

FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting Notes

Monday, 22 June 2026, 1:00 PM

Historic New Orleans Collection, Boyd Cruise Room

410 Chartres Street, New Orleans, LA, 70130

1. Call to Order, Roll Call & Guest Welcome / Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS							
First Name	Last Name	Present	Absent	Approve March meeting notes	Approve April meeting notes	Approve May meeting notes	Approve \$7K increase to accountant line item
Frank	Zumbo	X		Yes	Abstain	Abstain	Yes
Heidi	Raines	X		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sue	Klein	X		Yes	Abstain	Yes	Yes
Christine	Bondio	X		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Jane	Cooper	X		Yes	Yes	Abstain	Yes
Alex	Fein	X		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES

GUESTS		
First	Last	Role
Michelle	Courseault	FQMD Executive Director
Shelby	Ursu	FQMD Coordinator
Sayde	Finkel	CAO's Office, City of
Leo John	Arnett	Director of Policy & Research, City of New Orleans
Jessica	Dietz	FQMD SEC Committee Vice-Chair
Glade	Bilby	FQMD Commissioner
Joey	DiFatta	FQMD Commissioners
Mamie	Gasperecz	FQMD Commissioner

2. Public Comment

No written public comments were received.

3. Previous Meeting Minutes- Consider a motion to approve the previous meeting notes

Sue Klein made a motion to approve the March Finance & Development Committee meeting notes. Frank Zumbo seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Christine Bondio made a motion to approve the April Finance & Development Committee meeting notes. Jane Cooper seconded the motion, and it was approved. Mr. Zumbo and Ms. Klein abstained due to their absence.

Ms. Bondio made a motion to approve the May Finance & Development Committee meeting notes. Ms. Klein seconded the motion, and it was approved. Mr. Zumbo and Ms. Cooper abstained due to their absence.

4. Discussions

- a. *Proposal: Mayor's FQ Business Assistance Fund, presented by Leo John Arnett, (Director of Policy and Research, City of New Orleans | Mayor's Office)

See attached document. The Committee received a presentation from Leo John Arnett, Director of Policy and Research in the Mayor's Office, regarding a proposed business interruption grant pilot program to assist approximately 60 small businesses affected by the prolonged construction along portions of Decatur Street and the Le Petit Theatre/Tableaux area. The presentation outlined the program's purpose, proposed eligibility criteria, anticipated funding sources, and ongoing efforts to coordinate implementation with City departments and external partners. Committee members discussed the construction

timeline, methods for determining business eligibility, qualifications, and grant amounts, consistency with the FQMD's statutory authority and bylaws, potential use of FQMD reserve funds, and the organization's role in supporting the initiative. Committee members expressed both support for assisting impacted businesses and concerns regarding funding, precedent, and the appropriate scope of the District's responsibilities.

- i. Motion- Consider a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners, the Mayor's FQ Business Assistance Fund.

Ms. Cooper motioned to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the allocation of \$100K, from the French Quarter Management District Operating Budget interest income earned, to contribute to the French Quarter Business Assistance Fund.

Ms. Klein amended the motion: "to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of the allocation of \$100K, from the French Quarter Management District Operating Budget interest income earned, to contribute to the French Quarter Business Assistance Fund, subject for review of conflict of interest. A second vote was not made. **No action was taken by the Committee.**

5. Treasurer & Financials Report*

See attached documents. The Committee reviewed the revised financial report, including profit and loss statements and budget updates. Staff reported that outstanding reimbursements and fiscal year transactions are being finalized to provide a clearer picture of available funds, with additional clarity expected following the close of the fiscal year on June 30th. Committee members discussed requests for monthly budget-to-actual reporting, the use of "class-based" financial reporting, and the complexity of reconciling multiple funding sources and fiscal cycles. The Committee also discussed the availability of reserve and interest income funds in relation to the City's proposed business interruption grant program, with members expressing differing views regarding the amount of unencumbered funds available, appropriate funding sources, and the need for additional financial analysis before considering any allocation.

6. 2027 Budgeting Timeline*

See attached document.

7. Updates –

- a. Consultant Reports (Public Relations, Program Manager)

See attached documents.

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

The Committee discussed FQMD accountant John Foard's compensation and noted that he is currently at \$16K of the \$25K in the 2026 approved budget line item. The Committee discussed the prior decision to revisit Mr. Foard's compensation, as additional responsibilities and workload increased. **Heidi Raines made a motion to recommend to the Board of Commissioners approval of a \$7K increase to the accountant budget line item for 2026, totaling at \$32K. Ms. Klein seconded the motion, and it was approved.**

Chair Alex Fein and Vice-Chair Ms. Cooper will be exploring options for alternate financial/accounting consultants for the FQMD for 2027.

9. Adjournment

Ms. Klein made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Cooper seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 2 PM.

The next scheduled meeting date of the Committee is Thursday, July 23rd, 2026, at 3 PM.



Re: FQMD Proposal – City of New Orleans Business Interruption Fund
To: FQMD Board of Commissioners
From: Leo John Arnet, Mayor's Office, Director of Policy and Research
Date: Tuesday, June 16, 2026

1. **Name of FQMD Board Sponsor**

2. **Organization Information**

- Organization name: City of New Orleans, Office of Mayor Helena Moreno
- Primary contact: Leo John Arnett
- Title: Director of Policy and Research
- Phone: 504-874-4268
- Email: Leo.Arnett@nola.gov
- Organization type: City Government

3. **Project Overview**

- Project Title: Business Interruption Fund
- Amount requested from FQMD: \$100,000
- Total Project Budget: \$250,000
- Project Period: June 2026 through September 2026
- Executive Summary: The City of New Orleans seeks to establish a business interruption fund to provide grants to businesses impacted by prolonged construction along Decatur Street and St. Peter Street. Eligibility of businesses will be limited to those along the following blocks:
 - 600 St. Peter Street
 - 700 St. Peter Street
 - 900 Decatur Street
 - 1000 Decatur Street
 - 1100 Decatur Street

