

From:
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 12:43 PM
To: 106Comments
Cc:
Subject: Support of Providence Rebuilding Project

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to indicate my support of the proposed phased redevelopment and New Homebuilding Plan proposed by Providence and the Enterprise for Lafitte. I believe those involved have considered the historic preservation opportunities when planning this redevelopment. As you know, redevelopment of Lafitte is a key part of the Providence/Enterprise Homebuilding Plan. The practical, sentimental, and heritage value of the brick buildings has been raised by a number of people participating in the planning process, including residents who have strong memories of living there. Such as myself, who did not live there, but my grandparents did and raised all six(6) of their children in the Lafitte Housing Development. Despite that, many residents have indicated that they are ready for a change and are excited by the opportunity to live in more modern units, especially single and doubles with yards and porches, and larger rooms.

I support the phased approach to redevelopment that Providence is proposing, including enabling residents to come home now by opening a number of existing units at Lafitte temporarily, until the new units are ready.

Providence and Enterprise have considered ways to preserve existing buildings at Lafitte, and the best opportunity they see involves preserving the Management Building as a community facility that will become a place to celebrate and share the rich heritage of Lafitte. Preserving the apartment buildings is not consistent with the changes and improvements that residents have told Providence they want.

Sincerely,

From:
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2007 11:56 AM
To: 106Comments
Cc:
Subject: Lafitte Development

I am in support of the redevelopment that is planned by Providence and Enterprise for the Lafitte Housing Development. The development is in need of upgrading and modern provisions for residents to have a better quality of life that they had before the hurricane displaced the residents. Redevelopment will be better for the community, not just the land space that Lafitte encompasses. Seeing families and children living in better quality housing will make New Orleans a better city. Preservation of some of the components of the development are welcome but they should not interfere with the need for quality housing for people. Delaying this redevelopment delays the return of the people who have been an important link to the heritage of the city.

Please move forward with this plan as soon as possible for the benefit of so many residents who call New Orleans HOME.

From:

Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 11:46 AM

To: 106Comments

Subject: phased redevelopment of Laffite

Dear Sirs, I would like to voice my support for the phased redevelopment of the Lafitte Housing Project as proposed by Providence Community Housing and Enterprise. I serve on the board of _____, as well as _____, the non-profit that runs _____. The people on the board and staff at Providence, along with our partners at Enterprise have gone to great lengths to make this re-development a great success. I can assure you that our motives are pure and we are working with the former residents to help their return to a better place, a better city. If you have any questions of me, please feel free to call _____. God Bless

From:

Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 11:41 AM

To: 106Comments

Cc:

Subject: Lafitte Housing Development

I am in support of the proposed phased redevelopment of the Lafitte Housing Development as proposed by the Providence Community Housing and Enterprise Homes. We are quickly approaching the two year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina and our residents are still displaced. It is time to quickly implement a plan that will bring people home. The residents of the housing development deserve better living conditions than what they were subjected to prior to the hurricane. It was unacceptable then and is even more so now. They deserve modern housing, with up to date amenities, in a safe community to raise their children. Now is the time to maximize the opportunity for change.

From:

Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 7:12 AM

To: 106Comments

Subject: Please Support Re-development Plans!

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support of Providence and Enterprise's joint partnership to redevelop the site of the Lafitte Public Housing Neighborhood, and to urge your approval of these plans.

I believe that focusing on preserving the buildings themselves, rather than the well-being of the residents themselves and the surrounding community as a whole, would be an unfortunate oversight on the part of the Advisory Council. I believe that it would be a mistake to simply return these residents to the same problematic environment that existed in these developments before Katrina: large concentrations of poor residents in deteriorating, cramped conditions, which served to foster crime & drugs and often resulted in a pervasive feeling of hopelessness for the residents.

I believe that the plans to revive this neighborhood by rebuilding homes for a mixed income neighborhood, including both renters and home owners and meeting modern standards for housing, while at the same time allowing residents to return right away to a portion of the units as a part of a *phased* redevelopment, is the best way to respect the historic architectural character of the neighborhood while at the same time serving the best interest of both the residents and the people of the surrounding community and New Orleans as a whole.

As a past citizen of New Orleans for 22 years, I urge you to consider my opinion when deliberating your decision. I would also hope that you will not be influenced by outside activists who have no personal stake in the future of this community and whose focus seems to be directed at saving the structures themselves, which have limited historical value and have in fact become symbols of a failed social experiment to warehouse the poor and isolate them from the surrounding community.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my voice and for all you do in your efforts to better this city and its citizens.

Signed,

From:
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 2:38 PM
To: 106Comments
Subject: Lafitte Redevelopment

To the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation:

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to share with you my thoughts on the redevelopment of the Lafitte Public Housing Community. I have followed the development of the Providence/Enterprise Homebuilding Plan (Plan) for several months and am quite familiar with the issues surrounding the redevelopment of the community, including concerns regarding historic preservation and phased redevelopment.

I fully support both the process used to develop the Plan as well as its recommendations. Providence and Enterprise have gone to great lengths to truly understand the needs of both the current and former residents of the community and the residents' desire to find a way to balance the historic aspects of the existing buildings with the strong need to have more modern homes. The Plan strikes that balance with elegance. Families have made it clear that they want new homes with modern amenities that will serve families across a broad range of incomes. The Plan contemplates that the existing apartments will be demolished and replaced with new homes with all the modern amenities families expect and need while the Management Office will be restored and used as a community center. Restoring the Management Building for this use supports the community's desire to retain an important component of the neighborhood's architectural heritage while providing a unique place for the community to congregate.

