

LIVABILITY COMMITTEE

Meeting Notes

Monday, 2 February 2026, 3:00 PM

Covenant House, Board Room

611 N. Rampart Street, New Orleans, LA 70112

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

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 PM and the agenda was read into the record.

ROLL CALL: COMMITTEE MEMBERS						
First Name	Last Name	Present	Absent	Approve previous meeting notes	Approve 2026 Committee Work Plan	Defer adding additional Commissioners to Committee
Madison	Charleston		X	-	-	-
Rene	Fransen		X	-	-	-
Mamie	Gasperecz	X		Yes	Yes	Yes
Erin	Holmes	X		Yes	Yes	Yes
Antonio	Carbone	X		Yes	Yes	Yes
Katie	Kolthoff		X	-	-	-
Joey	DiFatta	X		Yes	Yes	Yes
Lori	Boyer	X		Yes	Yes	Yes
Robert	Wingarter		X	-	-	-

INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES: GUESTS		
First Name	Last Name	Role
Shelby	Ursu	FQMD Coordinator
Bob	Bejarano	FQMD Program Manager
Gretchen	Byers	VCPORA
Mayté	Hernandez	TASGNO/LEAD
Travers	Kurr	Health Dept./City of New Orleans
Caroline	Rowe	VCPORA
Chase	Brown	NO&CO

2. Public Comment:

No written public comments were received.

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

Antonio Carbone made a motion to approve the previous meeting notes. Joey DiFatta seconded the motion, and it was approved.

4. Committee Chair’s Comments & Guest Introductions

Chair Mamie Gasperecz thanked Vice-Chair Erin Holmes for chairing the previous Committee meetings. She reported that she had a call with FQMD Executive Director Michelle Courseault and Dr. Jennifer Avegno to discuss strategies addressing the unhoused as well as the challenges of differentiating unhoused individuals in need of these services compared to those abusing the services. Ms. Gasperecz noted that Dr. Avegno discussed the potential benefits of funding training for the Mobile Crisis Unit versus funding an extra shift. She added that Dr. Avegno is looking at Dallas’s Homeless Outreach Team as a model on how to approach this issue.

5. Discussions –

- a. 2026 Committee Work Plan & corresponding Key Performance Indices
 - i. Presentation by: Mayté Hernandez, Director of Case Management Services- LEAD and Travers Kurr, Special Projects Coordinator, Health Department

See attached documents. Ms. Hernandez and Mr. Kurr's presented information on the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Program to the Committee:

- LEAD has been a program in New Orleans's 8th District since 2017 and is expanding citywide.
- Offers pre-arrest diversion and client-centered case management in collaboration with the NOPD.
- The programs' focus is connecting frequent low-level offenders to housing, healthcare, employment, and support services.
- Key Performance Indices (KPIs) include referrals by district, social contact referrals, and referral outcomes.
- LEAD clients are not immune to arrest if offenses continue.
- LEAD's services are not court mandated.

Ms. Hernandez stated that the goal is to provide the tools needed to help improve these individuals improve their quality of life. She added that this program differs from the street outreach program through the Travelers Aid Society of Greater New Orleans, noting that the LEAD team does not go out on the streets to provide outreach, but focuses on the referrals.

1. (5 mins) Q&A

Ms. Holmes asked about the primary eligible offenses encountered by the LEAD team. Ms. Hernandez stated the most common are vagrancy-related offenses, including trespassing, sidewalk obstruction, and simple possession. Mr. Carbone asked whether social contact referrals apply to individuals not facing arrest; Ms. Hernandez confirmed they do. The Committee agreed that tracking social contact referrals would be an important KPI.

ii. Covenant House

FQMD Coordinator Shelby Ursu will extend an invitation for the March Committee meeting to a Covenant House representative.

6. Motions –

- a. Consider a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the 2026 Livability Committee Work Plan.

See attached document. Discussion regarding the Committee's 2026 Work Plan included:

- Improved communication in place between the Community Liaison Officers and residents regarding quality of life concerns.
- Committee agreed that the types of repairs as well as the repair locations should be trackable KPIs for all infrastructural projects.
- Exploring an ADA assessment collaboration for the sidewalk repairs.
- Seeking a public dashboard with 2023-2025 crash rate data on North Rampart Street in order to assess the success of the Committee's North Rampart Street Public Safety & Signage project and use these results to map out potential future KPIs.

Mr. Carbone made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the 2026 Livability Committee Work Plan. Ms. Holmes seconded the motion, and it was approved.

