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**VCPORA's Weekly Vieux Saturday, October 1, 2022**

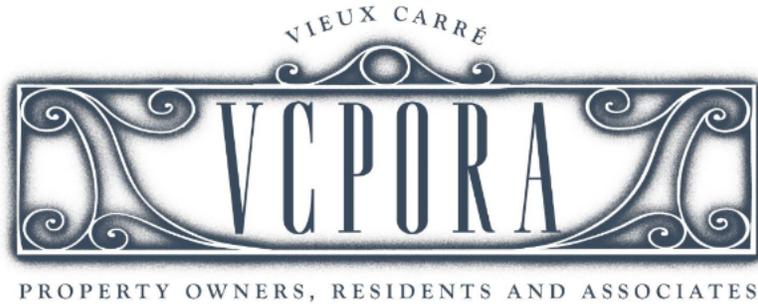
1 message

**VCPORA** <info@vcpora.org>

Sat, Oct 1, 2022 at 2:38 PM

Reply-To: info@vcpora.org

To: "Mr. Jack Greenwood" &lt;info@vcpora.org&gt;



## VCPORA's Weekly Vieux Saturday, October 1, 2022

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E-scooters on Frenchmen, Conti, and Orleans

## Advocacy Update: E-Scooter Ordinance

In 2018, the City adopted a policy prohibiting the roll-out of an app-based, e-scooter program. These are the ones that you can walk up to, scan a code on your phone for immediate payment, then ride from there. As the e-scooter craze was taking over the nation, City officials realized they were not a good fit for New Orleans based on growing concerns from other cities including unsafe operations like riding (and storing) them on sidewalks, poor roadway conditions contributing to increased injuries, and little accountability for the operators. New Orleans decided that the negative impact to city resources like the Department of Public Works, NOPD, and EMS far outweighed their benefit.

But this year, we these e-scooters have been popping up around the neighborhood, despite having never been permitted.

On Thursday, September 29, 2022, the [City Council Transportation Committee](#) considered Ordinance [#33,745](#) and a companion amendment to further define how e-scooters rentals can legally operate in the city, and **we need your support to get it passed**. From that committee, it can be heard by the full City Council as early as October 6<sup>th</sup>. [Write the Council today - sample letter below.](#)

This ordinance does allow for brick-and-mortar storefronts to rent out the scooters, much like bicycles. It specifies that they must be picked up and dropped off at the same location and cannot be stored on the public right-of-way.

Additionally, it allows for the removal of the scooters by the Department of Public Works if they are improperly stored (like on the sidewalk). Fees for impounding and storage can be assessed at \$250 per scooter for the first infraction and \$500 per scooter for subsequent violations.

### **So why allow them at physical rental facilities but not as an app-based fleet?**

The simple answer is scale. The app-based offering allows the companies to scale up quickly, so what would be around 50 scooters in the neighborhood can lead to thousands in a matter of months. Austin, Tx now has [over 11,000](#) on their streets.

The business model of these e-scooter companies seems to be to (1) dump hundreds of them on city streets, regardless of local requirements, and (2) absolve themselves of all responsibility for bad behavior by users.



E-scooters on Frenchmen, Conti, and Orleans

### **They look like fun, what's the harm?**

Public Safety. Cities around the world are scrambling to fix the overly permissive regulations around these mini-vehicles as they are seeing an increase in collisions between riders, pedestrians, and motorists. Furthermore, injuries are continuously reported as the scooters are cast around the sidewalks impeding pedestrians, particularly the mobility impaired.

### **April 2022 - L.A.'s injury rate from e-scooters may exceed national rate for motorcycles**

#### **There are numerous risks involving these motorized scooters:**

They are small and less visible to motorists, and they are silent, so pedestrians cannot hear them coming and can't get out of the way quickly. Uneven pavement, potholes, and road obstructions (sound familiar?) can cause a motorized scooter rider to lose control and be thrown from the vehicle.

Reckless and intoxicated behavior (sound familiar, again?) increases the chances of collision with pedestrians and other motor vehicles. An interesting side note: a [2020 study](#) found that "intoxication may inhibit or depress protective reflexes that leave the face and head vulnerable during standing electric scooter accidents." Yes, drunk riders fall on their faces.

