Lower Ninth Ward Cultural District

Louisiana Cultural Districts Application
Submitted July 1, 2008

Prepared by:
The City of New Orleans
Office of Recovery & Development Administration

Prepared for:
Office of the Lieutenant Governor
Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism
Office of Cultural Development

I. CONTACT INFORMATION

A. Cultural District Name/Location

Proposed Name of Cultural District: **Lower 9th Ward Cultural Product District**

Location of Cultural District (city/parish): **New Orleans, LA**

B. Governing Authority Contact

Name of the Local Governing Authority (LGA) applying for certification of a Cultural District. Name the municipality OR the parish OR the consolidated government in which the Cultural District is located, unless the district is located partly in a municipality, then, and only then, name the governing authority of both the municipality and the governing authority of the parish.

1. Municipal Governing Authority: **City of New Orleans, LA**

Name of Contact Person: **Edward J. Blakely, Executive Director, Office of Recovery & Development Administration**

Mailing Address: **1340 Poydras Street, 10th Floor**

City: **New Orleans**

State: **LA**

Zip Code: **70112**

Phone: **504-658-8401**

Email Address: **rmann@cityofno.com**
2. Parish Governing Authority: **Not Applicable (N/A)**

Name of Contact Person:

Mailing Address:
City: State: Zip Code:
Phone: Ext. Fax:

Email Address:

**C. Application and Project Contact**

Name of the primary contact person applying for certification of a Cultural District on behalf of the Local Governing Authority *(if different than above)* Any person or entity acting on behalf of the LGA must include written documentation of his or its authority to act on behalf of the LGA.

Name of Contact Person: **Same as LGA**

Mailing Address:
City: State: Zip Code:
Phone: Ext. Fax:

Email Address:

**2. CULTURAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES**

**A. Physical Description**
Provide a written description of the proposed Cultural District using start and end
points, using street names and directions, and using the centerline of visible physical features whenever possible, that fully describes the designated geographic area.

The proposed Lower Ninth Ward Cultural District is defined by:

**Northern Boundary:** The northern side of Florida Avenue between the Industrial Canal and the Orleans-St. Bernard Parish line.

**Eastern Boundary:** The Orleans-St. Bernard Parish line from the northern side of Florida Avenue and to the Mississippi River.

**Southern Boundary:** The Mississippi River from the Industrial Canal to the Orleans-St. Bernard Parish line.

**Western Boundary:** The Industrial Canal from the northern side of Florida Avenue to the Mississippi River;

**B. Feature Data**

Provide estimates, to the best of your ability, of the following features in the proposed Cultural District using geographic systems, municipal data, Census data, surveys, and general knowledge.

- Geographic area (in acres or square miles): **1,506 acres**
- Population: **2,518**
- Total number of buildings: **8,328**
  
  *This number reflects the total number of addresses in the proposed Cultural District, which is not exactly the same as the number of buildings (i.e. doubles have two addresses for one building). This data was the best that the City of New Orleans had available and is based on data from the United State Postal Service.*

- Number (or percent) of commercial buildings: **4%**
- Number (or percent) of residential buildings: **96%**
- Number (or percent) of occupied buildings: **15%**
** This data reflects the number of addresses currently receiving mail as a percentage of the total number addresses in the proposed Cultural District.

- Number (or percent) of vacant buildings: 85%
- Louisiana Senate District number: 2
- Louisiana Representative District number: 99
- City Council District number: E

C. Other Descriptors

Answer the following questions about the proposed Cultural District.

1. Is all or part of the proposed district included in any other district, such as a Main Street District, Downtown Development District, Historic District, etc.?

   ☑ No

   ☒ Yes. If yes, please name it/them:

   The Lower 9th Ward cultural district includes the Holy Cross Historic District

2. What are the prevalent architectural styles in the proposed district? (If technical assistance is needed to determine the prevalent architectural styles, please contact OCD’s Division of Historic Preservation.)

   In the district south of Claiborne Avenue, prevalent architecture is raised cottages, including Creole style structures. North of Claiborne Avenue, the prevalent style is slab on grade.

3. What is the approximate age of the majority of the buildings?

   The approximate age of the majority of the buildings is 45 to 55 years
old; the Holy Cross Historic District includes properties up to 150 years old.

4. What are the predominant types of business in the proposed district? What is the number or percent of the predominant business(es)?

**Nearly 100 percent of businesses in the district are local retailers or personal-service industries.**

5. (a) What is the zoning in the proposed district? (b) How and in what percentages is the area used (e.g., residential, commercial, governmental, etc.)?

