HousingNOLA Senate 2017 Action Items

Please indicate whether you plan to support this goal if elected

1. Increase production efficiency and organizational capacity among government partners (Finance Authority of New Orleans, HANO, NORA, City of New Orleans and Louisiana Housing Corporation), non-profits (housing counseling agencies and advocates), and developers to support unit production. Quarterly reviews will be conducted and made publicly available.

   Yes.

2. Advocate for the Louisiana legislature to create a dedicated source of revenue for the Louisiana Housing Trust Fund reserved for demonstrated need. The Louisiana Housing Trust Fund is a proven mechanism for strengthening communities in Louisiana. From job creation and economic impact, to stability for homeless veterans, special needs populations and working families, a sustained investment in the Louisiana Housing Trust Fund will move Louisiana forward.

   Yes. Foster Campbell recognizes the need to strengthen the Louisiana Housing Trust Fund. Many populations of people need dedicated housing services in Louisiana, such as homeless families, youth aging out of foster care, and veterans. He would strongly support a dedicated source of revenue for the Trust Fund.

3. Assist homeowners and landlords with seed funding for property rehabilitation and encourage reuse of vacant lots by current residents and pre-storm residents by encouraging the City of New Orleans to study and create a loan fund/loan loss. The City's 2017 budget should include at least the same allocation ($500,000) for the fund as the 2016 budget.

   Yes. Post-storm recovery is still a priority for the Southeast Louisiana region. New Orleans is suffering a major shortage of affordable housing, and pre-storm residents and locals should be prioritized for emerging housing opportunities. Seed funding for property rehab is an excellent way to do that.

4. Preserve and enhance the state’s Earned Income Tax Credit that incentivizes work and helps low-income Louisiana families make ends meet.

   Yes. Foster Campbell supports an increase to the state’s Earned Income Tax Credit. Of states who have an EITC, Louisiana’s is the lowest at 3.5% of the federal EITC. This tax credit is one of the most effective programs available to help lift Louisiana families out of poverty, growing the economy and incentivizing work.
5. Explore additional services aimed at those with mental illness and/or drug addiction and facilitate better coordination of services.

Yes. Wrap-around services are critical to ensuring good long-term outcomes for those with mental illness and/or drug addiction.

6. Promote partnerships between housing developers and community service providers to create programs beyond housing.

Yes.