JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

November 7, 2016

United States Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District Regulatory Branch Post Office Box 60267 New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267

State of Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Water Quality Certifications Section Post Office Box 4313 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4313

(504) 862-1217 Project Manager Kenny Blanke <u>Kenneth.G.Blanke@usace.army.mil</u> MVN 2016-0585-CQ (225) 219-3225 Project Manager Ms. Elizabeth Hill WQC Application Number WQC 161221-01

Interested parties are hereby notified that a permit application has been received by the New Orleans District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to: [] Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of March 3, 1899 (30 Stat. 1151; 33 USC 403); and/or [X] Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (86 Stat. 816; 33 USC 1344).

Application has also been made to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services, for a Water Quality Certification (WQC) in accordance with statutory authority contained in LRS30:2074 A(3), and provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (P.L.95-17).

DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS TO PREVENT BACKWATER FLOOIDNG ALONG ST CHARLES BY-PASS ROAD IN LAFOURCHE PARISH

NAME OF APPLICANT: North Lafourche Conservation Levee and Drainage District, c/o Duplantis Design Group, Attn: Matthew Rodrigue, 314 East Bayou Road, Thibodaux, Louisiana 70301.

LOCATION OF WORK: Located along an existing residential street (St. Charles By-Pass Road) within the St. Charles Royalle Subdivision, in Thibodaux, Louisiana, in Sections 21 and 22, Township 15 South, Range 17 East, located in Lafourche Parish, as shown on the enclosed drawings (Latitude 29.73754 N Longitude -90.73335 W). This project is located in Deltaic Basin (East Central Louisiana Coastal HUC 08090301).

CHARACTER OF WORK: The applicant is requesting a Department of the Army permit authorization for the construction of the St. Charles By-Pass Road Backwater Flood Prevention drainage improvement project. The project is proposed to prevent future backwater flooding events from the 40 Arpent Canal located along the southern portion of the road and project area. The project entails the widening of an existing ditch that is located behind the properties west of the road. A 48-inch flap gate culvert is proposed to be installed and maintained at the end of the ditch. An approximate 3,000-foot earthen berm is proposed to be constructed at an elevation of +5.5 feet elevation. An existing ditch to the west of the proposed berm will be cleaned and a flap gate culvert is proposed to be installed at the end of the ditch to ensure proper drainage. Along the eastern side of the road behind the existing properties, a small ditch is proposed to be excavated to drain these back lots. An earthen berm is also proposed to be constructed east of this ditch to prevent re-circulation of water from the 40 Arpent Canal back into the subdivision. Approximately 9,114 cubic yards of native material would be excavated

and, of that, approximately 5,886 cubic yards would be placed as fill onsite as a result of project implementation. Approximately 3,228 cubic yards of excavated material would be hauled offsite and placed in a Parish approved upland area. Approximately 3.15 acres of herbaceous wet pasture and 2.35 acres of forested wetlands would be impacted as a result of the project. The applicant has claimed that the project has been designed to avoid and minimize direct and secondary adverse wetland impacts to the maximum extent practicable. The applicant is proposing to compensate for the unavoidable impact by purchasing mitigation credits from an approved mitigation bank.

The comment period for the Department of Army Permit and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality will close in **20 days** from the date of this joint public notice. Written comments, including suggestions for modifications or objections to the proposed work, stating reasons thereof, are being solicited from anyone having interest in this permit and/or this WQC request and must be mailed so as to be received before or by the last day of the comment period. Letters concerning the Corps of Engineers permit application must reference the applicant's name and the Permit Application Number, and be mailed to the Corps of Engineers at the address above, ATTENTION: REGULATORY BRANCH. Similar letters concerning the Water Quality Certification must reference the applicant's name and the WQC application number and be mailed to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality at the address above. Individuals or parties may request an extension of time in which to comment on the proposed work by writing or e-mailing the Corps of Engineers Project Manager listed above. Any request must be specific and substantively supportive of the requested extension, and received by this office prior to the end of the initial comment period. The Section Chief will review the request and the requestor will be promptly notified of the decision to grant or deny the request. If granted, the time extension will be continuous to the initial comment period and, inclusive of the initial comment period, will not exceed a total of 30 calendar days.

