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Around the Industry: Real estate

by CityBusiness staff reports

A look at recent news, deals, hires, promotions and upcoming events involving the New Orleans metro area real estate industry.

The week in review

- The Federal Emergency Management Agency Monday released preliminary digital flood insurance rate maps for Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard and St. Charles parishes. To read more, click [here](#).
- Model home construction is expected to begin next month in two New Orleans neighborhoods where redevelopment officials hope to spark a revival. To read more, click [here](#).
- After 35 years as the Holiday Inn Westbank, the hotel at 100 Westbank Expressway will become the Clarion Hotel Westbank. To read more, click [here](#).
- Thanks to funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, a new, modular dental clinic will open at LSU's interim public hospital until LSU's permanent facility is built, FEMA said Tuesday. To read more, click [here](#).
- Renovations are complete for Orleans Parish Prison, which was heavily damaged by Hurricane Katrina nearly three and a half years ago, Mayor C. Ray Nagin's press office said. To read more, click [here](#).
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is proposing to spend about \$1.2 billion on the Mississippi Gulf Coast to buy out 2,000 seaside properties, relocate a small town's public buildings and restore wetlands and beaches. To read more, click [here](#).
- A federal judge has scheduled the first four trials for a batch of lawsuits filed on behalf of hurricane victims who claim they were exposed to potentially toxic fumes while living in government-issued trailers. To read more, click [here](#).
- Lakewood Golf Course, an Algiers course that has been closed for more than three years, has wrapped up a \$9 million redesign and will reopen for public play later this month. To read more, click [here](#).
- Supporters of gutting and rebuilding the Hurricane Katrina-shuttered Charity Hospital in New Orleans plan to hold a news conference Thursday. To read more, click [here](#).
- U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano says that states can request 60-day extensions of a temporary housing program still in place for households affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. To read more, click [here](#).
- St. Tammany Parish is appealing new federal flood maps, saying they conflict with the parish's calculations for flood risk. To read more, click [here](#).

Deals

- Covington-based Stirling Properties said it has been appointed as keeper, on behalf of General Electric Capital Corp., to manage the former Basset Home Furnishings Store in Shreveport. The building, at 7580 Youree Drive, is occupied by HiLife Furniture.