



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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SIERRA CLUB ENDORSES LANDRIEU FOR MAYOR

NEW ORLEANS – The New Orleans Group of the Delta (Louisiana) Chapter of the Sierra Club has voted to endorse Mitch Landrieu to serve as mayor of New Orleans.

“In addition to having a strong commitment to restore our coast and wetlands, Mitch Landrieu articulates a detailed, realistic plan in which sustainable development and environmentally healthy neighborhoods are cornerstones to rebuilding New Orleans and its economy,” says Jeffrey Thomas, political chair of the Delta Chapter and member of the executive committee of the Sierra Club’s New Orleans group.

Landrieu says he believes that “energy efficiency needs to be an integral part of all neighborhood generated building plans.” He says he is committed to making home-ownership more affordable “through incentives for greater energy efficiency and making residential and commercial buildings more efficient through use of modernized building codes, such as LEED (Leaders in Energy and Environmental Design) certification.”

Landrieu made other commitments that are supported by the Sierra Club.

- Landrieu says he is committed to rebuilding New Orleans in a smarter, safer manner that considers how air, soil and water impacts residents' health. He supports a serious attempt to immediately eliminate sediment and soil contamination. He also says that information regarding environmental health

risks to residents, particularly children and the elderly, needs to be made more complete and distributed publicly.

- Landrieu is committed to making New Orleans the "Southern leader" in battling climate change through programs that educate the public and create incentives for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. "We know that climate change combined with the shrinking of our coastlands and wetlands is putting us in greater peril," wrote Landrieu.
- Landrieu supports a regional plan for modernizing transportation and expansion through projects such as light rail between population nodes, expanded streetcar service, and greater bicycle and pedestrian travel.

Mayor Ray Nagin's campaign did not respond to the Sierra Club's questionnaire.

The Sierra Club is an environmental organization with more than 750,000 members nationwide. The New Orleans Group has a membership of approximately 1,800 residents in Orleans and Jefferson parishes. Local members have been active in rebuilding their communities after Katrina, including serving on the Mayor's Bring New Orleans Back subcommittees, organizing neighborhood clean-ups, and sponsoring the New Orleans BuildSmart Expo. The group supports the fight against new construction debris landfills in New Orleans East.

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The Sierra Club's 750,000 members work together to protect communities and the planet. The Club is America's oldest, largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization. The Delta (Louisiana) chapter of the Sierra Club has more than 3,500 members and has been active in local conservation projects for more than 30 years. For more information, contact the organization's website: www.louisiana.sierraclub.org.