



The Flood Protection Authority-East

News of Your Flood Defense System

January 1, 2023



IHNC-Lake Borgne Surge Barrier

Message from President Randy Noel

Another year has passed and we were blessed to avoid a repeat of 2021.

I attended our recent Annual Safety Progress Report Meeting at the New Orleans Lakefront Airport and left filled with incredible joy and pride for the men and woman serving our citizens. The camaraderie and attention to details by all our team in the Flood Protection Authority's (FPA) state of the art flood control system is a sight to behold. I truly wish all of the residents of our area of protection could experience this same realization to comfort them as they live behind the system that all of our employees work so hard perfecting.

Soon we will have another opportunity to make it even better with the recent passage of potential funding to double the protection from 100 years to 200 years. Thanks to our team and Commissioners as well as our consultants for the hard work it took to reach this goal.

I'm also thrilled we will finally have a full complement of Commissioners. Our new Commissioners have hit the ground running. They are talented and bright and will help watchdog our proceedings and guide us into the future. They all have a vested interest in our success.

As we look forward to next year, let's pray we are blessed another year to give our neighbors more time to recover. I know, although, that if the challenge arises the FPA's army of first responders will move with precision and speed to prepare our system to take on any onslaught Mother Nature can throw our way.

Let's work together another year and make our Southeast Louisiana area the best it can be.

Happy Holidays and I say on behalf of all the commissioners, thank you.

Randy Noel, President
Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection
Authority-East Board of Commissioners



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Governor John Bel Edwards Appoints Two New Board Members

On October 21, 2022, Governor John Bel Edwards appointed William A. Settoon, Jr., and Derek N. Rabb to fill the seats on the FPA Board of Commissioners vacated by former Commissioners Herbert Weysham and Mark Morgan, both of whom had terms that expired. Bill Settoon and Derek Rabb will both serve a four-year term that started on October 21, 2022, and ends on July 1, 2026.

Governor Edwards also reappointed current Board President Randy Noel to a second four-year term, which starts at the expiration of his current term on July 1, 2023, and ends on July 1, 2027.

William A. Settoon, Jr.

William Settoon received his BS in Chemical Engineering from LSU in 1971, MS in Chemical Engineering from Tulane University in 1974, and studied for a Masters in Administration and Business from Tulane University in 1978.

Mr. Settoon's professional experience includes Vice-President and General Manager, GB Sciences LA LLC (2015-2019); Managing Member, Grand Bayou Energy LLC (2006-2015); Operations Manager and Partner, ORX Resources (1999-2006); General Manager, Industrial Management Group (1990-1999); Division Gas Sales Manager, Mobil Oil, New Orleans (1985-1989); Superior Oil Co. (1978-1985) serving in several different positions; and Production & Reservoir Engineer, Shell Oil Co., New Orleans (1974-1978).



Mr. Settoon's community service includes Commissioner and Treasurer, Lake Vista Crime Prevention District; Commissioner, Non-Flood Protection Assets Management Authority (now Lakefront Management Authority) (August 2014 to 2018); Member, New Orleans Public Library Board of Directors (2002-2010) Vice Chair, reappointed in 2015 and elected Chair in 2017; working with the City of New Orleans and FEMA to bring libraries back up and the construction of five new branches; Chair, NOPL Foundation (reappointed March, 2021); Member, UNO Foundation (current); and St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Vestry & Treasurer (2006-2010) and St. Paul's Episcopal School, Board of Directors and Treasurer (mid 1990's). Mr. Settoon was elected twice to serve on the Lake Vista Property Owners Association Board of Directors and worked with the Greater New Orleans Science & Engineering Fair.

Mr. Settoon is retired and has been happily married to Margaret Orr Settoon since 1983. They have three wonderful children and two grandchildren.

Derek N. Rabb

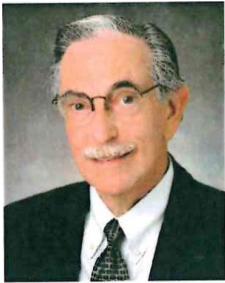


Derek Rabb received his M.B.A from Tulane University in 1993 and BS in Mechanical Engineering from Howard University in 1988.

