



# AGENDA

## ERNEST N. MORIAL NEW ORLEANS EXHIBITION HALL AUTHORITY ECONOMIC GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT MEETING (EDD)

Wednesday, February 25, 2026 to follow NOEHA Board meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Authority Board Room – 900 Convention Center Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70130

ZOOM: [https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_jzcrDEinQhaA92a\\_UPd6jw](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_jzcrDEinQhaA92a_UPd6jw)

Webinar ID: 897 6080 5441 | Passcode: 611909

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Public Comment - The Louisiana Open Meetings Law provides the public with the opportunity to address this Board prior to it taking any action on an agenda item at the meeting. Members of the public can provide comment by email to [comments@mccno.com](mailto:comments@mccno.com) or in person. Email comments will be read aloud up to two (2) minutes each. People wishing to speak in person must fill out a speaker card and submit it to staff at the meeting. Speakers will be allowed 2 minutes to make comments.
- III. Election of Officers
- IV. Approval of the June 26, 2024 Meeting Minutes
- V. Resolution
  - A. 2026.1 - Authorizing the Publication of a Notice of Intention to Create the Headquarters Hotel Subdistrict of the Ernest N. Morial New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority Economic Growth and Development District and Levy Taxes Therein
  - B. 2026.2 - Authorizing the Publication of a Notice of Intention to Amend the Boundaries of the RDNI Subdistrict
- VI. Other Business
- VII. Next Scheduled Meeting: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.
- VIII. Motion to Adjourn

**NEW ORLEANS EXHIBITION HALL AUTHORITY  
ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, June 26, 2024**

**12:30 p.m. Ernest N. Morial Convention Center Authority Boardroom**

**1. Call to Order**

Commissioner Harris called the meeting to order.

**2. Roll Call**

Commissioner Harris asked for a roll call, with the results as follows:

Commissioners Present:

Russell Allen; Edgar Chase, IV; Lesli Harris; Camille Whitworth; Ralph Mahana; Helena Moreno; Jack Rizzuto; and Eric Wright.

Commissioners Absent:

Geri Broussard; James Capella; Stephen Caputo; James Cook; David Ellis; and Desi Vega.

The total number present at roll call was eight (8), establishing quorum.

**3. Public Comment**

Commissioner Harris read the public comment rules and asked for public comments related to agenda items. None were provided.

**4. Approval of the Minutes**

Commissioner Wright moved to approve the minutes from the December 1, 2023 meeting of the body, seconded by Commissioner Mahana.

Commissioner Harris called for a voice vote, and all present voted “aye” with no opposition. The motion to adopt the minutes passed unanimously.

**5. Consideration of Resolution to Authorize Execution of Amended and Restated Cooperative Endeavor Agreement Related to Economic Development within the District**

Commissioner Harris provided brief remarks on the amended and restated CEA before the EDD, noting that she and Jeff Schwartz, Director of Economic Development for the City of New Orleans, stated on the record at the December 1, 2023, EDD meeting their intent and expectation that a revised CEA would be back before the EDD. Key revisions sought and addressed in the revised CEA include adding the City as a party and strengthening affordable housing provisions.

Commissioner Moreno moved to approve the resolution authorizing execution of the amended and restated CEA, seconded by Commissioner Chase.

Mr. Schwartz shared an overview of the CEA and the amendments included in the revised version before the EDD. Michael Busada, counsel at Bulter-Snow for the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center’s master developer, made himself available for questions without further comment.

Commissioner Moreno asked Mr. Schwartz and Mr. Busada to confirm that the CEA before the EDD matched the version being considered by the City, which they proceeded to confirm.

Commissioner Harris called for a voice vote on the motion, and all present voted “aye” with no opposition. The motion passed unanimously.

**6. Consideration of Engagement of Counsel**

Commissioner Harris requested to pass over this item. No discussion or action occurred.

**7. Comments from Board Members**

No such comments were provided.

**8. Adjourn**

Commissioner Rizzuto moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Mahana.

