



The Flood Protection Authority-East

News of Your Flood Defense System

January 1, 2019



17th Street Outfall Canal—Permanent Canal Closure and Pumps in forefront and Interim Closure Structure and Temporary Pumps in rear

Message from The Flood Protection Authority President Joe Hassinger

New Year, Renewed Commitments

I am very excited about the outlook for 2019! We have an incredibly talented and committed team who will build upon the progress we made in 2018. I look forward to meeting with the Board this fall to present a long list of our 2019 accomplishments. This will be a year of training, HR strides, a renewed commitment to safety and security, and additional tweaks of our structure. No organization is stagnant. It is either moving forward, getting stronger and addressing weaknesses; or, it is backsliding into negative habits and outdated practices. We choose to move forward.

One final note, we have been trying to resolve challenges faced by the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District. Many, many hours of hard work have been invested. While we are not there yet, I expect 2019 to be the year that we and the parish cooperate and compromise to finally fix a longstanding problem, to ensure that our citizens of St. Bernard Parish are properly protected.

Happy New Year,

Joe

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 Flood Protection Authority

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Orleans Levee District Police Complex Ribbon Cutting



Board President Joe Hassinger welcomed everyone to the December 13th Ribbon Cutting for the new Orleans Levee District Police Department (OLDPD) Complex. He stated, "Prior to Katrina the facility was poor. After Katrina, the officers made do in a makeshift facility that they outgrew a long time ago. This project is a long time in the making, and we are extremely proud of our officers and happy to have this new beautiful new facility that fits their needs perfectly."

"The Orleans Levee District Police Department is back home", declared Police Superintendent Kerry Najolia. The former OLDPD station, a renovated former gas station enlarged to accommodate the levee district's police personnel, was devastated by Hurricane Katrina and demolished to make way for the new modern facility. The Elysian Fields site has historically served the OLDPD and the public well, and is easily accessible and strategically located to accomplish the OLDPD's mission.

Chief Najolia explained that the OLDPD is not only responsible for the Flood Protection Authority's (FPA) facilities, as well as its critical infrastructure, but partners with local, state and federal law enforcement officers. Joe Hassinger stated, "The OLDPD protects and serves citizens throughout New Orleans from the lake to the river and from River Bend to the Rigolets. And they do it every day with little fanfare and little recognition." He told the officers, "We are proud of you and thank you for your service."

Derek Boese, FPA CAO, added, "This new police station is not only an amazing and beautiful new building, but the location also signifies our belief in community interaction and an active public presence, especially from our Police Department."



Pictured: Joe Hassinger, President; Derek Boese, CAO; and Kerry Najolia, Police Superintendent (above).

Wilma Heaton, Governmental Affairs Director, backed by OLDPD Officers (below).



The facility includes a 24 hour dispatch and response line covering all three parishes served by the FPA and every structure operated by the FPA.

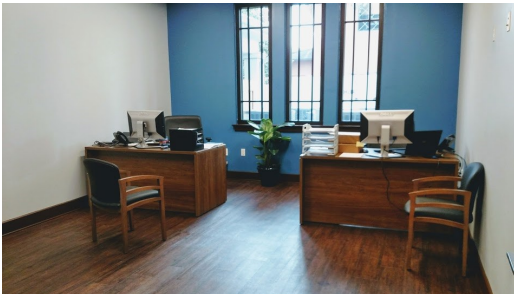
Wilma Heaton summed up the FPA's thoughts when she stated, "This building symbolizes that our officers matter and they and the community deserve this building".



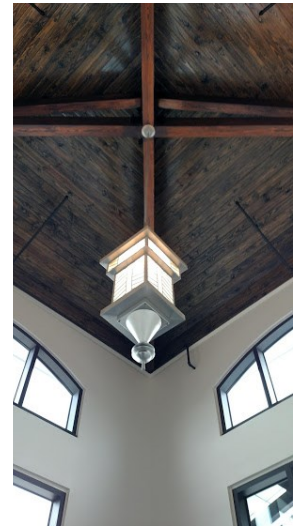
The New State-of-the-Art Orleans Levee District Police Complex



The new state-of-the-art facility was constructed to support the OLDPD and its dedicated, committed team of professional law enforcement officers who are P.O.S.T. certified and highly trained to accomplish the mission of the FPA and provide assistance to Federal, State and municipal law enforcement agencies whenever possible for the benefit of public safety.



The 10,000 sq. ft. law enforcement complex includes a 7,500 sq. ft. police station with full generation power, storage garage for police vehicles and security fencing. The complex includes a fully independent satellite office for the Constable for the First City Court of New Orleans.



