

VCPORA's Weekly Vieux Friday, September 25, 2020

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**Code Adjudication**  **City of New Orleans**  
 Code Enforcement and Safety & Permits **September 24, 2020**

<p><b>Enhanced Short-Term Rental Enforcement</b></p>	<p><b>INTERNAL CONTROLS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NOPD Alliance</li> <li>• Increase Night and Weekend Inspections</li> <li>• Progressive Collection of Evidence</li> <li>• Delisting</li> <li>• Prioritized Adjudication</li> </ul> <p><b>EXTERNAL CONTROLS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Airbnb City Portal</li> <li>• Expedia Cooperation</li> <li>• Platform Licensing</li> </ul>
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Short Term Rental Enforcement Update

The City Council Government Affairs Committee met yesterday to review a presentation on code enforcement and the discussion quickly turned to enforcement of the new Short Term Rental laws that went into effect last December. Safety and Permits Director Tammie Jackson presented an update on her office's activities and answered Councilmember questions.

All adjudication hearings against STR violations have been put on hold since the December 13, 2019 cyber-attack on City Hall's servers. The COVID-19 pandemic further delayed the return of normal procedures. Director Jackson announced that these **adjudications hearings will resume on October 21, 2020** and cited an increase in her department's inspection capacities, in partnership with NOPD, to capture evidence of wrongdoing on nights and weekends.

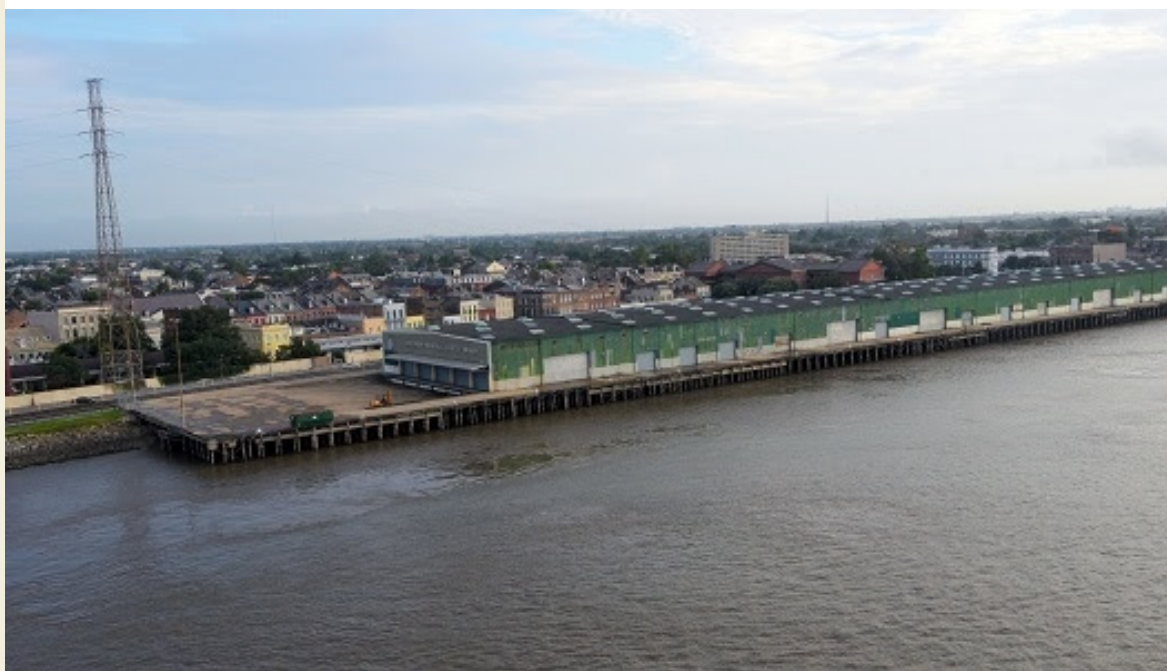
During the past six months, residents and neighborhood groups have continuously noted little to no enforcement of the existing restrictions on the Short Term Rental industry, from party houses flagrantly violating social distancing rules, to the expansion of allowable units per building, and the

continued creep of STRs into the French Quarter where they are mostly prohibited. Without the adequate enforcement through adjudications and fines, City Council shared their constituents' frustrations that all the efforts put into reforming these laws feels wasted.

The Council pushed on the potential for pulling an electric meter, a punitive measure used in extreme cases by the city, and considered the creation of a new ordinance that could cap the number of violations, or finalized hearings before triggering this next step. Councilmember Palmer also noted that the public need assurances that the city is acting on these complaints and should provide a way to track the violations and receive updates on any complaints they have made.

We are thankful that the adjudication hearings are finally resuming and will continue sharing updates as we receive them. You can watch a recording of [the video on Youtube](#) (the discussion begins at 51:30).

If you have noticed illegal STR operations in the neighborhood, you can report it to the City by emailing [str@nola.gov](mailto:str@nola.gov), utilizing the Safety & Permits [online violation portal](#), or calling 311. Additional information that is helpful in building a case for adjudication includes online advertisements, photographs, and live video.



## Audubon Wharves Update

According to [NOLA.com](http://NOLA.com), the Audubon Nature Institute is asking to borrow \$10 million from a \$15 million escrow account earmarked for the Governor Nicholls and Esplanade [wharves redevelopment](#) so that the company can meet its expenses. On Tuesday, the New Orleans & Co. board voted unanimously to back the Audubon loan. The loan is still subject to approval by the City Council and Mayor LaToya Cantrell. The financial impacts of COVID-19 will undoubtedly delay the [redevelopment of the wharves](#) into a public park and recreational facilities. At this time, the timeline remains unclear. Stay tuned for details.



