



CITY OF KENNER

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

EDMOND J. "ED" MUNIZ
MAYOR

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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KENNER SALES TAX COLLECTIONS DOWN AGAIN

Finance Officials Predict Trend Will Continue

Kenner Mayor Ed Muniz announced Friday that the latest monthly sales tax returns for his city show a decrease of 16.06 percent (a drop of about \$430,000) compared to the same month last fiscal year.

Muniz said the downward trend in sales tax collections is expected to continue for the near future, severely hampering Kenner's ability to properly forecast its revenue and spending needs across several city departments that provide services to the public.

While the latest returns from the parish sheriff are for the month of November 2009, national financial experts are predicting that retail sales for December, 2009, will not be as high as merchants had expected.

"With Kenner so dependent on sales taxes for its operating revenues, it paints a bleak picture for the city's ability to continue providing quality services to the people," Muniz said.

Finance Director Duke McConnell said he and department heads continually search through the city budget looking for ways to trim expenses so Kenner can hopefully make it through the end of the Fiscal Year on June 30 without laying off workers or cutting services the people need.

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