

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. (WCIV) -- Plans to run casino boats out of North Charleston could be delayed until summer.

One of the companies planning to bring roulette tables to the water said this week that it is months behind schedule.

Hank Hoffard of Charleston based Bennett Hofford Co. said the amount of work needed to get his company's boats up and running is more

than originally thought and his team is still deciding on a boat purchase.

North Charleston city leaders voted in October to allow the casino boats to fun from the former naval base. The plan was criticized by religious and civic groups but has had plenty of support by the mayor.

Mayor Keith Summey has been quite vocal in getting the gaming companies to North Charleston -- saying in the fall that casino gaming would generate at least one million dollars a year.

"It will add revenue," Summey said. "We as a body will have to determine how we utilize those funds." "We don't know if its going to be successful or not. I think its going to be dependent on two things: number one how many people use it and number two what kinds of services provided by the people that operates the boats."

Hoffard said funding is till in place and developers just need a few months to find a boat, hire employees, get parking lots and ticket booths.

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