



Committee For A  
**BETTER**  
New Orleans

Presents

# The Community Guide To The Master Plan Amendments

It's Your Future.  
Will You Have A Voice?



## **Introduction**

The purpose of this Community Guide to the Master Plan Amendments is to give the everyday residents of New Orleans a clear, concise summary of the vast majority of the more than 300 amendments that have been proposed for the Master Plan.

Over and above that, the goal is to make sure that all residents have the opportunity to participate in the Master Plan review and amendment process (described in more detail below). After all, the Master Plan is our guide to the future of our city. It was adopted just six years ago, and was created with input from as many as 8000 New Orleanians. If all the proposed amendments are adopted, or even a large number of them, the result will be a substantial rewrite of the entire Plan. The community must participate in this process; the Master Plan simply must remain a document of, by and for the people of New Orleans.

The Guide is structured so that everything related to land use in the city (Chapter 14 of the Master Plan) is in the first section. This includes new land use category definitions; a large number of text amendments; and a summary of many individual amendments within each planning district. The maps themselves are not included, but may be found in the City Planning Commission staff reports.

The second section includes Chapters 5 through 15, which are the other main sections of the Plan. Chapters 1 through 4 primarily relate to the Master Plan itself. For each text amendment in each chapter, a brief summary of what is being proposed, who proposed it, and what its impacts might be is provided. These are intended to be as factual and objective as possible; the purpose of this Guide is not to take a position for or against the proposals.

The Committee for a Better New Orleans and its partners have worked diligently to make this Guide as complete and accurate as possible. That said, errors and omissions may have occurred. If so, we apologize; this was a very large project and everyone involved did the best they could.

Quite a few people worked on different sections of the Guide, so the style in different sections will be somewhat different, though we have done our best to stick to the basic format throughout.

### **A few overarching notes:**

- Some chapters would be substantially rewritten if all the amendments are adopted (a good example is Chapter 11, Transportation). This may not be obvious just from the amendment summaries, but we encourage residents to realize that overall, a very significant rewrite of certain chapters as well as the Master Plan itself could result.
- Similarly, very significant changes are being proposed for land use. More information on this can be found in the Land Use section of this Guide.
- A seemingly minor amendment, 14-22, would have a huge impact on the entire Master Plan. Per the City Charter amendment adopted in November 2008, the Master Plan has “force of law”. This term is somewhat vague and open to interpretation. At the time that the City Charter amendment was voted on by the people of New Orleans, it was generally understood that “force of law” applied to the entire Master Plan. More recently, the city administration has interpreted the Charter to say that only Chapter 14, the Land Use chapter, has the force of law. Text amendment 14-22 would establish within the Master Plan that this is the case. New Orleanians should consider carefully whether they want “force of law” to apply to the full Master Plan or just to the Land Use chapter, and express their opinions to the City Planning Commission and City Council.

## **The amendment process:**

The process for amending the Master Plan includes several very important opportunities for community input, and it is very important that all residents take advantage of those opportunities to make their voices heard. As of the release of this Community Guide, at the end of April 2017, the following input opportunities are most critical:

- **First City Council vote:** the City Council will hold at least two, and ideally quite a few more, hearings on the Master Plan prior to its initial vote on the amendments. Residents can write letters, send emails or call Council members to express their opinions on any and all amendments. There will also be opportunities for the public to speak at these hearings, though assuming they are subject to the usual two-minute time limit, residents with more detailed responses may want to put them in writing. All communications sent to the Council via letter or email will be read by Council members and/or their staffs. **At this point, it appears that this vote will take place in June 2017.**
- **Second City Planning Commission vote:** when it takes its vote, the City Council will make comments and recommendations that will be sent back to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission then has up to 60 days to review these comments, make any revisions to its own recommendations, and conduct its second vote. The Planning Commission will also conduct at least two public hearings, where comments can be offered, and will also accept written, emailed and called-in input from the community.
- **Final City Council vote:** this is the last step in the entire process, and the votes taken at this time are final. Any amendment that is accepted will become part of the Master Plan. It's important to realize that regardless of previous votes, any amendments can be adopted or rejected at this time. Again, there will be public hearings, with opportunities to speak, and again, written, emailed and phone input from the community will be accepted and recorded. While this is very tentative at this point (the Council has up to 45 days to take its vote after it receives the Planning Commission report, and there could be a gap between the Planning Commission vote and the time the report is officially sent to City Council), **this final vote should take place in early autumn 2017.** Residents should remember that we will be voting for a new mayor and City Council in October 2017 (runoffs in November), and the elections may influence decisions on the timing of Master Plan votes.

## **The full staff report from the initial set of amendments can be found at this link:**

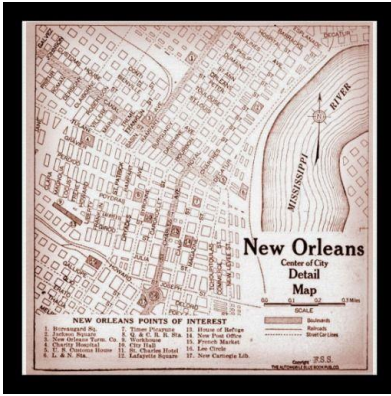
[www.nola.gov/city-planning/mpamendments/master-plan-amendment-staff-reports/](http://www.nola.gov/city-planning/mpamendments/master-plan-amendment-staff-reports/)

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## **Section 1: Land Use**

This section includes proposed Land Use Map amendments as well as text amendments to Chapter 14, the Land Use Plan.

## **Chapter 14 Land Use Map Amendments**

**OVERALL NOTES:** The summaries for each Planning District may not include every individual proposed amendment. Instead, we have attempted to identify those with larger impacts, as compared to those that make a minor change to a small amount of land.

It is important to note that there are a number of Planning Districts where amendments have been proposed that would change significant areas from Neighborhood Commercial to various mixed-use categories. While these changes are identified as being more favorable to residential development in many cases, residents should be aware that there are additional potential impacts that are beyond the scope of this Guide to describe individually. This includes the possibility of more intense commercial uses; the introduction of multi-family residential uses; and greater numbers of whole-house short-term rentals. Permitted heights for individual buildings will also increase in a number of land use categories if the changes are adopted. Residents are encouraged to look at the specific changes proposed for their neighborhoods and to make sure they understand what the exact impacts of these changes might be.

There are proposals to change the definitions of many of the specific land use categories. These are very briefly summarized below. Almost all the categories added “incorporate risk reduction and adaptation strategies in the built environment” so new development or significant renovations will take flood reduction strategies into consideration. Almost all added agricultural and stormwater management as potential uses.

### **Residential Single-Family Semi-Rural**

Change: Main change is stormwater management uses. These are additions to existing development where overall density of 1 unit per every 2 acres, though clusters are allowed.

### **Residential Single-Family Pre-War**

Changes: Removed maximum density of 15 units per acre. Allows neighborhood-serving businesses and corner stores where commercial use can be verified historically; allows multifamily and commercial uses in existing historic non-residential buildings.

### **Residential Single-Family Post-War**

Changes: Removed maximum density of 10 units per acre. Allows neighborhood-serving businesses and corner stores where commercial uses can be verified historically; allows multifamily and commercial uses in existing historic non-residential buildings.

### **Residential Low Density Pre-War**

Changes: Removes maximum density of 24 units per acre. Allows multi-family dwellings, especially near transportation corridors. Allows conversion to multi-family or commercial uses for existing non-residential buildings. Allows adaptive re-use of historic structures through planned development process, which can include density bonuses for public benefits such as long-term affordable housing.

### **Residential Low Density Post-War**

Changes: Removes maximum density of 20 units per acre. Allows multi-family dwellings, especially near transportation corridors. Allows conversion to multi-family or commercial uses for existing non-residential buildings, and expansion into adjacent lots. Allows adaptive re-use of historic structures through planned development process, which can include density bonuses for public benefits such as long-term affordable housing.

**Residential Medium Density Pre-War**

Changes: Removes maximum density of 36 units per acre. Supports range multi-family dwellings, especially near transportation corridors. Adds mixed use developments to multi-family residential & commercial uses. Allows adaptive re-use of historic structures through planned development process, which can include density bonuses for public benefits such as long-term affordable housing.

**Residential Multi-Family Pre-War**

Changes: Removes maximum density of 100 units per acre. Adds support for public recreational and community facilities such as schools and places of worship. Allows conversion to commercial uses when historic use is verified. Allows adaptive re-use of historic structures through planned development process, which can include density bonuses for public benefits such as long-term affordable housing or flood reduction features.

**Residential Multi-Family Post-War**

Changes: Removes maximum density of 36 units per acre. Adds support for public recreational and community facilities such as schools and places of worship. Allows conversion to commercial uses when historic use is verified. Allows adaptive re-use of historic structures through planned development process, which can include density bonuses for public benefits such as long-term affordable housing.

**Residential Historic Core**

Changes: Neighborhood businesses which promote New Orleans culture of food, music, and entertainment will now be allowed. Mixed use allowed at all sites where former commercial use is verified. Conversion to multi family or commercial uses allowed for historic non-residential buildings. Allows adaptive re-use of historic structures through planned development process, which can include density bonuses for public benefits such as long-term affordable housing.

**Neighborhood Commercial**

Changes: Now allows single- and two-family dwellings, support for recreational and community facilities, transit and transportation facilities.

**General Commercial**

Changes: Now allows support for recreational and community facilities, transit and transportation facilities, services and offices, limited residential dwellings above the ground floor.

**Downtown Exposition**

Changes: Now allows transit and transportation facilities.

**Business Center**

Changes: Now allows transit and transportation facilities.

**Industrial**

Changes: Now allows transit and transportation facilities.

**Mixed-Use Maritime**

Changes: Now allows transit and transportation facilities.

**Mixed-Use Low Density**

Changes: Now allows small food manufacturers; public recreation and community facilities; transit and transportation facilities. Allows adaptive re-use of historic structures through planned development process, which can include density bonuses for public benefits such as long-term affordable housing.

**Mixed-Use Medium Density**

Changes: Now allows small food manufacturers; public recreation and community facilities; transit and transportation facilities. Allows adaptive re-use of historic structures through planned development process, which can include density bonuses for public benefits such as long-term affordable housing.

**Mixed-Use High Density**

Changes: Now allows limited light industrial uses such as food manufacturers, craft and value added industry, and warehousing and storage; public recreation and community facilities; transit and transportation facilities. Allows adaptive re-use of historic structures through planned development process, which can include density bonuses for public benefits such as long-term affordable housing.

**Mixed-Use Downtown**

Changes: Now supports public recreation and community facilities; transit and transportation facilities.

**Mixed-Use Downtown Core**

Changes: Now supports public recreation and community facilities; transit and transportation facilities.

**Mixed-Use Historic Core**

Changes: Now supports public recreation and community facilities; transit and transportation facilities. Allows adaptive re-use of historic structures through planned development process, which can include density bonuses for public benefits such as long-term affordable housing.

**Mixed-Use Health/Life Sciences Neighborhood**

Changes: Now supports public recreation and community facilities.

**Planned Development Area**

Changes: Now allows public recreation and community facilities; transit and transportation facilities.

**Institutional**

Changes: Now supports transit and transportation facilities.

**Natural Areas**

Changes: Increase and retain coastal land, woodlands, ecologically sensitive habitats; preserve for aesthetic value, biodiversity, conservation, recreation, and natural disaster resilience. Allows ecological management; green infrastructure for flood protection and stormwater management; passive nature-based recreation that does not have adverse impacts on sensitive ecological areas. Structures, if any, should support conservation aims or permitted passive recreational activities.

