

Citizens Recovery



C. RAY NAGIN, MAYOR

UPDATE

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CITY DEPARTMENTS

Public Works
658-8000

Parks and Parkways
658-1716

Recreation
658-3000

Sanitation
658-3800

Health
658-2500

Human Services
658-3300

Property Management
658-3600

KATRINA'S IMPACT



Hurricane Katrina was the largest and costliest disaster in American history. More than 1400 Louisiana residents lost their lives. It produced the largest evacuation and displacement of people in U.S. history, almost 750,000. More than 200,000 New Orleanians are still displaced. Of our 188,251 occupied housing units, 134,344 sustained reportable damage, 105,155 were severely damaged. 81,000 businesses were impacted statewide. The city lost 3,000 employees—half its workforce. We lost \$168 million in revenue, 75% of the city budget. Residential damage in Orleans parish was \$14 billion. Total damage estimates from Katrina are around \$100 billion.

What the wind didn't destroy, the water did. 95% of the city's nearly 400 buildings were damaged at an estimated cost of over \$400 million.

NEW ORLEANS INFRASTRUCTURE

Katrina affected our courts, prisons, schools, parks and playgrounds, pools and libraries. Our infrastructure, those physical and permanent installations that allow the city to provide basic services to its citizens were decimated. This includes all utilities, roads, drainage, communications, water supply and other facilities like bridges and pumping

stations. With 80 percent of New Orleans under water for almost a month, the damage done by the moisture was extensive, but as damaging to our infrastructure was the damage done by the weight of the water.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers estimated that approximately 60 billion gallons of water poured into New Orleans. (Continued on page 2)



Dear Citizens of New Orleans:

Historically, the development of the city of New Orleans has defied the realities of our unique geography—a “bowl-like” city that lies below the level of the sea and is surrounded by numerous bodies of water including several lakes, the Mississippi river, and not very far away, the Gulf of Mexico.

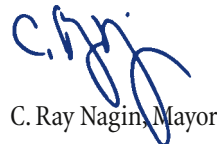
Because of this, New Orleans has always relied on our levee and hurricane protection systems as a safeguard for the development of areas that may otherwise not have been developed. Whether it is swampland in New Orleans East, the lower ninth ward adjacent to the Industrial Canal; even prime areas like Lakeview next to the 17th Street Canal, or Gentilly, next to the London Avenue Canal were all developed with a strong reliance on flood protection systems designed and constructed by our federal government. Adequate flood protection is not a choice; it is your right as an American citizen.

So I ask, if the decision was made to have a smaller footprint for our city, what happens to the rights of thousands of people who believed in and relied on their government to provide this most basic protection for their families, homes and property. These same American citizens, through no fault of their own, have had their lives changed forever by the failure of the federally designed and built levee system.

I believe now as I did a year ago that it is every citizen’s right to return to their neighborhood and rebuild if they choose. I have made my position on the city’s footprint clear early on, even differing from recommendations of my own Bring New Orleans Back Commission. Your vote for my re-election has validated that position as one shared by the majority of New Orleanians. Instead of a smaller footprint we must demand a flood protection system that protects, then all of New Orleans can rebuild.

But New Orleans cannot rebuild until she first recovers. For those who question the pace of recovery, had we chosen a smaller footprint, recovery might be further along. It’s easier to develop green space than it is to develop communities. But the decision to preserve everyone’s right to return places us on a longer and more difficult road to recovery, but, I believe a better road. It is our job as city leaders to give you the foundation on which to return. That means repairing a decimated infrastructure and bringing back basic city services to all areas of New Orleans.

Since August 29th, 2005 much has been accomplished with very little of the promised federal recovery dollars that we hope will start flowing to citizens very soon. We produced this recovery update to help our citizens understand the magnitude of Katrina’s damage, and to understand the daily progress being made to bring New Orleans back and bring our people home.



C. Ray Nagin, Mayor

INFRASTRUCTURE *(from page 1)*

Orleans the day after Katrina. A gallon of water weighs 8 pounds.

Unlike our neighbors on the Gulf Coast, where the water rushed in and then receded quickly, 480 billion pounds of water poured into our city and then sat for almost a month. Simply stated, portions of the city collapsed under the weight of the water, pushing entire areas even further below sea level. Hundreds of miles

of underground utilities—electric, gas, water, drainage, cable and phone lines— were damaged.

