

# FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

## Meeting Notes

Tuesday, 7 October 2025, 3:00 pm

*Bienville House, 320 Decatur Street, New Orleans, LA 70130*

### 1. Call to Order, Reading of the Agenda, and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM and the agenda was read into the record.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS				VOTES				
First Name	Last Name	Present	Absent	Approve previous meeting notes with the revisions discussed	Approve revised \$50K Public ROW Guidelines proposal	Approve \$150K Sidewalk Repairs proposal	Approve \$10K Elected Officials Events proposal	Approve the \$7.5K Marketing Consultant proposal
Frank	Zumbo		X	-	-	-	-	-
Heidi	Raines		X	-	-	-	-	-
Sue	Klein	X		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Christine	Bondio	X		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Jane	Cooper		X	-	-	-	-	-
Alex	Fein	X		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

COMMITTEE MEMBERS				VOTES			
First Name	Last Name	Present	Absent	Approve Board Chair or Vice-Chair to sign & execute FQ Task Force App contract	Approve 2025-26 State appropriations budget draft and resolution	Approve the FQMD Program Manager contract extension & recruitment for 2026 staffing	Approve FQMD Retirement resolution
Frank	Zumbo		X	-	-	-	-
Heidi	Raines		X	-	-	-	-
Sue	Klein	X		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Christine	Bondio	X		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Jane	Cooper		X	-	-	-	-
Alex	Fein	X		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

### INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES:

GUESTS		
First	Last	Role
Michelle	Courseault	FQMD Executive Director
Shelby	Ursu	FQMD Coordinator
Alex	Dunkenberger	CAO's Office
Glade	Bilby	FQMD Commissioner
Jessica	Dietz	FQMD SEC Committee Vice-Chair
Antonio	Carbone	FQMD Livability Committee
Mamie	Gasperecz	FQMD Livability Committee Chair
John	Foard	FQMD Accountant

### 2. Public Comment

No written public comment was received.

### 3. Motion – Consider a motion to approve the previous meeting notes

Christine Bondio noted that in the September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting notes, under “New Business”, while Committee member Frank Zumbo was discussing the Downtown Development District (DDD) having legal present at their meetings, she was not sure if the language used in the meeting notes correctly reflected Mr. Zumbo’s sentiment. Michelle Courseault stated that she will work with Shelby Ursu to revise the section to clarify: *“Mr. Zumbo recommended that the FQMD consider the idea of having legal counsel present at future Board meetings if changes are made with the new administration regarding how the French*

*Quarter Economic Development District (FQEDD) funds are to be distributed. He noted that the DDD always has a lawyer present, but they collect their tax directly."*

**Sue Klein made a motion to approve the previous meeting notes, with the discussed revisions. Ms. Bondio seconded the motion, and it was approved.**

#### 4. Committee Chair's Comments & Guest Introductions

Chair Alex Fein welcomed the Committee and guests.

#### 5. Presentations / Discussions:

##### a. 2026 Committee Budget Proposals (*Committee leadership available for proposal Q&A*)

##### i. \*Livability Committee

##### 1. Revision #2- Public Safety Right of Way Guidelines

See attached document. Livability Committee member Antonio Carbone reviewed the revised proposal, noting that the scope has been narrowed down as well as the requested budget amount, per the Finance & Development Committee's request last month. He stated that the purpose of this project is to fund the development of a comprehensive plan focused on the French Quarter's public right-of-ways (ROW) and to establish long-term, preservation-compatible public safety and infrastructure guidelines to ensure that every sidewalk and streetlight supports both livability and security. He informed the Committee that there is only one French Quarter sidewalk sample drawing, from 2009, that details what materials should be used for sidewalks and how they should be properly laid. One of Mr. Carbone's main goals for this initiative is to have a specific set of drawings made, which would be approved by the Department of Public Works (DPW), by a hired landscape architect or design firm that can be disseminated to utility companies, the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans, the DPW, etc., that will be a point of reference for all infrastructural work in the French Quarter. Ms. Courseault noted that both the DPW and the Vieux Carre Commission (VCC) have endorsed this project in writing. She stated that the VCC will be working with the DPW on a presentation for the Livability Committee, if this proposal is approved, which will then move on to the Finance & Development Committee, and finally to the Board of Commissioners.

