

River Region Economic Outlook & Real Estate Seminar

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Register



Wednesday, October 22, 2025

Seminar Time: 9:30AM—1:30PM

Doors Open: 8:30AM for Registration, Networking & Light Breakfast

Seminar Location: Lafon Performing Arts Center

275 Judge Edward Dufresne Pkwy. Luling, LA 70070

**Seminar Fee: \$60.00 (non-refundable),
includes event admission and report on the River Parishes Region**

Forecasting the Future of the River Parishes

The University of New Orleans Institute for Economic Development & Real Estate Research, is hosting a brand new seminar to forecast economic and real estate trends across the River Parishes. The Institute is offering this seminar in partnership with the River Region Chamber of Commerce.

This new seminar expands the UNO Institute's highly regarded annual series, which already serves hundreds of business leaders, real estate professionals, and civic stakeholders across Greater New Orleans and the Northshore. The River Region event will highlight the local small business economy, housing market, and industrial development opportunities across St. Charles, St. James, and St. John the Baptist Parishes—a region central to Louisiana's growth.



The event includes panels on Economic Development & Investment, River Region Residential Real Estate, Leadership in the River Parishes and Commercial Real Estate & Industrial Developments — all packed with insights from prominent leaders across the River Region, including the presidents and economic development leaders from each of the River Parishes. The program will be kicked off by a keynote address from Michael Hecht, President and CEO of Greater New Orleans (GNO), Inc.

Continuing Education:

Four (4) hours of continuing education **have been approved** by the Louisiana Real Estate Commission (Vendor #9125) and the Louisiana Real Estate Appraisers Board (Vendor #APR.1252-EDV).

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Event Program

8:30AM	Registration/Networking/Light Breakfast
9:30- 9:35 AM	Welcome
9:35- 10:05 AM	Keynote Address Michael Hecht, President and CEO, GNO, Inc.
10:05-10:45 AM	Economic Development and Investment Moderator: Dr. Ali Bustamante, Director, University of New Orleans Institute for Economic Development & Real Estate Research Patrick Beard, Director, St. Charles Parish Economic Development Michelle Jenkins Miller, Director, St. John Parish Economic Development Ray Gregson, CEO, River Region Chamber of Commerce
10:45-11:25 AM	River Region Residential Real Estate Moderator: Dan Mills, CEO, Home Builders Association of Greater New Orleans Regina Allemand, GRI, Compass Randy Noel, President/CEO, Reve, Inc. TBA – First American Bank & Trust Nolan Louque, Jr., CEO, Riverlands Insurance
11:25-12:00 PM	BREAK/NETWORKING
12:00–12:40 PM	Leadership in the River Parishes Moderator: Ray Gregson, CEO, River Region Chamber of Commerce Matthew Jewell, President, St. Charles Parish Dr. Ken Oertling, Superintendent, St. Charles Parish Public Schools Pete Dufresne, President, St. James Parish Jaclyn Hotard, President, St. John Parish
12:40-1:20 PM	Commercial Real Estate and Industrial Developments Moderator: Patrick Beard, St. Charles Parish Economic Development Director Bryce French, Senior Vice President, CBRE New Orleans Andrew Marcus, Principal, Agile Coast Michelle Bourg, Vice President of Customer Service, Entergy Louisiana Arthur Schwartz, Senior Managing Director, Mosaic Property Valuations
1:20-1:30 PM	Closing Remarks – Dr. Ali Bustamante, Director, University of New Orleans Institute for Economic Development & Real Estate Research
1:30 PM	Adjourn