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**keepNOLAreal**

(working title)

Mission Statement

By combining high-tech panelized, modular and traditional field-built construction, create new affordable homes reflecting our historic architecture, meeting all codes and ordinances while providing education, employment and business opportunities in New Orleans.

Core Goal

New Orleans has always been a melting pot but that has been changing, especially post-Katrina.

In the long run, if New Orleans continues on its recent development path without at the same time creating an abundance of truly affordable housing, it will increasingly become a monoculture and more a cartoon of itself. Look to similar cultural/historical centers in cities around the world as examples of where now, mostly (or only) wealthy people can afford to live and diversity has vanished, leaving the former center with the visual/architectural appearance of authenticity but in reality, culturally hollow. Internationally, Paris, London, Istanbul, Mexico City and domestically, Manhattan, Boston, San Francisco, Washington, DC are all good examples. More in the extreme are recent, faux-historic centers such as Porto Cervo in Sardinia, Italy and Celebration in Osceola, Florida.

Affordable housing is a cultural levee. We have a concept for an affordable building system initiative that can help keep New Orleans real. Please see the following concept statement.