4. **Project Description**

- Problem or need being addressed: Prolonged construction along these commercial corridors has negatively impacted businesses. The city has seen businesses close because of the projects, and other businesses continue to face obstacles. The loss of business due to construction timelines is a preventable challenge. With tools like financial assistance provided through a grant program, increased promotion of businesses along the corridors, and heightened communication between government agencies and business owners the city can support its business owners.
- Proposed solution: The project – a business interruption fund – will provide businesses with some financial relief, if businesses can demonstrate lost revenues due to the project. With a total project budget of \$250,000, crucially enabled by the \$100,000 request from FQMD, will substantively enable businesses owners to meet bespoke challenges, such as rent, staffing, or other uses.
- Geographic area served: Project will be limited to businesses located on the following blocks in the French Quarter:
 - 600 St. Peter Street
 - 700 St. Peter Street
 - 900 Decatur Street
 - 1000 Decatur Street
 - 1100 Decatur Street



- Target audience or beneficiaries: Business owners along the eligible, identified blocks. Businesses who have experienced, and can demonstrate, lost revenues as a result of prolonged construction.

5. Alignment with FQMD Mission

A Business Interruption Fund sufficiently aligns with the mission of FQMD given its support for Tourism & Economic Vitality, Quality of Life, Historic Preservation & Neighborhood Character, and Public Safety.

From its earliest days, Decatur Street's fortunes and vibrance were inseparable from the Mississippi River running alongside it. While Upper Decatur catered to sailors visiting the Port of New Orleans, Lower Decatur remained connected to the music scene which extended to Frenchman Street. U.S. Commerce also resided on Lower Decatur Street with the U.S. Mint. The storied history of Lower Decatur, and the street overall, is a component of the economic activity, vibrancy, tourism, and safety of the French Quarter district.

The blocks of St. Peter Street between Chartres and Bourbon may also serve as the single most culturally dense corridor in America. Among the homes and businesses are legendary establishments including Preservation Hall, Le Petit Theatre, Pat O'Brien, and historic restaurants like the Gumbo Shop and Tableau. Adjacent to Jackson Square, these blocks often welcome residents and tourists as a front door to establishments that reflect the diversity, vibrance, and expertise of New Orleans.

Today, businesses along Lower Decatur and St. Peter Street are a source of commercial activity, public safety, character, and overall quality of life.

- Stores, restaurants, and historic establishments supply heavy foot traffic of visitors and residents, which provides a level of safety
- The success of businesses along this corridor generates economic return, particularly in sales tax revenue which is reinvested into the French Quarter
- The history of the corridor, with its storied bars, restaurants, and shops, gives character to the neighborhood that is world-class

Active business is among the most effective tools a city has for maintaining public safety. FQMD and other entities often work with local businesses to improve neighborhood safety through collaborative patrols, better lighting, and increased communication with law enforcement. Occupied storefronts, lit interiors, and pedestrians drawn into the street by commerce create continuous, organic surveillance that augment law enforcement patrol.

The goal of the business interruption fund – to ensure the businesses located along the corridor remain open – well aligns with the mission of FQMD because it seeks to preserve these invaluable characteristics of Lower Decatur.

6. Project Outcomes

Expected deliverables: **Grants provided to businesses in the identified, eligible geographic footprint.**

Expected outcomes and community impact: Preservation of businesses along these corridors, with no more closures occurring.

Performance Measures:

- Reduction or prevention of business closures along these corridors
- Weekly communication with business owners, hosted in collaboration with Sewerage & Water Board and the Mayor's Office of Economic Development

7. Project Leadership & Partnerships

Lead Organization: Office of Mayor Helena Moreno



Key Project Partners:

- FQMD
- Mayor's Office of Economic Development
- Sewerage & Water Board of New Orleans
- City's Department of Public Works
- GNO, Inc.

8. Budget information

Total Project Budget: \$250,000

Other Funding Sources, if applicable: \$100,000 from rents owed to the City have been identified

Description of how FQMD funds will be used: FQMD funds will be used as grants to be disbursed to businesses impacted – specifically those that can prove loss of revenue – due to prolonged construction.

9. Sustainability

The Mayor's Office will directly manage the collection of business requests and arrange a set of metrics by which funding is determined. Construction along the impacted, or target, corridors is set to end in the coming months. The project will be maintained, or sustained, following the completion of the funded project through communication of project completion and communication with businesses to ensure impacts are ameliorated.

10. Project Readiness

The Mayor's Office is finalizing arrangements with a fiduciary partner to manage the disbursement of grants to businesses. The Office of Economic Development, a key project partner, is also conducting outreach to business owners to form contact lists and gauge financial needs that can be addressed through grants. With this arrangement set, and funding from FQMD secured, the project can begin immediately.

11. Reporting & Accountability

The Mayor's Office commits to providing a report of activity, grant disbursement, and outcomes to French Quarter Management District. This report can be provided monthly, or at the conclusion of the program.

Treasurer's Report

French Quarter Management District
For the period ended May 31, 2026

Prepared on
June 17, 2026

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Balance Sheet

As of May 31, 2026

	As of May 31, 2026	As of Apr 30, 2026 (PP)	Total
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Bank Accounts			
Appropriations	1,193,673.74		1,250,595.86
FQMA	71,658.98		61,530.31
FQMD general operating account	90,826.82		114,047.79
FQMD Patrol	542,660.20		507,721.29
Total Bank Accounts	1,898,819.74		1,933,895.25
Accounts Receivable			
Contract Receivable	14,093.50		88,685.92
Total Accounts Receivable	14,093.50		88,685.92
Other Current Assets			
Prepaid Expenses	19,542.22		23,315.45
Total Other Current Assets	19,542.22		23,315.45
Total Current Assets	1,932,455.46		2,045,896.62
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,932,455.46		\$2,045,896.62
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable			
Accounts Payable (A/P)	98,637.25		140,813.33
Total Accounts Payable	98,637.25		140,813.33
Other Current Liabilities			
Accrued payroll & payroll related	0.00		0.00
Retirement	3,983.96		3,099.80
Total Accrued payroll & payroll related	3,983.96		3,099.80
CEA Membership Dues	64,681.68		56,553.01
Total Other Current Liabilities	68,665.64		59,652.81
Total Current Liabilities	167,302.89		200,466.14
Total Liabilities	167,302.89		200,466.14
Equity			
Retained Earnings	369,218.06		369,218.06
Net Income	1,395,934.51		1,476,212.42
Total Equity	1,765,152.57		1,845,430.48
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$1,932,455.46		\$2,045,896.62

