Lake Pontchartrain & Vicinity
General Reevaluation Report

Public Information Meeting
for the Draft Report

New Orleans District
January 22, 2020

“The views, opinions and findings contained in this report are those of the authors(s) and should not be construed as an official Department of the Army position, policy or decision, unless so designated by other official documentation.”
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Agenda
• FAQs
• Corps Study Process
• Project Background
• Alternatives Considered
• Tentatively Selected Plan
• Next Steps: Project Schedule
• Public Comment Period

Information Posters & Tables

Submitting Comments
• Email: CEMVN-LPVGRR@usace.army.mil
• Court Reporter available tonight
FAQS

• Does the HSDRRS currently provide the 1% level of risk reduction?
• Why weren’t the levees/floodwalls built higher to begin with?
• Why didn’t this study begin until 2018 when the need for future levee lifts was always known?
• Why is the study important?
• When would construction begin?
MEETING PURPOSE / WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU

• Inform the public
  – Provide background on study
  – Discuss alternatives evaluated
  – Present “Tentatively Selected Plan”

• Solicit your input
  – Issues and concerns
  – Formulation and evaluation of alternatives
  – Tentatively Selected Plan
**CORPS STUDY PROCESS**

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- **Scoping**
  - Data gathering
  - Request public input on study area issues for consideration

- **Alternative Evaluation & Analysis**
  - Evaluate alternatives
  - Recommend a plan
  - Draft report / National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document
  - Opportunity for public review & comment

- **Feasibility Analysis of Selected Plan**
  - Additional design refinements & analysis
  - Finalize report and release for public review

- **Final Report**
  - Send final report to Congress for approval and funding

**Current Stage**
AGENCY PARTNERSHIP & COORDINATION

Non-Federal Sponsor
Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA)

Permitting & Advisory Agencies
STUDY AREA

HURRICANE STORM DAMAGE RISK REDUCTION SYSTEM
### PROJECT AREA – LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN & VICINITY

- Located between the Mississippi River, Lake Pontchartrain, and Lake Borgne
- Originally authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1965
- Approximately 126 miles of levees and floodwalls
WHY ARE WE HERE?

Today, the system provides the 1% level of risk reduction authorized by Congress and the Corps is fully confident it will perform as designed and continue to do so for several years without additional lifts.

The need for future levee lifts has always been known, but was not authorized along with the system’s initial construction.
# TERMS & DEFINITIONS

Sea Level Rise + Subsidence = Relative Sea Level Rise

**Sea level rise**
1.3-3.6 ft./50-year

**Subsidence**
1.5-4.75 ft./50-year

Compaction/Settlement of levee

*Note: Because of the age of the levees, the topography, bathymetry, and other factors, the levee settlement rates are not equal across the system.*
Effects of settlement, subsidence, and sea level rise

Original Levee Height
Levee Height after settlement
Levee Height after settlement and subsidence

Sea Level Rise
Original Water Height
Original Ground

Not to scale
WHY CONSTRUCT IN LIFTS?

Multiple Lift vs. Single Lift Construction Compared.
Study Purpose

• The study will reevaluate the performance of the LPV project given the combined effects of consolidation, settlement, subsidence, sea level rise, and new datum over time.

Study Area Problems

• Increased risk of overtopping of LPV levees during hurricane and tropical storm events.
• Increased risk to life safety and storm-related economic damages.

Study Objectives

• Reduce economic damages and risk of life loss due to hurricane and tropical storm damage.
PLAN FORMULATION PROCESS

Measure Identification
- Utilized existing infrastructure, existing reports, and subject matter expertise
- Structural, Non-Structural, Natural and Nature Based Solutions

Measure Screening
- 13 measures identified
- Evaluated using professional judgment, existing data, cost/benefit, meets objectives
- 4 measures screened from further analysis

Alternative Formulation
- 6 formulation strategies
- 4 screened from further analysis

Final Array
- 2 Final
MEASURES

Structural
- Levee lift
- Surge Barrier
- New floodwalls
- Breakwaters
- Interior drainage improvements
- Add armoring at the flood side
- Wave berms

Non-Structural
- Risk Communication
- Buyouts
- Flood-proofing
- Elevated buildings

Nature-Based
- Marshes
- Dunes/Beaches
- Living Shoreline
### ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

- **No Action Alternative**
- **Alternative 1:** System Levee Lifts to the Projected 1% AEP Event at 2057
- **Alternative 2:** System Levee Lifts to the Projected 1% AEP Event at 2073
- **Alternative 3:** System Levee Lifts at 2073 that Maximize Benefits
- **Alternative 4:** Selective Levee Lifts
- **Alternative 5:** Non-Structural
- **Alternative 6:** Sponsor Plan
EVALUATION OF ALTERNATIVES

✓ Hydrology & hydraulics modeling
✓ Cost estimates
✓ Economic benefits (damages reduced)
✓ Environmental impacts (mitigation)
✓ Real estate considerations
✓ Reductions in life safety risk
✓ Reduction in risk to critical infrastructure
TENTATIVELY SELECTED PLAN

- 50 miles of levee lifts and 19 miles of floodwall modifications/replacements along existing LPV alignment
- Estimated total cost: ~$2.6 billion
NEX T S T E P S

Final General Reevaluation Report
- Response to public comments included
- Refined design based on additional analysis
- Final plan sent to Congress

Congressional Authorization & Appropriation
- Congress approves construction through a Water Resources Development Act
- Funding occurs separately through federal and state budgeting processes

Design Phase
- Additional survey and data collection to support design refinement

Construction (Phased)
- Construction contracts awarded and managed by the Corps
HOW TO COMMENT

Send your comments by February 7, 2020

Mail:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District
C/O Mr. Bradley Drouant, P.E.
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New Orleans, LA 70118

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A Court Reporter is available tonight to accept verbal comments
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
PLACEHOLDER FOR FAQS