approval, and hopefully will make this project more viable and a better fit for the community," said Councilmember Palmer.

Resolution R-19-57 supported the creation of a municipal card to remedy this issue and provide teenaged residents with free and equitable access to job hubs, schools, recreational opportunities, public libraries, community centers, and more that are critical to their physical, mental and emotional development. Alongside the Regional Transit Authority (RTA), the Administration is currently researching the municipal youth card and its potential implementation.



Implementation of Small Box Retail Diversity Study Recommendations

The Council passed Motion M-19-237 directing the CPC to consider amendments to the City's CZO to incorporate recommendations and initiatives contained in the "Small Box Retail Diversity Study," including:

- Establishing and/or defining definitions of Small Box Variety Stores, Grocery Stores, etc.
- Defining and/or updating Small Box Variety Store standards
- Indicating zoning districts where certain uses are permitted or conditional
- Establishing and/or updating the maximum total floor area for qualifying grocery stores in food desert areas
- Establishing and/or strengthening applicable site design standards to promote neighborhood compatibility

This motion represented ongoing efforts by District "E" Councilmember Cyndi Nguyen and District "C" Councilmember Kristin Gisleson Palmer to assess and better deal with growing concentrations of small box stores to ensure diversity and access to healthy food options.

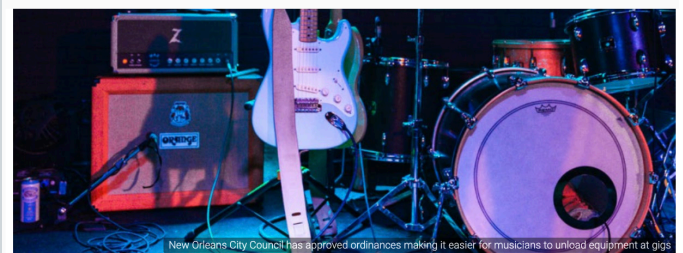
"Regardless of where you live or your household income, all New Orleanians deserve access to a wide selection of fresh and healthy foods to support the needs of their families," said Councilmember Nguyen. "The proliferation of small box stores has become a growing concern for our city, particularly in my district, and I remain committed to working together with my colleagues on the Council, the CPC and members of the community to find the best possible solution."

Q2 HISTORICAL & CULTURAL PRESERVATION

Council Approves "Musician's Pass" Ordinances to Ease Permitting Requirements for Local Artists

On May 23, the Council passed two ordinances relative to permitting requirements for the unloading of musical equipment for scheduled performances in New Orleans. Ordinance 32,562 amended the City Code to permit vehicles loading or unloading musical equipment for scheduled performances to utilize loading zones for up to fifteen minutes. Such vehicles must display a musician loading/unloading pass, which will be issued to businesses with live music on site.

Ordinance 32,669 allowed vehicles bearing a musician loading/unloading permit to park in metered spaces for up to fifteen minutes without payment in a metered space. These



New Orleans City Council Passes Unloading & Parking Measures For Musicians

JUNE 12, 2019 by: OFFBEAT STAFF

LEAVE A COMMENT



At a regularly scheduled meeting on May 23, 2019, the New Orleans City Council passed two ordinances directly affecting local musicians. The two distinct ordinances will, if enforced, give musicians the right to unload musical equipment for scheduled performances within the city limits.

efforts were intended to serve as a small benefit to musicians who are not always well compensated. Councilmember Palmer expressed her plans to revisit this policy in the following months to see how the Council can build on it.

Remembering the Life and Legacy of Culinary Icon Leah Chase

On June 6, Councilmembers shared personal stories remembering the late Queen of Creole Cuisine, Mrs. Leah Chase, who passed away the Saturday prior. In addition to establishing herself as one of the most acclaimed American chefs in history, she was also known as an influential figure in the Civil Rights movement. During a truly challenging time for our nation, she created a home for civil rights leaders on the second floor of Dooky Chase’s Restaurant, serving meals to organizers during planning sessions.

Mrs. Chase also played a critical role in the rebuilding of the city following Hurricane Katrina. Her advocacy before Congress with Women of the Storm helped to fund the recovery of New Orleans and its coastline in the storm’s aftermath. She was deeply committed to the betterment of New Orleans and her surrounding



community, which was evident in her decades of service and charity work. Her positive impact spread even further through the charitable foundation founded by her and her husband.

“It seems impossible to capture what this truly remarkable woman gave to our city during her lifetime,” said Councilmember Moreno. “She fed our bellies and our souls with food infused with love and hospitality. We lost an angel on this Earth, and she will forever hold a place in New Orleans’ history. Rest in peace dear friend.”

Council Honors Late New Orleans Musician Dr. John

On June 20, the Council invited friends and colleagues of legendary musician Dr. John for a presentation on his lifetime achievements and boundless contributions to the city. Dr. John was an instrumental figure in shaping New Orleans’ rich history. Both a student and trailblazer of the unique “New Orleans sound,” his reverence for the city’s culture helped expand and elevate its influence across the globe.

“When tragedy struck, whether it was the floods after Katrina or the BP oil spill, Dr. John stepped in to help our city bounce back. He was truly a man of the people, often seen walking the streets unassuming, unpretentious, and shoulder to shoulder with his fellow New Orleanians always fighting for what was right,” said Councilmember Helena Moreno.



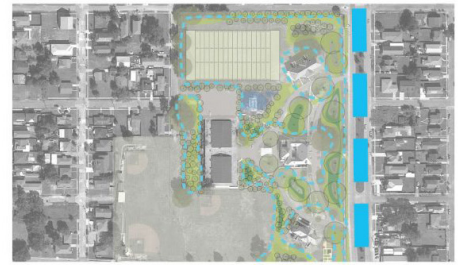
The Council heard touching personal stories about the late musician from his bandleader Roland Guerin and WWOZ General Manager Beth Arroyo Utterback. Following the presentation, the Council adopted a corresponding resolution honoring the life and legacy of Dr. John in the City of New Orleans.

Facilitation of Citywide Stormwater Management Projects

The Council approved two ordinances affirming its commitment to the completion of several stormwater management projects around the city. The strategies employed through these green infrastructure projects will reduce the burden on New Orleans' strained drainage system, minimize land subsidence and improve water quality, all while beautifying the surrounding neighborhoods.

Ordinance 32,648 authorized the Mayor to enter into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with the New Orleans Redevelopment Authority (NORA) and Sewerage and Water Board (S&WB) for the implementation of the Stormwater Mitigation Project for Pontilly. The combined improvements to the Dwyer Canal, including a network of interventions along streets, in alleyways, and within vacant lots, were designed to slow and store stormwater. The project will significantly reduce flood risk and beautify green spaces in the Pontchartrain Park and Gentilly Woods neighborhoods.

Ordinance 32,649 authorized the Mayor to enter into a CEA with NORA to allow for the continuation of the joint Oak Park Stormwater Management and Flood Mitigation Project. These efforts will transform a cluster of five vacant parcels on Perlita Street, as well as a portion of the adjacent public right-of-way on Perlita Street, into a stormwater management area that reduces the risk of flooding for the surrounding neighborhood.



