

VCPORA's Weekly Vieux - May 29, 2020

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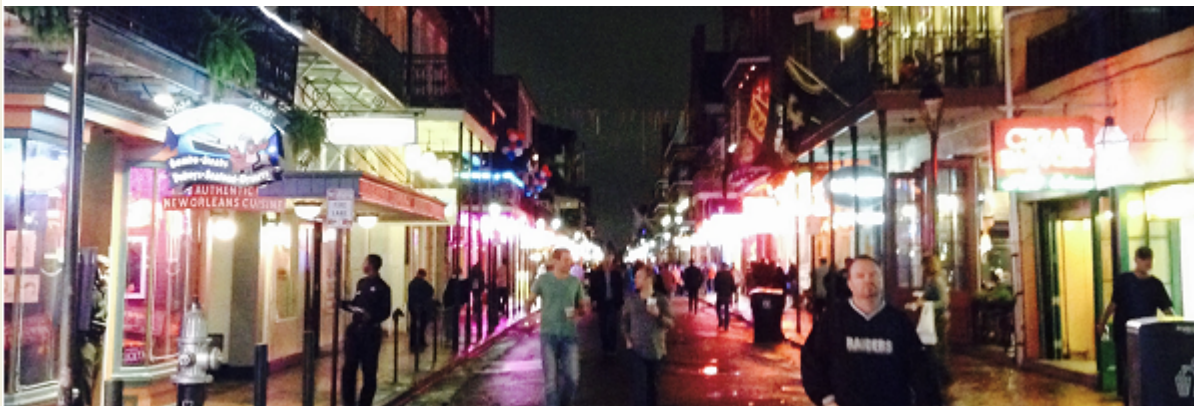
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VCPORA's Weekly Vieux Friday, May 29, 2020

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Expanded Outdoor Seating & Pedestrianization

During Phase 1 of New Orleans "reopening," restaurants are allowed a maximum of 25% capacity, a threshold that cannot sustain most businesses given staffing and operational costs. To create opportunities for these struggling businesses, the Administration and City Council are considering measures taken in other cities, including [Tampa](#), [Atlanta](#), and [Cincinnati](#), to expand dining capacity outside. Facing logistical challenges, some cities, like [New York](#), have dialed back their efforts.

On Wednesday, Mayor LaToya Cantrell discussed creating opportunities for supporting the French Quarter during a [town hall meeting](#). "I call it, ["No cars in the Quarter,"](#) Cantrell said of her idea. "This is the city's time to reimagine just how we live, how we move about, how we enjoy, and how we get to know and learn the fabric of our city."

It was unclear if she was referring to limiting some vehicular traffic while allowing for basic services and access to residential homes or if she is envisioning a complete prohibition of vehicles in the neighborhood. It has certainly sparked a lot of [conversation](#).

As these ideas are only in an exploratory phase, it is crucial that all French Quarter stakeholders are engaged in this process, every step of the way. VCPORA is currently in discussions with the Mayor's Administration and District C Councilmember to explore creative opportunities to engage locals with the heart of our City. Our residents value the neighborhood-serving businesses that contribute to the authenticity of this mixed-use neighborhood. We look forward to working with the City to ensure that such reopening measures balance the needs of residents, businesses, and emergency services.

Many of you have contacted our office with your thoughts on these ideas. **Please**

continue to do so! We want to hear from you.



GiveNOLA Day – Tuesday!

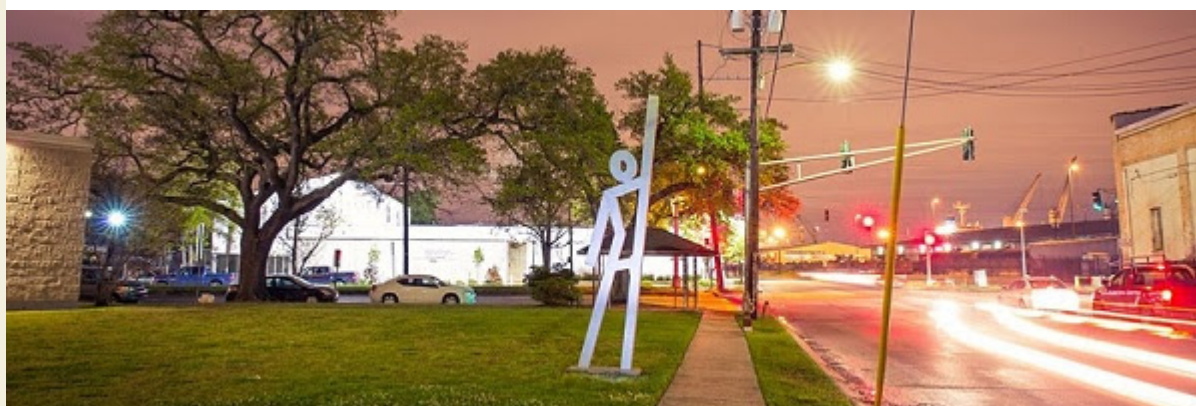
Next Tuesday, June 2nd is [Give NOLA Day](#), hosted by the Greater New Orleans Foundation. This one-day online giving event inspires people to give to the non-profit of their choice – and **we hope VCPORA is yours!** As virtually all VCPORA's fundraising events have been cancelled or indefinitely postponed this year, your donations are needed now more than ever to help advocate for the preservation and protection of the Vieux Carré as an international historic treasure.

Your donations will help cover operating costs so that we may continue to fight for residential quality of life, the retention of historic character, sustainable tourism, and much, much more. Schedule your gift today by visiting our profile at www.givenola.org/vcpora.



Mask Giveaway Tomorrow

Councilmember Helena Moreno and partners will distribute 10,000 free face coverings tomorrow in order to help prevent further spread of COVID-19. The giveaway will run from 10:00 a.m. - noon at select locations throughout Greater New Orleans, including at the Treme Recreation Community Center, [900 N. Villere Street](#). This giveaway is open to the community. Read Councilmember Moreno's [press release](#) for more information.



Evacuteers Needed

New Orleans residents are encouraged to become [NOLA Ready Evacuation Volunteers](#) during the 2020 hurricane season, which starts June 1. The first volunteer training will be held online at 6:00 p.m. next Thursday, June 4. An estimated 35,000 New Orleanians are unable to evacuate on their own ahead of a major storm. City-Assisted Evacuation, run by NOHSEP and the New Orleans Fire Department, provides transportation assistance as an option of last resort for these residents during a mandatory evacuation order.

Due to the unique nature of this hurricane season occurring simultaneously with the COVID-19 pandemic, organizing volunteers in 2020 will involve key medical and health considerations best informed by the strategic leadership of NOHSEP

and NOMRC. NOLA Ready Evacuation Volunteers will be trained online, will undergo a background check, and will also be called upon for other public safety volunteer opportunities year-round. Due to COVID-19, all staff, volunteers, and evacuees will be provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and will be required to socially distance if a mandatory evacuation is necessary. See Eventbrite for [more information and registration](#).



#FQThenandNow

VCPORA and the [Vieux Carré Commission Foundation](#) continue our #FQThenAndNow series this week with a post on the Beuregard-Keyes House. Head over to [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to check it out. This weekly series showcases historic pictures, current pictures, and fun facts about our favorite French Quarter locales. Follow #FQThenAndNow the [Vieux Carré Commission Foundation](#) so you don't miss any upcoming posts from this series.

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