A/R Aging Summary

As of May 31, 2026

	Current	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	91 and over	Total
City of New Orleans				14,093.50		14,093.50
TOTAL	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14,093.50	\$0.00	\$14,093.50

A/P Aging Summary

As of May 31, 2026

	Current	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	91 and over	Total
Bankcard Center (0499)		1,585.63				1,585.63
Ericksen Krentel	12,750.00			7,750.00		20,500.00
Front Row Center, LLC		4,900.00				4,900.00
John Wyatte Foard, LLC	3,876.28	6,252.84				10,129.12
New B'Urban Planning LLC	600.00					600.00
Omni IT Solutions LLC		408.80				408.80
Public Safety Services Corp Expansion		15,113.38				15,113.38
Public Safety Services Corporation		42,600.32				42,600.32
Robert Bejarano		2,800.00				2,800.00
TOTAL	\$17,226.28	\$73,660.97	\$0.00	\$7,750.00	\$0.00	\$98,637.25

Profit and Loss by Location

January - May, 2026

	FQEDD Admin	FQEDD Streetlight	FQMD Operating	OJP Byrne	Patrol	State 25-26	Total
INCOME							
Admin. Fees	82,888.05		75,000.00				157,888.05
Contract Revenue				576,279.76	500,000.00	1,250,000.00	2,326,279.76
FQMA Fiscal Agent Fee			1,676.07				1,676.07
Interest Income			8,744.63				8,744.63
Total Income	82,888.05	0.00	85,420.70	576,279.76	500,000.00	1,250,000.00	2,494,588.51
GROSS PROFIT	82,888.05	0.00	85,420.70	576,279.76	500,000.00	1,250,000.00	2,494,588.51
EXPENSES							
Operations Expenses							0.00
Administration							0.00
Bank Charges & Fees			312.31				312.31
Conferences and meetings			385.90				385.90
Insurance	15,354.00		762.15	2,424.00			18,540.15
Memberships			1,934.00				1,934.00
Mobile Data Charges (Telephone)			794.34				794.34
Office Supplies & Software	309.00		858.91	5,453.43		7,012.34	13,633.68
Parking			192.53				192.53
Rent	2,600.00		0.00			10,400.00	13,000.00
Travel			542.38				542.38
Utilities			1,593.93				1,593.93
Total Administration	18,263.00		7,376.45	7,877.43		17,412.34	50,929.22
Payroll Expenses							0.00
Employee Benefits			876.50	4,533.81			5,410.31
Payroll	42,272.00		12,375.45	20,283.38			74,930.83
Processing Fees			630.00				630.00
Retirement Investment			2,876.14				2,876.14
Taxes			5,910.39				5,910.39
Worker's Compensation			391.03				391.03

	FQEDD Admin	FQEDD Streetlight	FQMD Operating	OJP Byrne	Patrol	State 25-26	Total
Total Payroll Expenses	42,272.00		23,059.51	24,817.19			90,148.70
Professional Fees							0.00
Accounting Fees						12,129.50	12,129.50
Advertising / Marketing			753.48			24,980.00	25,733.48
Audit Fees						20,500.00	20,500.00
Legal Fees			1,759.50				1,759.50
Program / Project Manager	857.50		4,964.50	12,800.00		2,800.00	21,422.00
Website			326.00				326.00
Total Professional Fees	857.50		7,803.48	12,800.00		60,409.50	81,870.48
Total Operations Expenses	61,392.50		38,239.44	45,494.62		77,821.84	222,948.40
Services Rendered / Programming							0.00
Patrol Expenses - UQP/E				63,272.94		608,266.06	671,539.00
Public Safety							0.00
Public Safety Improvements		71,169.20				44,350.00	115,519.20
Transport Unit						12,451.74	12,451.74
Total Public Safety		71,169.20				56,801.74	127,970.94
Quality of Life							0.00
GHF Recycling						76,195.66	76,195.66
Total Quality of Life						76,195.66	76,195.66
Total Services Rendered / Programming		71,169.20		63,272.94		741,263.46	875,705.60
Total Expenses	61,392.50	71,169.20	38,239.44	108,767.56	0.00	819,085.30	1,098,654.00
NET OPERATING INCOME	21,495.55	-71,169.20	47,181.26	467,512.20	500,000.00	430,914.70	1,395,934.51
NET INCOME	\$21,495.55	\$ -71,169.20	\$47,181.26	\$467,512.20	\$500,000.00	\$430,914.70	\$1,395,934.51

