

## LIVABILITY COMMITTEE

### Meeting Notes

Monday, 3 June 2024, 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 3:00 pm and the agenda was read into the record.

ROLL CALL: COMMITTEE MEMBERS				
First Name	Last Name	Present	Absent	Approve April & May Meeting Notes
Madison	Charleston	X		-
Rene	Fransen	X		Yes
Mamie	Gasperecz	X		Yes
Erin	Holmes	X		Yes
Christian	Pendleton		X	-
Graham	Williams	X		Yes
Antonio	Carbone	X		Yes

INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES: GUESTS		
First Name	Last Name	Role
Karley	Frankic	FQMD Executive Director
Shelby	Ursu	FQMD Coordinator
Robert	Bejarano	FQMD Program Manager
Alex	Dunkenberger	City's CAO Office
Gretchen	Byers	VCPOA
Chad	Pellerin	Resident

2. Public Comment:

No written public comment was received.

3. Motion – Consider a motion to approve the April and May meeting notes

**Rene Fransen motioned to approve the April and May meeting notes. Antonio Carbone seconded the motion, and it was approved.**

4. Committee Chair's Comments

Chair Mamie Gasperecz thanked the Committee for their attendance and reported that the July Committee meeting will be canceled.

5. Discussion – Discussion by Committee of 2025 "Parking Lot" for French Quarter Economic Development District Budget

Karley Frankic reported that the French Quarter Economic Development District (FQEDD) budget process will begin earlier this year. She said that this budget funds the Supplemental Police Patrol Program and other public safety programs, including homeless assistance services. She stated that each Committee is being asked to create a wish list of items to consider for the

2025 budget and submit their ideas to their Committee Chair and Vice-Chair. Ms. Frankic informed the Committee that streetlight repairs are in the 2024 budget. Ms. Gasperecz asked what the timeline is for the budget process. Ms. Frankic answered that ideas will be collected over the next month, and by the end of July the first rough draft of the budget will be created for revisions and refinement. She stated that the budget draft will then be sent to the Board of Commissioners in September for approval and to the City Council in October and finalized in November. Ms. Gasperecz asked the Committee if they had any ideas to present today. Mr. Carbone said that one of the biggest complaints he hears from residents is in regard to missing signage, including missing stop signs. He added that he would like to explore the idea of installing speed bumps or a similar device to curb speeding. Vice-Chair Erin Holmes noted that she has concerns about speed bumps because of the vibrational impact they have on buildings, but she agreed that finding another traffic calming device would be a worthwhile project. Ms. Gasperecz suggested adding storm water drain management to the list, pointing out that this has been discussed in past Committee meetings. Ms. Holmes suggested enhancing the visibility of the no parking zone areas and fire hydrants, pointing out that these areas were not addressed within the Department of Public Works' (DPW) Project 735. She added increased ADA improvements to the list and pointed out that sidewalk seating and sandwich signs are not being enforced by the City, adding that many businesses in the French Quarter are out of compliance with this issue. Alex Dunkenberg reported that he has been looking into this concern and has been working on getting a team together to approach these businesses and remove the sidewalk seating. Graham Williams suggested adding homeless assistance services to the list. Ms. Frankic suggested adding graffiti abatement to the list. Maddie Charleston told the Committee to keep in mind that graffiti abatement can be costly. Ms. Frankic summarized that the compiled budget wish list consists of streetlighting, pedestrian safety, missing signage, traffic calming devices, sidewalk repairs, storm water management/storm drain cleaning, improving visibility of corner zones, fire hydrants, and no parking enforcement measures, ADA compliance improvements, graffiti abatement, and homeless assistance services. Ms. Gasperecz encouraged the Committee members to email her any further ideas they may have.

