

Mitigating the Homelessness Crisis in New Orleans

**New Orleans Revitalization Initiative
(NORI)**

Team 26

Outline

(1) Issue Analysis

- (a) Background Data
- (b) Analysis of Current Policies
- (c) Key Issue Statement

(2) Policy Proposal

- (a) Short-Term Solutions
- (b) Long-Term Solutions

(3) Proposal Analysis

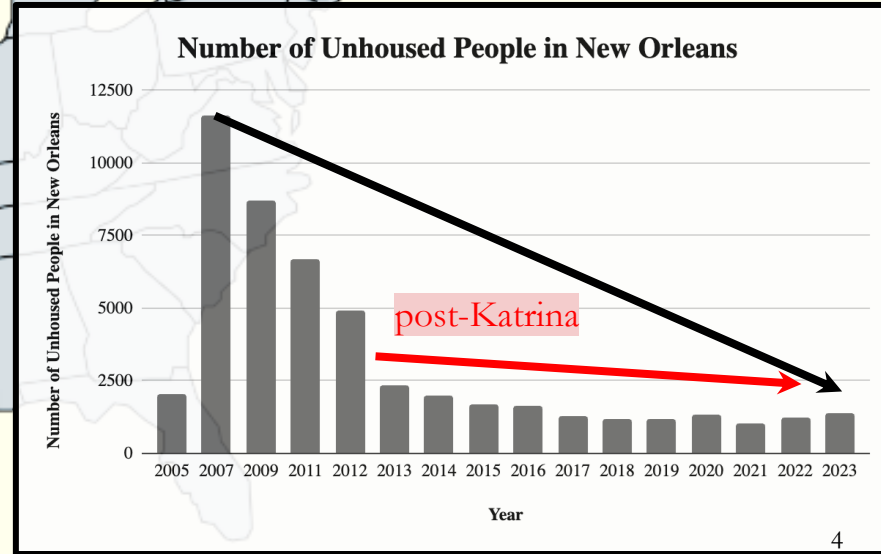
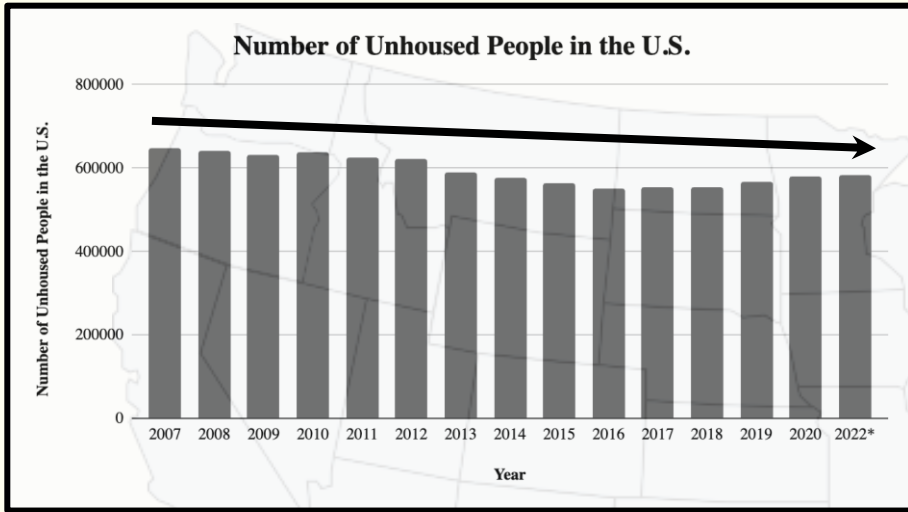
- (a) Implementation Timeline
- (b) Estimated Costs
- (c) Remaining Issues



(1) Issue Analysis

- (a) Overview of Homelessness in New Orleans
- (b) Analysis of Current Policies
- (c) Identifying the Issues

Homelessness Rates in New Orleans [Data]



Cost of Living for Renters in New Orleans



Average Americans

30%

Percentage of Income
spent on rent



Average Louisianians

35.6%

Percent below
poverty rate

11.6%



Average New Orleanians

44%

18.6%

21%

Note 1: Cost of Living and percentage of income spent on rent is significantly higher in New Orleans and Louisiana in general.

Note 2: The economic state of New Orleans is unwell and needs some revitalization.

