



Vieux Carré <info.vcpora@gmail.com>

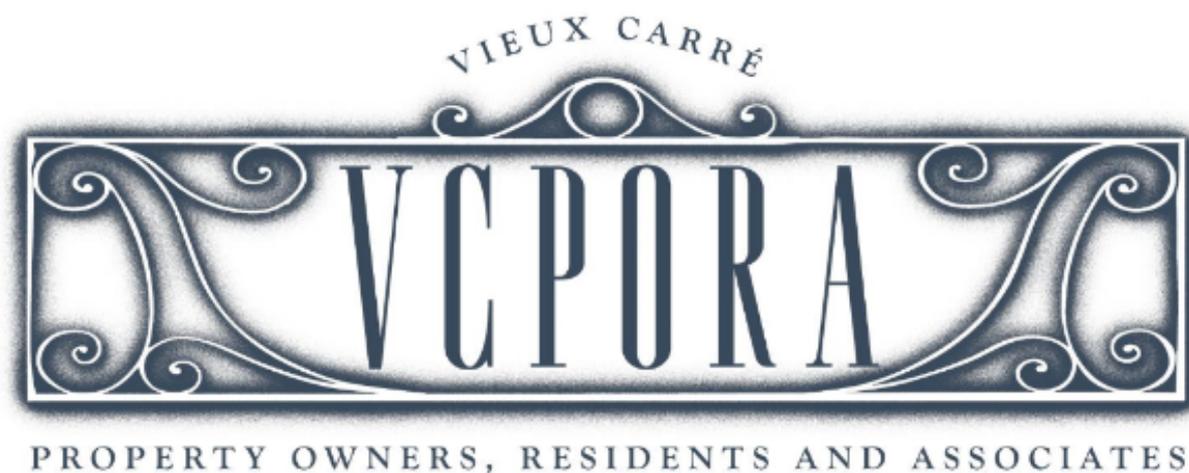
---

## VCPORA's Weekly Vieux Friday, August 26, 2022

---

**VCPORA** <info@vcpora.org>  
Reply-To: info@vcpora.org  
To: "info@vcpora.org OFFICE" <info@vcpora.org>

Fri, Aug 26, 2022 at 5:36 PM



VCPORA's Weekly Vieux  
Friday, August 26, 2022

# In this Issue:

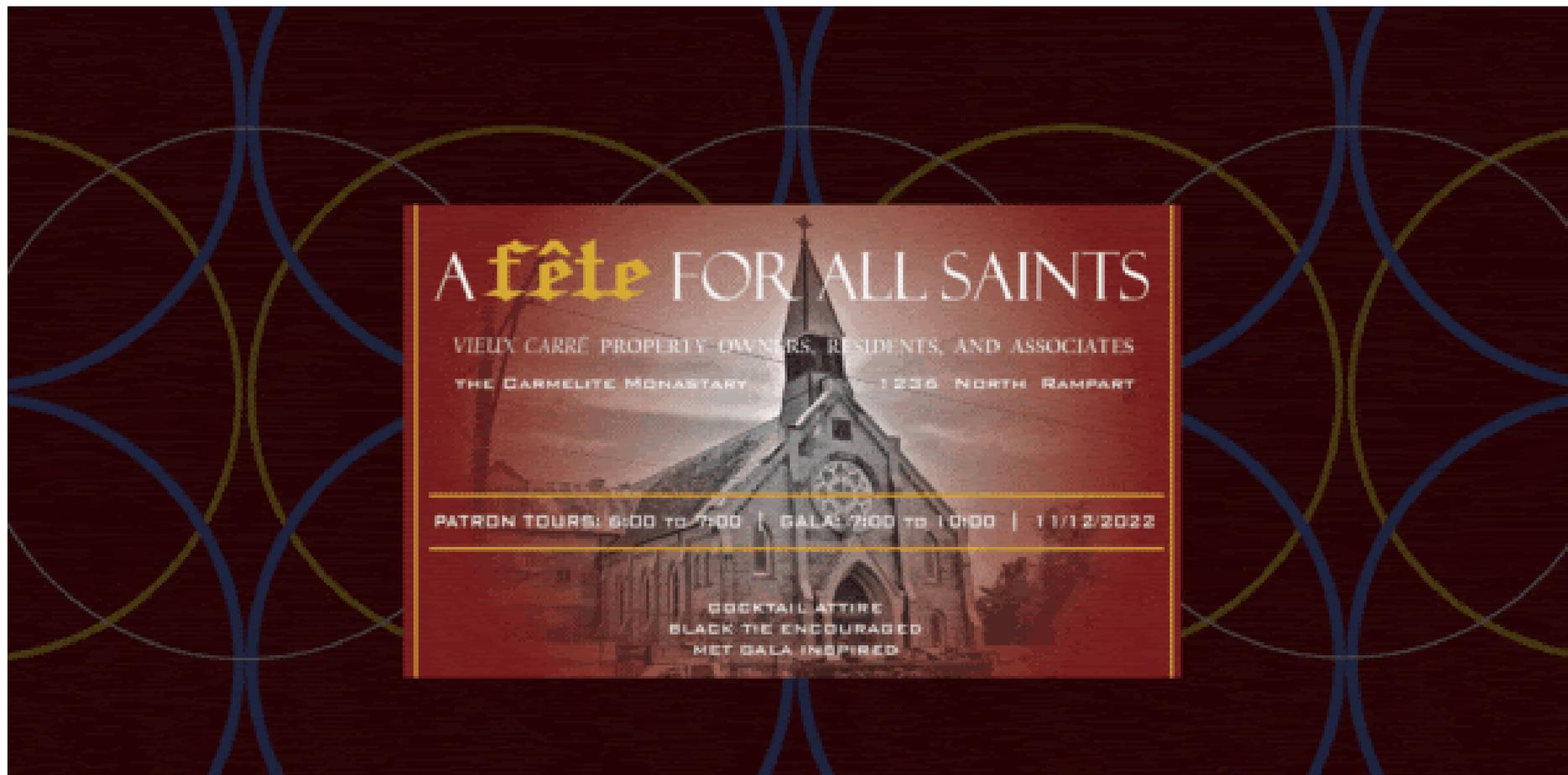
VCPORA 2022 Gala - Save the Date!

Advocacy Update: Short Term Rentals

Odyssey House Sobering Center Re-Opening

#FQThenandNow

FQMD: Letter to Authorize Removal of Trespassers from Private Property



## VCPORA 2022 Gala - Save the Date!

We'd like to extend a tremendous **Thank You** to [Latrobe's On Royal](#) for hosting our Summer Soirée & 2022 Gala Reveal last Thursday as well as to all of those who attended! And now for the reveal...

We are thrilled to announce our 2022 Annual Gala, “**A Fête for All Saints**” will take place on **November 12, 2022** at the **Carmelite Monastery**.

Designed by [James Freret](#) and completed in 1895 for the [Discalced Carmelite nuns](#), the Carmelite Monastery at [1236 N. Rampart Street](#), will soon transform nearly one acre and introduce 25 new apartments for rent into the French Quarter community.

**We hope you will join us to celebrate one of the most ambitious and creative adaptive-reuse projects the French Quarter has seen in decades!**

The main event will be held in the stunning [Gothic Revival](#) chapel and its flanking courtyards. Guests will be greeted with live music, festive food and beverage, and a dazzling **silent auction** featuring the best from our local boutiques and hospitality partners.

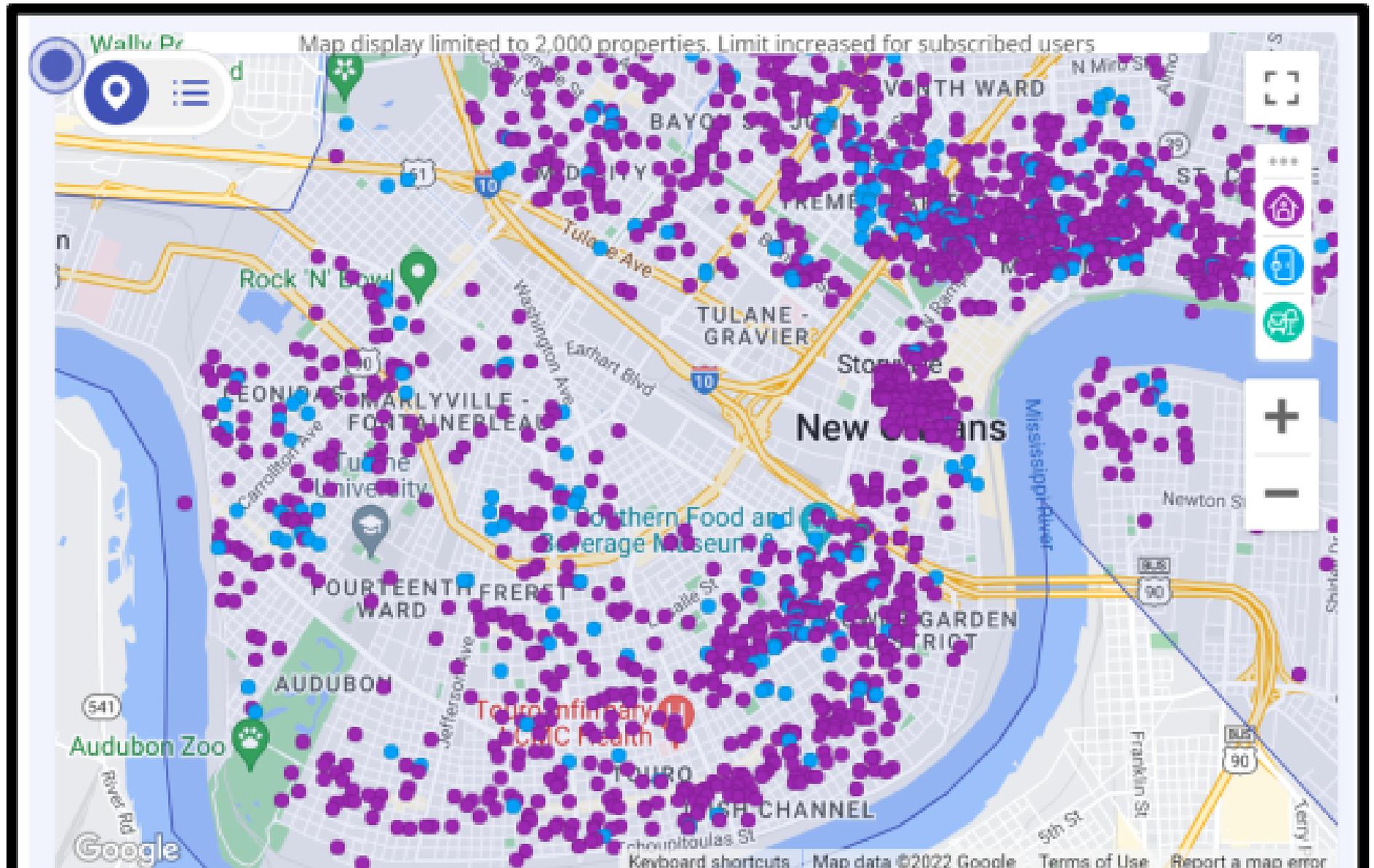
**Our Patron Level (and above) tickets holders will be treated to a private tour** into the meandering courtyards linking the various structures within the grounds and learn about the ambitious renovation.

We’d like to extend a **Special Thanks** to Sam Mickal Solomon with [Bancroft Property Investments, LLC](#) and [Rick Fifield](#) for allowing us to celebrate this historic space with you all!

**If you'd like to volunteer and attend the event for free, please email [info@vcpora.org](mailto:info@vcpora.org).** We have many volunteer opportunities available so invite your

friends and family!

