

Councilmember-at-Large Fielkow Supports the Future of UNO Athletics and Programs

News Release

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New Orleans, LA - May 5, 2009 - At the Thursday, May 7th regular New Orleans City Council meeting, Council Vice President Arnie Fielkow will introduce Resolution R-09-219 which calls on the local business community to join with government and citizens to work with the University of New Orleans to preserve the educational and athletic programs currently being cut under the proposed State budget.

Council Vice President Fielkow says, "The University of New Orleans is one of the primary institutions providing college educational opportunities to students in the metropolitan New Orleans area, and it has served as a major economic development catalyst in the region since Hurricane Katrina. The current budget proposed by the Governor calls for deep cuts in higher education that will be extremely harmful to local institutions of higher learning."

Intercollegiate athletics play an integral role in post-secondary education and often provide the financial and motivational means by which many students, particularly low income students, are able to gain a college education.

The Resolution will be brought up for a full vote before the City Council this Thursday.

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.