Rebuilding our infrastructure is key to recovery in New Orleans and one of this administration’s top priorities. We cannot begin to rebuild communities until we have infrastructure in place to support them.

Where we are

PUBLIC WORKS TAKES THE HARDEST HIT

Public Works many divisions are responsible for maintaining and managing a wide variety of city services, including: street lights, street signs, permits, parking regulations, meters, citations, towing, booting and permit parking. They are responsible for engineering, design and construction management of all street rebuilding, small street maintenance, potholes and striping. Public Works supervises the cleaning and repair of storm drain lines and catch basins. They also maintain all street lighting on major and minor streets.

Despite all the recent progress in providing citizens with essential services, many operations and services that are the responsibility of the Public Works Department received substantial damage.

A LOT WITH A LITTLE

Twelve Department of Public Works employees and 21 contract employees are doing street repairs, as opposed to 37 city employees and 5 inspectors before Katrina. We are averaging 1600 pothole repairs a month compared to 7800 before the storm.

All hurricane related repair to city street lights on all major and minor streets to be completed by August 31st, with routine maintenance patrols resuming August 13th.

After suffering severe damage to underground electrical components, all of the 458 traffic signals have to be replaced. The city utilized two contractors to replace 2,781 emergency stop signs, and many street signs. Traffic signals are 90 % up and running. The cost is approximately \$16 million.

More than 9,600 street signs were damaged or destroyed. United Rental has been chosen to perform street sign repair work at a cost of \$975,000.

More than 3,700 damaged parking meters are now working. Enforcement personnel has increased to 50 persons. Booting is still suspended, but scheduled to start in November, 2006.

The city has 66,700 catch basins and 26,000 manholes. As a result of the storm they collected mud, silt and other debris. To date we've cleaned 62,947 and 630 linear miles of storm drain pipe with an approximate cost of \$34 million.



The Public Works Department is also responsible for the removal of abandoned and flooded cars, which began immediately on public right of ways after the flood waters receded.

Efforts were initially concentrated on main roadways. To date 7747 vehicles have been towed from staging areas and public right of ways.

THE CLEAN UP

Hurricane Katrina has produced the largest clean up in U.S. history. It is estimated that Hurricane Katrina will ultimately produce 22 million tons of debris, enough to fill the Louisiana Superdome more than 13 times.

The ONE New Orleans Tactical Trash Force (TTF) has acted as a supplement to city services and the Army Corps of Engineers in removing ineligible debris and garbage.

The three debris removal services (Army Corps of Engineers, Waste Management, and The Tactical Trash Force) remove an average of 124,000 cubic yards a week. To date, 10.5 million cubic yards of curbside "woody waste" and debris from homes has been removed, 76% of an estimated initial total of 12.6 million cubic yards.

WHAT'S LEFT?

It is estimated that a total of 25 million cubic yards of debris still remain. This includes 2.6 million cy of curbside storm debris; 12.4 million cy from demolition of structures remaining; and 10 million cy of reconstruction debris remaining.



Where we are

RECORD NUMBER OF PERMITS ISSUED

In a typical year, the city issues around 20,000 building permits with a value of \$600 million. Since Katrina, 102,182 permits have been issued with a value of about \$3 billion. We expect renovation and rebuilding to continue for many years.

BUG CONTROL

We're experiencing an unusual increase in mosquitoes. This is due to an increase in breeding sites as a result of Katrina.

Also, over 40 years of permanent pest control projects were severely damaged. As a result, the Mosquito & Termite Board has stepped up aerial and ground spraying.

Since Katrina, we've treated over 5,000 pools, compared to an average of 100 annually. One third were breeding mosquitoes.

We've partnered with organizations like Operation Blessing and the Criminal Sheriff's Office to mass raise fish to continue the process of controlling the mosquito population.

Do your Part! Empty any containers around your property that hold water, and unblock storm drains near your home.

Katrina's flooding has not rid New Orleans of its termites. A very healthy population still exists, and we have stepped up our termite control efforts. We recommend property owners do the same.

