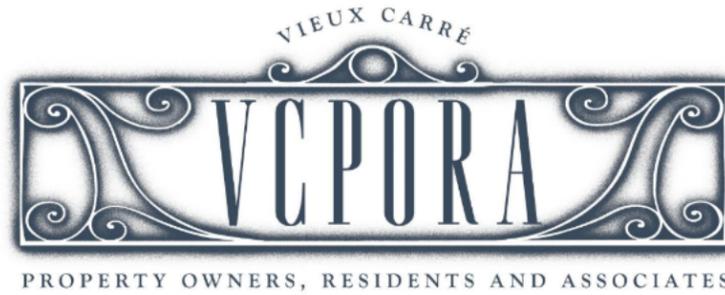


**Weekly Vieux: Coronavirus Update - Resources, tips, and additional information**

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**NOLA** READY  
THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

## Coronavirus Update: Resources, tips, and additional information

During this difficult time, VCPORA is continuously monitoring the ongoing public health crisis and how it is affecting residents and businesses in the French Quarter and across the city. We are maintaining conversations with the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Engagement and District C Councilmember Kristin Gisleson Palmer to provide resources, share important information, and get updates on new COVID-19 related developments with the City.

New Orleans is experiencing substantial community spread of COVID-19, faster than other US cities. As testing is expanded, health experts are expecting to see dramatic increases in confirmed cases.

**Make sure you stay up-to-date with facts by visiting [NolaReady](#) and sign up for text updates by texting COVIDNOLA to 888777.**

**Please comply** with Mayor LaToya Cantrell's issued mandate to stay home unless you are going out for critical needs, which include visits to the grocery store, pharmacy, and doctor appointments. Restaurants that are offering drive-through, curbside and delivery food service are considered essential services so restaurant workers can travel to and from work. This does not mean you must stay indoors! Go for a walk with your dog, take in the beautiful weather and get some exercise - just practice safe social distancing by staying six feet from others.

Wash your hands frequently, wipe down surfaces with disinfectant and cough or sneeze into your elbow. Basically, behave as if you have the virus and you are trying not to transmit it to others.

You can read the full Health Department guidelines and directives [here](#).



**Drive-Through Testing has been expanded to any symptomatic individual**

The New Orleans Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness and the New Orleans Health Department announced the expansion of testing criteria at two drive-through COVID-19 testing locations in Orleans Parish. Beginning Sunday, March 22, the testing will be available daily to any individual with a fever and other symptoms, with a cap of 100 tests per day, per site.

Locations - open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily or until the daily cap of 100 tests has been reached at an individual site.

- **Mahalia Jackson Theater Parking Lot**  
1419 Basin Street, New Orleans, LA 70116
- **University of New Orleans Lakefront Arena Parking Lot**  
6801 Franklin Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70148

More information on procedures can be found [here](#).



## Meal Assistance

### Free Food Pantry

In partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank, Kristin Palmer will be providing a free drive through and walk-up food pantry for hospitality and gig economy workers affected by COVID-19.

See the locations for the food pantry this week:

Hospitality Food Pantry	Friday: 3/19	Monday: 3/23	Tuesday: 3/24	Thursday: 3/25	Friday: 3/26
<b>Time:</b>	9:00AM-12:00PM	9:00AM-12:00PM	9:00AM-12:00PM	9:00AM-12:00PM	9:00AM-12:00PM
<b>Location:</b>	Holy Angels 3500 St. Claude Ave. New Orleans, LA 70117	Paul Habans Charter School 3501 Seine St., New Orleans, LA 70114	Paul Habans Charter School 3501 Seine St., New Orleans, LA 70114	Holy Angels 3500 St. Claude Ave. New Orleans, LA 70117	Holy Angels 3500 St. Claude Ave. New Orleans, LA 70117