6. Discussion – Discussion by Committee of North Rampart Infrastructure and Safety Updates. To Present: Robert Bejarano

See attached documents. Robert Bejarano reported that he has received the permit to begin the North Rampart infrastructure work, which will begin tomorrow morning. He stated that the first phase of the project will be the bike lane and corner zone asphalt painting and flex post installations. Mr. Bejarano noted that he is still working on the next permit for the installation of the rapid flashing beacons. That phase of the project is set to begin on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Frankic stated that the City is concerned about having to frequently replace parts of the flashing beacons, but the DPW is working on a list of the commonly replaced items to send to the FQMD so that the FQMD may include allowance for the materials in the conveyance CEA. Mr. Carbone reported that the next phase of the project would be extending the work up North Rampart Street up to Esplanade Avenue and down to Iberville Street. He added that he has a rough estimate of what this would cost. Ms. Frankic stated that because the project should be completed by the end of June, the FQMD's marketing firm, Ellie Rand Public Relations (ERPR), is planning to host a ribbon cutting ceremony in July.

7. Discussion – Update on Supplemental Sanitation – Glass Half Full Recycling for Gulf Coast Restoration. To Present: Robert Bejarano

Mr. Bejarano reported that all three glass recycling locations are now live. He stated that the Jazz Museum will be hosting the recycling program on Tuesdays, Cabrini Park will be hosting the program on Thursdays, and the Historic New Orleans Collection (HNOC) will host on Sundays. Mr. Bejarano noted that each of the three locations will host the recycling program from 11 AM to 2:30 PM. He clarified that the parking lot of the HNOC is where the newest site will be located, which is at 616 Toulouse Street. Ms. Frankic added that along with glass materials, plastics, cardboard, aluminum, and paper will also be accepted. She stated that this program is funded for one year and ERPR has been releasing press releases to get the word out about the program. Ms. Frankic added that a kickoff event to celebrate the program will be hosted in June with more details to come within the next few weeks.

8. Discussion – Discussion by Committee of Additional Trash Receptacle Locations. To Present: Robert Bejarano

Mr. Bejarano reported that 85% of the fieldwork to verify the existing receptacle locations has been completed and added that the new trash receptacles will be delivered this week to the DPW on either June 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup>. He stated that the receptacles will be placed out in the French Quarter in strategic phases, noting that he will be reviewing the priority locations with the Department of Sanitation. He asked the Committee to email any recommendations of specific locations in need of a receptacle

# French Quarter MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

to his email address [programmanager@fqmd.org](mailto:programmanager@fqmd.org). Ms. Frankic added that if the Committee members see any big belly trash receptacles, to report this to her and Mr. Bejarano, stating that these should have been replaced with the new receptacles already but can be replaced now. Mr. Carbone thanked Mr. Bejarano for organizing the fieldwork survey and for his hard work on this project.

A public comment was made by French Quarter resident Chad Pellerin. She suggested getting the word out to local hospitality workers about the additional receptacles in order to curb littering in the neighborhood. Ms. Frankic encouraged Ms. Pellerin to report any litter related issues to the Keep the Quarter Clean email, [quarterclean@fqmd.org](mailto:quarterclean@fqmd.org). Ms. Frankic moved on to review the May Sanitation report with the Committee members. See attached report.

## 9. Discussion – Update on Streetlight Repairs. To Present: Karley D. Frankic

Ms. Frankic reported that the \$150,000 FQEDD budget for streetlight maintenance will no longer be a separate contract but will be rolled into the existing City contract with Legacy and All Star. She stated that Legacy and All Star have provided a preliminary list of the targeted streetlights but lacked important details, adding that she is waiting on an update from Mr. Smith regarding the clarifications. Ms. Frankic reported that a draft Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) between the City and the FQMD has been created that would permit the FQMD to repair City-owned assets, including streetlights. She pointed out that this CEA does not obligate the FQMD but would allow the FQMD to repair the assets if the funding is made available. Ms. Frankic added that the draft has been reviewed by the FQMD attorney and will move forward to be reviewed at the Finance and Development Committee meeting.

Mr. Carbone asked if there would be a way to create a standard for the streetlight temperature so that the lights are a warmer tone compared to the blue-toned LED lights as well as making the bulbs translucent instead of transparent, noting that he has heard a lot of negative feedback from residents about the streetlighting temperature. Ms. Frankic stated that the DPW has a list of specifications for streetlights, and she will share this list with Mr. Carbone.