Parks and Playgrounds



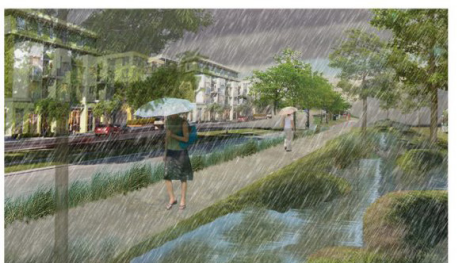
Vacant Lots



Home & Property Improvements



Open Spaces



Streets and Corridors



Council Signs Off on New Rules & Regulations for Meetings

The Council approved Motion M-19-147 revising its rules in their entirety, including those governing its officers and employees, the organization of committees, and the transaction of business. The motion modified several existing rules of the Council including those on public comment:

- **Rule 10.1B** for public speaking on land use matters provides a cumulative total of 20 minutes per item (absent suspension of the rules), with two minutes per public speaker, and no ceding of time, thus lifting the previous cap of 15 minutes.
- **Rule 47** for public speaking on all other agenda items upon which a vote is taken limits public comment to two minutes per item, and also does not allow for ceding of time.

In addition, the motion established the following new rules:

- **Rule 11B - Withdrawal of Legislation:** Updates to include the existing practice of withdrawing matters from the Council agenda (Clerk notifies the Council at a Council meeting of withdrawal request, and absent objection from a Councilmember, the matter is withdrawn).
- **Rule 22 - Items within Headings:** Creates a new section that provides that items within the headings as contemplated in Rule 10 (consent agenda, regular agenda, etc.) can be rearranged without suspension of the rules, which is consistent with the existing practice removing reference to “special order of business.”
- **Rule 33 - Deferral of Ordinances/Motions/Resolutions:** Creates a new section that provides that an authoring member can request to defer consideration of legislation with the Clerk of Council. The Clerk will announce the deferral at a public meeting, and absent objection, the matter will be deferred without requiring a formal vote. If an objection occurs, a 2/3 vote will be required to overrule the deferral.

- **Rule 41 - By Request Legislation:** Proposes a by-request routing process, requirements, and forms.
- **Rule 49 - Solicitation of Speakers:** Provides that any individual who addresses the Council shall disclose receipt of anything of value, monetary or otherwise, that influenced the speaker to state their position before the Council.
- **Rule 53 - Council Credit Card Usage:** Adopts into rule the Council’s Procurement Card Policies and Procedures adopted via Motion M-18-165.
- **Rule 54 - Council Travel Policy:** Provides that CAO Policy 9R on travel expenses applies to Council employees.

**Speaker Rules- Land Use Matters
(Zoning Dockets, HDLC, VCC, NCDAC
Appeals and Design Review Dockets)
(Council Rule 10.1(B))**

A speaker can request to speak on any land use items on the agenda.

- Each land use matter shall not exceed 20 minutes of public comment, absent a suspension of the rules.
- Each public speaker shall be limited to two minutes to address the Council.
- No Ceding of time to another public speaker absent suspension of the rules.
- Any accompanying written documentation shall be formerly submitted by the public speaker to the Clerk, along with eight copies, for incorporation into the record.
- No video or audio recordings shall be utilized.

The provisions of this Rule do not apply to general matters on the agenda, which are covered by the provisions of Rule 47.

I hereby affirm that the written or oral statements I give before the City Council or any Council Committee thereof will be true and correct. By ascribing my signature below, I acknowledge all information presented is of my own volition and true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Speaker

Please check if you are a paid representative or receiving any type of compensation or thing of value in exchange for speaking or attending today. (In accordance with Rule 49)

PUBLIC SPEAKING CARD FOR LAND USE MATTERS
(please print clearly)

Date: _____

Presiding Officer: _____

I would like to speak regarding _____

In Support In Opposition Info. Only

Name: _____

Representing: _____

Address: _____

Remarks: _____

(Please see speaker time rules on reverse of card)
Your signature required on the back hereof is certification that your statement is true and correct and an opportunity to acknowledge whether or not you have been compensated in exchange for your statement or attendance

Transitioning of Council Presidency

On May 9, the Council transitioned the roles of its presidency and vice presidency with Councilmember Moreno assuming the role of Council President and Councilmember Williams presiding as Council Vice President. The transition marked a historic occasion in New Orleans, with both branches of city government now being led by minority women.

“Over the past year, each person on this dais has chipped away at problems and worked to find solutions to some of the greatest issues plaguing our city,” said Councilmember Moreno. “It is my great honor to take on the duties of Council President. I will ensure our focus remains centered on creating a safer, more affordable, resilient, and equitable New Orleans.”

The Council also marked the occasion with pre-meeting remarks sharing news of ongoing progress and continued goals on public safety, housing, infrastructure, and more.



“Through increased data collection, transparency, and budgeting that prioritizes people over-bloated systems, we are working every day to make the next 300 years better than the last 300. I cannot overemphasize what this means for serving the children and youth of this city. Not only are we teaching our children at younger ages through financial investments in early childhood education, but we are also addressing the trauma of our young people instead of setting them up to fail. These steps are investments in our future as a city and as a whole community ,” said Councilmember Williams.

Inaugural Sneauxball Fest Set for July 4 in New Orleans East

At its regular meeting on June 20, the Council heard a presentation with details on the inaugural SneauxBall Fest, which took place on Thursday, July 4, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. in New Orleans East. SneauxBall Fest was created to enhance opportunities for small business owners and bring family fun activities to District “E.”

An initiative of Councilmember Nguyen and the District “E” office, SneauxBall Fest was created as a fun and unique family-friendly experience with something for everyone in the surrounding community. The first-ever event featured a wide variety of sweet treats and New Orleans style food from local vendors to interactive activities for children and live performances from local artists and musicians.



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The Council approved an ordinance by Councilmember Brossett requiring motorists to obey the automated signs that warn when a roadway is flooded. The approved regulations were designed to deter motorists from driving through flooded areas above five miles per hour, which results in waves and wakes that cause further damage to surrounding properties.

It also prohibits residents from tampering with, moving, or destroying barricades or signs

Implementation of New Rules to Prevent Operation of Motor Vehicles in Flooded Areas

placed near flooded roadways, and codified that when the City’s new flood warning signs are flashing, that road or underpass is closed to traffic and residents are not to drive through.

“I recently worked with the Cantrell Administration, the Office of Homeland Security, and the New Orleans Police Department to introduce an ordinance regarding the City’s new Automated Flood Warning System. Ordinance No. 32,755 requires motorists to obey the automated signs that warn when a roadway is flooded. These signs were recently installed at 12 underpass locations, and the system is scheduled to go live soon. The software will integrate data with S&WB and be shared with the Real-Time Crime Center and National Weather Service to keep residents safe,” said Councilmember Brossett.

Lafitte Greenway Safety Cameras and Repairs

Improvements to the Lafitte Greenway are continuing. The Council approved the installation of 18 emergency call boxes with built-in camera feeds connected to the Real-Time Crime Center. Like public safety cameras across the city, footage along the Greenway can be accessed by RTCC technicians in real time during an emergency or after the fact for investigations of criminal or quality of life incidents. Greenway cameras have already provided relevant footage for a number of incidents within the vicinity of the linear park this year. Additionally, the New Orleans Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness installed 53 public safety camera feeds along the trail, bringing the total camera installation to 71.



Council Urges State Legislature to Address Property Assessment Spikes and Requests Comprehensive Review from Assessor's Office

The Council adopted a resolution encouraging the New Orleans Delegation of the Louisiana State Legislature to support legislation to soften the impacts of property reassessments. The legislation was developed following the release of the 2020 property tax assessments, which reflected astronomical growth citywide. These steep assessments dramatically outpaced the overall growth in earnings during the same period, with some homeowners having experienced increases above 300 percent.

