

ENONAC
Eastern New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory Commission
P.O. Box 872693 - New Orleans, LA 70187
www.enonac.org
Crime Prevention – Economic Development - Education – Environmental Protection – Health – Housing - Recreation
“Working towards a better New Orleans East”

April 2, 2009

Dear Councilwoman Cynthia Willard-Lewis:

For well over three years since Hurricane Katrina, the Eastern New Orleans (ENO) community has been in dire need of the renovation and repair of our hospital. As you are aware, there were two large full service hospitals, Pendleton Methodist Hospital and Lakeland Hospital, operating in ENO prior to Hurricane Katrina. Not only did it service the medical needs of the residents in ENO but also the Ninth Ward, Gentilly, Plaquemine and St. Bernard Parishes. Additionally, these hospitals served as an economic engine for our community, providing jobs for many of our medical and allied health professionals.

ENO has well over two thirds of its pre-Katrina resident population back home, just fewer than 100,000. Many of these residents are senior citizens and the elderly, who require medical maintenance to protect their health and welfare. Our elementary, grammar and high school population is increasing and we have several large nursery/pre-kindergarten facilities. The recovery dollars must be prioritized with the emphasis being placed on the areas of greatest need of repair and providing essential services for those residents hardest hit by Katrina. As part of renovation and repair of the ENO infrastructure and getting our residents back home, a critical piece is the immediate availability of medical services for the ENO community. Since time is of the essence, the residents are not asking “if” but “when” is the hospital going to be a reality.

Please continue your demand for equality of goods and services for New Orleans East.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Scineaux-Richard, President
ENONAC

Cc: Dr. Edward Blakely, Director of Recovery

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