

VCPORA's Weekly Vieux Friday, October 16, 2020

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Toro Blanco's 20 foot 5G pole modeled after existing French Quarter streetlights.

### 5G Pole Demonstration

This week, two demonstrations of the Toro-Blanco, LLC prototype for a 5G cell tower were held in the neighborhood. VCPORA, along with the Vieux Carré Commission Foundation, French Quarter Management District, French Quarter Business Association, the Mayor's Office of Utilities, and the Vieux Carré Commission have been working with cellular wireless carriers and pole manufacturers to directly address the issues surrounding 5G deployment in the French Quarter.

The most recent federal ruling, [City of Portland v. United States](#), upheld the authority of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) that prevents local municipalities from an outright prohibition of 5G installation. However, cities can regulate their design and locations, and the infrastructure does need to go through a [Section 106 process](#) if it has the potential to affect historic resources.



POLE SIZE COMPARISONS



The original designs for 5G poles (shown above) were of 35' to 40' towers with bulky, cabinet attachments. After months of collaboration, Toro Blanco, LLC has provided us with a prototype for a considerably shorter, lamppost modeled after our existing streetlights.

**This design is not final and is very much subject to modification.** The proposed locations are still being reviewed and we hope to share an updated map very soon. We want to thank everybody who took the time to view these demonstrations and encourage those who did so to share feedback [using this online form](#).



## New Orleans Moves into Phase 3.2

The City of New Orleans announced this week that it will be moving into [Phase 3, priority 2](#), effective tomorrow, October 17. Please remember that masks are required in public, social distancing is encouraged, and all businesses must follow the City and State guidelines for safe operations.

Indoor live entertainment will be allowed in restaurants, indoor event venues, and concert halls. Singing, karaoke, and wind-blown instruments are prohibited indoors. Bars and breweries will be allowed to have outdoor seating of 25% permitted occupancy or 50 individuals, whichever is fewer. Alcohol sales are limited to the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m.

Houses of worship, movie theaters, conference venues, outdoor stadiums, and large venues will be allowed to open for timed, seated events at 50% of permitted occupancy or 500 individuals, whichever is fewer. Concert halls will be allowed to open for timed, seated events at 50% of permitted occupancy or 250 individuals, whichever is fewer. More information can be found in the [Guidelines for Safe Reopening](#).



## Revel on Royal St.

[200-900 Royal Street](#)

Friday, October 16th

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

More than 40 galleries, shops, restaurants and other venues along Royal Street will open their doors to this evening in celebration of [Revel on Royal Street](#). Enjoy live music, special discounts, artist appearances and more at local businesses along this historic corridor. In accordance with state guidelines, face masks are required and six feet of social distance from others outside your group is strongly encouraged.





## Vote!

Louisiana early voting began today. Voters can participate at [select locations](#) through October 27 (excluding Sundays) from 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. [Click here](#) to view your sample ballot and be sure to vote safely by masking up, social distancing in line, and washing or sanitizing your hands after using the voting machine. Remember that October 30 is the deadline to [request an absentee ballot](#) for the November 3 election.

In addition, Roll to the Polls and Ride New Orleans will be out at transit hubs like Duncan Plaza to pass out RTA 1 Day Jazzy Passes to transit riders who need help getting to the polls during early voting. Those interested in increasing voting accessibility can volunteer for this effort by using [this online form](#).



## #FQThenAndNow

VCPORA and the [Vieux Carré Commission Foundation](#) continue our #FQThenAndNow series this week with a post on 1126 Bourbon. 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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