The application for this proposed project is on file with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and may be examined during weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Copies may be obtained upon payment of costs of reproduction.

Corps of Engineers Permit Criteria

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The US Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public, federal, state, and local agencies and officials, Indian Tribes, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the US Army Corps of Engineers to determine whether to make, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

The New Orleans District is unaware of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places near the proposed work. The possibility exists that the proposed work may damage or destroy presently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, historical sites, or data. Copies of this notice are being sent to the State Archeologist and State Historic Preservation Officer.

Our initial finding is that the proposed work would neither affect any species listed as endangered by the U.S. Departments of Interior or Commerce, nor affect any habitat designated as critical to the survival and recovery of any endangered species. Utilizing Standard Local Operating Procedure for Endangered Species in Louisiana (SLOPES), dated October 22, 2014, between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Office, the Corps has determined that the proposed activity would have no effect on any listed species.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The applicant's proposal would result in the destruction or alteration of <u>0</u> acres of EFH utilized by various life stages of red drum and penaeid shrimp. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse impact on EFH or federally managed fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico. Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

If the proposed work involves deposits of dredged or fill material into navigable waters, the evaluation of the probable impacts will include the application of guidelines established by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. Also, a certification that the proposed activity will not violate applicable water quality standards will be required from the Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services, before a permit is issued.

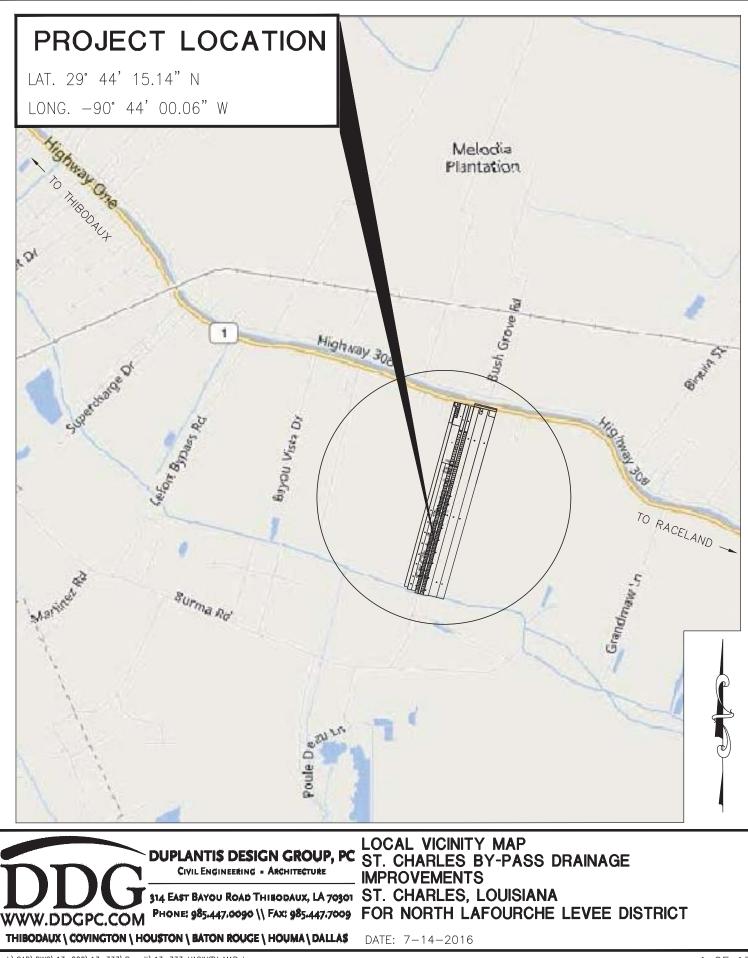
Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing. You are requested to communicate the information contained in this notice to any other parties whom you deem likely to have interest in the matter.

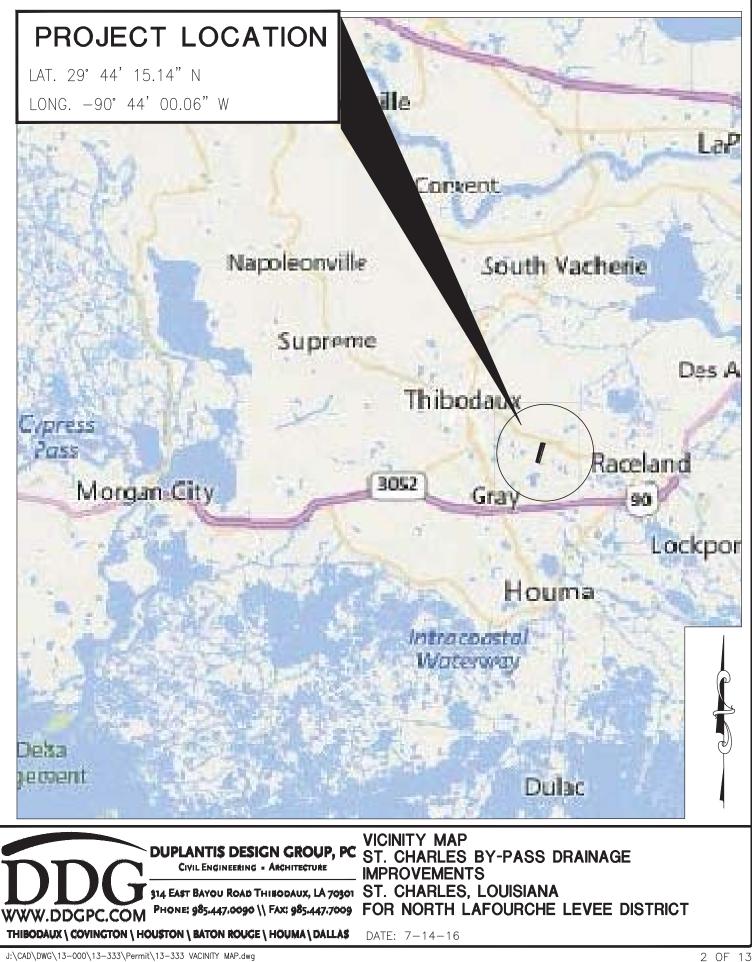
The applicant has certified that the proposed activity described in the application complies with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program. The Department of the Army permit will not be issued unless the applicant received approval or a waiver of the Coastal Use Permit by the Department of Natural Resources.

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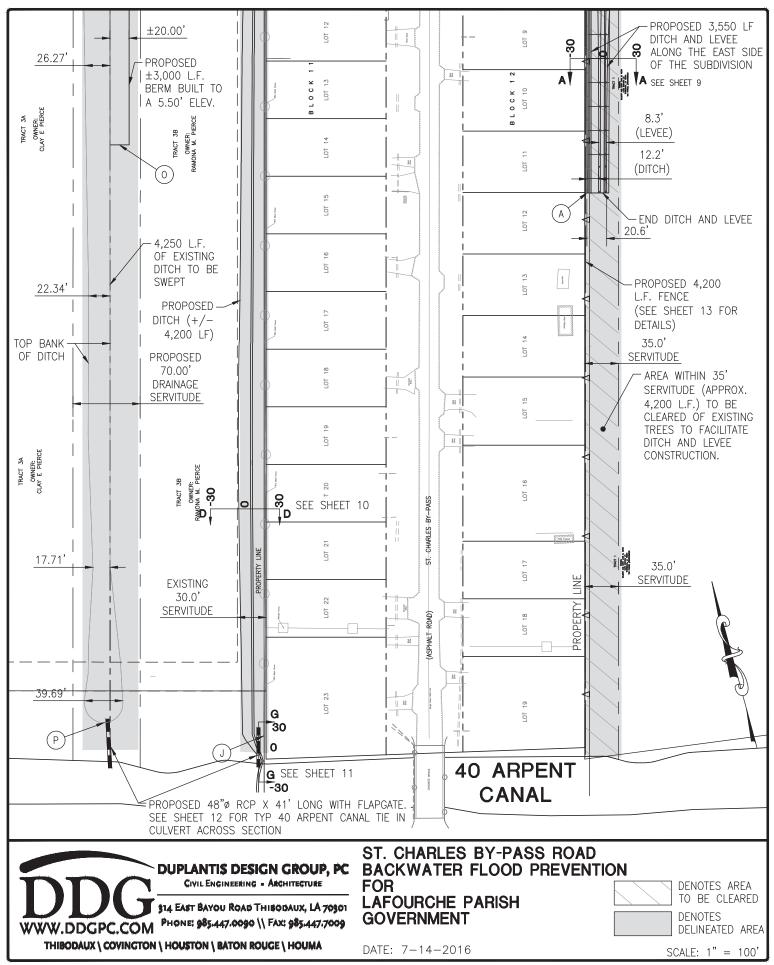
JOHN M. HERMAN Chief, Central Evaluation Section Regulatory Branch

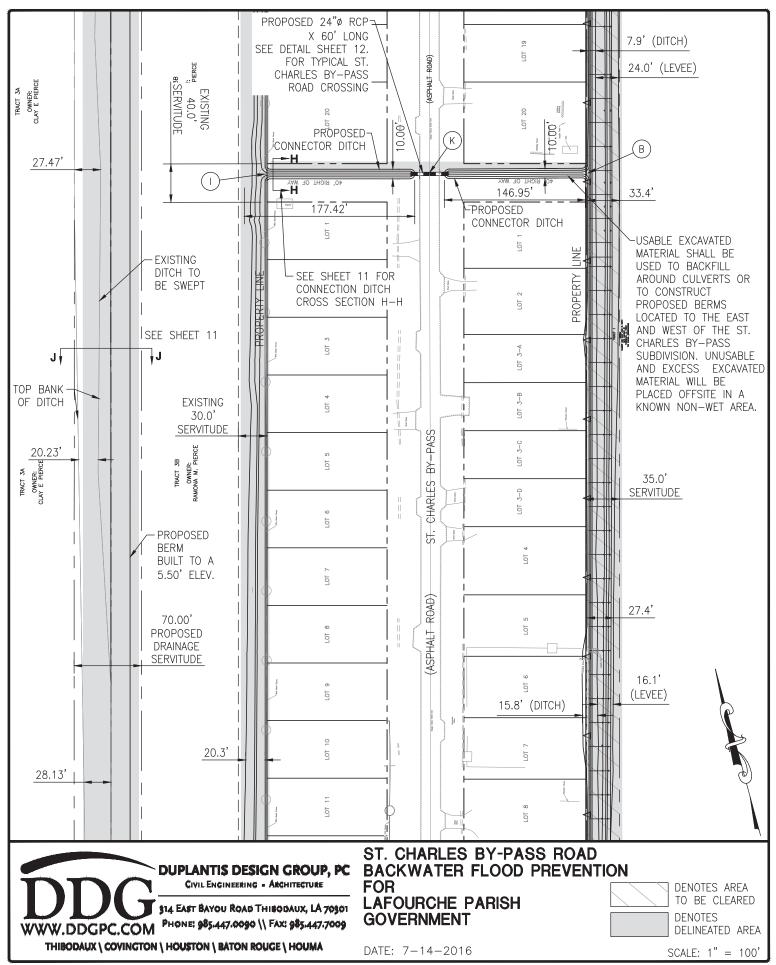
Enclosure

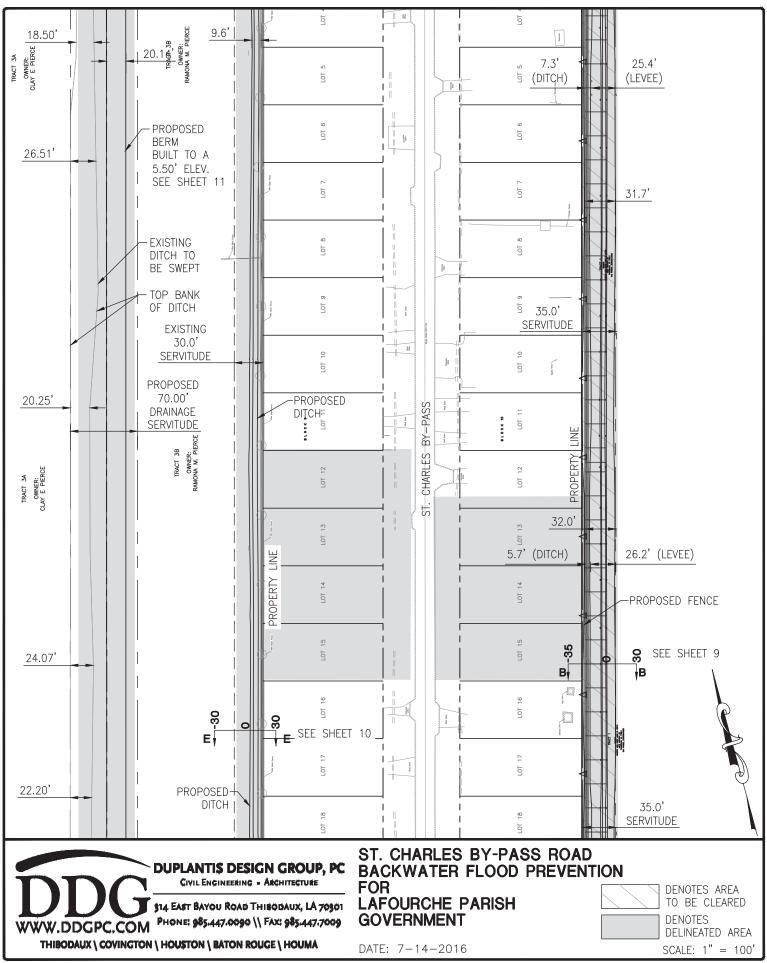


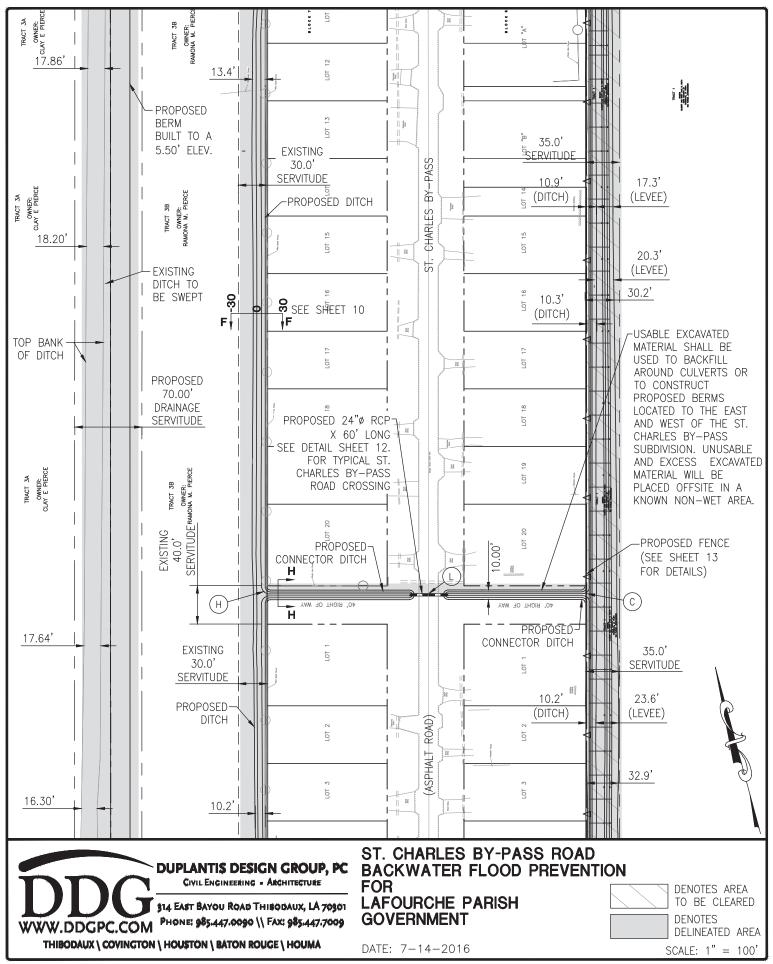


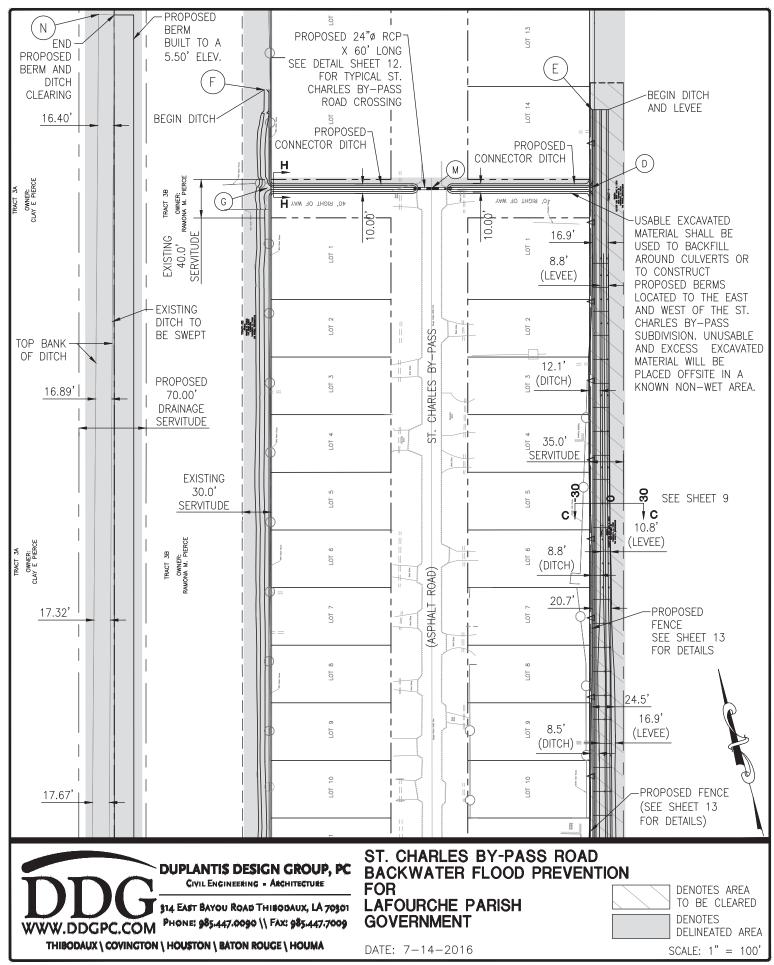
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A	· ·		3471365.2100	
В	CONNECTOR DITCH TIE-IN (EAST)	450356.9900		5
C		451602.1900	3471703.2300	7
D	CONNECTOR DITCH TIE-IN (EAST)	452847.1400	3472041.0700	8
E	BEGIN EAST DITCH/LEVEE	452925.2400	3472066.3300	8
F	BEGIN WEST DITCH	453041.6800	3471716.1600	8
G	CONNECTOR DITCH TIE-IN (WEST)	452939.9900	3471698.4500	8
н	CONNECTOR DITCH TIE-IN (WEST)	451695.1100	3471360.6600	7
I	CONNECTOR DITCH TIE-IN (WEST)	450449.2000	3471021.5900	5
J	END WEST DITCH	449057.5400	3470626.1500	4
к	PROPOSED 24" RCP ROAD CROSSING	450399.5200	3471209.0400	5
L	PROPOSED 24" RCP ROAD CROSSING	451645.8100	3471546.6700	7
м	PROPOSED 24" RCP ROAD CROSSING	452890.6900	3471884.8400	8
Ν	BEGIN WEST BERM/BEGIN WEST DITCH SWEEP	453148.2500	3471621.3800	8
0 P	END WEST BERM	449675.3500 449099.0500	3470678.7800	4
F	END WEST DITCH SWEEP	449099.0300	3470504.5200	4
POINTS	DESCRIPTION	ACREAG	F	
1	EAST DITCH/LEVEE	3.47 AC	-	/
2	WEST DITCH/BERM	7.03 AC	-	/
3	WEST DITCH	3.42 AC	-	
4	BLOCK 9; LOTS 12–15	0.84 AC	_	
5	BLOCK 10; LOTS 13–15	0.68 AC	_	// "
6	CONNECTOR DITCH	0.08 AC	_	/ / 4/
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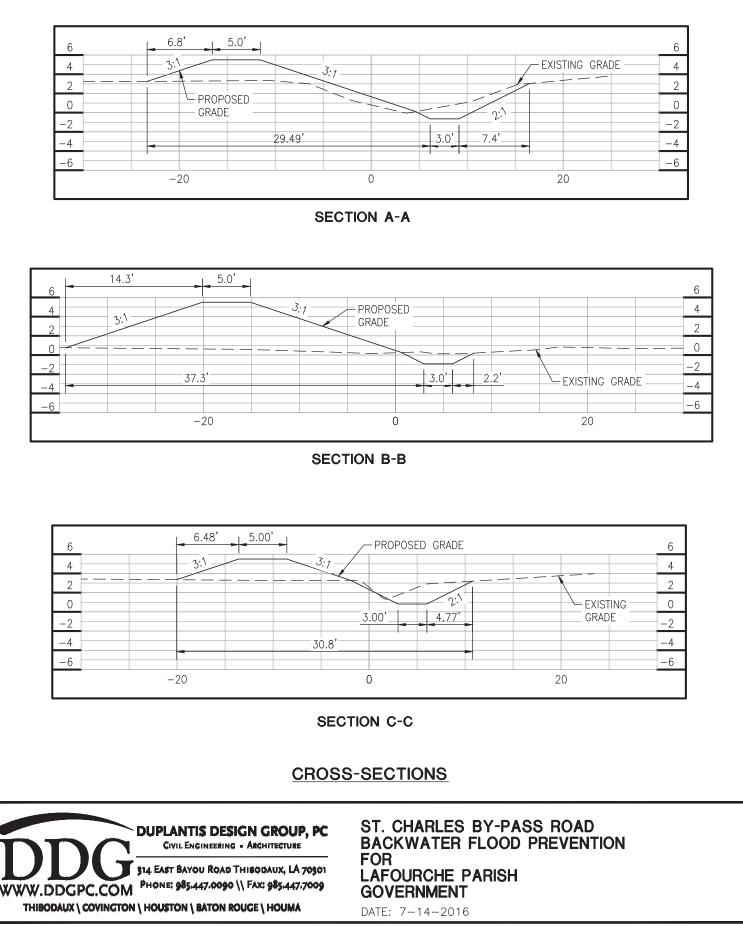