Homeowners with increased property values are typically unable to capitalize on the increased equity, leaving some with no choice but to sell their homes. While the City of New Orleans relies upon ad valorem taxes to fund vital public services and infrastructure, the convergence of these factors places the City and its residents in a difficult dilemma. The Council asked the State Legislature to study this issue further, and introduce an amendment to the Louisiana Constitution that would both safeguard homeowners in Orleans Parish and maintain an adequate stream of tax revenue for the City.

"As a member of this Council, I have remained steadfast in my commitment to keeping New Orleanians in their homes and neighborhoods," said Councilmember Banks. "With some homeowners, particularly those on a fixed income, recently experiencing these astronomical increases in their assessments, they have become more vulnerable to predatory purchase and lending practices. We hope to work with partners at the state and local level to address this issue and find a win-win solution for both the City and its residents."

On Sept. 19, the Council adopted a resolution requesting the New Orleans Assessor's Office to execute a comprehensive review of all current and former entities receiving property

tax exemptions as a result of the Industrial Tax Exemption Program (ITEP). Resolution R-19-363 asked the Assessor to compile all documentation and provide a formal report to the Council by March 31, 2020. Additionally, it requested annual reviews on exemption statuses be presented to the Council.



The resolution represented ongoing efforts by the Council and President Helena Moreno to account for the tax status of properties classified as exempt under ITEP. Councilmember Moreno and Together New Orleans worked to unearth information that indicated many properties considered "exempt" were, in fact, no longer exempt - going many years back in some cases. These exemptions had excused largely major corporations from paying millions in property taxes.

"Our city deserves greater oversight over industrial tax exemptions, especially at a time when our citizens are facing rocketing property tax assessments," said Councilmember Moreno. "In the spirit of accountability and fairness, I've authored Resolution R-19-363 urging the Assessor's Office to do an inventory of all tax incentive projects in Orleans Parish as well as to submit annual reports to the Council on these types of projects. Accountability ensures all taxpayers, including major corporations, are paying their fair share."

Council Creates New Ferry Advisory Committee

The Council unanimously passed Ordinance 32,692 establishing a Ferry Advisory Committee to provide advice and expertise regarding ongoing operations and proposed improvements to the New Orleans Regional Transit Authority's (RTA) ferry boats and terminals.

Specific committee responsibilities include:

- Obtain information from current and potential ferry riders on existing and desired ferry services;
- Research and identify possible sources of funding; and
- Provide periodic reports to the Council's Transportation Committee with recommendations on the items listed above with recommendations on those that require Council action.

The Ferry Advisory Committee consists of nine members comprised of the following:

- One resident of the West Bank appointed by District "C" Councilmember Palmer;
- One resident of the East Bank appointed by District "B" Councilmember Banks;
- One habitual rider who uses the ferry as their primary means of transportation for work appointed by the Transportation Committee Chair;
- The President of the Algiers Neighborhood Presidents Council;
- The Executive Director of Friends of the Ferry;
- The Executive Director of Ride New Orleans;
- The Chair of the Council's Transportation Committee;
- The Director of the Mayor's Office of Transportation; and
- The Director of the New Orleans Regional Transit Authority (RTA).

"This ordinance establishes a Ferry Advisory Committee to provide citizens oversight of RTA ferry operations. The Algiers and Canal Street ferries are often out of service for mechanical



reasons while two, new, taxpayer-funded boats have been docked for more than a year. My hope is that the Ferry Advisory Committee, made up of riders, transit advocates, and representatives from RTA, can start forging a path forward to ensure we have regular, reliable service that benefits all of our citizens and visitors," said Councilmember Palmer.



Approved Zoning Changes to Support Affordable Housing Initiatives

The Council approved Zoning Dockets 41/19 and 49/19 relative to text changes to the CZO to encourage development and enhance affordable housing efforts. The approved amendments update density and height bonuses for the Marigny and Bywater sub-districts of the Riverfront Overlay per certain recommendations listed in the HR&A New Orleans Housing Study.

Zoning Docket 41/19 removes any possible conflicts within the CZO to ensure the citywide Mandatory Inclusionary Zoning (MIZ) requirements designed to promote affordable housing will also apply in the Riverfront Overlay's Marigny and Bywater sub-districts. Those sub-districts include properties along the Riverfront between the Mississippi River and Chartres or Decatur streets. Developments closest to the street would still be limited to avoid having large buildings looming over nearby properties.

The MIZ also addresses incentives for developers, which will replace those previously available through the CZO's Riverfront Overlay provisions. Developments not taking

advantage of those incentives will now be limited to the height and density provided by the underlying zoning district.

These changes will provide individuals and families of modest means an opportunity to live in the high opportunity neighborhoods located within the Marigny and Bywater near valuable amenities and resources.

"Having introduced various legislation and zoning applications to increase affordable housing, including creating and mandating the use of Affordable Housing Impact Statements, this is and has long been a priority of mine both as a Councilmember and State Representative," said Councilmember Brossett. "Far too many residents are cost burdened, spending upwards of 40 percent of their total income on housing costs. I am grateful to Councilmember Palmer for bringing this forward and for her steadfast commitment to this issue. I look forward to working alongside my colleagues on the Council to end the current affordable housing crisis, and ensure all New Orleanians have access to safe, equitable and affordable housing."

Special Presentation on Minority Mental Health Month

On July 18, the Council heard a presentation from Lisa Romack, Executive Director of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) on their work to provide critical services to the community and their signature event, #GetYaMindRight Fest. The festival was founded in recognition of Minority Mental Health Awareness Month, which is celebrated throughout the month of July to shed light on the unique struggles that underrepresented groups face in regard to mental illness.

Blake Cressey, the founder of the festival and owner of Tasty Treat Food Truck and Restaurant, hoped the fest would bring

awareness and access to services while removing the cultural stigma that often impedes minorities' access to mental health services. #GetYaMindRight Fest took place on Saturday, July 27, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the 2200 block of Pauger Street.



NOTMC and 504 Health Net Present New Healthy Hospitality Initiative

The Council received a presentation from representatives of 504 Health Net and NOTMC on their newly-launched Healthy Hospitality Initiative to provide healthcare to New Orleans hospitality workers. The program connects the local hospitality industry to high-quality, affordable, accessible health care at over 50 sites around the city.

In 2018, NOTMC engaged 504 HealthNet to lead a coordinated effort to respond to the health care needs of the roughly 100,000 hospitality workers in New Orleans, many of whom face barriers to accessing and paying for health care. The Healthy Hospitality

Initiative, comprised of 17 participating health care organizations and one hospital system, will help hardworking hospitality workers and their families find affordable health care options, with or without insurance.

Councilmembers Palmer, Williams and Banks joined City and hospitality officials for the program's launch event on Aug. 6, which featured free health screenings and testings where hospitality workers including glucose, STD and blood pressure screenings. For more information or to find a participating clinic, visit healthyhospitality.com.

September Recognized as Neonatal Intensive Care Awareness Month

The Council proclaimed the month of September as Neonatal Intensive Care Awareness Month in the City of New Orleans. Neonatal Intensive Care Awareness Month was created to honor families who have experienced a stay in a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) and the dedicated health professionals who care for them. The Council encourages all residents to join them in raising awareness and understanding around what the NICU is and how having had a child in the NICU can affect families for a lifetime.

