

ORDINANCE

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

CITY HALL: June 24, 2026

CALENDAR NO. 35,477

NO. _____ MAYOR COUNCIL SERIES

BY: COUNCILMEMBERS KING AND HARRIS (BY REQUEST)

AN ORDINANCE to ordain and establish Chapter 70, Article III, Division 56 of the Code of the City of New Orleans, consisting of sections 70-415.350 through 70-415.354, for the purpose of creating the Crescent City Connection Bridge Lighting Fund to manage funding for decorative bridge lighting; to ordain and establish Chapter 146, Article XIV of the Code, consisting of sections 146-786 through 146-793, to provide relative to the maintenance, operation, and purchase by third parties of decorative lighting on the Crescent City Connection; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

SECTION 1. THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS HEREBY ORDAINS, That the Code of the City of New Orleans is amended to add Sections 70-415.350 through 70-415.354 which shall read as follows:

“CHAPTER 70 – FINANCE

*** * ***

ARTICLE III. – FUNDS

*** * ***

DIVISION 56. – CRESCENT CITY CONNECTION BRIDGE LIGHTING FUND

Sec. 70-415.350. – Fund created.

There is hereby created a special fund designated as the Crescent City Connection Bridge Lighting Fund (hereinafter “fund”).

Sec. 70-415.351. – Funding and purpose.

The fund shall be used exclusively for maintenance, operational, and programming costs associated with decorative lighting on the Crescent City Connection Bridge. All revenues collected from the operation of any bridge-lighting display program shall be deposited into the fund.

Sec. 70-415.352. – Restrictions on the fund.

Moneys deposited into the fund shall remain in the fund until spent for the purposes specified in this division. The funds may not be transferred into the general fund or any other funds.

Sec. 70-415.353. –Reports.

The director of the department of finance shall keep detailed and accurate records in the administration of the fund and shall make annual reports to the chief administrative officer and the city council, giving a complete and detailed written accounting of all revenues and expenditures of the fund.

Sec. 70-414.354. – Administration of the fund.

The fund shall be administered by the director of the department of finance in accordance with Home Rule Charter section 6-207 and shall be maintained in an interest-bearing account with interest accruing to the benefit of and to become part of the fund.”

SECTION 2. THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS HEREBY ORDAINS, That the Code of the City of New Orleans is amended to add Article XIV of Chapter 146 which shall contain sections 146-786 through 146-792 and shall read as follows:

“CHAPTER 146 – STREETS, SIDEWALKS, AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES

ARTICLE XIV. – CRESCENT CITY CONNECTION BRIDGE LIGHTING

7 **Sec. 146-786. – Generally.**

8 The city, through a department or operating unit designated by the chief administrative officer,
9 may implement a program regulating displays of illumination on the Crescent City Connection
10 Bridge and the purchase of lighting displays by third parties in accordance with this article.

11 **Sec. 146-787. – Application process and approval.**

12 The city may authorize lighting displays on the Crescent City Connection at the request of a third
13 party upon approval of the responsible department and upon payment of the program fee
14 established pursuant to this article. The application and approval process, including any required
15 forms, submittals, and submission deadlines, shall be established by the responsible department
16 and published online. Approval shall not be denied, nor any approved display cancelled, based
17 upon a disagreement with the viewpoint of the applicant.

18 **Sec. 146-788. – Program fee.**

19 The schedule of fees for participation in the bridge lighting program shall be established by the
20 responsible department and published online. The daily fee for bridge lighting displays shall be
21 based on the complexity and cost of creating and implementing the lighting configuration and
22 shall not be less than \$1,000 per night. nor more than \$15,000 per night. All fees collected
23 pursuant to this article shall be deposited into the Crescent City Connection Bridge Lighting Fund
24 established in chapter 70, division 56 of this code.

25 **Sec. 146-789. – Blackout days and use by the city.**

- 26 (a) The responsible department shall establish a schedule of days on which bridge lighting
27 displays are reserved for lighting displays requested by the city, including displays
28 necessary to comply with existing contractual obligations or to commemorate holidays,
29 matters of local significance, and special events.

