

GARBAGE UPDATE

IV Waste owner Sidney Torres came to Kenner on Sunday at the request of Mayor Zahn to update the City Council and to answer any questions about garbage service in the city.

“We understand what the issues are,” Mayor Zahn said. “And this is all about the landfill.” Torres said he was in communication with city officials even before the storm arrived and his crews have been on the streets since Thursday. However, when the landfill is closed, “we cannot do anything about it.”

Torres explained that his crews can only work when the landfill is open, and there have been no extended hours to help with the huge volume of garbage in Kenner and throughout the area. The landfill was closed on Sunday, further complicating the situation.

To help get as much garbage off the streets as possible, the city of Kenner and IV Waste Resident Debris Drop-Off Site will open 7 days a week from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 24th Street and Connecticut Avenue beginning Monday.

Curbside recycling has been suspended in the city, but residents can bring their recyclables to the Drop-Off site, if they would like.

A number of residents have put garbage in their recycling containers, and Torres said his crews cannot take garbage in those containers. Residents have two choices: once their 96-gallon garbage container is emptied, they can transfer the contents from the recycling container to the empty garbage container or they can bring that garbage to the Drop-Off site.

Collecting Ida storm debris is a huge task but Torres estimated the collection could be completed in two months or less.

Mayor Zahn and council members thanked Torres for the explanation and for the hard work of garbage collection crew members, many who lost their homes or are living with no electricity, in very hot conditions.

Torres said eight garbage trucks will be on the road early Monday morning, with another four to six available to swap out as trucks leave the city to offload garbage at the landfill.

He offered a pledge at the end of the update: “We will not stop until Kenner is completely cleaned up.”