Kimberly Novod, who serves as Executive Director of New Orleans-based nonprofit Saul's Light Foundation, led a presentation to the Council at its regular meeting on Sept. 5. Novod and her husband founded the organization in 2015 to provide comfort and community to parents with babies in the NICU and those who have experienced infant loss. Even a brief stay in the NICU can be devastating, both emotionally and financially, and many parents experience long-term psychological stress as a result. Novod



stressed the importance of neonatal intensive care awareness to provide additional support for these families in New Orleans and to let them know they aren't alone.

Council Approves New Rules and Regulations for STRS

The Council approved two ordinances authorizing a comprehensive overhaul of the City’s STR program, including new regulations, permitting requirements and fees, which took effect on December 1, 2019. Ordinance No. 32,685 modifies the City’s Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance (CZO) to establish two classifications of STR permits, Residential and Commercial, along with zoning regulations for each. The most significant modification is a homestead exemption requirement for the residential permit, outlawing whole-home STR rentals in residential areas and ensuring that owners reside at the property full-time.

The ordinance requires commercial STR applicants to provide a security, sanitation, and nuisance plan. Both residential and commercial STR permits must be renewed annually and are not transferable. The ordinance also bans STRs in the French Quarter (except for Bourbon Street) and Garden District.

“Thank you to every resident, every Council and administration staff member who, for 14 months now, worked to establish these new rules. Today’s milestone vote was a win for our residents and is the first step towards preserving our neighborhoods. Without proper rules and regulations for operating short term rentals, they would have continued to inundate our communities. Updating the STR regulations isn’t something we took lightly. We considered

SHORT TERM RENTALS

2019 STR Legislative Grouping – August 8, 2019
Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of New Orleans



Ordinance No. 32,691 established STR owner, operator and platform permits and fees; operating regulations; and enforcement penalties.

ANNUAL PERMIT FEES

STR Owner Permit - per dwelling unit:

Residential - Partial	\$250
Residential - Small	\$500
Residential - Large	\$500
Commercial	\$1,000

STR Operator Permit:

If the owner is the operator	\$0
Operators of 1 dwelling unit	\$150
Operators of 2 or more dwelling units	\$1,000

STR Platform Permit: **\$10,000**

STR Nightly Occupancy Fee per night of occupancy per dwelling unit

Residential	\$5
Commercial	\$12



a lengthy study from the City Planning Commission, held countless community meetings and public hearings, and answered hundreds of phone calls and emails before crafting equitable and sustainable legislation. I believe that this is just the beginning of a larger conversation about sustainable communities, which can only happen when we have explored every possible option of using commercial STRs to incentivize affordable housing,” said Councilmember Palmer.

Official Memorial Event to Honor Victims and Survivors of Hurricane Katrina

The Council adopted a resolution recognizing the City’s official memorial event remembering those who lost their lives during Hurricane Katrina. The event is hosted annually by the Katrina Memorial Foundation in partnership with the City of New Orleans at the Katrina Memorial on Canal Street.

Over 1,000 people in the New Orleans area were killed as a result of Katrina, and nearly 100 remain unidentified or unclaimed. To honor those individuals, the Foundation constructed the Hurricane Katrina Memorial in 2006 and has since held an annual wreath-laying ceremony at the site on August 29. Per Resolution R-19-337, the ceremony is now recognized as the city’s official Hurricane Katrina Memorial event.



Q3 RESILIENCE & ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

New Orleans Moves Closer to Introducing Electric Bicycles

The Council approved an ordinance to define electric-assisted bicycles (e-bikes) and create general provisions for their operation throughout the city. Ordinance No. 32,741 incorporated industry definitions and national best practices around electric motorized bicycles, operational only when pedaling. As defined by the ordinance, an e-bike refers to any device sixteen inches or more in diameter, equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of fewer than 750 watts. The ordinance also provided further clarification by establishing two classes of e-bike based on the maximum speed of the vehicle.



Council Establishes Stormwater Management Requirements

The Council approved Ordinance No. 32,757 to amend the City Code relative to Stormwater Management requirements and paved surface parking. The ordinance requires all surface non-residential off-street parking spaces to be permeable and provides applicable definitions for the following: Off-Street Parking Space, Permeable Paving, and Substantial Improvement.

“Decades after 1812, generations of people have written about the importance of the Battle of New Orleans. Many generations after ours, people will talk about what we did or did not do about how we live with water. Now is not actually the time. We are so very behind,” said Councilmember Williams. “This ordinance builds upon and augments all the efforts of S&WB Director Gasaan Korbon

and the administration to better manage the threat of water. The S&WB and the Department of Public Works cannot alone fix our problems. We cannot and will not stand by and do nothing while our City floods repeatedly. We need Public Works to clean catch basins, and we need S&WB to identify issues and repair our aging underground infrastructure.”



NOTABLE ORDERS OF BUSINESS Q3

Recognition of Louisiana Consular Corps

The Council welcomed the Louisiana Consular Corps in celebration of International Day at its regular meeting on Aug. 8. The first special order of business included a presentation from The Honorable Vincent Marc George Sciana, Consul General of the French Republic and Dean of the Consular Corps and The Honorable Bret Alden Clesi, Honorary Consul General of the Republic of Albania and Vice Dean of the Consular Corps on the importance of fostering ties between New Orleans and the international community to further economic development and cultural exchange. The Council also heard from former City Councilmember and State Representative, Jackie Clarkson, who was named Honorary Consul of the Republic of Lithuania for the

State of Louisiana in 2014.

The Louisiana Consular Corps is among the nation’s largest, having existed in the state since the late 1700s. Today, there are 59 operating career and honorary consulates in Louisiana, serving countries on five continents. The Corps works closely with leading state, federal, regional and local economic development organizations and government agencies to identify and cultivate trade and commercial opportunities between nations. In New Orleans, the organization partners closely with organizations such as the World Trade Center of New Orleans, the Louisiana Department of Economic Development, and the Mayor’s Office.

Council Celebrates Outstanding Seasons of Local Little League Teams



The Council welcomed Coach Scott Frazier and the Eastbank Little League teams to congratulate them on their recent 2019 World Championship wins at its regular meeting on Sept. 19. Under the direction of Manager Scott Frazier and Assistant Coaches Donald Abadie and Kevin Johnson, the boys' baseball team

won the Little League World Championship on Sunday, Aug. 25 when they defeated the country of Curacao 8-0.

The Council also celebrated each teams' participation in 2020 the Krewe of Bacchus parade. On Aug. 30, Councilmember Brossett announced that the League World Series Championship Team and the Eastbank girls World Series Finalists would ride on a special float in the Krewe of Bacchus parade on Sunday, Feb. 23. Clark Brennan, Captain of the Krewe of Bacchus, and Barry Kern utilized cutting-edge laser technology to create a one-of-a-kind float for the teams to ride during the parade.

"It's my great honor to recognize the Eastbank boys and girls Little League teams today for their tremendous accomplishments during the season and at the Little League World Series," said Councilmember Brossett.

"These young athletes are truly incredible role models, and they have made the entire State of Louisiana proud."