## 10. Discussion – Update on Super Gras Subcommittee. To Present: Karley D. Frankic

Ms. Frankic reported that the FQMD has been invited to participate in the Super Gras subcommittees that meet Mondays and Wednesdays weekly to discuss preparations specific to the French Quarter ahead of the 2025 Super Bowl and Carnival season. She stated that a part of the preparations would be repaving Chartres Street and Conti Street, with the 600 block of Conti being repaved before the Super Bowl and the 500 block afterwards. Ms. Frankic reported that there is \$1M of funding for sidewalk repairs in the French Quarter, with \$250,000 micro-contracts available for specialty materials like brick and \$250,000 available for concrete. Ms. Frankic added that the sidewalk repairs will first be focused on pedestrian-heavy corridors, and she noted that the micro-contracts are targeted to smaller repairs instead of entire blocks. She informed the Committee that the Hard Rock Hotel site is high on the list of the City's priorities in preparations for the Super Bowl. Ms. Frankic will send the Committee the latest Super Gras slide deck reports.

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

Mr. Carbone reported that he has been working with FQMD Commissioner Sue Klein to revive a North Rampart project that would be focused on designating the street as a non-truck route to improve safety measures.

## 12. Next Meeting Date:

The next scheduled meeting of the Committee is Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 3:00 pm.

## 13. Adjournment

**Mr. Williams made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Holmes seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:53 pm.**

# North Rampart Pedestrian Safety - Phase II

Project Summary

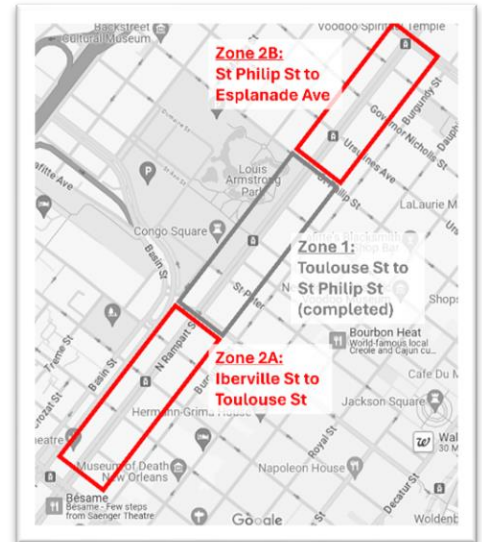
Estimated Cost: \$ 145k

## Background

During the planning and execution phases of DPW 735, the French Quarter Management District (FQMD) identified some opportunities in pedestrian and bicycle safety along North Rampart Street. With the subsequent execution of the State-funded North Rampart Pedestrian Safety Initiative Phase I, located near Armstrong Park between Toulouse and St. Philip Street, the FQMD is now seeking additional funding for a second phase of safety improvements along the North Rampart corridor.

## Expansion

FQMD is seeking to improve pedestrian and traffic safety specifically by installing flex posts at key locations and emphasizing pedestrian and bike spaces with colored pavement at unimproved locations in two zones. These two zones extend south from Toulouse Street to Iberville Street and extending north from St. Philip to Esplanade in the other.



## Objectives

1. Prevent illegal parking on street corners with flex posts at painted curb extensions
2. Improve pedestrian safety by creating better visibility of painted curb extensions with bright asphalt paint
3. Improve bicycle safety by creating better visibility of bike lanes with asphalt paint coloring

## Scope of Work

### Replacement and Expansion of Flex Posts

To prevent illegal parking at newly painted curb extensions, more substantial **flex posts** are needed to prevent vehicles from driving over or parking on top of them. Improvements to existing flex posts include:

1. Replace existing damaged flex posts with sturdier, higher visibility flex posts
2. Enhanced anchoring methods to reduce vandalism, theft
3. Increasing number and interval of flex posts

### Asphalt Painting Improvements

Pedestrian and bike spaces along N. Rampart St. should be in-filled with bright **asphalt painting**. The areas are currently outlined with white reflective thermoplastic, which should be left in place or replaced.