Mr. Rabb's professional experience includes Senior Engineer for Project Management and Construction, Entergy Corporation, New Orleans (2015-Present); Senior Category Leader for Logistics Management Sourcing, Entergy Corporation, New Orleans (2006-2015); Adjunct Professor of Critical Infrastructure Protection, Tulane University (2012-2014); Category Leader for Engineering and Technical Sourcing / Budget Coordinator, Entergy Corporation (2001-2006); Sourcing Leader (Sourcing and Supply Chain Division), Honeywell International, Inc. (1995-2001); Financial Analyst (Loan Origination Division), Hibernia National Bank (1993-1995); Plant Engineer (Manufacturing Complex/Refinery), Shell Oil Company (1989-1991); and Design / Development Engineer (Light Truck Operations), Ford Motor Company (1988-1989).

Mr. Rabb's community service includes Board Member, St. Augustine High School Alumni Advisory Board; Member, Project Management Institute; and Mentor, Booker T. Washington High School Service Award.

Remembering Edgar S. Bordes, A Career Public Servant



Edgar S. Bordes

The Flood Protection Authority was saddened to learn of the death of Edgar S. Bordes on October 9, 2020. Mr. Bordes was born on April 9, 1939 in New Orleans. He graduated from De LaSalle High School, earned a Bachelor of Science in Entomology and Zoology from LSU in 1960 and a Master of Public Health from Tulane University in 1972. He was also a veteran of the U S Marine Corps.

Mr. Bordes started his career in pest control in 1959 as an entomologist for a pest control company. A year later he started his own company serving metro-New Orleans. Mosquito Control in New Orleans was formed in 1964 and Mr. Bordes was hired in 1967 by the organization's first Director George Carmichael. In 1970, he was promoted to Assistant Administrator and in 1986, he became Director.

Mr. Bordes was a visionary and implemented many changes over the years that improved and expanded the offerings and services provided by the City. Building on the progress made by George Carmichael, he created an internationally recognized program.

Mr. Bordes' search for funding opportunities led to a culture of partnerships and collaborations. The federal, state and private grants obtained allowed for researchers to conduct groundbreaking research at the City of New Orleans. International officials and researchers were common. After expanding the organization, it took on the name New Orleans Mosquito, Termite and Rodent Control Board (NOMTRCB). Mr. Bordes developed the intellectual property ordinance for the city of New Orleans.



George Carmichael and Assistant Ed Bordes check out DC-3 Mosquito Hunter

Mr. Bordes was involved with many local, state and national professional associations and was the recipient of many awards. Most notably, he was a recipient of the Louisiana Mosquito Control Association's Hathaway-Ritter Award and PCT Leadership award in 2004. He worked tirelessly for the awareness and expansion of mosquito and pest control in Louisiana and beyond. Mr. Bordes published several scientific articles with members of Mosquito Control. He and the employees of Mosquito Control at the time were pioneers in the development of aerial adulticiding, insecticide droplet evaluation, and development of emergency vector control. In the late eighties and early nineties, his collaborations with private industry and universities resulted in the development of bait technology for control of subterranean termites. This revolutionized the control of subterranean termites.

Over his 60 years of service, Mr. Bordes was involved in many epidemics and disasters. Hurricanes Betsy, Camille and Katrina were the most notable. He also conducted mosquito control for epidemics of St. Louis encephalitis, Eastern equine encephalitis and West Nile virus. In the early 1970's he was involved in stemming an outbreak of murine typhus along the Mississippi riverfront. He regularly shared his experiences with NOMTRCB staff so that he could transfer his knowledge to the next generation

Upon retiring as Director in 2008, he remained employed part-time, but he did not slow down and contributed to many projects that allowed the department to grow and improve. He assisted with the construction of the new NOMTRCB administration building and renovation of the NOMTRCB hanger. He obtained hazard mitigation grants, and most recently, he was instrumental in the selection of the new helicopter that is currently being built for mosquito abatement.

Mr. Bordes was able to establish Operation Full Stop in collaboration with the USDA-ARS in New Orleans from 1998 to 2012. This project brought millions of dollars to New Orleans to protect the French Quarter from *Coptotermes formosanus*, the Formosan subterranean termite. The project allowed for the development of new tools for termite detection, improved awareness and most importantly installation of treatments that still protect the historic buildings of the French Quarter until today.