I also support the phased redevelopment plan which will allow some residents to return to the neighborhood now and live temporarily in the old Lafitte units until the new homes are ready. Again, Providence and Enterprise should be commended for listening to the community and using their creativity to develop a plan that balances current and future needs in a commonsense manner.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions or comments.

From:

Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 10:33 AM

To: 106Comments

Subject: Lafitte Housing

To: The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

As a member of a few non-profit community boards, I have been apprised of the plans for the redevelopment of Lafitte.

I endorse whole-heartedly the Providence/Enterprise Homebuilding Plan, which incorporates the preservation of the Management Building, along with a phased redevelopment of the apartment buildings. This approach will provide much-needed improvement & modernization, and, as a result, a better quality of life for all the residents.

Most sincerely,

From:

Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2007 5:09 PM

To: 106Comments

Cc:

Subject: Lafitte housing

I am writing as a member of the board of _____ to support the redevelopment approach adopted by Provident/Enterprise Homebuilding Plan.

As a past chairman of the _____, I am well aware of the importance of historic preservation to New Orleans. I believe that the plan to preserve the management building will provide an example of the type of construction used when the site was originally developed. The irony of the situation is that the type and quality of the original construction makes it difficult to modify the buildings for adaptive reuse. It would be extremely costly to modify what I understand are poured in place concrete walls to fit the lifestyles of today's families.

From:

Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 10:00 PM

To: 106Comments

Subject: 106 Comments

April 10, 2005

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in full support of the phased redevelopment of the Lafitte Housing Project in New Orleans. I also support the home building plan as developed by the Providence Community Housing and Enterprise Homes. We need safer housing to be provided and a plan to project the historic preservation of New Orleans. The housing initiative of Providence and Enterprise does just that. It is important of the phased in plan to allow people to return quickly as well as to redevelop other possibilities for housing for New Orleans. It has taken too long for the plans of New Orleans for housing to take place 24 months is too long. I am concern of the high rent that is being assesed to our citizens of New Orleans. We need decent housing for the poor and one that is affordable. In my point of view the poor of the city have as much of a right to return as do those who are wealthy. Please act now!!

From:

Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 3:06 PM

To: 106Comments

Subject: 106 Comments

While many have raised questions about the historic and sentimental value of the brick buildings at Lafitte, the displaced residents deserve and desire something better. Why not preserve a portion of Lafitte, perhaps the historic Management Building, but give the residents updated, livable housing. A phased development allows those who wish to come home a place to live in the short term, while better quality housing is constructed. Preserve a piece of Lafitte as a tribute to the history of the development and the people who lived there. But constructing a new and healthy community gives those who return an improved quality of life for themselves and their children.

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 11:27 AM

To: 106Comments

Subject: Letter to ACHP

Dear Policymakers at ACHP and HANO,

I was informed of a grassroots effort to halt the demolition of the Lafitte Housing development due to the Historic value of the development. I believe the preservation of people is more important than the preservation of bricks. Please see my attached letter.

Thank you for your time.

From:

Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2007 5:18 AM

To: 106Comments

Cc:

Subject: Lafitte Housing Program

Time is of the essence. New Orleans is missing residents. Namely, it's Poor and Middle Class. It is evident that ways and means are being explored to bring our Middle Class back home, however, it appears that the City of New Orleans is doing little to bring our poor residents home. Providence Community Housing and Enterprise Homes have a proposal on the table. Not only will citizens be brought back home, the proposal also seeks to preserve the historic preservation and integrity of the Lafitte. I unequivocally support the proposed redevelopment of the Lafitte Housing Project and the new Homebuilding Plan as proposed by Providence. We have all experienced what a "delay in responding" can mean. Subsequently a "City Under Water", a large percentage of our citizens displaced, and others not returning. A speedy approval of the application submitted by Providence Community Housing and Enterprise Home is urgently requested. Thank you.

From:

Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 11:11 AM

To: 106Comments

Subject: Redevelopment of Lafitte Housing Project in Treme

To: Advisory council on Historic Preservation

Copy: Housing Authority of New Orleans

Subject: Redevelopment plans for Lafitte Housing Project in Tremé

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support of Providence and Enterprise's joint partnership to redevelop the site of the Lafitte Public Housing Neighborhood, and to urge your approval of these plans.

I believe that focusing on preserving the buildings themselves, rather than the well-being of the residents themselves and the surrounding community as a whole, would be an unfortunate oversight on the part of the Advisory Council. I believe that it would be a mistake to simply return these residents to the same problematic environment that existed in these developments before Katrina: large concentrations of poor residents in deteriorating, cramped conditions, which served to foster crime & drugs and often resulted in a pervasive feeling of hopelessness for the residents.

I believe that the plans to revive this neighborhood by rebuilding homes for a mixed income neighborhood, including both renters and home owners and meeting modern standards for housing, while at the same time allowing residents to return right away to a portion of the units as a part of a *phased* redevelopment, is the best way to respect the historic architectural character of the neighborhood while at the same time serving the best interest of both the residents and the people of the surrounding community and New Orleans as a whole.

As a citizen of New Orleans, I urge you to consider my opinion when deliberating your decision. I would also hope that you will not be influenced by outside activists who have no personal stake in the future of this community and whose focus seems to be directed at saving the structures themselves, which have limited historical value and have in fact become symbols of a failed social experiment to warehouse the poor and isolate them from the surrounding community.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my voice and for all you do in your efforts to better this city and its citizens.