French Quarter Management District

Budget vs. Actuals: Budget_FY26_P&L - FY26 P&L

January - December 2026

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	2026 BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Income				
Admin. Fees	157,888.05	300,000.00	-142,111.95	52.63 %
Contract Revenue	2,426,279.76	2,458,500.00	-32,220.24	98.69 %
FQMA Fiscal Agent Fee	1,676.07	2,000.00	-323.93	83.80 %
Interest Income	8,744.63	25,957.10	-17,212.47	33.69 %
Total Income	\$2,594,588.51	\$2,786,457.10	\$ -191,868.59	93.11 %
GROSS PROFIT	\$2,594,588.51	\$2,786,457.10	\$ -191,868.59	93.11 %
Expenses				
Operations Expenses				
Administration				
Bank Charges & Fees	312.31	200.00	112.31	156.16 %
Conferences and meetings	1,775.54	15,000.00	-13,224.46	11.84 %
Insurance	18,540.15	44,441.00	-25,900.85	41.72 %
Memberships	1,934.00	3,000.00	-1,066.00	64.47 %
Mobile Data Charges (Telephone)	854.34	8,060.00	-7,205.66	10.60 %
Office Supplies & Software	16,572.36	32,000.00	-15,427.64	51.79 %
Parking	239.94	1,000.00	-760.06	23.99 %
Rent	15,600.00	31,200.00	-15,600.00	50.00 %
Travel	1,268.80	5,800.00	-4,531.20	21.88 %
Utilities	1,899.57	3,000.85	-1,101.28	63.30 %
Total Administration	58,997.01	143,701.85	-84,704.84	41.06 %
Payroll Expenses	99,478.24	329,313.73	-229,835.49	30.21 %
Professional Fees				
Accounting Fees	12,129.50	25,000.00	-12,870.50	48.52 %
Advertising / Marketing	25,733.48	58,500.00	-32,766.52	43.99 %
Audit Fees	20,500.00	25,000.00	-4,500.00	82.00 %
Legal Fees	1,759.50	20,000.00	-18,240.50	8.80 %
Program / Project Manager	21,422.00		21,422.00	
Website	326.00	5,000.00	-4,674.00	6.52 %
Total Professional Fees	81,870.48	133,500.00	-51,629.52	61.33 %
Total Operations Expenses	240,345.73	606,515.58	-366,169.85	39.63 %
Services Rendered / Programming				
Patrol Expenses - UQP/E	828,559.18	1,865,000.00	-1,036,440.82	44.43 %
Public Safety		0.00	0.00	
Public Safety Improvements	115,519.20	50,000.00	65,519.20	231.04 %
Transport Unit	12,451.74	60,000.00	-47,548.26	20.75 %
Total Public Safety	127,970.94	110,000.00	17,970.94	116.34 %
Quality of Life				
Bourbon Street Holiday Lights		50,000.00	-50,000.00	
GHF Recycling	84,239.36	158,500.00	-74,260.64	53.15 %
Total Quality of Life	84,239.36	208,500.00	-124,260.64	40.40 %
Total Services Rendered / Programming	1,040,769.48	2,183,500.00	-1,142,730.52	47.67 %

French Quarter Management District

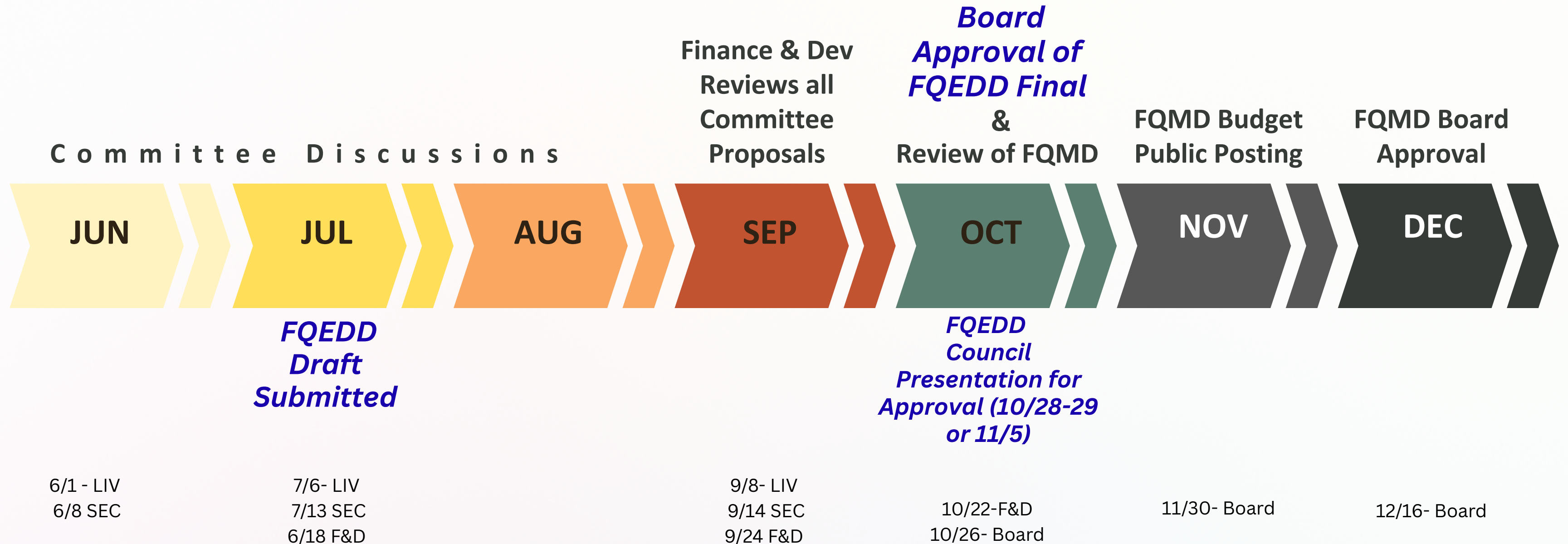
Budget vs. Actuals: Budget_FY26_P&L - FY26 P&L

January - December 2026

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Total Expenses	\$1,281,115.21	\$2,790,015.58	\$ -1,508,900.37	45.92 %
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$1,313,473.30	\$ -3,558.48	\$1,317,031.78	-36,911.08 %
NET INCOME	\$1,313,473.30	\$ -3,558.48	\$1,317,031.78	-36,911.08 %



