



WHAT
HAPPENED

In March 2017, New Orleans started work on the first FEMA funded road project.



A perfect storm of conditions has made **the roads in New Orleans** some of the worst in the nation.



Nature tries to take over one pothole.

Poor soil, high ground water levels, poor surface drainage, leaks from broken utility lines and a history of poor maintenance have long plagued New Orleans 1,500 miles of roads — resulting in potholes and sinking streets from the Garden District to the lakefront. But Hurricane Katrina exacerbated the problems and accelerated the damage. The floodwaters ate away pavement and washed away soil. A study released in 2016 found that 65 percent of the city's streets were in poor or worse condition. Last year, the city announced it would start a rebuilding program with \$2.5 billion from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. It has the outlines of a larger \$9 billion program, but it has yet to find a permanent revenue stream to fund the fixes. In the meantime, bad roads continue to cost New Orleans drivers about an additional \$700 per year in operating costs.



A Texas-shaped pothole in the 3900 block of Delgado Drive gained its own personality with the artistic aid of some neighbors.

A large pothole in Lakeview along Milne Boulevard at Germain Street



Residents of New Orleans try to take potholes in stride, decorating them, and even throwing a 'Sinkhole de Mayo' party when a major sinkhole opened up on Canal Street.

John Bukaty has turned the city's pothole problem into artwork, seen in his studio on Carondelet Street near the Warehouse District.



THE NEW ORLEANS ADVOCATE PHOTOS