(b) The city shall have an absolute right to cancel or reschedule any scheduled lighting program and may substitute a city-initiated lighting display in its place. City-initiated lighting displays shall be subject to the approval of the chief administrative officer. City-initiated displays shall be made at no cost to the city; however, the chief administrative officer, in his or her discretion, may require the transfer of budgeted funds from a requesting department to the Crescent City Connection Bridge Lighting Fund to offset any foregone revenue.

(c) The city shall not circumvent the prohibition against fee waivers by requesting lighting displays on behalf of third parties pursuant to this section, absent an overriding public, economic, or cultural benefit of general applicability.

Sec. 146-790. – Prohibitions.

The department shall not authorize any custom lighting display that may distract vessel or vehicle bridge traffic.

Sec. 146-791. – Cancellations and refunds.

(a) Applicants may request cancelation of a purchased lighting display up to 14 days before the first scheduled lighting display date and receive a 50 percent refund of the daily lighting fee. Cancelations at the request of the applicant occurring less than 14 days before the display date shall not be refunded.

(b) In the event a cancelation or rescheduling at the order of the city, the applicant shall be notified in writing and shall be offered a full refund of program fees or the opportunity to reschedule the lighting display on a different day at no additional charge.

Sec. 146-792. – Waivers.

The fees imposed pursuant to this article shall not be waived.

53 **Sec. 146-793. – State exemption.**

54 To the extent required by contract, the state of Louisiana shall be exempt from the fees provided
55 herein.

56 **Secs. 146-794—146-795. – Reserved.”**

ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS _____

PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

DELIVERED TO THE MAYOR ON _____

APPROVED:

DISAPPROVED: _____

MAYOR

RETURNED BY THE MAYOR _____ AT _____

CLERK OF COUNCIL

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

RECUSED:



LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

TO ACCOMPANY ORDINANCES

BEFORE SUBMISSION TO CLERK OF COUNCIL

Requesting Department or Agency: _____

Name of Contact Person: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Initials of Sponsoring Councilmember(s): _____

DETAILED SYNOPSIS OF THE ORDINANCE

Please generally describe the purpose, intent, and effect of the proposed ordinance.



LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

If the Ordinance is to effectuate a contract, CEA, or other similar agreement (hereafter contract), please provide the following additional information.

☐

If this section is not applicable, please check this box.

The parties involved:

The obligations, expectations, and deliverables of the parties involved:

Any fiscal implications for the City with the contract:

The public purpose and need for the contract:

The duration of the contract:



LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

If the Ordinance is to effectuate an amendment to the Codes of the City of New Orleans, please provide the following additional information.

☐

If this section is not applicable, please check this box.

The existing provision(s) of the Code being proposed for amendment:

The general content/requirements of the existing Code provision:

How the proposed ordinance will alter the existing Code provision(s):

Why these changes are needed:

REQUESTED ADOPTION DATE: _____

Reference: Council Rule 41 & City Code Section 2-813

Calendar No.

(Rev)

(Exp)

Name PATRICK JUDGE 504-658-8689
Person responsible for routing Ext. 504-657-4858

CHECK SHEET TO BE USED FOR
CLEARING ORDINANCES, MOTIONS, AND RESOLUTIONS
BEFORE SUBMISSION TO COUNCIL CLERK

The originating agency shall attach a copy of each proposed ordinance, motion, or resolution to the check sheet for processing in the sequence indicated after preparing a synopsis. The detailed memorandum of explanation shall also be attached to this check sheet.

SYNOPSIS OF DOCUMENT: Ordinance to authorize the City of New Orleans to establish the Crescent City Connection (CCC) Bridge Lighting Fund as Division 56 of Article III in Chapter 70 of the Code of the City of New Orleans; to provide a fee for private lighting on the CCC; to ordain Sections 70-415.350 through 70-415.354 of the Code of the City of New Orleans within said Division; and to establish Chapter 146, Article XIV of the Code, consisting of sections 146-786 through 146-793 to provide relative to the maintenance, operation, and purchase by third parties of decorative lighting on the Crescent City Connection; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

1. Department Head stephen nelson
Deputy CAO
2. Department of Law
3. Chief Administrative Officer
4. Director of Council Relations
5. Initials of Sponsoring Council Member

COUNCIL ACTION

Council Members Present: _____

Absent: _____

AMENDMENTS:

FINAL ADOPTION:

MOVED: _____
2ND: _____
YEAS: _____
NAYS: _____
ABSENT: _____
RECUSED: _____

7. _____
Reviewed by the Chief Administrative Officer after adoption by the City Council and prior to the Mayor's signature. REF. POLICY MEMORANDUM NO. 3



LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

TO ACCOMPANY ORDINANCES

BEFORE SUBMISSION TO CLERK OF COUNCIL

Requesting Department or Agency: Department of Public Works

Name of Contact Person: Stephen Nelson, Deputy CAO & Director

Telephone Number: 504 658 8000

Email Address: stephen.nelson@nola.gov

Initials of Sponsoring Councilmember(s): _____

DETAILED SYNOPSIS OF THE ORDINANCE

Please generally describe the purpose, intent, and effect of the proposed ordinance.

This Ordinance is to authorize the City of New Orleans to establish the Crescent City Connection (CCC) Bridge Lighting Fund, to provide for a fee for private lighting on the CCC Bridge, and to provide for restrictions and administration of the Fund, to provide for the maintenance, operation and purchase by third parties of the CCC lighting, and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.



LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

If the Ordinance is to effectuate a contract, CEA, or other similar agreement (hereafter contract), please provide the following additional information.

☐

If this section is not applicable, please check this box.

The parties involved:

The City of New Orleans

The obligations, expectations, and deliverables of the parties involved:

The Ordinance establishes the Crescent City Connection (CCC) Bridge Lighting Fund and sets a fee structure for various lighting scenarios.

Any fiscal implications for the City with the contract:

The City will use the fees generated by private lighting of the CCC Bridge for maintenance and programming costs associated with the lighting.

The public purpose and need for the contract:

To provide for a mechanism to allow for public access to lighting of the CCC Bridge and to establish fees and disposition of those fees to maintain the bridge lighting.

The duration of the contract:

This Ordinance will be in effect until its repeal or amendment.



LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

If the Ordinance is to effectuate an amendment to the Codes of the City of New Orleans, please provide the following additional information.



If this section is not applicable, please check this box.

The existing provision(s) of the Code being proposed for amendment:

The general content/requirements of the existing Code provision:

How the proposed ordinance will alter the existing Code provision(s):

Why these changes are needed:

REQUESTED ADOPTION DATE: July 9, 2026

Reference: Council Rule 41 & City Code Section 2-813

ORDINANCE
CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

CITY HALL: _____

CALENDAR NO. _____

NO. _____ **MAYOR COUNCIL SERIES**

BY: COUNCILMEMBER _____ **(BY REQUEST)**

AN ORDINANCE to ordain and establish Chapter 70, Article III, Division 56 of the Code of the City of New Orleans, consisting of sections 70-415.350 through 70-415.354, for the purpose of creating the Crescent City Connection Bridge Lighting Fund to manage funding for decorative bridge lighting; to ordain and establish Chapter 146, Article XIV of the Code, consisting of sections 146-786 through 146-793, to provide relative to the maintenance, operation, and purchase by third parties of decorative lighting on the Crescent City Connection; and otherwise to provide with respect thereto.

SECTION 1. THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS HEREBY
ORDAINS, That the Code of the City of New Orleans is amended to add Sections 70-415.350 through 70-415.354 which shall read as follows:

“CHAPTER 70 – FINANCE

* * *

ARTICLE III. – FUNDS

* * *

DIVISION 56. – CRESCENT CITY CONNECTION BRIDGE LIGHTING FUND

Sec. 70-415.350. – Fund created.

There is hereby created a special fund designated as the Crescent City Connection Bridge Lighting Fund (hereinafter “fund”).

12 **Sec. 70-415.351. – Funding and purpose.**

13 The fund shall be used exclusively for maintenance, operational, and programming costs
14 associated with decorative lighting on the Crescent City Connection Bridge. All revenues
15 collected from the operation of any bridge-lighting display program shall be deposited into the
16 fund.

17 **Sec. 70-415.352. – Restrictions on the fund.**

18 Moneys deposited into the fund shall remain in the fund until spent for the purposes specified
19 in this division. The funds may not be transferred into the general fund or any other funds.