7. Project Updates & Reports –

- a. *Recycling
- b. *Sanitation – *No new updates were discussed.*
- c. Homeless Services - Covenant House – *No new updates were discussed.*
- d. Streetlights

FQMD Program Manager Bob Bejarano reported that the streetlights warranty period is almost coming to a close. He stated that 157 work orders have been completing with the maintenance funding. He recommended, if this project falls back onto FQMD in the future, using the quantity of work orders completed as a trackable metric.

e. Street Markings

See attached document. Mr. Bejarano reported:

- 210 signs are in queue for installation, which Mr. Bejarano will track and report back to the Committee
- The drills for the signage installations have been officially handed off to the Department of Public Works (DPW).
- DPW will send feedback within the next 4-6 weeks on how many signs have been installed, the types of signs, and their locations

Mr. Bejarano added that he will be working with the vendor tomorrow to address the driveways on Barracks Street to ensure that any easily identifiable active driveways have been properly marked. Mr. DiFatta requested that Mr. Bejarano also ensure that the residential properties on St. Philip Street, past Bourbon Street, are addressed in the project's scope as well.

- f. Pedestrian Safety Signage – *No new updates were discussed.*
- g. Public Safety Right of Way Guidelines – *No new updates were discussed.*
- h. Sidewalks – *No new updates were discussed.*

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

Ms. Gasperecz stated that she has been asked to present a motion to nominate FQMD Commissioner Jane Cooper to the Livability Committee. The Committee discussed their concern about Commissioners overrepresentation in more than half of FQMD's Committees. Mr. DiFatta also noted that Commissioners overrepresentation on any one Committee could potentially be a violation of State open meeting law. The Committee agreed that they would like to see new neighborhood faces get involved with the group.

Mr. DiFatta made a motion to defer the request of adding Jane Cooper to the Livability Committee until the Board of Commissions make a declaration clarifying how many Committees the Commissioners may join. Mr. Carbone seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Ms. Gasperecz reported that Ms. Courseault has new meetings at Mayor Moreno's office which conflict with the Livability Committee's meeting dates and times. She stated that Ms. Courseault will be sending out a poll to each Committee member to get feedback on scheduling preferences.

9. Next Meeting Dates

The next scheduled meeting date of the Committee is Monday, March 2nd, 2026, at 3 PM.

10. Adjournment

Ms. Holmes made a motion to adjourn. Mr. DiFatta seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 4:06 PM.

1- KPI MONITORING OF BUDGET ITEMS 💰

- Unhoused:
 - Covenant House (see attached)
 - LEAD Case Manager (see attached)
- Public Safety Right of Way Guidelines:
 - KPI → Design Guideline Resource Book
- Sidewalk Repairs
 - KPI → ID Sidewalks in Worst Condition, Repaired within Budget
- Recycling: Keep Louisiana Beautiful, Glass Half Full
- Public Safety (Signage, Traffic Calming)

2- Quality-of-Life Strategic Priorities

Identify top priority list of quality-of-life project concepts to research for the late Spring funding cycle.

BUDGET ITEMS WITH KPI MONITORING



- Unhoused:
 - Covenant House
 - # Youth Children Served
 - % stable housing and / or family reunification
 - % Rights of Passage (percentage graduating with a supportive job and stable housing)
 - % Trafficking Survivors - stable housing and / or family reunification
 - #Hours spent in community for St Outreach & Aftercare
 - #Reunifications (# youths who receive bus or train tickets to reunite with family)
 - LEAD Case Manager
 - # Referrals (Participants)
 - # Recidivism Rate jail admissions
 - # Substantive Meetings with Case Managers
 - #Court Cases Resolved
 - #Permanently Housed
 - #Steps Taken towards income
 - # Connected to SUD services
 - # Connected to mental health

SAMPLE- FOR REFERENCE ONLY



Travelers Aid Society of Greater New Orleans
December 2025 Monthly Report

In efforts to improve the life quality of individuals with frequent legal interactions caused by mental health diagnoses, substance use history, and/or indigency, Travelers Aid Society of Greater New Orleans LEAD program supports connecting individuals to needed services previously inaccessible.

Progress Report: Efforts and Outcomes

For this program, seven (7) case managers and two (2) Outreach and Intake coordinators will be responsible for providing holistic services to law-involved individuals from the 6th, 7th, and 8th Districts, by offering connections to healthcare and substance use treatment, public benefits, identification documents, documentation support for housing needs, and court support.

