

Council Unveils Streaming Media Project & Supports N.O. Aviation Board, Youth Sports Complex Development at Six Flags Site, NOPD Efficiency Efforts & Domestic Violence Prevention

News Release

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[New Orleans
City Council](#)

New Orleans, LA - April 3, 2008 - Today the New Orleans City Council unveiled an innovative streaming media project and passed resolutions and ordinances supporting the New Orleans Aviation Board, development of a youth sports complex at Six Flags Site and New Orleans Police Department (NOPD) efficiency efforts and domestic violence prevention efforts.

Unveils Streaming Media Project



Representatives from the Council's Cable and Telecommunications Committee unveiled Granicus - the new, innovative streaming media project that will increase public accessibility and track local government at work.

Representatives from Cable and Telecommunications Committee

Council President Arnie Fielkow said, "This is a new opportunity for local government to operate at its best - with transparency, accessibility, and full disclosure."

The goal of the Council through Granicus, the streaming media solution provider, is to develop a communications system to reach displaced citizens, streamline and make more cost effective the necessary government processes related to meetings, make the business of public meetings more transparent and make the actions taken at meetings more easily available to the public.

"By being more proactive and implementing this streaming media project, this Council is sending a strong message to the rest of the world - New Orleans' commerce and government are thriving and keeping citizens in the diaspora engaged in the recovery of their city," said Cable and Telecommunications Committee Chairman, Councilmember James Carter.

This new technology is changing the way the public views and participates in the government process by providing the general public easy access to information and public documents.

Supports New Orleans Aviation Board



New Orleans Aviation Board
Representatives

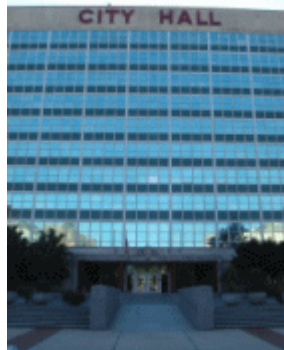
The Council passed Resolution R-08-153 authorizing the New Orleans Aviation Board to undertake construction of a consolidated rental car facility. Since Hurricane Katrina, during peak demand periods, there are fewer rental cars available than

those requested by rental car customers.

The New Orleans Aviation Board, in conjunction with rental car companies, proposed to build a four-story consolidated rental car facility. The facility will provide rental car customers with facilities on the ground floor and three additional floors containing 2,600 rental car spaces.

Construction of the four-story consolidated rental car facility will commence in December 2010.

Supports Development of Youth Sports Complex at Six Flags Site



The Council unanimously passed Resolution R-08-162 requesting that the New Orleans delegation to the Louisiana Legislature include sufficient development funding in the State Capital Outlay bill for a potential youth sports complex in eastern New Orleans.

This Resolution reflects the Council's belief that the development funding is crucial to moving this project forward and members of the Louisiana Legislature have expressed a desire to lead this effort in the current Regular Legislative Session.

The Council emphasized that a youth sports complex at the Six Flags site would be a potential economic development and recreation benefit for New Orleans and a catalyst for the recovery of eastern New Orleans.

The City has issued a Request for Proposals for a feasibility study for the development of a youth sports complex at the Six Flags site. The complex would be suitable for recreational and/or community-oriented uses that support the best and highest use of the land.

Commends Sheriff Gusman and NOPD Domestic Violence Prevention



The Council passed Resolution R-08-164 demonstrating its appreciation for Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff Marlin Gusman for his commitment to the support and protection of victims of domestic violence through the implementation of the Louisiana Automated Victim Notification System (LAVNS).

LAVNS enables domestic violence victims to easily determine when their abuser has been released from prison.

The Council also expressed their appreciation for NOPD Superintendent Warren Riley's dedication to the protection of victims of domestic violence through the implementation of accountability training.

In light of the V-Day celebrations that will be held in New Orleans, April 11-12, 2008, the Council emphasized that ending violence against women is a top priority in both the New Orleans community and the state of Louisiana.

V-Day is an organized response against violence towards women throughout the globe, with the goal of achieving a world in which women and girls live safely and freely.

Supports NOPD Efficiency Efforts




The Council passed Ordinance Calendar No. 26,924 to amend the Code of the City of New Orleans to add a section permitting the issuance of a written summons in place of custodial arrest for certain municipal offenses.

Specifically, the new section states that an officer shall issue a written summons rather than make a custodial arrest except when one of the following circumstances exist:

- The person does not possess identification issued by any municipal, state, territorial, federal or other governmental authority within the United States;
- The person makes a statement indicating an intent to disregard the summons or refuses to sign the summons;
- The person acts in a violent or destructive manner;
- The person is a habitual offender or an officer determines it absolutely necessary to make an arrest.

The Council also passed Ordinance Calendar No. 26,925 to establish a procedure for the issuance of a summons in response to traffic offenses for individuals who have outstanding traffic attachments, and to provide for various penalties to be assigned to individuals who fail to appear in traffic court.



Criminal Justice Committee Chairman, Councilmember James Carter said, "Today, in cooperation with the New Orleans Police Department, the City Council passed legislation that supports Chief Riley's efforts to reduce the number of arrests for minor municipal offenses. This effort will improve efficiency in the police department, and will allow officers to focus on arresting violent offenders thereby enhancing public safety."

New Orleans City Council

The New Orleans City Council is the legislative branch of New Orleans City government. The Council considers and enacts all local laws that govern the City of New Orleans. The Council also approves the operating and capital budgets for the City, as recommended by the mayor, and continually monitors revenues and expenditures for local government operations. The City Council is also the regulatory body for public utilities. It also reviews and has final say on many land use and zoning matters, as well as considers major economic development projects for the City. As a Board of Review for Orleans Parish, the Council examines appeals of property tax assessments for real estate taxes, and certifies tax rolls to the Louisiana Tax Commission. Other responsibilities of the Council include overseeing the operation of the public access television in Orleans Parish.

The City Council is comprised of five districts and two councilmembers-at-large. Council President and Councilmember-at-Large Arnie Fielkow; Council Vice-President and Councilmember-at-Large Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson; District "A" Councilmember Shelley Midura; District "B" Councilmember Stacy S. Head; District "C" Councilmember James Carter; District "D" Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell; and District "E" Councilmember Cynthia Willard-Lewis.