You can learn more and to purchase your tickets [here](#).



## Short Term Rentals

AirDNA - 6,935 Active Rentals

City of New Orleans – 2072 issued permits

# Advocacy Update: Short Term Rentals

Here we go again. In case you missed it, the Short Term Rental regulations will need to be re-crafted for a THIRD TIME!

On Monday, August 22, the Homestead Exemption requirement for short term rental permits was ruled unconstitutional by the federal 5th Circuit Court of Appeals. The three-judge panel's reasoning was that the requirement illegally discriminates against out-of-state property owners, thus violating the commerce clause of the U.S. Constitution by shutting others out of the market. Read more on the ruling here:

**[New Orleans short-term rental rule barring out-of-state owners unconstitutional, appeals court says](#)**

The Homestead Exemption requirement was designed to limit whole home rentals in residential neighborhoods to property owners who live on the property, thus reducing the numbers of homes that are being converted into vacation stays. The appeals

court judges stated that the City will need to look at other ways to limit the out of control growth of STRs in certain areas, like limiting the issuance of permits by geographic area or charging higher taxes on the rentals, as long as the rules do not eliminate out-of-town property owners.

VCPORA reached out to local attorney and resident Galen Brown for his take on the ruling:

*“I contend the Court made a major error in characterizing residential neighborhoods as a separate market for STRs where guests can “immerse themselves in the City and have an authentic ‘New Orleans’ experience.” To me the difference between residential and commercial neighborhoods as noted by the Court provides a reason why the City should be able to regulate the use of residential areas more intensely, in order to preserve that “New Orleans” ambience. The market for STRs is the entire City, and out-of-state owners can participate in that market under the City’s current system.”*

Still, will that mean that there will be a flood of STR applications at City Hall? While it is unclear when this regulatory elimination would go into effect, the New Orleans City Council, led by Councilmember-At-Large J.P. Morrell quickly jumped into action to prevent that outcome.

### **New Orleans City Council plans pause to new short-term rentals in neighborhoods after court ruling**

On September 1, the next scheduled Council meeting, we expect them to enact a temporary prohibition on new residential STR licenses. This prohibition could last for

up to a year, while the Council looks to rework the laws.

Upon learning of the ruling, VCPORA immediately reached out to the City Council to reiterate our commitment to working with each of them to craft the necessary regulations, with enforcement, to safeguard our neighborhoods.

For nearly a decade we have worked along-side our elected officials, hundreds of residents, and numerous neighborhood and advocacy groups to protect New Orleans from the over-proliferation of short term rentals - which undermine the integrity of neighborhoods, accelerate gentrification, displace residents, and contribute to skyrocketing property values. We will continue to do so.



## Odyssey House Sobering Center Re-Opening

The [Odyssey House Louisiana Sobering Center](#) re-opened its doors on August 15th, 2022 at **732 N. Claiborne Avenue**.

The Odyssey House Louisiana is engaging in a public safety endeavor to allow

overly intoxicated individuals to recover from immediate acute alcohol impairment under the care of trained staff. It is meant to divert persons from jails or emergency rooms.

Individuals will be monitored and released when appropriate and if needed, individuals can access additional levels of care including medically supported detox or substance abuse use disorder treatment.

For more information you can contact them at: (504) 821-9211 ext. 7200 or by email at [soberingcenter@ohlinc.org](mailto:soberingcenter@ohlinc.org).



## #FQThenandNow

Yesterday was the National Park Service's 106th birthday today and so it's only fitting that we're taking a look at the [National Park Service](#) headquarters in the French Quarter with the [VCC Foundation](#)! 🎂

**Then...**

This is the courtyard of [417-23 Decatur St.](#) in 1951. This is currently the home of the French Quarter Visitor Center for Jean Lafitte National Historical Park & Preserve and New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park. This address actually features two Greek Revival, 3-story masonry buildings with the courtyard located directly behind the building at 423. We don't have concrete evidence available online, but [The Historic New Orleans Collection](#) writes "The buildings were either constructed or perhaps remodeled by Stephen J. Turpin in 1882 for use as the James Reiss Confectionery and Cracker Manufacturer." The 1718 Chain of Title description states that on this site was "a house built on brick walls with a kitchen in the patio, all in a ruinous state..." So, not our current buildings!