2027 BUDGET PLANNING TIMELINE



FQEDD FY 2027- DRAFT	DRAFT 2027	2026 Amended	2025 Adopted
<i>Revenue</i>			
<i>Sales Tax Collection</i>	\$3,750,000.00	\$3,750,000.00	\$3,750,000.00
Trust Fund Balance Withdrawal	\$443,210.29	\$443,210.29	\$555,239.90
French Quarter Patrol Program (SPPP)			
SPPP Personnel			Funding
Overtime for SPPP Officers	\$2,063,880.00	\$2,063,880.00	\$1,965,600.00
Weekend Differential	\$392,972.90	\$392,972.90	\$374,259.90
Weekday Special-rate Differentia	\$346,630.41	\$346,630.41	\$330,124.20
NOPD Overtime for RTCC Assignments	\$13,650.00	\$13,650.00	\$13,000.00
Full-time NOPD Supervisor	\$132,158.88	\$132,158.88	\$125,865.60
<u>Overtime Dedicated Community Liason Officer (3 9PM-1AM Fri,Sat,Sun)</u>	<u>\$184,705.50</u>	<u>\$184,705.50</u>	<u>\$175,910.00</u>
Subtotal	\$3,133,997.69	\$3,133,997.69	\$3,110,625.30
SPPP Operating Expenses			
<u>One-Time</u>			
Pedestrian, Vehicle Safety Measures, Signage	\$175,000.00	\$175,000.00	\$120,000.00
Drones	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00	
Subtotal	\$175,000.00	\$175,000.00	\$155,260.00
<u>Recurring</u>			
Marketing Task Force App / all FQ EDD efforts	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
Miscellaneous SPPP Expenses	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
NOPD Training	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Fleet Updates	\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$35,980.00
Vehicle Maintenance	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$15,000.00
Vehicle Cleaning	\$14,000.00	\$14,000.00	\$14,000.00
SPPP Application Licensing	\$89,125.00	\$89,125.00	\$89,125.00
General Office Supplies	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
DigiTicket Lease	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
Mobile Internet	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Subtotal	\$258,625.00	\$258,625.00	\$144,125.00
Other Public Safety Programs			
Unhoused Support	\$310,000.00	\$310,000.00	\$223,642.00
License Plate Readers	\$47,665.60	\$47,665.60	\$47,665.60
FQ Camera Maintenance Agreement	\$56,600.00	\$56,600.00	\$56,600.00
Covenant House	\$61,322.00	\$61,322.00	\$61,322.00
Other Public Safety Programs Subtotal	\$475,587.60	\$475,587.60	\$745,229.60
Other Public Safety Programs			
FQMD Administration (7% of Tax)	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
Total FQ Patrols(100) Personnel	\$3,133,997.69	\$3,133,997.69	\$3,110,625.30
Total FQ Patrols (200) Other Operating	\$433,625.00	\$433,625.00	\$299,385.00
Total Other Public Safety Programs	\$475,587.60	\$475,587.60	\$745,229.60
<u>Total FQEDD Request for 2026</u>	<u>\$4,193,210.29</u>	<u>\$4,193,210.29</u>	<u>\$4,305,239.90</u>

French Quarter MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

June 3, 2026

To: Executive Director
French Quarter Management District
400 North Peters Street, Suite 206
New Orleans, LA 70130

Subject: **Program Manager Report – May 2026**

The following work priorities identified between the FQMD Program Manager and the FQMD Executive Director for the month of May 2026 are as follows:

1. Project Development – French Quarter Right of Way Design Guidelines Solicitation

- a. **Status:** *Active*
- b. **Funding Strategy:** State of Louisiana (\$50K)
- c. **Specified Tasks with Notes:**
 - 1) **Specified Task 1:** Draft scope with DPW input. *Attempts to coordinate with DPW to provide the products needed have been mostly lukewarm, yet failing to produce a previously used scope of work or solicitation for an A&E service contract. Notwithstanding, I have reached out to outside agencies that have completed A&E service work in years past with DPW to reverse-engineer a contractable scope of work. This process is not complete yet and will be discussed with the FQMD 26-05 project development team early next week. [ED needs to review scope.](#)*
 - 2) **Specified Task 2:** Send draft to ED; cc: Antonio for review before presentation to committee in June. *Incomplete due to medical issues in the latter half of May. Also, see above note on Scope of Work development. [ED needs to review scope.](#)*
- d. **Service Hours this Month:** 20 hours

2. Project Development – Street Markings 2026 *(Please no more “Phase II” language on internal documents)*

- a. **Status:** *Active*
- b. **Funding Strategy:** FQEDD 2025 (\$110K)
- c. **Specified Tasks with Notes:**
 - 1) **Specified Task 1:** Outline procurement process. *I have recommended we go with an informal solicitation with the current vendor in accordance with State legislation to close out this effort. Pending decision to engage current vendor. [Per FQMD Board – procurement process to begin anew, with the scope of work specified by # of markings, not the amount authorized.](#)*
 - 2) **Specified Task 2:** Draft contract scope. *Completed and reviewed by Antonio.*
 - 3) **Specified Task 3:** Send draft to ED; cc: Antonio for review before presentation to committee in June. *Partially completed. Scope was reviewed in May by Antonio earlier in the Month. June presentation was not completed due to medical issues lasting into June. [ED needs to review scope.](#)*
- d. **Service Hours this Month:** 12 hours

Subject: Program Manager's End of the Month Update – April 2026

3. Program Management – Curb and Traffic Signage Program

- a. **Status:** *Active*
- b. **Funding:** **Multiple Sources**
- c. **Specified Tasks** *with Notes:*
 - 1) **Specified Task 1:** Outline procurement process with \$5k Budget Assessment: Outline expense for State Law signs on Esplanade. *I have recommended small purchase with credit card in accordance with State Public Bid Law. I have also provided price estimates for signs. [ED needs to review price estimates.](#)*
 - 2) **Specified Task 2:** Draft contract scope (Flex posts, State Law signs). *An initial scope of work is being drafted to address possible locations. Work has been put on hold to address other priorities and will resume mid-June.*
 - 3) **Specified Task 3:** Send draft to ED; cc: Antonio for review before presentation to committee in June. *Incomplete due to medical issues leading into June. [ED needs to review scope.](#)*
- d. **Service Hours this Month:** 16 hours

4. Program Management – Other Critical Projects, Programs and Ongoing Collaborative Efforts

- a. **Specified Tasks** *with Notes:*

Review State and Byrne grant receipts reporting, with ED before submission.