**Parkland and Open Space**

Changes: Adds agricultural uses. In large parks, allows passive and active recreation & cultural facilities along with supportive commercial uses.

**Cemetery**

Changes: Adds stormwater management uses.

**Transportation**

Removed from Future Land Use Map.

**Planning District 1**

This Planning District covers the French Quarter and CBD neighborhoods.

Summary: there are only two proposed amendments in this district. The first would change the green space in front of the Main Branch of the New Orleans Public Library on Loyola Avenue from Parkland and Open Space to Mixed-Use Health Life Sciences.

The second would change the site of the ferry terminal at the foot of Canal Street from Transportation (this category is proposed to be deleted altogether) to Downtown Exposition, which would allow the terminal to continue to operate and develop as a transit site, while gaining development opportunities similar to those of adjacent sites.

## **Planning District 2**

This Planning District covers generally the area from Claiborne Avenue, Napoleon Avenue, the River, and the Pontchartrain Expressway. There are many proposed Amendments in this district.

Summary: a series of these requests (Items 1 through 17), submitted by Councilmember Cantrell, change particular lots to align with the current zoning and/or the current use of the site. Some of these “Up- Master Plan” change, meaning they increase the intensity and number of uses and some “Down- Master Plan” change, meaning they decrease the intensity and number of uses.

Item 18 increases the intensity of a four-block area between St. Charles Avenue, Martin Luther King Boulevard, Carondelet Street, and the Pontchartrain Expressway.

Another series (Items 19 through 28) of these proposed Amendments, proposed by the City Planning Commission, changes lots from Neighborhood Commercial (which does not favor residential uses) to mixed-use categories that do allow residential uses along with or instead of commercial uses. These were submitted to better reflect development pattern in older areas of city, which tends to be more of a blend of commercial and residential uses. These would also allow multi-family residential opportunities at appropriate locations along or near major corridors and public transit.

Item 29 recommends a change from Business Center to Mixed Use High Density for an area in the Lower Garden District spreading out from the corner of Tchoupitoulas and Orange streets towards Felicity, which would promote mixed use development, potentially including multi-family residential.

Item 30 changes the category for private land on Constance Street between 9<sup>th</sup> and Harmony from Parkland (an inappropriate designation for private land) to residential, low-density pre-war, which would match adjacent properties.

Items 31 and 32 are requests by Ochsner to change lots outside of the Ochsner Baptist campus to those that would allow for redevelopment into accessory uses for the hospital.

Item 33 and 34 recommend a change for two properties at Jackson Avenue and Tchoupitoulas Street from Transportation (which is being eliminated from the Master Plan Categories) to Mixed Use Low Density, which matches nearby properties.

## **Planning District 3**

This Planning District includes Gert Town, Hollygrove, Carrollton, Audubon, Uptown, Touro, and Milan neighborhoods generally. Its boundaries are the Jefferson Parish line, Earhart (with a portion going slightly above Airline), Napoleon Avenue, and the River.

Summary: some of these items were submitted by institutions in these neighborhoods, including Tulane University and Ochsner Hospital, to expand campuses to adjacent lots (Items 1, 14-20).

Some of these items were submitted to make the Land Use Category more consistent with the current use or surrounding development pattern (Items 2, 3, 4, 7).

Some of these items were proposed to allow for future, more intense development (Items 5, 6, 8, 21, 22, and 34).

Another series (Items 9, 10, 11, and 12) of amendments, proposed by the City Planning Commission, changes lots from Neighborhood Commercial (which does not favor residential uses) to mixed-use categories that do allow residential uses along with or instead of commercial uses. These were submitted to better reflect development patterns in older areas of city, which tends to be more of a blend of commercial and residential uses. These would also allow multi-family residential opportunities at appropriate locations along or near major corridors and public transit.



Items 13 and 23 (which are related) were proposed to change the category for privately owned lands along Palmetto Street near Airline Highway away from Parkland to mixed use.

Item 25 relates to the Carrollton Transit Station and was proposed as the City Planning Commission staff has recommended eliminating the Transportation category.

#### **Planning District 4**

This is a relatively large planning district which covers Central City and adjacent neighborhoods, Mid-City, and parts of Gentilly.

Summary: There is a wide variety of impetuses for Master Plan category changes in this district summarized as follows.

The City Planning Commission staff has proposed to change lots from Neighborhood Commercial (which does not favor residential uses) to mixed-use categories that do allow residential uses along with or instead of commercial uses. These were submitted to better reflect development pattern in older areas of city, which tends to be more of a blend of commercial and residential uses. These would also allow multi-family residential opportunities at appropriate locations along or near major corridors and public transit. This includes Item 1, Items 24-39, and Item 48.

Some of these proposed changes are for specific lots to change from residential category to a mixed-use category, which would allow a larger number of commercial uses and/or mixed-use development. This includes Items 2-17, Item 18, Item 19, Item 23, and Item 50.

Some items propose a more intense mixed-use category than is currently existing. This includes items 18 and 49.

Item 20 changes a vacant HANO-owned lot at St. Bernard Avenue and North Miro Street from Neighborhood Commercial to residential to allow for residential development.

Some items are to changes to Parkland or Open Space, generally for public use. This includes items 21 and 22.

Others change from Parkland and Open Space because the lots are privately owned - this includes items 40-44 [note that item 40 is mislabeled as 37 but is in sequence at item 40]. Most of these are adjacent to what is currently open/green/park space but not actually part of those spaces.

Xavier University has proposed two changes to properties they own so that they are considered “Institutional” along with the rest of the campus. Items 45-46.

Items 51 and 52 relate to the proposed deletion of the Transportation category. Item 51 is a larger area near the Superdome bounded by South Claiborne, the Pontchartrain Expressway and I-10. Item 52 is the RTA facility at 2901 Canal Street.

#### **Planning District 5**

This Planning District includes Lakeview and a small portion of Mid-City.

Summary: the City Planning Commission staff has proposed to change lots from Neighborhood Commercial (which does not favor residential uses) to mixed-use categories that do allow residential uses along with or instead of commercial uses. These were submitted to better reflect development pattern in older areas of city, which tends to be more of a blend of commercial and residential uses. These would also allow multi-family residential opportunities at appropriate locations along or near major corridors and public transit. This includes Items 4 and 5.

Some items are changes to Parkland or Open Space, generally for public use. This includes Items 3 and 6.

Some changes are to “correct” the Master Plan category so that it matches the existing zoning and/or use. This includes Items 1 and 8.

Some proposed changes would extend a commercial designation to allow for commercial development where appropriate. This includes items 2 (a parcel adjacent to multiple similarly-zoned lots along Pontchartrain Boulevard either side of 14<sup>th</sup> Street) and 7 (6240 Memphis Street near Harrison Avenue).

### **Planning District 6**

This Planning District covers most of the Gentilly neighborhood and extends from the east side of City Park to the Lake, to the Industrial Canal, and to I-10.

Summary: Item 1 is correctional, to change from residential to commercial to reflect an existing use.

Item 2 is for property near Dillard University and is to change the designation to cemetery to reflect the existing use.

A series of items relates to the Gentilly Resiliency District efforts led by the city. This includes Item 3, 4, and 6.

Item 5 is for the purpose of converting a vacant former school site at 1700 Pratt Drive to allow mixed-use development.

A series, including Item 7 in this district, proposed by the City Planning Commission, changes lots from Neighborhood Commercial (which does not favor residential uses) to mixed-use categories that do allow residential uses along with or instead of commercial uses. These were submitted to better reflect development pattern in older areas of city, which tends to be more of a blend of commercial and residential uses. These would also allow multi-family residential opportunities at appropriate locations along or near major corridors and public transit.

Item 8 involves a sweeping change for the ENTIRETY OF PLANNING DISTRICT 6 by converting lots that are currently 1) single family post war, 2) residential low density post war, or 3) residential multi-family post war to New Residential Mixed Densities Suburban.

Item 9 is another sweeping change for residential lots along the major streets in Planning District 6 to the proposed new Mixed Use Master Plan category.

Many neighbors submitted comments indicating that they would not like to see Gentilly zoning designations changed and that they are opposed to the sweeping changes that add mixed-uses to some of the corridors in these neighborhoods.

### **Planning District 7**

This Planning District covers the Bywater, Treme, and Marigny neighborhoods and Upper Ninth Ward.

Summary: Some of these items are corrective and changed to reflect the existing use of the property. (Item 2)

Some of these proposed changes are to change a property from residential to mixed-use: Items 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 35, 36, 37, 38, and 39.

Item 6 changes 4202 Almonaster Avenue from residential to industrial to better fit with the zoning ordinance.

Item 7 changes the 1900 block of Almonaster Avenue from General Commercial to Mixed Use Low Density.

Item 8 changes another area from neighborhood commercial to general commercial, though the map with the staff report does not appear to be accurate.

Another series (Items 9, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, and 32) of these proposed Amendments, proposed by the City Planning Commission, changes lots from Neighborhood Commercial (which does not favor residential uses) to mixed-use categories that do allow residential uses along with or instead of commercial uses. These were submitted to better reflect the development pattern in older areas of city, which tends

to be more of a blend of commercial and residential uses. These would also allow multi-family residential opportunities at appropriate locations along or near major corridors and public transit. A few of these have been withdrawn.

Item 40 recommends a change from Transportation (which is being eliminated from the Master Plan Categories) to Industrial for a long stretch of property along the railroad corridor between St. Claude Avenue and Florida Boulevard.

### **Planning District 8**

This Planning District includes the Lower Ninth Ward and Holy Cross neighborhoods.

Summary: Item 1 changes 5227 Chartres Street from residential to mixed-use, which appears to be a spot zone.

Item 2 changes 5000 North Claiborne from residential to General Commercial, which resolves an issue that currently has this lot split among two zones.

Item 3 changes certain lots from post war to pre-war, however both are residential.

Items 5 - 10 were proposed to change the category for privately owned lands away from Parkland.

### **Planning District 9**

This Planning District covers a large portion of New Orleans East, specifically the western-most section closest to the rest of the city.

Summary: Some items, 1 and 3, change the category from commercial to residential to reflect the existing single family homes or other residential types.

Some items change from residential to commercial to prompt development or be more consistent with an existing use. This includes Items 2, 4, 5, 8.

Items 6 and 7 were proposed to make the map more consistent with the current industrial land uses along Chef Menteur.

Items 9 and 10 were proposed to change the category for privately owned lands at 8500 Curran Road and 14441 Curran Road away from Parkland. A new school building has been proposed for 8500 Curran.

Item 11 recommends a change for the Lakefront Airport from Transportation (which is being eliminated from the Master Plan Categories) to Industrial.

### **Planning District 10**

This Planning District includes the central portion of New Orleans East.

Summary: Items 1 and 4 propose changes to Industrial to match existing uses.

Item 2 proposes a change to stay residential but that would match existing uses as single family homes.

Item 3 would change three lots in the 14000 block of Michoud Boulevard plus 58234 Michoud Boulevard to Residential Multi-Family.

Items 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 would change the category for privately owned lands away from Parkland; all of these are currently green space and this would allow them to be developed.

## **Planning District 11**

This Planning District covers the eastern-most portion of New Orleans East, including Venetian Isles, and the area south of the Intracoastal Waterway.

Summary: The Port of New Orleans submitted two amendment proposals in this district to change to tracts of land along the Intracoastal Waterway to Industrial. Both were recommended for denial by City Planning staff. The first was because the existing Planned Development designation would allow the city and citizens to be involved with any future developments. The second was because the land, if developed, would have the net effect of increasing vulnerability of the city's flood protection system.