RODENT CONTROL

In spite of the remaining debris piles and uninhabited houses, that are a focal point of rodent activity, the city is not experiencing a severe rodent problem.

Since November, 2005 we've responded to over 700 complaints, compared to 1,600 per year. (photos: trash piles, garbage trucks, container holding water)



MAKING NEW ORLEANS GREEN AGAIN

Parks and Parkways has the responsibility for managing, maintaining, developing, beautifying and preserving approximately 2000 acres of city green space, including neutral grounds, four regional parks, 200 smaller parks, historic sites, playgrounds, two 18-hole golf courses and approximately 500,000 trees.

The salt water that flowed into the city had a devastating effect on New Orleans' many green spaces. We lost an estimated 50,000. More than 2000 Magnolia trees died; parks and recreational facilities suffered extensive damage or were completely destroyed, and historic Joe Bartholemew Golf Course was decimated. It will cost more than \$5 million to renovate the golf course.

Parks and Parkways has worked overtime to repair parks and playgrounds as well as prepare for a number of special events since Katrina, including the cleaning and clearing of Jackson Square for the President's visit, a successful Mardi Gras cleanup, and preparation for the Wynton Marsalis concert in Congo Square, to name a few.

Parks and Parkways has received help from a variety of sources: Americorps of Austin, Texas provided 17 arborist to assist with dead tree removal; The American Society of Concrete Contractors installed new paving and landscaping as a gift to the city in the gree triangle at Tchoupitoulas and Race Streets; and the Wisner Foundation and Home Depot provided \$60,000 in grants as partial funding for the replacement of neutral ground trees, first planting is scheduled to start this fall.

To date, we have over 24 project worksheets out for repair and renovation of facilities, totaling \$7 million. We've handled over 1200 work orders for the removal of fallen trees and other tree hazards.

We reached an unprecedented accord with FEMA for the removal of standing dead trees from public right of ways and parks. This is the first time FEMA has removed standing trees as part of its public assistance.



Where we are

NORD REGROUPS

Most of NORD's facilities were severely damaged. The good news is that through exceptional partnerships with New Orleans Public Schools, churches, non-profits and others, we have been able to offer educational, cultural and recreational programs city-wide.

In addition to a successful and exciting basketball camp with the Hornets, NORD and their partners offered a variety of other summer experiences for our kids.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES/2006

- Swimming Pools Open – June 18th
- Operation Reach Camp
- Young Audiences
- Uptown Music Theatre/Prodigy
- Cops for Kids
- Stage to Stage
- Anthony Bean Theatre
- Hornets Summer Hoops
- Youth Day in the Park
- Saints Football Coaches Clinic
- Baseball/Softball/Soccer competitions for over 3,000 youth

NORD FACILITIES AND STAFF

- NORD operated 18 pools before Katrina. 4 opened this summer; 6 will be ready for 2007
- 13 centers fell under NORD; 2 were ready this summer, 6 will be ready in the Fall
- Of NORD's 102 playgrounds, 9 operated this summer with organized sports.
- NORD operates 6 stadiums. 3 were ready for summer camps, with another opening in the Fall.
- NORD's pre-Katrina staff was 240 people. We currently operate with 18.

SENIOR CENTERS OPEN IN THE FALL

The St. Bernard, Berhman, and Treme Centers should be open this fall with activities for seniors.

NORD CAPITAL PROJECTS

- Stallings -Gentilly Pool
- Atkinson/Stern Tennis Facility
- Stalling Center
- Lyons Center
- Rosenwald Center

OPEN NORD FACILITIES FOR ADULTS AND YOUTH

(as of August 30, 2006)

- Comiskey
- Easton
- Hunter's Field
- St. Patrick
- Eastshore
- Village De'lest
- Goretti
- Kenilworth
- Mickey Retif
- Milne
- Pontchartrain
- Annunciation
- Burke
- Conrad
- Cuccia-Byrnes
- Evans
- Taylor
- The Batture
- Whitney Pool
- Bodenger
- Cut-Off
- Donsereaus/Harrison
- Fox
- McDonough
- Norman

NORD TRAILER SITES

- Avenger Playground
- Bunny Friend Playground
- Carver Penn Playground
- Lyons Playground
- McCue Playground
- Perry Roehm Stadium
- Sampson/St. Roch Playground



Where we are

CITY FINANCES MANAGING AND IMPROVING

In October, 2005 we had to lay off 3000 workers, almost 50 percent of our staff, and the city's credit rating was downgraded to junk bond status. By January, 2006 we faced a budget shortfall of \$168 million. This was approximately 50% of our \$324 million budget.