**The proposed district is zoned 7% commercial, 10% industrial, and 83% residential.**

6. Provide up to ten (10) photographs in support of this section.

**See Attachment #1**

**D. Maps**

Please provide the following maps. Maps should be legible, preferably 8½ by 11, but not larger than 11 by 17 inches. Maps may be in color or black and white.

1. A map precisely outlining the boundaries of the proposed Cultural District, showing major street names, a north arrow, and legible legends and labels.

**See Attachment #2**

2. A map showing aerial view of buildings and physical features

**See Attachment #3**

3. Thematic map(s) with representations illustrating population density, occupancy, or other demographic features

**See Attachment #4 (Population Density Map)**
4. Optional: Provide map(s) showing the location of cultural, art, educational, and tourist facilities, zoning designations within the district, transportation features, primary pedestrian corridors and additional information pertinent to the proposed Cultural District

See Attachment #5 (Cultural Assets Map) and #6 (Zoning Map)

3. MANDATORY CRITERIA

A. Criteria Questions
Cultural Districts must conform to the mandatory criteria set forth in R.S. 47:305.56. In some cases the proposed district may already meet the mandatory criteria; in other cases it may have the potential to do so. Answer the questions concisely to address whether and how the proposed Cultural District is, or will be, consistent with the mandatory criteria for certification.

1. Cultural districts must be geographically contiguous. Is the district geographically contiguous?

☐ Yes.
☐ No. If no, please explain why the district still meets the mandatory criteria:

2. Does the district contain cultural resources (heritage, organizations, or individuals) that play a vital role in the life and cultural development of the community?

☐ Yes. If yes, name or describe them.
The Lower 9th is a vibrant community with a rich heritage that has produced such luminaries as the boxer Percy Pugh and the legendary musician Fats Domino, who still lives in the area. It's home to a number of schools, cafes and clubs representing a predominantly African-American culture.

Today however, the culture of the Lower 9th Ward carries a current of rebirth and rejuvenation. A large part of this is the Cypress Triangle of Bayou Bienvenue, where the University of Wisconsin hosts an ongoing program focused on testing the ground for salinity and soil erosion. Graduate students and Common Ground Relief volunteers have planted 40 cypress saplings in the Cypress Triangle. California Bulrush has also been planted in the bayou to combat soil erosion. The conditions of these plantings are being monitored to study the overall health of the re-emerging ecosystem. This project stands in conjunction with The Resurrection Project, the Global Green Holy Cross Project, and the Make-It-Right Project. In the heart of the area hardest hit by Katrina, stands as numerous symbols of renewal and a sustainable tomorrow—they is the spirit of the district made tangible.

3. Are there cultural assets such as a major art institution, art and entertainment businesses, an area with arts and cultural activities or cultural or artisan production, year-round or seasonal?

☐ Yes. If yes, name or describe them.
**See Attachment #7 (List of Cultural Assets)**
☐ No. If no, explain how it might in the future.

4. Is the district engaged in the promotion, preservation, and experiential aspects of the arts and culture of the locale?

☐ Yes. If yes, name or describe them.
The Lower 9th ward is currently working to promote and preserve arts and culture of the Lower 9th through the efforts of a few individuals. First, Ron Lewis—owner and director of the House of Dance and Feathers—is working to preserve knowledge, actual photo images and a collection of others artifacts and costumes associated with the African-American way of celebrating Mardi Gras. In particular, the costumes in Lewis' collection are the Mardi Gras Indian costumes which adorned numerous Lower 9th residents in past Mardi Gras celebrations. Second, Lower 9th ward resident and sculptor, Rashida Ferdinand directs an art gallery known as Currents of Clay, LLC located in the Lower 9th Ward of New Orleans. Ferdinand has over fifteen years experience working with clay. She creates organic, anthropomorphic ceramic sculptures and vessels which reflect her cultural heritage in the Lower 9th. Her works are located in corporate buildings, hotels, spa resorts, restaurants, parks, and personal collections. Ferdinand was recently commissioned by the Arts Council of New Orleans to create a public art sculpture, A Monument for Life and Survival, for installation on the neutral ground of Caffin Ave and Claiborne Ave in the Lower 9th Ward. Ferdinand also sells greeting cards and note cards with images of her work. She also conducts ceramic education workshops at her gallery. Finally, the Lower 9th Center for the Arts is an artist-run community arts center located in the Lower Ninth Ward. The center, founded in 2007 by Lower 9th photographers and residents Keith Calhoun and Chandra McCormick, is a Victorian shotgun house on the purchased by Calhoun and McCormick following the destruction of their home by Hurricane Katrina. Initially intending to live in the building, Calhoun and McCormick recognized the need for a creative center in the midst of the devastation wrought by the storms of 2005, particularly in the hard-hit Lower Ninth Ward. The structure has been transformed into a bright and lively gallery space in which artists, such as world-renowned Mark Bradford, can work and share their creative visions with local residents. The Lower 9th Cultural Center also located in the Lower 9th ward is a project of Lower 9th photographers Keith Calhoun and Chandra McCormick. Through, this center Calhoun and McCormick are working to promote and preserve Lower 9th culture and history through photographs of daily life in this community.
5. Does the district contribute to the public through interpretive and educational experiences?

