

VCPORA's Weekly Vieux Friday, August 28, 2020

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Photo by Marta Jewson via The Lens

Economic Development District Survey

Last week, we wrote about the French Quarter Economic Development District (FQ EDD) and the French Quarter Management District (FQMD) entering into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement in order fund the Supplemental Police Patrol Program (SPPP) using the French Quarter security sales tax. Now, FQMD is asking French Quarter property owners, residents, business owners, and workers to take [this survey](#) and share what they would like to see prioritized in that CEA. Additional background on the FQ EDD and the security sales tax can be found on the [FQMD website](#).

FQMD has also released the [French Quarter Security Assessment](#), a third-party independent study that reviewed the current security and safety infrastructure in the French Quarter. Notably, the study recommends that the various security services be consolidated, NOPD/residential relationships strengthen through an increase in patrols, and that firearms be banned within 50 feet of an ABO. FQMD must now consider these recommendations in light of the CEA.

As before, VCPORA will work to ensure that the priorities of French Quarter stakeholders are addressed during the creation of the CEA and will continue to provide updates on this matter as it develops.

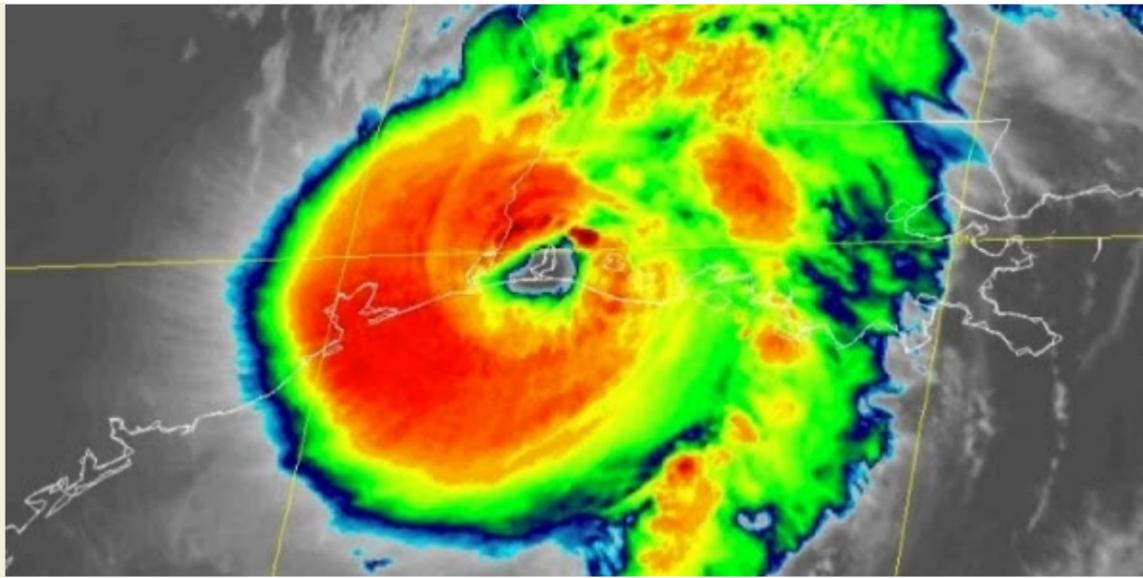


Photo via the National Hurricane Center

Hurricane Laura Relief Opportunities

Earlier this week, Hurricane Laura made landfall on the Texas and Louisiana coast, destroying thousands of structures and displacing hundreds of thousands more. In response, Second Harvest Food Bank is looking for volunteers 15 years of age and older to help package 10,000 meals a day to those affected. Shifts of 90 minutes are available during select times Monday - Friday. Individuals can sign up for shifts using the [Second Harvest online calendar](#).

Additionally, NOLA Ready has compiled a [list of organizations](#) that are responding directly to the damage on the ground. Consider donating today. Councilmember Moreno has also put together a list of [resources](#), [places to donate](#), and [volunteer opportunities](#) for those interested in helping relief efforts.

Lastly, Councilmember Moreno, Mayor LaToya Cantrell, and City partners are assembling care bags for evacuees currently located in New Orleans. Hurricane Laura evacuees can receive these care bags tomorrow, August 29, from 9:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at United Way of Southeast Louisiana, [2515 Canal Street](#). See [this press release](#) for details.



5G Update

On August 12, 2020, a decision was made in the City of Portland v. United States case that was heard in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals on February 10, 2020. The Federal Communications Commission has defeated dozens of cities in court (including Portland, Oregon; San Francisco; New York City; Los Angeles; Boston; Chicago; Washington, DC; Las Vegas; Philadelphia; Austin, Texas; and others), with judges ruling that the FCC can preempt local fees and regulations imposed on wireless carriers deploying 5G networks.

Rather than give the FCC a complete victory, the judges' panel overturned the commission's preemption of certain aesthetic requirements that cities and towns impose on cellular installations. The FCC ruled that "aesthetics requirements are not preempted if they are (1) reasonable, (2) no more burdensome than those applied to other types of infrastructure deployments, and (3) objective and published in advance." [Click here](#) for more information.

In addition, the Mayor's Office of Utilities is expecting a prototype 5G lamppost pole to be temporarily "installed" in mid-September. The prototype will be on wheels and will be placed in different locations throughout the French Quarter for scale and comment. We are pleased that VCPORA, along with other French Quarter groups, have had the opportunity to contribute to minimizing the effects of 5G installation in the historic Vieux Carre.



2020 Census
District Challenge

ARE YOU LEADING?



2020 Census Update

District C is in [fourth place](#) for the census responses among the Council District Offices. Help us take the lead by filling out the Census today! Respond by mail, phone, or online at my2020census.gov. It's quick, easy, safe, secure, and confidential. Both American citizens and non-citizens should respond.

Did you know? The results of the census are used to reapportion seats in the House of Representatives; to redraw boundaries of congressional and state legislative districts; and to help determine the distribution of more than \$675 billion in federal spending on schools, hospitals, roads, public works, and other vital programs. Due to a low response to the census in 2010, Louisiana lost a seat in Congress. Encourage a higher response in 2020. View updated response rates online [on the census website](#).



Hard Rock Hotel Update

Mayor LaToya Cantrell announced earlier this week that the City of New Orleans has [filed suit](#) against the parties responsible for the fatal collapse of the Hard Rock project, which killed Anthony Magrette, Quinnyon Wimberly, Jose Ponce Arreola. The suit, which names the building owner Mohan Kailas, his partners, and their contractors, seeks damages on behalf of the City. The City cites property damage, infrastructural damage, and public resources totaling \$12.3 million in taxpayer money. More details on the suit to come as it progresses.



#FQThenandNow

VCPORA and the [Vieux Carré Commission Foundation](#) continue our #FQThenAndNow series this week with a post on the Old Absinthe 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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