Q4

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Crime
Prevention &
Public Safety

Economic
& Business
Development

Infrastructure,
Utilities & Capital
Improvements

Housing,
Healthcare &
Civic Services

Historical
& Cultural
Preservation

Resilience &
Environmental
Sustainability

Notable
Orders of
Business

City Authorized to Address Unsecured Pools

The Council passed an ordinance authorizing City officials to take action regarding improperly secured pools. Ordinance 32,773 permits authorized City entities to enter any property and immediately fill-in any pool that fails to comply with fencing OR filtration requirements, which pose a health risk to the surrounding neighborhood. The Council took a positive first step towards rectifying this issue in October 2018 when it passed legislation declaring abandoned pools public health emergencies.



The approved legislation enhanced ongoing efforts of the Council and District “A” Councilmember Joe Giarrusso to address the significant number of blighted pools throughout New Orleans and streamline laws that prevented City officials from remedying those on neglected private property.

Council Streamlines and Improves Overdose Reporting

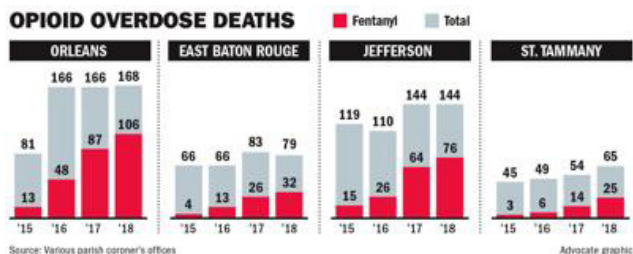
The Council approved Ordinance 32,780, imposing overdose data reporting and mapping requirements to assist with the adoption of an Overdose Response Spike Plan and allocation of public health resources. The ordinance called for the use of a data software program to provide a centralized solution for real-time overdose information and assist in developing coordinated action across all relevant stakeholders.

Previously, the NOPD, EMS, and Fire Department generated data on suspected overdoses, treatments and outcomes, which was reported to the Orleans Parish Communication District. However, the Council desired a more streamlined collection platform to ensure data could be shared between the health care community and statewide agencies

to quickly identify needs, provide short- and long-term solutions and protect the rights of individuals. This new system maximizes the likelihood of obtaining grant funding to provide critical resources for those areas and groups most in need.

Per the approved legislation, the Health Department is now responsible for identifying the necessary parameters and developing the response plan to coordinate the efforts of all involved parties to reduce the harmful and potentially life-threatening effects of overdoses.

“This is a holistic and strategic approach to addressing both the public health and the criminal justice crises we’re currently facing as a city,” said Councilmember Williams. “A number of these more powerful drugs have yet to make it to New Orleans, so today represents a proactive solution to getting ahead of this issue and preventing the types of tragedies we’re seeing in other cities across the country right now. I want to thank each of you for working so hard to make this happen, in addition to your day jobs, and we look forward to continuing this fight together.”



Zoning Change Approved for Orleans Justice Center

The Council approved modified approval of Zoning Docket No. 105/19, which moved towards permanently housing inmates of the Orleans Justice Center with acute and sub-acute mental health conditions. The Council's final decision on the matter represented an important compromise, permitting the Sheriff to provide the space required to house certain populations of inmates while prohibiting the number of beds to increase. By **reducing the permitted prison population from 1438 beds to 1250 inmates**, the approved zoning docket brought New Orleans one step closer to the goals outlined in the MacArthur grant: 998 inmates by the end of 2020.



This compromise also ensured that the Orleans Justice Center's Temporary Detention Center can dedicate space and provide a safe environment for the men and women who cannot be placed within the jails' regular population, and allowed the City to continue planning for the humane, constitutionally-appropriate permanent housing of inmates with acute and sub-acute mental health conditions.

ECONOMIC & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT Q4

New Regulations and Requirements for Alcoholic Beverage Outlets

The Council passed Ordinance No. 32,693, updating the City's existing Alcoholic Beverage Outlets (ABOs) permitting and enforcement laws. The revisions represented months of hard work and collaboration amongst the Council, local businesses, bars and members of the community. The ordinance amended the previous ABO laws to ensure they aligned with existing state laws for legal operation.

The approved legislation removed antiquated and discriminatory language, among other items, and accomplished the following:

- Creates an appeals process for applicants denied a new or renewal ABO permit;

- Allows for a temporary suspension of an ABO permit, which will require a public rules promulgation process, a hearing and another vote of the Council to take effect; and
- Allows bars to have sidewalk seating on the public right of way.

"Thank you to all of the stakeholders and Councilmembers who worked on these provisions over the past 11 months. With their input, I believe we crafted a reasonable, common-sense piece of legislation that clearly outlines how businesses that sell a controlled substance can operate responsibly," said Councilmember Palmer.

Updated Requirements and Hiring Standards to Ensure Equal Opportunity for City Contracts

The Council passed three ordinances establishing several new requirements regarding hiring standards and the issuing of City contracts. Ordinance 32,724 expanded the application of the Hire NOLA program to any project funded through the Infrastructure Maintenance Fund. Under the previous law, Hire NOLA applied to any public works project valued at greater than \$150,000 or to any Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) valued at greater than \$150,000. For these projects funded with public dollars, contractors had to use the best efforts to employ local workers. The new law approved by the Council requires any project funding through the Infrastructure Maintenance Fund to comply with the Hire NOLA rules.

Ordinance 32,725 requires that any third party who is awarded a City contract and fails to fulfill its contractual obligations, reimburse those funds to the City. This change maximizes the City's ability to recover economic benefits and hold those who receive taxpayer dollars accountable. Ordinance 32,745 prohibits the City from inquiring into the salary history of any person applying for a classified or unclassified position with the City of New Orleans; prohibits the City from relying upon the salary histories of applicants for City positions to determine starting salaries (with limited exceptions), and provides enforcement measures of these prohibitions. **This legislation was a significant and important step toward addressing the factors that perpetuate gender pay inequality in New Orleans.**

Creation of Nonprofit Parcel Fees Task Force to Advise the Council on Taxation Matters

The Council approved Motion M-19-386 establishing a Nonprofit Parcel Fees Task Force to advise and provide recommendations to the Council on the feasibility of a parcel fee for properties exempt from ad valorem taxation. The advisory committee will consist of nine members appointed as follows:

- One member will serve as an appointee of the Mayor
- One member will serve as an appointee of the Chief Administrative Office
- Seven members will be appointed by the Council

Each appointee to the Task Force must

represent all parties, including nonprofit, tax-exempt organizations from universities, churches and religious affiliates, schools, hospitals, labor organizations, Mardi Gras and Social Aid and Pleasure clubs, museums, and any other tax-exempt philanthropic entities.

"This task force represents yet another important step toward greater review and oversight regarding tax exemptions to ensure the City receives revenue that is legally-owed and that the tax burden is equitably shared across New Orleans," said Councilmember Moreno. "We must use every tool to make New Orleans a more affordable place to live and work."

Council Doubles Funding for Early Childhood Education with Adoption of 2020 City Budget

After several weeks of budget hearings, the Council adopted the City’s 2020 Operating and Capital Budgets on Nov. 21, concluding the annual budget review process and establishing spending levels for the coming year.

Since Oct. 17, when Mayor LaToya Cantrell appeared before the Council to present a proposed \$721.9 million annual operating budget from the City’s general fund, the Council has held a rigorous budget review process to learn the needs of each department and listen to residents’ concerns. Under the leadership of Budget Committee Chair Jared C. Brossett, the Council held two weeks of hearings on the proposed 2020 Budget, prior to adopting the amended operating budget totaling 725.9 million.

