



CITY OF KENNER

PRESS RELEASE

MICHAEL S. YENNI
MAYOR

News Release – New Orleans Aviation Board Extends Deadline for Cab Improvements

Kenner, LA – Dec. 20, 2012

Today, at the meeting of the New Orleans Aviation Board, it was announced the taxi cab drivers who pick up fares at Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport now have additional time to make improvements to their cabs required by New Orleans officials, including installation of credit-card machines and surveillance cameras.

The Kenner cabbies, as well as cab drivers from any parish picking up fares at the airport, were facing a Dec. 31 deadline to make the improvements that were put in place with an eye toward making the cabs safer and more tourist friendly, particularly with Super Bowl XLVII in New Orleans on Feb. 3.

Airport officials further announced that “there is not enough available equipment to install in the taxicabs that are on the waiting list” and as a result they “will continue to allow permitted taxicabs to operate at the airport.”

The Kenner City Council requested earlier this month that New Orleans officials consider an extension because Kenner’s cab drivers have said the only companies able to install the credit-card machines and other required equipment had already been inundated with requests from New Orleans cabbies.

“On behalf of Kenner’s cab drivers, I want to thank Mayor Mitch Landrieu, his administration, and the New Orleans Aviation Board for responding to our requests for more time,” Kenner Mayor Michael Yenni said. “It would have been challenging for a majority of the drivers in Kenner to meet a Dec. 31 deadline,” he said.

Airport officials also promised that “over the course of the next few weeks, [they] will continue to monitor the market and work with local officials and all jurisdictions that are permitted at the airport to develop ... a viable solution.” Recommendations will be presented at the next Aviation Board Meeting.

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