☐ Yes. If yes, how?
☐ No. If no, please explain how it might in the future.

The approach to the Cypress Triangle viewing platform has been planted with 20 additional trees, flowering plants and a safety railing was constructed around the viewing platform deck for public safety, quiet enjoyment and public education purposes. Because of greater accessibility the area has now become an interpretive and educational experience.

The Cypress Triangle of Bayou Bienville is a major stopping point for volunteers and tourist groups interested in studying the reforestation of urban wetlands, as well as the future of this now-famous section of New Orleans.

6. What is the potential for affordable housing for artists, workspace, studio and performance space (rental or purchase)?

In the Lower 9th ward, the potential for affordable housing, workspace, studio and performance space for artists is very huge. There is a very large stock of historic housing which can be affordable depending on size. And, through projects such as the Global Green Holy Cross project, there is also the ever developing potential and reality of affordable housing and studio space that is very energy efficient and healthy in terms of the technologies and other materials being used to build such green housing and workspace. There is also similar project to the Global Green one called the Make It Right project located on the northern end of the Lower 9th ward. It is focused on building 150 green, energy efficient homes during the pilot phase of this project. And, through efforts of the Lower 9th Ward Stakeholders Coalition and the Lower 9th Ward Center for Sustainable Engagement and Development, this community is working aggressively to further bring to
reality affordable and healthy housing and workspace throughout this community.

There is an abundance supply of historic and historic district property that are suitable for rehabilitation. Beyond that, tax credits would couple with additional mortgage financing support programs available to properties in this area given that it is a “Housing Opportunity Zone” established by the City of New Orleans.

4. VISION STATEMENT

A. Objectives Narrative
Provide a brief vision statement for the proposed Cultural District five years from the date of application. Address what the Cultural District will do with regard to the achievement of any of the objectives below.

The historic Lower 9th ward is on the cusp of a remarkable and resilient recovery post-Katrina. It is a community, which has always been rich in artistic and cultural attributes in the realms of music, dance, and visual arts. And in particular, the Lower 9th community has contributed tremendously in the birth of jazz and rhythm and blues. In its post-Katrina recovery, the Lower 9th ward is re-stitching the rich cultural tapestry that has set it apart for years as being a nexus for all New Orleans culture.

Community Development
The historic Holy Cross School campus of the Lower 9th will undergo a monumental redevelopment which will provide for moderate to high-end housing, interpretive and educational opportunities as well as cultural events and programming. There will also educational programming specifically focused on music, visual arts and photography. The numerous
neighborhood-based associations and organizations will be able to utilize campus space for a host of community meetings and other benefits. Residents will also be able to enjoy community retail while sitting and strolling under the majestic old oak trees of the campus. On weeknights and weekends, music will emanate from this campus as well as the numerous other musical corners, homes and streets throughout this uniquely beautiful and historic community. The St Claude Ave Sankofa Sustainable Marketplace, a community farmers and arts market located on Caffin Ave and St Claude Ave will not only serve as principal points of sales and promotion for this community's rich cultural products but also succeed in bringing together residents in a true spirit of community unity.

**Economic Development**
The historic Lower 9th ward is currently undertaking a post-Katrina recovery that is focused on the energy-efficient and sustainable rehabilitation of homes and other structures throughout the ward. The community is also focused on re-developing an economic base that once again taps the long-held entrepreneurial spirit and talents that have characterized and enriched this community for years. It is desired on the part of this community that its businesses and other enterprises be principally derived of the community in order to provide for a truly sustainable economic base. Residents have strongly communicated a desire to develop a heritage/cultural and eco-tourism economy that celebrates everything from the historic homes, music and visual arts of the community to the Mississippi River on the southern end and Bayou Bienvenue on the northern end of the community.

