

# Workshop #3 - Algiers Towne Plan

August 19, 2006, the people attending the workshop divided into the nine (9) neighborhood groups in Planning Districts 12 and 13 as designated by the City Planning Commission.

## DESIGN QUESTION # 1

It's 2009 and Algiers has the best school system in the United States. What specifically did they do? What did Algiers do to increase community and business participation / support in public / charter schools? How have schools become an integral part of the community? How did people become more confident in the ability of public / charter schools to provide quality and equitable education for the children of Algiers? What was done to increase accountability and standards? How have post-secondary schools (Delgado, Holy Cross, etc.) and the K-12 schools become collaborative partners? How were public / charter school facilities (buildings, equipment, etc.) enhanced / improved?

## DESIGN QUESTION #2

It's 2009 and Algiers is one of the most successful communities in the country in every way a community can be measured. What 2-3 specific things did Algiers do during 2006-07 with Housing ?

Responses from each group varied to some extent from the format listed. In general, however, the work product of each group provides the planners with important and valuable information to incorporate into the Algiers Towne Plan.

Neighborhood Group	Topic	Response
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## Algiers Point

### Education

Teacher pay based on student performance

Incentives for parental involvement

Improved, highly qualified, professional principals and teachers

Enhanced, clean up physical plants

Hire educated teachers that are highly qualified

Improved physical plants

Parent accountability

Good trade schools

"Depoliticize" school systems

Access to private schools / desirable public schools

Channel funding / spend appropriately

Incentives for parental involvement - you have to learn about what your kids are doing

Project based learning

Look at best practices in our own community and replicate

Implement neighborhood school model

Maritime school

Art classes in MGW

Use Algiers Federal Courthouse for civics classes

Use blighted housing stock for architecture-based curriculum

Neighborhood Group	Topic	Response
		Better paid teachers
		Principals control school
		Run schools like a business
		Smaller schools
	<b><u>Housing</u></b>	
		Homeowner policies - affordable attainable insurance
		Adopt and enforce building codes and zoning plan
		Affordable housing programs (public / private partnerships)
		City laws and services that are enforced and carried out to cleanup housing stock
		More community services - health clinics, grocery stores
		Programs to encourage more mixed income neighborhood
		Affordable rentals
		Appropriately funnel money in the right places
		Federal subsidies for low income or middle income families to become homeowners
		Riverfront development in general
		First responders in neighborhood (police, firefighters, teachers)
		If in public housing, residents must be required to be employed
		Manage slum lords
		Low interest loans
		Management of garbage, city services, roads, lights, etc.
		Affordable housing for young professionals
		Keep flavor or New Orleans architecture with updated housing styles
		Different housing styles
		Federal / private partnership funding to restore blighted property
		Programs for affordable homeownership
		Redevelop adjudicated houses
		Investors / developers - active development
		Transportation (Ferry)
		No slum housing - develop a process for management
		Green space
		Small shops throughout Algiers
		Wide streets, shade trees
		Public transportation to allow workers to get to and from jobs downtown / quarter. Ferry 24 hours

**Behrman****Education**

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Get politics out of education

Tax payers: demand more and not settle for special interest groups

Reinforcement of behavior on consistent basis

Parental involvement

Higher pay = higher standards

Solid curriculum / unified for all schools

No social promotion: alternative education

Build Schools Right!

Redo administration

Run Schools Right!

Nexus system with elementary, middle and high schools located in separate buildings on same campus with shared facilities

Don't have higher grades in the same area / building as lower grades

Build and make schools like a home

Use high-quality materials

Insure discipline from school and home

Choose representatives wisely

**Housing**

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Utilities and insurance savings

Don't rebuild the slums

No inferior materials

Enforce standards

Elevation requirements met

Pride in neighborhood

Off-street parking

Shaded housing plan (owner-occupied with rental properties)

Central vacuum system

Central connection point (for utilities and all connections)

Wind and termite resistant

Raise homes off the ground

Steel instead of wood

Energy efficient

Build smart, sustainable homes

Neighborhood Group	Topic	Response
		Subdivision security: civic association with security measures concept (mortgage payment with taxes & security) Well-anchored Standards for building / rebuilding

**Cutoff****Education**

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Positive behavior support

Foster & encourage wholesale support of schools by all stakeholders (students, parents, teachers, business, community, & government)

Provide education of parents and greater parental involvement

Cohesive planning for all schools - 1 education plan

Develop education curriculum that meets standard needs

Professional development

Varied teaching methods that promote student interest

Varied focus & programs - college prep, Montessori, etc.

Upgrade facilities to state-of-the-art to support varied educational programs and curriculum that provide instruction and continuing education for children & adults

Focus on character development

Expand concept of school beyond buildings - use existing spaces, collaborate other agencies / organizations

Multicultural respect for culture & differences

Apprentice programs

Evening adult programs & training

Business partnerships / collaborative

Use schools as community centers

Seek additional outside funding for bus, grants, fundraising, community support for millages

Update facilities to support all programs & make better use of existing facilities

Focus on career development

Business / community / parental support of education

**Housing**

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Encourage / support all residents to maintain properties

Affordable / quality housing

Quality apartment rental housing

Eliminate blighted property

Mixed-income dwellings & complexes

Encourage / support / make aware of programs for homeownership

Work with city to maintain streets, neutral grounds, lighting, & city property

Maintain and beautify thoroughfares

Neighborhood Group	Topic	Response
		Expand opportunities for affordable & quality housing of all types (rental & single family & mixed income) Collaborate with city agencies to maintain private & public properties & encourage the maintenance of properties through enforcement of property codes, street maintenance, awareness of home ownership opportunities, etc. Enforcement of proper codes

