



MICHAEL S. YENNI

Mayor

CITY OF KENNER

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TWO NEW SCULPTURES DONATED TO KENNER; MORE ARE PLANNED

Kenner, LA. – A sculpture featuring rabbits in a variety of vibrant colors and a stack of pipes reaching toward the sky in shiny, metallic hues are in place in the median of Loyola Drive just north of West Esplanade Avenue.

The rabbits, called “Easter Sunrise” are the work of artist Hunt Slonem while the pipe sculpture, called “Pipe Dreams,” was created by Frank Ledbetter.

They are two of five sculptures donated to Kenner by residents Henry and Pat Shane. Henry Shane, an architect and developer, said the goal is to bring at least 20 sculptures to the city. The others already on display include the butterfly sculpture by Slonem at Power Boulevard and Vintage Drive, the wildlife sculpture by Ledbetter on Williams Boulevard in Laketown and the James Michalopoulos sculpture at Chateau Boulevard and Vintage Drive.

“We are committed, over a period of time, to put in 20 sculptures to go along with the city’s 2030 beautification plan,” Shane said. “I believe I can get many more donated – perhaps as many as 40.”

Public art is a major part of the 2030 Plan to beautify and improve important corridors throughout the city. The goal is to create a city with a unique identity that’s able to attract young families and businesses.

“Kenner has never had a true identity,” Shane said. “You never really knew when you left Metairie and arrived in Kenner. It’s a line on the map, yet there is no difference. By beautifying Kenner, the Mayor and the Council are creating an identity,” he said.

“We want Kenner to become a place people are proud to show off to friends and visitors because it’s safe and clean and vibrant,” Kenner Mayor Michael Yenni said. “Henry Shane was a part of my Economic Development Committee that helped to put together the 2030 Plan and I believe these generous donations from Henry and Pat, and others they hope to arrange, can make a huge difference in the city.”

During four decades as a developer, Shane said he has seen how much people appreciate landscaping and beautification. “It makes them feel good to come home to a beautiful place. It absolutely makes a huge difference.”

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