### Meal Delivery

Councilmember Palmer has also partnered with NOLA Tree Project to deliver hot meals to seniors and homebound residents Mondays through Fridays from 3 - 5 p.m. Additionally, the NOLA Tree Project will be distributing free hot meals for pick up at [1509 Filmore Ave.](#)

If you are elderly or know someone in need of delivery, please contact Connie Udo at [connie@nolatreeproject.org](mailto:connie@nolatreeproject.org) or call (504) 415-8434.



staylocal 



## How you can help

### Support the local economy

You can still support local businesses during the "Stay at Home" mandate. Many restaurants are open for takeout and delivery and local shop owners have shifted to

online sales. Now is a good time to browse their inventory or even stock up on Gift Cards to use as Christmas gifts.

[Restaurants offering takeout](#)

[Restaurants offering Delivery](#)

[Stay Local business directory](#)

Also, follow [#NOLAopen](#) on social media for posts about local food options.

### Donate funds and your time

[New Orleans Council on Aging](#) works to provide Meals on Wheels to elderly residents.

[Second Harvest Food Bank](#) accepts monetary and supply donations and has volunteer opportunities.

The [Greater New Orleans Foundation](#) has activated its [Disaster Response and Restoration Fund](#) to provide assistance to those most in need.

The [NOLA Virtual Tip Jar](#) has a spreadsheet listing Venmo accounts for local service industry workers.

The [New Orleans Business Alliance](#) has set up a [gig economy worker relief fund](#).

The [Blood Center](#) urges Americans to donate to ensure the continued adequacy of blood supply.

### Get involved in advocacy efforts

Join the [National Trust for Historic Preservation](#) in their efforts to [urge Congress to include the nonprofit museum community](#) in coronavirus economic relief legislation to provide emergency assistance. Museums, historic sites, and other cultural institutions comprise a \$50 billion industry and employ more than 726,000 Americans. Museums nationwide are losing at least \$33 million a day due to closures as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19).

**Support Local Transit - RIDE New Orleans** is asking for your help to secure emergency federal funding so transit service can keep rolling in the short-term and isn't decimated over the long-term by this emergency. The New Orleans Regional Transit Authority (RTA) gets almost 90 percent of its funding from two sources – local sales tax and passenger fares. That means an expected huge drop in ridership and tourism due to COVID-19 could spell disaster for the agency. [You can reach out to Congress to prioritize transit in their proposed economic stimulus package.](#)



U.S. Small Business  
Administration



### Additional Resources and Information

The Senate has released its **\$1 trillion Coronavirus Relief Plan** which must now go to the House. You can read more [here](#).

**Small Business Administration** - Small businesses are now eligible for federal disaster loan assistance through [SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans \(EIDL\)](#) which offer up to \$2 million in assistance for each affected small business and most non-profits in declared-disasters areas.

The **Louisiana Workforce Commission** (LWC) has released [unemployment benefits](#) for workers in Louisiana who have been impacted by COVID-19.

**Looking for Work?** In the wake of economic changes that have taken place as a result of the coronavirus, some companies are in need of workers. [GNO, Inc. has compiled a running list on WorkNOLA.com](#) of companies looking to fill immediate labor needs.



### Online exploration while you are staying at home

From the Monterey Bay Aquarium to the National Museum of Natural History in Washington to the Picasso Museum in Barcelona, [many cultural attractions are offering virtual tours](#).

The National Trust for Historic Preservation hosts [Distinctive Destinations: Sites for the Armchair Traveler](#) if you want to catch up on their amazing historic preservation efforts.

NPR has a [A List Of Live Virtual Concerts](#) to watch.

You can virtually tour many [National Parks](#) from your couch.

The [Georgia Aquarium](#) has webcams streaming most of their exhibits - check in on the whale sharks, jellyfish and sea otters.

### Are there more resources that you are looking for or do you have some additional ideas?

Share them with us at [info@vcpora.org](mailto:info@vcpora.org) and [erinholmes@vcpora.org](mailto:erinholmes@vcpora.org)

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