**Artisitic/Cultural Product Development**
Numerous Lower 9th ward based organizations and associations have recently come together to comprise the *Lower 9th Ward Stakeholders Coalition*. This coalition works to coordinate post-Katrina recovery activities and communication in order to prevent duplication of efforts and maximize benefits. The coalition will work to promote and market the cultural products of the Lower 9th. And, through the procurement of grants and other resources, the coalition will also to work enhance the development and support of cultural product development in the Lower 9th.
5. GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT:

A. Evidence of Support

1. Provide a copy of the public notice and minutes from the meeting as evidence that the Local Governing Authority (municipality and/or parish) held a public meeting with public notice to support a Cultural District application.

   See Attachments #8 (Public Notice) and Attachment #9 (Minutes)

2. Include a signed copy of the resolution or ordinance from the Local Governing Authority.

   See Attachment #10

3. Describe support of the residents and businesses for this application? Provide any evidence you have of that support (e.g., letters, statements, survey results).

   This application has been developed in partnership with the following District Liaison Entity, one of the District’s primary supporters.

Patricia Jones
Co-Chair, L9WSC
Executive Director, Lower 9th Ward Neighborhood Empowerment Network Assoc.
504-373-6483

Charles Allen
President, Holy Cross Neighborhood Association
4. Describe any opposition known to you? Provide any evidence you have of that opposition (e.g., letters, statements, survey results).

6. PROMOTION OF THE CULTURAL DISTRICT

A. Communication and Marketing Narrative
Provide a narrative that describes how the Applicant will manage communication within the Cultural District and promotion about the Cultural District addressing the items listed below.

Narrative 6.A. should be typed on one 8½ by 11 sheet, maximum 300 words.
1. Communication to residents, businesses and organizations within the Cultural District Provide information about State Historic Tax Credits to property owners.
2. Provide information about sales tax exemption of original works of art to vendors.
3. Promote the businesses, events, and programs of the Cultural District to the public.
4. Provide for networking opportunities among residents
5. Provide opportunities for planning and promoting district wide events

The City of New Orleans will partner with District Liaison Entities who will manage the bulk of the communication within their own Cultural District regarding benefits of the District, events, and networking. For the Lower 9th Ward Cultural District, Lower 9th Ward Stakeholders Coalition has offered the following communication and marketing methodology.

The Lower 9th Ward Stakeholders Coalition (and the 9 different groups which comprise it) will work to communicate through their various neighborhood meetings the existence and benefits of the district. The coalition and other neighborhood-based groups will work with the New Orleans Office of Recovery and Development Administration to develop fliers and brochures.
explaining the various state historic tax credits available to property owners. Additionally, the coalition members and neighborhood-based groups will hold special community meetings specifically focused on the Lower 9th district to provide information about sales tax exemptions for original works of art to district vendors; promote the businesses, events, and programs of the Lower 9th district to the public; provide networking opportunities among residents; and, provide opportunities for planning and promoting district wide events. Efforts will also be made to provide such brochure information at all regular farmers and art markets already existing in the community.

In addition, the City of New Orleans will assist the District Liaison Entity in the communication and marketing efforts by: (1) developing a brochure for public circulation on the benefits of the Cultural District Program and how to take advantage of the benefits; (2) post CPD events and opportunities on the City of New Orleans website; (3) provide District Liaison Entities with annual mailing lists of all businesses (based on occupancy licenses) and property owners (based on tax assessment data) within CPD boundaries; and (4) support Liaisons in hosting an annual forum for networking and information sharing among residents within the CPD.

7. BUSINESS VENDOR INVENTORY

A. Agreement to Secure Business Inventory
Provide a signed statement that the Applicant understands and agrees to comply with the Business Inventory requirements described below

1. The City of New Orleans, Office of Recovery & Development Administration, representing the Applicant and possessing written, delegated authority to act on behalf of the Applicant, agree to collect a comprehensive inventory of businesses within the boundaries of the Cultural District. I agree to update the inventory and provide a list of active businesses to the OCD annually on December 1 of each year.

Signature __________________________ Date 6/30/05

Application – Page 15 of 19
B. Active Business Inventory

The Applicant shall create and maintain a comprehensive inventory of businesses within the Cultural District. The inventory shall include all active businesses that have occupational licenses and report revenue from sales of services and/or products. The first business inventory shall be compiled and submitted within sixty (60) days of the date of certification as a Cultural District. Annual inventory updates shall be submitted on December 1 of each year, beginning in 2009.