Other injuries sustained from e-scooter collisions include traumatic brain injuries, spinal cord injuries, and bone fractures. A [2021 study from Austin](#) found that the rate of injury from stand-up scooters was 180 injuries per million miles traveled on a scooter compared to 0.9 injuries per million miles for all other motor vehicles. Translation: riding on a stand-up scooter is 200 times more dangerous than riding in any other vehicle (including motorcycles and sit-down scooters).

**September 2021 - U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission – Emergency room visits: rose from 7,700 (2017), to 14,500 (2018), to 27,700 (2019) and 25,400 (2020).**

## What You Can Do

Write to the City Council in support of this ordinance before October 6, 2022

### **Sample letter:**

**To:**

[Helena.Moreno@nola.gov](mailto:Helena.Moreno@nola.gov)  
[JP.Morrell@nola.gov](mailto:JP.Morrell@nola.gov)  
[Joseph.Giarrusso@nola.gov](mailto:Joseph.Giarrusso@nola.gov)  
[Lesli.Harris@nola.gov](mailto:Lesli.Harris@nola.gov)  
[Freddie.King@nola.gov](mailto:Freddie.King@nola.gov)  
[Eugene.Green@nola.gov](mailto:Eugene.Green@nola.gov)  
[Oliver.Thomas@nola.gov](mailto:Oliver.Thomas@nola.gov)  
[info@vcpora.org](mailto:info@vcpora.org)

*Dear New Orleans City Council,*

*I am writing in support of Ordinance 33,745 that seeks to responsibly regulate e-scooters in the city. Too many cities have had to dial back overly permissive regulations as they see injuries escalate and frustrations rise from the reckless usage and abandonment of these e-scooters. The roadways of New Orleans are in notorious disrepair, and the liability for injuries is too high for this city to assume the risk.*

*New Orleans wisely chose not to fall into the e-scooter craze four years ago. Please do not let us make the same mistakes other cities are having to undo. For the safety of our residents and visitors, please make sure that all e-scooters must be rented and returned to the same physical business and that they are prohibited from being ridden and stored on sidewalks.*

*Sincerely,  
Your name*

### **Read about the growing safety concerns and frustrations from other cities here:**

Oct 2020 - [Most e-scooter rider injuries happen on sidewalk, study finds - Insurance Institute for Highway Safety](#)

June 2022 - [Belgium puts the brakes on e-scooters as injuries, annoyance grow](#)

June 2022 - E-scooters were supposed to fix travel in Rome. Then they became a major problem

January 2022 - Stockholm's clampdown on 'chaotic' e-scooters

July 2022 - Austin Limiting the Number of Scooters on Sidewalks

June 2022 - St. Louis officials ban scooters in an attempt to curb mayhem

August 2022 - Cincinnati's e-scooter curfew extended to 9 p.m.

April 2022 - San Diego approves sweeping scooter crackdown that includes sidewalk ban, strict parking rules



## Reporting Short Term Rentals

The City of New Orleans has now made it easier to report illegal Short Term Rentals (STR).

Short Term Rental 24 Hour Complaint Hotline: **(504) 788-2008**

Online Short Term Rental Complaints:

<https://secure.hostcompliance.com/new-orleans-la/complaints/type>

Using the "Tips" link above, residents can now report an illegal STR in a few short steps:

1. Select the "Unauthorized short term rental" tab.
2. Enter the address and if that is unavailable, you can enter "New Orleans, LA" to proceed.
3. If you have a link to the specific listing, you can enter in on the 4th page.
4. On the 5th page, you can submit any photos or videos you may have.

Thank you for your continued vigilance in helping us and the city fight illegal short

term rentals!



