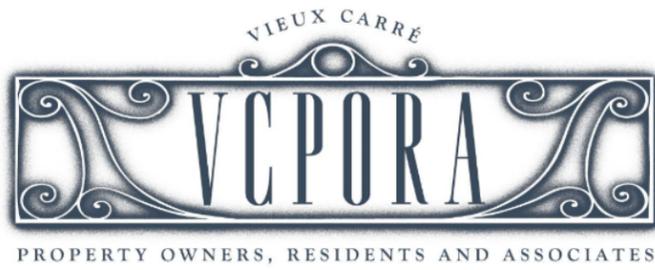


VCPORA's Weekly Vieux - July 24, 2020

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Fri, Jul 24, 2020 at 4:51 PM



VCPORA's Weekly Vieux
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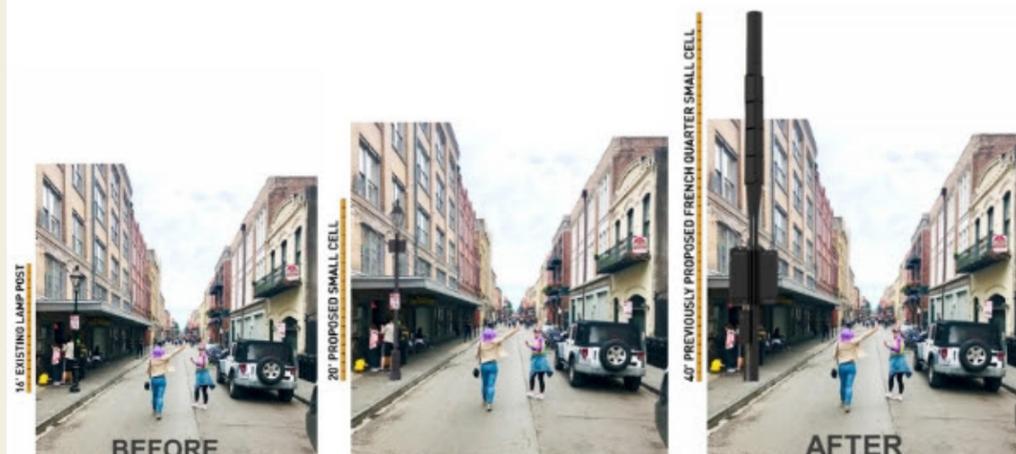
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COVID-19 Regulation Update

In a [press conference](#) this afternoon, Mayor Latoya Cantrell announced the temporary prohibition of all take-out alcohol sales in Orleans Parish beginning tomorrow, July 25, 2020 at 6:00 a.m. This regulation is meant to eliminate continued gatherings outside of bars and restaurants which Mayor Cantrell described as having gotten "out of control".

She also announced the dedication of \$250,000 toward the expansion of outside dining at restaurants. Applicants may be awarded individual grants up to \$6,000 to purchase tables, chairs, tents, and other supplies necessary to safely facilitate a safe outdoor dining experience. Mayor Cantrell suggested that additional funds may become available following the review of the curbside dining and parklet pilot program in the coming months. All other [Phase 2 guidelines](#) are in effect until further notice.



5G: Small Cell Infrastructure Public Meeting

Thursday, July 30

6:00 p.m.

Dial-in: (504) 658-7001

Access code: 197 547 57

This is a reminder that next Thursday evening, the Mayor's Office of Utilities and the Vieux Carre Commission are collaborating to provide information about the status of small cell infrastructure in New Orleans, particularly as it relates to deployments in the French Quarter. Cellular and wireless companies are currently deploying this technology across the country, including here in New Orleans, and have proposed a deployment of small cells in the French Quarter. [Click here](#) for the presentation.