From:
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2007 10:16 AM
To: 106Comments
Subject: Lafitte Public Housing Neighborhood

To: Advisory council on Historic Preservation
Copy: Housing Authority of New Orleans
Subject: Redevelopment plans for Lafitte Housing Project in Tremé

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support of Providence and Enterprise's joint partnership to redevelop the site of the Lafitte Public Housing Neighborhood, and to urge your approval of these plans.

I believe that focusing on preserving the buildings themselves, rather than the well-being of the residents themselves and the surrounding community as a whole, would be an unfortunate oversight on the part of the Advisory Council. I believe that it would be a mistake to simply return these residents to the same problematic environment that existed in these developments before Katrina: large concentrations of poor residents in deteriorating, cramped conditions, which served to foster crime & drugs and often resulted in a pervasive feeling of hopelessness for the residents.

I believe that the plans to revive this neighborhood by rebuilding homes for a mixed income neighborhood, including both renters and home owners and meeting modern standards for housing, while at the same time allowing residents to return right away to a portion of the units as a part of a *phased* redevelopment, is the best way to respect the historic architectural character of the neighborhood while at the same time serving the best interest of both the residents and the people of the surrounding community and New Orleans as a whole.

As a citizen of New Orleans, I urge you to consider my opinion when deliberating your decision. I would also hope that you will not be influenced by outside activists who have no personal stake in the future of this community and whose focus seems to be directed at saving the structures themselves, which have limited historical value and have in fact become symbols of a failed social experiment to warehouse the poor and isolate them from the surrounding community.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my voice and for all you do in your efforts to better this city and its citizens.

Signed,

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 4:55 PM

To: 106Comments

Subject: Redevelopment plans for Lafitte Housing Project in Tremé

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support of the Providence/Enterprise Homebuilding Plan, and to urge your approval of this plan.

While I understand the need for historic preservation, I believe that the safety and well-being of those who will inhabit these buildings must take precedence over the desire to preserve the buildings' original blueprints. The flaws of these original designs have become painfully apparent over the years; the cramped conditions and poorly considered layouts have proven to be a perfect landscape for drug dealers and criminals, while making it more difficult for police to fight crime effectively.

Providence and Enterprise have carefully weighed the architectural, historical, and human components of this equation and have come up with the only plan that makes sense. Their plan to rebuild a mixed income neighborhood, meeting modern housing standards while respecting the local architecture, will give former Lafitte residents the chance of a better life while also allowing them to reclaim their old home.

As a New Orleanian who is personally rebuilding and who is deeply concerned about the future of our city, I hope that you will consider my opinion and those of my peers. We understand the importance of this city's history, and we know that now is the time to make history by making the right decisions.

I appreciate your taking the time to read this, and I thank you for all of your efforts on behalf of the people and the city of New Orleans.

Sincerely,

From:
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 4:57 PM
To: 106Comments
Cc:
Subject: FW: Redevelopment of the Lafitte Housing Project

I am writing in support of the proposed phased redevelopment of the Lafitte Housing Project and the new Homebuilding Plan. I particularly appreciate the way the ProvidenceCommunity Housing and Enterprise Homes have considered historic preservation opportunities when planning the redevelopment of Lafitte. I believe that this project has been delayed for far too long and must move forward quickly if the City of New Orleans is going to be able to welcome its residents, particularly its poor residents home. I would appreciate your approving their application as soon as possible. The practical, sentimental, and heritage value of the brick buildings has been raised by a number of people participating in the planning process, including residents who have strong memories in a place with good friends and a strong community.

Despite that, many residents have indicated that they are ready for a change and are excited by the opportunity to live in more modern unit especially singles and doubles with yards and porches, as well as larger rooms. Preserving the apartment building is not consistent with the changes and improvement that residents have told Providence they want; therefore redeveloping the Lafitte Housing Project with the new Homebuilding plans that have been presented would bring a fresh inviting appearance bring this area into the 21st century. Your urgent attention to expediting this project would be a GOD send to the community and a GREAT rejuvenating step to rebuilding our great City of New Orleans.

Sincerely Yours,

From:

Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 11:06 AM

To: 106Comments

Subject: Lafitte Development

This e-mail is to advise you that I strongly support the phased redevelopment and the new Homebuilding Plan for Lafitte. Preserving the apartment buildings as is does not provide for improvements that residents themselves want. Providence and Enterprise are committed to preserving the Management Building as a community facility which would preserve and celebrate the heritage of Lafitte which is of tremendous importance. Enabling some residents to come home now will, I believe, offer hope and be a sign of good faith to all those who want to return to an improved community. Thank you for this opportunity to share my thoughts.

May God Bless,

From:
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 4:43 PM
To: 106Comments
Cc:
Subject: Redevelopment of the Lafitte Housing Project

I am writing in support of the proposed phased redevelopment of the Lafitte Housing Project and the new Homebuilding Plan. I particularly appreciate the way the Providence Community Housing and Enterprise Homes have considered historic preservation opportunities when planning the redevelopment of Lafitte. I believe that this project has been delayed for far too long and must move forward quickly if the City of New Orleans is going to be able to welcome its residents, particularly its poor residents home. I would appreciate your approving their application as soon as possible. The practical, sentimental, and heritage value of the brick buildings has been raised by a number of people participating in the planning process, including residents who have strong memories in a place with good friends and a strong community.

