

Feedback from Kick-Off Community Workshop

(held last night, Tuesday, October 3, 2006)

Last night, over 150 participated in the Kick-Off Community Workshop for the Homebuilding Plan. These notes are ONLY A SMALL SAMPLING of the ideas, advice and suggestions that participants provided the Homebuilding team (we are still writing up the many workbooks we received with written comments). A more detailed meeting report will be written and distributed to all participants.

What did you like BEST about the Treme/Lafitte and Tulane/Gravier communities 20 years ago?

- sense of family, hanging out on porch with friends family
- good schools
- architectural designs

Like LEAST from 20 years ago?

- Lack of shops
- Had to call management too often
- Wall leaks, broken steps, rodents

What did you like BEST about the Treme/Lafitte and Tulane/Gravier communities Pre-Katrina?

- The Lafitte housing development – because place of history, heritage and legacy, place of pride of local heroes
- Lafitte affordable
- Good access to city
- St Peter Claver area – place of home, education and worship
- St. Augustine Church
- Orleans Avenue – local businesses that provided a real home base for home owners in the area
- Good neighbors
- Some good schools
- Lot of family – everybody knew everyone, could ask neighbor for anything

What did you like LEAST about the Treme/Lafitte and Tulane/Gravier communities Pre-Katrina?

- High crime, drugs, wasn't as safe as we were used to
- Police brutality
- Poor education system
- Needed better condition housing – lot blighted houses
- The Rainbow, TRC and MRV motel

Places most important to act first?

- schools in area, motels
- areas in neighborhood where drug activity
- Carver theatre, grocery stores
- Sojourner Truth Community Centre

What would you like to see in your community in the future?

- clean community, children could play in safe environment
- preserve churches and schools, preserve music culture
- people who live in the area making the decisions
- parks playgrounds, better schools
- libraries, youth recreation centres
- green space for kids to play
- doctors offices, bakery, shoe repair shop, hairdressers, florist, book store
- bike path
- the neighborhood should become villages again – neighbors help parents raise their kids
- bus stops and good transportation
- amphitheatre

What do you LIKE about the pictures of different housing types?

- Colors, structure
- Porches with picket fence
- Liked the new multifamily with porches
- Like gables with white trim
- Like Katrina cottage
- We liked red brick, traditional Lafitte style, in part because safer, in part because more affordable, in part because encourages people to walk and have a sense of community
- Like all homes – really like the different designs, especially the more modern/urban designs – shouldn't be all the same in every area
- Modular – they are just as strong as traditional housing – it's a quicker way to get housing up

What DON'T YOU LIKE?

- We like the urban homes – but they don't have backyards – we need yards, need more space
- Didn't see off street parking – would like it (and garages for vehicle safety)
- Didn't like anything on building types
- Did not like multi family
- Traditional housing, not modular



WRAP UP COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Participant Workbook

Saturday, October 7, 2006
St. Peter Claver School Cafeteria

PROPOSED AGENDA

The purpose of the meeting is to:

- Review the feedback received at the Kick-Off community workshop on Tuesday, October 3
 - Talk about services and supports that would be helpful to residents
 - Present the Home Building Plan ideas that have been developed this week (in response to community feedback) and find out what you think about those ideas
-

9:00 am *Registration opens, cold drinks and snacks available*

10:00 Opening Prayer

10:05 Welcome
Father Michael Jacques, St. Peter Claver Church

10:10 Meeting Purpose, Agenda Review
Mary Fontenot, All Congregations Together (ACT)
Nicole Swerhun, Facilitator

10:15 Presentations
All Congregations Together
Nadine Jarmon, Providence Community Housing
Ray Gindroz, Urban Design Associates

11:00 Small Table Discussion (Lunch to be provided)
All Congregations Together Facilitation and Outreach Team

12:00 pm Responding to Questions

12:15 Small Table Reports

12:55 Closing Prayer

1:00 Adjourn

REFLECTIONS FROM TUESDAY

Review the sampling of feedback received at the Kick Off Community workshop on Tuesday night (see facing page). More detailed notes will all comments are currently being written and will be available to all participants and the public. If you did not attend Tuesday and you want to add your thoughts to these questions, please use the space below.

