



E. "BEN" ZAHN III
MAYOR

CITY OF KENNER

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 4, 2021

LATEST KENNER HURRICANE IDA RECOVERY UPDATE

Kenner, LA. – Mayor Zahn announced that the City of Kenner team, with the assistance of contractors and partners such as Entergy, the American Red Cross and generous local businesses, has made significant progress in the restoration effort following Hurricane Ida.

One or more giveaways of food, ice, water and other essentials supplies is taking place each day. Most recently, we organized a distribution of water, ice, food and pet food in front of the Macy's building at The Esplanade mall, thanks to the continued generosity of Ronnie Mains and CRC Global Solutions.

The American Red Cross arrived in Kenner on Friday and immediately held a hot meal giveaway and two more were held Saturday at major intersections in the city. More are expected to be scheduled in the days ahead, as well as mental health services.

Power restoration took a big step forward late Friday and Saturday as several neighborhoods in the city – both in north and south Kenner – came back online. Entergy has established a link for residents of Kenner and the rest of the east bank to take a look at power restoration estimates for individual neighborhoods. That information is available at: <https://bit.ly/2VewZas> Entergy has estimated the bulk of Kenner customers will have power by Sept. 8.

Public Service Commissioner Eric Skrmetta estimates 25,000 utility workers from throughout the country are handling power restoration in the state, and many are staged at or near the Pontchartrain Center for easy access to Kenner and the surrounding area. Commissioner Skrmetta said there are thousands more poles damaged in Ida than Katrina and thousands more utility workers on the ground now than in 2005.

Our Municipal Emergency Response Team continues to address needs throughout the city, including assisting with debris site collection as well as POD site operations, damage site assessments for all city facilities and continued recovery efforts from the river to the lake.

Debris pickup is ramping up in all areas of Kenner, and with many residents not home yet, we expect debris collection to be an ongoing process for some time. We have passed along information for residents to divide

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their garbage collection into several piles on our social media pages. Garbage, white goods, construction and demolition debris, vegetation and electronics should all be placed in separate piles.

Ten lift stations are now on Entergy power and another 24 lift stations are running on generator power and/or with bypass pumps. The sewerage treatment plant is now operating on generator power and the collection system crew is responding to service requests, while the maintenance crew is moving generators and the collection crew is assisting them with fueling.

The Kenner Media team continues to post information throughout the day on planned distributions of essential items as well as important information to help businesses reopen and residents return home. That information is on the city's social media sites, Kenner's Emergency: kenneremergencyresponse.com, and through local media reports.

A Call Center to take non-emergency questions has been set up at the Emergency Operations Center from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. That number is 303-5460.

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