Despite that, many residents have indicated that they are ready for a change and are excited by the opportunity to live in more modern unit especially singles and doubles with yards and porches, as well as larger rooms. Preserving the apartment building is not consistent with the changes and improvement that residents have told Providence they want; therefore redeveloping the Lafitte Housing Project with the new Homebuilding plans that have been presented would bring a fresh inviting appearance bring this area into the 21st century. Your urgent attention to expediting this project would be a GOD send to the community and a GREAT rejuvenating step to rebuilding our great City of New Orleans.

Sincerely Yours,

From:

Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 2:15 PM

To: 106Comments

Subject: LAFITTE HOUSING PROGRAM

April 9, 2007

Housing Authority of New Orleans:

Remembering my life as a child and the life of my family on _____ in the Lafitte Housing Development, I am writing to express my support of the proposed re-development and new Homebuilding Plan. I particularly appreciate the way that Providence Community Housing and Enterprise Homes have considered historic preservation opportunities when planning the re-development.

As you know the re-development of Lafitte is a key part of the Providence/Enterprise Homebuilding Plan. The practical, sentimental, and heritage value of the brick buildings has been raised by a number of people participating in the planning process, especially residence who have strong memories as does myself, of living in a place with good friends and a strong community. Despite that, many residents have indicated that they are ready for a change and are excited by the opportunity to live in more modern units, especially singles and doubles. The dwellings will have yard space and porches with larger rooms.

My friends support the phased approach to redevelopment that Providence is proposing, including enabling residents to come home now by opening a number of existing units of Lafitte as a temporary measure, until the new units are ready.

From:
Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 12:33 PM
To: 106Comments
Subject: Redevelopment of Lafitte

I am a business man and life long New Orleansresident. I am raising my family of five children here and have committed to stay after the storm. I am also involved in various community activities including serving as _____.

As such, I am writing in support of the Providenceand Enterprise Homebuilding Plan for the Lafitte housing community. I believe the plan has taken into careful consideration the expressed desires of the residents who want to return, the historical nature of the buildings, and the cost implications of the various redevelopment options. The current plan balances those issues well. Preserving the administration building as a community center allows for some maintenance of ties to the legacy of Lafitte. Building newer, single and double family units provides for living spaces that better meet the needs of residents for daily living in the long term.

I believe it is time to make some decisions and move forward with the redevelopment. As with any plan, not everyone will be completely satisfied. There has to be some compromise. But, the city of New Orleansneeds to show greater progress toward recovery. We need to make more homes available for returning residents. There should be an abundance of jobs with the road and bridge work over the river and lake, the condominium and high rise construction coming to the city, and the desperate need for people to support the tourism industry. Now, we need quality places for people/workers to live. Providenceand Enterpriseare experienced in providing this important cog in the recovery of the city. Let's give them the green light. They are professionals. Let's trust their recommendations and move past planning stage and move on to the building stage.

Thank you for considering my comments.

From:

Sent: Monday, April 09, 2007 10:12 AM

To: 106Comments

Subject: Redevelopment plans for Lafitte Housing Project in Tremé

To: Advisory council on Historic Preservation

Copy: Housing Authority of New Orleans

Subject: Redevelopment plans for Lafitte Housing Project in Tremé

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support of Providence and Enterprise's joint partnership to redevelop the site of the Lafitte Public Housing Neighborhood, and to urge your approval of these plans.

I believe that focusing on preserving the buildings themselves, rather than the well-being of the residents themselves and the surrounding community as a whole, would be an unfortunate oversight on the part of the Advisory Council. I believe that it would be a mistake to simply return these residents to the same problematic environment that existed in these developments before Katrina: large concentrations of poor residents in deteriorating, cramped conditions, which served to foster crime & drugs and often resulted in a pervasive feeling of hopelessness for the residents.

I believe that the plans to revive this neighborhood by rebuilding homes for a mixed income neighborhood, including both renters and home owners and meeting modern standards for housing, while at the same time allowing residents to return right away to a portion of the units as a part of a *phased*

redevelopment, is the best way to respect the historic architectural character of the neighborhood while at the same time serving the best interest of both the residents and the people of the surrounding community and New Orleans as a whole.

I urge you to consider my opinion when deliberating your decision. I would also hope that you will not be influenced by outside activists who have no personal stake in the future of this community and whose focus seems to be directed at saving the structures themselves, which have limited historical value and have in fact become symbols of a failed social experiment to warehouse the poor and isolate them from the surrounding community.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my voice and for all you do in your efforts to better New Orleans and its citizens.

Signed,

From:

Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2007 4:22 PM

To: 106Comments

Subject:

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support of Providence and Enterprise's joint partnership to redevelop the site of the Lafitte Public Housing Neighborhood. I urge you to approve these plans.

Focusing on preserving the buildings themselves, rather than the well-being of the residents and the surrounding community as a whole, would be an unfortunate oversight on the part of the advisory council. It would be a mistake simply to return these residents to the problematic environment that existed in these developments before Katrina: large concentrations of poor residents in deteriorating, cramped conditions, which served to foster crime of all types and often resulted in a pervasive feeling of hopelessness for the residents.

Plans to revive this neighborhood by rebuilding homes for a mixed income neighborhood, including both renters and home owners and meeting modern standards for housing, while at the same time allow residents to return right away to a portion of the units as a part of a phased redevelopment, is the best way to respect the historic architectural character of the neighborhood, while at the same time serving the best interests of both the residents and the people of the surrounding community and the city as a whole.