Mr. Bordes touched many lives both professionally and personally. He will be greatly missed.

2022 Major Construction Project Update

NASA Levee Repair Project

Status: Construction Complete

Cost: \$1,694,000.00

Purpose: Due to challenges (soil characteristics) in maintaining turf establishment, the removal and replacement of embankment was required so that turf could be reestablished. A total of 32,000 cubic yards of material was installed or replaced along the 1.4 mile project.



Orleans Avenue Canal Erosion Mitigation

Status: Construction Complete

Cost: \$3,290,000.00

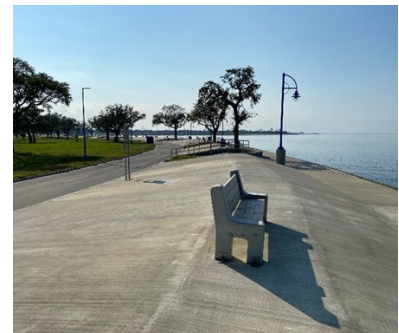
Purpose: The Orleans Avenue interior canal bank (East side) was experiencing erosion caused by moving water and animal burrows. Project consisted of rebuilding the canal bank with embankment, reinforcing the toe (riprap) in some areas and armoring the entire side slope with rock filled geocell.



Seawall Erosion Control Reach 3-A

Status: Complete - **Cost:** \$10,762,284.03

Purpose: Project repaired eroded and failing soils along the seawall steps; installed erosion and surge protection for the area and trees; increased the longevity of the seawall steps via crack repair, joint replacement and flowable fill; created a more useful recreational area by installing drainage and pavilions; created a safer area by installing lights and addressing sink holes; and provided a safe path that connects the pedestrian path on the east and west sides of Bayou St. John via staircases.

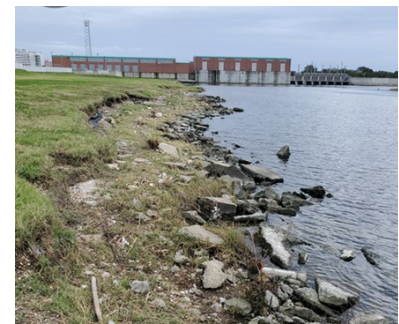


London Avenue Canal - North Erosion

Status: Project will begin construction phase in January 2023.

Cost: \$999,440.00

Purpose: Project will repair and harden the failing bank of the London Avenue Canal, north of the Permanent Canal Closure and Pumps (PCCP) pump station.



Orpheum Avenue Slope Paving

Status: Project under design along with permit acquisition

Costs: \$1,800,000.00 (Preliminary, pre-design estimate).

Purpose: Concrete paving will be installed on the 17th Street Canal earthen levee slope along Orpheum Avenue in Metairie. This will reduce maintenance costs and risk for vegetative maintenance operations on the levee slope and mitigate the repetitive damage sustained by the levee from heavy trucks making sharp turns onto Orpheum Avenue. It will have the added benefit of keeping eroded soils off the public street and residential driveways .



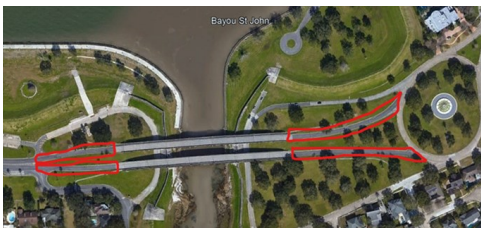
2022 Major Construction Project Update

Lakeshore Drive Drainage Improvements

Status: Project is beginning the construction phase.

Costs: \$774,747.00

Purpose: Some of the park areas along Lakeshore Drive are holding water creating unmanageable vegetation along the toe of the levee and unusable green space. Project includes cleaning and inspecting existing drainage systems, increasing safety by replacing failing basin covers, adding drainage along the face of Shelter 1 to increase Shelter viability, removing failed in-line flap valves, regrade around existing structures along with adding concrete mowing pads and drainage structures to properly drain the area holding water. It will also replace the much needed security fencing on the east and west sides of the UNO business park (old Pontchartrain Beach area).



Lakeshore Drive Roadway Replacement (BSJ Approach)

Status: Project is currently under investigative sampling/testing and design.

