

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 895

BY REPRESENTATIVE MAGEE

DISTRICTS/SPECIAL: Creates the LaSalle Cultural Corridor District in Orleans Parish

1 AN ACT

2 To enact Chapter 17-E of Title 25 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be  
3 comprised of R.S. 25:850.21, relative to Orleans Parish; to create the LaSalle  
4 Cultural Corridor District; to provide relative to the boundaries, purpose,  
5 governance, and powers and duties of the district; and to provide for related matters.

6 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published  
7 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of  
8 Louisiana.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. Chapter 17-E of Title 25 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,  
11 comprised of R.S. 25:850.21, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 CHAPTER 17-E. LASALLE CULTURAL CORRIDOR DISTRICT

13 §850.21. LaSalle Cultural Corridor District

14 A. There is hereby created within the parish of Orleans, as more specifically  
15 provided in Subsection B of this Section, a body politic and corporate which shall  
16 be known as the LaSalle Cultural Corridor District, referred to in this Section as the  
17 "district". The district shall be a political subdivision of the state as defined in the  
18 Constitution of Louisiana.

1           B. The boundaries of the district shall encompass the area included within  
2           the following perimeter: South Robertson Street, Delachaise Street, South Saratoga  
3           Street, and Josephine Street.

4           C. Purpose. The purpose of the district shall be to promote, encourage, and  
5           enhance the cultural and economic assets of the district through renewed commerce,  
6           industry, and utilization and development of the human resources of the area. The  
7           objectives of the district may include such matters as music, housing, economic  
8           development, skills and technical training, the cultural and historic value of the area,  
9           tourism, entertainment, and health.

10           D. Governance. (1) The district shall be governed by a board of  
11           commissioners, referred to in this Section as the "board", composed of nine members  
12           as follows:

13           (a) The president of the Louisiana Senate or his designee, who shall be a  
14           member of the Louisiana Senate.

15           (b) The speaker of the Louisiana House Representatives or his designee, who  
16           shall be a member of the Louisiana House of Representatives.

17           (c) The lieutenant governor or his designee, who shall be a member of his  
18           staff.

19           (d) The member of the governing authority of the city of New Orleans or his  
20           designee.

21           (e) The mayor of the city of New Orleans shall appoint five members as  
22           follows:

23           (i) Two appointees from a neighborhood located within the district.

24           (ii) Two appointees from industries representing cultural economy and  
25           related industries, including the music, food, and film industries, culture bearers, or  
26           related cultural economy industries such as the performing and visual arts.

27           (iii) One appointee with community and economic development experience.

28           (2)(a) Members appointed pursuant to Subparagraph (1)(e) shall serve three-  
29           year terms after serving initial terms as provided in this Subparagraph. Two

1 members shall serve an initial term of three years, two shall serve an initial term of  
2 two years, and one shall serve an initial term of one year, as determined by lot at the  
3 first meeting of the board.

4 (b) Members serving pursuant to Subparagraphs (1)(a) through (d) shall  
5 serve during their terms of office. Any designee serving on the board shall serve at  
6 the pleasure of the designating authority.

7 (3) Any vacancy in the membership of the board, occurring either by reason  
8 of the expiration of the term for which appointed or by reason of death, resignation,  
9 or otherwise, shall be filled in the manner of the original appointment. If the entity  
10 responsible for the appointment of a member fails to fill a vacancy within thirty days,  
11 the board may appoint an interim successor to serve for the remainder of the  
12 unexpired term.

13 (4) Board members are eligible for reappointment.

14 (5) The board shall elect from its members a chairman, a vice chairman, a  
15 secretary-treasurer, and such other officers as it deems necessary. The duties of the  
16 officers shall be fixed by the bylaws adopted by the board.

17 (6) The minute books and archives of the district shall be maintained by the  
18 secretary-treasurer of the board. The monies, funds, and accounts of the district shall  
19 be in the official custody of the board.

20 (7) The board shall adopt such rules and regulations as it deems necessary  
21 or advisable for conducting its business affairs and, to the extent that funds are  
22 available, shall hire such assistants and employees as are needed to assist the board  
23 in the performance of its duties. Rules and regulations of the board relative to the  
24 notice and conduct of meetings shall conform to applicable law, including, if  
25 applicable, R.S. 42:11 et seq., relative to open meetings. The board shall hold  
26 regular meetings as shall be provided for in the bylaws and may hold special  
27 meetings at such times and places within the district as may be prescribed in the  
28 bylaws.

1           (8) A majority of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum for the  
2           transaction of business. The board shall keep minutes of all meetings and shall make  
3           them available through the secretary-treasurer of the board.

4           (9) Each member of the board shall have one vote, and the vote of a majority  
5           of the members of the board present and voting, a quorum being present, shall be  
6           required to decide any question upon which the board takes action.

7           (10) The members of the board shall serve without compensation but shall  
8           receive reimbursement for reasonable expenses directly related to the governance of  
9           the district.

10           E. The district shall have and exercise all powers of a political subdivision  
11           necessary or convenient for the purpose of funding the district and carrying out its  
12           objects and purposes, including but not limited to the following:

13           (1) To incur debt.

14           (2) To sue and be sued.

15           (3) To adopt, use, and alter at will a corporate seal.

16           (4) To adopt bylaws and rules and regulations.

17           (5) To receive by gift, grant, donation, or otherwise any sum of money,  
18           property, aid, or assistance from the United States, the state of Louisiana, or any  
19           political subdivision thereof, or any person, firm, or corporation.

20           (6) To enter into contracts, agreements, or cooperative endeavors with the  
21           state and its political subdivisions or political corporations and with any public or  
22           private association, corporation, business entity, or individual.

