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BGR Media Release

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BGR Wins National Awards for Research



*Pictured: Stephen Stuart, Vice President and Research Director
with Paul Rioux, Research Analyst*

The Bureau of Governmental Research (BGR) won two awards from the Governmental Research Association (GRA) at its national conference July 30 to August 1 in Detroit.

BGR received the Outstanding Policy Achievement award for the 2016 report *Reducing the Cost of Tomorrow: A Practical Guide to Pension Reform in Jefferson, Orleans and St. Tammany Parishes*. The New Orleans City Council used the report in 2017 to craft reforms to the benefit structure of the New Orleans Municipal Employees' Retirement System (NOMERS) for new hires on or after January 1, 2018.

BGR also earned the award for Most Distinguished Research for its 2017 report *Paying for Streets: Options for Funding Road Maintenance in New*

Orleans. The report catalogues the City of New Orleans' existing funding sources dedicated to streets and assesses how well these resources align with the City's needs. It then examines options to increase street funding and makes recommendations to implement a more effective approach to funding street maintenance and repairs.

The GRA is the national organization for governmental research professionals, and has presented BGR with more than 40 awards throughout its history. These awards have recognized BGR's distinguished research, effective citizen education, distinguished service, research presentation and policy achievements. This is the 12th year in a row that the GRA has recognized BGR's work, and the sixth year in a row that BGR has received the Outstanding Policy Achievement award.

BGR President & CEO Amy Glovinsky thanked GRA for acknowledging BGR's work. "We appreciate the recognition from our peers across the country," Ms. Glovinsky said. "And more importantly, we are proud of the contributions to local public policy that the awards represent."

BGR Chairman Hardy B. Fowler congratulated the BGR research team for its achievements. "For more than 85 years, BGR has prepared high-quality research to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and accountability of local government. We remain thankful for the opportunity to deliver that work for the benefit of all citizens."

The reports are available on BGR's website, www.bgr.org.

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BGR is a private, nonprofit, independent research organization. Since its founding in 1932, it has been dedicated to informed public policy-making and the effective use of public resources in the Greater New Orleans area. For more information, call 525-4152 or visit BGR's website, www.bgr.org.