1. Bike Lane paint is required to be a standard bike lane green
2. Curb extensions should be painted with a brick red

# Projected Costs

<b>Iberville to Toulouse</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Unit Price</b>	<b>Unit Price Extension</b>
Green StreetCoat - Bike Lane	5600	sq ft	\$ 12	\$ 67,200
<b>St. Philip tp Esplanade</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Unit Price</b>	<b>Unit Price Extension</b>
Green StreetCoat - Bike Lane	5200	sq ft	\$ 12	\$ 62,400
Pexco CityPost EAC	31	ea	\$ 500	\$ 15,500
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 145,100</b>



**Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB)**



**Asphalt "Paint" Project**

**Zone 1 - Toulouse to St. Philip**

- 6 RRFB Posts
- 6,736 ft<sup>2</sup> Bike Lake "Paint"
- 3,380 ft<sup>2</sup> Curb Extension "Paint"
- 60 Enhanced Flex Posts
- \$215,502 Contracted Total**

**Zone 2 - Iberville to Esplanade**

- 0 RRFB Posts
- 10,800 ft<sup>2</sup> Bike Lake "Paint"
- 0 ft<sup>2</sup> Curb Extension "Paint"
- 31 Enhanced Flex Posts
- \$145,100 Est. Total**



# French Quarter KPI Reporting for the month of May

**97%**

Of 3x per week and daily pressure washing completed; incompletions due to construction, crime, movie filming, and other unforeseen detours



Graffiti removed from 1331 spaces of public property in May

**99%**

Street Flushing Completed



100% of monthly pressure washing blocks completed

**0**

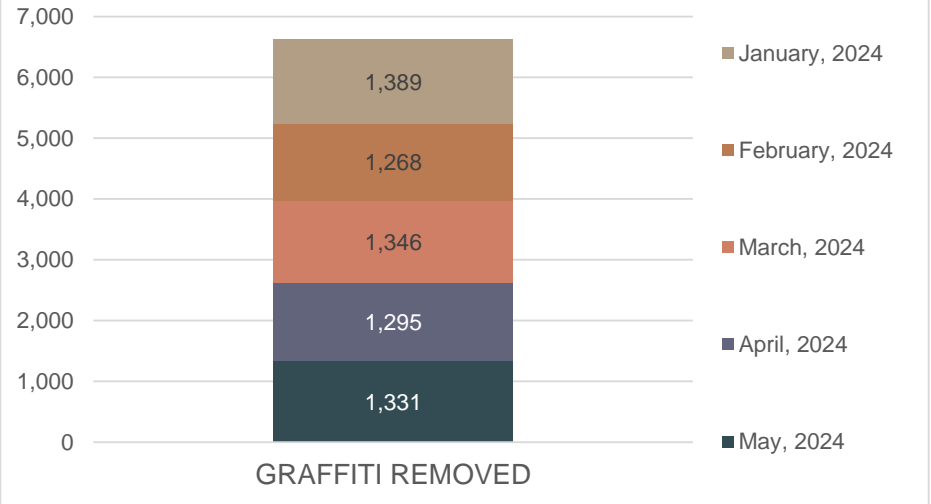
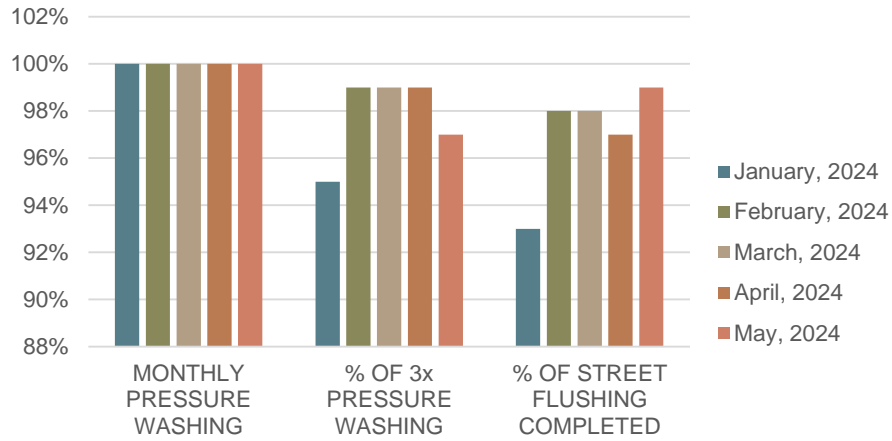
Instances of speeding 5+ miles over the speed limit over 120 routes in **May**



**558**

Detail litter can cleanings by our supplemental crew

### PRESSURE WASHING & FLUSHING



### INSTANCES OF SPEEDING

