

MOVING

NEW ORLEANS

THE ROAD TO EQUITABLE TRANSPORTATION



SEPTEMBER 2021 UPDATES

MAYOR LATOYA CANTRELL

TRANSPORTATION ACTION PLAN

ACTIONS:

1. IMPROVE THE SIDEWALK NETWORK FOR PEDESTRIANS

Over the past two years, the City has:

Updated the Complete Streets Policy and created the Complete Streets Working Group to ensure that the Complete Streets policy is applied in the planning, design, construction, operations, and maintenance of all projects, including improvements to sidewalks and sidewalk lighting.

2. PREVENT CRASHES

Over the past two years, the City has:

Received a \$400,000 grant from the United States Department of Transportation to develop a tool to aid local and regional agencies in the development of a High Injury Network to integrate with existing risk maps. By layering historic crash data with predicted risk, this approach will provide a model for identifying factors impacting road safety and prioritize safety improvements. The City also created a Slow Streets initiative as part of their COVID-19 response, a temporary traffic modification aiming to provide additional space for people to safely walk, bike, and job while social distancing.

3. FOCUS ON SCHOOL SAFETY CONDITIONS

Over the past two years, the City has:

Worked with the Department of Health on the Safe Routes to School program to effectively plan solutions around school zone hazards.

4. DEVELOP A TRANSPORTATION SAFETY DASHBOARD

Over the past two years, the City has:

Developed the High Injury Network tool as a guiding spatial analysis for developing a transportation safety dashboard.

ACTIONS:

1. IMPROVE TRAFFIC SIGNALS

Over the past two years, the City has:

Worked on implementing accessible pedestrian signals, devices that communicate information at signalized intersections in non-visual formats.

2. EVALUATE PARKING AND CURBSIDE ACTIVITY

Over the past two years, the City has:

Worked with Department of Public Works on the 2019 Central Business District (CBD) Curb Use Study to examine transportation conditions downtown and develop recommendations. Under COVID-19 dining restrictions, the Office helped develop the Parklet Program to maximize outdoor dining space. To evaluate the program, the Office implemented a mixed-method study to capture the experiences of participants and analyze program data.

3. ESTABLISH POLICY GUIDELINES FOR NEW MOBILITY

Over the past two years, the City has:

Developed a policy framework for a bike share new mobility provider, including data-sharing guidelines.

4. UPGRADE THE TRANSIT FLEET

Over the past two years, the City has:

Worked with the Regional Transit Authority to upgrade the transit fleet, including the acquisition of twenty-two new buses which entered service in 2021, and funding for three electric buses and supporting infrastructure.



ACTIONS:

1. INCREASE ACCESS TO JOBS

Over the past two years, the City has:

Collaborated with the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) and Regional Planning Commission on the New Links project to reimagine the transit network in New Orleans. The plan modifies transit routes to connect low car ownership areas like Central City and Hollygrove to job centers like the CBD. Under New Links, 38% of residents and 60% of jobs in New Orleans will be within a half-mile of transit routes.

2. LINK TRANSPORTATION TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Over the past two years, the City has:

Created a Transit Oriented Communities (TOC) project team to collaborate on a Transit Oriented Communities framework for New Orleans. TOC design elements reduce travel distance for daily activities and increase convenience of transit, making it easier to access everyday resources. TOCs prioritize affordable housing close to transit stops and hubs to reduce transportation costs.

3. EXPAND THE BIKE SHARE PROGRAM

Over the past two years, the City has:

Partnered with Blue Krewe, a local non-profit to bring bike share back to New Orleans in September of 2021. The model established will ensure that the bike share will be operated by and for the people of New Orleans.

4. MAINTAIN TRANSIT FARE AFFORDABILITY

Over the past two years, the City has:

Supported the RTA's transit equity analysis published in 2019 and RTA's reduced fares for youth and seniors; this went into effect July 1, 2021.

ACTIONS:

1. PLAN AND BUILD A COMPLETE BIKE NETWORK

Over the past two years, the City has:

Created Moving New Orleans Bikes to improve and expand bicycling infrastructure in New Orleans. The city-wide planning effort culminated in the New Orleans Bikeway Blueprint Map in September of 2020. As of Summer 2021, construction has been underway in Algiers, the French Quarter, Faubourg Marigny, and the Seventh Ward.

2. IMPROVE AND EXPAND THE TRANSIT NETWORK

Over the past two years, the City has:

Worked with the Regional Planning Commission, Regional Transit Authority, and Jefferson Transit on developing the New Links project to study regional transit and develop recommendations for a transit network redesign to improve the frequency, reliability, and connectivity of public transit across Orleans, Jefferson, and St. Bernard parishes. The final recommendations were released in February of 2021, and adopted by the RTA Board in March.

3. CONNECT TO THE AIRPORT

Over the past two years, the City has:

Worked to ensure the New Links transit planning project included recommendations for improved connection to the airport.

4. SUPPORT MOVEMENT OF FREIGHT AND CARGO

Over the past two years, the City has:

Led an effort to engage with stakeholders and residents around regulations and routes for trucks and oversized vehicles. A research and resource survey was developed to guide the Cantrell Administration's work and will continue with a Technical Meeting in the fall of 2021.



ACTIONS:

1. BUILDING THE OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION

Over the past two years, the City has:

Dedicated staff positions to plan and implement transportation projects. The Office has worked closely with staff from Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, the RTA, City Planning Commission, Department of Public Works, and the Health Department to streamline project delivery.

2. MOVING QUICKLY

Over the past two years, the City has:

Implemented the Complete Streets program to incorporate transportation improvements for all modes. Streamlined inter-departmental processes through organizing and project management among various departments to speed up project implementation.

3. IMPROVING PUBLIC INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS

Over the past two years, the City has:

Developed a long term strategy to share information about transportation projects and initiatives through a variety of communication platforms: social media channels, website, newsletter, and public meetings.