# EAST NEW ORLEANS NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMISSION (ENONAC)

Motto: Uniting and strengthening New Orleans East neighborhoods and businesses

## Mission

The East New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory Commission (ENONAC) seeks to aid the community in managing the inevitable growth of New Orleans East, promoting homeownership as well as attracting a state of the art hospital and healthcare, quality retail and amenities, and public safety, while serving the goal of sustaining an increase of property values and preserving the quality of life and the natural resources of the New Orleans East Community.

## History

Legislature of Louisiana adopted Act 394 during the Regular Session of 2009; and Act 394 (R.S. 33:9100) created the Eastern New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory Commission, Section 1 of Act 1236 created the EASTERN NEW ORLEANS NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMISSION, hereinafter referred to as the "ENONAC". The boundaries of ENONAC are the Industrial Canal to the west, the Intracoastal Canal to the south, the St. Tammany Parish Line to the east, and Lake Pontchartrain to the north. Act 394 mandates that ENONAC may advise the New Orleans City Council, the Mayor and all agencies under the purview of the aforementioned offices, and all independent agencies, boards and commissions of the government of the City of New Orleans and State of Louisiana, with respect to all proposed matters including, but not limited to, decision regarding neighborhood planning, housing density, economic development, traffic, parking , recreation, street improvements, liquor licenses, zoning, police protection, sanitation and trash collection, social service programs, education, health, safety, and budget which affect the ENONAC area.

The By-Laws of the Commission stipulates that ENONAC may present its views to any agency and may initiate its own proposals which promote the general welfare of the overall development of the Areas of Emphasis or Areas of Interest.

The Board of Commissioners of the ENONAC met on September 27, 2011 and adopted Resolution No. 2011-1, which resolution requests the State Of Louisiana not to approve or issue any Low Income Housing Tax Credits or GO Zone Bond for Multi-Family developments in the Eastern New Orleans area until a strategic and comprehensive Housing and Neighborhood plan with policies, guidelines and standards have been made permanent.

#### Vision

ENONAC shares the East New Orleans Vision which is:

New Orleans East is a vibrant, diverse and safe community that embraces innovation, new technologies, environmental sustainability and collaboration. It is a leader in global manufacturing, logistics and distribution, and entrepreneurship. It celebrates a unique quality of life with state of the art education, healthcare and community services, while also providing unmatched cultural, entertainment and recreational opportunities for residents. New Orleans east is a premier community in which to live, work and play.

## **Tax Information**

ENONAC Commission was established by the Louisiana Legislature - also is registered as a nonprofit in Louisiana, and has obtained 501(c)3 designation as East New Orleans Foundation, pursuant to Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. We are tax exempt by virtue of the fact that we are a Louisiana legislature-created political subdivision of the State. As such, we do operate under all of the auspices and principles of a "non-profit".

#### Goals

By effectively combining the efforts of your local community centers under one organization, serve the people who live and work in Eastern New Orleans in positive and life changing ways.

- Contest for a state of the art full service hospital and quality healthcare
- Reduce blight
- Promote beautification
- Purge nuisance businesses
- Support neighbor-to-neighbor relationships
- Encourage economic development
- Work with the City and the NORD commission to ensure that parks are clean, safe and has a healthy environment, in addition to providing adequate recreational programs for our youth and elderly.
- Build relationships among businesses, neighborhood, and non-profit organizations
- Attract quality retail and amenities
- Promote home ownership
- Address critical educational issues that impact the residents of East New Orleans.

#### **Objectives**

- Provide training and assistance for developing inclusive and effective organizations
- Offer resources for collaborative, participatory planning processes
- Organize grassroots participation
- Track, record and report code violators and petition for resolutions from the City to ensure that the codes and the laws are enforced.
- Facilitate dialogue to build consensus
- Work effectively with City agencies
- Enhance information exchange
- Improving the Quality of Life for All New Orleans East Residents and Businesses by:
- Increasing Citizen Participation and Voice in issues and decision-making processes affecting the New Orleans East community, by linking people and organizations.
- Neighborhood Development Foundation is here for you.
- Cultivate harmonious relationships between residents and developers such that development is consistent with the character and history of the area and our stated objectives.
- Promote public awareness and education of issues affecting New Orleans East residents.
- Serve as a conduit between residents, developers, and the City Of New Orleans government agencies.
- Participate and influence decisions in development of Planning District 9, 10 & 11 land use plan.
- Engage and communicate with the East New Orleans community with the publication of the bimonthly ENONAC Newsletter (sample included).