## **Planning District 12**

This Planning District encompasses the up-river half of the Westbank of Orleans Parish.

Summary: The first amendment is an item that is relatively broad for a series of parcels to increase the category from multi-family to mixed-use and high intensity/density. These parcels are generally along General DeGaulle and also at the end of DeGaulle Drive and currently contain vacant land and/or residential uses. The CPC Staff has recommended approving about one half of these to a less intense mixed use category. Many neighbors wrote correspondence disagreeing with this proposed amendment for a variety of reasons, including they find the density far too much for Algiers.

Item 2 proposes a change from a residential category to a mixed use category for lots in Old Algiers.

Item 3 would preserve certain city-owned properties between the River and Patterson as Parkland and Open Space.

Item 4 proposes to increase the commercial intensity of lots underneath the Crescent City Connection to allow for development.

Item 5 would allow for a new police station to be built on what is currently open space on Wall Boulevard. Three letters of support, from NORDC, New Orleans Fire Department, and New Orleans Police Department were submitted.

Item 6 proposes a change from a residential category to a mixed use category for the old Hendee Incinerator site.

Items 7, 8, and 9 are to correct several lots along Tullis Drive that are designated as Parkland even though privately owned.

Item 11 proposes to change a site that fronts the Mississippi River between Odeon Street and Olympia Circle, which currently has three different zoning designations, to Industrial.

Items 12 and 13 relate to the Algiers Ferry terminal and were proposed as the City Planning Commission staff has proposed eliminating the Transportation Category. The proposed changes would allow this site to continue operating as ferry terminal.

## **Planning District 13**

This Planning District encompasses the down-river half of the Westbank of New Orleans.

No map amendments were proposed for Planning District 13.

## **Chapter 14 General Land Use Text Amendments**

**Text Amendment 14-01:** aims to identify former waste disposal sites, to limit their future use as residential and school sites, and to identify funding sources to assist relocation of current residents of Gordon Plaza.

Proposed by: Residents of Gordon Plaza

Impacts: would establish a procedure for identifying former waste disposal sites in New Orleans and mandate doing so. Would restrict future uses of such sites. Would require city to look for funding sources to relocate residents of the Gordon Plaza neighborhood, which is on a former waste disposal site.

**Text Amendment 14-02:** commit funding to attract new businesses that align with public investments connected to revitalization of O.C. Haley Main Street Initiative by creating an “Opportunity Zone” in this area; explore the feasibility of reopening access to Thalia Street with the goal to increase connectivity and walkability; identify funding to incentivize neighborhood level investments that capitalize on the cultural assets embedded within the community and aim to reinvigorate MLK Boulevard; broker relationships between developer and neighborhood engagement partners during planning phase and throughout the due diligence process; fund neighborhood planning process to inform economic development scenarios along with exploration of affordable housing potential; ensure owners present a plan for complete remediation of the existing site.

Proposed by: Central City Renaissance Alliance

Impacts: This amendment supports equitable redevelopment options and manages pressures related to gentrification in the Central City neighborhood, promotes restoration to existing commercial sites, promotes understanding of symbiotic relationship between residents' concerns and needs and developers' concerns and needs.

**Text Amendment 14-03:** mandates the establishment of a Master Plan for public art and civic design and calls for expanding city funding for the Arts Council.

Proposed by: Arts Council of New Orleans

Impacts: would set standards and procedures for displaying art in public places and impose certain design requirements. Would increase funding from the city for the Arts Council.

**Text Amendment 14-04:** [amends 14.8]: Addition of responsibility, equitable management of open space and recreation areas that reflect and address the diverse needs of citizens by requiring individual park provider agencies either complete/abide by individual Programming and Design Plans or submit all projects in the Capital Improvement Plan that were not publicly vetted in the park's Programming and Design Plans process to a design review process that includes three public meetings.

Proposed by: Urban Conservancy

Impacts: would require that procedures be established and followed for community participation in parks and recreation planning. Specifically, would mandate public input and open meetings before park managers can make major changes to park land and facilities uses. Defines parameters that would trigger these requirements. Better management of our parks and the master plan for them could lead to well-maintained public spaces, and promote local beautification of these areas. This will result in a localized property values increase, and improve the public participation process when making decisions about the park system.

**Text Amendment 14-05:** calls for changes addressing expansion of tree planting across city, risk reduction in historic neighborhoods, and various stormwater management concerns.

Proposed by: Sustaining Our Urban Landscape (SOUL)

**Impacts:** New Orleans has been identified as the most deforested city in the United States, a consequence of the hundreds of thousands of trees that were lost from the flooding after Hurricane Katrina. The primary purpose of this amendment is to make it easier to plant more trees in more places throughout the city.

**Text Amendment 14-06:** A commitment to no loss of public parkland, and to a strict limitation on conversion of open green space to specialized uses or to intensive and commercial uses; require enhanced public review, such as the conditional use process, of disposition of public parkland and apply any funds from sales of parkland to acquisition of new parkland; create a Parks Trust Fund; evaluate any public property identified for sale for suitability as a park or recreation site.

**Proposed by:** Councilwoman LaToya Cantrell

**Impacts:** This amendment should provide better language for park and public space classification, as well as produce more opportunities for city beautification through green space. Increases public participation in city decisions related to green space. Should also reduce the amount of green space lost to development.

**Text Amendment 14-07** [amends page 14.39]: expand the boundaries of the Morial Convention Center Opportunity Site downriver to Crescent City Connection Bridge, and update the language on Vol. 2, Ch. 14, pg. 14.39, to indicate the proposed programming for the site--'Convention Center Development District', as well as changing the zoning from residential neighborhood to mixed-use urban center, integrating pedestrian-friendly design, and new streets that connect with the existing street grid.

**Proposed by:** Ernest N. Morial Convention Center

**Impacts:** this would primarily impact the large amount of open land near the Convention Center. It would open up this land to larger-scale commercial uses. According to an analysis produced by the Zimmerman/Volk Associates, the opportunity site could support up to 1,750 new units of mixed-income housing through 2014 (or 453 new units per year), with the majority of units rented at market rate. Its proximity to the Central Business District and Warehouse District will incentivize a small neighborhood convenience retail shops on the ground floor of some residential structures.

**Text Amendment 14-08:** [amends page 14.8]: The city will develop broad policy to require enhancement of the landscape and live oak canopies, complete protection of trees during private/public construction activities; develop short and long term plan for removal/mitigation of the impact of above-ground powerlines; require preservation, re-installation and re-use of historic building materials on public property; revise zoning ordinances to require screening/fencing of all commercial parking lots; develop a plan to provide funding and proper management and operation of public historic cemeteries.

**Proposed by:** Louisiana Landmarks Society

**Impacts:** Oak trees and their canopies are a striking feature of the New Orleans streetscape; this amendment aims to protect this important environmental feature of the region. It seeks to maintain and enhance the character of various parts of the city, especially the urban core areas. Would impose certain restrictions and requirements regarding design, scale, etc. The amendments also propose better practices for historic preservation throughout the city

**Text Amendment 14-09:** makes a variety of detailed changes and proposals regarding certain properties, neighborhoods, programs, etc.

**Proposed by:** Louisiana Landmarks Society

**Impacts:** seeks to strengthen city's tax and job base while expanding programs to enhance residential life and promoting historic preservation, with an extensive list of suggested action items that can be reviewed in the amendment itself.

**Text Amendment 14-10:** proposes a series of edits to explicitly reference green infrastructure and stormwater management in the future land use category descriptions of institutional, cemetery and transportation and in the "Urban Design Principles" (p.14.25-26).

Proposed by: Greater New Orleans Water Collaborative

Impacts: aims to integrate stormwater management and resilience principles into the Future Land Use Map category descriptions and into the Urban Design sections of the chapter.

**Text Amendment 14-11:** incorporates flood protection practices more thoroughly into this chapter while also preserving historic neighborhood character. Adds language outlining appropriate flood elevation techniques.

Proposed by: Greater New Orleans Water Collaborative

Impacts: would increase emphasis on stormwater management and flood protection practices in land uses throughout New Orleans. Acknowledges the historic character of much of the city and addresses the integration of flood protection and historic preservation. Includes specific language regarding flood elevation in historic areas.

**Text Amendment 14-12:** proposes allowing vacant or underutilized industrial property that is adjacent to properties zoned for open space and recreation, residential, or mixed use to be developed into mixed use and/or residential use.

Proposed by: Sherman Strategies

Impacts: could expedite redevelopment of vacant or underutilized industrial properties for other uses; however, could also bypass current procedures for zoning and land use changes. Might create conflicts between residential and commercial/industrial uses.

**Text Amendment 14-13** [amends page 6, 13, 26-27]: Allow vacant or underutilized, industrial property that is adjacent to open space and recreation future land use categories, promote walkable, mixed-use environments and transit-oriented development.

Proposed by: Sherman Strategies, LLC

Impacts: This amendment could spur beautification of blighted neighborhoods, and add to property values in surrounding areas. This amendment will impact suburban neighborhoods around the city that are not within walking distance from a park by providing recreational opportunities in areas that do not have parks. This could promote physical exercise.

**Text Amendment 14-14:** proposes amending the "Residential Historic Core" land use category to include "culture-serving businesses and facilities" in the description.

Proposed by: Councilmember Nadine Ramsey

Impacts: would specify that businesses promoting New Orleans culture are allowed in certain areas. As this definition is open to interpretation, the impacts could be minimal, given that the current zoning language includes historic corner stores, restaurants and similar facilities. If future decision-makers were to use narrower definitions, this amendment would help to ensure that the historic basis of New Orleans culture in its neighborhoods is sustained.

**Text Amendment 14-15:** proposes allowing "multi-family and mixed use development" in the "General Commercial" land use category.

Proposed by: Councilmember Jason Williams

**Impacts:** the reason given for this proposed amendment is to avoid excluding all housing from portions of New Orleans' major transit corridors. If adopted, this could increase affordable housing in the city, and would connect affordable housing residents to the transit system more effectively. It would generally provide more development options within the "General Commercial" category.

**Text Amendment 14-16** [amends page 14.11-14.12]: Definition change to Residential Pre-War Low Density (Future Land Use Maps).

**Proposed by:** Councilwoman LaToya Cantrell

**Impacts:** Councilwoman Cantrell calls for the deletion of 'Discourage the development of additional multifamily housing that is out of scale with existing character', as well as addressing that new development will fit the existing scale and character. This is beneficial for neighborhoods around District B, in hopes of preserving the housing characteristics.

**Text Amendment 14-17:** proposes creating a new Future Land Use Map category titled "Residential Mixed-Density Suburban."

**Proposed by:** Mayor's Office

**Impacts:** would create an entire new land use category, in which single, two-family and small multi-family residential units would be allowed, along with smaller commercial uses. As there are no areas of the land use map that have this category, there would be no immediate impacts. In the future, impacts could include greater residential density, more affordable housing, more whole-house short-term rental locations, and more small businesses.

**Text Amendment 14-18:** include equality and resilience as considerations in the Land Use Plan Chapter.

**Proposed by:** Mayor's Office

**Impacts:** adds new introductory text to Chapter 14 which would define the City's commitment to equitable land use decisions and resilient practices and policies.