##### 2. Sidewalks Repair

See attached document. Mr. Carbone reviewed the Sidewalk Repairs Proposal with the Committee, stating that the infrastructure working group came up with this proposal as a way to see more impact and immediate results. He noted that the proposal request is to allocate \$150K, which will be matched by the DPW, to sidewalk repair requests that have already been submitted through the 311 system, as well as newly identified sidewalk issues that arise in 2026. Mr. Fein noted that the funds for this project are already earmarked in the 2026 FQEDD budget. Mr. Carbone stated that the DPW will be handling the managing, prioritizing, and contracting for the project, with prioritization based on sidewalk damage severity, pedestrian safety, and location impact. He noted that this project was designed using the DDD's model for their own sidewalk repairs program. Ms. Courseault added that there will likely need to be an application process set in place for people who would like to apply to be part of this program. She stated that anyone can report damaged sidewalks through the 311 system, noting that it does not have to be the property owner. Ms. Courseault will report back her updates from the FQMD's attorney on the project's legalities and liabilities, and informed the Committee that the City's Legal Department has confirmed with her that it is no longer the property owners' responsibility to keep up with their sidewalk repairs, and the DPW can make repairs. Ms. Bondio asked how the Committee will know if the work is getting completed with the \$150K, and that the DPW is also matching the funding of \$150K. Ms. Klein stated that it would be best not to transfer any funds to the DPW until the work is completed and assessed for quality, and the Committee agreed.

##### ii. \*Government Affairs Committee

##### 1. Elected Officials Outreach

See attached document. Ms. Courseault reviewed the proposal with the Committee, stating that the requested budget of \$10K does not have to be used in full. She noted that ideally these elected official outreach events would be held twice a year, and would include the DDD, other organizations, and elected officials so that these groups can network and establish better communication. Ms. Courseault added that it will be the Government Affairs Committee's responsibility to iron out the details for each event for this initiative.

iii. \*Operations

1. Marketing

See attached document. Ms. Courseault reported that the procurement process has been completed recently for the marketing of SDT's updated French Quarter Task Force app. She noted that this marketing proposal for 2026 is in direct response to the three other Committees having discussed FQMD's overall need for marketing. The Committee discussed the benefits of each option listed in the proposal. They agreed that the Board of Commissioners should decipher which plan would best suit the FQMD's marketing needs, while the Finance & Development Committee will approve the dollar amount and proposal today. Ms. Courseault noted that \$7.5K has been earmarked for marketing in the 2025 FQEDD budget.

2. Manager: Infrastructure

See attached document. Mr. Fein reviewed the proposal with the group, stating that this will convert FQMD Program Manager Bob Bejarano's part-time position to a new full-time position for 2026. Ms. Courseault added that this new full-time staff position would serve as the primary liaison for all projects. Mr. Fein stated that the Finance & Development Committee must make the decision today to approve the salary range of \$75K-\$95K. He added that he feels it would make sense to hire a full-time Program Manager as the FQMD continues to grow and take on more projects each year. Mr. Fein noted that Mr. Bejarano will be moving on from his consultant position by the end of 2025, so the FQMD will have to consider either hiring a full-time position to take his place, or to hire another consultant. Ms. Bondio noted that capacity has been an ongoing issue for staff, stating that she feels it would be beneficial to add a fulltime staff member who would ensure that funds for infrastructure projects are being spent appropriately and the quality of all projects meets the required standards. The Committee agreed that if the Board agrees to move forward with a full-time Program Manager position, structure for this role will need to be clearly defined.

b. \*2025-26 State Appropriations Budget

See attached document. Ms. Courseault reviewed the 2025-26 State appropriations budget draft with the Committee, reminding the group that the timeline for this budget began on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 and closes on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026. No revisions were made to this draft. The Committee agreed that Board Chair Jane Cooper should sign the resolution.

c. \*2026 FQMD Budget – Preview

See attached document.

6. Executive Session - *Per Revised Statute § 42:17(A) (1) Discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of a person, provided that such person is notified in writing at least twenty-four hours, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, before the scheduled time contained in the notice of the meeting at which such executive session is to take place and that such person may require that such discussion be held at an open meeting. For the purpose of discussing:*

a. Personnel Matters

b. FQMD Program Manager extension renegotiation

Ms. Klein motioned to adjourn to Executive Session at 4:09 PM pursuant to R.S. 42:17 A. (1) to discuss personnel matters and the Program Manager contract extension renegotiation. Ms. Bondio seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Ms. Bondio motioned to reconvene the October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Finance & Development Committee meeting at 4:26 PM. Ms. Klein seconded the motion, and it was approved. No action was taken in the Executive Session.