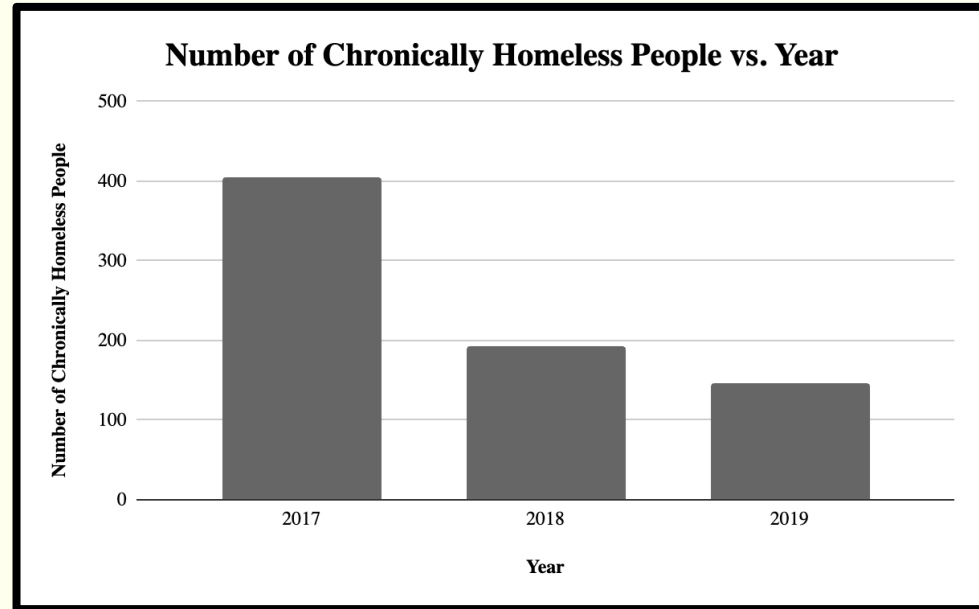
Vacant Home Rates

Rank	City	% Vacant	Total Housing Units	Total Occupied	Vacant Units
-	United States	11.60%	138,432,751	122,354,219	16,078,532
1	Orlando, FL	15.27%	1,054,209	893,257	160,952
2	Miami, FL	14.75%	2,548,767	2,172,740	376,027
3	Tampa, FL	13.71%	1,436,297	1,239,349	196,948
4	Birmingham, AL	13.23%	487,435	422,926	64,509
5	New Orleans, LA	13.10%	559,877	486,509	73,368

Note 3: Even with the houses that are already developed, due to unaffordability, they are left vacant.

Target Population

- The number of chronically homeless people have been going down.
- The key issue lies in that as fast as the government has been getting people off the streets, the economic state of New Orleans has been pulling people down to homelessness as well.



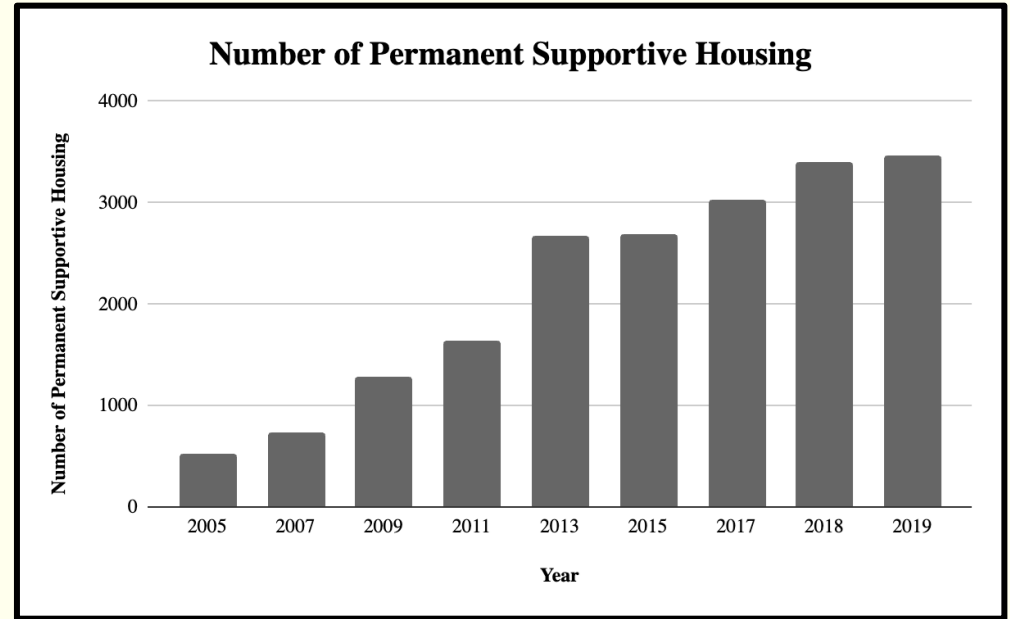
Note 4: Most unhoused people in New Orleans haven't been chronically homeless and likely need a boost to help them get going.

Historic Solutions by City of New Orleans

Permanent Supportive Housing:

“links affordable rental housing with voluntary, flexible, and individualized services to people with severe and complex disabilities.”

- Louisiana Department of Health



Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness (2011)

- The city's 10 year plan to reduce homeless plan to reduce homelessness **was on the right track.**
- The issue seems to be that the city spent significant resources in creating the Permanent Resident Housing without focusing on creating actual affordable housing for people to move into in the long-run.
- In addition to this, while Louisiana's economy has significantly recovered since Hurricane Katrina, Theme Three which focuses on revitalizing the economy, was not effectively executed.

THEME ONE: Increase Leadership, Collaboration, and Civic Engagement

Create the New Orleans Interagency Council on Homelessness

Launch specific initiatives with Department of Veterans Affairs and the Downtown Development District

Institute cross-sector collaborations – City, State, Continuum of Care, business and community leadership

Establish planning and service opportunities to encourage dialogue

THEME TWO: Increase Access to Stable and Affordable Housing

Increase availability of Permanent Supportive Housing

Increase availability of affordable housing

Explore opportunities to reorganize existing housing stock to better serve the needs of homeless constituents

THEME THREE: Increase Economic Security

Link homeless constituents with resources across local, state, and federal systems, including particular focus on income-related benefits

Develop capacity for job training among provider agencies via collaboration with the city workforce investment board and the business sector

Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness (2011) [cont.]

- New Orleans has been effective in improving health and stability (Theme Four). However, the city still lacks key innovative infrastructures that we'd like to expand on in our new solution.
- While the Homeless Crisis Response (Theme Five) system has proven effective in emergency times, the city has **not updated its response systems compared to pre-Katrina systems**. We find it essential to reform these response systems immediately.