**Navy Base****Education**

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Unified schools, access to quality schools for all students

Equity in resources (all schools) and cultural competence

Create Schools that are career focused where usable skills can be learned, Vocational & Technical

Create jobs with good wages where skills learned can be used

Make different language classes a requirement not an elective - start at elementary

Certified educators for all schools

Community service & service learning required for graduation

Smaller classroom size / Improved student - teacher ratio

School facility maintenance

Community based tutoring and mentoring to begin in kindergarden

Make it a requirement for parents to attend Parent - Teacher conferences. Parental Involvement in child's education made mandatory

Develop a school community that interfaces with business and industry. Provide real world experience (Joint effort with colleges)

**Housing**

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Clean Neighborhood - Teamwork

Build Good Neighborhood Communication

Protect neighborhood policies

Build homes with more personal space - less density

Improve lighting and streets (potholes)

Make sure affordable housing is available

Put support services around people with disabilities needing homes (all incomes)

Construct a retirement resort in Algiers (The Hub)

Hold HUD, HANO and other Governmental Agencies accountable

Take measures to prevent blighted properties - Homeowners, Landlords, and Business Owners

Enforcement of Building Codes

Neighborhood Group	Topic	Response
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**New Aurora / English Turn**

**Education**

- Higher education more involved with the school system
- More focus on college prep programs
- Unified school system with community engagement "community schools"
- Develop expanded industry specific schools
- More parental involvement
- Cohesive pay plan
- Corporate (Business) involvement
- School infrastructure funded by tax bonds and local resources (Tulane, etc)
- Multi-use school facilities
- Improved teacher pay & compensation
- Principal autonomy
- Year-round schools
- Central funding
- Money sources that are already dedicated have one agency dedicated to the spending (accountability)

**Housing**

- Tie jobs and housing closely together
- Improve what we have: low density multifamily, senior, young families, young professionals
- Improve public transportation, accessibility, zoning changes and enforcement
- Market the community
- Healthcare
- Voice to Government
- Building design / code / cost
- Encourage ownership - Expand and create programs
- Environmental safety - Levees, Wetlands
- Community level enforcement
- Eliminate Poverty / Eliminate Blight
- Reuse existing facilities
- Livable community spaces creating mixed use / mixed income
- Community safety - public safety, community policing, infrastructure, maintenance & improvement, drainage
- Economic forces / employment, other industries vs. tourism

**Old Aurora****Education**

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Sponsor math/science fairs - recruitment  
Routine maintenance of employees and students  
Christmas in October concept (monthly)  
Accountability  
Inform community, encourage volunteerism  
Discipline  
Student Day - held by companies  
Build strong PTA / PTO  
Collaborative partners  
Annual performance evaluation  
Code of Conduct  
Parent accountability  
Business / School partnerships  
Shared vision "Algiers cares"  
Nexus concept  
Schools partner with public library and NORD School facilities and money  
Equitable education  
Increase participation  
Inform community  
Business sponsors for school needs and programs  
Design curriculum to meet city needs, health services, hospitality, technology  
Network with AEDF as recruitment tool for school sponsorship  
Integral part of community / each neighborhood association

**Housing**

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Empty blighted houses to be put back into commerce  
Enforce existing laws on quality of life issues  
EMS & fireman pay raises  
Build houses on vacant lots (infill)  
Improve streets  
Improve infrastructure  
Safe & caring communities (covenants)

Neighborhood Group	Topic	Response	
<b>Tall Timbers / Brechtel</b>	<u><b>Education</b></u>		
		Collaboration with colleges and high schools - classes on campus	
		Clean, well-maintained facilities	
		Schools center of community	
		Professionalism in staff	
		Learning Hospital (Mary Joseph / OLHCC)	
		School Associated with Species Survival Center	
		Arts School (Studio in the Woods)	
		Make school system high tech	
		Smaller class sizes	
		Parent Involvement	
		Schools reach out to businesses	
		Mentorship programs through neighborhood associations - open to all	
		Bring in people associated with successful systems that knew what worked	
		Community as an integral part of school	
		Working Museum (History, Over the River, etc)	
		<u><b>Housing</b></u>	
			Young professional housing
			Use the Riverfront!
			Parks, Trails, Bike paths, Accessible Recreation
		Promote healthy and active lifestyle	
		Blighted housing - home ownership	
		Architectural design guidelines / codes	
		Retirement housing	
		Affordable and accessible housing	
		Riverfront Development - shopping, entertainment, accessible to everyone	

Neighborhood Group	Topic	Response
<b>Whitney/Fisher/McDonough</b>	<b><u>Education</u></b>	<p>Make schools safe with updated technology to allow children to maximize potential</p> <p>Post-secondary schools partner with the K-12 schools to expose children to careers both skilled labor and professional</p> <p>Increase number of teacher certifications which increases the number of children, test scores, etc. leading to more post-secondary education leading to more careers, economic development</p> <p>A higher number of children graduate and become part of the post-secondary education which became a support for economic development</p> <p>Workplace literacy accessible to adults at their workplace</p> <p>Created programs for adult literacy that help to support children's educational needs / efforts. Become a family of learners</p>
	<b><u>Housing</u></b>	<p>Neighborhoods have access to transportation, central services (libraries, employment, social services, etc.)</p> <p>Safe &amp; affordable housing &amp; thriving mixed income neighborhoods</p> <p>Universal access</p>