As a citizen of New Orleans, I urge you to consider my opinion when pondering your decision. I also hope that you will not be influenced by outside activists who have no personal stake in the future of this community and whose focus seems to be directed at saving the structures themselves, which have limited historical value and have in fact become symbols of a failed social experiment to warehouse the poor and isolate them from the surrounding community.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my voice and for all that you do in your
for the welfare of this city and its citizens.

Sincerely yours,

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Friday, April 06, 2007 10:51 AM

To: 106Comments

Subject: Support for Providence and Enterprise plans for redevelopment of Lafitte

To Whom it may concern:

I am _____ located in

Tulane/Gravier neighborhood of New Orleans. I am writing to ask your support for the planned redevelopment of the Lafitte as proposed by Providence/Enterprise Homebuilding plan. Our neighborhood was serious damaged by the flood that followed Hurricane Katrina. We need a good plan to bring our people back as soon as possible. I believe the Providence/Enterprise plan best meets that need. They plan to work with

displaced residents in a phased plan that allows some residents to return as soon as possible, but also bring about need changes that we have been working for in our neighborhood over the last six years.

Thank

you.

From:

Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2007 3:44 PM

To: 106Comments

Subject: Redevelopment plans for Lafitte Housing Project in Tremé

To: Advisory council on Historic Preservation

Copy: Housing Authority of New Orleans

Subject: Redevelopment plans for Lafitte Housing Project in Tremé

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support of Providence and Enterprise's joint partnership to redevelop the site of the Lafitte Public Housing Neighborhood, and to urge your approval of these plans.

I believe that focusing on preserving the buildings themselves, rather than the well-being of the residents themselves and the surrounding community as a whole, would be an unfortunate oversight on the part of the Advisory Council. I believe that it would be a mistake to simply return these residents to the same problematic environment that existed in these developments before Katrina: large concentrations of poor residents in deteriorating, cramped conditions, which served to foster crime & drugs and often resulted in a pervasive feeling of hopelessness for the residents.

I believe that the plans to revive this neighborhood by rebuilding homes for a mixed income neighborhood, including both renters and home owners and meeting modern standards for housing, while at the same time allowing residents to return right away to a portion of the units as a part of a *phased* redevelopment, is the best way to respect the historic architectural character of the neighborhood while at the same time serving the best interest of both the residents and the people of the surrounding community and New Orleans as a whole.

As a citizen of New Orleans, I urge you to consider my opinion when deliberating your decision. I would also hope that you will not be influenced by outside activists who have no personal stake in the future of this community and whose focus seems to be directed at saving the structures themselves, which have limited historical value and have in fact become symbols of a failed social experiment to warehouse the poor and isolate them from the surrounding

community.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my voice and for all you do in your efforts to better this city and its citizens.

Signed,

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2007 3:01 PM

To: 106Comments

Subject: Redevelopment plans for Lafitte Housing Project in Tremé

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support of Providence and Enterprise's joint partnership to redevelop the site of the Lafitte Public Housing Neighborhood, and to urge your approval of these plans.

I believe that focusing on preserving the buildings themselves, rather than the well-being of the residents themselves and the surrounding community as a whole, would be an unfortunate oversight on the part of the Advisory Council. I believe that it would be a mistake to simply return these residents to the same problematic environment that existed in these developments before Katrina: large concentrations of poor residents in deteriorating, cramped conditions, which served to foster crime & drugs and often resulted in a pervasive feeling of hopelessness for the residents.

I believe that the plans to revive this neighborhood by rebuilding homes for a mixed income neighborhood, including both renters and home owners and meeting modern standards for housing, while at the same time allowing residents to return right away to a portion of the units as a part of a phased redevelopment, is the best way to respect the historic architectural character of the neighborhood while at the same time serving the best interest of both the residents and the people of the surrounding community and New Orleans as a whole.

As a citizen of New Orleans, I urge you to consider my opinion when deliberating your decision. I would also hope that you will not be influenced by outside activists who have no personal stake in the future of this community and whose focus seems to be directed at saving the structures themselves, which have limited historical value and have in fact become symbols of a failed social experiment to warehouse the poor and isolate them from the surrounding community.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my voice and for all you do in your efforts to better this city and its citizens.

Signed,

From:

Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2007 3:24 PM

To: 106Comments

Subject: Redevelopment plans for Lafitte Housing Project in Tremé

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support of Providence and Enterprise's joint partnership to redevelop the site of the Lafitte Public Housing Neighborhood, and to urge your approval of these plans.

I believe that focusing on preserving the buildings themselves, rather than the well-being of the residents themselves and the surrounding community as a whole, would be an unfortunate oversight on the part of the Advisory Council. I believe that it would be a mistake to simply return these residents to the same problematic environment that existed in these developments before Katrina: large concentrations of poor residents in deteriorating, cramped conditions, which served to foster crime & drugs and often resulted in a pervasive feeling of hopelessness for the residents.

I believe that the plans to revive this neighborhood by rebuilding homes for a mixed income neighborhood, including both renters and home owners and meeting modern standards for housing, while at the same time allowing residents to return right away to a portion of the units as a part of a *phased* redevelopment, is the best way to respect the historic architectural character of the neighborhood while at the same time serving the best interest of both the residents and the people of the surrounding community and New Orleans as a whole.

As a citizen of New Orleans, I urge you to consider my opinion when deliberating your decision. I would also hope that you will not be influenced by outside activists who have no personal stake in the future of this community and whose focus seems to be directed at saving the structures themselves, which have limited historical value and have in fact become symbols of a failed

social experiment to warehouse the poor and isolate them from the surrounding community.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my voice and for all you do in your efforts to better this city and its citizens.