THEME FOUR: Improve Health and Stability

Establish and enforce standards of care

Retool discharge planning to prevent people being discharged into homelessness from public institutions

Promote and facilitate cross-sector communication

Examine ways to access benefits from health care reform initiatives and expanded Medicaid services

THEME FIVE: Retool the Homeless Crisis Response System

Expand centralized intake to increase access and use of services

Establish partnerships to identify constituents living in abandoned and unsafe dwellings

Address needs and services specific to identified sub-populations of homeless constituents

Ensure unsheltered clients establish immediate linkages to low barrier shelters, safe havens, and emergency shelters; while also connecting them with permanent housing resources

Identifying the Issue [cont.]

- (1) Cost of Living and percentage of income spent on rent is significantly higher in New Orleans and Louisiana in general.
- (2) The economic state of New Orleans is unwell and needs some revitalization.
- (3) Even with the houses that are already developed, due to unaffordability, they are left vacant.
- (4) Most unhoused people in New Orleans haven't been chronically homeless and likely need a boost to help them get going.

Conclusion: Housing remains unaffordable for most workers in New Orleans.



(2) Policy Proposal

- (a) Long-term Solutions
- (b) Short-term Solutions

Solution Overview / Roadmap

In order to revitalize New Orleans and resolve homelessness, we're taking a two-pronged approach to address four key issues in both the long and short terms.

Long-Term

- (1) Increasing Housing**
 - Partnerships with companies focusing on building tiny homes.
 - Both temporary and permanent solutions.
- (2) Community Revitalization**
 - Investing to strengthen the city's economy and reviving cultural spaces.
 - Creating new opportunities.



Short-Term

- (3) Increasing Housing Vouchers**
 - Energizing the existing housing market and buying out vacant homes.
 - Focusing on support and not handouts.
- (4) Supporting Public Health**
 - Lifting pressure off of current health systems.
 - Improving health systems for homeless people.

An aerial night photograph of a city grid, showing a dense pattern of streets and buildings illuminated by lights. The image is dark, with the city lights providing the primary source of illumination.

(i) Long-Term Solutions

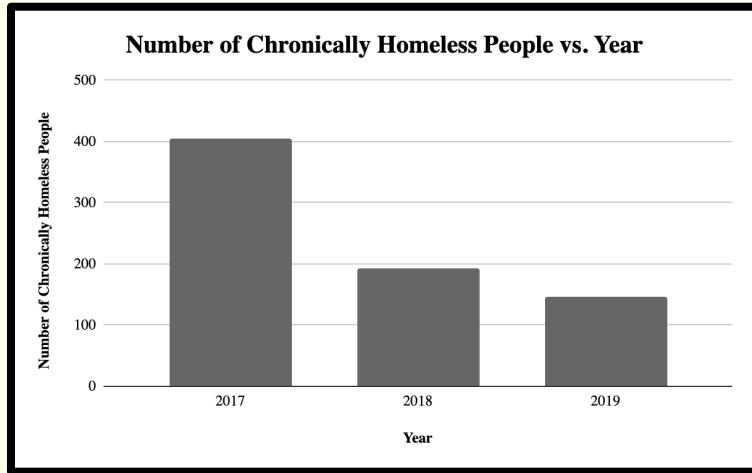
(a) Increasing Housing

(b) Community Revitalization

Long-Term Solution 1

Increasing Housing (Overview)

Issue



Much of New Orleans' homeless population **is not chronically homeless** but rather need temporary support to bounce back.

Solution



Development of “Tiny-House”
Communities

Long-Term Solution 1

Increasing Housing (Precedent)

Edens Village (Springfield, Missouri)



= \$300 per month

25% reduction in
overall homelessness

Long-Term Solution 1


Increasing Housing (Suggested Strategies)

- We are planning on developing this in the Lower 9th Ward.




About 23,600 results (0.37 seconds)


KPTV
Planned tiny home village in Aloha church parking lot triggers protest
People living in an...
May 21, 2023



The New York Times
In Detroit, a Tiny Home Generates a Big Controversy
A program that rents homes to low-income residents, and helps them build equity as homeowners, was rocked when one of the initial...
1 month ago



Newark Post
Residents protest proposal for 130 tiny homes near Robscott Manor
Citing concerns about traffic, effects on property values and environmental impact, neighbors are rallying against a developer's proposal to...
Apr 24, 2023



Delaware Online
Plans for a tiny homes community near Newark interest, protest
Reybold Group is trying to get approvals on a new tiny home community, but neighbors aren't thrilled.
May 8, 2023

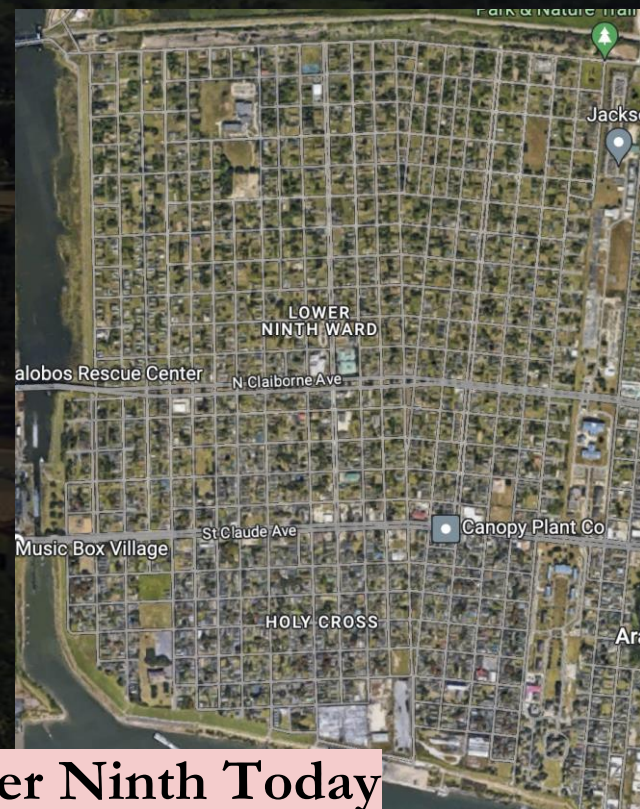
How can we prevent these potential issues?