Breakdown of census

Participant census (# of participants we have provided services this month)	53
92 total participants	
70 active participants	
30 6th District	
17 7th District	
23 8th District	
53 participants serviced this month	
2 new participants enrolled this month	
0 participants discharged or moved to inactive this month	
0 pre-arrest diversions	
1 social contact referrals from:	
1 OPD	
1 community partners referrals from:	
1 Outreach - TASGNO	
Encounter census (# of total encounters this month)	261

Breakdown of types of services provided during the encounters

Court Support (# of court-related supports with LEAD help)	5
*These represent assistance to 3 unique participants as some required multiple services.	
2 events of accompanying 2 participants to court.	
3 events of legal assistance provided (collaboration with attorneys, court support documentation provided, etc) to 3 participants.	
Housing (# of housing events with LEAD help)	3
*These 3 events represent assistance to 3 unique participants	
1 events of coordinating with 1 participants' housing case manager	
1 events of assisting with 1 participants' move	
1 events of assisting 1 participants view housing units	
Healthcare (# of treatment events with LEAD help)	10
*These 8 events represent assistance to 5 unique participants	
1 event of assisting 1 participant scheduled a dental appointment.	
1 event of assisting 1 participants attend a dental appointment.	
2 events of assisting 2 participants obtain their medication	
1 event of assisting 1 participant obtain their medical supplies	
1 events of assisting 1 participant with nursing home	
3 event of assisting 3 participant scheduled a mental health appointment.	
1 event of assisting 1 participants attend a mental health appointment.	
Substance Use (# of treatment events with LEAD help)	3
*These 3 events represent assistance to 3 unique participants	
1 events of assisting 1 participant connect with Detox/rehab	
1 event of assisting 1 participant connect with MAT treatment.	
1 event of provding 1 participant with harm reduction supplies.	
Benefits Enrollment (# of public benefits events with LEAD help)	4
*These 4 events represent assistance to 64unique participants	
1 events of assisting 1 participants with SSA benefits	
2 events of assisting 2 clients enroll in Medicaid	
1 events of assisting 1 participants with SNAP benefits	
Vital Documents (# of vital documents events with outreach help)	1
*This 1 connections represent assistance to 1 unique individuals	
1 events of assisting 1 clients obtain their birth certificate	
Assisted activities (# of assisted events)	80
*These 80 connections represent assistance to 34 unique individuals	
38 events of assisting 24 participants with collateral contacts	

- 18 events of assisting 11 participants with food provision
- 6 events of assisting 6 participants with hygiene/clothing provision
- 16 events of assisting 10 participants with transportation provision
- 2 event of assisting 1 participant through direct financial assistance.

Administrative duties (# of administrative events)

15

*These 15 connections represent assistance to 15 unique individuals

- 12 events of outreach/canvassing duties for 7 participants
- 3 events of diligent search efforts for 3 participants

Success story

This month, one of the most powerful transformations we witnessed came through the resilience and determination of a participant who had experienced homelessness for more than two years. Living with mental health challenges and substance use, this individual spent years moving between shelters, temporary accommodations, and the streets, often feeling trapped in a cycle of instability and despair while longing for a safe place to call home.

A turning point came when the participant connected with their LEAD case manager. Through consistent outreach, compassion, and trust-building, the case manager took the time to understand the complex barriers the participant faced, helping them open up about their struggles and goals. Together, they worked to connect the participant with critical resources, including mental health services, substance use support, and assistance navigating the often-complicated social service system.

During this period, the participant endured a traumatic and life-threatening assault that left them fearful of returning to the streets. This experience further underscored the urgent need for safety and stability. Through focused collaboration and persistent advocacy, the participant was approved for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). Receiving this news marked a profound moment — one filled with relief, hope, and the realization that a secure home was finally within reach.

Today, this participant is moving forward with renewed strength. They are actively maintaining sobriety, developing healthy coping strategies to support their mental health, and focusing on building a more stable and hopeful future. Their journey reflects the power of perseverance, compassionate case management, and supportive services in helping individuals rebuild their lives.

We are proud to stand alongside this participant as they continue toward lasting stability, healing, and renewed possibility.