**Text Amendment 14-19:** mostly minor, technical updates.

**Proposed by:** City Planning Commission

**Impacts:** updates out-of-date text to reflect current conditions and accomplishments.

**Text Amendment 14-20:** proposes to delete residential unit densities in categories where they currently exist in the Master Plan (this would not impact density definitions in the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance). Also proposes to allow stormwater management and agricultural (without livestock) as primary uses in all land use categories. Removes certain restrictions on adaptive reuses of historic commercial buildings.

**Proposed by:** City Planning Commission

**Impacts:** Would create greater flexibility for the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance (CZO), especially relating to the establishment of residential unit densities and the options for the adaptive reuse of historic commercial buildings. Allowing stormwater management as a primary land use anywhere in the city would provide many more opportunities to employ flood management strategies. Allowing agricultural uses anywhere in the city would promote community gardens and in some cases, provide a short-term use for a property until it is developed. Both of these could help reduce the number of abandoned, overgrown lots in the city.



**Text Amendment 14-21:** add the “Table Specifying Relationship Between Future Land Use Designations and Zoning Classifications” to the Master Plan.

Proposed by: City Planning Commission

Impacts: adds this table from the Appendix of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance to the Master Plan, which will clarify and ensure congruence between the Master Plan and the CZO.

**Text Amendment 14-22:** add text to further explain the “Force of Law” section of the Master Plan.

Proposed by: City Planning Commission

Impacts: aims to clarify the Master Plan’s “force of law,” as defined in the November 2008 amendment to the City Charter. Narrows the scope of the “force of law” provision to just the Land Use Chapter as compared to the full Master Plan.

**Text Amendment 14-23:** seven distinct proposals that concern a number of topics and ideas, including historic preservation, planning district boundaries, public participation, and neighborhood character in general.

Proposed by: Holy Cross Neighborhood Association

Impacts: some of these proposals apply to very specific properties and would limit their potential land uses beyond what the current land use categories permit. Others would reinforce existing mandates for things like respecting neighborhood character, requiring community input opportunities, and recognizing and protecting historic structures. Finally, HCNA recommends adjusting the geographic boundaries of Planning Districts 8 and 11. [NOTE: in its response, the CPC staff has recommended a comprehensive review of the planning district boundaries; refer also to Text Amendment 15-01 by the Committee for a Better New Orleans, which calls for updating the city’s official neighborhood boundary map.]

## **Section 2: Other Text Amendments**

This section includes text amendments to the other chapters listed below.

[NOTE: chapters 1 – 4 deal primarily with processes related to the Master Plan itself]



### **Chapter 5, Housing**

**Text Amendment 05-01** [amends goal 5]: Create incentive program that encourages citizen participation in neighborhood planning processes and the care and maintenance of the public realm, and integrate this into the Neighborhood Participation Program. Amendment would expand and create additional guidelines for the Percent for Art program; allow property owners to work with local artists to fulfill sidewalk maintenance requirements with functional artwork; and encourage the city to allow creative uses for vacant properties.

Proposed by: Arts Council of New Orleans

Impacts: This amendment acknowledges community and cultural assets in public space through public art and design intervention. It calls for more citizen participation in decisions related to public spaces, and would slightly expand the scope of the Neighborhood Participation Program. Overall, this package would allow greater flexibility where public art could be located, expand the amount of public art in the city, streamline some regulations, and provide financial benefit to local artists. It also looks to spur creative solutions to pervasive infrastructure problems in the City, such as broken sidewalks and problematic areas of vacant land.

**Text Amendment 05-02** [amends goal 4.D]: Explore zoning options for accessory dwelling units to increase density with market rate housing units in appropriate neighborhoods.

Proposed by: Alexander Adamick

Impacts: calls for examining the zoning codes to identify possible ways to allow existing structures in certain neighborhoods that currently are not permitted to be stand-alone residences to be allowed to become residences. This coincides with HousingNOLA's suggestions, however it focuses more on zoning and existing housing stock.

**Text Amendment 05-03** [amends multiple sections of Chapter 5]: has several parts. It explicitly states that cultural activity is important in residential and commercial areas; encourages the implementation of a warning system for Quality of Life offenses to allow offenders to become compliant before fines are levied; encourages businesses to be provided the same information as neighborhood organizations; and changes the term 'nuisance business' to 'illegally operating business'. Recommends that the city should disseminate information to neighborhood associations and business owners about potential legal approaches and inform all parties on what is currently allowed under the law. There is also a call for a survey of existing musically, historically, and spiritually important cultural sites.

Proposed By: Music and Culture Coalition of New Orleans

Impacts: These changes provide some assistance to neighborhood businesses, making enforcement more 'culture friendly'. While not changing any laws, it gives business owners access to the same information neighborhood organizations receive, and allows them a warning before fines are levied for 'Quality of Life' infractions, like noise. It also makes clear that cultural activity and businesses are a part of the fabric of New Orleans' residential areas, not just on commercial corridors, as well as changing the subjective term 'nuisance business' into the objective 'illegally operating business'. This amendment will secure the protection of historical cultural sites and music venues, two important staples of New Orleans culture.

**Text Amendment 05-04:** Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) is compact development located near frequent transit service that is designed to make neighborhoods more accessible by transit, walking and bicycling. TOD can increase the supply of housing units in smart ways to relieve pressure on the housing market; encourage use of alternative transportation and take cars off the road; and make jobs and services more accessible to more workers and shoppers. HousingNOLA’s Proposed Amendments Integrate All 10-Year Plan Strategies into the Chapter: (1) Preserve existing supply and expand the total supply of affordable rental and homeownership opportunities throughout New Orleans; (2) Prevent future displacement through development activities and continued study and policy review; (3) Enforce and promote fair housing policies throughout New Orleans; (4) Encourage sustainable design and infrastructure for all New Orleanians; (5) Increase accessibility for all, including residents with special needs. The amendment also references stormwater management as a legitimate use for undeveloped parcels and says “sustainable design principles should ensure that all residents have access to a healthy living environment that efficiently uses resources over time and reduces the potential for flood damage from rainfall events.” Also emphasizes city support for a coalition seeking reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program with a focus on low premiums.

**Proposed by:** HousingNOLA

**Impacts:** Recognizing the importance that the development community plays in meeting this need, HousingNOLA’s amendments ensure capacity building efforts continue to strengthen and support the organizations. Additionally, the use of “stormwater lots” and improved building designs should reduce flood risk for city residents. City staff and disaster professionals agree that the city should pursue an improved rating under the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System. The objective of “more affordable” flood insurance should always be paired with the objective of maximizing coverage.

**Text Amendment 05-05:** makes numerous changes throughout Chapter 5 to reflect what has been accomplished in the last five years as well as various policy initiatives of the current administration.

**Proposed by:** Mayor’s Office

**Impacts:** key areas of focus for this amendment include preserving and expanding the supply of affordable housing; reducing resident displacement in neighborhoods where property values and rents are rising significantly; increasing home ownership opportunities for current residents; providing home repair assistance for low-income and elderly residents; increase housing density in certain areas; and supporting increased housing development in areas close to major transit centers. Among the strategies are using various tax incentives and other investment incentives; increasing coordination among various agencies related to housing, and providing professional development opportunities for their staffs; creating certain new agencies; amending zoning and other laws; and generally implementing recommendations from recent housing studies and plans. If these approaches are successful, the overall housing situation in New Orleans should improve, including more affordable housing. More new housing will be built, and some areas will see housing density increase. Current New Orleans residents should experience fewer difficulties with displacement and affordability.

**Text Amendment 05-06** [amends goal 4]: adds language that allows zoning options for accessory dwelling units in certain neighborhoods.

**Proposed by:** Alexander Adamick

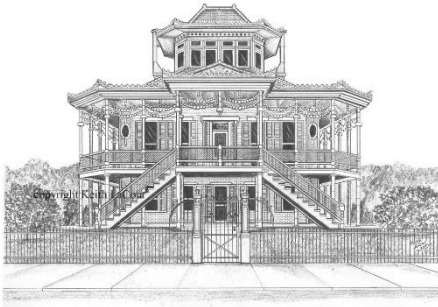
**Impacts:** this is a companion to Text Amendment 05-02, proposing essentially the same options within a different section of the Master Plan.

**Text Amendment 05-07:** makes technical and grammatical corrections throughout the chapter, and updates certain housing-related programs.

**Proposed by:** City Planning Commission

**Impacts:** corrects mostly minor errors and makes the chapter more reflective of current programs.

## **Chapter 6, Historic Preservation**



**Text Amendment 06-01** [Goal 1]: Goal 1.D: *Protect important cultural sites, activities, and traditions.* Includes several components as described below.

**Proposed By:** Music and Culture Coalition of New Orleans

**A.** A comprehensive survey of existing musically, historically, and spiritually important cultural sites should be completed, and sites should become eligible for protection.

**Impacts:** establishes an inventory of resources established for future planning, preservation, and tourism related uses, similar to historic architectural inventory. Defining “Eligible for protection” will encourage further discussion for land marking strategies that are not site/structure based and expands preservation goals to protect a wider, and more inclusive, range of heritage.

**B.** Allow historic music venues to be reestablished at sites where such former use is identified.

**Impacts:** Reintroduction of former music and event venues. Non-conforming use policies (6 month expiration date from end of explicit use) may be expanded to include more types of businesses and could be tied to a location, rather than a building, in perpetuity.

**C.** A grant program for sound proofing businesses, similar to a façade grant program, should be developed and implemented, with an emphasis on music venues and barrooms.

**Impacts:** Establishes policies and resources to reduce sound related conflicts between music venues and adjacent, often residential, uses.

**D.** Encourage businesses and facilities that promote New Orleans culture through music, entertainment, dance, art, oral traditions.

**Impacts:** Amended fees and permitting structures through City Hall for businesses that promote culture. For example “live entertainment venues that charge a cover should not have to pay a higher fee than those that offer free entertainment as that creates a disincentive to pay performers a fair wage.” Creates wider level of municipal discretion, through added definition of cultural resources (see amendment 06-05), and the potential for prioritization of these processes over other types of licensing and permitting procedures.

**Text Amendment 06-02:** add Louisiana Landmarks Society as a stakeholder and resource for historic preservation.

**Proposed By:** Louisiana Landmarks Society

**Impacts:** would expand the list of stakeholders to include an existing preservation organization increases inclusivity, resources, and commitment in decision making.

**Text Amendment 06-03:** recommends preservation initiatives, addresses resilience; request contains multiple changes as described below.

**Proposed By:** Louisiana Landmarks Society

**1.** To Goal 1.1.A:

- Add Strategy 1.A.3: *Provide recognition and means of protection for all publicly owned or utility owned historic properties, sites and structures that contribute to the tout-ensemble of the City though are not under city jurisdiction.*

Impacts: Expanded inventory prioritized for preservation policies, including land-marking eligibility, to include bridges, cemeteries, memorials, locks, and pumping stations.

- Add Strategy 1.A.4: *Historic properties and assets that are publicly owned shall be properly maintained so as to ensure protection of the historic resources. The city shall protect historic resources and identifying adaptive uses and potential funding sources for restoration, use protective techniques and preservation best practices and seek compliance by all public agencies with proper and compatible design and renovation guidelines.*

Impacts: Publicly owned assets will be recognized as a responsibility of their ownership entity with implications in the City’s Code of Ordinances for their continued maintenance and preservation.

2. Create a comprehensive Preservation Plan, with the assistance of a Preservation Plan Committee, that will be included in land use and redevelopment policies of Chapter 14 of the Master Plan.

Impacts: Enshrines comprehensive preservation plan in the Ch. 14 Land Use Plan of Master Plan.