The inventory is necessary so the Louisiana Department of Revenue (LDR) can identify and tag all income producing sources for the purpose of reporting back to the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism. The annual LDR reports will reflect the total revenue generated and total amount of eligible tax exemptions claimed in each Cultural District. The information will contribute to the biannual reports required by the Louisiana legislature. The business inventory should include:

- Legal Name of the Business or individual
- Common Name, “doing business as” if different
- La. Business Identification number or FEIN
- Type/description of business (Ex. Restaurant, salon, dry cleaner, gas station, gift shop, antique store, gallery, museum, business office, dance hall, printer, etc.)
- Address
- Contact Person with Phone Number

8. NOTICE OF ANNUAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

A. Statement of Acknowledgment

Provide a signed Statement of Acknowledgment that the Applicant understands and agrees to comply with the annual reporting requirements described below.

1. The City of New Orleans, Office of Recovery & Development Administration, representing the Applicant and possessing written, delegated authority to act on behalf of the Applicant, agree to provide the required information indicated on the Cultural District Annual Report form about the impact of the Cultural
District, each year by January 31.

Signature ___________________ Date ______________

B. Annual Reporting Requirements
By January 31 of each year beginning in 2009, the Applicant shall prepare and submit an annual report on the impact of the Cultural District reflecting the activity of the prior calendar year and cumulative data reflecting activity since the date of the creation of the Cultural District.

The report form, which is provided online by the OCD, includes information that describes the impact of the tax exemption program, the tax credit programs, and any other factors that describe the impact of the Cultural District on the community, including but not limited to:

1. The number, value, and type of historic rehabilitation tax credits applied for;
2. The number, value, and type of historic rehabilitation tax credits awarded;
3. The value of investment in the district through rehabilitation, building, or other projects;
4. The number or percent of occupied buildings and use of those buildings;
5. The number or percent of vacant buildings;
6. The sales tax revenue generated in the district;
7. The value of sales tax exemptions claimed on sales of original works of art;
8. Any other evidence of the level of cultural activity in the district.

*Important Note: Items 1, 2, and 3 will be collected internally within OCD by accessing data tracked by the Division of Historic Preservation. Items 6 and 7 will be collected for the OCD annually by the LDR for each Cultural District providing an accurate Business Inventory.

C. Purpose of Annual Reports
The information gathered from the annual reports will be used to monitor and evaluate the impact of the Cultural Districts program overall and for reporting to the legislature beginning in 2011 and every other year thereafter. The reports will also be
used to monitor and evaluate the impact on individual districts and communities for compliance with Cultural District criteria. Successes and challenges of the Cultural Districts program gleaned from the reports will inform program improvements and other initiatives.

9. SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Provide only the documents, maps and photographs required or requested in the application. Please do not include extraneous material not specifically required or requested in the application. Provide all requested information in space provided on the application form. Narratives and supporting documents may be attached, grouped by section and clearly labeled with section numbers. Use the Checklist below as an index to be sure all required information is included.

Mail or hand-deliver original application (signed) with supporting documents, and 4 copies to:

Mail to:
Cultural Districts
Attention: Gaye Hamilton
Office of Cultural Development
PO Box 44247
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Hand-deliver to:
Cultural Districts
Attention: Gaye Hamilton
Office of Cultural Development
1051 N. 3rd Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
STATEMENT OF RECOGNITION

The following statement and logo may be included as a credit line on all written materials promoting the Cultural District and associated events or activities:

