From: BARBARA CASSERLEIGH
To: Sttammanyfs
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Comments on study
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 11:58:24 PM

As property owners of an historical home in one of the most beautiful and pristine settings that exists, Ipplease consider our concerns about the St Tammany feasibility study as it currently exists.

The current map location will place a pumping station and flood gate essentially in our front yard, at the junction of Bayous Liberty and Pacquet, and outside the proposed levee protection.

At one of the many meetings we have attended over the past year, an alternate alignment was discussed that would place these structures at a greater distance (200-300 yds, perhaps?) down Bayou Liberty, offering our property not only the protection of being inside the levee , but also preserving the ecological importance and visual aesthetics of this lovely spot. At the least, this change in the proposal would be much more acceptable.

Also, as currently proposed, it seems apparent that the recent successful restoration of the Bayou Bonfouca marsh would be greatly jeopardized. That project cost millions of dollars. I personally helped LDWF in replanting the marsh and strongly feel that it would be a travesty to flush that money down the drain!

Based on many comments made by representatives of the St Tammany Levee Board chairman, Suzanne Krieger, we are greatly concerned that this entire project has been desperately undertaken as a means to spend the available funds somehow, but without proper understanding of all the repercussions to the environmental issues, property values of all concerned, and wishes of the taxpayers…more of a "you don't use it, you lose it" ideology than a careful, sensible plan to provide flood protection to as many as possible.

Additionally, we would strongly suggest that the study include reopening of the discussions of the feasibility of constructing flood prevention mechanisms at the Rigolets.

Our family has had the rare pleasure of enjoying the beauty and serenity of the bayou for over 60 years. Our home was lovingly constructed in the mid 1960s by Henry G. Casserleigh, Sr., our grandfather. He enjoyed a long and successful career as a higher up with the ACOE, eventually heading up the flood protection effort as Director. He built our structure to withstand whatever Mother Nature sent our way, with attention to all structural elements available at that time. The home has stood firm and intact through all flooding events since then, and we have never made a flood claim, even in Katrina! Mr. Casserleigh was an avid environmental activist and advocate and he would be certainly be horrified to know of this proposal!

We appreciate all the efforts put forth as attempts to protect the residents of Slidell from flooding. But there is much work left to do before any current plan is approved to move forward!

Sincerely,

Henry Casserleigh III and Barbara Casserleigh
[redacted]

Sent from my iPad