Visit [the City's website](#) for more information on this community meeting and to sign up. To submit questions about the project prior to the meeting, please email District C Liaison Allison Cormier at allison.cormier@nola.gov. The proposal for small cell poles in the French Quarter is currently in the design phase. The City of New Orleans would like to provide residents and businesses with an introduction and updates on the issue, including:

1. Introduction to Small Cell Technology
2. Federal and Local Regulations of Small Cell Deployments
3. Proposed Design for Small Cell Poles
4. Protections for the Tout Ensemble of the French Quarter

In February, the city instructed the wireless carriers (Verizon, AT&T, etc.) that they would need to initiate a [Section 106 Review](#) process to determine any adverse impacts to historic sites when considering the placement of their network poles. We have been communicating with the State Historic Preservation Office and are aware of one proposal, submitted by Verizon, for the deployment of 128 communications antennae within the French Quarter. At this time, the status of this review process is unclear.

Additionally, in late May, the Louisiana Legislature passed [House Resolution 145](#) requesting the Department of Environmental Quality, in conjunction with the Louisiana Department of Health, to study the environmental and health effects of evolving 5G technology. A report of their findings should be submitted to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the House Committee on Health and Welfare no later than sixty days prior to the convening of the 2020 Regular Session of the Legislature.

We will be submitting questions regarding the Section 106 process and the impact of House Resolution 145 on the future deployment of 5G cell towers during the meeting and encourage you to attend and submit your questions and concerns.

See previous report of this technology [here](#).



Hard Rock Demolition Update

Demolition is underway at the Hard Rock Hotel at [1031 Canal Street](#), nine months after the partial collapse of the building left three workers dead and dozens more injured. Crews have successfully dismantled several walls on the N Rampart side to help rescue crews recover the still-trapped bodies of workers Quinnyon Wimberly and Jose Ponce Arreola. New Orleans Fire Department Superintendent Tim McConnell suggested in a [press conference](#) on Monday that crews may be able to recover these bodies within the next two weeks.

[NOLA Ready](#) also noted earlier this week that the recent "loud pounding noises" audible in the CBD and French Quarter are attributable to the site's large jack hammer. "This tool will be used intermittently over the next few weeks during daytime hours." For more information on the demolition and recovery, see [this NOLA.com article](#).



District C Public Safety Conversation

Friday, July 31

11:00 a.m.

Dial-in: (504) 658-7001

Access code: 197 547 57

This is a reminder that next Friday, the Office of Neighborhood Engagement and members of the New Orleans Police Department will host a meeting to hear about the current state of public safety in District C. To register for this meeting, please go to [the City's website](#). Questions can be directed toward District C Liaison Allison Cormier at allison.cormier@nola.gov.

Guest speakers include Captain Lejon Roberts, 1st District Captain; Lawrence Dupree, 4th District Captain; Frank Young, 5th District Captain; and Anthony Caprera, 8th District Captain. This meeting is designed to give residents the opportunity to hear about City programs, initiatives, and operations directly from City officials and representatives.



Utility Bill Assistance

Mayor Cantrell is encouraging eligible residents and businesses impacted by COVID-19 to take advantage of important utility bill assistance programs. Sewerage and Water Board New Orleans offers a [Water Help / Plumbing Assistance Program](#) for elderly, disabled and economically disadvantaged customers in paying their water bills and making minor plumbing repairs. SWBNO has also rolled out the [Customer Cares Pay Plan](#) for customers impacted by COVID-19 and economic downturn.

Meanwhile, Entergy New Orleans offers bill assistance for customers unemployed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic through the ["Council Cares Program"](#); bill assistance for low-income households through the [Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program \(LIHEAP\)](#); and flexible payment options for financially burdened customers through the [Enhanced Customer Assistance Plan](#). All of these utility assistance programs and other essential information can be found on the [NOLA Ready website](#) here.



Traffic Advisory

Beginning today, the intersection of Dauphine and St. Ann will reopen and the intersection of Bourbon and St. Ann will close. The closure is required to accommodate utility upgrades and repairs as part of the [St. Ann Full Depth Reconstruction Project](#). Flaggers and signage will be in place at Bourbon Street and Orleans Avenue to direct traffic during the closure.

The intersection at Dauphine and St. Ann streets will be back filled with asphalt while it is temporarily reopened; crews will return in late August and close intersection for approximately two more weeks to resolve a utility conflict. The entire project is scheduled to be completed in September 2020, weather permitting. Questions about this project should be directed to (504) 658-7623 or roadwork@nola.gov.



#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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