Per our last meeting in May, Sam from JWF has prepared Draft Q3 report for State, pending any last-minute edits we are prepared to submit on Friday, 5June. Continuing efforts to monitor, mentor and support.
- b. **Service Hours this Month:** 12 hours



Robert Bejarano
FQMD Program Manager



French Quarter Management District 2026 Media Coverage

June 15, 2026

May

May Media Mentions

The Times-Picayune | [NOLA.com](https://www.nola.com) — May 19, 2026 (media mention)

Letters: Fading bike lane designations create safety hazard on our streets

- https://www.nola.com/opinions/letters/letters-bike-lanes-new-orleans-safety/article_efc26142-2182-40f9-9951-8712f7d27e81.html

The Times-Picayune | [NOLA.com](https://www.nola.com) — May 5, 2026 (media mention)

Letters: Cyclists need to pay attention to surroundings

- https://www.nola.com/opinions/letters/letters-cycling-safety-new-orleans/article_7939599f-febd-4cb4-bf03-7bece4e900b5.html

April

April Curated Coverage

FOX 8 — April 13, 2026 (curated coverage)

French Quarter Fest Safety (FQ Management District)

- <https://www.fox8live.com/video/2026/04/13/french-quarter-fest-safety-fq-management-district>

The Times-Picayune | [NOLA.com](https://www.nola.com) — April 2, 2026 (curated coverage)

Can French Quarter bars start recycling their many empty bottles? A new program will help.

- https://www.nola.com/news/environment/trash-recycling-new-orleans-bars-french-quarter-food-drink/article_8fdff6d2-22c7-45d9-a08a-484bf94a0a5b.html
- Included in 4/2 Lunch Line newsletter.
- Included in 4/6 print Metro section.

- [Facebook](#), [Facebook Wake Up NOLA Reel](#), [NOLA.com Instagram](#), [NOLA.com Wake Up NOLA Reel](#), [Glass Half Full Instagram](#)

New Orleans Magazine — April 1, 2026 (curated coverage)

French Quarter Management District Launches Commercial Glass Recycling Program

- <https://www.myneworleans.com/french-quarter-management-district-launches-commercial-glass-recycling-program/>
- Included in 4/1 New Orleans magazine newsletter.

NOLA Newswire - April 2, 2026 (curated coverage)

- https://nolanewswire.com/2026/04/french-quarter-management-district-launches-commercial-glass-recycling-program/?fbclid=IwY2xjawR4Y9BleHRuA2FlbQlxMQBicmlkETI4amtuMTltZm9ZYkxobTlac3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHsMrCSJTZlad1Q44e5j49Yeyiy_ku_LQdxiYedAUFh4tZMmpy8mS4en8idmR_aem_YWdncwA0322VaTrL6tn6tbhTOQeK&brid=YWdncwGYvIhTJGUBU49v1FEg2XQB

WWL-TV — April 1, 2026 (curated coverage)

Proposal to deploy police drone as first responder in French Quarter advances to City Council

- <https://www.wwltv.com/article/news/local/proposal-to-deploy-police-drone-as-first-responder-in-french-quarter-advances-to-city-council/289-9319275f-66ba-45fe-96a3-0aa317e48fc7>
- Broadcast on 5 p.m. newscast.
- Rebroadcast on 4/6 6 p.m. newscast.
- **YouTube:** [Proposal to deploy police drone as first responder in French Quarter advances to City Council](#)
- [MSN repost](#)

WGNO — April 1, 2026 (curated coverage)

New Orleans police to use drone as first responder for emergency response assistance

- <https://wgno.com/news/louisiana/orleans-parish/nopd-to-use-drone-as-first-responder-for-emergency-response-assistance/>
- Broadcast on 10 p.m. newscast.
- **YouTube:** [NOPD to use drone as first responder for emergency response assistance](#)
- [Facebook](#)

Waste 360 - April 27, 2026 (curated coverage)

- <https://www.waste360.com/waste-recycling/can-french-quarter-bars-start-recycling-their-many-empty-bottles-a-new-program-will-help->

Tulane Hullabaloo — April 26, 2026 (curated coverage)

Glass Half Full expands with new facility, French Quarter partnership

- <https://tulanehullabaloo.com/74941/news/glass-half-full-expands-with-new-facility-french-quarter-partnership/>
- [Instagram](#)

April Media Mentions

The Louisiana Weekly — April 20, 2026 (media mention)

New Orleans City Councilmembers approve funding to expand NOPD drone program

- <http://www.louisianaweekly.com/new-orleans-city-councilmembers-approve-funding-to-expand-nopd-drone-program/>

WWL Radio | Newell Normand Show — April 17, 2026 (media mention)

Councilman JP Morrell talks about the "Drone as First Responder" (DFR) program in the French Quarter

- https://www.audacy.com/wwl/podcasts/6a31745ac53f4b5c45558e68c01ea651/episodes/councilman_jp_morrell_talks_ab-8278235

New Orleans CityBusiness — April 17, 2026 (media mention)

French Quarter district approves \$250K drone funding

- <https://neworleanscitybusiness.com/blog/2026/04/17/french-quarter-police-drone-budget-approval/>
- Included in [4/17 CityBusiness newsletter](#)

WWL-TV — April 17, 2026 (media mention)

New Orleans City Council approves French Quarter drone response program

- <https://www.wwltv.com/article/news/local/orleans/new-orleans-city-council-approves-french-quarter-drone-response-program/289-8b24de06-5044-4b79-b6ed-15b145d39862>
- [Facebook](#)

WGNO — April 17, 2026 (media mention)

New Orleans City Council approves new drone program

- <https://wgno.com/news/louisiana/orleans-parish/new-orleans-city-council-approves-new-drone-program/>

The Times-Picayune | NOLA.com — April 16, 2026 (media mention)

New Orleans police will expand drone program in the French Quarter after council's split vote

- <https://www.nola.com/news/politics/new-orleans-french-quarter-drones/>
- Included in 4/17 NOLA Business Insider newsletter
- [Facebook](#)

FOX 8 — April 16, 2026 (media mention)

New Orleans City Council approves \$250K drone program for French Quarter

- <https://www.fox8live.com/2026/04/17/new-orleans-city-council-approves-250k-drone-program-french-quarter/>

WWL Radio — *April 16, 2026* (media mention)

“Our sergeants are blind.” Kirkpatrick unpacks NOPD’s systemic overtime woes; explains that French Quarter drones are for “security rather than surveillance.”