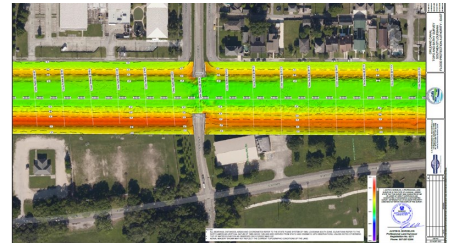
Costs: To be determined, too early to estimate.

Purpose: Remove and replace failing asphalt roadway +/- 300 feet on both sides of the Bayou St. John bridge approaches.

Periodic Earthen, Floodwall, Outfall Canal Surveys and Complex Structure Surveys

Status: Complete / Ongoing (5 Separate Projects) - **Cost:** \$455,266.20

Purpose: Periodic surveys are conducted throughout the flood protection system in order to monitor levee elevations and potential scour (canals / complex structure channels).



Franklin Fire Protection System Improvements

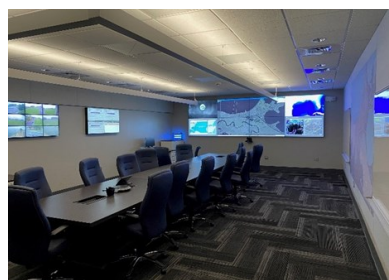
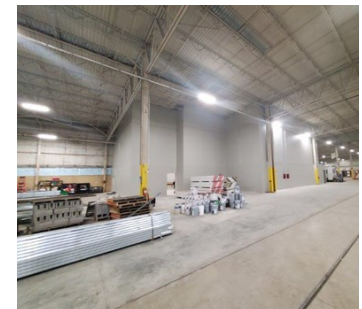
Status: Near Completion - **Costs:** \$1,424,801.63

Purpose: Project provided for the repair of an aging and insufficient fire protection system. System did not meet Fire Marshal requirements due to failing riser stations, an unsatisfactory amount of notification fixtures and insufficient water pressure. During construction a few aging high voltage (13.8 kVA) switches malfunctioned causing cost and project time increases.

Franklin Warehouse Office Renovations

Status: Estimated Completion May 2023 - **Costs:** \$5,035,888.00

Purpose: Provides for construction of structural and code compliant offices for maintenance staff, much needed climate controlled and non-climate-controlled storage spaces, and gym facilities for Levee District Police Officers and staff. During the course of the project some unforeseen other areas were found to be failing or not code compliant and fixed (such as corroded sewer lines and structural conflicts), increasing the project cost and contract time.



Franklin Safehouse Improvements

Status: Complete - **Costs:** \$548,735.24

Purpose: Project consisted of HVAC modifications / repairs, upgrades to the kitchen and dining area, permanent conversion of a bunk room into a permanent communication center and establishment of a dedicated Emergency Operations Center (EOC) capable of housing essential hosting personnel while maintaining communication with the remainder of the organization as well as other agencies (USACE, CPRA, surrounding parishes, etc.).

A Look Back in History at Old Spanish Fort



Parking grounds for Spanish Fort Amusement Park Oct. 11, 1923.

In 1763 the Spanish gained control of the New Orleans area and in 1779 replaced the neglected French fort with a larger brick fortification. Louisiana passed back to the French in 1800 and became part of the United States in 1803 under the Louisiana Purchase. Fort St. John was decommissioned in 1923 and the property was sold to Harvey Elkins who constructed a hotel on the site — the first resort to open in the region.

The property was purchased in 1878 by Moses Schwartz and over time an amusement park, dancing pavilion, theatre, casino, restaurants and cabarets were added. Transchina's Restaurant and other establishments often featured live bands and played an important part in the development of Jazz.



1920 Aerial view of Spanish Fort Resort & Amusement Park with camps on both sides



Spanish Fort Amusement Park—October 11, 1923

Old Spanish Fort was one of three shoreline resort destinations of a bygone age that ended in the late 1920's with the relocation of the Lake Pontchartrain shoreline by the Orleans Levee District. Its rivals, Milneburg, located at the end of Elysian Fields Avenue, and New Lake End, which evolved into the West End, were comprised primarily of structures built on piers and boardwalks over marshlands and stretching into the lake. The three resort communities were constantly plagued by fire and flooding.

