Record Nr.	UNINA9910460630603321
Autore	Burns Peter F.
Titolo	Reforming New Orleans : the contentious politics of change in the Big Easy / / Peter F. Burns and Matthew O. Thomas ; cover design and photograph by Scott Levine
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Ithaca, New York ; ; London, [England] : , : Cornell University Press, , 2015 ©2015
ISBN	1-5017-0093-6 1-5017-0094-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (241 p.)
Disciplina	320.9763/35
Soggetti	Political culture - Louisiana - New Orleans
	Hurricane Katrina, 2005 - Political aspects
	Electronic books. New Orleans (La.) Politics and government
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter Contents Acknowledgments Introduction: Rebuilding Governance, Politics, and Policy in New Orleans 1. Pre- Katrina New Orleans 2. Reform and Economic Development 3. Democracy versus Reform in Pre-Katrina Education 4. The Most Reform-Friendly City in the Country 5. From Mismanagement to Reform in Housing 6. Public Safety or an Unsafe Public? Conclusion: The Effects of Sudden Shocks on Governance, Politics, and Policy Notes Bibliography Index
Sommario/riassunto	Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans in 2005, but in the subsequent ten years, the city has demonstrated both remarkable resilience and frustrating stagnation. In Reforming New Orleans, Peter F. Burns and Matthew O. Thomas chart the city's recovery and assess how successfully officials at the local, state, and federal levels transformed the Big Easy in the wake of disaster. Focusing on reforms in four key sectors of urban governance-economic development, education, housing, and law enforcement-both before and after

1.

Katrina, they find lessons for cities hit by sudden shocks, such as natural disasters or large-scale financial crises.One of their key insights is that post-disaster recovery tends to limit local control. State and federal officials, national foundations, and local actors excluded by pre-Katrina politics used their resources and authority to displace entrenched local interests and implement a public agenda focused on institutional and governmental change. Burns and Thomas also make clear reform in New Orleans was already underway before Katrina hit, but that it had focused largely on upper- and middle-class residents, a trend that accelerated after the storm. The market-centered nature of the reforms have ensured that they largely benefited city and regional elites while not significantly aiding the city's working-class and impoverished populations. Thus reform has come at a cost and that cost, in the long term, could undermine the political gains of the post-Katrina era.