



New Orleans Grassroots Cultural Master Plan

What Is It?

A comprehensive plan that would institutionalize cultural protections and create a blueprint for growth and economic stability for musicians, artists, culture bearers and the greater cultural community, drafted by the cultural creators themselves.

Why Now?

New Orleans is changing, and without deliberate action soon, we are in real danger of losing many of New Orleans' remaining cultural spaces and communities for good. With a new Mayoral Administration and largely different City Council, we have a unique opportunity to move forward with a truly community driven process.

How Will It Help?

New Orleans has never planned for its culture, but it often creates laws and policies that impact cultural practices (permitting fees, noise ordinances, zoning, etc). This plan will ensure that moving forward, the needs of and impact on the cultural community will be taken into account, and that a change in administrations or staff will not negatively impact how culture is protected and nurtured.

What Will It Include?

The plan will be written similarly to the City's full Master Plan—laying out a path forward with a series of goals and visions for immediate and long term actions. These goals, visions, and content will be generated by the cultural community, However, the plan will not include detailed policy proposals—those will come later.

What Is The Process?

There will be a core advisory committee consisting of representatives of various cultural communities/activities that will guide the effort. Larger groups meetings, organized by cultural activity, will be held to gather input. All cultural community members will be welcome to participate. Input gathered will be shaped into a draft version of the Plan which will then have a further community review before it is finalized.

Whose Plan Will It Be? Who Will Have Ownership?

The Plan will be generated by participants and will come directly from the cultural community. No one group will have ownership, and everyone's ideas will be acknowledged and considered. The goal is to have the Plan adopted by the City of New Orleans as an official policy document.