7. Discussion – FQMD Retirement Details

See attached document. Ms. Courseault reviewed the retirement details with the group, stating that it is a simple IRA with a 3% matching contribution. John Foard, FQMD accountant, added that the funds will be taken out of staffs' paychecks once at the beginning of the year. Ms. Bondio noted that new employees must be employed with the FQMD for an entire year before being eligible for retirement benefits.

8. Motion(s)/ Resolutions:

- i. Consider a motion for approval the FQMD Committee Budget Requests as presented: Livability, and Government Affairs, Operations as presented.

Ms. Klein made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the Livability Committee's Public Safety Right of Way Guidelines Proposal, not to exceed \$50,000. Ms. Bondio seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Ms. Bondio made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the Livability Committee's Sidewalk Repairs Proposal, not to exceed \$150,000, with payment to correspond with completion of work, incrementally or at end of 2026. Ms. Klein seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Ms. Klein made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the Government Affairs Committee's Elected Officials Events Proposal, not to exceed \$10,000. Ms. Bondio seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Ms. Klein made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the Marketing Consultant Proposal, not to exceed \$7,500. Ms. Bondio seconded the motion, and it was approved.

- ii. Consider a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval for Authorization for Chair/ Vice Chair to execute contract for FQ Task Force Marketing project.

Ms. Klein made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval for the Board Chair or Vice-Chair to sign and execute the contract for the French Quarter Task Force App marketing project. Ms. Bondio seconded the motion, and it was approved.

- iii. Consider a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the 2025-26 State Appropriations Budget and corresponding Resolution as presented.

Ms. Bondio made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the 2025-26 State Appropriations budget and corresponding Resolution as presented. Ms. Klein seconded the motion, and it was approved.

- iv. Consider a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the FQMD Program Manager contract extension and authorization for recruitment for FQMD 2026 Staff position.

Ms. Klein made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the French Quarter Management District Program Manager contract extension and authorization for recruitment to begin for the French Quarter Management District 2026 staff position. Ms. Bondio seconded the motion, and it was approved.

- v. Consider a motion approval of the FQMD Retirement Resolution as presented.

Ms. Bondio made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the French Quarter Management District Retirement Resolution as presented. Ms. Klein seconded the motion, and it was approved.

9. New Business– To consider and take action upon any other matters that may properly come before the French Quarter Management District Finance & Development Committee

No new business was discussed.

10. Next Meeting Date:

The next scheduled meeting of the Committee is Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 3:00 PM.

11. Adjournment

Ms. Klein made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Bondio seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 4:34 PM.

## Livability Committee Proposal- REVISED No.2

### Public Safety Right-of-Way Guidelines

#### EXECUTIVE BRIEF

This proposal seeks \$50,000 to develop comprehensive Public Right-of-Way (ROW) guidelines for the French Quarter, with a clear emphasis on public safety, specifically sidewalks and street lights. FQMD will coordinate with the City of New Orleans, Department of Public Works, Vieux Carré Commission, and other relevant agencies to steward this plan's development and subsequent implementation. The plan will serve as a foundational tool for aligning future projects, budgeting capital improvements, and advancing the district's livability and infrastructure goals.

#### Background

The French Quarter's right-of-way is not just a matter of livability and aesthetics — it is a matter of public safety. The French Quarter's public ROW assets— sidewalks and lighting —face ongoing degradation from age, overuse, and lack of coordinated reinvestment. Restoration efforts are often piecemeal, and no comprehensive, district-specific standards currently guide ROW projects.

#### Purpose

The Livability Committee proposes funding the development of a comprehensive plan focused on the French Quarter's public right-of-way (ROW). This initiative will establish long-term, preservation-compatible public safety and infrastructure guidelines to ensure that every sidewalk and street light supports both livability and security. Request: \$50k

#### Scope

The plan will address the following public safety ROW categories:

- Sidewalks, curb ramps, and ADA access
- Street lighting and utility poles
- *Stormwater management and gutter infrastructure (alternative / or add on)*

#### Deliverables

- Right-of-Way (ROW) Guidelines to inform and standardize: (Design specifications, Approved materials, Implementation protocols, Long-term maintenance strategies)
- Vendor & Provider Guidebook: Tailored reference for contractors, utility partners, and service providers, Includes project standards, compliance expectations, and visual examples
- Phased Implementation Plan: Prioritized by impact and feasibility; Tiered by cost for scalable execution