Upper Quarter Neighborhood Watch



## National Night Out Block Party!!

**Tuesday October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Live Music From: The Bourbon Street  
Beignet!!

Sponsored by:  

**Micah Loewenthal (504)388-6150**

Luther & Blane 912 Olympic Fields Ave New Orleans LA 70117 504-768-2011

## Night Out Against Crime Block Party

The Upper Quarter Neighborhood Watch is hosting its annual [National Night Out Against Crime](#) Block Party on **Tuesday, October 4, 2022**, from **6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

Join us and your neighbors along the **900 block of Orleans Avenue** and get a chance to speak with local police officers, firefighters, and more!

There will be live music by the Bourbon Street Beignet.

The evening is sponsored by [Micah Loewenthal](#) and all questions and/or concerns can be directed to him at (504) 388-6150.



# VCC Building Inspector Position Available

The [Vieux Carré Commission \(VCC\)](#) is hiring a new building inspector. You can learn more about the position and apply [here](#).

## Description of Duties:

Beginning level work inspecting building construction and repair to secure compliance with municipal regulations, and related work as required. Employee in this class receive instruction and practical training in making field inspections of buildings for safe construction and condition, and for compliance with the city building code and zoning ordinance. Employees will also receive training in regulations aimed at maintaining the historical or architectural character of historic districts. At the time of appointment work is closely supervised, however as knowledge and experience are gained an employee in this class is expected gradually to complete assignments using some independent judgment.



## City of New Orleans Amnesty Late Fee Program

The City of New Orleans recently announced the launch of the Amnesty Late Fee Program beginning October 1, 2022 and running through December 31, 2022.

This program will provide much needed assistance to eligible residents who have been impacted by the ongoing pandemic and have been unable to settle past due

accounts. The City encourages residents with delinquent accounts for parking and camera tickets, sales and hotel/motel taxes, code enforcement violations and library fees to utilize this program to pay initial fees only. Additionally, the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO) will waive certain late fees for eligible residential customers wishing to reduce – and ultimately eliminate – their delinquent SWBNO bills.

The following City services are included in the amnesty program:

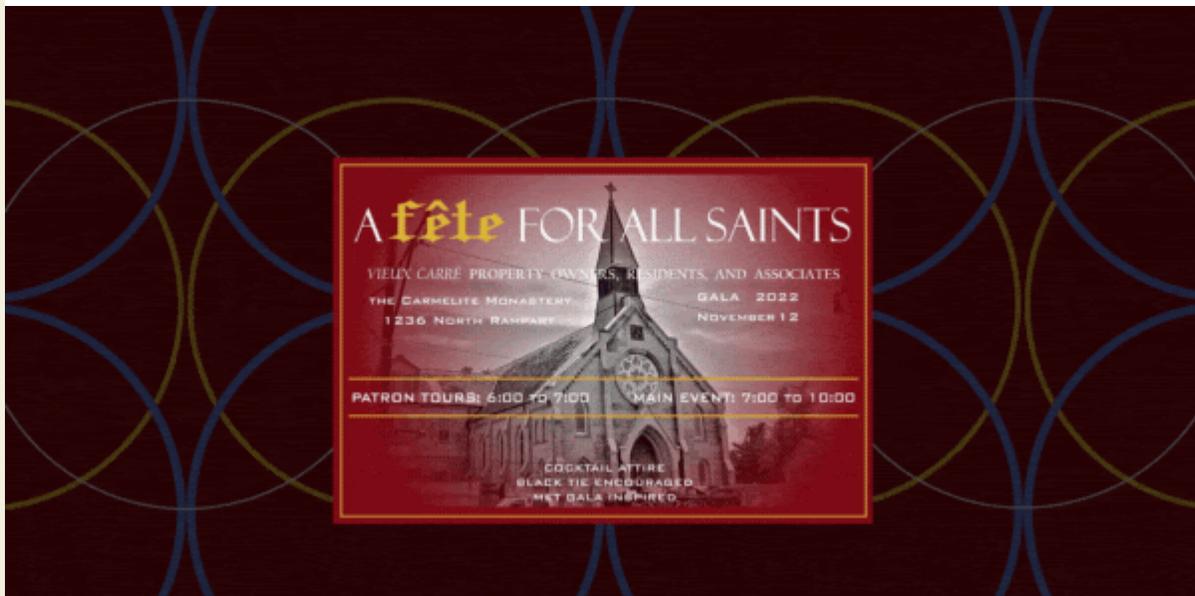
- Parking and Camera Tickets
- Sales and Hotel/Motel Taxes
- Code Enforcement Violations
- Library Fines and Fees
- SWBNO

Residents and business owners interested in participating in the amnesty program can visit [nola.gov/amnesty](http://nola.gov/amnesty) to view qualifications, agreement terms and payment methods.