The city received \$120 million for operating expenses in November, 2005 after the Federal CDL Program was implemented, and we began implementing strategies to secure additional money from private banks, federal and state sources. In May of this year, a group of private banks agreed to loan the city up to \$150 million to avoid bankruptcy.

We've had help from sales tax collection that progressively improved from 10% to 75% from the previous year, and other revenue sources like franchise fees and property tax collections that increased greater than initial projections.

In June, 2006 the Federal CDL program was expanded allowing the city to borrow up to an additional \$120 million, the final amount to be determined over the next few weeks.

The Federal/State GO Zone Tax Credit Program, finalized in July, provides the city with an additional \$52 million over three fiscal years to help with city debt.

Moody's credit rating agency recently changed the city's unstable outlook status to "stable." This change considered the city's current financial condition as well as the long term planning in place to ensure financial stability—an excellent first step in the city's financial recovery.

STATUS OF RECOVERY FUNDING

The city has submitted 833 reimbursable projects to FEMA with an estimated value of \$394,235,533. The state shows that 518 are eligible for reimbursement according to FEMA, with a value of \$216,923,850. The state has reimbursed the city for 239 of these projects, valuing \$117,468,052.

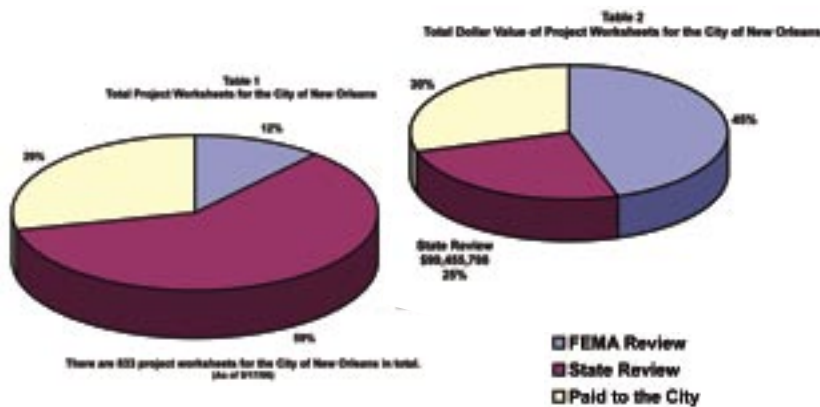
HOUSING

With hundreds of thousands of homes affected by the Hurricane and the flood, housing continues to be a major source of frustration.

Of 188,251 occupied housing units, 134,344 sustained reportable damage. 105,155 were classified as major or severely damaged.

Over 57% of all major and severe damage reported in Louisiana was in Orleans Parish. Orleans parish residential property damage estimates are around \$14 billion

The city has awarded 2500 adjudicated properties to non-profits, faith-based organizations and private developers for development. Another 4000 will be awarded in November, and 1000 public housing units should be ready in early Fall.



Signs of Progress

SIGNS OF PROGRESS

In spite of the tremendous devastation, New Orleans has made tremendous strides in recovery. Here are some other signs of progress:

- Almost 50% of the population has returned.
- 56 schools will open in September, serving 28,000 students
- All local universities will open for the Fall semester
- Four hospitals open
- Half of City bus service restored
- 250 of 350 miles of levees have been repaired.
- 2200 Businesses have re-opened
- 27,000 of 38,000 New Orleans hotel rooms are open
- 90% of Class A office space is occupied
- Metro area employment at 70% of pre-storm level
- Sales tax collections are at 78% of pre-storm level
- 111 flights depart from Louis Armstrong International Airport daily to 33 destinations nationwide
- Conventions are returning with 70% of confirmed conventions retained for 2007 and 90% for 2008. 240,000 visitors expected this convention season.
- The Port of New Orleans is getting 100% of pre-Katrina “vessel calls,” and cargo level is more than 80% of pre-Katrina level

CITY OPENS TWO “WELCOME HOME CENTERS”

In an effort to provide as much help as possible for returning residents, the city of New Orleans has opened two “Welcome Home Centers.” The Journey Home Center is located in Houston, Texas and the Welcome Home Center is here in New Orleans at the Main Public Library, on the third floor.