“Certified Cultural District by the Office of the Lt. Governor, Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Office of Cultural Development.”
Current Jackson Barracks
St. Maurice Church
Current Milton and Paul Doullut Houses
Historic Paul Doullut House
TWO OF THE LEGENDARY MUSICIANS TO COME OUT OF THE LOWER NINTH WARD
Lower Ninth Ward
Cultural District
Aerial Photography
Lower Ninth Ward Cultural District Population Density
Lower Ninth Ward Cultural District Cultural Asset Map
Lower Ninth Ward Cultural District Zoning Map
## ATTACHMENT #7:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CULTURAL ASSET</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>House of Dance and Feathers</td>
<td>1317 Tupelo Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home and Office of Fats Domino</td>
<td>1208 Caffin Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former Lawless High School</td>
<td>5300 Law Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former Louis Armstrong Elementary School</td>
<td>5909 St. Claude Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Luther King, Jr. Charter School for Science and Technology</td>
<td>1617 Caffin Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson Barracks</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Green Holy Cross Project</td>
<td>Intersection of Douglass Street and Andry Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steamboat Captain Houses</td>
<td>400 Egania Street and Intersection of Douglass and Egania Street</td>
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<td>Former Thomas Edison Elementary School</td>
<td>1339 Forstall Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. David Catholic Church and School</td>
<td>5617 St. Claude Avenue</td>
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<td>Former St. Maurice Catholic Church and School</td>
<td>605 St. Maurice Avenue</td>
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<td>Former Holy Cross High School</td>
<td>4909 Dauphine Street</td>
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<td>Lower 9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Artist Rashida Ferdinand</td>
<td>505 Lizardi Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower 9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Photographers Keith Calhoun and Chandra McCormick and the Lower 9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Cultural Center</td>
<td>539 Caffin Avenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bayou Bienvenue</td>
<td>Northern End of Lower 9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Ward</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mississippi River</td>
<td>Southern End of Lower 9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Ward</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mercedes Place and CTC Steppers</td>
<td>5200 Burgundy Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Home of Former Boxer Percy Pugh</td>
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<td>Cultural Asset</td>
<td>Location</td>
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<tr>
<td>Home of Gertrude Morgan and Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lower 9th Ward Center for Sustainable Engagement and Development</td>
<td>5130 Chartres Street</td>
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<td>The Resurrection Project-Rebuilding-Refurbishing-Replanting-Reorganizing the Lower Ninth Ward</td>
<td>5617 St. Claude Avenue</td>
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<td>The Village Project—Educating and Coordinating a Community</td>
<td>1001 Charbonnet Street</td>
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<td>Hardin Elementary School Site</td>
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<td>Lower 9th Ward Health Clinic</td>
<td>528 St. Claude Avenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>lowernine.org—Gutting and Rebuilding</td>
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<td>New Orleans Ceramics Center</td>
<td>505 Lizardi Street</td>
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<td>Currents of Clay, LLC</td>
<td>505 Lizardi Street</td>
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<td>Former Joseph Hardin Elementary School</td>
<td>2401 St. Maurice Avenue</td>
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<td>Former J. B. Noble Special School</td>
<td>2201 Dubreuil Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mickey B's Lounge</td>
<td>St. Claude Avenue</td>
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<td>Sanchez, Sr. Multiservice Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bayou Bienvenue Research Overlook</td>
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ATTACHMENT #8
PUBLIC NOTICE
THE COUNCIL
City of New Orleans

JACQUELYN BRECHTEL CLARKSON
Councilmember At Large

ARNIE FIELKOW
Councilmember At Large

SHELLEY S. MIDURA
Councilmember District "A"

STACY HEAD
Councilmember District "B"

JAMES CARTER
Councilmember District "C"

CYNTHIA HEDGE-MORRELL
Councilmember District "D"

CYNTHIA WILLARD-LEWIS
Councilmember District "E"

AGENDA
Special Meeting of the City Council
to be held in City Hall Council Chamber
on Thursday, June 26, 2008 at 1:00 P.M.

PRESIDENT
JACQUELYN BRECHTEL CLARKSON
Councilmember-At-Large

VICE PRESIDENT
ARNIE FIELKOW
Councilmember-At-Large

PRESIDENT'S CALL
PEGGY LEWIS
CLERK OF COUNCIL

ROLL CALL
PEGGY LEWIS
CLERK OF COUNCIL
PLEASE TURN ALL CELL PHONES AND BEEPERS EITHER OFF OR ON VIBRATE IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER DURING COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

REGULAR AGENDA

REPORT

COUNCILMEMBER CLARKSON TO APPEAR.

DR. EDWARD BLAKELY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION - Giving an update on the City's recovery.

RESOLUTION (LYING OVER)

COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR

Special Development Projects Committee recommended with amendments.

NO. R-08-329 - BY: COUNCILMEMBER FIELKOW - Expressing the Council's support for a Public/Private Partnership and requesting the Mayor, in conjunction with the City Council's Special Projects and Economic Development Committee, to initiate discussions with interested parties and stakeholders regarding a detailed and comprehensive Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the City and an appropriate private entity to establish a public/private partnership for economic development in New Orleans.
RESOLUTIONS

NO. R-08-346 - BY: COUNCILMEMBERS FIELKOW AND CLARKSON - Requesting Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) per their commitments made to the City of New Orleans to immediately undertake removal of all utilities or other hindrances in connection with all 15 parks and playgrounds previously used for placement of group trailer sites, that said work will commence in certain parks and playgrounds no later than Thursday, June 25th, and all 15 parks and playgrounds will be sodded and re-opened as expeditiously as possible.

NO. R-08-347 - BY: COUNCILMEMBER CLARKSON - Expressing the Council’s gratitude and appreciation to Colonel Terry J. Ebbert for his years of service in the New Orleans community, and his continued leadership in leading New Orleans to one of the nation’s leaders in Homeland Security regionalization.

NO. R-08-348 - BY: COUNCILMEMBERS CLARKSON AND HEAD - RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF LOUISIANA FOR THE CREATION OF THE "DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT".
NO. R-08-349 - BY: COUNCILMEMBERS CLARKSON, CARTER AND HEAD - RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF LOUISIANA FOR THE CREATION OF THE "DOWNTOWN RAMPART-BASIN STREET CORRIDOR".