In 1701 a small wooden fort was constructed by the French to protect the entrance of Bayou St. John, an important trade route and means of transportation between Lake Pontchartrain (with access to the Gulf) and the Mississippi River.

“Spanish Fort” or “Old Spanish Fort”, as the resort and amusement park became to be known, was especially popular during the summer because of the cooling lake breezes. A steam railroad and later an electric streetcar connected Spanish Fort with the center of the city making it a favored day-trip and tourist attraction during the 1800's. After a massive fire destroyed many of the buildings in 1906, a new owner re-opened the amusement park and added a roller coaster and ferris wheel.

While the popularity of the West End Resort and Amusement Park (New Lake End) increased during the 1920's, visitors to Spanish Fort steadily dwindled, and in 1926 Spanish Fort Amusement Park closed its gates.

A Look Back in History at Old Spanish Fort



Spanish Fort Pier - April 12, 1926

The reclamation project also included a sand beach about one-mile in length at the end of Elysian Fields Avenue (formerly Milneburg). Spanish Fort rides and assets were purchased and moved to the newly developed Pontchartrain Beach.

By 1938, one-half acre of parkland remained to preserve the brick ruins of Fort St. John. The historic site sits on the bank of the Bayou just lakeside of Allen Toussaint Boulevard. The surrounding area was sold for residential use. On February 11, 1983, Fort St. John was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Between 1926 and 1930, as part of the Orleans Levee District's Lakefront Reclamation Project, 36 million yards of hydraulic fill was pumped in from Lake Pontchartrain to create 2,000 acres of new lands from former marshes and swamps within the boundaries of Allen Toussaint Boulevard and the Lake and the New Basin Canal and Industrial Canal. To provide flood protection, 5.5 miles of seawall was constructed between 1930 and 1933.



Transchina's Restaurant - October 11, 1923



Above: (left) A look at Spanish Fort Amusement Park from the parking lot - Oct. 11, 1923. (right) View of the Spanish Fort Park from across the Horseshoe Canal 1927. Bottom: The preserved remains of Fort St. John - Spanish Fort.



FPA Public Information Alerts

sign-up



If we can't **REACH** you
we can't **ALERT** you

The Flood Protection Authority-East (FPA) strives to provide timely information to the public regarding public safety issues, closures and events that impact people, businesses and communities in order to minimize disruptions and keep the public safe and informed. The FPA implemented the Everbridge Management Platform for providing alerts to the public.

Everbridge is the industry standard using the most up-to-date communication technology and is widely used throughout federal, state and local government agencies, organizations, commerce and industry.

The FPA offers subscriptions to the following Keywords:

Floodgate (Information on floodgate opening, closing or maintenance)

FPAAEast (General news about the Flood Protection Authority-East)

River (Information about the High River or the Mississippi River)

HighTide (Information regarding gate openings and closures as they relate to high tide situations)

It's a simple process to register for these Emergency Alerts. Text the appropriate Keyword listed above to "333111" for the alerts you would like to receive. In order to receive alerts offered under more than one Keyword, each Keyword must be texted to "333111".

FPA-East Website

The Flood Protection Authority-East website contains a wealth of information about our flood defense system (Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System and Mississippi River Levee), the FPA's mission and the team of professionals that govern, manage, maintain and operate the critical flood defense system, as well as services offered by the FPA.

The website also includes Teacher Resources and the middle School Lesson Plans developed by the FPA for Science and Social Studies: "Keeping Your Head Above Water—Know Your Flood Protection System" and "Flood Fight Along the Mississippi River—Mississippi River Lesson Plan."

Visit our website today - www.floodauthority.org

Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East Board and Committee Meetings can be viewed via livestream by visiting the FPA website www.floodauthority.org and selecting Business - Board Meeting Videos. Click on live stream.

The Flood Protection Authority-East (FPA) is currently offering both in-person and virtual tours of the \$4 Billion Hurricane Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS), which spans East Jefferson, Orleans and St. Bernard Parishes. In-person tour groups have the option of visiting the 17th St Canal Pump Station or the Lake Borgne-IHNC Surge Barrier. Groups may sign up for both tours but may not be able to see both on the same day.

For additional information go to the FPA's website www.floodauthority.org and select "Facility Tours". Both in-person and virtual tours can be scheduled by clicking on "Schedule a Tour".

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