Street Markings Project Report – February 2026

Total Number of Markings (January 2026):

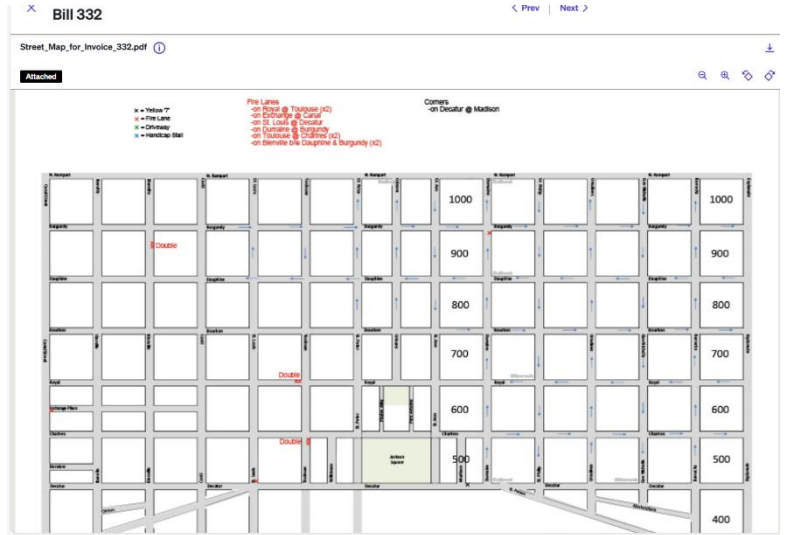
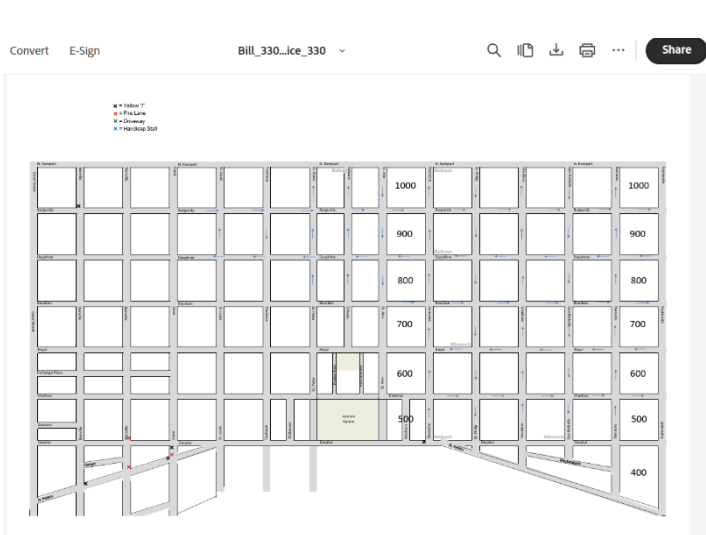
- Red Reflective Fire Hydrant Zones: 13 (January) 58 locations total- to date
- Yellow Reflective No Parking Corners: 4 (January) 251 locations total- to date
- Yellow Reflective No Parking Driveways: 109 sections, each at 14’-20’ minimum
- High-Visibility Accessible Parking Spots: 24 locations

438 Total

Cumulative Payments for Street Markings (June-January 2026): \$326,935

Supplemental Driveway Markings: \$38k (allocated by Board)

Assessment Underway: For the 109 driveway ramps already completed; vendor will take (2) 3 foot yard sticks, take photo, upload to fulcrum, annotate which ones still need additional widening, to reassess specific workload.



Confirmation no.	Invoice no.	Process date	Amount
P26012101 - 8981914	332	01/22/2026	\$ 7,325.00
P25123101 - 5569027	330	01/02/2026	\$ 4,550.00
P25110701 - 5855862	329	11/19/2025	\$ 3,450.00
P25101701 - 1887557	327	10/22/2025	\$ 72,005.00
P25100201 - 9074442	326	10/03/2025	\$ 50,530.00
P25091801 - 6242440	325	09/19/2025	\$ 3,600.00
P25081801 - 0424901	322	08/22/2025	\$ 36,000.00
P25081801 - 0424904	323	08/22/2025	\$ 22,775.00
P25071501 - 3877032	320	07/18/2025	\$ 61,225.00
P25060901 - 6999962	319	06/10/2025	\$ 65,475.00
TOTAL			\$326,935.00

Glass Half Full Recycling Stats			
Statistics Across All 3 Drop-Off Locations	January	Monthly Average	Total
Glass (in lbs.)	4,325.00	4,325.00	4,325.00
Plastic (in cubic yards)	7.82	7.82	7.82
Metal (in cubic yards)	3.06	3.06	3.06
Cardboard (in cubic yards)	21.75	21.75	21.75
Aluminum (in cubic yards)	0.94	0.94	0.94

Drop- Off Site Breakdown			
	January	Monthly Average	Total lbs. glass recycled
Cabrini Park	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
HNOC	725.00	725.00	725.00
Jazz Museum	1,600.00	1,600.00	1,600.00