## **Commission Advisory Board (CAB)**

The Commission Advisory Board consists of the presidents of each neighborhood association or organization within the commission area or a designated alternate of that neighborhood association or organization. There are approximately 30 participating subdivisions/neighborhood associations or organizations.

Each member of the Commission Advisory Board (CAB) has available for their review and reference, a copy of Act 394 and current ENONAC By-Laws (revised/adopted Feb 2015) available on the website at <u>www.enonac.org</u>.

#### **ENONAC** Committees

ENONAC carries out its mission through the following 10 Committees and meetings of the ENONAC leadership with the city and other organizations responsible for recovering and rebuilding East New Orleans. Each committee has a Chairperson and 5 committee members who implement tasks in the committee action plan. Committees are also used as the vehicles to practice leadership skills by the members engaged in leadership training.

There are four priority committees in ENONAC that established goals during the strategic planning process. These committees are active and currently engaged in a process to support implementation of their action plans.

- \* Economic Development: Retail and Amenities
- Medical and Health Care Services
- Housing, Land Use and Zoning (HLUZ)
- Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (PROS)

The other committees are organized and become activated when critical issues require discussion and action by the ENONAC body.

- Public Safety (Crime)
- Infrastructure
- Code Violation (CVC)
- Grants and Funding
- Environmental Quality
- Education

## **ENONAC** Committees

• Medical and Health Care Services - ENONAC members represent the health service consuming population of New Orleans East. The re-opening of the hospital and the addition of health and medical services is of the highest priority to residents. This committee is committed to work with the City Administration and other community organizations to support the reopening of the hospital and bridge the gap between the Administration and residents through effective communications and an assessment of community expectations and interest for service.

**Accomplishments**: The New Orleans East Hospital has been open since January 2014; sponsored Affordable Health Care Symposium

• Economic Development - Despite the fact that 64,000 people live in New Orleans East- the 7th largest community in Louisiana in population- the area still lacks in basic retail, community services and economic investment. New Orleans East experienced significant jobs loss since Katrina, but is still the center of the city's industrial base, growing advanced manufacturing operations, logistics and technology employment at the NASA Michoud facility. Another major priority of ENONAC's Economic Development Committee is to galvanize community leadership around high impact community development projects, including Lincoln Beach Cultural District that enhances the sustainability and quality of life of New Orleans East.

**Accomplishments**: Supports the development of the South Shore Harbor entertainment complex at the Old Bally's site; Walmart, CVS and Big Lots have been open since the end of 2013; ENONAC held its first Business Expo in October 2012 which successfully brought East New Orleans businesses and neighborhoods together in a community event.

• Housing, Land Use, Zoning (HLUZ) -The Housing, Land Use, Zoning Committee is to aid the community in managing the inevitable growth of Eastern New Orleans, and to assist residents in having a collective voice for communication with City Council, City Planning Commission and developers, to insure that building codes, zoning codes, land use regulations and design standards are enforced, while serving the goal of sustaining an increase of property values and preserving the quality of life of the New Orleans East Community.

**Accomplishments**: Fought against low income multi-family complex site at Versailles Arms, which is ongoing; proposed a resolution against the location of a chicken coop to produce organic eggs at 13200 Hayne Blvd; worked with developers of proposed RaceTrac gas station to generate proviso's regarding the sale of liquor, security for 24 hour operation and landscaping issues; prevented non-compliant business owner from opening a bar to sell liquor at a gas station at a major thoroughfare near school, church etc.; began discussions on a request for variance to permit construction of a multi-family that does not retain storm water runoff at the old Versaille Arms apartment complex; pending making the Interim Zoning District a permanent part of the City Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance.