Long-Term Solution 1

Increasing Housing (Suggested Strategies) [cont.]



2006 Redevelopment Plans



Lower Ninth Today

Increasing Housing (Key Development Plans)

High + Unsustainable Costs

- Build communities with innovative/sustainable materials.
 - 3D Printing the buildings (affordable and fast).
 - Locally sourced materials

Low Elevation

- Flood Prevention Designs
 - Building facilities on elevated platform to reduce flood damage.
 - High flood barriers
 - Absorbative ground materials to reduce rainwater pooling

Long-Term Solution 1

Increasing Housing (Programs)

Educational / Employment

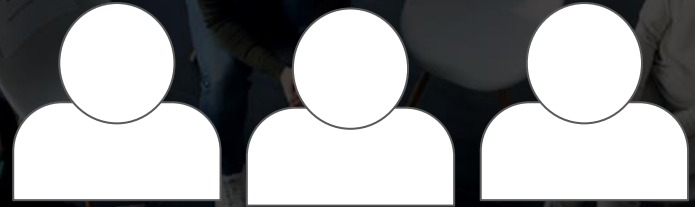


- **Culinary School program**
 - Tested in Denver and proven to boost confidence in homeless people needing employment opportunities.



- **Barista training program**
 - Implemented in Los Angeles and San Diego and proven to provide strong support, especially towards youth.

Post-Addiction Therapy



- While few online sources turn to drug addiction as a leading source of homelessness, we want to address heroin addiction as one of the primary causes of homelessness in the city.
- Plans to provide optional addiction therapy for people in the Tiny-Homes Communities.

Long-Term Solution 1

Increasing Housing (Partnerships)

Private companies

Nonprofits

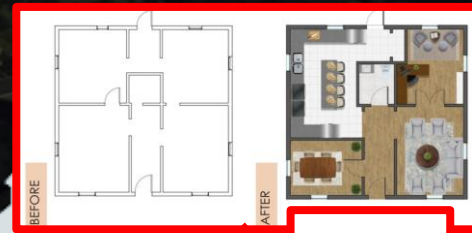


Oakland, Oregon

SF Bay Area, California

High Point, North Carolina

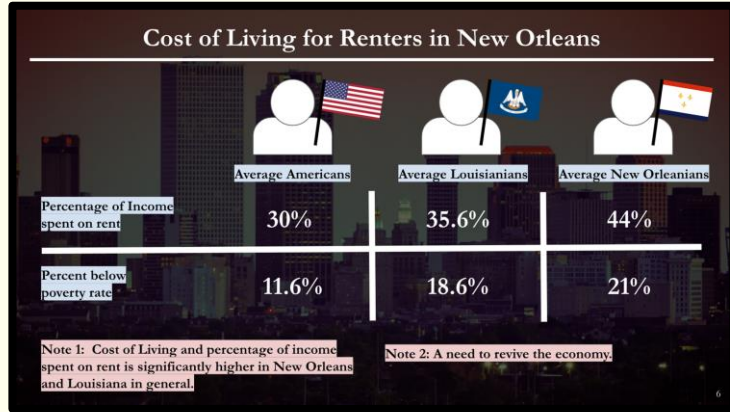
New Orleans, Louisiana



Long-Term Solution 2

Community Revitalization (Central Street Project)

Issue



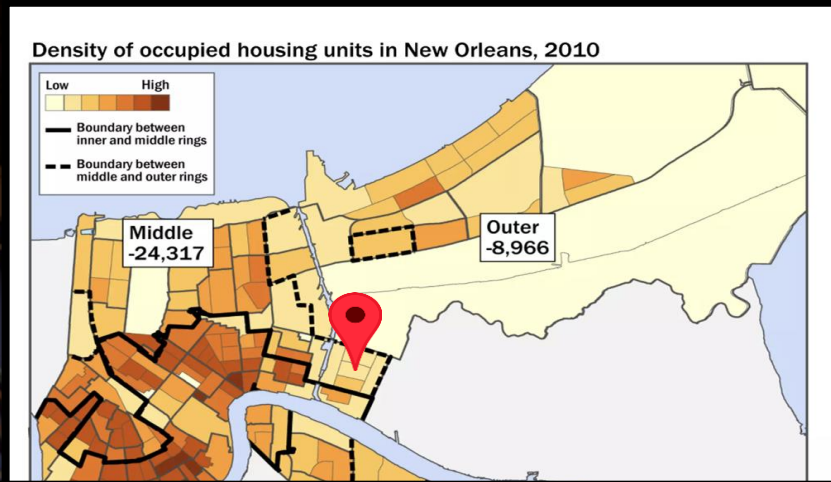
The economic state of New Orleans needs to be revitalized in order for long-term success at lowering the homelessness rate.

Solution

- Development of a new **“Central Street” Project** that would provide new economic opportunities to community members and recently homeless people.
- Emphasis on **walkability** and focus on shops, restaurants, cafes, and access to groceries
- Partner with businesses interested to help split costs

Long-Term Solution 2

Community Revitalization (Central Street) - Location



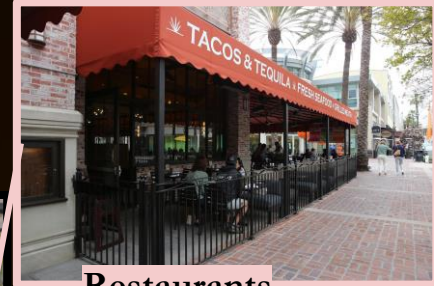
- **North Claiborne Drive** in the Lower 9th:
 - Low density but accessible easily to city center.
 - Vacant lots present near or adjacent to the street that can be “filled in.”
 - Other community spaces present nearby (MLK Elementary and Library).
- Alternative locations include Central City, Florida Area and Desire.

Long-Term Solution 2

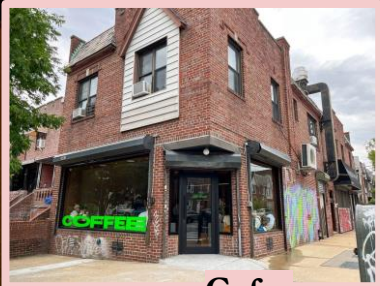
Community Revitalization (Central Street) - Overview



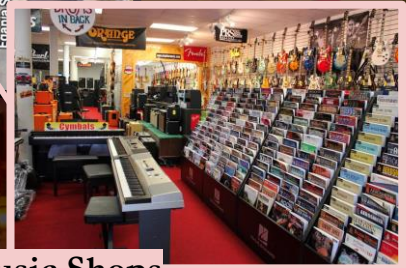
Grocery Store



Restaurants



Cafes

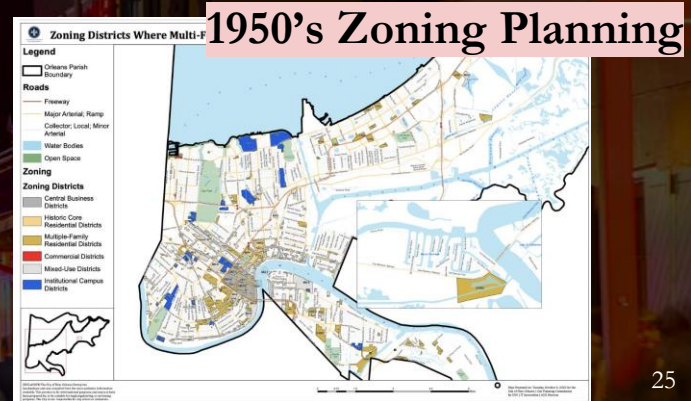
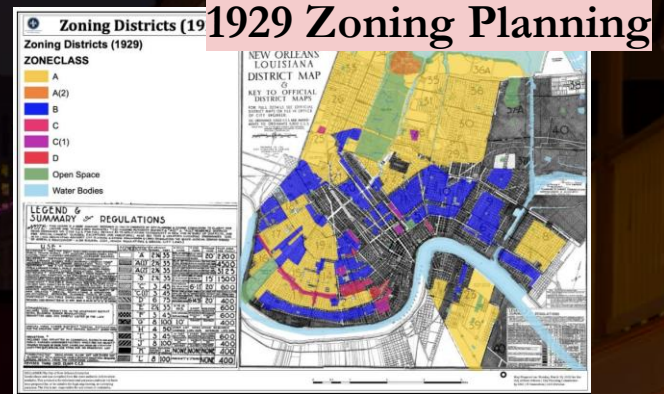


Music Shops

Long-Term Solution 2

Community Revitalization (Rezoning)

- The City Planning Commission stated in a meeting report (2021) that:
 - “Modifying lot area requirements and expanding the areas . . . can relieve pressure on other parts of the housing market.”
- We request there be a reconsideration for flexibility in zoning restrictions in partnership with potential developers and nonprofits working to alleviate homelessness by expanding housing.





(ii) Short-Term Solutions

(a) Increasing Vouchers for Housing

(b) Supporting Public Health

Short-Term Solution 1

Increasing Vouchers for Housing (Overview)

Issue

Vacant Home Rates

Rank	City	% Vacant	Total Housing Units	Total Occupied	Vacant Units
-	United States	11.60%	138,432,751	122,354,219	16,078,532
1	Orlando, FL	15.27%	1,054,209	893,257	160,952
2	Miami, FL	14.75%	2,548,767	2,172,740	376,027
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4	Birmingham, AL	13.23%	487,435	422,926	64,509
5	New Orleans, LA	13.10%	559,877	486,509	73,368

Note 3: Even with the houses that are already developed, due to unaffordability, they are left vacant.

- Lots of vacant homes.
- But these vacant homes are generally too expensive.

Solution



- Continue housing vouchers, allowing people to rent / buy houses that are vacant.

Short Term Solution 1

Increasing Vouchers for Housing (Data)

Housing Vouchers Quantity

Housing Supply	Source	2006 - 2015	2015- 2016	2016- 2017	2017- 2018	2018- 2019	2019- 2020	Sept 2020- Feb 2021
Number of Housing Opportunities Created by City Agencies in New Orleans (TOTAL after deduplication of addresses that have received multiple sources of subsidies)	CNO Office of Community Development, FANO, HANO, and NORA	6,548	572	358	118	304	190	29
Number of LHC Opportunities Placed in Service In New Orleans (TOTAL after deduplication of addresses that have received multiple sources of subsidies)	Louisiana Housing Corporation	10,876	358	35	114	0	1	0
Number of Community Development Disaster Recovery Units in New Orleans	LA Office Community Development Disaster Recovery	53,037	5	7	N/A	0	2	N/A
Number of Housing Choice Vouchers Utilized (Annual Change)	Housing Authority of New Orleans	17,679	18,193 (+464)	18,281 (+88)	17,920 (-361)	17,425 (-495)	17,207 (-413)	17,207 (0)
Total New Subsidized Housing Opportunities		88,190	1,399	488	-129	-191	-353	29
Number of Affordable Housing Units Developed Without Public Subsidy	New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity	N/A	N/A	N/A	12	8	7	7
Total		≈ 11,000 new opportunities per year		488	-117	-183	-346	36

post-Katrina

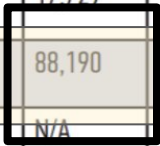


Figure 7. GNOHA's 2021 Semi-Annual Report

Short Term Solution 1

Increasing Vouchers for Housing (Data) [cont.]