Signed,

From:
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2007 11:29 AM
To: 106Comments
Cc:
Subject: Lafitte Housing Redevelopment

Dear Louisiana Advisory Council on Historic Preservation:

It has come to my attention that concerns have been raised regarding the current development plan proposed by Providence Community Housing and the Enterprise Foundation. In this post-Katrina environment, we have the opportunity to provide public housing that we can be proud of and that will benefit the lives of many. I know that Providence has considered several ways to preserve the existing buildings at Lafitte. All things considered, it is the people that live in the development and not the physical structures that should remain. The proposed development plan, with its phased approach, will provide the residents with exceptional housing and a preferred living environment. Please consider my support for the redevelopment plan, as submitted by Providence, when making your final determination.

Sincerely,

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Sunday, April 01, 2007 2:05 PM

To: 106Comments

Cc:

Subject: Lafitte

To the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation:

Having worked for over 20 years with two of the PreservationResourceCenter's programs, Operation Comeback and Rebuild Together, I truly appreciate that neighborhoods become more attractive when older buildings are restored. Having also lived in New Orleans for the last 70 years, it has become very evident that public housing has ceased to be an asset to our city and unfit environments in which to raise our children. The opportunity to listen to the residents of these communities, which Providence and Enterprise have done, at last gives those families a voice in creating a safe, viable community. All of us want to bring back this city better than before Katrina. We need your help.

It is my understanding that the residents want change - modern, affordable housing that accommodates their larger families. Please respect the residents' input as they have often been the victim rather than the beneficiaries of change. There is also the recommendation for phased development which would allow residents to return to existing units while the rest of the site is being redeveloped. I strongly support that proposal as well as the way that Providence and Enterprise have considered historic preservation opportunities when planning the redevelopment of Lafitte.

The creation of affordable housing post Katrina is extremely challenging....your decision to support the Lafitte residents, Providence and Enterprise will make an enormous difference in the Lafitte neighborhood.

Sincerely,

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Monday, April 02, 2007 2:37 PM

To: 106Comments

Subject: Comments to ACHP

Dear Advisory Council on Historic Preservation:

As someone that has lived in the Historic Treme neighborhood for 50 years, I have an intimate knowledge and appreciation for preserving history. While I have never lived in the Lafitte Housing Developments, I did have relatives and many, many school mates and friends that did live there during my upbringing. I have raised the issue of preserving history to my fellow Providence Board members on a number of occasions. We have considered and discussed ways to preserve buildings while at the same time meeting the urgent need of the Lafitte residents to return home. Many of the residents have concluded that it is time for a better way of living and they support the plans they themselves participated in drafting.

I feel that the phased redevelopment and the new building plans submitted by Providence/Enterprise Homebuilding will, with all due respect, honor the Historic site on which the Lafitte currently sits. The new plans, with its boundaries intact, will always be known -- to those of us that grew up in the area -- as the Lafitte. The new plans provides not only an opportunity to bring home those that were living in the Lafitte just prior to Katrina, but also a very real possibility to bring back to the site those that grew up in Lafitte, but had moved out. The more modern units will provide more of a private family style of living that you find in more suburban areas coupled with the historic touches that you expect in the Treme area.

I look forward to working with all interested parties as we bring back New Orleans.

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Monday, April 02, 2007 8:28 AM

To: 106Comments

Subject:

I support the proposed phased redevelopment of the Lafitte Housing Project and new Homebuilding Plan. I particularly appreciate the way that Providence Community Housing and Enterprise Homes have considered historic preservation opportunities when planning the redevelopment of Lafitte, I believe that this project has been delayed for far too long and must move forward quickly if the City of New Orleans is going to be able to welcome its residents, particularly its poor residents home. I would appreciate your approving their application as soon as possible.

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Saturday, February 03, 2007 1:10 PM

To: 106Comments

Subject: professional opinion

Having worked in the construction/renovation field for over 20 years, I

feel inclined to support the views of other professionals; namely, that

the demolition of such solidly built and historically-relevant sites

such as Lafitte Housing Project would be crime against the people of New

Orleans. The waste of time and energy spent to reduce these grand

structures to rubble would be better spent to renovate.

Though the contractors who are suggesting that demoliton is most

cost-efficient, I know for a fact that this is a falsehood, and would

further suggest that these same contractors are either making these

statements with hopes of sharing in some monetary windfall, or they

simply don't know ther business.

It is true that the cost of "renovations" could be astronomical, but

as with any that would depend on the extent of the renovation. The city

does not need to turn these former projects into luxury condos. In all

actuality, very little renovation will be needed , seeing that most of

these units recieved zero damage from the hurricanes. The immediate need

for affordable housing would also be served in a more prompt and timely

fashion if one were to use the existing buildngs.

And as a gentleman so aptly put it at the meeting on Feb 1st, " if we

are hit with a Category 5 hurricane tomorrow, the Lafitte projects would

be some of the few structures in New Orleans that would still be

standing".

In closing, I do not suggest that the Projects return to

their former
use. I would suggest a mixed-income model would work in the
existing
structures, just as it has worked in some of the older
projects in NYC,
whereby the tenants are a mixture of low-income families
paying one
rate, the dis-abled and elderly paying another, the middle-
income paying
yet another.

sincerely,
a concerned citizen

From:

Sent: Wednesday, February 07, 2007 1:05 PM

To: 106Comments

Subject: THE LAFITTE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT...