## Drive-Thru Voter Registration

Champions Square  
Saturday, September 26  
9:00 a.m. - noon

A [drive-thru voter registration](#) will take place tomorrow at Champions Square adjacent to the Superdome's Grand staircase at Gate C. The event, which will also provide a mask giveaway, is an opportunity to register to vote, update your registration, request an absentee ballot, and sign up to be a poll worker.



Separately, Census workers will be helping participants fill out their census forms.



## Phase 2 Guidelines Update

Effective 5:00 p.m. tonight, restaurants in Orleans Parish may resume serving alcoholic beverages through drive-thru, takeout & curbside pick-up between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. The announcement was another in a series of actions that Mayor Cantrell has taken as the City continued in its easing of Phase 2 restrictions.

On Monday, the City announced that the area playgrounds would reopen effective immediately and that high school athletics would be allowed to resume play in early October. The City will continue to monitor the number of cases as the schools move to in-person instruction. Visit [NOLA Ready](#) for more information about COVID-19 ; text COVIDNOLA to 888-777 to receive alerts.



## Quarterly Lunch & Lunch: Sold Out

Tickets to the first installment of our Quarterly Lunch and Learn series with Windsor Court Hotel are sold out! We appreciate the enthusiastic response to **Preservation and Tourism in the Vieux Carre: How it All Began** by Ann Masson, and we eagerly look forward to enjoying hearing her speak over lunch. Stay tuned for future installments in this series.





# Hurricane Laura Relief Opportunities

Recovery from Hurricane Laura is ongoing, with help needed for the roughly 10,500 Hurricane Laura evacuees sheltering in New Orleans. Those looking to help can sign up for a shift to [volunteer with HandsOn](#) at the Hurricane Laura Evacuee Resource Center at the Convention Center. Shifts are available Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. or noon to 4:00 p.m.

Individuals can also donate supplies. Desired items include: diapers, wipes, hygiene/personal care supplies and kits, cleaning supplies, books, clothing, electronics, first aid kits, furniture, infant/toddler items, kitchen supplies, linens, PPE, school/office supplies, tools, toys, non-perishable food items, and bottled water. [See here](#) for details on where and when donations can be accepted.

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.



## Historic Preservation Advocacy Alert

The historic Holy Cross School administration building is at risk of demolition by neglect. You can help preserve this c. 1895 building by calling 311 and reporting the neglect to Code Enforcement. You can also contact Angela O'Byrne at [aobyrne@e-perez.com](mailto:aobyrne@e-perez.com) and ask her to stabilize the building immediately. Lastly, you can ask the Mayor and Councilmembers to enforce compliance by using the contact information below. Read more about the site and its importance to the Lower Ninth in [this letter](#) by Louisiana Landmarks' own Sandra Stokes.

District	Councilmember	Email	Phone
Mayor	LaToya Cantrell	<a href="mailto:mayor@nola.gov">mayor@nola.gov</a>	(504) 658-4900
At-Large	Helena Moreno	<a href="mailto:morenocouncil@nola.gov">morenocouncil@nola.gov</a>	(504) 658-1060
At-Large	Jason Williams	<a href="mailto:jasonwilliams@nola.gov">jasonwilliams@nola.gov</a>	(504) 658-1070
District A	Joe Giarrusso	<a href="mailto:joseph.giarrusso@nola.gov">joseph.giarrusso@nola.gov</a>	(504) 658-1010
District B	Jay Banks	<a href="mailto:jay.banks@nola.gov">jay.banks@nola.gov</a>	(504) 658-1020
District C	Kristin Gisleson Palmer	<a href="mailto:kristin.palmer@nola.gov">kristin.palmer@nola.gov</a>	(504) 658-1030
District D	Jared Brossett	<a href="mailto:councildistrictd@nola.gov">councildistrictd@nola.gov</a>	(504) 658-1040
District E	Cyndi Nguyen	<a href="mailto:cyndi.nguyen@nola.gov">cyndi.nguyen@nola.gov</a>	(504) 658-1050



## Traffic Advisory

Tomorrow, September 26, filming will take place between approximately 7:00 a.m.

until 3:00 p.m. along the lake side of the 400 block of Royal Street. No parking will be in effect. See our [Facebook post](#) for more details and contact [The New Orleans Film Office](#) at (504) 658-4341 with questions.

Additionally, on Monday, September 28, the 400-1000 blocks of Barracks Street will temporarily close part of the travel lane and the parking lane. [The project](#) is scheduled to be completed in December, weather permitting. During this time, street parking and/or driveway access will be impacted. Residents and visitors must adhere to any “No Parking” signs on the streets to avoid being ticketed and towed.

Crews will be installing new sidewalks as part of the \$2 million 2020 French Quarter Sidewalk Improvement Plan that’s expected to take three months to complete. Residents and commuters are reminded to use caution when driving, bicycling and walking near the construction site. Questions about this project or RoadworkNOLA should be directed to (504) 658-7623 or [roadwork@nola.gov](mailto:roadwork@nola.gov).



## #FQThenandNow

VCPORA and the [Vieux Carré Commission Foundation](#) continue our #FQThenAndNow series this week with a post on 631 Dauphine. 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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