

News Release

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For Immediate Release

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June 2, 2008

Corps' public meetings scheduled through August 08

NEW ORLEANS - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, will host eight public meetings, from June through August 2008, to give citizens the opportunity to provide input on development of the Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System.

"Feedback provided to the Corps at public meetings is taken seriously and is considered when the Corps makes a decision on projects," said Gib Owen, chief of the Corps' Ecological Planning and Restoration Section.

Public meetings begin with an open house at 6 p.m. during which Corps project managers and subject matter experts are on hand to answer questions citizens may have. A presentation about that area's portion of the hurricane system begins at 7 p.m. and is followed by a discussion period.

Alternative National Environmental Policy Act arrangements allow the Corps to group portions of the HSDRRS into 17 smaller Individual Environmental Report project areas so the Corps can complete emergency construction more quickly than under the traditional environmental process. The alternative arrangements allow the Corps to complete several projects simultaneously, as soon as they have passed NEPA review and assessment.

Dates of upcoming public meetings are:

June 4, 2008

Martin Luther King, Jr. Charter School, 1617 Caffin Ave., New Orleans, LA Meeting presentation will discuss the Citrus Lakefront Levee, New Orleans East Levee from the Maxtent Canal to the Michoud Slip and possible locations of the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal surge barrier as discussed in IERs 6, 7 and 11 Tier 2 Borgne* as well as the potential areas from which borrow materials may be obtained (IERs 25 and 26).

June 17, 2008

Congregation Gates of Prayer, 4000 West Esplanade Ave., Metairie, LA Meeting presentation will discuss the LaBranche Wetlands Levee, West Return Floodwall and Lakefront Levees as discussed in IERs 1, 2 and 3 as well as the potential areas from which borrow materials may be obtained (IERs 25 and 26).

July 1, 2008

St. Dominic's Elementary School, 6326 Memphis St., New Orleans, LA Meeting presentation will discuss the New Orleans Lakefront Levee west of the Industrial Canal, the Outfall Canal Closure Structures, the possible locations of the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal surge barrier as discussed in IERs 4, 5 and 11 Tier 2 Borgne* as well as the potential areas from which borrow materials may be obtained (IERs 25 and 26).

July 10, 2008

CF Rowley Alternative School, 49 Madison Ave., Chalmette, LA Meeting presentation will discuss Bayou Bienvenue and Bayou Dupre Control Structures, Caernarvon Floodwall, Chalmette Loop Levee and the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal surge protection barrier as discussed in IERs 8, 9, 10 and 11 Tier 2 Borgne. Meeting will also briefly discuss the potential areas from which borrow materials may be obtained (IERs 25 and 26).

July 22, 2008

Cytec's Tom Call Pavilion, 10800 River Rd., Waggaman, LA Meeting presentation will discuss Lake Cataouatche Levee, Western Terminus Levee and Company Canal Floodwall projects as discussed in IERs 15, 16 and 17. Meeting will also briefly discuss the potential areas from which borrow materials may be obtained (IERs 25 and 26).

July 29, 2008

Church at New Orleans, 11700 Chef Menteur Hwy, New Orleans, LA Meeting presentation will discus the Citrus Lakefront Levee, New Orleans East Levee from the Maxtent Canal to the Michoud Slip and the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal surge protection barrier as discussed in IERs 6, 7, and 11 Tier 2 Borgne*. Meeting will also briefly discuss the potential areas from which borrow materials may be obtained (IERs 25 and 26).

August 6, 2008

Lynn Oaks School, 1 Lynn Oaks Dr., Braithwaite, LA Meeting presentation will discuss Bayou Bienvenue and Bayou Dupre Control Structures, Caernarvon Floodwall, Chalmette Loop Levee and the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal surge protection barrier as discussed in IERs 8, 9, 10 and 11 Tier 2 Borgne*. Meeting will also briefly discuss the potential areas from which borrow materials may be obtained (IERs 25 and 26).

August 21, 2008

Our Lady of Holy Cross College's Moreau Center, 4123 Woodland Drive, New Orleans, LA

Meeting presentation will discuss the Harvey and Algiers Canal Levee and Floodwalls, the Hero Canal and the Harvey to Westwego Levee as discussed in IERs 12, 13 and 14. Meeting will also briefly discuss the potential areas from which borrow materials may be obtained (IERs 25 and 26).

The purpose of each IER is to analyze the impacts of a range of alternatives, analyze the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of each and identify a preferred alternative for the hurricane system.

The Corps' alternative arrangements have been coordinated with, and reflect the input of, numerous key federal agencies including the Council on Environmental Quality, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Environmental Protection Agency. Additional input into this process was provided by the State of Louisiana resource agencies and citizens from impacted area.

Visit <u>www.nolaenvironmental.gov</u> for additional information on the NEPA process and Individual Environmental Reports in the greater New Orleans area.

*IER 11 Tier 2 environmental documents will better define the actual location of surge barrier protection structures.

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