MY NAME IS _____, AND I LIVED @ _____, AND MY LIFE IS AFFECTED TREMENDOUSLY BECAUSE I AM NOT ALLOWED TO COME BACK TO MY HOME.....ITS AS IF MY LIFE IS IN LIMBO,BEFORE KATRINA, I WORKED (2) JOBS AND I FELT VERY BLESSED TO BE A PART OF THE LAFITTE COMMUNITY.....I STRUGGLED TO LIVE IN NEW ORLEANS, I PAID HIGH RENT TO SLUM-LORDS, WHOSE ONLY CONCERN WAS THAT "U BETTA HAVE THAT RENT", EVEN IF THE WATER WAS BACK'N UP IN MY FACEBOWL WHEN THE NEIGHBORS FLUSHED THEIR TOILET!!!!THERE WERE TIMES WHEN I HAD TO CHOOSE WHETHER OR NOT TO BUY FOOD OVER PAYING THE LIGHT BILL, I'M A SINGLE PARENT AND I WAS LIVING IN A HOTEL WITH MY CHILD AT THE TIME I WAS NOTIFIED OF MY ELGIBILITY FOR THE LAFITTE, AT LAST, MY PRAYERS WERE ANSWERED.....I WAS GETT'N SOME HELP.....(AFTER 8 YEARS OF STRUGGLES AND EVICTIONS) I FINALLY GOT A UNIT...IT WAS SO NICE!!!!MUCH BETTA THAN THE PLACES I WAS STRUGGLING TO PAY 500-650MTHLY.....WHEN THERE WAS A PROBLEM OF ANY KIND INTERNALLY IN MY UNIT,MRS. FOXWORTH AND HER STAFF WERE ON IT....THEY HAD SMILES ON THEIR FACES, ALWAYS SAIDGOODMORN'N...FOR THE 1ST TIME IN 8 YEARS I FELT LIKE I WAS IN THE RIGHT PLACE, AND I COULD CATCH UP ON THE THINGS THAT POVERTY FORCED ME AND MY CHILD TO LIVE WITHOUT...WE HAD NO HEALTH INSURANCE BECAUSE I COULDN'T AFFORD IT, MY CAR WAS IMPOUNDED BECAUSE I COULDN'T AFFORD CAR INSURANCE, BUT LIVING IN THE LAFITTE, THE BUSES AND THE STREETCAR WAS AVAILABLE , I WORKED IN THE RIVERWALK (SECURITY/DISPATCHER)AND I WOULD SOMETIMES EVEN WALK CANAL STREET (GET EXERCISE)AND WHEN THE TOURIST WOULD SEEM LOST, I'D GLADLY ASSIST WITH DIRECTIONS....LIFE WAS BEAUTIFUL FOR MY FAMILY PRE-KATRINA, AND I COULD FEEL THE SUN ON MY FACE, IT WOULD BE SUCH A INJUSTICE FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE LAFITTE, THIS PLACE IS SOLID AS A ROCK.....I STAYED IN MY CONDO DURING THE WHOLE STORM, IT DIDN'T MOVE.....THE ROOF NEVER LEAKED A BIT, THE WINDOWS DIDN'T EVEN BLOW OUT.....WHAT A MIGHTY GOD WE SERVE!!!!AS A MATTER OF FACT MY

AIRCONDITIONS ARE STILL IN THE WINDOWS...I KNOW POLITICS MAY HAVE ITS SAY IN A LOT OF AREAS, BUT OUR CITY IS MISSING REVENUE BECAUSE WE HAVE NO WHERE TO LIVE IF WE WANTED TO COME BACK.....NOT ALL PEOPLE THAT LIVED IN THE PROJECTS OF OUR CITY WERE BAD, I'VE MET THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE, THE MOST PRAYING PEOPLE RIGHT THERE.....SO TO WHOMEVER READS THIS INSERT, PLEASE CONTINUE TO CALL ON THE MIGHTY NAME OF JESUS, SO THAT WE MAY ONE DAY COME HOME, AND MAY THE LAFITTE BE THAT PLACE!!!! I'D LIKE TO SAY THAT MRS. FOXWORTH WAS DOING A MAGNIFICENT JOB.....SHE HAD BEGAN TO ALLOW THE YOUNG CHILDREN THAT CAME TO OUR COMMUNITY CENTER(SOJOURNER TRUTH) TO WORK IN THE PIZZA PARLOR AND THE ICECREAM SHOP. THEY DELIVERED TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE LAFITTE, BECAUSE THE OTHER LOCAL PIZZA PLACES WOULDN'T DELIVER TO THE PROJECTS(AND THEY WERE ACTUALLY BETTER THAN THOSE OTHER GUYS)WE GOT A CHANCE TO MEET OTHER RESIDENTS AT THE MONTHLY MEETINGS ALSO. MRS. FOXWORTH HAD BEGAN TO BEAUTIFY THE GROUNDS TOO...OUR DUMPSTERS WERE BRIGHTLY PAINTED, WE HAD BEAUTIFUL FLOWERBEDS AROUND THE GROUNDS AND I WAS PROUD TO LIVE THERE.....AND I WILL BE PROUD TO COME HOME.....

From:

Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2007 4:18 PM

To: 106Comments

Subject: I support the equitable redevelopment of public housing

To Whom It May Concern:

As a resident born and raised in New Orleans, I believe it is important that our city redevelop higher quality public housing in mixed-income, mixed-use communities that replace every publicly supported unit that is demolished.

