



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
New Orleans District

# News Release

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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January 4, 2002

## **N.O.-Metairie hurricane bridge contract awarded**

*New, 4-lane structure will be built over 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal*

NEW ORLEANS – Construction will begin in February on a bridge to protect New Orleans and Metairie from Lake Pontchartrain's hurricane storm surges, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said Friday.

A new, 4-lane bridge will be built on Hammond Highway over the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal, replacing a 2-lane bridge connecting New Orleans and Metairie. Traffic will continue through the 2-year project, with one lane in each direction.

The bridge will be built by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Orleans Levee District and East Jefferson Levee District. The \$4.92 million contract was awarded to Gulf Group Inc., Panama City, Fla.

About half of the contract cost is being provided by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development. This money will be used to expand the bridge from two lanes to four lanes. The remaining costs will be shared 70 percent federal and 30 percent local.

Six of 10 hurricane bridges have been completed in the New Orleans area. Three bridges are under contract, including Hammond Highway. The other two are on Filmore and Mirabeau avenues over the London Avenue Canal in New Orleans. Filmore will be constructed first, with Mirabeau to follow after Filmore is reopened. Construction preparations will begin this month.

### **Related Corps hurricane Web sites:**

<http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/pao/response/HURPROJ.asp?prj=lkpon1>  
<http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/pao/response/index.asp>