The police station includes a conference/training center, dispatch with state-of-the-art communications equipment, administrative offices, reception area with vaulted ceiling, holding cell, breakroom and locker rooms. The 1,183 sq. ft. conference/training center is fully equipped with audio/visual technology and furnished to accommodate the continuous training required by professional law enforcement officers.

The total construction cost for the new OLDPD Complex was \$3,185,579.

Architect: RCL Architecture, LLC
Paul Dimitrios, AIA
Richard C. Lambert, P.E., Principle
General Contractor: CM Combs
Structural Engineer: John Bose
Electrical Engineer: Creative Engineering Group
Mechanical Engineer: Ritter Consulting
Landscape Design: Trinity Design Group



Memorandum of Understanding for Non-Flood Protection Assets

The Boards of Commissioners for the Non-Flood Protection Asset Management Authority (NFPAMA) and Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority (FPA), the governing authority for the Orleans Levee District, recently approved the execution of an updated, revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the entities for the management of the Orleans Levee District's Non-Flood Protection Assets. The MOU, which was executed on October 1, 2018, delineates the assets to be managed by the NFPAMA and fully defines the responsibilities of each of the entities relative to the assets.

Act 1 of the Special Session of the LA Legislature in 2006 created the FPA and charged the LA Division of Administration (DOA) with the management of the assets of a levee district that are not required for its flood protection mission. The NFPAMA was subsequently established by the LA Legislature in 2010 (Act. No. 1014) to take over the roll of managing and maintaining the non-flood protection assets of a levee district within the jurisdiction of a flood protection authority. The new MOU updates the terms and conditions set forth in the original document that was executed and revised in 2007 between the FPA and DOA and reflects the commitments made by the two authorities relative to the management, operation and maintenance requirements for the assets.

Orleans Avenue Canal PCCP Pumps Tested

As part of the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) completed the Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps (PCCP) and on May 1, 2018 issued the Notice of Construction Completed to the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) turning the project over to the CPRA (the local non-federal sponsor). The PCCP replace the Interim Closure Structures (ICS) and temporary pumps constructed in 2006 after Hurricane Katrina to provide 100-year level of risk reduction and prevent surge from Lake Pontchartrain from entering the Outfall Canals while the PCCP was being designed and built.

The CPRA, Flood Protection Authority (FPA) and Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO) entered into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement on February 1, 2018, designating the FPA as the entity responsible for the operation, maintenance, repair, repair and rehabilitation responsibilities for the PCCP.

During a tropical storm or high water event that requires the activation of the PCCP, constant and effective communication and collaboration must be maintained between the FPA and the SWBNO for the operation of the PCCP and the SWBNO's interior pump stations.

On October 25th the FPA and SWBNO conducted a joint test of the Orleans Pump Station (PCCP) at Lake Pontchartrain and SWBNO Drainage Pumping Station 7 on the Orleans Canal. The effort successfully discharged storm water from SWBNO's drainage system through the pumps associated with the permanent lakeside floodgates installed to protect New Orleans from storm surge during tropical events. The effort was also done in coordination with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and CPRA. Both stations were operated simultaneously under harsh rain and water level conditions.

"This test provided us with that extra layer of confidence that asking the Flood Protection Authority to manage the pumping stations at the Lake was the right thing to do," said SWBNO Executive Director Ghassan Korban. "Our two teams were in constant communication and coordination throughout the event, and that partnership will only improve going forward."



The FPA'S PCCP TEAM (pictured left to right)

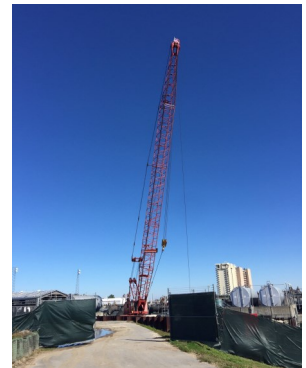
Gerry Gillen, Director of Operations
Robert Albright, Controls Specialist Manager
Karl Hoffpauir, Facility Assistant Maintenance Manager A - Controls Assistant
Darren Nichols, Facility Assistant Maint. Manager A - Electrician Specialist
John Mitchell, Facility Assistant Maint. Manager A - Power Generation Asst.
Brian Corte, Mechanic
Ken Johnson, Power Generation Specialist Manager
Craig Simon, Mechanic

Removal of the Interim Closure Structures and Temporary Pumps



Pictured: Removal of ICS at 17th Street Outfall Canal begins.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded a \$17 million contract to M.R. Pittman Group, LLC to remove the Interim Closure Structures (ICS) at the Orleans Avenue, London Avenue and 17th Street Outfall Canals. The work consists of the demolition of the three ICS and removal of associated above ground equipment, machinery, buildings and platforms, along with the removal of exposed sheet piling, partial removal and replacement of scour protection, concrete capping of I-Walls, placement of riprap, aesthetic improvements and other incidental work. The work started in December, 2018, and should be completed in the summer of 2020.



The Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps (PCCP) were constructed to replace the Interim Closure Structures at the three outfall canals.

Protecting the New Orleans Lakefront Levee



The Lake Pontchartrain Seawall was constructed in 1930 by the Board of Commissioners of the Orleans Levee District. The seawall, which was the first Hurricane Frontal Protection system constructed for the City of New Orleans, is 5.2 miles in length and supported by concrete piles. The seawall continues to serve as frontal protection, dissipating wave activity that would otherwise batter, scour and erode the levee that stretches across the lakefront from the Seventeenth Street Canal to the Industrial Canal.



**Seawall construction in 1930 (above).
Waves overtopping seawall (below).**



Frequent storms and wave activity inundating the seawall has caused significant seepage and erosion to take place under and behind the seawall. The Seawall Erosion Control Project is a multi year project being constructed in phases. Vinyl sheets are driven on the landside of the seawall to prevent seepage and reduce erosion. Seawall joints are sealed to prevent erosion of material from beneath the seawall. Other components of the project include safety lighting, concrete bollards to separate vehicle traffic along Lakeshore Drive and pedestrian areas, landscaping, and drainage modifications.

Orleans Levee District Maintenance personnel routinely attempted to fill the ruts and holes in the earthen areas behind the seawall caused by frequent overtopping of the seawall by lake waters during storms. The construction of concrete slabs or plazas behind the seawall resolved this continual erosion maintenance problem. Maintenance spent at least half their time in winter cleaning up Lakeshore Drive after storms. This has been significantly reduced by the seawall project.

The following reaches of the Seawall Erosion Control Project have been completed: New Basin Canal to Orleans Avenue Canal; Orleans Avenue Canal to Bayou St John; London Avenue Canal to Pontchartrain Beach; and Pontchartrain Beach to Franklin Avenue.

Construction from Franklin Avenue to the Seabrook Boat Launch (Phase III) is currently on-going and is anticipated to be completed within the next two months.

The final phase of the project (Phase IV) is from Bayou St. John to the London Avenue Canal and is currently under design. Upon completion of the plans and specifications, the construction project will be advertised for bid. The final phase is anticipated to be completed in mid to late 2020.



Plaza across from the Mardi Gras Fountain



**Contractor pouring
slabs behind seawall at
Seabrook (left).**

**Completed slabs at
Seabrook (right).**



Update on Levee Lift / Armoring Projects

East Jefferson Lakefront Levee:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has completed the three armoring projects (**LPV-ARM-08, LPV-ARM-10 and LPV-ARM-07**) that extend across all five reaches of the East Jefferson Lakefront Levee stretching from the St. Charles Parish line to the 17th Street Outfall Canal. Two of the five levee reaches have been turned back over to the East Jefferson Levee District. Three of the levee reaches must have the appropriate turf establishment take place during the spring before they are turned back over to the levee district.

New Orleans East:

LPV-ARM-04 [Paris Road east to South Point then south to I-10 (north side)] - A contract in the amount of \$19,548,405 was awarded to B.I.S. Services, LLC. The 6.3 mile long project, which includes installation of High Performance Turf Reinforcement Mat (HPTRM) and sod, was completed on 11/20/18. The appropriate turf establishment must take place in the spring in order for the levee to be turned back over to the Orleans Levee District.

LPV-ARM-05 [south side of I-10, south along the levee and across Hwy. 11 and Hwy. 90 to the north side of the CSX tracks] - The project is about 7 miles in length and includes raising the levee, installing HPTRM and sod. The levee raising portion of the project is funded by the Orleans Levee District. A contract in the amount of \$14,734,252 was awarded to B.I.S., LLC and the contractor has started construction. Project duration is 690 calendar days.

LPV-ARM-09 [south side of CSX tracks, south to the GIWW then west along GIWW to the Surge Barrier wall] - The project is about 5.1 miles in length and includes raising the levee, installing HPTRM and sod. A contract in the amount of \$12,029,266 was awarded to Circle Construction and the contractor has started construction. Project duration is 590 calendar days.



