



WORLD CLASS TRANSIT FOR NEW ORLEANS

RIDE NEW ORLEANS

504 345 8360
Po Box 19231
New Orleans LA 70179

Call for Board Member Applications: July 2014 – June 2016 Term

About us

For those who depend on transit—because of age, income, or disability—or those who take it by choice, we advocate and organize for transportation options as a public service and a public good. We believe that alternative transportation modes including walking, biking and public transit, are critical to the creation of vibrant, healthy and sustainable neighborhoods that encourage economic opportunities for all residents. Ride New Orleans is a 501(c)3 organization with two full-time staff – an Executive Director and a Lead Organizer. Ride New Orleans is a 501(c)3 organization with two full-time staff – an Executive Director and a Lead Organizer.

Through our Board of Directors, Executive Director, network of volunteers and strategic partnerships with government agencies, community groups and other organizations, Ride New Orleans is working to:

1. Eliminate structural barriers to world class transit;
2. Develop a culture of transit support and investment;
3. Promote visionary transit projects; and
4. Position Ride for long-term sustainability and effectiveness as an advocacy and organizing leader.

Board Member Overview

As a board member, you will assist Ride New Orleans to:

- Reform government policies and practices to ensure that transit agencies are well-funded and -managed, conduct business openly and transparently, and advance responsive, coordinated and progressive public transportation.
- Grow an educated populace of businesses, public officials, riders and community members that understand the benefits of and support investment in public transportation
- Make investment in long-range, transformative projects a priority
- Create sustainable and diverse funding streams to support the organization
- Increase awareness of Ride New Orleans in the general public
- Engage in comprehensive organizational development
- Create organizing framework to increase engagement of transit rider advocates, enthusiasts and volunteers through Riders United and the Policy Committee

As a rapidly growing organization we need your expertise and support. You'll be working with our Executive Director, Lead Organizer and the rest of our active board, to help shape the future of this dynamic and innovative nonprofit.



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We ask that you are willing to work as a team and share ideas openly. Additionally, we seek candidates with any or all of the following attributes:

- Transit riders
- Alignment with Ride New Orleans' mission
- Previous experience serving on a non-profit board
- Diversity in age, geographic location, race, background, areas of expertise
- Regular user of the public transportation system
- Fundraising experience and / or commitment to implementing fundraising strategy
- Accounting experience
- Access to diverse political and community networks
- Ability to commit to serve one, two-year term

Availability: Our 9 board members serve on alternate rotating terms. This two-year appointment begins on or before July 1, 2014.

Commitment Details: Includes about 5 hours per month on tasks such as attending monthly board meetings, participation on a committee or taskforce, fundraising responsibilities, bringing your networking resources and becoming a champion of our shared cause.

Benefits: We are an all-volunteer board. Give back to the community while gaining excellent experience working hand-in-hand with like-minded folks. Become familiar with current urban planning issues in New Orleans and network with local civic leaders.

To apply for this position: Please submit a letter-of-interest and CV or resume to rachel@rideneworleans.org by April 15, 2014.



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Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How long is a term?

A: Ride New Orleans board members serve two-year terms.

Q: How are new board members selected?

A: New board members are selected by the current Board of Directors.

Q: What are the requirements to apply?

A: We seek directors who support our mission, are excited to help grow the organization and fill gaps in our current governance expertise.

Q: What are Ride New Orleans' major accomplishments?

A: Major accomplishments include:

- Reforming the New Orleans Regional Transit Authority's public engagement policy through the creation of a standing riders advisory committee.
- Organizing community groups and public officials to change the course of the RTA's streetcar expansion investment strategy to prioritize investment in residential neighborhoods.
- Assisting the RTA in preparing federal grant applications that have resulted in bringing \$45 million in resources to New Orleans for the streetcar expansion project.
- Partnering with the Neighborhood Partnership Network to develop and instruct transportation curriculums at their Capacity College.
- Successfully advocating the RTA and Jefferson Transit to open their transit data (route, schedule and real-time) so that third party developers can build useful applications for transit riders.
- Surveying more than 1,500 Algiers – Canal Street ferry riders to reveal the critical economic and transportation linkage the ferry provides, shaping legislative response to protect and preserve ferries.
- Organizing and hosting an annual Transit Week to raise awareness on transit issues and promote transit ridership.

Q: What are the major responsibilities of nonprofit boards?

A: The National Center for Non-profit Boards describes the following basic responsibilities of non-profit boards, which are important to consider as we seek nominations for addition board members:

1. Determine the organization's mission and purposes
2. Ensure effective organization planning
3. Ensure adequate resources
4. Manage resources effectively
5. Determine, monitor, and strengthen the organizations' programs and services
6. Enhance the organization's public standing
7. Ensure legal and ethical integrity and maintain accountability
8. Recruit and orient new board members and assess board performance