



CITY OF KENNER

PRESS RELEASE

MICHAEL S. YENNI

Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kenner, LA – October 14, 2013

Hurricane Protection Projects to be Finished in December; Sections of Lake Pontchartrain Bike and Jogging Path Will Reopen

Kenner has been notified by the Army Corps of Engineers that a pair hurricane protection projects that have required sections of the popular Lake Pontchartrain bike and jogging path in Kenner and Metairie to be closed are expected to be completed sometime in December of this year.

"This is excellent news both from the standpoint of hurricane protection and for the many bikers and joggers in our City", Kenner Mayor Michael Yenni said. "A Corps project to raise the Mississippi River levee throughout Kenner and the rest of East Jefferson is expected to begin later this month. This will force the temporary closure of the bike and jogging path in sections where work will be taking place; thus eliminating continuity from Parish to Parish line. Now, there will be a good alternative along the lakefront for people looking to get some exercise."

For more than two years, the areas near the Duncan Drainage Pump Station in Kenner and the Bonnabel Drainage Pump Station in Metairie have been closed while contractors were making hurricane and flood protection improvements.

Those improvements included, but were not limited to more automation for safe rooms, additional remote operation capabilities, generators, structural changes to enhance resistance to wind, increase in fuel capacity, and T-walls and breakwater structure improvements.

Soon after the Corps announced a two (2) year project to raise the Mississippi River levee earlier this month, Gonzalez said City officials realized that bike riders and joggers would lose the popular multi-access path in areas where work would be taking place. "We all know that (multi-access) path gets a significant amount of traffic, so that prompted me to call the Corps to ask about the expected availability of lakefront path in its' entirety."

Kenner will publicize the exact date of the completion of the drainage pump stations hurricane protection projects and the re-opening of those sections of the lakefront bike path, as soon as it is received from the Corps.

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Bob Ross

Assistant Director
Department of Clerk of Court
1801 Williams Blvd.
Building A, Suite 105
Kenner, La 70062
Telephone: (504) 468-4079
Fax Number: (504) 468-7213
Email: ross@kenner.la.us
Website: www.kenner.la.us

OBO

Natalie Newton

Deputy CAO
CITY OF KENNER
Office of the Mayor
1801 Williams Blvd.
Building B, Ste. 200
Kenner, LA 70062
Phone: 504.468.7240
Email: nnewton@kenner.la.us