3. Delete language that includes “preservation skeptics” as stakeholders in the effort to create a preservation plan.

Impacts: would improve clarity regarding the stakeholder list. The existing term “broadly diverse Advisory Committee” implies a variety of viewpoints and the list of stakeholders are proposed to expand through other amendments (see amendment 06-04).

3. To Goal 3, add strategies to promote the reuse of salvaged materials such as lumber, millwork, granite, etc.

Impacts: Additional emphasis on deconstruction of historic architectural components (rather than simply tearing them down and throwing them away) furthers the goals of sustainability through reuse.

4. Add strategies to minimize conflicts between storm water management requirements and preservation (for impacts, see amendment 06-09).

5. To Goal 5, add mandate for improved and expanded interpretive signage at landmarks, historic structures, monuments, and other historic points of interest.

Impacts: Increased visitor, resident and community awareness of resources with the goal of fostering appreciation for the city’s historic and cultural heritage. The amendment calls for a diverse commission of stakeholders to be created for this purpose, specifically tying it to the occasion of the City’s tri-centennial celebration.

**Text Amendment 06-04:** integrate the work of affordable housing developers and advocates with the processes and goals of historic preservation to ensure they are aligned.

Proposed By: HousingNOLA

1. Add affordable housing developers and advocates as stakeholders in policies pertaining to historic preservation values and interests.

Impacts: Widens the groups of stakeholders on historic preservation issues.

2. Consider impacts of historic preservation guidelines and requirements on developers’ and public agencies’ ability to provide income restricted affordable housing opportunities, and provide opportunities for waivers if it is determined that preservation requirements prohibit income restricted affordable development.

Impacts: Allow discretion within the City Planning Commission with regards to interpretation of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance in the form of waivers, bonuses, and modifications to existing building

inventory, including demolition, when considering the cost and viability of affordable housing developments. Greater flexibility should increase the opportunities to convert historic buildings into affordable housing.

**Text Amendment 06-05:** add information about cultural resources to general historic preservation efforts.

Proposed By: Councilmember Nadine Ramsey

1. Change chapter 6 title from *Historic Preservation* to *Cultural Resource Management and Historic Preservation*. [NOTE: reversed to *Historic Preservation and Cultural Resources Management* through City Planning staff recommendation]

Impacts: Acknowledges citywide goal of managing and maintaining a wider inventory of resources with a direct emphasis on preservation.

2. Add section to Fact Sheet: *Cultural Resources are defined are the physical things and places such as historic archaeological, architectural, and historical interests as well as historic musical and artistic traditions and other social institutions and community cultural amenities. These traditions and amenities include musical traditions, street performers, craftmakers, traditional culture bearers, 2nd-line vendors, Mardi Gras Indians, and the venues and small-business owners that support them.*

Impacts: By defining the different types of cultural resources, city policies such as the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinances will be interpreted and used in ways that are more supportive of the city's culture. Compliments amendment 06-01.

**Text Amendment 06-06:** calls for the development of a "Resilience Strategies for Historic Commercial Corridors' pattern book" that would revise conditions, goals and strategies in the Historic Preservation chapter, especially areas of the city that are designated Historic Commercial Corridors. The more important parts of this amendment are described below.

Proposed by: Mayor's office

1. To Fact Sheet, Historic Districts section, add language describing the original creation and purpose of the Vieux Carré Commission.

Impacts: Clarification of the Vieux Carré Commission's history and current role in protecting the French Quarter

2. To Fact Sheet, Historic Districts section, under Tout Ensemble, add language defining the scope of the authority of the Vieux Carré Commission.

Impacts: Language inserted to reflect current pressures and the VCC's regulatory authority when considering impacts on the Vieux Carré, including its ability to comment on issues not specifically listed as part of its regulatory authority.

3. From Fact Sheet Findings, remove: *Most historic architecture in New Orleans was designed to be compatible with the local climate, providing for cross ventilation and often raised above street level to avoid flooding.*

Impacts: Concept will be expanded in subsequent amendments regarding "Sustainable Preservation Plan." Removal from this section suggests reduced recognition and potential regulatory emphasis of maintaining uses and forms of historic structures as built.

4. To Fact Sheet Challenges, add: *Recognizing that a balance must be struck between the needs of the residents of historic districts with those of a thriving tourist industry without damaging the historic infrastructure.*

Impacts: Acknowledges existing tensions between growing tourism impacts and residential quality of life issues in historic neighborhoods. Implies intervention.

5. At end of Fact Sheet, include language describing the principles of Resilience and Equity.

Impacts: Reflects current political and planning shift towards healthy urban centers and transition from post-Katrina recovery to focus on resilience. Also reflects current administration's stated focus on these two concepts.

6. Emphasize the role that contemporary design can play in historic districts.

Impacts: Increased awareness of design options, particularly within regulated historic districts. Broader application of design standards at discretion of the VCC, HDLC, and CBDHDLC. Recognizes that the purpose of preservation is not to freeze a particular moment in time and seeks to educate New Orleanians about the nature of architecture as a continuum.

7. In Goal 3, add *Develop a "Resilience Strategies for Historic Commercial Corridors" Pattern book*. Supported by amendments 06-03 and 06-09.

Impacts: Pattern book will be used to illustrate solutions that maintain historic and pedestrian friendly character while meeting the requirements of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as well as the elevated Base Flood Elevation Maps.

8. Add language about the need for an approach to historic preservation that incorporates not only buildings but also art, music, dance and oral traditions.

Impacts: Increases chapter responsiveness to cultural resources. Diversifies stakeholders.

9. Add language to Goal 2, Strategy 2.A defining five principles for "successful and sustainable heritage tourism", as defined by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Recommend convening a Heritage Tourism Task Force to diversify the types and locations of visitor attractions, especially in areas of the city that currently do not have much tourism.

Impacts: Expanded language in reference to tourism, resource management, and heritage preservation. Implies continued research and expansion of these programs. Seeks to expand tourism to additional areas of the city while mitigating negative impacts of tourism, as a way to bring economic development to additional neighborhoods.

10. Change Strategy 2.C.1 "*Work with neighborhood organizations and NORA to identify blighted historic properties at risk of demolition*" to "*Empower neighborhoods to identify and prioritize code enforcement activities.*"

Impacts: Generalization of roles in blight fighting strategies.

11. Develop a "Resilience strategies for historic commercial corridors" pattern book that illustrates solutions that maintain historic and pedestrian friendly character while meeting the requirements of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as well as the elevated Base Flood Elevation Maps.

Impacts: would create a template for integrating historic preservation with various federal regulations.

12. In Goal 5, remove references to Neighborhood Character Studies and rewrite the first action: *Develop new and more visible public notice methods to increase awareness of permitting requirements within historic districts.*

Impacts: seeks to expand outreach efforts and may reduce "stop work orders" and fines associated with working without a permit. Increased notification of proposed changes will increase public participation in planning processes.

**Text Amendment 06-07:** simple technical amendment to change all references to NCDC (Neighborhood Conservation District Committee) in this chapter to NCDAC (Neighborhood Conservation District Advisory Committee).

Proposed by: City Planning Commission

Impacts: corrects this reference.

**Text Amendment 06-08:** would protect historic structures not under City jurisdiction, such as state bridges and federal locks, waterways, docks, and other structures that contribute to the City and its general appearance. Add to recommended strategies 1.A.3: *Provide recognition and means of protection for all publicly owned or utility owned historic properties, sites and structures that contribute to the tout-ensemble of the City though are not under city jurisdiction* (combined with text amendment 06-03).

Proposed By: Holy Cross Neighborhood Association

Impacts: would establish Master Plan recognition of previously unidentified historic resources. Contributes to increased awareness of historic infrastructure as contributing to neighborhood and community identity. Specifically, provides protection for the Harbor Navigation Canal Lock, built 1918.

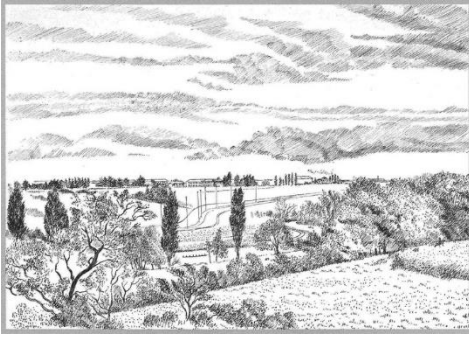
**Text Amendment 06-09:** Develop a 'sustainable preservation' plan, in which non-profits should join with USGBC and others to form a committee to create a framework for a sustainable preservation program to develop integration of green features and resilience measures. GNOWC wishes to link existing water assets through general funds, private foundations, and federal grants. Green Infrastructure- Promote tree planting on private & public property, tree canopy GIS projection, and street tree master plan. Prosperity and Opportunity- Recognize urban water management as an area of specialization and growth with costal restoration. Community Facilities- Rebuild city's water, sewer and drainage system to add resiliency, improve public health. Resilience- Devise appropriate standards for public building neighborhoods, and infrastructure, adapt building regulations and techniques to more accurately respond to risks from wind and flooding. Environmental Quality- Recognize the contribution of water treatment and pumped drainage to the city's energy use and carbon footprint; Improve and protect water quality in waterways, wetlands, and lakes. Land Use- Preserve large-scale existing institutions, cemeteries, and public green spaces; replace most lawn areas in neutral grounds and street sides with bioswales and appropriate green infrastructure, when necessary amending the soil. Neighborhood Participation Program- Ensure that significant publicly funded projects on public land are included in the NPP. Implementation- Review progress on the Plan at least annually at CPC and city council; create system to certify private projects for compliance with the M.P. and city resilience goals. The amendment proposes that the city's historic preservation agencies and nonprofits join with the Greater New Orleans Water Collaborative, the State Historic Preservation Office, National Trust for Historic Preservation, FEMA, and the National Center for Preservation Training and Technology to establish guidelines for appropriate resilience retrofits in historic settings with emphasis on on-site water management, flood risk reduction, energy efficiency, elevations and related issues.

Proposed By: GNO Water Collaborative

In Goal 3: New Orleans is a model of "green," sustainable and resilient historic preservation add the following in policies for decision makers: Develop a "Sustainable Preservation plan and pilot project *to minimize perceived conflicts between storm water management/flood mitigation and historic preservation.*

Impacts: The sustainable preservation plan can illuminate methods for the protection of historic structures while meeting the modern needs of sustainability with regard to flood water mitigation, energy efficiency and other "green" practices. Given New Orleans' unique geographic characteristics and historic inventory, a successfully implemented plan could become a national model for sustainable preservation practices and locally will address the perceived incompatibility between preservation standards and the city's resiliency goals. Potential conflicts: Specific implementations may detour from existing regulatory framework in historic districts. Increased consideration of raising historic resources to meet current base flood level requirements will affect traditional housing styles (ex: extensive elevation and conversion of "raised basements" to habitable units). Possible conflicts when costs of resiliency retrofits outweigh perceived value and demolition requests occur.





## **Chapter 7, Parks and Recreation**

**Text Amendment 07-01:** calls for making use of public input and working with creatives to find ways to make public spaces more artistic/integrate art into public spaces and parks. These include changing zoning and permitting laws to allow more artistic uses on vacant and underutilized land; utilizing artists to develop user friendly communication platforms and strategies; and helping to develop artistic directional and informational signs.

Proposed by: The Arts Council of New Orleans

Impacts: the purpose of this amendment is to generate more opportunities to place works of art (mostly sculptures) into public spaces such as parks, neutral grounds and city properties. Would inject additional art and creativity into existing informational materials, signs, etc., potentially providing more income for artists and a more visually interesting city.