We do know that historic newspapers list many advertisements and classifieds for the James J. Reiss Company during the early 20th century. A 1918 New Orleans States advertisement touts that this is "The Oldest Candy House In The South." The candy store was listed this way until 1947 when it became Purity-Reiss Candy Co. This business name survives until at least 1957 when Mr. Reiss becomes foreman of the Orleans Parish grand jury under Judge J. Bernard Cocke. In 1961, Purity-Reiss Candy Co. of this address sued their insurer over a denied claim (they won with interest). Unfortunately, this is where our trail ends. We don't know exactly when the candy company left and [Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve](#) took over this location, but we do know that they were the stewards of this space when our picture was taken!

**And...**

## Now...

This is 419 (417-23) [Decatur Street](#), and it is now the home of the French Quarter Visitor Center for the [Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve](#) & Preserve and New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park! 🌳🎷

In 1989, the United States Park Service purchased [419 Decatur](#) to become the headquarters of the then-11-year-old Jean Lafitte National Historic Park and Preserve. During renovations, historians discovered remains of what they believe to be from a c. 1780 structure. It is also theorized that the land the current structure sits on might have contained the home of Adrien de Pauger, the engineer who designed the street plan of the original French settlement. City officials recognized the NPS purchase and renovation of the building as part of a “renaissance of Decatur Street that includes new street lighting and sidewalks.” Then U.S. President Bush even got involved in the project when he signed a \$6.3 million spending bill for Jean Lafitte National Historic Park and Preserve, which included \$915,000 for renovations to the building. While project managers hoped to have the complex completed by 1992, it wasn’t until “thirteen years, uncounted delays, \$8 million, and three park superintendents” later in 2000-2002 that the building was opened to the public and capable of hosting educational programs. Part of the renovation process included this lovely courtyard!

Today [419 Decatur](#) opens its doors every Tuesday-Saturday from 9:30am – 4:30pm for visitors and locals alike to come learn about the beautiful National Parks our region has to offer. For more information, you can check out their

website [here](#).



## FQMD: Letter to Authorize Removal of Trespassers from Private Property

The [French Quarter Management District](#)'s Security & Enforcement Committee and the [French Quarter Economic Development District](#) Agreement Monitors worked together with [NOPD's 8th District](#) to provide a form letter for property owners and residents to authorize ongoing removal of trespassers from your property without a call for service.

The [New Orleans Police Department \(NOPD\)](#) needs your consent to remove subjects from private property. Consent can be granted by calling [NOPD](#) or placing a request for service on the [French Quarter Task Force app](#) each time an incident occurs.

Now, you can also [submit this letter](#) granting NOPD ongoing authorization to remove loiterers and trespassers from your property whenever they are identified.

If you would like to grant ongoing authorization for subjects to be moved from your private property, [please fill out this form](#) and return to Sergeant Marc Boudreau, 8th District French Quarter Supplemental Patrol Program.

---

**VCPORA's Documentary**



## Project

### *Wasted: Overtourism and the French Quarter*

VCPORA, in partnership with filmmaker [Laura Cayouette](#), is producing a feature-length documentary film depicting the phenomenon of overtourism in the French Quarter leading up to the Coronavirus pandemic and exploring strategies to help shape a more sustainable path beyond the economic fallout.

***To finish this project, we need your help!***

To get Laura and her crew back into the editing and post-production room, we need funding. Thanks to a generous donation from VCPORA board member, **Dr. Travis Kenny**, your dollars will be matched, **1 for 1**, this summer. *That means your donation will count for double*, so please give now!

Please visit [our website](#) for more information on the film, including "[shorts](#)" or [5-minute concept clips](#), the people we have interviewed, our film team, and history of the

project.

