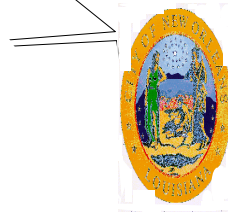


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The City of  
New Orleans  
City Planning Commission

Top Accomplishments 1994-2002



**Prepared for:**  
Mayor Marc H. Morial

**Presented by:**

New Orleans City Planning Commission

Jane Ettinger Booth, Chair

Collette Creppell, Executive Director (March 2001-Present)

Kristina Ford, Executive Director (1992-January 2000)

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*City Planning Commission  
Top Accomplishments 1994-2002*

*New Century New Orleans, Comprehensive Master Plan for the City of New Orleans:*

1. Blueprint for New Orleans Master Plan (adopted 1999);  
Outline for a New Master Plan for the city, based on APA's Smart Growth studies and New Century New Orleans Goals and Policies (1992), guided by a Technical Advisory Committee and a newly formed Citizen Advisory Committee of 41 citizens representing all parts of the city.  
*1999 Outstanding Planning Award by the American Planning Association Louisiana Chapter Large City, for Large City Project/Program/Tool*
2. Land Use Plan (adopted 1999):  
Based on the Blueprint and New Century New Orleans Goals and Policies (1992), with work guided by the new Citizen Advisory Committee of 41 citizens representing all parts of the city.

*1999 President's Award by the American Planning Association Louisiana Chapter, for the Land Use Plan.*

3. **Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan** *(final draft pending approval)*
- 4a. **Transportation Plan** *(final draft completed)*
- 4b. **Economic Development, Tourism, Historic Preservation and Arts and Culture**  
*(final draft completed)*
5. **Citizen Participation Program** *(final draft completed)*

**First Major Revamping of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance since 1970:**

6. **Reorganization of the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance (1995)**
7. **Strategic Plan to Revise the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance (May 1997):**  
*Marking community agreement about specific problems and the nature of the necessary changes.*
8. **Draft 2001 Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance (released March 2001):**  
A new format, updated standards and uses, and new districts and regulations responding to the Strategic Plan and the Land Use Plan, to protect neighborhoods from unwanted change and encourage new, compatible economic development.
9. **Citywide Remapping (initial draft completed):**  
Translating existing zoning into the revised zoning districts in a way that achieves the goals of the Master Plan and objectives of the revisions to the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance.

## Special Studies:

10. *Wireless Communication Policy Study (March 1996) and adoption of Text Amendments setting standards for facilities associated with the new technology.*
11. *Big Box Retail Study (1998-2001) and adoption of Text Amendments establishing standards for development of large retail establishments.*
12. *Research Park Zoning District (1995) – new zoning district to support research and technology parks such as that at UNO.*
13. *Study of Alcoholic Beverage Outlets (1996-1997):  
Revisions to Chapter 10 of the City Code and Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance to improve, strengthening of the ABO Board sanction authorities, and adjustments to fees, standards and restrictions.*
14. *Comprehensive Revision of Subdivision Regulations (1999):  
First complete overhaul since 1949, incorporating new standards, digital technology, and clear procedures for major projects.*
15. *Housing Conservation District Study Committee (1997):  
Establishment of the Housing Conservation District Review Committee with standards and procedures for its review of demolition requests within the District.*
16. *Adoption of Local Renaissance District Policy (adopted 1994):  
Establishing standards and procedures that empower neighborhoods to prepare strategic plans for their area.*

**17. Lower Garden District Strategic Renaissance Plan (March 1997):**

The first neighborhood plan under the Local Renaissance District Policy resulted in major changes in zoning and traffic circulation and creation of a new mixed-use district, and its Implementation Committee continues to meet regularly.

**18. Creation of an Inner City Urban Corridor Design Review District and its application to major corridors in the heart of the city (1997)**

- Carrollton Avenue.
- South Claiborne Avenue
- Lower St. Charles Avenue

**19. Collaboration on:**

- Urban Land Institute Panel Study – Canal Street Plan (1998)
- Urban Land Institute Panel Study – Algiers / Behrman Plan (1998)
- National Historical Jazz Park (March 1996)

**20. The Effects of Land-Based and Riverboat Gaming in New Orleans (February 1997)**

A study of impacts of land-based and river boat gaming, resulting in:

- text amendments to set standards
- coordination of zoning recommendations with Cooperative Endeavor Agreements.
- provision for research on actual impacts, culminating with publication of “

## Review of Major Developments (Zoning, Subdivision and Design):

### **21a. Gaming/Casinos:**

Evaluation of the City's first and only land-based casino (Harrah's 1997)

### **21b. Major Educational/Visitor/Entertainment-based Projects:**

- Convention Center Third Phase
- D-Day Museum
- The New Orleans Arena
- Species Survival Center
- Jazzland Theme Park
- NOCCA
- ArtWorks

### **21c. Large Scale Hotel and Big Box Retail Projects adding over 3000 rooms in the heart of the city and ½ million square feet of new retail centers:**

- Chateau Sonesta
- The Ritz-Carlton
- Bourbon Hotel
- Albertson's in Central City
- Wal-Mart Superstores in Algiers and Lower Garden District

### **21d. New Housing, Large Subdivisions, Planned Unit Developments:**

- Expansions of English Turn and Lake Carmel
- Aurora Riverside
- Mitchell Homes
- Algiers Point Riverside

- New Basin
- Fairway Estates
- McKendall Estates
- Hope VI Housing Redevelopment Programs – review of concept plans and/or zoning cases for Desire, Florida and St. Thomas Housing Developments.

**New Orleans Geographic Information System (NOGIS):**

**22a. Conversion of Mapping Systems to Digital Spatial Databases (1997 to present):**

*Created and maintained the technological ability to use a digital, spatial database as an analytic and graphic tool. Made GIS mapping technology readily available to private and non-profit groups as well as to public city and school agencies.*

**22b. City Projects supported by NOGIS maps:**

- Major Streets (official map)
- Emergency Preparedness Homeland Safety Maps (2001)
- Street Paving Block Maps (2001)
- Empowerment Zone/Renewal Community Applications to H.U.D (2001)
- Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community Applications to H.U.D. (1998)
- Department of Public Works Service Request Project (2000)
- Emergency Management Hurricane Evacuation Route (1999)
- Strategic Inspection Force (SIF) Maps (1999-2002)
- Super Bowl Event Maps (1997 and 2002)
- FEMA Flood Zone Maps
- City Truck Routes

**NOGIS (Continued):**

22c. *Maintained eight consecutive years of Federal funding totaling approximately \$4 million (60%/40% match)*

### Capital Improvement Program

23. *Allocation of over \$320 million in general obligation bonds facilitated through Planning Commissions review of annual Capital Improvement Programs (1994-2002).*

### Other

24. Re-establishment of the Board of Zoning Adjustments under the Planning Commission (March 1996 to present):  
Improved its functioning, and provided staff reports on cases and wrote new Rules, Policies and Procedures.

25. *Implementation of FEMA's Community Rating System guidelines (1997):*  
*Flood Insurance Rates reduced by 10% through a community education program.*