

Prenatal-to-Three Climate Action Task Force Meeting 1

Introduction

On Monday, September 14, 2026, the first Prenatal-to-Three (PN-3) Climate Action Task Force Meeting was held at the East New Orleans Regional Library. The Task Force meeting started with introductions, and a description of the target population. The target population for this Task Force includes people who are pregnant, infants, toddlers, caregivers, family members, educators, and healthcare providers.



Next, goals of the Task Force were shared:

- First, the group will review the city's current climate plans to determine their strengths and weaknesses.
- Second, the group will work with stakeholders to learn what is missing from the plans and what the community needs.
- Last, the group will make suggestions to help include the PN-3 population in plans and policies going forward.



Next, the three plans to be reviewed by the group were introduced and discussed. All plans to be reviewed by the Task Force can be found below:

- [View the Heat Action Plan Webpage](#)
- [View the Hazard Mitigation Plan](#)
- [View the Climate Action Plan](#)

Next, five recommendations for local governments were shared. These suggestions came from the U.S. Early Years Climate Action Plan. The five recommendations are as follows:

1. Include early years stakeholders when making climate plans, especially people who have not always had a voice.
2. Support early years and climate issues in local government groups.
3. Create more safe, healthy outdoor spaces for families and children.
4. Help early years providers keep children safe and healthy as the climate changes.
5. Help neighborhoods support young children and families by having places to get help, find resources, and connect with others.



Finally, the meeting ended with an activity. The group shared ideas for each of the five recommendations. The group was asked to place each idea into one of four categories: (1) ideas that are not happening; (2) ideas that are happening but can be improved; (3) ideas that are happening but not led by the city; (3) ideas that are happening and led by the city.



The activity showed the level and type of work that is currently being done regarding each of the five recommendations. These results are summarized in the charts on the following page. Common themes across all ideas the group came up with include:

- Climate education opportunities for children and adults
- Continuity across all the city's climate-related plans
- Public transit considerations and improvements
- Accessible outdoor opportunities in each of the districts across the city

<u>Recommendation #1</u> Incorporate early years in climate action and planning by building authentic connections with young children and families, especially those who have been historically marginalized.	Ideas that have not been started	Ideas that are happening, but not well-coordinated, or have room for improvement	Ideas that are happening, but not coordinated by the city	Ideas that are led by the city, satisfied with progress
	Inclusion facilities and childcare providers in planning	Kids Rx Program (City is working on developing out the project)		
	Language translation – including Vietnamese and Spanish			
	“Is early child mentioned in the Climate Plan?”			
Not happening	Outdoor hands in dirt activities			
	Climate action reading and education for children			
	Educating children on the importance of cleaning storm drains			
	“I see things to support prenatal-to-3, and I see climate work but I’m not sure I see them together.”			

Recommendation #2 Support collaboration between the early years and climate in local government agencies.	Ideas that have not been started	Ideas that are happening, but not well-coordinated, or have room for improvement	Ideas that are happening, but not coordinated by the city	Ideas that are led by the city, satisfied with progress
	Tying together mental health and climate risks			
Not happening	Discuss and make plan for unintended consequences of climate planning – suggested that it can be addressed by involving infrastructure and planning experts			
	Making institutional daycares in the city more climate resilient			
	“Can we quantify damage to small businesses, homes, education centers, and the cost of closures?”			
	Tying in the Youth Master Plan with youth climate planning and work			
	Fully fund RTA/transit			
	Connect prenatal-to-three and climate work to public safety			
	Youth climate governance			

Recommendation #3 Increase access to family-focused and climate resilient outdoor spaces.	Ideas that have not been started	Ideas that are happening, but not well-coordinated, or have room for improvement	Ideas that are happening, but not coordinated by the city	Ideas that are led by the city, satisfied with progress
	West Bank swimming pool	NORD pool maintenance		
Somewhat happening, but room for improvement	Outdoor programming at the following locations – Bayou Sauvage, City Park, Sankofa Wetlands, A Forest in the Woods, Music Village, and Lincoln Beach	Public libraries have had generator hookups added to the library by Entergy, but they require Entergy to bring the generator and so far, that hasn't happened		
	Increased NORD programming		Goldring Woldenberg Riverfront Park	
	Nature-based outdoor programming	Splashpads		
	Kayaking and canoeing			
	Include representation from NORD, Parks and Parkways, and Capital Projects Administration in Prenatal-to-three climate planning			
	Have an Audubon Park model available in every district			
	Include smart surface designs in outdoor recreational spaces			

Recommendation #4 Advance strategies to support early years providers in ensuring safe, healthy, reliable, and high-quality services to children and families in a changing climate.	Ideas that have not been started	Ideas that are happening, but not well-coordinated, or have room for improvement	Ideas that are happening, but not coordinated by the city	Ideas that are led by the city, satisfied with progress
	Asthma testing at daycares heat-related illness testing		Disaster recovery census done of childcare centers within 24 to 48 hours to determine damage and resiliency	
	Air quality monitoring testing near daycares		Include childcare facilities in emergency planning	
Somewhat happening, but room for improvement	Mapping childcare facilities with city infrastructure including water, energy, and air quality infrastructure, to improve awareness of infrastructure failures occurring nearby		Low-income family, especially prenatal-to-three families, access to benefits of solar farms – availability of subscription organizations such as Entergy Smart	
	Family Connects – opportunity to work with an established program to incorporate climate, heat, and hazard initiatives		Analyzing small business costs, flood damage, etc., as well as rising insurance costs	
	Incorporating harm reduction		Healthy Community Services “Cost of Resilience” analysis	
	Deep South Center for Environmental Justice – air quality monitoring and outdoor play decision-making at childcare facilities		Access to AC for infants and toddlers at libraries and Training Grounds facilities	
			ECE millage – a few grants to improve childcare centers’ climate resilience such as permeable surfaces, outdoor play spaces, flood protection, and heat protection	
			ECHO grants managed by Agenda for Children and New Orleans Early Education Network to support outdoor play spaces	

<u>Recommendation #5</u> Build the ability of neighborhoods to support young children and families by expanding access to climate resilience hubs, community aid, and social connectivity.	Ideas that have not been started	Ideas that are happening, but not well-coordinated, or have room for improvement	Ideas that are happening, but not coordinated by the city	Ideas that are led by the city, satisfied with progress
Somewhat happening, but room for improvement	Improve transportation	Spray bug relief as regions for disease carrying insects such as mosquitoes, ticks, etc., expands	We Play Centers where families with young children can have access to indoor play spaces	
	Ensure local and low-income families have access to and are utilizing renewable energy benefits	Original “Flip the Switch” campaign and community energy advisors		
	Help with evacuation plans	WeatherSTEM integration		
	City supporting climate resilience hubs like Feed the Second Line and our partner restaurants	Development of public-private partnerships to connect with people		
	City led solid program where other climate resilience hubs can connect and support city-wide initiatives	Connections with school fairs to target children and parents		
	Leverage childcare centers in resiliency hubs’ planning/community lighthouses’ plans – there are around 50 schools and over 100 childcare sites			
	Central resource hub in emergency			
	Weather centers with activities for children, creating safe spaces			
	Work requirements for parents during disasters			
	Help with increasing energy bills as higher temperatures lead to high AC costs			