**Text Amendment 07-02:** restore parks destroyed by Hurricane Katrina and create new parks on publicly-owned parcels, with an emphasis on restoring spaces designated to be parks in the past.

Proposed by: Eastern New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory Council (ENONAC)

Impacts: there are still many parks that have not been restored and/or maintained since Katrina. Also, there are a number of properties owned by the city and other public agencies that are simply vacant, open spaces. This amendment would fix up pre-Katrina parks and add new ones. However, park maintenance remains an issue, with limited funds and manpower, so restored and new parks might struggle to be maintained.

**Text Amendment 07-03** [amends 7.27-28]: replace the first three sub points to include: prepare and periodically update a full parks and recreation Master Plan including ample input from the public; conduct a full assessment of park facilities as part of each P&R master plan update; establish a streamlined public participation process that allows public input into each agency's Capital Improvement Plan.

Proposed by: The Urban Conservancy

Impacts: having a Master Plan for parks would set some parameters for making decisions about maintenance and development in the city's parks. This amendment would also make sure that the public is notified when decisions regarding potential development in parks is being proposed, and require community input into such decisions. Better management of our parks and the master plan for them could lead to well-maintained public spaces, and promote local beautification of these areas. This will result in a localized property values increase, and improve the public participation process when making decisions about state of the park system.

**Text Amendment 07-04:** generate plans for to restore, redesign, reconstruct and maintain neighborhood parks while incorporating research of neighborhood parks' history and design and private/public partnerships.

Proposed by: NOLA Squared

Impacts: New Orleans has many small neighborhood "pocket" parks that often are not well maintained, or are maintained by their neighbors. The amendment would require the city to do a better job of maintaining such parks, and create a better structure for working with neighborhood and other organizations regarding these parks. This amendment could spur beautification of blighted neighborhoods, and add to property values in surrounding areas.

**Text Amendment 07-05** [amends page 7.6, 12, 14]: Promote tree preservation and tree planning on public and private properties; create a no net loss of tree canopy strategy for public and private property; establish 'Heritage Trees' to inform future development. ADD to 1D- Reduce localize flooding by protecting existing heritage trees and incentivizing the protection of heritage trees through a no net loss tree canopy strategy. Adding more "tree canopy" preservation to Future Land Use map, and water management/ flood risk provisions.

Proposed by: Sustaining Our Urban Landscape (SOUL)

Impacts: more trees will create more shade, and theoretically cooler temperatures and possibly reduced cooling bills. Trees also improve air quality and enhance the overall cityscape. Could possibly cause occasional sidewalk damage from roots. The amendment would also preserve large trees from random cutting down, or at least require planting trees to replace them. This also aims to address the localized flooding in the city by promoting the preservation of trees, a natural absorber of water.

**Text Amendment 07-06:** increase the number of natural areas, open space and recreation areas by creating strict limitations on the amount of commercial and intensive use in parks and public lands.

Proposed by: NOLA Parks for All and Councilmember LaToya Cantrell

Impacts: this would restrict the ability of park managers and the managers of other green spaces to put up buildings, parking lots, playing fields, golf courses, and similar kinds of uses in areas that are now primarily open, green spaces. This does limit the ability of parks to create new revenue-generating facilities to support their budgets.

**Text Amendment 07-07** [changes Goal 9A]: encourages neighborhood based cultural programming in all city-owned recreation centers.

Proposed By: Music and Culture Coalition of New Orleans

Impacts: Would ensure that neighborhood based, traditional cultural organizations would have a place in city run centers, as they often currently denied the opportunity to hold programming due to existing agreements or contracts.

**Text Amendment 07-08** [amends goals 2, 3 and 5]: promote tree planting on public and private lands, and discourage tree clearing on private lands. Develop best practices for green infrastructure design and maintenance in street neutral grounds. Before public land is sold, evaluate the feasibility of using the land for stormwater management with green infrastructure. Prioritize park and trail projects that improve public access to waterfronts, including but not limited to Lake Pontchartrain and the Mississippi River.

Proposed by: Greater New Orleans Water Collaborative

Impacts: Some of these amendments mirror those put forward by SOUL and would have the effect of improving urban tree canopy, reducing urban heat islands and requiring developers to replant trees equal in net to those lost to development. Other edits would encourage the use of public lands for stormwater management through rain lots, sunken neutral grounds, etc. and the creation of public spaces along canals, bayous and the lakefront.

**Text Amendment 07-09:** Provide input to revise conditions, goals and strategies in the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Chapter (Chapter 7).

Proposed by: Mayor's Office

Impacts: seeks to update and revise the conditions, goals and strategies found throughout Chapter 7 in support of equitable land use decisions and resilient practices and policies.

**Text Amendment 07-10:** make numerous revisions throughout the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Chapter or Chapter 7 including removing “green infrastructure” and inconsistencies and making minor updates.

Proposed by: The City Planning Commission

Impacts: primarily minor technical changes and corrections of errors, along with updates to reflect current circumstances. Reinforces placing plans and strategies related to green infrastructure and stormwater management in the Resilience/Water Management chapter (Chapter 12).

**Text Amendment 07-11:** Change the reference for community participation from the Neighborhood Participation Plan (NPP) to the Community Participation Plan (CPP) within the Master Plan.

Proposed by: Committee for a Better New Orleans

Impacts: clarifies that, per the Master Plan, City Charter and resolution of the City Council, when the city finally does implement a full Community Participation Plan, references in the Master Plan will not confuse this with the current City Planning Commission Neighborhood Participation Plan, which only applies to land use and zoning decisions going through the Planning Commission.

## **Chapter 8, Health Care**



**Text Amendment 08-01** [amends goal 4]: Reinvented housing policies to support quality neighborhoods and meet the diverse housing needs of all households; create a New Orleans Housing Working Group to guide and coordinate City housing strategy.

Proposed by: AARP Louisiana/New Orleans Age Friendly Task Force

Impacts: Creates a new “Age Friendly Working Group” to address the needs of the aging population of New Orleans, and expands the policies a bit by focusing on conditions and services for the aging population.

**Text Amendment 08-02:** Revise conditions, goals and strategies in the Health & Human Services Chapter

Proposed by: Mayor's Office

Impacts: The amendment reflects changes suggested by the Health Department and a coalition of local stakeholders. Many of these are updates to statistical data that has changed since 2010, and to reflect the current situation. Some of the edits represents goals that have been met and setting new goals for the future.

**Text Amendment 08-03:** Numerous revisions throughout the Health & Human Services Chapter

Proposed by: City Planning Commission

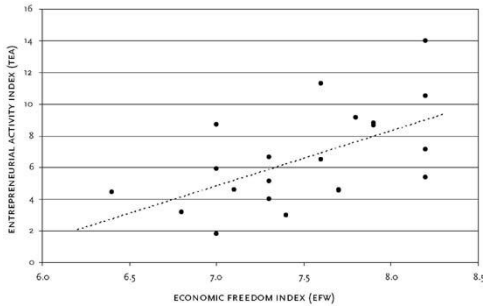
Impacts: Reflect updated information, statistics, and several corrections or clarifications to existing text.

**Text Amendment 08-04:** Add paragraph regarding lead poisoning under "Children's Health".

Proposed by: Louisiana Landmarks Society

Impacts: Updates and clarifies existing conditions in New Orleans and how levels of lead contamination are showing signs of improvement due to the efforts of many agencies and entities.

## **Chapter 9, Economic Development**



**Text Amendment 09-01:** [amends goal 3]: Market the city as an arts and cultural center to locals, visitors, potential visitors and the Arts and Culture community; Create a dedicated staff position to serve as primary liaison between the City and the Arts and Culture community; strengthen the existing relationship between the Arts Council of New Orleans, the City’s official arts agency, and the Convention and Visitors Bureau, to promote the development of cultural industries in a strategic and comprehensive way; The city should work with the Arts Council of

New Orleans to implement initiatives such as: cultural planning, public art and civic design review, cultural equity grants to support citizen creativity, artist professional development. Would also support the development of a Master Plan for Civic Art and Design; preserve and develop new cultural facilities and venues; increase funding for the Percent for Art Program and include private development; and develop a seed program for start-up costs for private small art and performance venues.

Proposed by: Arts Council of New Orleans

Impacts: would create a dedicated city staff position to serve as the primary liaison between the city and the Arts and Cultural community, prioritizing partnerships with leading arts and cultural organizations to recapture the human potential lost with these programs; create incentive program that encourages citizen involvement in care and maintenance of public realm; supportive in creating a strategy for implementing new opportunities for vacant properties to enhance the likelihood that a vacant space will eventually find a permanent use. Would create a formal Master Plan that would guide Civic Art and Design in New Orleans for the foreseeable future; and provide a significant increase in funding available public art and small performance venues.

This considers the role of a 24-hour downtown as an economic driver, and considers the creation of safe, viable, creative and engaging public spaces - essentials for a vibrant, 24-hour downtown. More generally, these changes show a greater embrace of culture and cultural businesses as an economic driver for New Orleans. An explicit show of support for ‘culture-friendly’ zoning could allow for additional businesses to open; updating the list of cultural facilities could help point resources to larger scale projects that still need resources to be revitalized; pushing Arts Districts—like Frenchmen St—as destinations could help push economic growth in the cultural sector, however it could also lead to a greater ‘clustering’ of cultural businesses and activities; and providing greater support for indigenous ‘cultural producers’ shows a greater commitment to equity and a recognition that those that create the culture that brings many tourists (and tourist dollars) to New Orleans often do not see the financial benefits their work helps produce.

**Text Amendment 09-02:** adds language in support of electric vehicle infrastructure [NOTE: staff recommended moving this to Chapter 11, Transportation].

Proposed by: Radu Vlad Ghelase and Jeffrey Cantin

Impacts: would clarify that the city generally supports creating both public and private infrastructure for electric vehicles, in turn removing or reducing some current barriers to this type of infrastructure. This amendment promotes the reduction of carbon-dioxide emissions from gasoline cars by promoting the use of EVs. The city becomes a step closer to actively and progressively tackling climate change.

**Text Amendments 09-03, 09-04:** these two amendments are related to incentives for the redevelopment of historic structures. They specifically propose waiving fees associated with encroachments into the public right-of-way (examples would be building awnings over a sidewalk, stairs, etc.).

Proposed by: Alexander Adamick

Impacts: these amendments should make it easier for certain historic properties to be restored and redeveloped, by removing fees associated with these encroachments. In addition, in some instances HDLC and other regulations

prohibit the removal of awnings, balconies and other features on historic structures, so these amendments would be consistent with such regulations.

**Text Amendment 09-05:**

Goal 5: Nurture the development of new industries that capitalize on new market opportunities and the city's competitive strengths

Strategy 5A: Support development of coast protection and restoration industries.

Addition:

- Add urban water management as a new industry together with coastal restoration

Strategy 5C: Support the development of a sustainable building design and construction industry.

Addition:

- Add the use of green infrastructure and water management in building design strategies to promote water reuse within the sustainable building industries.

Proposed by: Greater New Orleans Water Collaborative

Impacts: would add urban water management to references about the coastal restoration industry, including expressing support for certain degrees and certificate programs that will train people to fill jobs and start new businesses in this industry. Would also add language about water reuse, encouraging water conservation and reducing drainage needs.