[Donate Now!](#)



## Helpful Resources

**Safety**

The NOPD 8th District *Non-Emergency* Line **(504) 658-6080**.

Watch the weekly NOPD 8th District MAX Meetings [here](#).

Download the French Quarter Task Force "Blue Light Patrol" App [here](#).

## Quality of Life

See a public works issue or have quality of life complaints regarding construction, sanitation, illegal business operations, sound, and all other factors? **You can report these by dialing 311 or by submitting violations [here](#).** *It is imperative that we continuously report quality of life issues so as to provide further support in future cases and it will furthermore help to keep the reports on the authorities' radar.*

## Keep the Quarter Clean

The French Quarter Management District (FQMD) has launched its [Keep the Quarter Clean](#) Campaign, a public service message lead by their Livability Committee to highlight city sanitation laws and sanitation services contracted for citizens.

**[View their handy sanitation services flier.](#)**

The Keep the Quarter Clean campaign will build awareness by issuing window decals, car magnets and partnering with civic-minded non-profit partners to share the message through social media. We invite everyone to share this important information and submit their observations to Keep the Quarter Clean!

Sanitation opportunities can be reported by contacting the [nola311.org/service-request](http://nola311.org/service-request), or reporting directly to City's sanitation service provider, KBS/Empire via phone at 504-835-5551, or emailing [FQsanitation@kbs-services.com](mailto:FQsanitation@kbs-services.com).

Pick up your **free** decals and magnets at FQMD offices at [400 North Peters, Suite 206, NOLA 70130](#).

## **Storm Ready from the Vieux Carré Commission Foundation**

The Vieux Carré Commission Foundation wants to help make it as easy for you as possible to be ready. Together with the Vieux Carré Commission, they have created [an easy-to-read flyer](#) to help you both prepare before the storm arrives as well as guide you through the steps for caring for your property after the storm leaves.

You can find more information as well as the flyer [here](#).

## **Filming in the French Quarter**

Questions and concerns regarding filming in the Vieux Carré can be sent to:

Carroll Morton  
Director, Film New Orleans  
(504) 658-4341 (office)  
(504) 240-9504 (mobile)  
[cgmorton@nola.gov](mailto:cgmorton@nola.gov)

Isabella Renner  
Production Manager  
(504) 658-4355 (office)  
(504) 295-7734 (mobile)  
[isabella.renner@nola.gov](mailto:isabella.renner@nola.gov)

## **5G in the French Quarter**

For information regarding 5G installation in the Vieux Carré, please see our website [here](#).

Questions and concerns regarding 5G can be sent to:

[mayorcantrell@nola.gov](mailto:mayorcantrell@nola.gov)  
[bdblock@nola.gov](mailto:bdblock@nola.gov)

[erinholmes@vcpora.org](mailto:erinholmes@vcpora.org)

## **Vieux Carré Resources**

Apply for a permit or find an existing permit [here](#).

Find Vieux Carré Commission Design Guidelines [here](#).

VCC and VCCAC meeting schedules and past meeting materials can be found [here](#).

City Council and additional City Council Committee meeting schedules can be found [here](#).

## **Historic Research Tools**

[Vieux Carré Virtual Library](#)

[The Collins C. Diboll Vieux Carré Digital Survey](#)

[Louisiana Digital Library](#)

---

**VCPORA is a nonprofit organization that advocates for the preservation and protection of the Vieux Carré as an international historic treasure, a major cultural and economic asset, and a living residential neighborhood that is valued and respected by all.**



Your generosity **today** helps preservationists and advocates create strategic and powerful campaigns to defend and elevate the French Quarter and surrounding neighborhoods **tomorrow!**

Donate

VCPORA | [816 N. Rampart St. | New Orleans, LA 70116](https://www.vcpora.org)  
504-581-7200 | [www.vcpora.org](https://www.vcpora.org)



Do not want to receive email updates? [Unsubscribe here](#)