What did you like **BEST and LEAST** about the Treme/Lafitte and Tulane/Gravier communities 20 years ago?

BEST

LEAST

What did you like **BEST and LEAST** about the Treme/Lafitte and Tulane/Gravier communities Pre-Katrina?

BEST

LEAST

Places where it is most important to act first?

What would you like to see in your community in the future?

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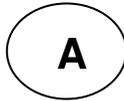
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- Amphitheatre



SUPPORT SERVICES

The Providence and Enterprise team are working to develop a support services program for former residents of Lafitte. Whether you are a Lafitte resident or not, you probably have an idea of the types of needs people have. Let us know by checking the relevant boxes below (✓):

- Do Lafitte residents need: **Help with relocation/transition issues?**

Are residents getting help with these issues now?

- Yes
- Some Help
- No Help

Describe what additional supports would be helpful. Use the space below.

- Do Lafitte residents need: **Help with child care and education issues?**

Are residents getting help with child care and education now?

- Yes
- Some Help
- No Help

Describe what additional supports would be helpful. Use the space below.

- Do Lafitte residents need: **Help with Elderly care?**

Are residents getting help with elderly care now?

- Yes
- Some Help
- No Help

Describe what additional supports would be helpful. Use the space below.

Do Lafitte residents need: **Help with Skills Development and Job Training?**

Are residents getting help with skills development and job training now?

- Yes
- Some Help
- No Help

Describe what additional supports would be helpful. Use the space below.

Do Lafitte residents need: **Help with Health Services ?**

Are residents getting help with health services now?

- Yes
- Some Help
- No Help

Describe what additional supports would be helpful. Use the space below.

Do Lafitte residents need **any other services?**

Use the space below.

B

REACTION TO THE HOME BUILDING PLAN IDEAS

Think about the Home Building Plan ideas presented at the beginning of the workshop, and the map and pictures at your table.

1. What do you LIKE about the ideas? Why?

2. What DON'T YOU LIKE about the ideas? Why?

3. Are there OTHER IDEAS you would like to see explored? If so, what are they?

4. Looking at the map, it would be helpful for the team to have an idea of where people would like to live in the future community. Use three YELLOW DOTS to identify those places on the map where you would be interested in living.



Homebuilding Plan for Tremé/Lafitte & Tulane/Gravier

Providence
COMMUNITY HOUSING

Enterprise

PARTICIPANT WORKBOOK

Tuesday, October 3, 2006
St. Peter Claver School Cafeteria

PROPOSED AGENDA

Meeting purpose:

- To introduce the Home Building Plan for Treme/Lafitte and Tulane/Gravier
 - To share what we've heard from residents to date
 - To understand what type of homes people want and need in their community, and how the those homes can be built so that they contribute to the rebuilding of the community as a whole
-

5:30 pm	<i>Registration opens, cold drinks and snacks available</i>
6:30	Prayer and Welcoming Remarks Imam Rafeeq Nu'Man, Masjidur Rahim Father Michael Jacques, St. Peter Claver Church
6:40	Meeting Purpose, Introductions, Agenda Review Nicole Swerhun, Facilitator
6:45	Presentations Jim Kelly, Providence Community Housing Chickie Grayson, Enterprise Ray Gindroz, Urban Design Associates
7:15	Small Table Discussion All Congregations Together Facilitation and Outreach Team
8:15	Responding to Questions
8:25	Small Table Reports
8:55	Closing Prayer Reverend Mitchell Stevens, Mount Zion Baptist Church
9:00	Adjourn

EARLY SNAPSHOT OF OUTREACH EFFORTS

865 Number of households in Lafitte pre-Katrina

865 NEWSLETTERS SENT TO LAFITTE RESIDENTS: Number of newsletters and feedback forms sent by mail to Lafitte residents (using addresses provided by FEMA)

1200 NEWSLETTERS TO BROADER COMMUNITY: Approximate number of additional newsletters distributed in the broader community in the last 2 weeks (distributed through area churches, faith-based groups, schools, various neighborhood and civic organizations, neighborhood associations, various email databases, etc.)