2020 Budget highlights included funding for the following:

- Early Childhood Education programs to expand access to quality early childcare and education in New Orleans (**doubling funding by \$1.5M to bring the total allocation to \$3M**)
- Total Community Action to purchase a food pantry freezer to store food provides low-income vulnerable individuals/families with food supplements (**\$8,000**)
- Demolition of the blighted Higgins Gate apartment complex (**\$800,000**)
- Algiers Water Management Study (**\$250,000**)
- Code Enforcement to address quality of life needs and eliminate blight (**\$700,000**)
- Department of Health for mobile decibel monitors to address noise concerns (**\$45,000**)
- Department of Health for a Domestic Violence Initiative (**\$250,000**)

“I’m very pleased with the collaboration of the budget process,” said Councilmember Moreno. “My colleagues and I on this Council have been laser-focused on making New Orleans a more affordable city to live in since we began in 2018. Today, the Council followed through by lowering –not raising– property taxes at a time when assessments are skyrocketing and potentially forcing long term homeowners out of their neighborhoods. The Council also made clear its priorities: infrastructure and public safety. I’m also proud that we once again doubled funding for early childhood education and allocated specific funding for domestic violence initiatives.”

Throughout this year’s budget hearings, Councilmembers led a negotiation process with the Mayor’s Administration to ensure that critical initiatives and services were funded

Mayor’s Proposed Operating Budget	\$721.9m
Approved Operating Budget	\$725.9m
Total Increase	\$4m

“Today is a historic one for the City of New Orleans and our children. We’re setting an unprecedentedly high bar for the State of Louisiana and the entire country with this incredible investment in our young people. We’ve gone from \$750,000 two years ago, to \$1.5 million in 2018, to an unprecedented \$3 million for early childhood education in 2020. I’m extremely grateful to my colleagues, the Administration, and my staff for the months of hard work that went into this budget. Our future and that of our children, has never been brighter,” said Budget Chair Brossett.

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while minimizing the burden on residents' tax bills. Given that the 2020 tax year was a quadrennial reassessment year, there was considerable discussion regarding the reassessment process and the rising property tax assessments that resulted, leading to heightened concern among residents about their tax bills and the effect a potential roll forward could have on that bill.

"This budget is a true collaboration of the Administration and the Council to improve critical services that our City values and expects. We worked diligently to approve a budget that shows our shared priorities such as public safety, infrastructure, quality of life, economic development, and most importantly, the children of this city. I applaud everyone involved for a continued focus of providing better education outcomes for New Orleans' most vulnerable children by funding early childhood education, investing in our fire and police departments to ensure they have the resources to better serve our citizens, and securing much-needed monies to finally clean up, Higgins Gate, a huge blighted property in Algiers which I hope will spur new development on the West Bank." said District "C" Councilmember Kristin Gisleson Palmer.

In a reassessment year, the Council may roll forward millages up to the maximum authorized rates. Recognizing the concerns of residents, Budget Chair Brossett and fellow Councilmembers ensured the redirection of certain millages to fund public safety and infrastructure while reducing (rolling back) other millages. This redirection of millages allowed the Council to support key initiatives and ensure that vital services were funded while minimizing tax burdens and remaining revenue-neutral for millage rates.

"With this budget, we have protected funding for vital public services in a smart way," said Councilmember Giarrusso. "Government's first job is to provide those public services responsibly. This deal between the Mayor and Council concentrates on quality of life issues with spending for first responders, streets, drainage, maintenance, and other fundamental needs."

Key millages funded by the approved 2020 Budget:

- New Orleans Police & Fire Departments
- S&WB
- City Alimony
- Neighborhood Housing Improvement Fund (NHIF)

Certain millages being levied below the rollback millage rate:

- Economic Development Fund
- Capital Improvement Fund
- Audubon Park
- New Orleans Public Library

"The extraordinary commitment we've made here today will pay way more dividends for our city in the long-run," said Councilmember Williams. "Because of Governor John Bel Edwards, and what's happened at the State level, we're now in a position to receive matched funding to the already historic amount we've approved, doubling the number of young people we're able to help with a total \$6 million investment. This is a tremendous day in the City of New Orleans as we become the only state providing this level of localized investment in early childhood care and education. Finally, New Orleans is becoming the city on a hill for the State of Louisiana, the South and the entire United States, and our children will be a testament to that for generations to come."

Use of Salary History Prohibited in Determining Starting Incomes for City Contract Positions

The Council passed Ordinance 32,792 prohibiting City contractors and subcontractors from relying upon salary histories of applicants to determine starting salaries for City-contracted employment positions. **According to a 2015 report, women in Louisiana are paid only sixty-one cents for each dollar paid to men, which represents the largest gender earnings disparity of any state in the country.** Oftentimes, when employers make salary decisions during the hiring process based on prospective candidates' current or past salaries, women applicants end up at a significant disadvantage.

The approval of this legislation helped mitigate historical patterns of gender bias and discrimination, which have caused women to earn less than their male counterparts. The Council will continue to fight to ensure all members of the City's workforce are fairly and appropriately compensated based upon their performance and merit, rather than their gender, race, ethnicity, or prior earnings. The new requirement allows the local government of New Orleans to set a positive example for other job providers in the city by encouraging them to acknowledge and help eliminate the gender wage gap.

Q4 INFRASTRUCTURE, UTILITIES & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Permit Fees Waived for Building Repairs Due to Flood Damage

The Council approved an ordinance to waive certain fees for building permits necessary to perform non-structural repairs of buildings damaged by the flooding that occurred throughout the city on July 10, 2019. According to the National Weather Service, New Orleans experienced more than 7 inches of rainfall over the span of six hours that Wednesday morning. The flash floods came as a surprise to many around the city who were making preparations for potential Tropical Storm Barry to make landfall later that week, leaving many commuters stranded in flooded underpasses and residents trapped in their homes until the waters subsided.

The approved ordinance, which remained in effect through Dec. 31, 2019, helped ease the financial burden of these repairs for local residents and property owners.



Council Orders Entergy to Lower Rates & Pay \$1M Fine for Outages



The Council authorized a rate order for Entergy to lower citywide rates

for customers and build a pathway towards a cleaner energy future. The Council called upon Entergy to reduce average residential bills by up to an estimated \$3 a month while providing significant advancements on climate and equity issues.

Additionally, Resolution R-19-457 accomplished the following:

- Froze the regressive minimum charge;
- Allowed customers to participate in a 'green option' to optionally purchase more clean energy;
- Created a sustained investment in the Council's nationally-acclaimed Energy Smart program; and
- Shielded Algiers customers through their transition into the ENO service territory.

"The result of this rate case balances a strong win for New Orleans people with lower rates, more affordability, and more options while providing fair treatment for all stakeholders," said Councilmember Moreno. "We realize that the people of this city are faced with many financial pressures coming from every direction. Knowing this, we fought to deliver the best deal possible to reduce their bills and provide a positive path for the City's energy future for years to come. I continue to welcome further filings to explore options that truly benefit the people of New Orleans."

In a separate resolution (R-19-442), the Council also approved a \$1M fine for ENO following an investigation into the long-running system reliability problems responsible for numerous electric outages that plagued residents from 2014 through 2017. That investigation occurred

over the last year and resulted in a series of findings showing the utility did not act prudently in preventing and reacting to the numerous outages.

