

**Progress Report**

NOLA East Clean Sweep-a partnership of business, neighborhood, civic and city leadership, launched on May 18,2012, an aggressive campaign to eradicate the Top commercial blighted properties along the I-10 corridor, one of the most important business growth corridors in the region. The coalition includes: Fast Forward Restart, East New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory Commission, Community Legion, Transform-Her, and Friends of Joe Brown Park, in partnership with the Landrieu administration, District E Councilman James Gray, and Council President Stacy Head. By focusing efforts in small, manageable blocks, with the greatest visibility and opportunity for development, this public- private partnership has enhanced the image of the commercial heart of New Orleans East as a place to invest, work and live.

**July- August, 2013 Results**

* Demolition is underway at Park Brittany Townhouses
* Utility shed demolished by Lake Forest LLC in front of Grand Theatre
* 45608 Bullard- Property owner cut grass/weeds on this 7.2 acre lot behind new Big Lots
* 6800 Plaza Drive-Property owner (Ochsner) has boarded first floor windows and doors; 2nd floor still to be secured
* Whitney Trailer on Read Blvd. has been removed

**Summary (May 2012- August 2013)**

* Seven (8) properties have been brought into compliance, including the demolition of Greater St. Stephan’s Administration Building on Lake Forest and Building and two Park Brittany Townhouses on I-10 Service Road
* Seven(7) properties have been adjudicated, found guilty and fined. Of these sites , “no action” has been taken since the owner was fined and required to bring the property up to code for following properties: (**1) Grand Theatre; (2) 6700 Plaza Dr (former RTA Building); 8500 Lake Forest(Former BP Gas Station); 8501 Lake Forest ( National Baptist Convention); 10101 Lake Forest ( former VOA Building)**
* One(1) property is waiting inspection which is the former Bern Mas Apartments at 10301 I-10 Service Road

**Challenges**

* The former plaza site is a huge obstruction to the economic development and revitalization of the area.  Because of complex tax and legal issues involved, New Orleans East Clean Sweep remains in contact with the administration and will continue to stay connected so as to provide the latest updates on this continuing impediment.
* The Coalition supports efforts to revise city code enforcement regulations to increase economic sanctions to encourage building code compliance, as well as the development of incentives to attract investment in commercial properties in New Orleans East.
* There is a need for an cohesive corridor implementation strategy for the “Town Center “ along I-10 between Crowder and Bullard that establishes a coordinated action plan and principles for design, branding, development, transportation and financing that serves as a model for other commercial corridors in the East

**Contact:** For more information, please go to [www.NewOrleansEast.Com](http://www.NewOrleansEast.Com) or contact Barbara Johnson at barbara@fastforwardrestart.org or 504-613-7457.