**Text Amendment 09-06:** proposes numerous new economic development strategies relating to current and emerging sectors, including: encourage government to engage as a meaningful partner with businesses and residents. Government should improve technology capacities to enhance speed and accuracy of service delivery. Connect residents to both the civic and individual opportunities offered by large and anchor businesses, primarily through the New Orleans Business Alliance and GNO Inc. Support development of coast protection and restoration industries. Add urban water management, green infrastructure, and coastal protection as industries in need of development and support. Add partners and emphasize the role of the Sewerage & Water Board, especially in job training for these industries. Preserve and expand the port and maritime industries while ensuring compatibility with adjacent land uses. Utilize the port and port-owned land to support business development. Fully implement the Greater New Orleans Urban Water Plan, and add the City of New Orleans as the agency responsible for implementing the Plan. Build on the implementation of plans such as the Greater New Orleans Urban Water Plan and Coastal Master Plan, and the expertise gained in the process, to export specialized water expertise nationally and internationally. Create a marketing plan for water industries and specializations in Southeast Louisiana for national/international audiences. Develop a Resiliency Hub for visiting delegations from universities, governments and federal agencies. Engage two and four year schools in creating the next generation of water workers and innovators, connecting programs to water based projects through demand-driven workforce engagement. Explore opportunities for formalizing internship/apprentice programs in new City green infrastructure projects. Further the growth and development of a water cluster through supporting entrepreneurship, accelerator programs and local businesses engaging in the water field. Support development of green energy industries such as river, solar and wind energy. Conduct market analysis, create and support job training, provide incentives and create a welcoming regulatory climate. Support development of a sustainable building design and construction industry. Create and support job training. Develop a pipeline of high quality candidates to benefit employers, by developing a wide variety of training programs across industries and skill levels; increasing availability of skilled trades and workforce development in more schools, including green color, advanced manufacturing, technology, arts, and culinary fields; and informing residents/community partners about available workforce training programs.

Proposed by: Mayor's Office

Impacts: building partnerships and investing in the green infrastructure sector opens the door to New Orleans becoming a world leader in fields such as coastal restoration, urban water management and green energy. This would diversify the city's economy while moving into a sector that is growing globally – and one that New Orleans is naturally suited to due to its location. Success could also lead to innovations that would make New Orleans and

coastal Louisiana safer and more sustainable. The earlier proposals in this amendment would improve city government efficiency as relates to business and economic development and build on certain existing strengths and assets. The amendment also seeks to promote workforce training and development for both emerging sectors and current sectors. Overall, this amendment seeks to make the city a good business partner in general and particularly to drive development of the green infrastructure sector.

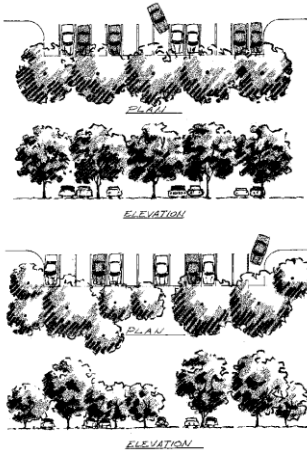
Additional requests from the Administration:

- Reflect that the public-private partnership has been established with the creation of the New Orleans Business Alliance (NOLABA).
- Add the City’s “Equity as a Growth Strategy” to the chapter.
- Changes to the medical life sciences industry section to reflect the new UMC and VA hospitals.
- Changes to the Bio District, and updates to the supporting institutions that make up the health care sector in New Orleans.
- Separate the film and video industry and the digital media industry in two different sectors in the Master Plan.
- Add food manufacturing as an emerging industry.
- Modify actions around the BioInnovation Center to reflect their current work.
- Add an action to create a Cultural Innovation District.
- Modification to the downtown section of the Master Plan to reflect changes to reflect new developments.
- Add two new opportunity sites for the Claiborne Corridor Cultural Innovation District and the Food Manufacturing District along Poydras Row.

Text Amendment 09-07: recommends multiple, mostly minor revisions throughout Chapter 9.

Proposed by: City Planning Commission

Impacts: would make small changes to update out-of-date information and also make technical corrections.



## **Chapter 10, Community Facilities, Services and Infrastructure**

**Text Amendment 10-01** [goal 4.F]: a request to include a strategy which would enable citizen-led efforts to maintain and enhance public spaces and civic infrastructure, such as parks and recreation centers. The intent is to engage active citizenship while relieving some of the City’s financial burdens related to upkeep and maintenance.

Proposed by: The Arts Council

Impacts: the proposal encourages citizen engagement and stewardship in the care and maintenance of public spaces and civic infrastructure. However, the recommended action, which is to legally recognize collaborations between citizen-led groups and the City, does not cite any proposed funding sources to support the projects.

Consequently, it could become challenging for the City to realize its goal of having cost-efficient, resource-efficient, well maintained public facilities and services if there are no funds allocated to do so.

**Text Amendment 10-02:** include additional strategies and actions to reflect the City’s commitment to implementing the Greater New Orleans Urban Water Plan. Specifically, the proposed strategies and actions relate to the incorporation of more non-structural drainage development, the development of innovative and predictable funding streams for green infrastructure and its long-term maintenance, and finally, the requirement that public buildings and facilities be constructed or retrofitted to comply with current floodplain management standards. The proposal also calls for developing interagency governing structures to oversee capital investments for integrated stormwater management systems. The proposal also calls for additional language within the narrative section of the chapter. Two of the directives in the narrative relate to strategies to encourage and incentivize stormwater management systems on private property. Others call for city-wide groundwater monitoring and soil sampling to inform efforts and guide the placement of additional green infrastructure.

Proposed by: Greater New Orleans Water Collaborative

Impacts: The City’s desire to remain true to its commitment to resilience can be seen in Strategy 2.B where spending priority will be given to public projects that advance green infrastructure. The proposed drainage fee suggested under Strategy 2.B.3, would be imposed on individual parcels and create a funding stream to service drainage related assets. Additionally, bringing public facilities into compliance with floodplain management standards would harden them against flooding and raise the City’s level of resilience, while potentially reducing insurance costs.

The key to realizing the vision of the 2013 Greater New Orleans Water Plan will be to move the Water Collaborative’s request for incentives forward under other chapters. An incentive program would serve as a predictable funding stream and spur the installation of more natural drainage systems that help fight subsidence and mitigate flooding.

**Text Amendment 10-03:** would update Chapter 10, Volume 3 to reflect the current conditions of New Orleans’ infrastructure, notably, to recognize the investments made during the last five years. The request also includes a proposal to include more reference to the City’s experience of land subsidence and the damage it does to streets and other public facilities, including the added drainage burden created by continued land subsidence.

Proposed by: Greater New Orleans Water Collaborative

Impacts: would reflect repairs to damaged facilities and infrastructure over the last five years, as well as upgrades completed during that period, creating a more current and relevant context for this chapter.

**Text Amendment 10-04:** a request by the Administration to include changes proposed by the agencies responsible for the provision and maintenance of community facilities, infrastructure, and public safety services. Changes include minor updates to the Fact Sheet and Implementation Table to reflect the most up-to-date information. Some of the more substantial amendments include a new goal for improved inter-departmental collaboration, strategies related to the utilization of GIS-centric asset management systems and facility inventories, and the inclusion of equity assurances making clear the City's goal to ensure that public facilities meet the entire range of needs of each community.

Proposed by: Mayor's Office

Impacts:

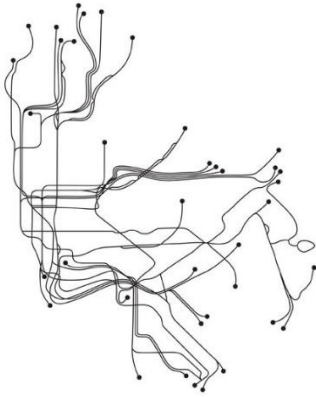
This amendment encourages the transformation and improvement of city services through updated data sharing and mapping systems. It also encourages interdisciplinary work and the sharing of responsibility across city departments for the hardening and care of the City's infrastructure.

**Text Amendment 10-05:** would insert text within Chapter 10, Volume 2 that reflects completed and ongoing strategies and actions. The request also includes amendments to update the chapter's fact sheet, and update Map 10.1 to reflect current capital projects, and update photos to show completed projects.

Proposed by: City Planning Commission

Impacts: the changes will allow the chapter's information to reflect current conditions as well as reflect completed strategic and actions.





## **Chapter 11, Transportation**

**Text Amendment 11-01:** Generally, this amendment aims to redesign streets as public spaces that support community cohesion, cultural preservation, and channels for movement. Street design should become an economic asset tool to generate higher traffic and revenue for businesses and increase values for homeowners. Cyclists and pedestrians should be able to cross streets safely.

**Proposed by:** The Central City Renaissance Alliance (CCRA)

**A.** [amends Goal 1] Develop guide and adopt policies to support redesign of streets as public spaces that support community cohesions, cultural preservation, as well as channels for movement. Ensure inclusion of community engagement.

**Impacts:** Develop policies for better street design to ensure both cultural preservation and community engagement.

**B.** [amends Goal 1] Fund neighborhood projects to implement low cost redesign solutions for varied purposes – parklets, bike shares and calming traffic.

**Impacts:** Fund diverse neighborhood transportation projects that increase accessibility and safety.

**C.** [amends Goal 1] Improve street designs to insure people walking, parking, working and driving can cross paths safely.

**Impacts:** Promote safe and accessible street design for all users.

**Text Amendment 11-02:** [amends Goal 3] Develop a Pavement to Parks Program to encourage public participation while allowing for low-cost, temporary pilot testing of projects to improve pedestrians, bicycle, and transit-users experience.

**Proposed by:** The Arts Council of New Orleans

**Impacts:** Would increase green infrastructure in transportation projects.

**Text Amendment 11-03:** [amends 2.A.6] Provide reliable public transportation that is within walking distance of medium, high density residential uses.

**Proposed by:** The Eastern New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory Commission (ENONAC)

**Impacts:** Coordinate higher-density land uses with existing and future transit hubs to support walkable, mixed-use, transit-oriented neighborhoods along existing and potential future transit routes

[amends 2.D] Build sidewalks along major streets where sidewalks have not been constructed.

**Impacts:** Build safe and accessible pedestrian infrastructure.

[amends 2.G] Elevate pedestrian crosswalks over Interstate-10 between Crowder and Read Boulevards.

**Impacts:** Provide safe and frequent opportunities to cross major roads and other barriers.

**Text Amendment 11-04:** calls for creation and full implementation of a Complete Streets Program for the design, funding and construction of New Orleans roadways to maximize safety for all users of the streets of New Orleans. Also includes calls for increasing community participation; building capacity within and cooperation among city agencies and departments; establishing new job positions within city government and committees/task forces to oversee Complete Streets implementation; and ensuring funding for the various components of the Complete Streets Program.

**Proposed by:** Bike Easy

**Impacts:** overall, would consider that New Orleans streets are used by vehicles, cyclists, pedestrians, and public transit, and that all users need to be served safely by the streets. Would integrate comprehensive biking and walking networks with the transit network, further increasing mobility for people not using vehicles. Creates a permanent, dedicated funding stream for high-quality pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure creation and maintenance for city streets. Establishes permanent city staff positions focused on implementing and maintaining Complete Streets principles. Establishes a Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee that will review various plans and data relating to streets and street safety, and make sure that pedestrians and cyclists are involved in the process of reviewing city infrastructure policies and plans. Specifically calls for more bike lanes, bike paths, bicycle parking spaces and a bike-share program, and more bicycle awareness. Mandates more enforcement of bicycle laws for both motorist and cyclists, to improve cyclist safety. Recommends specific data sets to be used in support of increased cyclist safety.

