



E. "BEN" ZAHN III
MAYOR

CITY OF KENNER

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Feb. 1, 2019

UPDATE ON WILLIAMS BOULEVARD BOAT LAUNCH DREDGING

Kenner, LA. – Kenner Mayor Ben Zahn announced that the city administration, along with District 3 Councilman Glenn Hayes and Recreation Director Chad Pitfield, have been in contact with a local dredging company that will be conducting surveys and preparing cost estimates for dredging work at the Williams Boulevard Boat Launch.

City officials have been in discussions with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the State Department of Coastal Management and the Treasure Chest Casino regarding this project.

"This is a long neglected city issue," Zahn said. "The last time city funds were used to dredge the boat launch was in 2008, when I was a District 3 council member. The state did some dredging approximately in 2012 at the request of the Treasure Chest, but no city funds were involved."

Kenner is in the process of preparing to submit the necessary paperwork for a joint permit with the Louisiana Office of Coastal Management and the Army Corps of Engineers. The next step at that point is to secure a contractor and the funding necessary for the project.

The city also is working on plans to replace the wooden docks at the boat launch. In the past, only band-aid approaches have been used and, as a result, repair issues continue to surface at the boat launch. As a safety precaution, several launch slips have been closed and remain closed.

"This is an important project for the city of Kenner that Councilman Hayes and I are totally committed to," Zahn said. "Funding is a huge issue, but we are working hard to take whatever steps are necessary to get this project completed. While some are implying this is being intentionally delayed until 2022, we are currently working on ways to expedite the project so that it is completed this summer in advance of the upcoming Super Boat Grand Prix event scheduled for June."

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