# Livability Committee: 2026 Sidewalk Repair Proposal

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## Executive Brief

The Livability / Infrastructure Subcommittee proposes a strategic investment in sidewalk repairs as part of its three-year *public safety* initiative (starting along North Rampart Street in 2024 and with Street Markings and Signage in 2025). This project provides both visible and tangible improvements that directly support pedestrian safety, ADA accessibility, and preservation of the neighborhood's historic character. It leverages a 50/50 cost-sharing model with the City of New Orleans Department of Public Works (DPW), maximizing return on investment and ensuring FQMD's contributions are matched by City resources.

## Background

Sidewalk conditions throughout the French Quarter have long posed challenges for pedestrian safety and accessibility. Damaged or uneven sidewalks create hazards for residents, workers, and the millions of visitors who traverse the Quarter each year. While DPW receives and responds to 311 requests, backlog and funding limitations slow the pace of repairs. (616 pending 311 requests in the Quarter (July 2025). 94% safety-related: damaged/missing signs, sidewalks/trip hazards, potholes, urgent striping). FQMD's contribution provides a catalytic role in accelerating these repairs, reducing liability risks, and ensuring consistent upkeep of the Quarter's public right-of-way. This proposal has been reviewed in coordination with the Department of Public Works, which has confirmed both the feasibility of bundling these repairs into existing contracts and the 50/50 cost-share model.

## Scope

This project will address:

- Repairs to existing 311-reported sidewalk damage
- Newly identified sidewalk issues arising in 2026
- Prioritization based on severity, pedestrian safety, and location impact

Repairs will be executed by DPW contractors under City procurement, with FQMD monitoring progress and ensuring accountability. Regular reporting will include:

- Number of repairs completed
- Average number of days to repair from 311 intake
- Total square feet of sidewalks improved
- Geographic distribution of repairs



# Livability Committee: 2026 Sidewalk Repair Proposal

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## **Alignment with FQMD Priorities and Campaign Narratives**

This proposal directly advances FQMD's state legislative mandate to improve public safety, enhance quality of life, and support infrastructure improvements. By funding sidewalk repairs, FQMD strengthens its role as a leader in protecting public right-of-way safety, while ensuring visible results for the community.

Similarly, this initiative also aligns with the 'Quarter for the Quarter' sales tax purpose, demonstrating to voters that FQEDD trust fund dollars are reinvested back into core *public safety* improvements. The project also aligns with the campaign narratives of all French Quarter-tied elected officials, making this a politically consensus-driven initiative that will strengthen FQMD's partnerships with current and incoming City leadership.

## **Three-Year Initiative Context**

This sidewalk repair project builds upon FQMD's ongoing three-year public safety initiative focused on North Rampart Street and the surrounding French Quarter. Previous phases have included targeted improvements to pedestrian and vehicle safety infrastructure, including proposals for new traffic signals and signage. By continuing this initiative with sidewalk repairs, FQMD ensures a consistent, phased approach to addressing long-standing right-of-way issues. This continuity strengthens the narrative that FQEDD sales tax revenues and trust fund dollars are being reinvested into high-impact, highly visible improvements that benefit residents, workers, and visitors alike.

## **Funding**

FQMD proposes to contribute \$150,000 toward sidewalk repairs as part of a 50/50 cost-sharing arrangement with the City of New Orleans Department of Public Works (DPW). This ensures that every dollar committed by FQMD is leveraged with an equal investment by DPW, framing the project as a partnership rather than a one-sided contribution.

Recommended funding: FQEDD Trust Fund, but may also alternatively be funded by the 2025-26 State Appropriations.

## **PROPOSAL: GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ELECTED OFFICIALS ENGAGEMENT EVENTS**

### **Purpose:**

Host two events in 2026 to engage elected officials, showcase FQMD's impact, and build support for legislative and funding priorities.

### **Background:**

FQMD's legislative purpose includes collaboration with government partners to improve public safety, sanitation, and infrastructure in the French Quarter. The Government Affairs Committee currently relies on fragmented, largely 3<sup>rd</sup> party communications with elected officials. Hosting structured, targeted events will allow FQMD to: - Demonstrate project outcomes and accountability - Strengthen relationships across government levels - Build momentum for future support, per the recommendation of LRA Government Affairs department.