Work on ARM-09 pictured: Construction of temporary Bridge to be used by dump trucks hauling dirt across Maxent canal to the work site. (left)

Area on the GIWW, east of the Surge Barrier, being raised. (right)



Middle School Science Program

Curriculum Presented at Louisiana Science Teachers Association Annual Conference

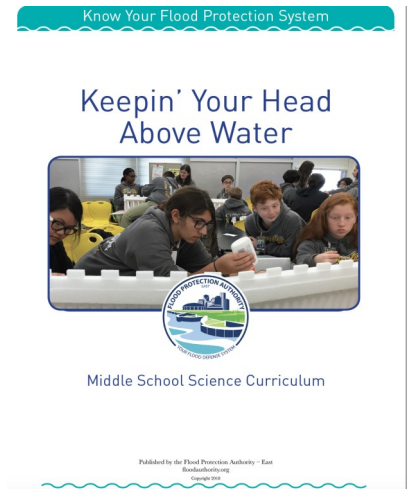


Louisiana Science Teachers Attend
FPA Curriculum Workshop

Teaching students about the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System will help future generations understand its importance and share this information with their families and friends. The Flood Protection Authority's middle school science program educates through the originally-developed curriculum, ***Keepin' Your Head Above Water: Know Your Flood Protection System***, which includes lessons and activities on geographical orientation (where do I live and where is the water), the FPA's flood protection system (where is it and what is it) and ways students can reduce risk related to tropical storms and hurricanes for their families and homes.

The curriculum was presented at the Louisiana Science Teachers Association's Annual Conference on October 22nd and 23rd. Twenty-seven teachers from around the state, including Orleans, East Jefferson and St. Bernard Parishes, attended the workshop. Each teacher was given a curriculum guide, the link to the Flood Authority's website and information about field trip opportunities.

The curriculum and lessons were developed by Anne Rheams, Education Consultant, and Gena Asevad, St. Bernard Parish Schools Science Curriculum Director. The online version of the Curriculum is posted on floodauthority.org/teacher-resources.



FPA Board Meetings Livestreamed

The FPA is excited to announce that its monthly Board Meetings are now being live streamed.

The livestream can be viewed by visiting the FPA website www.floodauthority.org/ and clicking on the Facebook icon located at the top right corner of the page or going to:

www.facebook.com/FloodProtectionAuthority/.

The FPA's new video on the Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps (PCCP) is available for viewing on the FPA's website along with other informative videos on the vitally important Flood Defense System. Go to www.floodauthority.org/ and click on Education.



EJLD Safe Room and Consolidated Facility Update



Construction of the East Jefferson Levee District (EJLD) Safe Room and Consolidated Facility continues on schedule. The modern new complex will bring together the EJLD's administrative, maintenance and police personnel in a single facility and provide safe housing for emergency personnel during tropical storm/hurricane events.

The facility is anticipated to be completed in late January, 2019.



I-STORM Group Receives Peer Review Update

Flood Protection Authority (FPA) Engineers Ryan Foster and Darren Austin represented the FPA at the International Network of Storm Surge Barriers' (I-STORM) Annual Conference held in Ipswich, England on October 1-3, 2018. I-STORM is an international association of professionals who manage and operate storm barrier systems. A important benefit of being a member of I-STORM is the ability to network with seasoned, professional colleagues and share knowledge and experience on the management, maintenance and operation of complex flood defense structures.

Mr. Foster and Mr. Austin received valuable information at the various presentations and workshops, networked with colleagues from the United Kingdom, Netherlands and Italy, and visited the Colne Flood Barrier (Colne River), Ipswich Flood Barrier (Orwell River) and Thames Barrier (Thames River).

On October 4th Mr. Austin met with I-STORM members who participated in the Peer Review of the FPA's flood defense structures (IHNC Surge Barrier Sector and Barge Gates, Seabrook Complex and Bayou Bienvenue Lift Gate) in May, 2018, and updated the members on the FPA's post peer review efforts and the implementation of the Peer Review Team's recommendations. The I-STORM group was excited to learn about the FPA's conscientious efforts to implement the peer review team's recommendations.

The Flood Protection Authority urges everyone to become informed about their flood defense system and encourages organizations and business and community groups to schedule a tour of the IHNC-Lake Borgne Surge Barrier and Permanent Canal and Closure Pump Stations. Contact Glenda Boudreaux at 504-262-8910 or gboudreaux@floodauthority.org to arrange your visit to one on or both of these extraordinary facilities that are part of the critical flood defense system protecting your community.

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Associate Editor: Wilma Heaton**

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