

O.T. ON THE ISSUES

MOVING OUR COMMUNITY FORWARD



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/ NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT

Economic Development must be a priority to bring business and sustainable growth to New Orleans East and the lower 9th Ward.

Zoning Requirements

For years the city has been overhauling and trying to improve its comprehensive zoning ordinance and land-use laws transparently.

O. T.'s plan:

- Rezone to attract and erect viable businesses that will remain and grow in New Orleans East. Including existing entities like New Orleans East Hospital.
- Utilize the local hospital as a research development complex and form partnerships with HBCU's to study chronic illnesses to improve health outcomes in the community.
- Offer a mix of tax breaks, exclusions, and fewer regulations in hopes of enticing new investments to empower areas of New Orleans East that are distressed economically. These efforts are practical and similar to those implemented by economically sustained communities in other city areas.

Reestablish Opportunity Zones

For any economic program to have a transformative effect, investors and our city will need to understand the local context of each zone and intervene accordingly. New Orleans East is an area that has undergone land contamination, poor quality infrastructure, and major dereliction. It is necessary to use public sector resources to overcome these problems so economic development can begin.

O.T.'s plan:

- Develop an Opportunity Zone framework with clear priorities and framed with a regional vision. A framework with clear priorities will ensure the implementation of specific economic-development priorities, promote inclusive growth in the East's marginalized neighborhoods, increase employment opportunities, and promote innovation.
- Ensure the inclusion of a master plan that outlines transformation efforts of New Orleans East in the current Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance.
- Ensure that efforts to groom New Orleans East to be attractable and targeted for opportunity funds are outlined in the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance.
- Create programs and incentives to drive economic opportunity, sustainable community development, and broad participation among community-based partners.

Neighborhood Maintenance

Neighborhoods are strong because of good neighbors. New Orleans East must become a strengthened community again, aligned with core values. To rebuild neighborhoods, we must directly address factors that hinder economic growth and affect the quality of life for residents.—for example, the longstanding problem with litter.

O.T.'s plan:

- Campaign an initiative that encourages businesses to “Adopt a Neutral Ground” to keep the community clean.
- Restructure the current Community Service Litter Abatement program that provides collection and disposal of litter, debris, and hazardous material that have been illegally discarded.
- Create campaigns that encourage good “neighbor to neighbor” behavior. Fostering good community engagement aligned with core values will be instrumental in rebuilding and strengthening a community that has been unfairly neglected.