



# CITY OF KENNER

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

**MICHAEL S. YENNI**  
MAYOR

**EMILE LAFOURCADE**  
ASSISTANT TO THE MAYOR,  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

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**NATIONAL  
TRUST  
FOR  
HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION**

## **KENNER GETS \$17,500 FOR HISTORIC SCHOOL PRESERVATION**

### **\$\$\$ Comes from State, 2 National Trust for Historic Preservation Grants**

Kenner was recently awarded three historic preservation grants totaling \$17,500 to help cover the cost to conduct a feasibility study and structural report for old Kenner High School, 1610 Third Street. The revered building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2008.

City Grant Administrator Michael C. Ince applied for grants from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Louisiana Lieutenant Governor's office earlier this year and was pleased to announce Kenner was awarded three grants – primarily to conduct studies on the state of the structure and the feasibility of refurbishing the structure for future governmental use.

The most often mentioned possible use would be as a municipal court building to house the Kenner City Court, a modern clerk of court office and a holding area for arrested persons awaiting a court hearing in their cases.



An historical marker is unveiled on August 16, 2008, designating that the old Kenner High School site is added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Ince identified the total grant awards of \$17,500 as follows:

- A \$2,500 grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) from its Suzanne Turner Preservation Services Fund for Louisiana. The seed grant funds will be used to conduct a detailed structural report and cost feasibility study for old Kenner High School.

- A \$5,000 grant from the NTHP from its Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation. The money will be used for a cost feasibility study and architectural survey of old Kenner High School.
- A \$10,000 grant from the Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation, Office of Cultural Development in the Lieutenant Governor's Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism. The state grant will be joined by \$5,000 in local matching funds to help support the preservation project.

Ince stated that Kenner is currently beginning the process of evaluating the cost to repair and upgrade the building. Since the school is a registered historic building, it is an honor for the administration to take the initial steps in hopes of bringing this neglected historical treasure back to life.

"By preserving this building's architectural integrity, Kenner will be paying tribute to the many residents of the city who once attended old Kenner High School," Ince said.

"While this is the first of many steps, it is the most critical. By completing a cost feasibility study and structural report, the city will be able to estimate the cost to bring the building back to its once prominent stature."

Ince said it was an honor for Kenner to be chosen by the National Trust for the grant awards.

In announcing the grant, National Trust for Historic Preservation President Richard Moe said, "With these funds, the City of Kenner joins the National Trust for Historic Preservation and hundreds of other communities and organizations across the country actively working to protect and preserve the important places that tell the story of America."

The National Trust for Historic Preservation dispenses small grants for local projects through the National Trust Preservation Funds grant program. The grants range from \$500 to \$5,000 and have provided over \$5.5 million dollars of funding since 2002. They are awarded to nonprofit groups, educational institutions and public agencies, and must be matched, at least dollar for dollar, with public or private funds. Preservation Funds grants are being used nationally for such wide-ranging activities as consultant services for rehabilitating buildings, technical assistance for tourism that promotes historic resources and educating children about their heritage. These grants are often the deciding factor on whether historic buildings or sites can be saved for future generations.

### **About the National Trust for Historic Preservation**

The National Trust for Historic Preservation ([www.PreservationNation.org](http://www.PreservationNation.org)) is a non-profit membership organization bringing people together to protect, enhance and enjoy the places that matter to them.

By saving the places where great moments from history – and the important moments of everyday life – took place, the National Trust for Historic Preservation helps revitalize neighborhoods and communities, spark economic development and promote environmental sustainability.

With headquarters in Washington, DC, nine regional and field offices, 29 historic sites, and partner organizations in all 50 states, the National Trust for Historic Preservation provides

leadership, education, advocacy and resources to a national network of people, organizations and local communities committed to saving places, connecting us to our history and collectively shaping the future of America's stories.

**For more information on the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Fund grants, visit: [www.PreservationNation.org/resources/find-funding/grants/](http://www.PreservationNation.org/resources/find-funding/grants/).**

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