"The Council conducted an investigation over the last year, which resulted in a series of findings that supported that ENO did not act prudently in preventing and reacting to the numerous outages. ENO has a primary obligation to provide reliable electric service to its customers. The investigation confirmed my concerns that they were not living up to this obligation. As a result, tens of thousands of residents, businesses and visitors were severely inconvenienced over the course of several years. I think this \$1M fine will go a long way to assure that will never happen again," said Councilmember Brossett.



Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Celebration

At its meeting on October 3, the Council held a special order of business in celebration of Breast Cancer Awareness Month featuring a presentation and panel discussion with local healthcare experts, advocates, and survivors including Dr. Jennifer Avengo, New Orleans Health Department; Dr. Denise Roubion-Johnson, Louisiana Breast & Cervical Health Program; Dr. Dwight McKenna, City of New Orleans Coroner; Senator Diana F. Bajoie; Lisa W. Plunkett, Susan G. Komen New Orleans Affiliate; Donyel Bocage, Scott Eli Jackson Foundation; Lisa McKenzie, You Night; 7th District NOPD Detective Shondell Fields; and Retired NOPD Police Sergeant and breast cancer survivor Becky Benelli.

Following the presentation, each Councilmember presented a proclamation to a breast cancer honoree of their choosing to recognize them for courage and advocacy in



fighting the disease, which affects **one in eight women in the United States**. To kick-off the first order of business, the Council received a special performance from the Black Feather Mardi Gras Indians. Additionally, **the Council provided free mammogram screenings** for pre-registered City employees in Duncan Plaza across from City Hall throughout the day. **With approximately 683 City employees having been affected by breast cancer**, the Council was proud to welcome this year's presenters and honorees as part of continued efforts to raise awareness and ensure early detection.

Council Aims to Alleviate Criminal Justice Debt from Traffic Violations

The Council passed an ordinance and corresponding resolution amending the City Code relative to the imposition and collection of fines, urging municipal and traffic court judges to forgive criminal justice debt for those without the financial means to provide payment.

Ordinance 32,776 amended the way the City imposes and collects fines, explicitly mandates the ability to pay determinations and rescinded Section 50-108 relative to release from imprisonment upon payment. **Under the new law, only municipal court judges have the authority to impose a fine or penalty upon conviction in municipal court, and no fine can be imposed without the judge conducting a thorough assessment of whether or not the defendant can afford to pay.** If a defendant is found unable to pay the designated fine, the judge will consider alternative, non-financial sanctions.

Resolution R-19-370 urged municipal and traffic court judges to forgive unconstitutionally-assessed criminal justice debt and nullify outstanding warrants. Per the approved resolution, **at least 45,557 individuals were at risk for possible arrest and unable to pass background checks to secure employment due to outstanding warrants from New Orleans' Municipal and Traffic Courts.** The approved resolution called upon the Administration to provide these entities and their staff with the necessary tools to facilitate a comprehensive warrant, fine and fee forgiveness program, preferably within the next three months.

With these initiatives, the Council enhanced the welfare of all New Orleanians, particularly those who have historically been denied equal access to economic prosperity, by addressing destructive cycles of poverty and incarceration.



The Council approved Motion M-19-213 supporting the planned development and construction of a new mixed-income housing development located at 4100 Royal Street. The proposed development of the site, which had been recently made available under the City’s inclusionary zoning laws, includes 82 affordable units in a high opportunity neighborhood.

Proposed Bywater HANO Development Moves Forward

“Since May, future residents of the site, housing advocates, the developer, and neighbors met four times and presented a final report to City Planning Commission with their recommendations,” said Councilmember Palmer. “I want to thank all parties for their thoughtful work, making provisions and creating a project that is better poised for long-term success in the Bywater.”

Authorization of Additional Measures to Limit Proliferation of Small Box Retail Stores

The Council approved Zoning Docket 78/19, which further amended the CZO to limit Small Box Retail proliferation throughout New Orleans. The “Small Box Retail Diversity Study” was commissioned in June 2018 to address discount stores in close proximity that fail to offer fresh fruits and vegetables and negatively impact the plans of conventional grocery stores. The study identified **36 small box stores** in New Orleans and **12 in District “E”** with only three grocery stores in the district.

“Residents across my district have expressed their wants and needs for greater diversity of retail shopping choices and balanced development,” said Councilmember Nguyen. “We are proud to announce the approval of this zoning docket, which addresses residents’ concerns by establishing density and litter abatement requirements for small box retail stores throughout the city.”

In summary, the approved zoning change accomplished the following:

- Prohibited a small box store from opening within 2 miles of another in New Orleans East and the Westbank, and prohibited opening within 1 mile of another store in all other areas of the city;
- Provided incentives for grocery stores to move into District “E” by allowing 5,000 extra square feet of floor area for any store located on Chef Menteur Highway, Hayne Boulevard, Downman Road, or Morrison Road;
- Required one trash can per 30 feet of store frontage and daily litter cleanup on the public right of way; and
- Prohibited outside storage except for ice and propane tanks.



COUNCIL DISTRICT	# OF SMALL BOX DISCOUNT STORES
A	4
B	3
C	9
D	9
E	11
TOTAL	36

New Sobering Center Approved for Publicly Intoxicated Offenders

The Council passed Ordinance 32,814, which amended the City Code to establish a diversion facility for individuals charged with public intoxication. The Sobering Center provides a safe, controlled environment for these non-violent offenders to stay until the effects of their consumed alcohol have safely diminished. The approved ordinance provided the following requirements for the center's establishment:

- Only adults may be diverted to the Sobering Center
- Verbal consent must be provided by the individual
- If the individual is combative with an officer at any point, they will not be transferred to the Sobering Center
- If the individual is demonstrably unable to comprehend or understand the process of diversion, they will be brought to an appropriate facility to receive medical attention
- If the individual poses a threat to themselves or others, they will not be transferred to the Sobering Center
- If the individual's words or actions indicate that it would be futile to attempt a diversion strategy, they will not be transferred to the Sobering Center

The 25-bed facility located at 732 N. Claiborne Ave. welcomes and cares for anyone deemed publicly intoxicated, including people with substance abuse disorders who live on the streets, as well as visitors to New Orleans who have over-imbibed. Rather than remaining on the streets, vulnerable individuals are now removed from harm's way and/or escalating



situations and brought to a safe, secure environment until they are able to make more conscious choices. The Sobering Center represents a more compassionate, effective and appropriate destination for these people, who are now placed under the care of trained professionals and monitored for specific cues while recovering from alcohol impairment.

"I'm so proud of the work we've done to create a much more thoughtful way of dealing with these types of alcohol-related incidents," said Councilmember Gisleson Palmer. "As one of the top tourism destinations in the world, people are coming here to celebrate and enjoy our city. The previous practice of treating our visitors as criminals and placing them in jail is not how we want to be represented. I want to thank our hospitality industry partners for kicking in to help make this center a reality, and Odyssey House for all they've done to spearhead this project and get it up and running so quickly."



Council Asks State Legislature to Support Tax Exemptions for Feminine Products

Following the “Tampon Tax Protest” in November 2019, the Council adopted Resolution R-19-497 by President Helena Moreno, urging the Louisiana State Legislature to champion legislation that would end local taxes on feminine hygiene products and diapers.

“Many women in our city and across our state have to make tough choices in order to make

ends meet, and we should do everything we can to make these basic necessities accessible to everyone,” said Councilmember Moreno. “No mother should have to choose between buying food or diapers for their babies, and none of our girls should have to miss school because they don’t have tampons or sanitary pads.”