20 **Sec. 70-415.353. —Reports.**

21 The director of the department of finance shall keep detailed and accurate records in the
22 administration of the fund and shall make annual reports to the chief administrative officer and
23 the city council, giving a complete and detailed written accounting of all revenues and
24 expenditures of the fund.

25 **Sec. 70-414.354. – Administration of the fund.**

26 The fund shall be administered by the director of the department of finance in accordance
27 with Home Rule Charter section 6-207 and shall be maintained in an interest-bearing account
28 with interest accruing to the benefit of and to become part of the fund.”

1 **SECTION 2. THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS HEREBY**
2 **ORDAINS**, That the Code of the City of New Orleans is amended to add Article XIV of Chapter
3 146 which shall contain sections 146-786 through 146-792 and shall read as follows:

4 **“CHAPTER 146 – STREETS, SIDEWALKS, AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES**

5 * * *

6 ARTICLE XIV. – CRESCENT CITY CONNECTION BRIDGE LIGHTING

7 **Sec. 146-786. – Generally.**

8 The city, through a department or operating unit designated by the chief administrative officer,
9 may implement a program regulating displays of illumination on the Crescent City Connection
10 Bridge and the purchase of lighting displays by third parties in accordance with this article.

11 **Sec. 146-787. – Application process and approval.**

12 The city may authorize lighting displays on the Crescent City Connection at the request of a third
13 party upon approval of the responsible department and upon payment of the program fee
14 established pursuant to this article. The application and approval process, including any required
15 forms, submittals, and submission deadlines, shall be established by the responsible department
16 and published online. Approval shall not be denied, nor any approved display cancelled, based
17 upon a disagreement with the viewpoint of the applicant.

18 **Sec. 146-788. – Program fee.**

19 The schedule of fees for participation in the bridge lighting program shall be established by the
20 responsible department and published online. The daily fee for bridge lighting displays shall be
21 based on the complexity and cost of creating and implementing the lighting configuration and
22 shall not be less than \$1,000 per night. nor more than \$15,000 per night. All fees collected
23 pursuant to this article shall be deposited into the Crescent City Connection Bridge Lighting Fund
24 established in chapter 70, division 56 of this code.

25 **Sec. 146-789. – Blackout days and use by the city.**

26 (a) The responsible department shall establish a schedule of days on which bridge lighting
27 displays are reserved for lighting displays requested by the city, including displays
28 necessary to comply with existing contractual obligations or to commemorate holidays,
29 matters of local significance, and special events.

(b) The city shall have an absolute right to cancel or reschedule any scheduled lighting program and may substitute a city-initiated lighting display in its place. City-initiated lighting displays shall be subject to the approval of the chief administrative officer. City-initiated displays shall be made at no cost to the city; however, the chief administrative officer, in his or her discretion, may require the transfer of budgeted funds from a requesting department to the Crescent City Connection Bridge Lighting Fund to offset any foregone revenue.

(c) The city shall not circumvent the prohibition against fee waivers by requesting lighting displays on behalf of third parties pursuant to this section, absent an overriding public, economic, or cultural benefit of general applicability.

Sec. 146-790. – Prohibitions.

The department shall not authorize any custom lighting display that may distract vessel or vehicle bridge traffic.

Sec. 146-791. – Cancellations and refunds.

(a) Applicants may request cancelation of a purchased lighting display up to 14 days before the first scheduled lighting display date and receive a 50 percent refund of the daily lighting fee. Cancelations at the request of the applicant occurring less than 14 days before the display date shall not be refunded.

(b) In the event a cancelation or rescheduling at the order of the city, the applicant shall be notified in writing and shall be offered a full refund of program fees or the opportunity to reschedule the lighting display on a different day at no additional charge.

Sec. 146-792. – Waivers.

The fees imposed pursuant to this article shall not be waived.

53 **Sec. 146-793. – State exemption.**

54 To the extent required by contract, the state of Louisiana shall be exempt from the fees provided
55 herein.

56 **Secs. 146-794—146-795. – Reserved.”**

ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS _____

PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

DELIVERED TO THE MAYOR ON _____

APPROVED:

DISAPPROVED: _____

MAYOR

RETURNED BY THE MAYOR _____ AT _____

CLERK OF COUNCIL

ROLL CALL VOTE:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

RECUSED: