

SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA URBAN FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT – SELA

Updated September 2024



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

Public safety is the Corps of Engineers' top priority. The Southeast Louisiana Urban Flood Control Project (SELA) reduces the risk of flood damages due to rainfall flooding in Orleans, Jefferson and St. Tammany parishes. The improvements generally support the parishes' master drainage plans and provides flood risk reduction up to a level associated with a 10-year rainfall event. A 10-year rainfall event is a rain storm that has a 10% annual probability of occurrence and equates to approximately nine inches of rain over a 24-hour period for our area.



Project Summary

Work for SELA is located on both the east and west banks of the Mississippi River in Orleans and Jefferson parishes. St. Tammany Parish work is located in and around the communities of Slidell, Mandeville, Covington, Abita Springs and Lacombe. The Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board of Louisiana (CPRAB) serves as the Non-Federal Sponsor with strong support from our local partners at Jefferson Parish, Sewerage & Water Board of New Orleans, St. Tammany Parish and the City of Slidell.

Project Features

In Orleans Parish, plans involve improving 16 major drainage lines, adding pumping capacity to two (2) pump stations and the construction of two (2) new pump stations. In Jefferson Parish, plans included improvements to 24 drainage canals, additional pumping capacity for four (4) pump stations and the construction of two (2) new pump stations. Planned improvements in St. Tammany Parish include channel enlargements, bridge replacement, a pump station, retention ponds, levees, T-walls and the elevation of flood-prone structures.

Project Status

Of the 20 funded SELA projects in Orleans Parish, 19 projects are complete and one (1) is under construction. Overall, the currently scheduled design and construction efforts in Orleans Parish is about 85% complete and construction is scheduled to be complete in 2027. All major construction was completed in Jefferson Parish in 2017. Work in St. Tammany Parish has not yet been funded.

In addition, the Algiers Sub-basin Plan (Orleans Parish) was partially funded in 2019 with the first Federally funded construction contract completed ahead of schedule in Fall of 2023. The second construction contract has been awarded and will begin construction in Fall of 2024. The W-14 Canal Improvements study in Slidell (St. Tammany Parish) was completed and approved in July 2012. Additional SELA studies are underway in Jefferson and Orleans Parishes with more planned once additional funding is obtained.

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