600 PHONE CALLS MADE TO LAFITTE RESIDENTS IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA: Approximate number of calls made in the last 2 weeks by the ACT (All Congregations Together) outreach team to try and connect with Lafitte residents who live in the New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and immediate surrounding area. In many cases the same person and/or people in the same household were called more than once to try and connect. We are still finalizing the numbers, but our early estimate is that the 600 calls reached at least 125 different households. Calls will continue until every former resident has been contacted.

175 COMPLETED FEEDBACK FORMS: Approximate number of feedback forms received (through fax and mail) as of Oct 3, 2006.

65 CALLS RECEIVED: Approximate number of calls received by the Home Building Plan Answering Service (as of Oct 3, 2006)

If you have not filled out a feedback form, copies are available at the meeting tonight. Please pick one up and take it home with you. You can mail or fax it back to us, or drop it off if you're coming back later this week.

FROM FEEDBACK FORMS

Approximately half of the completed feedback forms received to date have been analyzed, and some trends are emerging. Additional feedback forms are being entered every day, and we will continue to make the results available publicly. Here is an early, brief summary of some of what people are telling us:

- The vast majority of people have told us they plan on coming home
- Many people have specific needs they could use help with, including child care, disabled care, elderly care, job training
- In terms of what people like about the neighborhood, almost everyone referred to family, friends, neighbors
- In terms of what people don't like about the neighborhood, the vast majority talked about drugs, violence and crime

FROM THE OUTREACH TEAM

Here is a short summary of what the ACT Outreach Team has been hearing from folks during their telephone conversations:

- Many people were excited to receive a call from ACT – people wanted to know how they could get involved. Many also had ideas on what they want to see in their community in the future.
- Many people are hungry for news – they feel like they've been cut off. In some cases people have been getting conflicting information, and that's frustrating.
- Other people were hesitant and skeptical about the Home Building Plan. There was also a lot of disappointment about not being able to come home.
- Some were very frustrated and didn't see any hope – especially because it will take a few years to build all of the homes, and by that time they won't have any resources left to come back.
- A lot of residents would like to participate in the process but they can't get to New Orleans.
- We heard many stories from people whose hearts have been devastated by what's happened since Katrina. They are still grieving, and living day-to-day is a struggle, especially for people who are sick or are separated from sick family members by thousands of miles.
- Some are resigned to never being able to live in New Orleans again, but many of those people are still asking about their friends and neighbors, and hoping they are doing well.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **Think about the Treme/Lafitte and Tulane/Gravier communities. Think about what the communities were like 20 years ago, and think about what they were like pre-Katrina.**

Tell us, what are the 2 or 3 things you liked best 20 years ago? Least?

What are the 2 or 3 things you like best pre-Katrina? Least?

	LIKED BEST	LIKED LEAST
20 YEARS AGO		
	1.	1.
	2.	2.
	3.	3.
PRE-KATRINA		
	1.	1.
	2.	2.
	3.	3.

2. Using the large map on your table, identify the best and worst places in the community.

- Use a GREEN DOT to identify the BEST places
- Use a RED DOT to identify the WORST places

Use the space below to make any notes:

BEST PLACES

WORST PLACES

3. Use a BLUE DOT to identify those places where it is most important to take action

Use the space below to make any notes.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

These suggestions represent sample of the types of feedback received by the ACT Outreach Team during their conversations with residents.

- **They'd like a job service** that would work with residents so they can come home to jobs and income
- They'd like **appliances** in each house
- Many people have **special housing needs** – like rails in tubs, on stairs, and ground floor access to their homes
- Many people are caring for elders, and could use **elderly care** support
- They have talked about things they want to see in the neighborhood, like a **movie theatre**
- People want to see **recreation opportunities for their children**
- People would like to see **parks with swimming pools**
- People have **suggestions about transitional housing** to meet their immediate needs
- People would like an **opportunity to purchase** their homes
- They would also like **rental assistance** to be provided until the new homes are built

4. What would you like to see in your community in the future? For example, think about things like:

- **Playgrounds, parks, trees, stores, services**
- **How you feel walking around the streets**
- **Anything else**

Please list your ideas and thoughts here.

5. Review the pictures of different housing types. Tell us what you like and don't like about the pictures.

LIKE ABOUT THE PICTURES

DON'T LIKE ABOUT THE PICTURES