**Proposed Plan:** Two events will be planned and hosted in 2026:

1. **Spring 2026 – State of the Quarter Briefing Luncheon (at the Capitol)**
  - Presentation
  - Invite: State, City, and Congressional officials
  - Content: FQMD accomplishments, impact visuals, current priorities
2. **Fall 2026 – French Quarter Forward Reception**
  - Host event at a historic venue
  - Invite: New Orleans delegation + local FQ elected officials and partners
  - Content: Brief remarks, printed priorities, optional cultural element

### **Roles:**

**Staff:** FQMD prep print materials, coordination of invitations

### **Gov't Affairs Committee:**

- Rely on LRA, Hotels & Lodging, and NOCO to coordinate logistics: venue and F&B;
- Messaging, outreach

**Board Members:** Participation, relationship-building

**Proposal Request Up to \$10,000 (anticipated estimated costs):** Venue, Food & Beverage, Materials/Printing, A/V & Entertainment, Contingency: \$1,000



# French Quarter Management District

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## Proposal: Marketing Consultant Retainer (Project-Based)

### Background

The French Quarter Management District (FQMD) is legislatively tasked with enhancing public safety, sanitation, and quality of life while preserving the cultural and economic vitality of the French Quarter.

To deliver on this mission, FQMD must not only implement programs but also ensure clear, visible, and consistent communication with stakeholders. At present, these responsibilities fall heavily on the Executive Director and consultants whose scopes are limited, which constrains the organization's ability to deliver professional outreach and marketing.

The FY 2025 Trust Fund budget includes a \$7,500 line item specifically allocated to marketing the Task Force Mobile App. Multiple committees have also emphasized the need for marketing support to advance their initiatives:

- Livability Committee: Spanish Tiles Restoration, Glass Half Full Recycling Pilot
- Security & Enforcement Committee: Task Force Mobile App (budgeted)
- Security & Livability (joint): Remove Lock Take crime prevention campaign
- Infrastructure/Livability: 311 promotion for streetlight repair reporting

Given these approved budget allocations and committee directives, FQMD is required to execute marketing and public outreach to fulfill its commitments.

### Proposal

Contract with a Marketing Consultant on a project-based retainer to provide communications and campaign execution across FY 2024–25.

The consultant will:

- Develop branded campaigns for Board/Committee-approved initiatives.
- Produce professional one-pagers, digital assets, and outreach collateral.
- Create social media packets for Board of Commissioners' organizations to post on their own platforms (graphics, captions, hashtags).
- Build campaign-specific media kits to support ERPR's press and narrative work.
- Integrate campaigns into FQMD's broader ERPR (Earned, Owned, Shared, Paid) media strategy for consistency and impact.

Priority Campaigns 2024–25:

- Spanish Tiles Restoration (heritage + beautification)
- Glass Half Full Recycling Pilot (sustainability + sanitation)

- Task Force Mobile App (public safety engagement; Trust Fund budgeted)
- Remove Lock Take Campaign (crime prevention + awareness)
- 311 Streetlight Repair Promotion (infrastructure + safety reporting)

## Budget & Financial Options

### Option 1: Retainer Model (Recommended)

- \$3,000/month (\$36,000 annually)
- Covers all campaigns with consistency and efficiency.
- Benchmark: Industry norm (\$2,500–\$5,000/month).

### Option 2: Project-Based Contracts

- \$7,500–\$10,000 per project (industry average).
- With 4–5 campaigns annually, estimated cost = \$30,000–\$50,000.
- Pros: Clear start/finish per campaign.
- Cons: More contract administration; less consistency.

### Option 3: Hybrid Approach

- \$2,000/month baseline retainer (\$24,000 annually) + project add-ons (\$5,000–\$7,500 each).
- Estimated annual cost = \$30,000–\$40,000.
- Pros: Flexibility to scale.
- Cons: Requires additional approvals for add-ons.

## Deliverables

- Campaign Collateral: One-pagers, FAQs, flyers, signage templates, branded digital assets.
- Press & Media Materials: Media kits with logos, photos, fact sheets, talking points (ERPR handles pitching/distribution).
- Community Engagement Tools: Spanish Tiles Owner Packet, Recycling and Remove Lock Take flyers, 311 repair campaign graphics, Task Force App content.
- Digital Presence: Landing pages, social media calendars, BoC social media packets, short videos/reels, newsletters.
- Measurement & Reporting: Monthly metrics dashboards, committee-specific updates, year-end ROI report.