NO. R-08-350 - BY: COUNCILMEMBERS CLARKSON, CARTER AND HEDGE-MORRELL - RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF LOUISIANA FOR THE CREATION OF THE "SAINT CLAUDE CORRIDOR CULTURAL DISTRICT".

NO. R-08-351 - BY: COUNCILMEMBERS CLARKSON AND MIDURA - RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF LOUISIANA FOR THE CREATION OF THE "MUSEUM-CITY PARK CULTURAL DISTRICT".

NO. R-08-352 - BY: COUNCILMEMBERS CLARKSON, MIDURA AND CARTER - RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF LOUISIANA FOR THE CREATION OF THE "BAYOU ROAD & AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE CULTURAL DISTRICT".
NO. R-08-353 - BY: COUNCILMEMBERS CLARKSON AND HEDGE-MORRELL - RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF LOUISIANA FOR THE CREATION OF THE "GENTILLY/PONTCHARTRAIN PARK CULTURAL DISTRICT".

NO. R-08-354 - BY: COUNCILMEMBERS CLARKSON AND WILLARD-LEWIS - RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF LOUISIANA FOR THE CREATION OF THE "LOWER NINTH WARD CULTURAL DISTRICT".

NO. R-08-355 - BY: COUNCILMEMBERS CLARKSON AND WILLARD-LEWIS - RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF LOUISIANA FOR THE CREATION OF THE "VIET VILLAGE CULTURAL DISTRICT".

NO. R-08-356 - BY: COUNCILMEMBERS CLARKSON, HEDGE-MORRELL AND WILLARD-LEWIS - RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF LOUISIANA FOR THE CREATION OF THE "LINCOLN BEACH CULTURAL DISTRICT".
FRENCH QUARTER CULTURAL DISTRICT.

NO. R-08-357 - BY: COUNCILMEMBERS CLARKSON AND CARTER - RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF LOUISIANA FOR THE CREATION OF THE "FRENCH QUARTER CULTURAL DISTRICT.

LOUISIANA COMPLIANCE QUESTIONNAIRE.

NO. R-08-358 - BY: COUNCILMEMBERS HEDGE-MORRELL, FIELKOW, HEAD AND CLARKSON - Approving the completed Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire prepared by the Department of Finance as part of the 2007 annual audit.
MOTION NEEDED TO SUSPEND THE PROVISIONS OF RULE NO. 17 TO CONSIDER MOTIONS/RESOLUTIONS NO ON THE AGENDA.

COMMUNICATION

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING
ATTACHMENT #9
MINUTES (PENDING).
ATTACHMENT #10
CITY RESOLUTIONS
RESOLUTION

NO. R-08-354

CITY HALL: June 26, 2008

BY: COUNCILMEMBERS CLARKSON AND WILLARD-LEWIS

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF LOUISIANA FOR THE CREATION OF THE "LOWER NINTH WARD CULTURAL DISTRICT."

WHEREAS, Act 298 of the 2007 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature authorizes Local Governing Authorities, including the City of New Orleans, to create Cultural Districts as a mechanism for community revitalization through the creation of hubs of cultural activity; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Office of Cultural Development is authorized to develop criteria for cultural districts and determine whether or not a proposed Cultural District meets those criteria; and

WHEREAS, only a Local Governing Authority is authorized to submit an application for the designation and certification of a Cultural District; and

WHEREAS, a "Local Governing Authority" is defined by LAC 25:1§1101 as "the governing authority of the Parish in which the Cultural District is located unless the district is located in a municipality, in which case "Local Governing Authority" shall mean the governing authority of the municipality"; and

WHEREAS, the City of New Orleans is "Local Governing Authority" for purposes of submitting applications for the designation and certification of a Cultural District that is located exclusively within Orleans parish; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Office of Cultural Development has promulgated administrative rules which set forth the procedures by
which the City of New Orleans is entitled to submit applications to designate and certify a specified geographic area as a Cultural District; and

WHEREAS, within the boundaries of a state-certified Cultural District, several tax incentives may be available including (1) a sales tax exemption on the sale of certain original works of art, (2) individual income tax credits for eligible expenses incurred during the rehabilitation of certain owner-occupied residential or owner occupied mixed use structures, and (3) income and corporate franchise tax credits for eligible expenses incurred during the rehabilitation of certain historic structures; and

WHEREAS, the City of New Orleans has selected a geographic area that is generally comprised of the territory within the following boundaries:

Northern Boundary: The northern side of Florida Avenue between the Industrial Canal and the Orleans-St. Bernard Parish line.