23           (7) To elect officers and appoint agents and employees, prescribe their  
24           duties, and fix their compensation.

25           (8) To acquire property by purchase, gift, grant, donation, or lease.

26           (9) To establish monetary, bank, and investment accounts.

27           (10) To establish committees or subcommittees.

28           F. In order to provide for the growth and development of the district, to  
29           encourage the fullest use of underutilized resources, to provide for the enhancement

1 of the tax base, and to improve communication and coordination among the  
2 economic and human development efforts of state, federal, and local governments,  
3 the board may:

4 (1) Make recommendations concerning natural and environmental factors,  
5 trends in industrial, population, or other developments; the habits and lifestyles of  
6 the people of the district; the relation of land use within the district as it relates to the  
7 city as a whole; areas for the concentration of wholesale, retail, business, and other  
8 commercial uses; and areas for recreational uses, and for spaces and areas of mixed  
9 uses.

10 (2) Make recommendations concerning the need for and the proposed  
11 general location of public and private works and facilities.

12 (3) Make or assist in studies and investigations of the resources of the district  
13 and the existing and emerging problems of industry, commerce, transportation,  
14 population, housing, and public service affecting the redevelopment of the district,  
15 and in making such studies to seek the cooperation and collaboration of the  
16 appropriate state departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of federal, state, and  
17 local government, educational institutions, research organizations, whether public  
18 or private, and of civic groups and private persons and organizations.

19 (4) Prepare and from time to time revise inventory listings of the district's  
20 resources and of the major public and private works and facilities of all kinds which  
21 are deemed necessary to the redevelopment of the district.

22 (5) Cooperate and confer with and upon request supply information to  
23 federal agencies and to local and regional agencies created pursuant to a federal  
24 program or which receive federal support and to cooperate and confer with economic  
25 development authorities in and outside of the state.

26 (6) Advise and supply information to civic groups and private persons and  
27 organizations who may request such information or advice or who study or otherwise  
28 concern themselves with the district's problems and development of the fields of  
29 business and industry, labor, natural resources, urban growth, housing, and public

1 service activities, such as public health and education, insofar as such problems and  
2 development may be relevant to the district's redevelopment.

3 (7) Provide information to officials of departments, agencies, and  
4 instrumentalities of state and local government and to the public at large in order to  
5 foster public awareness and understanding of the objectives of the district in order  
6 to stimulate public interest and participation in the orderly, integrated development  
7 of the district.

8 (8) Accept and receive, in furtherance of its functions, funds, grants, and  
9 services from the federal government or its agencies, from departments, agencies,  
10 and instrumentalities of state, from parish, municipal, and other local governments,  
11 and from private and civic sources.

12 (9) Hold public hearings and sponsor public forums whenever it deems  
13 necessary or useful in the execution of its functions.

#### DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 895 Original

2022 Regular Session

Magee

**Abstract:** Creates the LaSalle Cultural Corridor District in Orleans Parish as a political subdivision of the state.

Proposed law creates the LaSalle Cultural Corridor District in Orleans Parish as a political subdivision of the state to promote, encourage, and enhance the cultural and economic assets of the district through renewed commerce, industry, and utilization and development of the human resources of the area. Provides for district boundaries.

Proposed law provides that the district is governed by a nine-member board of commissioners as follows:

- (1) The president of the La. Senate or his designee, who must be a member of the Senate.
- (2) The speaker of the La. House Representatives or his designee, who must be a member of the House.
- (3) The lt. governor or his designee, who must be a member of his staff.
- (4) The member of the governing authority of the city of New Orleans or his designee.
- (5) Five members appointed by the mayor of the city of New Orleans as follows:

- (a) Two appointees from a neighborhood located within the district.
- (b) Two appointees from industries representing cultural economy and related industries, including the music, food, and film industries, culture bearers, or related cultural economy industries such as the performing and visual arts.
- (c) One appointee with community and economic development experience.

Provides that appointed members serve staggered three-year terms.

Proposed law grants the district all powers of a political subdivision for the purpose of funding the district and carrying out its objects and purposes, including but not limited to the following:

- (1) To incur debt.
- (2) To sue and be sued.
- (3) To adopt, use, and alter at will a corporate seal.
- (4) To adopt bylaws and rules and regulations.
- (5) To receive by gift, grant, donation, or otherwise any sum of money, property, aid, or assistance from the U.S., the state of La., or any political subdivision thereof, or any person, firm, or corporation.
- (6) To enter into contracts, agreements, or cooperative endeavors with the state and its political subdivisions or political corporations and with any public or private association, corporation, business entity, or individual.

Proposed law grants certain powers to the board in order to provide for the growth and development of the district, including but not limited to the following:

- (1) To make recommendations concerning natural and environmental factors; trends of industrial, population, or other developments; the habits and lifestyles of the people of the district; the relation of land use within the district as it relates to the city as a whole; and areas for the concentration of wholesale, retail, business, and other commercial uses.
- (2) To make recommendations concerning the need for and the proposed general location of public and private works and facilities.
- (3) To make or assist in studies and investigations of the resources of the district and the existing and emerging problems of industry, commerce, transportation, population, housing, and public service affecting the redevelopment of the district.
- (4) To prepare and from time to time revise inventory listings of the district's resources and of the major public and private works and facilities of all kinds which are deemed necessary to the redevelopment of the district.
- (5) To cooperate and confer with and upon request supply information to federal agencies and to local and regional agencies created pursuant to a federal program or which receive federal support and to cooperate and confer with economic development authorities in and outside of the state.

(Adds R.S. 25:850.21)