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Corps awards contract to construct additional drainage structure in St. Charles Parish

NEW ORLEANS, LA – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, awarded a \$9.5 million contract to replace the Cross Bayou Drainage Structure on the east bank of St. Charles Parish, further reducing risk to residences and businesses in the area.

“Construction will not interfere with drainage in St. Charles Parish,” says Brad Drouant, project manager. “We are taking measures to maintain drainage throughout the duration of the contract.”

The contract was awarded to Lakeshore Engineering Services, Inc. of Detroit, MI. The new structure is being built outside of the existing hurricane risk reduction alignment to allow the existing drainage structure the ability to operate throughout the duration of construction. Once the new higher and stronger structure is completed it will tie in to the existing levees in the area, at which point the old structure will be demolished. The recently finished access bridge from Airline Hwy to the levee will be utilized for truck access throughout construction.

The drainage structure is located north of Airline Hwy and is designed to reduce the risk from a storm surge that has a one percent chance of occurring each year. Work on the Cross Bayou Drainage Structure is scheduled for completion in spring 2011.

The Corps is sharing project responsibilities with its non-federal partner, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority and the Pontchartrain Levee District.

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