**Text Amendment 11-05:** [amends page 11.1-11.3]: "Mode Share" is the percentage of trips made by all modes of transportation. The aim is to develop a summary of mode share in New Orleans from ACS and the Census to include a mode share goal that is feasible and supported by stakeholders. The proposed amendment suggests a meeting with RTA, Regional Planning Commission, RIDE, Bike Easy to develop draft mode share language, as well as involve the public in reaching agreement on short and long term mode share goals.

**Proposed by:** Derek Chisholm

**Impacts:** This amendment can impact the home-to-work commute of countless residents, as well as promotes synergy between the public and private sector to work together to provide energy efficient and healthy commuter options for the city.

**Text Amendment 11-06:** calls for multiple improvements to the New Orleans public transit system. Connects public transit to housing and economic development. Encourages regional cooperation on transit. Places references to federal regulations and the Regional Transit Authority's Strategic Transit Plan in the Master Plan.

**Proposed by:** Ride New Orleans

**Impacts:** would coordinate higher-density land uses such as multi-unit housing and business corridors with existing and future transit hubs. Would improve the existing bus and streetcar system to meet the current and future mobility needs of residents, businesses, and visitors, including reducing waiting times and travel times, making routes and stops more convenient, and integrating public transit with other transportation modes like walking and cycling. Specifically focuses on the needs of riders who use public transit to get to and from work and/or essential services like hospital and school access. Would improve transit infrastructure to enhance safety, reliable service, and customer experience. Through better marketing materials and the use of data such as performance metrics, health benefits, etc., would increase number of people using public transit. Coordination between various entities in New Orleans will improve transit within the city, and make the RTA more financially sustainable; coordination on a regional basis will improve riders' access to destinations throughout the region, including workplaces, service providers and friends and family. Recommends identifying goals and policies related to providing and prioritizing funds for transportation projects, programs and services at funding levels necessary to maintain and improve the regional transportation system. Calls for establishing metrics to measure and inform citizens on the performance of transportation investments and progress made towards transportation planning goals to build public trust through transparency and encourage community engagement.

**Text Amendment 11-07**: makes numerous changes throughout the chapter to reflect objectives that have been accomplished as well as new transportation policies and initiatives. Some are intended to align with sections of the Resilient NOLA strategy document.

Proposed by: Mayor's Office

Impacts: reorganizes the chapter and reduces the number of subsections; the new subsections would be 1. Provide quality transportation infrastructure; 2. Increase efficiency across all modes of transportation; 3. Improve safety, accessibility, and quality of life for all transportation users; 4. Promote economic development and innovation through integrated transportation planning and policies; 5. Develop an environmentally sustainable and resilient transportation system.

**Text Amendment 11-08**: mostly minor and technical amendments to update certain facts and figures.

Proposed by: City Planning Commission

Impacts: makes this chapter current by reflecting projects completed, policies adopted, etc. over the last five years.

**Text Amendment 11-09** [amends 6B]: Implement centralized traffic control (CTC) across the rail network to consolidate and standardize train routing decisions, alleviate congestion, and promote fluidity.

Proposed by: New Orleans Public Belt

Impacts: This amendment will help to improve public transit through organizing traffic control. This may have an effect on vehicular traffic and congestion, if the improvements cause an increase in ridership.

**Text Amendment 11-10** [amends 2C and 6A]: The Port of New Orleans' amendments include mostly textual changes involving the Port to provide adequate roadway access in order to keep the Port competitive and to reduce congestion, as well as supporting a reliable, maintained lock system on the IHNC to enable trade and economic growth while considering community impacts.

Proposed by: The Port of New Orleans

Impacts: The Port of New Orleans has requested amendments that impact the economic activity of the Port, in hopes of enabling a smoother operation. This could affect the economic activity in the city, enabling goods and products to flow easier into the local economy.

**Text Amendment 11-11** [amends 2.B.4, 2.D.4, 2.E.3]: Recommended adjustments to off-street parking to allow for reduced parking needs based on proximity to transit lines/bike routes; establish walking friendly site design guidelines for developments along transit routes; continue to replace older RTA buses with newer vehicles with lower emissions; improve waiting conditions for riders.

Proposed by: Regional Transit Authority

Impacts: This impacts the ride-ability of the RTA's bus and transit lines, which will continue to promote an increase in ridership. There is also capacity for an alleviation of street traffic, if ridership continues to increase.



## **Chapter 12, Resilience/Water Management**

**Text Amendment 12-01:** this amendment proposes to formalize and incentivize protection of existing tree canopy, including protections for large trees.

**Proposed by:** Sustaining Our Urban Landscape

**Impacts:** This change helps existing Master Plan goals and strategies designed to promote environmental quality and justice by improving green space amenities in underserved and low income areas. This is accomplished by asking Parks and Parkways and the CPC to begin developing and eventually adopt a no net loss tree canopy strategy. A no net loss strategy will facilitate Parks and Parkways protecting trees in at-risk areas, or prioritizing planting if trees cannot be saved. The strategy will also ask City Planning to consider how development will affect the tree canopy and prioritize replacement of any trees lost to new construction. Since post-Katrina New Orleans has been described as the most deforested city in the United States, this amendment will help to restore the urban tree canopy.

**Text Amendments 12-02 and 12-03:** these two amendments make for a comprehensive revision of the Resilience chapter.

**Proposed by:** Greater New Orleans Water Collaborative

**Impacts:** this would expand this chapter to reflect more than disaster preparedness and to include the concept of multiple lines of defense. The Water Collaborative provided language regarding the implementation of the Urban Water Plan, coordination across the city agencies involved, and implementing and strengthening the city's floodplain ordinance. The administration's proposed rewrite [next amendment] addresses the disconnect between the *Resilient New Orleans* strategy and the Master Plan and embraces the concept of multiple lines of defense. However, the Water Collaborative's language regarding flood risk reduction is more comprehensive than that of the administration.

**Text Amendment 12-04:** also proposes a comprehensive revision of this chapter. The mayor's Office of Resilience and Sustainability has proposed to combine two current Master Plan chapters with a substantial rewrite based on the *Resilient New Orleans* strategy. The revised chapter has seven goals addressing coastal and urban waters, flood prevention and readiness, energy efficiency and renewable energy, and waste and recycling.

**Proposed by:** Mayor's Office

**Impacts:** in general, these edits represent a needed update and bring the Master Plan in line with established city policies. Weak spots include the lack of detail on water quality and removal of language about air pollution and illegal dumping. Strong points include goals related to coastal restoration, stormwater management, and reduced climate pollution.



## **Chapter 13, Environmental Quality**

**Text Amendment 13-01:** Recommends measures for protecting residents from the environmental and health ramifications from exposure to waste disposal and waste incineration sites. This includes inventorying sites formerly used for waste disposal and waste incineration; establishing standards for preventing schools and housing from being developed on former waste disposal and incineration sites; and applying for funding to move residents from the Gordon Plaza subdivision, a Superfund site.

Proposed by: Residents of Gordon Plaza:

Impacts: This will empower the public with information about prospective developments, allowing citizens to decide whether or not to support the building of schools or housing at locations formerly used for waste disposal or incineration. It would also allow residents of Gordon Plaza subdivision to move to a safer, healthier homes at a different location.

**Text Amendment 13-02:** [see Text Amendment 12-04]

**Text Amendment 13-03:** [amends goal 13.16] Recommends:

- Redefining the safe levels for lead as it pertains to children’s exposure and health
- Expand intervention efforts to include lead exposure through water, soil and air. Right now efforts are primarily focused on exposure from lead based paint.
- Advocates for importing clean (lead-free or low-lead) soil from outskirts of city to amend contaminated soil

Proposed by: Louisiana Landmarks Society

Impacts:

- Improve community health (physical and mental) by decreasing exposure to lead, especially in children and teenagers.
- Create a better public understanding about older homes and their role in causing lead poisoning from lead-based paint
- Create solutions for mitigating lead contamination in New Orleans.

**Text Amendment 13-04:** [amends goal 13.4.A] Recommends recognizing how water treatment and pumped drainage exacerbate the city’s carbon footprint and energy usage, and suggests quantifying water savings from utilizing green infrastructure.

Proposed by: Greater New Orleans Urban Water Collaborative

Impacts: Increasing public’s consciousness about the expense (both financial and environmental) of pumping stormwater, and how green infrastructure can mitigate this.

**Amendment 13-04:** [amends goal 11] Keep litter, pet waste, and excessive sediment from entering storm drains through various means, including: MS4-compliant tools; robust enforcement of anti-water pollution regulations at all construction sites; improving water quality through using green infrastructure practices; consistently analyze water quality.

Proposed by: Greater New Orleans Water Collaborative

Impacts: purpose of this amendment is to improve water quality on the ground in New Orleans and in the many bodies of water within the city, including Bayou St. John, Lake Pontchartrain and various smaller lakes, the Mississippi River, and other smaller bodies of water. Clean water is better for plants and trees, and will help keep the urban landscape healthy. Should also have health benefits for people and pets.

**Text Amendment 13-05:** [amends page 13.8]: This amendment calls for the addition of “Long Term Goal” to Sustainable Development Patterns Goal to install public and private electric vehicle charging stations; Retitles the Chapter to 'Cultural Resource Management and Historic Preservation'; adds a section in 'Fact Sheet' to include the preservation of physical things and places; adds a section to 'F.S.' that describes historical, musical and artistic traditions in better detail; and for Planning District 12 to amend on properties from RLD-PRE to Mixed Use Low Density.

**Proposed by:** Councilwoman Nadine M. Ramsey

**Impacts:** This amendment is beneficial for neighborhoods, in hopes of preserving the housing characteristics. Improves our city’s carbon footprint by providing opportunities for residents to utilize gas-free vehicles.

**Text Amendment 13-06:** -- withdrawn



## **Chapter 15, Community Participation Plan**

**Text Amendment 15-01** [page 15, new goal]: have the City Planning Commission and Neighborhood Engagement Office work with community and neighborhood groups to update the city's official neighborhood boundary maps.

**Proposed by:** Committee for a Better New Orleans

**Impacts:** the current neighborhood boundary map dates from the early 1970s. Updated maps will reflect today's realities, which will help with public safety, design/delivery of city services and programs, data management, equitable allocation of government resources, and community participation. Does not address issues of neighborhood representation. [NOTE: in its response to Text Amendment 14-23, City Planning staff has recommended a comprehensive review of the city's planning district boundaries, which are coordinated with the official neighborhood boundaries.]

**Text Amendment 15-02** [amends goal 4]: add more outreach and communication to procedures for advancing public projects. Includes using various communications methods; partnering with neighborhood, faith and community organizations; and amending the Neighborhood Participation Plan (NPP) to include procedures for public (government) projects.

**Proposed by:** Greater New Orleans Water Collaborative

**Impacts:** this would expand public participation in the process for designing and implementing public projects. More methods for getting information out to the public about government projects would be used. More people would be aware of projects like street repairs, drainage improvements, park and playground improvements, and building new public buildings. More public meetings would be required, and there would be more opportunities for people to provide input.

**Text Amendment 15-03** -- withdrawn.

**Text Amendment 15-04** [page 15, new goal]: establish a minimum time given to each speaker at public hearings on land use issues.

**Proposed by:** Louisiana Landmarks Society

**Impacts:** this would make sure all speakers would have more time to comment on land use issues. This would eliminate the ability of the City Planning Commission, City Council, etc. to set small time limits. Some public meetings could go on longer as a result.