

Council Holds Public Information Briefing Summarizing 2008 Council Planning Retreat

News Release

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New Orleans, LA - October 10, 2008 - Today the New Orleans City Council held a public information briefing at the InterContinental New Orleans hotel, summarizing the 2008 Council Planning Retreat.

Items addressed in the Retreat and discussed in the public information briefing included 2008 policy initiatives and concerns; implementation results and forward activity; and development of 2009 policy initiatives and concerns.

Looking forward, the Council collectively will develop and prioritize 2009 policy initiatives and timelines.

A final 2009 legislative agenda will be finalized by February 15, 2009.

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.