BGR Media Release

For Immediate Release – October 6, 2015

Contact: Molly Kramer, Communications & Development Manager
(504) 525-4152, ext. 108

On the October Ballot: French Quarter Tax Proposition, State Infrastructure Bank


French Quarter: Sales Tax for Public Safety

Voters in the French Quarter will decide whether to approve a five-year, 0.2495% sales tax to support supplemental public safety services for the neighborhood. The sales tax would generate an estimated $2 million in 2016. It would expire at the end of 2020.

*BGR Position: FOR.* The French Quarter is the heart of the city’s tourist economy. Creating a sales tax to fund additional security in the Quarter will improve safety for residents and tourists alike, while appropriately allocating the cost burden.

Constitutional Amendment: Investing in an Infrastructure Bank

During its 2015 session, the Louisiana Legislature created a state-run Infrastructure Bank. The proposed constitutional amendment would eliminate a potential constitutional obstacle to state investments in the bank.

*BGR Position: FOR.* While the present prospects for funding the Infrastructure Bank are uncertain, passage of the amendment would allow the state to invest in the bank. The amendment would open the possibility of a new source of financial support for local transportation projects.

* * * *

*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 504-525-4152 or visit BGR’s website, [www.bgr.org](http://www.bgr.org).*