**NEW ORLEANS EXHIBITION HALL AUTHORITY  
ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION NO. 2026.1**

A resolution authorizing the publication of a notice of intention to create the Headquarters Hotel Subdistrict of the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority Economic Growth and Development District, and to levy a sales tax and a hotel occupancy tax therein; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

WHEREAS, the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority Economic Growth and Development District (the "District") is a body politic and corporate created pursuant to Subpart B-48 of Part IV of Chapter 1 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended (the "District Act"), for the purpose of (i) providing for cooperative economic and community development among the District, the City of New Orleans, the State of Louisiana (the "State"), and the owners of property in the District, (ii) enhancing the development of and improvement to the property within the area of the District, and (iii) promoting economic growth, safety, and development; and

WHEREAS, the District Act authorizes this Board of Commissioners (the "Board"), acting as the governing authority of the District, to create subdistricts by designating one or more proposed areas within the boundaries of the District as a subdistrict thereof, each such subdistrict to constitute a political subdivision of the State with the same powers granted to the District; and

WHEREAS, this Board desires to avail itself of the District Act to create a subdistrict within the District to be known as the "Headquarters Hotel Subdistrict of the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority Economic Growth and Development District" (the "Headquarters Hotel Subdistrict"); and

WHEREAS, the District Act provides that the District and any subdistrict thereof may exercise any and all of the powers granted to an economic development district pursuant to Part II of Chapter 27 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended (the "EDD Act" and, together with the District Act, the "Act"); and

WHEREAS, the EDD Act permits economic development districts such as the Headquarters Hotel Subdistrict to levy sales taxes at a rate of up to 2% and hotel occupancy taxes at a rate of up to 2% for authorized purposes; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Act, this Board now desires to give notice of its intention to hold a public hearing relative to (i) the proposed creation of the Headquarters Hotel Subdistrict and (ii) the proposed levy of a 2% sales tax and a 2% hotel occupancy tax therein, which notice shall be published in the District's official journal two (2) times prior to the public hearing, the first publication to appear at least fourteen (14) days before the date of the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, a notice in substantially the form attached hereto as **Exhibit A** shall be published two (2) times in the official journal of the District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority Economic Growth and Development District, that:

SECTION 1. The foregoing "Whereas" clauses are hereby adopted as set forth in the preamble to this Resolution.

SECTION 2. In accordance with the District Act, particularly La. R.S. 33:130.865(10), this Board does hereby give notice of its intention to create a subdistrict within the District to be known as the "Headquarters Hotel Subdistrict of the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority Economic Growth and Development District."

SECTION 3. In accordance with the EDD Act, particularly La. R.S. 33:9038.39, this Board does hereby give notice of its intention to levy a two percent (2%) sales tax and a two percent (2%) hotel occupancy tax (collectively, the "Taxes") within the Headquarters Hotel Subdistrict for the purpose of paying the costs of economic development projects as defined in the EDD Act.

SECTION 4. Publication of the notice in substantially the form attached hereto as **Exhibit A** is hereby approved, and the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board is authorized and directed to publish such notice two (2) times in the official journal of the District, the first publication to appear at least fourteen (14) days before the date of the public hearing. At the date, time and place set forth in said notice, as published, this Board will meet in open and public session to hear any objections to the proposed creation of the Headquarters Hotel Subdistrict and the levy of the Taxes therein, and may consider the adoption of resolutions creating the Headquarters Hotel Subdistrict and levying the Taxes.

SECTION 5. The President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer are hereby authorized and empowered to do all acts, sign any and all instruments or documents, and do all things necessary and proper in order to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

[REMAINDER OF PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK]

The foregoing resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

Member	Yea	Nay	Absent	Abstaining
Russell W. Allen				
Geri Broussard				
James F. Capella				
Stephen C. Caputo				
Edgar Chase, IV				
Elizabeth Ellison-Frost				
Ralph Mahana				
Octavio Mantilla				
Jerry Reyes				
Jack P. Rizzuto				
Desi M. Vega				
Camille Whitworth				
Eric Wright				
Lesli Harris				
JP Morrell				

And this resolution was declared adopted on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary-Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

**NEW ORLEANS EXHIBITION HALL AUTHORITY  
ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**NOTICE OF INTENTION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Commissioners of the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority Economic Growth and Development District (the "Board"), acting as the governing authority of the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority Economic Growth and Development District (the "District"), pursuant to the authority of Subpart B-48 of Part IV of Chapter 1 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, proposes to consider creating a subdistrict within the District to be known as the "Headquarters Hotel Subdistrict of the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority Economic Growth and Development District" (the "Headquarters Hotel Subdistrict").

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Board proposes to levy a two percent (2%) sales tax and a two percent (2%) hotel occupancy tax (collectively, the "Taxes") within the Headquarters Hotel Subdistrict pursuant to the provisions of Part II of Chapter 27 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Board will meet in open and public session on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, at 2:00 p.m., at its regular meeting place, the Board Room, 900 Convention Center Blvd., New Orleans, Louisiana 70130, and will at that time hear any and all objections to the proposed creation of the Headquarters Hotel Subdistrict and the levy of the Taxes therein.