## Recommendation & Impact

ERPR excels at media relations, managing press relationships, and securing coverage. However, their scope does not include the creation of visuals, marketing collateral, or campaign execution. A dedicated Marketing Consultant will fill this gap by producing professional, branded materials and digital content.

Together, ERPR and the Marketing Consultant create a comprehensive communications system:

- ERPR = Media Relations (earned/shared narrative, press engagement)
- Marketing Consultant = Visuals & Collateral (owned/paid assets, campaign execution)

Impact:

- Meets budget requirements by executing the \$7,500 Trust Fund allocation for Task Force App marketing.
- Fulfills directives from multiple committees (Livability, Security & Enforcement, Security-Livability, Infrastructure).
- Provides Commissioners with ready-to-use social media packets to extend campaign reach.
- Ensures professional, consistent, and efficient communications across all initiatives.
- Demonstrates accountability and visibility for appropriations.

DRAFT

## FQMD New Position: Manager of Infrastructure & Capital Projects

### FQMD Manager of Infrastructure & Capital Projects

This new position will provide dedicated leadership for FQMD's infrastructure portfolio, ensuring projects move from planning to completion without bottlenecks. The Manager will serve as the primary liaison with vendors, City agencies (DPW, SWB), utilities, contractors, and stakeholders.

### Key Responsibilities

- Lead execution of all infrastructure and capital improvement projects.
- Coordinate directly with DPW, utilities, and contractors.
- Manage project timelines, budgets, database documentation; report regularly to the ED.
- Conduct site visits and inspections; troubleshoot issues in real time.
- Provide technical updates at Board and committee meetings.

### Role Boundaries

What this role will NOT do:

- Grant writing (remains with ED/consultants).
- Grant compliance reporting (remains with Finance/consultants).
- Final budget authority or change order approvals (remain with ED).

### Salary Range

Expected range: \$75,000- 95,000 (commensurate with experience and technical expertise).

### Why This Role Matters

- Ensures continuity and accountability in FQMD's infrastructure portfolio.
- Positions FQMD to continue to deliver visible, high-impact results for the French Quarter.
- Provides dedicated capacity to manage complex, multi-agency projects.

### Governing Framework

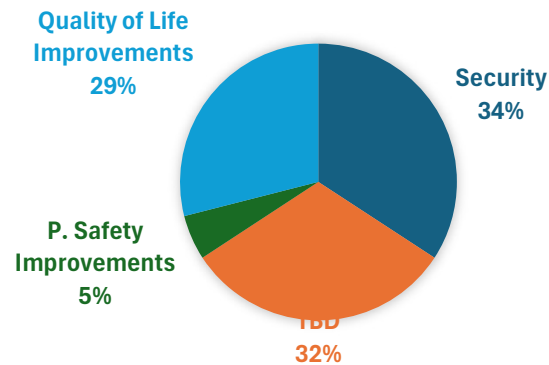
- FQMD is a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana (La. R.S. 25:799) and not subject to City of New Orleans Civil Service.
- FQMD hires staff directly under its own bylaws and board-adopted employment policies.
- Staff Employees: Hired directly; not subject to Louisiana Public Bid Law.
- New Positions / Salary Ranges must be approved by the Board in open session under Louisiana Open Meetings Law (La. R.S. 42:11 et seq.).

## 2025-26 State Appropriations Budget

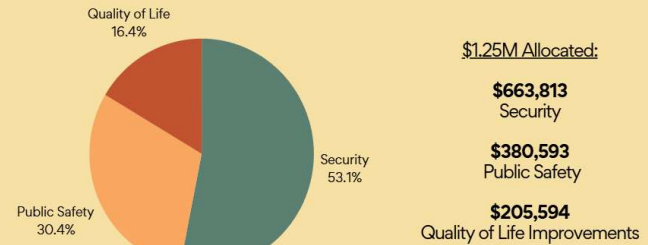
2024-25 Comparison

Summary	\$ 1,250,000.00	Notes		
Salaries	100,000.00	Consultants: PR, Accounting, Auditor	\$	90,554.00
		Public Relations, Ofc Rent, Website, Printing,		
Operations	107,500.00	Ofc. Supplies, Phone, Subscriptions	\$	76,226.00
Programmatic / Professional Services				
Security	\$325,000	LSP, Transport Unit	\$	509,745.00
Sanitation	150,000.00	Recycling	\$	150,000.00
P. Safety Improvements	50,000.00	P. Safety ROW Guidelines	\$	325,000.00
Preservation / Beautificaton	75,000.00	Spanish Tiles, Bourbon St Holiday Lights		
TBD	\$350,000	Remaining Funds		
Contingency	92,500.00	~10% +/-	\$	98,475.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,250,000.00</b>			