• Strategic Planning Committee - This committee is charged with developing a comprehensive plan for projection of ENONAC's future. It includes long-range planning to assist the Commission in establishing priorities and to better serve the needs of the community. These plans should be flexible and practical and yet serve as a guide to

implement, evaluate and make adjustments to the programs when necessary. These strategic plans must reflect the thoughts, feelings, ideas of the Committee blended with the Commission's purpose, mission and vision.

**Accomplishments:** Submitted proposed changes to the Neighborhood Participation Program (NPP) process for more early notifications; hosted a "Meet, Talk and Plan" Forum to a full house community conversation with the Political Representatives of New Orleans East so we could have an open and honest dialogue to listen to their plans, talk about our needs and together plan our future.

• Parks Recreation and Open Space (PROS) - The Parks Recreation and Open Space committee is dedicated to taking a leadership role in Eastern New Orleans by promoting the development of state of the art parks and encourage unmatched cultural, entertainment and recreational opportunities. PROS are serving as a conduit between the Governmental Agencies and the community confirming that the Visions and Goals of the City's Master Plan are fulfilled. We address the local needs by supporting a greater role in ensuring that open space, parkland and recreation opportunities effectively meet and serve the needs of the City's constituents, the citizens of Eastern New Orleans, and those who interact with the parks system.

**Accomplishments**: Joe Brown Park is open and operational with summer programs including sports, swimming, dance classes, etc.; drafted text amendments to the Master Plan with the help of an urban planner to ensure more parks and parkways for our ENO community.

- Code Violation Committee The vision of the Code Violations Committee (CVC) is to eliminate and/or minimize the negative impact that repeat code violations (other than blight) have on the quality of life of Eastern New Orleans residents.
  Accomplishments: Worked with developers of Cypress Parc Apartments, City departments of Safety & Permits, Code Enforcement to arrange a "Sweep" on Cindy Place and Tara Lane to identify trashed abandoned properties and enforce non-compliant owners to either tear down or fix up their blighted properties.
- **Public Safety Committee** ENONAC Public Safety Committee provides advice to Eastern New Orleans residents, business owners and New Orleans Police Department regarding the views of the Eastern New Orleans Stake Holders on public safety priorities, budget issues, and the operation of the NOPD.

## • Environmental Quality –

**Accomplishments:** Collaborated with environmentalist, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice and Public Health Institute to host a summit to hold an open discussion for residents to identify environmental stressors that could affect our health, property value and quality of life, i.e. proposed Entergy project; hosted a presentation of the Entergy proposed Power Plant by Entergy's CEO; collaborated again with Deep South Center for Environmental Justice (DSCEJ) to host an energy forum.

• Blight & Beautification Committee - ENONAC Blight & Beautification Committee is dedicated to the identification and elimination of residential and commercial blight in New Orleans East, assisting ENONAC to serve our neighborhoods to improve their quality of life. Accomplishments: Addressed deplorable blight conditions at Cindy Place/Tara Lane.

• Education Committee - The Educational Committee of ENONAC primary focus is to assist in fostering collaboration and awareness of critical educational issues that impact the residence of Eastern New Orleans. The committee is composed of four to six members who currently live in Eastern New Orleans and are familiar with the nature and operation of schools. All members volunteer their time and talents to enable the community to effectively support the learning and social development opportunities of our youngest residents, our children. The committee meets with the educational agencies to gather information including but not limited to educational programs but also location, size and scale of future school developments. These findings are presented to the Commissioners with recommendations for final action.

**Accomplishments**: Discussed issues with school buses parked in neighborhoods; Participated in KaBOOM playground build at Lake Forest Charter School; Represented ENONAC at meetings regarding new Einstein Charter School at Sherwood Forest and its relationship with the immediate community.

The East New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory Commission (ENONAC) holds its <u>GENERAL MEETINGS on the</u> <u>second Tuesday</u> of each month. The Commission Advisory Board (CAB) of ENONAC holds a planning session on the last Tuesday of each month. Executive Board meetings are held every other month. Meetings are usually held at 6:00pm at St. Maria Goretti Community Center, 7300 Crowder Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70127. All meetings are open to the Public. Meeting notices are posted on ENONAC's office door at 7100 Read Blvd., Suite 201, New Orleans, LA 70127.



East New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory Commission

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