



CITY OF KENNER

PRESS RELEASE

MICHAEL S. YENNI
MAYOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept, 15, 2014

JUMONVILLE PROPERTY, OTHER BLIGHTED DISTRICT 3 STRUCTURES TARGETED

Kenner, LA. – When District 3 Councilman Keith Reynaud ran for office nearly 3 years ago, blighted housing in general – and the Jumonville property on Granada Drive in Driftwood in particular – were huge issues for district residents.

Despite a nearly two-decade legal battle with the City of Kenner, and dozens of code enforcement violations, the two-story unfinished structure on Granada somehow managed to avoid a demolition order.

“I can tell you that I talked to plenty of residents who thought we would never tear down that building,” Reynaud said. “But I made that a promise in my campaign – not just the Jumonville house but all blighted property in the district.”

And with the recent news that the Jumonville house will soon be scheduled for demolition, Reynaud said he’s extremely happy with the message that sends to residents.

“I can understand why some may have doubted the city,” he said. “After all, it’s taken nearly 20 years. But a promise is a promise, and it’s important for residents to know that we take our promises very seriously.”

The demolition on Granada isn’t the only action against blighted property that will take place soon in District 3, Reynaud said. A four-plex in the 3600 block of Martinique Avenue has already gone through the City Council demolition hearing procedure. Two more structures – on Connecticut Avenue and Trinidad Drive – will soon be added to the list.

There is money available for the demolitions because Reynaud led the way to transfer \$70,000 from the council budget to go to Code Enforcement for demolitions.

“We were down to only \$50,000 in the demolition fund and that just isn’t enough to have a significant impact,” Reynaud said. “Blight is an important quality of life issue, and we will attract more people to the city if we handle our blight problem.”

Reynaud said he is proud of his role in the eventual demolition on Granada Drive and hopes residents see the many good things happening in the city.

“We are getting things done in Kenner,” he said. “Not just demolitions but so many positive things. I think Kenner is definitely moving in the right direction.”

###