- <https://www.audacy.com/wwl/news/local/new-orleans-police-department-2676755050>
- [Facebook](#)

WWL Radio — *April 16, 2026* (media mention)

NOPD drone program approved

- <https://www.audacy.com/wwl/news/local/nopd-drone-program-approved>

WWL Radio — *April 16, 2026* (media mention)

NOPD drone program goes before city council

- <https://www.audacy.com/wwl/news/local/nopd-drone-program-goes-before-city-council>
- [Facebook](#)

Verite News — *April 16, 2026* (media mention)

New Orleans City Councilmembers approve funding to expand NOPD drone program

- <https://veritenews.org/2026/04/16/nopd-drone-program-french-quarter/>
- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)

New Orleans City Council — *April 16, 2026* (media mention)

French Quarter Economic Development District Meeting Summary

- <https://council.nola.gov/news/april-2026/french-quarter-economic-development-district-meeti>

The Times-Picayune | NOLA.com — *April 15, 2026* (media mention)

Letters: Make New Orleans streets safe for people biking and walking

- https://www.nola.com/opinions/letters/letters-new-orleans-bike-safety/article_0d2e7558-b1a5-4b30-b094-578482a5a81e.html

FOX 8 — *April 13, 2026* (media mention)

New Orleans City Council committee advances IV Waste contract extension

- <https://www.fox8live.com/2026/04/14/city-council-vote-tuesday-extending-iv-wastes-french-quarter-trash-contract/>

The Times-Picayune | NOLA.com — *April 10, 2026* (media mention)

City Hall looks to extend this French Quarter trash hauler’s contract. See details.

- https://www.nola.com/news/politics/french-quarter-iv-waste-trash/article_77e437e3-a66b-4acb-ac76-559fbc0d8213.html

- [Facebook](#)

WWL Radio — April 2, 2026 ([media mention](#))

NOPD wants drones to answer calls in Vieux Carré

- <https://www.audacy.com/wwl/news/local/nopd-wants-drones-to-answer-calls-in-vieux-carre>

WWL Radio, Newell Normand Show — April 1, 2026 ([media mention](#))

Hour 2: The French Quarter Management District approved \$250,000 to fund a new NOPD drone!

- https://www.audacy.com/wwl/podcasts/6a31745ac53f4b5c45558e68c01ea651/episodes/hour_2_the_french_quarter_management_district_approved_250000_to_fund_a_new_nopd_drone?utm_campaign=Evergreen&utm_term=20097382301
- [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#)

Axios New Orleans — April 1, 2026 ([media mention](#))

A.M. Newsletter

- <https://www.axios.com/newsletters/axios-new-orleans-cdaed3f7-472d-406d-af6a-7a55bf59362b.html?>

March

March Curated Coverage

WDSU — March 30, 2026 ([curated coverage](#))

Glass recycling program launches in French Quarter

- <https://www.wdsu.com/article/french-quarter-glass-recycling-program/70888729>
- [Facebook](#)
- [MSN Repost](#)

ALT 92.3 — March 30, 2026 ([curated coverage](#))

Think twice before throwing that daiquiri in the trash: Parts of the French Quarter will now recycle glass

- <https://www.alt923.com/2026/03/30/think-twice-before-throwing-that-daiquiri-in-the-trash-parts-of-the-french-quarter-will-now-recycle-glass/>

Be the People — March 4, 2026 (curated coverage)

Community First: How Michelle Courseault Strengthens the French Quarter

- <https://stories.bethepeople.org/story/view/FyR4x>

March Media Mentions

WWL-TV — March 31, 2026 (media mention)

French Quarter Management Board moves forward on police drones to respond to 911 calls

- <https://www.wwltv.com/article/news/local/french-quarter-management-board-moves-forward-on-police-drones-to-respond-to-911-calls-security-safety-nopd-new-orleans/289-e88bc63c-68dd-4983-8a1c-33eb246e6290>
- **YouTube:** [French Quarter leaders approve funding for police drone program](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Yahoo News repost](#)
- [MSN repost](#)

WWL-TV — March 31, 2026 (media mention)

French Quarter leaders approve funding for police drone program

- <https://www.wwltv.com/video/news/local/orleans/french-quarter-leaders-approve-funding-for-police-drone-program/289-27f57edf-8cbb-4ea3-bf4e-5f0b81d0ec0e>

The Times-Picayune | NOLA.com — March 30, 2026 (media mention)

French Quarter board approves funds for New Orleans police to expand drone program

- https://www.nola.com/news/politics/new-orleans-french-quarter-drone-surveillance-emergency-nopd/article_fbce290d-49a5-4708-905d-646ddb9d6e2.html
- [Facebook](#)
- Included in 3/31 Lunch Line and Business Insider newsletters
- Included in Axios New Orleans 4/1 newsletter

The Times-Picayune | NOLA.com — March 29, 2026 (media mention)

Bourbon Street once saw snakes, turtles and an opossum. Where'd they all go?

- https://www.nola.com/news/politics/bourbon-street-new-orleans-snakes/article_cc30dd89-ab13-4408-ad1c-753861479622.html
- [Facebook](#)

WGNO — March 12, 2026 (media mention)

NOPD 'Drones for First Responders' pilot program is one step closer to approval

- <https://wgno.com/news/louisiana/orleans-parish/nopd-drones-for-first-responders-pilot-program-is-one-step-closer-to-approval/>
- [Facebook](#)
- [NOPD 'Drones for First Responders' pilot program is one step closer to approval](#)

Axios New Orleans — *March 11, 2026* ([media mention](#))

A.M. Newsletter

- <https://www.axios.com/newsletters/axios-new-orleans-7769848e-6940-4941-9fb7-a83e6cc5d94b.html?stream=top>

The Times-Picayune | NOLA.com — *March 10, 2026* ([media mention](#))

New Orleans police can arrest people for lying on sidewalks. They're ramping up enforcement.