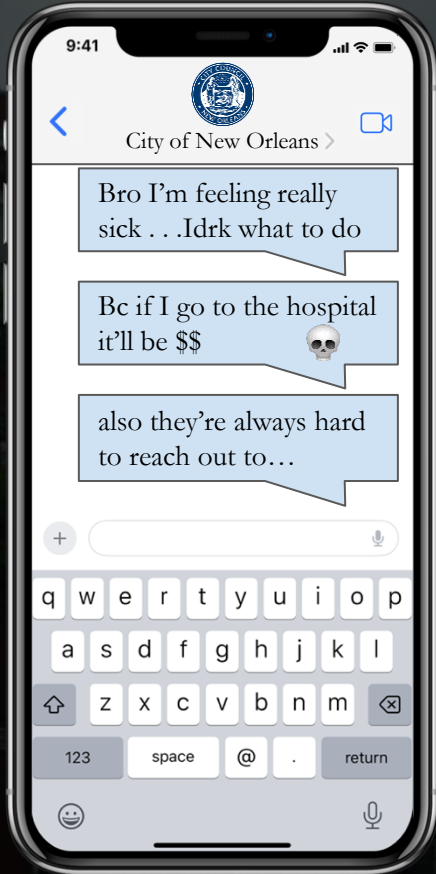
Payment Standards

Zip Code	Studio	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom	5 Bedroom	6 Bedroom	7 Bedroom
70112	\$1,210	\$1,430	\$1,683	\$2,167	\$2,519	\$2,896	\$3,274	\$3,652
70115	\$1,221	\$1,441	\$1,705	\$2,200	\$2,552	\$2,934	\$3,317	\$3,700
70116	\$1,001	\$1,188	\$1,397	\$1,804	\$2,090	\$2,403	\$2,717	\$3,030
70118	\$957	\$1,133	\$1,331	\$1,716	\$1,991	\$2,289	\$2,588	\$2,886
70119	\$1,023	\$1,199	\$1,419	\$1,826	\$2,123	\$2,440	\$2,759	\$3,077
70124	\$1,309	\$1,551	\$1,826	\$2,354	\$2,739	\$3,149	\$3,560	\$3,971
70125	\$1,067	\$1,254	\$1,485	\$1,914	\$2,222	\$2,555	\$2,888	\$3,221
70130	\$1,364	\$1,617	\$1,903	\$2,453	\$2,849	\$3,275	\$3,703	\$4,130
All Other Zip Codes	\$932	\$1,102	\$1,300	\$1,676	\$1,947	\$2,238	\$2,541	\$2,822

- Housing vouchers to be approximately \$1,500 a month for a 2 bedroom.
- Subsidized for 2 years maximum.

Short Term Solution 2

Supporting Public Health



Issue

- Primary care is often unattainable
- Either:
 - Not get medical care
 - Use the emergency department (often having to call 911 to get there).
- Healthcare debt threatens to turn short-term homelessness to a chronic issue.

Short Term Solution 2

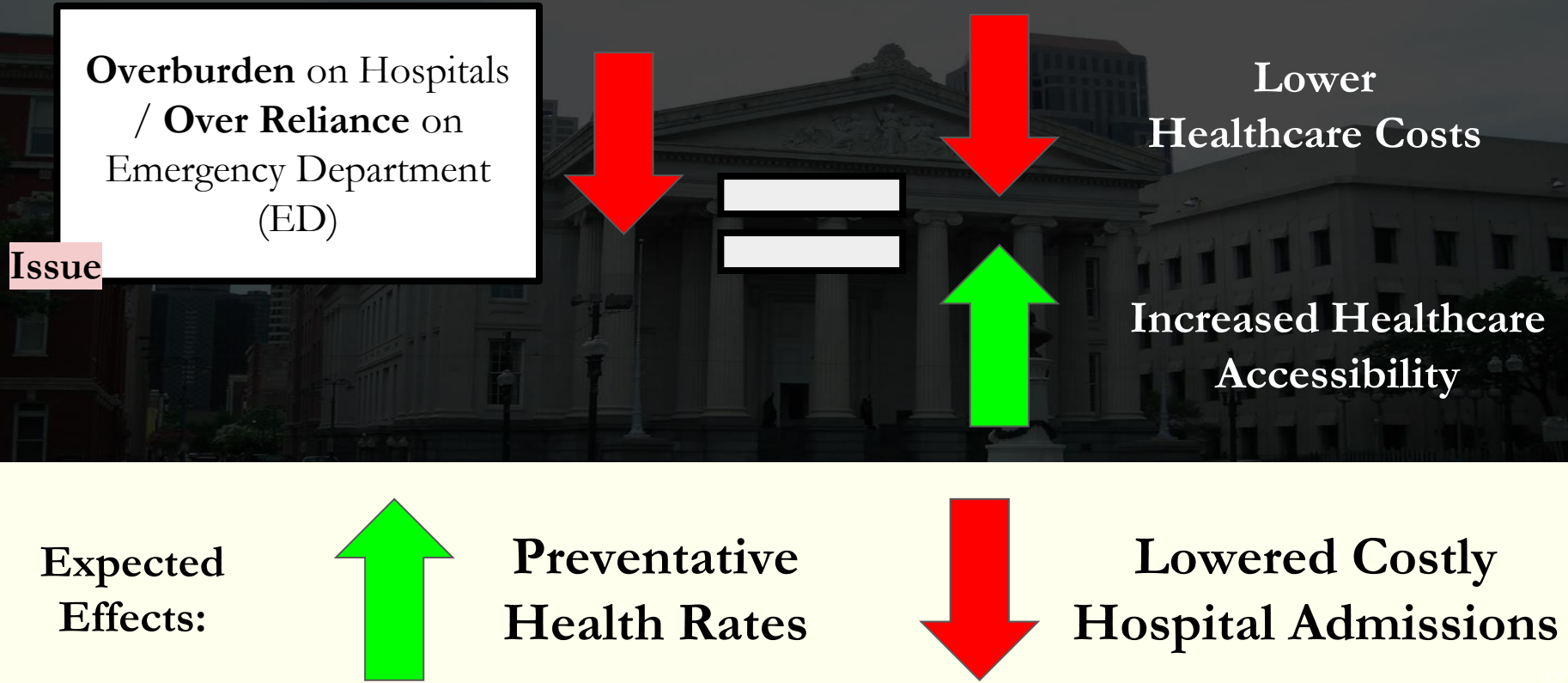
Supporting Public Health: Community Paramedicine