This opportunity does not apply to any late penalties paid before or after the program period. All previously paid late fees are non-refundable, and full penalties and interest will be assessed after midnight on Dec. 31, 2022.

Additionally, late fees will temporarily be waived for residents whose brake tags, also known as inspection stickers, are expired. In order to avoid those late fees permanently, vehicles with expired brake tags must be re-inspected by Thursday, December 1, 2022.

For more information, residents can make an appointment or visit the Bureau of Revenue office located at City Hall ([1300 Perdido St.](http://1300 Perdido St.), Ste. 1W15, New Orleans, LA 70112) Monday through Friday, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.



## A Fête For All Saints (and Sinners)

Join us for our 2022 Annual Gala, **“A Fête for All Saints”** on **November 12, 2022** at the **Carmelite Monastery!**

**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.

**If you'd like to volunteer and attend the event for free, please fill out [this form](#).** We have many volunteer opportunities available so invite your friends and family!



We want to thank our current sponsors and patrons for your commitment to this extraordinary evening!

Additionally, 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!

Learn more and sign up as a patron or sponsor [here](#).

**Thank you to our Patrons!**

**Champagne**

Mrs. Ann Masson

Mrs. Peggy & Mr. Timber Floyd

Latrobe's On Royal

## **Bordeaux**

Richard C. Adkerson Family Fund

Mrs. Judith Kossover

Ms. Tatianna Macchione &

Mr. Mark Masor

## **All Saints Special**

Rolf / Southkick Preservation Works

## **Rhone**

Mr. Dennis Alonzo

Mr. Henry Bernstein

Ms. Cheryl Verlander & Mr. Chuck Bracht

Café Amelie

Mr. Nathan Chapman

Mr. Terry & Mrs. Lynette DuFrene

Mr. Claudio Hemb

Ms. Lucy Burnett & Mr. Gregory Holt

The Historic New Orleans Collection

Ralph Brennan Restaurant Group

Mr. Albert McMeen & Mr. James Davis

Mrs. Stephanie and Mr. Tim Murphy

Mr. Jeff Morgan & Mr. Jason Waguespack

Mr. Gary R. Williams

Ms. Joesphine Sacabo & Mr. Dalt Wonk

## **Patron**

Ms. Virginia Boulet & Mr. Alvin R. Albe Jr.

Ms. Peggy & Mr. Robert Armstrong

Mr. Joseph Bodenmiller

In Honor of William E. Borah

Mr. C.J. Blanda

Mr. Alan Brickman

Mrs. Irene and Mr. John Cerise

Ms. Lynn Dicharry

Mrs. Janice Foulks

Mr. Rene Fransen & Mr. Eddie Bonin

Ms. Laura Cayouette & Mr. Andy Gallagher

Ms. Denise & Mr. Bruce Germer

Ms. Lyn Gladney

Ms. Carolyn D. Goodwin

Dr. Lura and Dr. Lynn Harrison

Mrs. Laura & Mr. Joe Holmes

Hotel Monteleone

Ms. Meg Lousteau

Mrs. Kathryn Lemoine & Mr. Ross Steele

Mr. Tony Marino

Mr. Mark Stoops & Mr. Avrea McCargo

Mrs. Brenda & Mr. Michael Moffitt

Mr. Rick Normand

Mr. Peter Patout

Ms. Katharine Simister  
Ms. Leah Solomon  
Mrs. Kelly and Dr. Barry Starr  
Ms. Sandra Stokes  
Ms. Jenni & Mr. Scott Willis  
Ms. Catherine Whitney



## 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  
504-581-7200 | [www.vcpora.org](http://www.vcpora.org)



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