

Council President Clarkson and Councilmember Carter
Look into Repairs at Algiers' Hubbell Library
At Recovery Committee Meeting Tomorrow

News Release

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New Orleans
City Council

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New Orleans, LA - March 17, 2009 - Council President Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson and District "C" Councilmember James Carter have asked City representatives to come before the Recovery Committee meeting tomorrow at 2 p.m. in the City Council Chamber to address repairs and scheduled improvements for Hubbell Library in Old Algiers.


"The Hubbell Library is a jewel of Algiers Point," said Council President Clarkson. "We need to do all we can to ensure that recovery of this library proceeds at a quick pace and includes improvements the neighborhood wants and needs."

The City's Director of Capital Projects, Bill Chrisman, and Chief Operating Officer for New Orleans Libraries Rica Trigs will appear before the committee, which is co-chaired by the Council President and District "E" Councilmember Cynthia Willard-Lewis.

"The revitalization of Hubbell Library is a top priority for the Algiers Point neighborhood," said Councilmember Carter. "I'd like to see this project completed as quickly as possible."

Hubbell Library, located at 725 Pelican Ave., was open for a short time after Hurricane Katrina, only to be closed due to discovered disrepair. The City has the library slated to receive more than \$1 million in funds for those repairs.

The historic Hubbell Library first opened its doors in December of 1907 as one of five community libraries built in New Orleans through the generosity of American philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. The library enjoyed several thriving decades before closing in 1965 due to damage from Hurricane Betsy. In the 1970s, Cita Isabel Dennis Hubbell, a native of Algiers, led the effort to see the library reopened.



She was successful, and, after her death in 2001, City leaders - including Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson, while serving as District "C" Councilmember - led the campaign to have the library named in her honor.

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 Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson; Council Vice-President and Councilmember-at-Large Arnie Fielkow; 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.