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# MAYOR LANDRIEU BREAKS GROUND ON HUNTER'S FIELD PLAYGROUND CLUBHOUSE

November 08, 2017



**NEW ORLEANS** – Today, Mayor Landrieu joined City and State officials and community stakeholders to break ground on the new Hunter’s Field Playground Clubhouse (1601 N. Claiborne Ave.). In addition to the new clubhouse, improvements are being made to the existing building and amphitheater. Once complete, the new 3,500-square foot facility will include a reception area, two multi-purpose rooms to support a variety of NORD programs for all ages, an industrial kitchen, to support food service activity, two concession widows for interior and exterior service, storage space, and Americans with Disabilities (ADA)- accessible restrooms.

“Clubhouses and parks like this are a place for the community to come together and unite,” said Mayor Mitch Landrieu. “Today, we’re excited to break ground on the Hunter’s Field Playground Clubhouse in the Seventh Ward. With each project like this, we remake our City the way she was always meant to be.”

In addition to the new clubhouse, contractors will paint the existing building exterior and amphitheater, clean and clear the inside of the original building for storage space, install new permeable pavement, and add landscaping and street furniture that includes benches and trash cans. The new facility and park improvements will cost \$1.8 million to complete.

**Vic Richard, CEO of New Orleans Recreation Development (NORD) Commission** said, "We are proud to break ground on the new Hunter's Field Clubhouse and property renovations. The revitalization of this historic playground will continue the tradition of teaching morals and values, while promoting healthy lifestyles for the entire community."

**District D Councilmember Jared C. Brossett** said, "This facility is an important investment in the next generation of our city. Not only will this development revitalize Hunter's Field to make it a more welcoming and active space, it also marks another step forward in the rebirth of both the St. Bernard and Claiborne Avenue corridors."

Since Mayor Landrieu took office in 2010, the City has invested over \$157 million in new and improved NORD facilities and nearly tripled its programming budget. Just last year, NORD opened three new recreation centers and one new swimming pool, bringing the total number of recreation centers, parks and playgrounds to 35. In 2016, over 70,000 youth participated in NORD programming. Since 2010, NORD has provided jobs to nearly 10,000 New Orleans youth. In September, NORD received national accreditation from the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA), making it one of 160 parks and recreation agencies in the country.

[Click here to learn more about NORD and its programs. \(http://nordc.org/home/?utm\\_campaign=City\\_of\\_New\\_Orleans&utm\\_content=&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery&utm\\_term=\)](http://nordc.org/home/?utm_campaign=City_of_New_Orleans&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=)

**Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Louisiana Recovery Office Director Mike Womack** said, "Providing recreational opportunities for children enhances the well-being of New Orleans communities. We will continue to work with the city of New Orleans to fund eligible community improvements."

**Office of Community Development Executive Director Pat Forbes** said, "When Hunter's Field was damaged by Hurricane Katrina, the residents of the Seventh Ward lost a treasured community gathering space and a safe place for youth activities. This historic neighborhood has contributed immeasurably to the cultural landscape of New Orleans. The investment of Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery funding to build a new clubhouse will provide another boost to the Seventh Ward's recovery, both physical and cultural."

Funding for this clubhouse and park improvements came from Disaster Community Development Block Grant (D-CDBG), FEMA public assistance and City bond funds. It was designed by Volume Zero LLC, and will be constructed by Huda LLC. Construction will be completed in spring 2018.

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