

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER HM 26-13**

**CLIMATE, RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY AND REORGANIZATION**

**WHEREAS**, Article IV, Section 4-101 of the Home Rule Charter of the City of New Orleans vests executive and administrative authority in the Mayor;

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor is responsible for supervising executive departments, agencies, boards, and commissions subject to mayoral authority, including those administered through the Chief Administrative Officer;

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor is deeply committed to providing continued leadership on issues related to climate action, resilience, and sustainability;

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor believes that distributing climate and resilience initiatives across City departments, rather than housing them within a single office, will better integrate the Mayor's environmental priorities into the daily work of core departments where implementation and accountability occur with urgency; and

**WHEREAS**, oversight of resilience and sustainability initiatives by the Chief Administrative Office will provide clear executive accountability and ensure that initiatives better align with citywide policies and infrastructure priorities;

**NOW THEREFORE, I, HELENA MORENO**, pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Mayor of the City of New Orleans by Section 4-206(3) of the New Orleans Home Rule Charter and other applicable law, **DO HEREBY ORDER AS FOLLOWS**:

1. **Effective Date**. This Order shall become effective upon execution.
  
2. **Resilience and Climate Policy**. It is the policy of the Administration that initiatives related to climate, resilience, and sustainability are vital to the well-being of the City and should be pursued wherever possible through coordination among all City departments. In furtherance of that policy, the executive branch shall:
  - A. Continue administering and securing grants to support sustainability and resilience work.

B. Establish a Resilience Coordination Council, overseen centrally through the Chief Administrative Office, to promote resilience initiative across City departments.

C. Develop, not later than June 1, 2026, a comprehensive heat mitigation plan to ensure every New Orleanian is within walking distance of a cooling center.

D. Complete and publish a citywide inventory of climate and resiliency projects and future initiatives, including projected impacts, key metrics for each project, milestones, and delivery timelines. The inventory should be made publicly available and incorporated into a broader Citywide Infrastructure Dashboard.

E. Establish a shortlist of climate and resilience projects that will be started within the first 100 days of the Administration.

F. Pilot an ambassador task force of community leaders and civic organizations to catalyze climate, infrastructure, and resilience initiatives and programs.

G. Continue the implementation of the City's Climate Action Plan.

**3. ORS Reorganization.** The resilience and climate initiatives detailed above shall be administered through the Chief Administrative Office ("CAO") under the direction of the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Infrastructure ("Deputy CAO").

A. The Deputy CAO shall appoint a Chief Resilience Officer to help coordinate the City's climate and resilience initiatives, with an emphasis on stormwater management.

B. Existing ORS staffing functions shall be redistributed, subject to oversight and direction by the Deputy CAO, as follows:

1. Eight (8) positions within the CAO and ORS will be responsible for grant operations, electrification, clean fleet issues, benchmarking, and outreach.
2. One (1) position within the staff of the City Planning Commission will be focused on embedding sustainability and resilience principles into land-use decisions and policy.
3. Two (2) positions within Department of Public Works will ensure that climate, resilience, and sustainability priorities are integrated directly into capital planning, joint projects with the New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board, procurement, and operations.

4. **Duration.** This Order shall remain effective until amended, rescinded, or terminated in accordance with applicable law.

**WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL THIS 12TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2026 AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.**

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**Helena Moreno**  
**Mayor**  
**City of New Orleans**