West Shore Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana
Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction Project

Neighborhood Focus Meeting

May 21, 2013
US Army Corps of Engineers
USACE Points of Contact

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Purpose

- Present project background, study objectives and study alternatives.

- Present information on Executive Order 12898.
WSLP Study Authorities

• July 29, 1971, by the Committee on Public Works of the U.S. House of Representatives and reads:

"RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, UNITED STATES, that the Board of Engineer's for Rivers and Harbors is hereby requested to review the report of the Chief of Engineers on Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity, Louisiana, published as House Document No. 231, 89th Congress, First Session, and other pertinent reports, with a view to determining whether modifications to the recommendations contained therein are advisable at this time, with particular reference to providing additional levees for hurricane protection and flood control in St. John the Baptist Parish and that part of St. Charles Parish west of the Bonnet Carre' Spillway."

• September 20, 1974, was adopted by the Committee on Public Works of the U.S. Senate and reads:

"RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE, that the Board for Rivers and Harbors is hereby requested to review the report of the Chief of Engineers on Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity, Louisiana, published as House Document No. 231, 89th Congress, First Session, and other pertinent reports, with a view to determining whether modifications to the recommendations contained therein are advisable at this time, for hurricane protection and flood control in St. James Parish."
WSLP Study Area
West Shore Chronology

1971/74
WSLP study authorized by Congress in 71’; St. James authority added in 74’

1997
June 97’ – Recon report recommends study proceed into feasibility phase

2003
Project inactivated

2008
Study resumes with new sponsor (PLD) in the wake of Katrina

2012
Hurricane Isaac significantly impacts the WSLP study area

2013
Tentatively Selected Plan June 2013

2014
Chief’s Report scheduled for completion in 2014*

Unreliable funding stream impacts study schedule

* Based on required federal funding
Storm Surge Patterns

Storm Surge Patterns in the WSLP Study Area

Lake Pontchartrain

The Rigolets

Chef Menteur Pass

Lake Borgne

Mississippi Sound

Gulf of Mexico

Storm Surge

Storm Surge

Storm Surge

Storm Surge

Storm Surge

Lake Pontchartrain

The Rigolets

Chef Menteur Pass

Lake Borgne

Mississippi Sound

Gulf of Mexico
Study Objectives

1. Reduce hurricane storm surge related damages.

2. Reduce flood risk to life, health, and welfare of residents by decreasing flooding to the maximum extent practical.

3. Increase public awareness of hurricane risks in developed flood prone areas.

4. Enhance public awareness of the risk to life and property of development in flood prone areas.

5. Reduce the risk of damage to critical infrastructure, specifically the I-10/I-55 hurricane evacuation routes, which would decrease the risk to life, health and welfare of the residents of southeastern Louisiana.
Final Array of Alternatives

- No Action Alternative.
- Alternative A: Spillway to Hope Canal/MS River and Non-Structural Alternative.
- Alternative C: Spillway to Hope Canal/MS River (Pipeline Avoidance) and Non-Structural Alternative.
- Alternative D: Spillway to Ascension Parish (I-10 Protection).
Final Array Overview

West Shore Lake Pontchartrain (WSLP) Louisiana Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction (HSDRR) Study

Alternative D
(I-10 Protection)

Alternative C
(Pipeline Avoidance and Storage Capacity)

St. James Parish

St. John The Baptist Parish

Legend
- Structure Raising
- Parish Boundary
- Alternative A*
- Alternative C*
- Alternative D
- Authorized Study Area

Major roadways which are built on grade
Major roadways which are elevated
Local Levees

Flow Points under 1-10
- Bayou
- Canal
- Culvert
- River

*Would include a non-structural element for areas outside of the levee system
Alternative C

West Shore Lake Pontchartrain (WSLP) Louisiana Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction (HSDRR) Study

Legend:
- Structure Raising
- Parish Boundary
- Major roadways which are built on grade
- Major roadways which are elevated
- Local Levees
- Alternative C*
- Authorized Study Area

*Would include a non-structural element for areas outside of the levee system

Flow Points under 1-10:
- Bayou
- Canal
- Culvert
- River
Alternative D

West Shore Lake Pontchartrain (WSLP) Louisiana Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction (HSDRR) Study

Legend
- Parish Boundary
- Alternative D
- Major roadways which are built on grade
- Major roadways which are elevated
- Authorized Study Area
- Local Levees

Flow Points under 1-10
- Bayou
- Canal
- Culvert
- River

*Would include a non-structural element for areas outside of the levee system
Next Steps

• Identification of a tentatively selected plan is expected in late June 2013.

• After completion of a favorable Chief’s Report in 2014*, seek an authorization from Congress for construction.

• Design for construction will be initiated upon approval of a favorable Chief’s Report and availability of funding.

• Rough order of magnitude project costs indicate a range of costs between $700M and $1B.

* Based on required federal funding
Executive Order 12898
Environmental Justice
What is Environmental Justice?

- Consideration of Environmental Justice is required for any Federal Action by Executive Order 12898 signed by President Clinton in 1994:

“To the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law… each Federal Agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental affects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations.”
Public Outreach

- Identify citizens and stakeholders that may wish to participate in future public meetings.
- Provide small scale neighborhood focused meetings so that all voices can be heard.
- Make all information publicly accessible.
- Get feedback on your concerns.
DISCUSSION
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