

We know the entire ASBPA community is thinking of our fellow citizens in New Orleans and the surrounding areas of Louisiana who have been affected by Hurricane Ida. Additionally, the health and safety of our National Coastal Conference attendees, who are our partners and friends, is our top priority. In that spirit, we share the following with each of you who are considering joining us in NOLA.

We are moving forward to 'Geaux Resilient' in New Orleans in-person, and now more than ever, this chosen theme has significant meaning! We have been assured by multiple partners in the city that the best way we can support the New Orleans economy is by bringing our conference at the end of the month as normal routines resume, and all safety preparations are being made to receive group events. We have been in consistent contact with our local host committee and the Hilton Riverside. The hotel sustained minimal damage and resumed operations as of Labor Day weekend.

The New Orleans downtown, French Quarter, and Warehouse & Arts District have been rebounding very quickly since power was restored last week. The airport, transportation, and ride shares are up and running, as restaurants continue to reopen along with the city's popular tourist destinations. We invite you to visit NewOrleans.com and Nola.com for updates.

At this time, the city is under a mandate that in order to attend an indoor event you must present either a negative PCR test within 72 hours or proof of vaccination and observe the indoor mask mandate. Our team will help support the implementation of these protocols on site. We have also moved social gatherings outdoors where available, and appropriately spaced out our meeting facilities to increase social distancing.

Thank you for keeping all those affected by the storm in your thoughts as well as the countless hundreds who are working non-stop to bring back New Orleans as the beloved destination we all cherish.

Important notice to our conference speakers: After September 10, we will no longer be able to accommodate switching your presentation from in-person to virtual. All pre-recorded presentations and posters are due by Wednesday, September 15. All speakers must [register](#) for the conference by Sept 15. After this date, if you are not registered we will be compelled to release your presentation from the schedule. We thank you for your understanding *and* for your support of ASBPA! Our Room Block is still open and you can book your hotel room via this [link](#). To learn more [visit asbpa.org/conferences](http://visit.asbpa.org/conferences).