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF ORLEANS

I, the undersigned Secretary-Treasurer of the Board of Commissioners of the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority Economic Growth and Development District, do hereby certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners on February 25, 2026, authorizing the publication of a notice of intention to create the Headquarters Hotel Subdistrict of the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority Economic Growth and Development District, and to levy a sales tax and a hotel occupancy tax therein; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, witness my official signature on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026.

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Secretary-Treasurer

**NEW ORLEANS EXHIBITION HALL AUTHORITY  
ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION NO. 2026.2**

A resolution authorizing the publication of a notice of intention to amend the boundaries of the RDNI Subdistrict; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

WHEREAS, the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority Economic Growth and Development District (the "District") is a body politic and corporate created pursuant to Subpart B-48 of Part IV of Chapter 1 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended (the "Act"), for the purpose of (i) providing for cooperative economic and community development among the District, the City of New Orleans, the State of Louisiana (the "State"), and the owners of property in the District, (ii) enhancing the development of and improvement to the property within the area of the District, and (iii) promoting economic growth, safety, and development; and

WHEREAS, the Act authorizes this Board of Commissioners (the "Board"), acting as the governing authority of the District, to create subdistricts by designating one or more proposed areas within the boundaries of the District as a subdistrict thereof, each such subdistrict to constitute a political subdivision of the State with the same powers granted to the District; and

WHEREAS, this Board created the RDNI Subdistrict (the "RDNI Subdistrict") pursuant to a resolution adopted on December 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Act, this Board now desires to give notice of its intention to hold a public hearing relative to the proposed amendment of the boundaries of the RDNI Subdistrict, which notice shall be published in the District's official journal at least ten (10) days before the date of the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, a notice in substantially the form attached hereto as **Exhibit A** shall be published in the official journal of the District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority Economic Growth and Development District, that:

SECTION 1. The foregoing "Whereas" clauses are hereby adopted as set forth in the preamble to this Resolution.

SECTION 2. In accordance with the Act, particularly La. R.S. 33:130.865(10), this Board does hereby give notice of its intention to amend the boundaries of the RDNI Subdistrict.

SECTION 3. Publication of the notice in substantially the form attached hereto as **Exhibit A** is hereby approved, and the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board is authorized and directed to publish such notice at least ten (10) days before the date of the public hearing. At the date, time and place set forth in said notice, as published, this Board will meet in open and public session to hear any objections to the proposed amendment of the boundaries of the RDNI Subdistrict, and may consider the adoption of a resolution setting forth such amended boundaries.

SECTION 4. The President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer are hereby authorized and empowered to do all acts, sign any and all instruments or documents, and do all things necessary and proper in order to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

[REMAINDER OF PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK]

The foregoing resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote resulted as follows:

Member	Yea	Nay	Absent	Abstaining
Russell W. Allen				
Geri Broussard				
James F. Capella				
Stephen C. Caputo				
Edgar Chase, IV				
Elizabeth Ellison-Frost				
Ralph Mahana				
Octavio Mantilla				
Jerry Reyes				
Jack P. Rizzuto				
Desi M. Vega				
Camille Whitworth				
Eric Wright				
Lesli Harris				
JP Morrell				

And this resolution was declared adopted on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary-Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

**NEW ORLEANS EXHIBITION HALL AUTHORITY  
ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

**NOTICE OF INTENTION**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Commissioners of the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority Economic Growth and Development District (the "Board"), acting as the governing authority of the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority Economic Growth and Development District, pursuant to the authority of Subpart B-48 of Part IV of Chapter 1 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, proposes to consider amending the boundaries of the RDNI Subdistrict.

NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that the Board will meet in open and public session on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, at 2:00 p.m., at its regular meeting place, the Board Room, 900 Convention Center Blvd., New Orleans, Louisiana 70130, and will at that time hear any and all objections to the proposed amendment of the boundaries of the RDNI Subdistrict.

STATE OF LOUISIANA

PARISH OF ORLEANS

I, the undersigned Secretary-Treasurer of the Board of Commissioners of the New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority Economic Growth and Development District, do hereby certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners on February 25, 2026, authorizing the publication of a notice of intention to amend the boundaries of the RDNI Subdistrict; and providing for other matters in connection therewith.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, witness my official signature on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026.

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Secretary-Treasurer