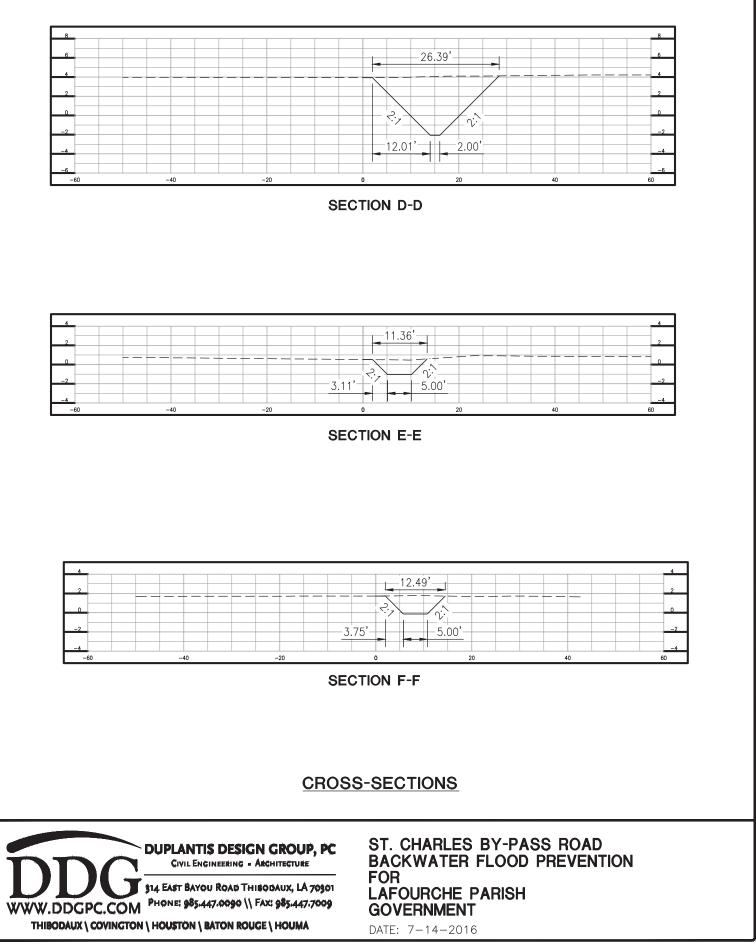








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