



Media Advisory

June 29, 2009

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Special Development Projects & Economic Development Committee  
To Hold Hearing on Wage Theft  
In Session Tomorrow Morning

**What:** The City Council's Special Development Projects and Economic Development (SDPED) Committee, chaired by Council President Arnie Fielkow, will hold its first hearing on wage theft. The committee is expected to hear from local and national organizations as well as legal experts. According to a survey by the Southern Poverty Law Center, New Orleans has by far the highest incidence of wage theft in the region, and workers have had little success bringing complaints to authorities.

Also on the agenda will be a preliminary report from the administration regarding enforcement plans for the local business/Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Ordinance unanimously passed by the City Council on June 18th. Additionally, the Committee will receive an update on the Naval Support - Activity East Bank Facility (NSA) Redevelopment & Reuse.

To view the Committee meeting agenda click [here](#).

**When:** Tuesday, June 30, 2009  
10:00 a.m.

**Where:** City Council Chamber

**Who:** Special Guests  
- Congress of Day Laborers  
- City of New Orleans Office of Human Relations  
- City of New Orleans Economic Development Office

- City of New Orleans Office of Intergovernmental Relations

SDPED Committee Members

- Chair: Councilmember-at-Large Arnie Fielkow
- District "D" Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell
- District "E" Councilmember Cynthia Willard-Lewis

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## 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.