- Post-Discharge Visits
- Chronic Disease Management
- **Addiction Management**/Narcan Dist.
- EMS alternative destinations
- Medication/Prescription refills
- Basic Medical Education
- Medical Awareness Education
- **Vaccination** Initiatives
- Disease Testing Initiatives
- Episodic Care
- **Treatment-At-Home**



Short Term Solution 2

Supporting Public Health (Effects)

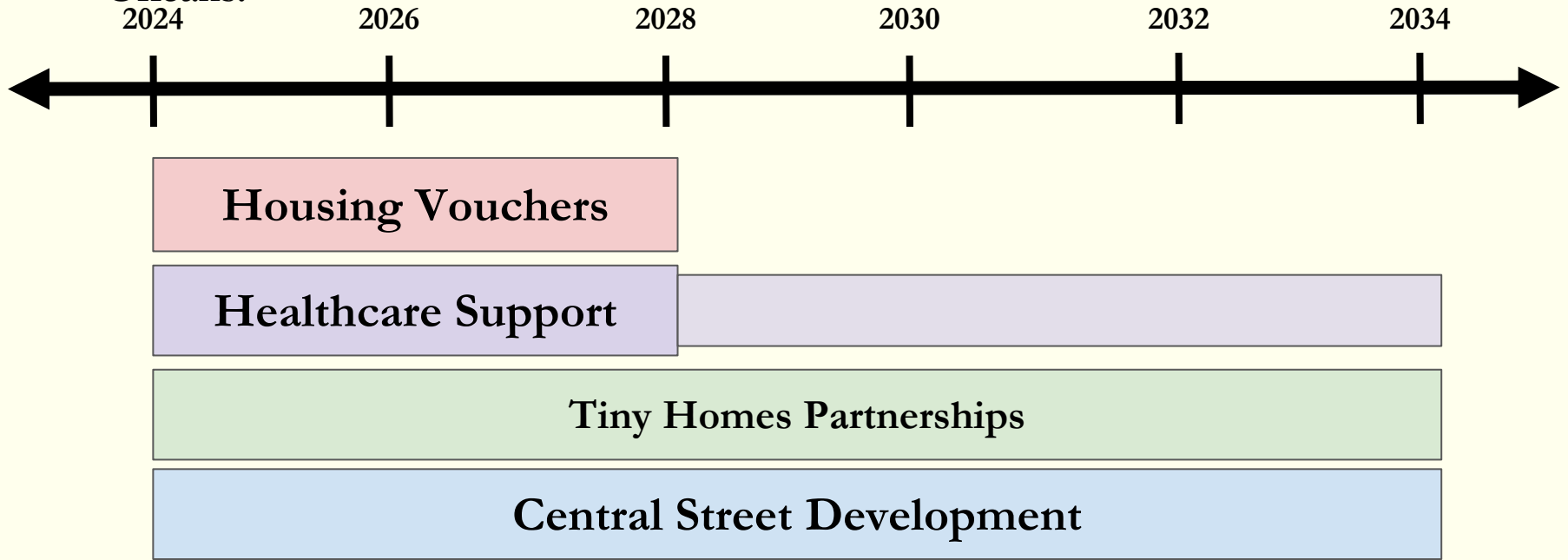


(3) Proposal Analysis

- (a) Implementation Timeline
- (b) Estimated Costs
- (c) Remaining Issues

(A) Implementation Timeline Overview

- We propose another 10 year outline that would mitigate homelessness in New Orleans.



(A) Implementation Timeline (1)

Housing Vouchers

2024

Priority housing vouchers to families, single mothers, women and children.

2026

Ensure we're covering up to 2 bedroom apartments for at least 2 more years.

2026

By 2 years in, we should be able to get rid of the priority system and provide housing vouchers to everyone.

2028

By 2028, we hope that we can actually tone down on housing vouchers.

(A) Implementation Timeline (2)

Healthcare Support

2024

2026

- Community paramedics hired internally from New Orleans EMS
- 4 months of additional internal classroom and field training
- IBSC Community Paramedicine Certification Exam (CP-C)
- Acquisition of equipment can be achieved within 1 month.