The centers provide a wealth of information for returning residents, including: housing assistance, education information, child care providers and schools, public safety, hurricane preparedness, job training and placement, registry of healthcare facilities, small business development counseling, and a wide range of additional services.

EDUCATION

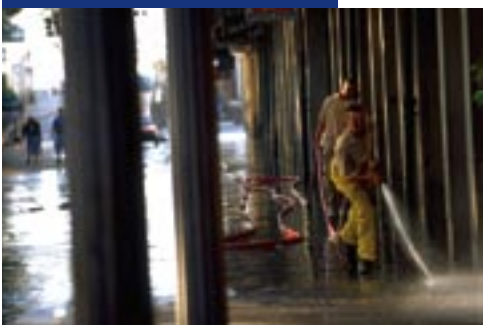
106 of the 126 (84%) of the public schools in Orleans parish were severely damaged by Katrina.

56 facilities will be ready to open this fall to accommodate and estimated 25,000 students. Prior to Katrina there were 62,000 students.

A HEALTHY NEW ORLEANS

Our healthcare system was decimated by the storm. Four of the 10 hospitals in the New Orleans area have re-opened. LSUHSC and Tulane medical schools have also re-opened. LSUHSC and the VA have announced plans to invest over \$1.2 billion in a major new downtown medical center.

Ochsner Health Systems has acquired three shuttered hospital facilities in the area and plans to restore them to service.





C. RAY NAGIN, MAYOR

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(MAILING PANEL)

HURRICANE AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

PICK-UP SITES FOR CITY ASSISTED EVACUATION PLAN (CAEP)

GENERAL POPULATION

- O. Perry Walker H.S. – 2832 Gen. Meyer
- Warren Easton H.S. – 3019 Canal St.
- Palmer Park – Carrollton and Claiborne
- NORD Stallings Community Center – 4300 St. Claude
- NORD Lyons Community Center – 624 Louisiana Ave.
- Mary Queen of Vietnam Church – 14001 Dwyer Blvd.
- Municipal Auditorium – 801 N. Rampart
- McMain H.S. – 5721 S. Claiborne
- Dryades YMCA – 2220 O.C. Haley Blvd.

SPECIAL-NEEDS POPULATION

- Arthur Mondy Senior Center – 1111 Newton Ave.
- Central City Senior Center – 2020 Jackson Ave.
- Kingsley House – 1600 Constance St.
- Carrollton United Methodist Church – 921 S. Carrollton Ave.

- The City of New Orleans is cooperating with state and federal agencies to ensure the evacuation safety of all of our citizens in the event of an emergency.
- The City has established pick-up sites for citizens to be transported to the processing centers.
- Citizens can be processed at either the Union Passenger Terminal or the Morial Convention Center.
- New Orleans is the only city that has coordinated with Amtrak to evacuate citizens on a large-scale basis.
- Sheltering of citizens falls under the State. Shelters must be located north of I-10.

Katrina Facts

- People Displaced – 750,000
- Homes Affected – 204,463
- Homes Flooded – 160,000
- Housing Units w/Severe Damage – 106,428
- Housing Units w/Major Damage – 98,035
- Businesses Impacted – 81,000
- Businesses w/Catastrophic Damage – 18,752
- Jobs Lost – 220,000
- Coastline Lost – 118 square miles
- Students Displaced – 175,809
- Teachers Displaced – 12,000
- Schools Damaged – 875
- Schools Destroyed – 40
- Hospitals Damaged – 141
- Hospitals Closed – 30
- Abandoned/Flooded Cars – 350,000 +
- Katrina's Estimated Debris – 22 million tons
- People Living in FEMA Trailers (As of July 21, statewide) – 59,853
- Population Estimate (Orleans Parish) – 200,000
- Population Loss (Orleans Parish) – 250,000
- Projected Economic Loss (statewide) - \$50-\$70 Billion

*Total Loss of Life in Louisiana:
1464 and counting*