The adopted resolution affirmed the Council’s commitment to protect those individuals and families already experiencing financial instability from further risk due to access and affordability issues surrounding these products.

Q4 HISTORICAL & CULTURAL PRESERVATION

Annual Military Appreciation Day Celebrates Local Heroes

On Dec. 5, the Council hosted nearly 200 servicemen and women in celebration of Military Day. The Mayor’s Military Advisory Committee (MMAC) Chairman Major General David Mize provided an overview of the organization’s 2019 Annual Report.

Following Major General Mize’s presentation, the Council heard operations updates from local senior military officials including General William Souza (Marine Forces Reserve),



General Greg Parker (Louisiana National Guard), General Bowman Bowles (U.S. Army Reserve), Captain Kristi Luttrell (U.S. Coast Guard and first female Captain of the Port of New Orleans), Captain Anthony F. Scarpino (Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base), Colonel Stephen Murphy (Army Corps of Engineers), Colonel Matt Rippen (Louisiana Air National Guard), Commander Larry Jones, and more.

The presentations highlighted various support programs offered to local service members and veterans, the economic and social benefits associated with local military organizations, and the retention and growth of military bases throughout the New Orleans area.





Council Encourages Healthy Food Options and Sustainable Agriculture

The Council approved a zoning change and corresponding resolution that 1.) updated applicable use standards for food preparation, processing and packaging, and 2.) actively supported efforts to increase the equity of the local food system through sustainable agriculture. Zoning Docket 79/19 accomplished the following:

- Established/revised definitions of Home Processed Food Products and Agriculture; and
- Defined/updated applicable use standards for Agriculture, Food Preparation, Processing, and Packaging, and Retail Sales.

The approved text amendments, as recommended in the 2018 “Small Box Retail Diversity Study,” support urban agriculture and promote fresh food produce outlets within walking distance of residents. Small box retail stores tend to pop up in “food deserts,” where few major grocery stores exist, such as

New Orleans East. The approved changes will help reduce zoning barriers to the processing and distribution of fresh local food products, facilitate healthy food access for residents, and improve public health citywide.

“Across the city, and especially in my district, low-income residents and families are suffering due to the lack of fresh food retailers in their neighborhoods,” said Councilmember Cyndi Nguyen. “Since being elected to the Council, I have worked closely alongside my constituents to address the over-saturation of small box retail stores in their communities. The legislation passed today represents another significant step forward in the right direction to ensuring that all New Orleanians have equitable access to fresh and healthy food options nearby.”

Every dollar spent locally on food returns two to four times as much into the local economy. Therefore, the Council stressed the critical need to support local food procurement in New Orleans by public and private anchor institutions who hold significant buying power and are capable of reforming the food system to create opportunities for smaller farmers and low-income entrepreneurs of color.

New Orleans’ obesity rate of 30.9% and food insecurity rate of 23.7% represent some of the highest in the country, and diet-related diseases have been shown to cost billions in healthcare costs each year. To address these issues, the approved resolution supported the efforts of local nonprofits such as Propeller, the New Orleans Food Policy Advisory Committee, marketumbrella.org, SPROUT NOLA, and the Wallace Center, to undertake efforts to build market demand for local foods while supporting local farms in capacity building. This multi-sector movement will bring about a heightened public awareness about where food is coming from while creating a more sustainable and resilient food system in New Orleans.

Food Policy Advisory Committee Authorized for Another Year

The Council adopted Resolution R-19-501 re-establishing the Food Policy Advisory Committee for an additional year to provide recommendations and advise the Council on food and farming initiatives. The committee was created in 2007 to address various community needs involving food security and food access, and was reinstated by the Council in August 2018 in light of heightened concerns.

Research continues to indicate that lower-income New Orleans communities are disproportionately affected by health-related diseases due to the lack of access to affordable, healthy food options. Poor nutrition, particularly

among children, can lead to a host of physical, behavioral and developmental risks that can lead to serious, long-term issues relative to health, cognitive ability, mental growth, and academic performance.

The Food Policy Advisory Committee allows the Council to continue its work to address this critical issue by increasing access to nutritional foods for low-income families and empowering the food and farming industries to create jobs, opportunities and increased personal wealth. The committee is comprised of a diverse group of representatives from the agricultural, public health, retail, and food distribution industries.

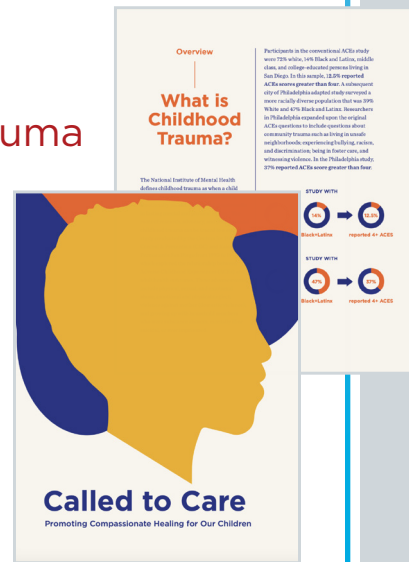
Q4 NOTABLE ORDERS OF BUSINESS

Local Task Force Presents Findings on Childhood Trauma

On Oct. 17, the Council received a report from members of the Children and Youth Planning Board (CYPB) Task Force with their strategy for mitigating the effects of childhood trauma citywide. The CYPB entity was formed in August 2018 by Council Resolution R-18-344, which called for the creation one-year task force to develop a comprehensive plan to reduce the occurrence and impact of trauma on children and families within the City of New Orleans.

The final report included the task force’s recommendations for reducing the effects of trauma on New Orleans youth by providing them with the tools and opportunities needed to achieve lifelong success. Titled “Called to Care,” the report included a comprehensive plan and with specific tactics for the prevention of trauma, proper assessment of childhood trauma, and effective intervention to help children and families heal.

“This work is so important for our city. If we do this right and invest more into our children and intervention services, we’ll have fewer people in jail, and pay far less as taxpayers. This report is a tremendous step in the right direction for our youth, but to ensure it becomes more than just another report, we need an actionable plan for its implementation. We must continue to fund this work - and grow it - because we’re only just getting started. This government is finally seeing New Orleans children as its responsibility, and we will remain committed to them throughout this budget process,” said Councilmember Williams.



Inaugural Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway Event Held in District D

Leading up to the 2019 holiday season, Councilmember Brossett and the District “D” staff held their first Thanksgiving Giveaway Event in partnership with Winn-Dixie at the Beacon Light Church. The inaugural event included the donation of 500 free turkeys from Winn-Dixie to local residents and families, as well as a variety of additional giveaways and gift cards from sponsors including AT&T, Total Community Action (TCA) and Harrah’s New Orleans.



“While for many of us, Thanksgiving represents a joyous occasion with loved ones, food and friends, for others, it can be a time of great financial and emotional stress. That’s why my staff and I are so proud to bring this event to District D to help ease the burden for those families and ensure Thanksgiving is a time all of us can enjoy. I’m incredibly grateful for the generosity of Winn-Dixie and our various partners for helping us make this dream a reality,” said Councilmember Brossett.

THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION

- ▶ Happening tomorrow
- ▶ 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- ▶ Donating 500 turkeys (one per family)
- ▶ Beacon Light Church
1937 Mirabeau Ave

Hosted by Councilman Jared Brossett & Winn-Dixie

CELEBRATING 70 YEARS WDSU





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Development Projects Committee

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and Environment Committee

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