- https://www.nola.com/news/politics/new-orleans-police-homeless-french-quarter/article_c373b067-c620-4078-b381-09892e2e67f4.html

WWL-TV — *March 10, 2026* ([media mention](#))

NOPD drone program expansion moves closer to approval

- <https://www.wwltv.com/article/news/local/orleans/nopd-drone-program-expansion-moves-closer-to-approval/289-c45c9851-e1fc-4227-a51e-666e2513fb9d>
- [Facebook](#)
- [NOPD drone program expansion moves closer to approval](#)

The Times-Picayune | NOLA.com — *March 9, 2026* ([media mention](#))

Plan to expand drone program moves forward in the French Quarter

- https://www.nola.com/news/politics/drones-police-french-quarter/article_0616fa56-e241-430a-8389-56aefe7a6857.html?utm_source=email&utm_campaign=nolabusinessinsider&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_content=headline#uid=56499ba2b7236f286b324e7a49c90292
- Included in 3/10 NOLA Business Insider newsletter
- [Facebook](#)

The Lens — *March 9, 2026* ([media mention](#))

NOPD floats 'Drone as First Responder' model, raising privacy concerns

- <https://thelensnola.org/2026/03/09/nopd-floats-drone-as-first-responder-model-raising-privacy-concerns/?stream=top>
- Included in [3/11 Axios New Orleans newsletter](#)
- [Facebook](#)

February

February Curated Coverage

Glass Half Full — *February 4, 2026* (curated coverage)

Hotel bead recycling program

- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)

La Galerie French Quarter Hotel — *February 4, 2026* (curated coverage)

Hotel bead recycling program

- [Facebook](#)

WGNO Bill Wood — *February 9, 2026* ([curated coverage](#))

Royal Sonesta recycles Mardi Gras beads (one of 16 French Quarter hotels) **Bill Wood feature**

- <https://wgno.com/video/royal-sonesta-recycles-mardi-gras-beads-one-of-16-french-quarter-hotels/11503701/>
- **YouTube:** [Royal Sonesta recycles Mardi Gras beads \(one of 16 French Quarter hotels\)](#)
- [Bill Wood Instagram](#)

ERPR LinkedIn — *February 9, 2026* ([curated coverage](#))

WGNO Hotel Bead Recycling Bill Wood Feature

- [LinkedIn](#)

ERPR Facebook — *February 10, 2026* ([curated coverage](#))

Royal Sonesta hotel bead recycling program interview

- [Facebook](#)

FOX 8 — *February 11, 2026* ([curated coverage](#))

Glass Half Full Bead Recycling Program

- <https://www.fox8live.com/video/2026/02/11/glass-half-full-bead-recycling-program/>
 - Aired on the 9 a.m. newscast

Recycle Dat — *February 13, 2026* ([curated coverage](#))

Hotel bead recycling program

- [Instagram](#)

February Media Mentions

MardiGrasNewOrleans.com - *February 10, 2026* ([media mention](#))

Let the Good Times Roll Responsibly! Bead Donation Info

- <https://www.mardigrasneworleans.com/news/let-the-good-times-roll-responsibly-bead-donation-info>

TIME — *February 17, 2026* ([media mention](#))

Biodegradable Beads Are Helping Mardi Gras Go Green

- <https://time.com/7379271/mardi-gras-2026-sustainable-beads/>

January
January Curated Coverage

WGNO (Digital) — *January 27, 2026* (curated coverage)

Recycle Mardi Gras beads at these French Quarter hotels

- <https://wgno.com/news/louisiana/orleans-parish/recycle-mardi-gras-beads-at-these-french-quarter-hotels/>

New Orleans CityBusiness — *January 28, 2026* (curated coverage)

French Quarter expands Mardi Gras bead recycling

- <https://neworleanscitybusiness.com/blog/2026/01/28/french-quarter-mardi-gras-bead-recycling/>
- Included in [1/28 New Orleans CityBusiness newsletter](#)
- [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#)

Biz New Orleans — *January 28, 2026* ([curated coverage](#))

FQMD Launches 2026 Bead Recycling Program

- <https://bizneworleans.com/fqmd-launches-2026-bead-recycling-program/>
- Included in 1/28 BizNews newsletter
- [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#)

WDSU — *January 30, 2026* ([curated coverage](#))

Mardi Gras Bead recycling initiative aims to protect New Orleans' storm drains.

- <https://www.wdsu.com/article/french-quarter-bead-recycling/70189998>
 - Aired on the 6 p.m. newscast
- **YouTube:** [Mardi Gras bead recycling initiative](#)

January Media Mentions

WWL-TV (Digital) — *January 11, 2026* ([media mention](#))

How to recycle Mardi Gras beads during the 2026 Carnival season

- <https://www.wwltv.com/article/entertainment/events/mardi-gras/how-to-recycle-mardi-gras-beads-during-the-2026-carnival-season/289-4c78387a-4608-4b1e-9a2e-0eed515fbc4>

The Times-Picayune | NOLA.com — *January 14, 2026* ([media mention](#))

NOPD wants \$740K to expand controversial drone program: 'Drones on standby 24 hours a day'

- https://www.nola.com/news/politics/new-orleans-police-drone-expansion/article_6011a7ad-7a46-4075-b868-bd2ebd27d539.html
- Included in 1/15 Wake Up NOLA newsletter

WWL Radio — *January 15, 2026* ([media mention](#))

Eyes in the sky: NOPD seeks to expand drone surveillance as crime-fighting tool

- <https://www.audacy.com/wwl/news/local/eyes-in-the-sky-nopd-seeks-to-expand-drone-surveillance>

The Times-Picayune | NOLA.com — *January 21, 2026* ([media mention](#))

Here's where to recycle Mardi Gras beads and throws in New Orleans on the route and beyond

- https://www.nola.com/entertainment_life/mardi_gras/mardi-gras-throws-bead-recycling/article_9aa22fd4-f2c6-11ef-96f2-97c1be369cb4.html

Axios New Orleans — *January 26, 2026* (media mention)

NOPD seeks \$740K to add more surveillance drones

- <https://www.axios.com/local/new-orleans/2026/01/26/nopd-seeks-740k-to-add-more-surveillance-drones>
- Included in [1/26 Axios New Orleans newsletter](#)