



To Frank

ARNIE FIELKOW
Councilman At Large
1300 Perdido St. - Room 2W40
New Orleans, LA 70112
Phone: 504-658-1060

FAX: (504) 658-1068

DATE: 22 Feb.

PAGES: 04

TO: Melanie Charles

COMPANY: 8

FAX NO.: 504-988-1763

FROM: Arnie Fielkow

COMMENTS:

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL PAGES, PLEASE CALL 658-1060.



The Council
City of New Orleans

ARNIE FIELKOW
COUNCILMEMBER AT LARGE

CITY HALL, SUITE 2W40
1300 PERDIDO STREET
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70118
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February 22, 2007

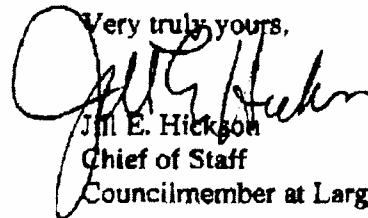
Melanie Ehrlich
Citizen's Road Home Action Team
1450 Crescent Drive
New Orleans, LA 70122

Dear Melanie,

Councilmember Fielkow has asked me to take a moment to contact you and inform you that he and Councilmember Oliver Thomas introduced a slightly revised Road Home Bill of Rights at last Thursday's City Council meeting which was passed unanimously by the full council. Please find attached, a copy of the resolution for your review and distribution. We hope that this effort will be helpful in gaining additional support for all the important work you and the Citizen's Road Home Action Team has done up to this point.

Your diligence and dedication to informing the public about the challenges of the Road Home Program along with suggestions to help improve the process has shown the type of proactive spirit that will be required from all citizens as we continue to recover.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office if there is anything we can do to help. We stand ready to support you in your efforts and look forward to working with you and the Citizen's Road Home Action Team as we rebuild our city!

Very truly yours,

Jim E. Hickson
Chief of Staff
Councilmember at Large Arnie Fielkow

RESOLUTION

R-07-91

CITY HALL: February 15, 2007

BY: COUNCILMEMBERS THOMAS AND FIELKOW

WHEREAS, In the course of this nation's history it has been amongst our highest principles that a government of the people shall also be a government for the people; and

WHEREAS, At certain moments, in certain times, it is incumbent upon that government to remind itself of the duties it owes to its citizens; and

WHEREAS, The Founding Fathers of this nation saw fit to include, in our founding documents, a Bill of Rights for our citizens; and

WHEREAS, The imperative for appropriate government action, accountability, response, and resolve has rarely been greater than that of this day; and

WHEREAS, The citizens of the City of New Orleans, and the State of Louisiana, deserve the clarity and expediency of government at its best; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS, That this Council does hereby recommend that the following Louisiana Road Home Program Bill of Rights be implemented and applied immediately:

- I. The right to current and complete rules of the program.
- II. The right to timely processing of each application.
- III. The right to swift and equitable resolution of errors, disputes, and appeals.
- IV. The right to equitable and accurate calculation of benefit and tender of award.
- V. The right to accept initial tender of award without imperiling the right of dispute resolution and appeal.
- VI. The right to simple, equitable, and easily decipherable closing documents.
- VII. The right to simple and equitable rules for lenders, governing the administration of disbursement accounts, expediting, rather than impeding rebuilding.
- VIII. The right to accurate, expedient information regarding the status of individual applications, provided by fully trained personnel within 24 hours of each request.

- IX. The right to reasonable residency requirements for grants and loans.
- X. The right to equitable rules for grant benefit assignment, or compensation, when a home must be sold.
- XI. The right to affordable or forgivable loans, sufficient to cover any reconstruction gap resulting from low pre-storm valuation.
- XII. The right to the acceptance of a third-party appraisal for pre and post-storm valuation.
- XIII. The right to elevation awards based on the actual cost of elevation.
- XIV. The right to public discussion concerning the condition and disposition of property acquired, by any level of government, through the Road Home Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of Council send certified copies of this resolution to Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Louisiana Recovery Authority Chairman Dr. Norman Francis, Mayor C. Ray Nagin, the Louisiana Congressional delegation, and the Orleans state legislative delegation for their immediate attention and consideration.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS READ IN FULL, THE ROLL WAS CALLED ON THE ADOPTION THEREOF AND RESULTED AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS: Carter, Fielkow, Head, Hedge-Morrall, Midura, Thomas - 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: Willard-Lewis - 1
AND THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.

G:CCSRCH/RESOLUTS/07-30

THIS DOCUMENT IS INTENDED TO BE A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY

[Handwritten Signature]
 CLERK OF COUNCIL