



CITY OF KENNER

PRESS RELEASE

MICHAEL S. YENNI
MAYOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept, 24, 2014

KENNER LAUNCHES MOBILE APP FOR APPLE AND ANDROID PHONES AND DEVICES

Kenner, LA. – Kenner has become the first local government in Jefferson Parish to create its own application that makes it possible for owners of Apple or Android devices to access a wide variety of city services and information, Kenner Mayor Michael Yenni announced Wednesday.

The City of Kenner app launched this week and can be downloaded for free, said Kenner IT Director Valerie Waguespack. “Users can do everything from paying taxes or tickets online to getting directions to City Hall or finding the phone number of any Kenner department.”

One crucial function is the ability to receive alerts in real time. “These could be notices about a traffic issue or the latest warning about an approaching tropical system,” Waguespack said. “Imagine picking up a child from school and relying on an emergency alert to take a different route home to avoid an accident site.”

Another goal of the app is to make a busy life on the go for residents, businesses and visitors a little more convenient and productive. “Statistics show that mobile Internet access enabled by smartphones and tablets has nearly doubled the amount of time spent online since 2010,” Waguespack said. “Americans are spending an average of two hours per day on their mobile devices, and the average U.S. consumer is never more than three feet away from his or her phone.”

“These are staggering statistics that drive home the fact that a City of Kenner application filled with information would be a great convenience.”

“People are increasingly relying on their cell phones as they manage their busy days,” Kenner Mayor Michael Yenni said. “This is a way to make city services and information more easily available in a mobile format.”

Yenni praised Councilman Keith Reynaud as an advocate of online technology and for his strong support of the Kenner app. The mayor also commended Waguespack for her role in increasing Kenner’s online presence. In his first term, Waguespack oversaw the overhaul of Kenner’s outdated website and the launch of social media outlets; now, she has supervised the process leading to a City of Kenner app.

“The fact that we are the first in Jefferson Parish to develop an app indicates what a significant accomplishment this is, and I am proud to have Valerie as a key member of the forward thinking Kenner team.”

Other functions available on the app include:

- A listing of all city departments, including the main email and phone numbers to the director and different sections of the department
- A direct connection to the city’s Twitter and Facebook pages
- A link to the Kenner Kalendar, which lists events throughout the city on a monthly basis
- A photo gallery showing pictures of the latest events and happenings in the city
- A link to the Entergy Street Light Repair form, to notify utility officials if a light is out on your block
- A link to the latest press releases issued by the city
- The City Kam – which will accept pictures of you and your family having fun around Kenner

“It doesn’t take long to realize that many people rely on their cell phones throughout the day,” Yenni said. “Just look at people eating at any restaurant. Our goal was to make this app both fun and useful, and I think we have done exactly that. This is an example of just one more service that any progressive city should make available to its citizens.”

###