Eastern Boundary: The Orleans-St. Bernard Parish line from the northern side of Florida Avenue and to the Mississippi River.

Southern Boundary: The Mississippi River from the Industrial Canal to the Orleans-St. Bernard Parish line.

Western Boundary: The Industrial Canal from the northern side of Florida Avenue to the Mississippi River;

which the City of New Orleans believes meets the criteria for the creation of a Cultural District and can fully utilize the tax incentives made available within said Districts; and

WHEREAS, the "Lower Ninth Ward Cultural District" is located entirely within the City of New Orleans; thereby establishing the City of New Orleans as the proper entity to submit an application for the certification and designation of the above described geographic area as a Cultural District.
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

THAT, the Council:

1. Supports and endorses the submission of an application to the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Office of Cultural Development to designate the “Lower Ninth Ward Cultural District” as a state-certified Cultural District within the boundaries as set forth within this resolution; and

2. Supports the creation, administration, and promotion of the “Lower Ninth Ward Cultural District,” once established as a state-certified Cultural District, by the Office of Recovery and Development Administration and its duly authorized district liaison, the Lower Ninth Ward Stakeholders Coalition; and

3. Strongly encourages all City employees to support and cooperate with efforts to compile all necessary information and data required for the application and all subsequent reporting necessary for the administration of the Cultural District; and

4. Requests all affected citizens and businesses to support and promote activities consistent with the purposes of the “Lower Ninth Ward Cultural District.”

5. Requests that copies of this Resolution be sent to the Lt. Governor’s Office, the Office of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, the Mayor of New Orleans and the City Council.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS READ IN FULL, THE ROLL WAS CALLED ON THE ADOPTION THEREOF AND RESULTED AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Carter, Clarkson, Fielkow, Head, Hedge-Morrell, Midura, Willard-Lewis - 7

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

AND THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.
Ms. Jacquelyn Clarkson  
New Orleans City Council  
1300 Perdido  
New Orleans, La. 70112  

June 27, 2008

Dear Ms. Clarkson:

I am writing to ask for your support of the designation of a Cultural District in the Lower 9th ward neighborhood. The Cultural District initiative will help revitalize our local neighborhoods, recognizing the Lower 9th ward’s unique contribution to the culture of the City of New Orleans and the state of Louisiana. As a designated Cultural District, the Lower 9th will be eligible for a number of important benefits, redevelopment dollars into the district for both commercial projects and single-family residences. The establishment of a Cultural District in a community will also provide a sales tax exemption on original, one-of-a-kind works of art, designed to increase both art sales and production of art within New Orleans cultural communities.

Designation of Cultural Districts will aid immeasurably in the further redevelopment of New Orleans artistic community. Please support the establishment of a Lower 9th ward Cultural Products District.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Pamela Bryan  
Director, Operation Comeback  
Preservation Resource Center
June 26, 2008

Dr. Edward Blakely
Director
New Orleans Office of Recovery and Development Administration (ORDA)
1300 Perdido Street
New Orleans, LA 70112

Dear Dr. Blakely,

The members of the Lower 9th Ward Stakeholders Coalition (L9WSC)-a group comprised of 9 different Lower 9th ward based community groups-wishes to express our sincere thanks and support to you and your office the application being submitted to create a Lower 9th ward cultural products district.

The Lower 9th community has long been a cradle and fountain for all that is cultural and artistic in New Orleans. Our community has been replete with musicians, sculptors, photographers, and host of visual artists of all kinds. It is high time that this community receives recognition and benefits for contributing to our New Orleans cultural tapestry. We view this opportunity to receive this cultural products district designation as great start in that direction and in helping us as we work hard to rebuild not arts and culture in our community but also spur an economic revitalization that can lead to heritage/culture and ecotourism enterprises in the Lower 9th ward. And, our stakeholders coalition commits to working very closely with our city and state officials to properly market and promote to the world the cultural richness of the Lower 9th. In particular, our coalition commits to work all our Lower 9th ward based organizations to inform our community on the benefits in terms of tax credits and tax break breaks that can be enjoyed by the artists and artistic enterprises in our community. And, we would like to work closely with your office to come up with other innovative ways in which we can market and promote our cultural products district.

Again, we thank you for your office’s assistance to us in developing this application. And, we look forward to continuing our partnership to help recover the very cultural flavor of New Orleans.

Sincerely,

Patricia Jones
L9WSC Co-Chair

Vanessa Guerlinger
L9WSC Co-Chair