2026

2028

By now, community paramedics should be experienced and used to New Orleans and people's' needs. Grants and/or additional funding can expand program if successful.

Hopefully, a sustainable revenue model will have been developed for the program, and no additional external funding will be needed to continue the plan.

(A) Implementation Timeline (3)

Tiny Homes Partnerships

2024

2025

2026

Contract deals with nonprofits and startups to build tiny home initiatives + train / garner construction workforce.

Can be built up to 5 days with volunteers + faster with 3D printing - for 250 units, this would take 50 days at the earliest.

2026

2027

2028

We hope that by 2 years in, people will start to move in. Residence targeted for those unhoused for the longest.

Have sufficient tiny homes + begin launching educational programs and post-addiction treatments therapies.

(A) Implementation Timeline (4)

Central Street Development

2024

2026

2028

Partner with architectural firms to develop a master plan with the community oversight. Shops and services finalized by late 2025. Begin land acquisition by 2025 and finalize blueprints by 2026.

Break ground in early 2026. Foundations and frames of buildings to be completed by the middle of 2028 for all buildings.

2028

2032

2034

First buildings ready to move in by 2030, with move ins occurring shortly after. Grocery store to be completed by 2031. All buildings ready to move in late 2032.

Move-ins continue with the first shops, offices and utilities opening starting 2032. Final move-ins occur in 2033. Final touches worked on until 2034.

(B) Estimated Costs

<u>Yearly Costs</u>		
Initiatives (Yearly)	Cost	Additional Details
Public Health Initiative: Community Paramedicine	\$300,000.00	Staff (4) full time community/advanced practice paramedics Mon-Fri 40hrs/week + Non-Reusable Medical Equipment
Housing Vouchers	\$360,000.00	Housing Vouchers Covering up to 2 Bedroom Apt for a total of 2 years
Community Revitalization: Bus Route Maintenance and Expansion	\$700,000.00	Bus Maintenance, Energy, and Driver Costs
Increasing Housing: Tiny-House Communities	\$18,000.00	Utilities/Maintenance (Including Help from Volunteers)
Practical Skills Training Program	\$200,000.00	Used to hire cooking, cafe and music instructors, along with cover other associated costs
Housing Initiative: Community Resource Nurse	\$200,000.00	2 full-time nurses to staff housing community and offer basic medical evaluation for both community residents, and surrounding communities
Yearly Costs	\$1,778,000.00	1 year cost for initiatives

(B) Estimated Costs [cont.]

Start-Up Payments (One-Time Upfront)		
Start-Up Payments	Cost	Additional Details
Public Health Initiative: Community Paramedicine	\$300,000.00	5 Non-Transporting Vehicles and associated Equipment
Bus Purchasing Costs	\$4,800,000.00	4 New Electric Buses
Lot Purchasing Funds	\$2,000,000.00	Lots to be purchased for homeless shelter and central street sites
Increasing Housing: Tiny-House Communities	\$710,000.00	250 Mini-Houses x 100 sq.ft each; Including Communal Bathrooms & Construction
Construction Costs for "Central Street"	\$20,000,000.00	One-Time up-front cost for constructing buildings
Start-Up Costs	\$27,810,000.00	One-time up-front payment

Calculated Cost		
Yearly Cost	\$1,778,000.00	1 year
Yearly Cost Total (10 years)	\$17,780,000.00	10 years
Start-Up Costs	\$27,810,000.00	One-time Payment
Grand Total Costs	\$45,590,000.00	Final Cost

(B) Estimated Costs [cont.]

Remaining = \$4.5 million

Emergency Response

- Money to be used in natural disaster prevention and response.
- Supporting tiny-homes.

Healthcare Issues

- Money held in reserve for preventative healthcare and public health.
- Filling the gaps whenever needed.

Construction Delays

- Money kept in reserve in case of delays in projects.
- Possibility for project expansion.

(C) Remaining Issues / Trade-Offs [cont.]

- **Local community members may not cooperate or appreciate these efforts**
 - New commercial areas may generate noise.
 - Gentrification from non-community members, leading to a migration out of the community.
 - Neighbors may be opposed to homeless shelters being present in their neighborhood.
- **Vacant Lots may not be sold for the purpose of housing homeless people.**

Local Community Collaboration

- Collaborate with the local community to reach a mutual agreement.
- Produce educational content catered at spreading awareness / truth.

Vacant Lots Usage

- Will need to negotiate with local landowners and present clear objectives and plans to boost confidence in the project.
- Create incentives such as lowered property tax for providing vacant lots.

Conclusion

Issues

High poverty rate

Low supply of immediate affordable housing

High vacancy rate

Areas to improve on public health

Solutions

Central street and economic/community development opportunities.

Construction of Tiny-Homes communities in low-density areas through partnerships.

Housing vouchers and subsidized housing.

Introduction and implementation of community paramedicine program.

A red and yellow trolley is the central focus, moving along a city street. The trolley has yellow accents and a sign that reads '110 YEARS 2012'. The background shows a cityscape with various buildings, including one with a 'SHERATON' sign, and palm trees under a blue sky with clouds. A white rectangular box is superimposed over the center of the image, containing the text 'Thank you!' and '- Team 26'.

Thank you!
- Team 26

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A red and yellow trolley is the central focus, moving along a city street. The trolley has yellow doors and windows, and a red body. It features a white banner with the text "110 YEARS" and "2012". The number "2012" is also visible on the front of the trolley. Below the number, there is a small sign that reads "Please Stand Exact Row Or KES Pass Body". The background shows a city street with tall buildings, palm trees, and a clear blue sky with some clouds. The overall scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

Data Visualizations