## 2025-26 STATE BUDGET



## FISCAL TRANSPARENCY: 2024-25 STATE APPROPRIATIONS BUDGET





**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A COOPERATIVE ENDEAVOR  
AGREEMENT WITH THE LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY**

Board of  
Commissioners

Alex Fein,  
French Quarter  
Business League

Christian  
Pendleton,  
Louisiana  
Restaurant  
Association, Inc.

Christine Bondio,  
French Quarter  
Business  
Association

David Bilbe  
Frank Zumbo,  
Greater New  
Orleans Hotel &  
Lodging  
Association, Inc.

Glade Bilby,  
French Quarter  
Citizens, Inc.

Heidi Raines,  
New Orleans City  
Council District  
“C”

Jane Cooper,  
Vieux Carre  
Property Owners,  
Residents and  
Associates, Inc.

Mamie  
Gasparez,  
Vieux Carre  
Commission

Steve Caputo,  
New Orleans &  
Company

Sue Klein,  
N. Rampart Main  
Street, Inc..

**WHEREAS**, the French Quarter Management District (“FQMD”) is a Louisiana state political subdivision, codified at La. R.S. 25:799, as a body politic and corporate; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to LA. R.S. 25:799(B) and (C), the statutory purposes of FQMD are to:

- (a) Enhancing public safety, reducing homelessness, improving infrastructure, and financing supplemental sanitation services.
- (b) Providing supplemental resources to enforce laws and regulations affecting quality of life for residents, businesses, and visitors.
- (c) Engaging in strategic planning, business and commercial development, and administering capital improvement funds and programs.

(d) Taking actions to: enhance commercial, civic, and cultural activity, conserve and preserve the district’s historic nature and architecture, foster quality events and quality of life, restore regional character and attract residents and tourists, promote and improve public infrastructure

**WHEREAS**, the Louisiana Department of Treasury requires a Board Resolution naming the individual authorized to execute the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (“CEA”) relative to state appropriations awarded to FQMD; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Article VI of the FQMD Bylaws and La. R.S. 25:799(C)(8), the Chair of the Board of Commissioners is authorized to “negotiate and sign all contracts and cooperative endeavor agreements on behalf of the District that the Board authorizes”;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of the French Quarter Management District hereby authorizes the Chair of the Board of Commissioners, pursuant to Article VI of the FQMD Bylaws, to execute the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement and any related documents with the Louisiana Department of Treasury on behalf of FQMD;

PASSED and ADOPTED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October 2025.

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Alex Fein, FQMD Treasurer



Board of  
Commissioners

Alex Fein,  
French Quarter  
Business League

Christian  
Pendleton,  
Louisiana  
Restaurant  
Association, Inc.

Christine Bondio,  
French Quarter  
Business  
Association

David Bilbe  
Frank Zumbo,  
Greater New  
Orleans Hotel &  
Lodging  
Association, Inc.

Glade Bilby,  
French Quarter  
Citizens, Inc.

Heidi Raines,  
New Orleans City  
Council District  
"C"

Jane Cooper,  
Vieux Carre  
Property Owners,  
Residents and  
Associates, Inc.

Mamie  
Gasparez,  
Vieux Carre  
Commission

Steve Caputo,  
New Orleans &  
Company

Sue Klein,  
N. Rampart Main  
Street, Inc..

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE  
FRENCH QUARTER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT - RETIREMENT

**WHEREAS**, the Finance & Development Committee recommended on August 5, 2025, that the District adopt a SIMPLE IRA retirement plan with a 3% nonelective employer contribution, administered through Ascensus;

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of the French Quarter Management District seeks to provide competitive and sustainable retirement benefits to its employees;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners hereby approves the establishment of a SIMPLE IRA retirement plan, effective January 1, 2026, with an employer contribution of 3% of compensation for all eligible employees, to be administered through Ascensus, with the Executive Director & Accounting Consultant to provide oversight.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Executive Director and Accounting Consultant are authorized to take all necessary actions to implement this plan, distribute required notices, and ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October 2025.

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Alex Fein, FQMD Treasurer