I believe just as strongly that we must involve those who were residents of public housing before the hurricane meaningfully in the planning of those communities. Redevelopment can and should be done in phases that allow residents who want to move back now to do so while portions of the housing are replaced.

Our community is in gridlock, and precious political, social, and financial resources are being squandered on this conflict. The best and only way through this is for all involved to commit to openness, transparency, and legitimate concern for and support of the well-being of those who were displaced. By slowly building trust with each other we will expand the number and quality of choices before us.

Here's to building a better future together for all the people of New Orleans.

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Friday, February 23, 2007 8:36 PM

To: 106Comments

Subject: public housing

My comment is short and sweet. Redevelop the housing projects!!! They are an eyesore, breed crime, reduce surrounding property value, and feed the mentality of entitlement that is horribly prevalent in the city of New Orleans. The projects were meant to be transitional housing for people who are having a tough time and need temporary help. Instead they have turned into a way of life for generation after generation of many New Orleans families. You can see the sense of entitlement when the former tenants claim no one has the right to keep them from THEIR properties. Well they are not theirs. The properties belong to the tax payers of the United States and they want something better for their money....

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Friday, February 23, 2007 11:07 AM

To: 106Comments

Subject: HUD 106 Review of Public Housing in New Orleans

Greetings:

I wish to convey my input on the matter of public housing in the City of New Orleans and the efforts to re-develop the public housing complexes we currently have.

We have seen different plans to re-develop some of these areas and have been impressed with most.

Many are accusing the proponents of re-development of trying to remove public housing and render many homeless. This is a despicable accusation and should have no place in this process. We understand and agree that there is to be public housing. However we cannot in good conscience advocate the return of our many families who rely on public housing to the horribly failed system that has been public housing for so long and we not only can do better for our public housing citizens, we have a duty to do so. I completely agree with Ms. Emelda Paul who stated so brilliantly at your hearing yesterday "I want to see residents coming back to something decent". Why do we continue to tell our fellow citizens who live in public housing that what is there now is the best they can hope for. This ought to be not only unacceptable to you and I, but to mankind. These facilities were in terrible dis-repair prior to the flood and now have worsened greatly as a result.

Those who advocate returning our citizens to such conditions are doing a grave disservice to our residents who reside in public housing.

The people in these housing developments are good people and are more often the victims of crime rather than the perpetrators of it.

I would like to draw attention to the East Lake development in Atlanta GA. From my reading this took a very depressed area of high crime and low literacy and completely turned it around. And it WAS inclusive of residents in public housing.

With this successful example of how to re-develop an area of public housing without rendering good people homeless, why not allow re-development to

begin so that our citizens in public housing can have homes that give them a sense of dignity and which they can be proud of.

Thank you

From:

Sent: Friday, February 02, 2007 6:49 PM

To: 106Comments

Subject: Public housing

We are still unable to return to our home in Mid-city because of damage sustained in from storm! The idea that perfectly liveable space is being pulled down seems insane/wasteful. Another reason we cannot come back..is not only that both our workplaces were destroyed (we are teachers), but, that AFFORDABLE HOUSING in the city at this time, is almost nonexistent!! We understand that many structures need to be removed, but wasting our tax-payers money and keeping thousands of citizens from returning immediately to their home...is just wrong, and we ask all of those involved in this decision to sit back and RETHINK!! Thank-you for your time.

From:

Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2007 8:00 PM

To: 106Comments

Subject: Re-opening the housing projects

I am a middle-class, divorced mother of one and am totally opposed to having these people return.

I was on a field-trip last week and every parent on the bus agreed this was a TERRIBLE idea. These individuals don't want to better themselves they want to return to low income housing projects. They don't take care of the developments, no matter how much money or how many times they are repaired. They aren't interested in returning to the city to improve themselves or the city.

The projects are and have been for years infested with drugs and crime. I like others listened to them on the news speaking as if they are owed something. Home owners like myself are struggling to get our homes and lives back together that's where money should go.

We have as a result of the hurricane lost several historical buildings. There is no need to preserve the projects. You saw the news, you've had meetings with this unappreciative individuals. The projects were designed to be a short-term living area for unemployed and under employed residents. We have four and five generations living in one or more units and every development. At what point do these individuals take responsibility for themselves and their lives? Is it New Orleans' or Louisianans' fault that they continue to have babies on top of babies. They aren't interested in a helping hand they want hand-outs.

From:

Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2007 4:01 PM

To: 106Comments

Subject: Redevelopment Project

I think HANO should think all of these projects through thoroughly.

The residents who chooses to return should be screened thoroughly as well. Make sure that the staff check with the previous landlord as to the condition in which the property was left when the tenant moved out.

The tenant should have a job. The units should be of quality material and standards unlike the previous ones.

Inferior material was used to renovate the properties and the profit ended up in the pockets of the contractor and or politicians.

I know the condition of which the units were in when I left there as an Assistant Manager. Please make sure that you hire the best people to manage these units who will be fair and enforce the lease. Unlike the previous administration. The rules applied to some and not all!!!

I do look forward to coming back to New Orleans just to see what has developed with these units.

Here in Texas the tenants are responsible for all of their own utilities. I think that should be the same in New Orleans for the new units. Make them responsible citizens and not be government and tax payers dependent. You have a hard and rough road to travel and I will be praying that this is a SUCCESS for all involved.

Seek the help from other Agencies in other states and see what's working for them and make this a New Dawning for Public Housing Residents.