

**East Jefferson Levee District Status Report  
July 2012**

**East Jefferson Levee District LPV 27 26**

**The hurricane protection levee system is divided into five Reaches along Lake Pontchartrain, plus the East Return Levee on the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal and the West Return Levee on the St. Charles Parish Line. (Map of the East Jefferson Levee District is attached.)**

**LPV 27 26 WRL – West Return Levee**

**Description:**

The West Return Levee is located along the St. Charles Parish Line in Kenner and is comprised of floodwalls, earthen levees and floodgates. The earthen levees in this section are at the south end of the section surrounding the airport runway.

**Construction:**

The completed earthen levee that surrounds the airport runway provides 100-year protection. The West Return levee floodwall has been divided into North and South segments. The north segment will be complete in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2013. The south segment will be complete in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2012.

**Inspection:**

**Issues:** None

**LPV 27 26 R1 – Reach 1**

**Description:**

The Reach 1 levee is located between the Duncan Canal in Kenner and the St. Charles Parish Line and is comprised of floodwalls, earthen levees and floodgates. The lift for this levee section elevated the Reach to 16.5' with 10' crowns. This lift brings the levee section to 100-year protection and satisfies the Corps' new design criteria. This project incorporates an all-weather access road to allow for maintenance, police and construction vehicles of the levee district to access the levee system.

**Construction:**

The project to build the breakwater designed to protect the Duncan Canal Pump Station is complete. The breakwater provides 100-year protection for Duncan Pump Station. The contract for the construction of the Duncan Canal Pump Station fronting protection and the replacement of the I-wall tie-ins was awarded April 15, 2010 and should be complete in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2013. The Phase 2 100-year protection for the Reach 1 earthen levee is complete with the exception of repairs to the all-weather access road.

**Inspection:**

**Issues:** None

**LPV 27 26 R2 – Reach 2**

**Description:**

The Reach 2 levee is located between the Elmwood Canal in Metairie and the Duncan Canal in Kenner and is comprised of floodwalls, earthen levees and floodgates. The lift for this levee section elevated the Reach to 16.5' with 10' crowns. This lift brings the levee section to 100-year protection and satisfies the Corps' new design criteria. This

project incorporates an all-weather access road to allow for maintenance, police and construction vehicles of the levee district to access the levee system.

**Construction:**

Phase 2 100-year protection for the Reach 2 earthen levee is complete with the exception of turf establishment. Permanent 100-year protection for the Elmwood Canal pump station and the replacement of the I-wall tie-ins will be complete by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2012. The Williams Boulevard floodgate project is complete.

**Inspection:**

**Issues:** None

**LPV 27 26 R3 – Reach 3**

**Description:**

The Reach 3 levee is located between the Elmwood Canal in Metairie and the Suburban Canal in Metairie and is comprised of floodwalls and earthen levees. The lift for this levee section elevated the Reach to 16.5' with 10' crowns. This lift brings the levee section to 100-year protection and satisfies the Corps' new design criteria. This project incorporates an all-weather access road to allow for maintenance, police and construction vehicles of the levee district to access the levee system.

**Construction:**

Permanent 100-year protection for the pumping station and replacement of the I-wall tie-ins will be completed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2012. The construction for the Phase 2 100-year earthen protection is complete with the exception of turf establishment.

**Inspection:**

**Issues:** None.

**LPV 27 26 R4 – Reach 4**

**Description:**

The Reach 4 levee is located between the Suburban Canal in Metairie and Causeway Blvd. in Metairie and is comprised of floodwalls and earthen levees. The post-Katrina 100-year project consists of a floodwall with the Causeway bridge spans atop the wall. The wall is built to 2057 standards for strength, height and stability. This project incorporates the all-weather access road passing under the bridge to allow for maintenance and construction vehicles of the levee district to access both sides of Causeway.

**Construction:**

The construction for the Phase 2 100-year earthen protection is complete. Temporary 100-year protection for the Causeway project is in place. The entire Causeway project should be complete in the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2012.

**Inspection:**

**Issues:** None

**LPV 27 26 R 5 – Reach 5**

**Description:**

The Reach 5 levee is located between Causeway Boulevard in Metairie and the 17th St. Canal at the Orleans Parish Line and is comprised of floodwalls, earthen levees and floodgates.

**Construction:**

The post-Katrina lift for this levee section elevated the Reach to 16.5' with 10' crowns. This lift brings the levee section to 100-year protection and satisfies the Corps' new design criteria. This project incorporates an all-weather access road to allow for maintenance, police and construction vehicles of the levee district to access the levee system. The lift is complete with the exception of turf establishment. The construction of the breakwater designed to protect the Bonnabel Canal Pump Station and the Bonnabel Boulevard floodgate project are complete. The contract for the construction of the Bonnabel Canal Pump Station fronting protection and replacement of the I-wall tie-ins should be complete by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2013.

**Inspection:**

**Issues:** None

**LPV 27 26 ERL**

**Description:**

The East Return Levee is located between the Hammond Highway Bridge and Pump Station 6 along the 17<sup>th</sup> St. Canal and is comprised of floodwalls, earthen levees and floodgates. Post-Katrina interim closure gates and temporary pumps were constructed at the lakefront outfall of the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal to eliminate the risk from lake waters filling the canal and causing failure of the canal walls as happened during Katrina. This interim protection will remain in place until a permanent structure can be installed.

**Construction:**

Work on the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal Remediation project, which is intended to increase the safe water elevation in the canal is still on-going.

**Inspection:**

Erosion and nutria burrowing along the canal bank are being monitored.

**Issues:** None

**LPV 27 26 MRL**

**Description:**

The Mississippi River Levee is located between the Orleans Parish Line and the St. Charles Parish line and is comprised of earthen levees only. The levees are constructed between an elevation of 24.5' and 26.5'.

**Construction:** There will be an upcoming Mississippi River Levee lift but, as yet, the plans are not finalized. The bike paths will be replaced because they serve as an access road for routine inspections and emergency responses.

**Inspection:** Good

**Issues:** The Corps and the levee district will be compiling an inventory of trees within 6' of the toe of the levee that will need to be removed.

**LPV 27 26 Special Issues**

**Shoreline Protection – Reaches 4 and 5**

The levee district has contracted with Burk-Kleinpeter, Inc. to replace the shoreline rock lost during Hurricane Katrina. This approximately \$11.3 million project being funded by FEMA was awarded July 17, 2008, and will be completed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2012.

**Shoreline Protection – Reaches 1, 2, 3 and 1000’ of 4**

The Corps of Engineers has designed foreshore protection along the lake shoreline from St. Charles Parish to 1000’ east of the Suburban Canal. The work is covered by two projects and will build out the shoreline approximately 90’ with a rock berm at the shoreline’s edge. The contracts have been awarded and completion is expected by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2012.

## **EJLD HIGHLIGHTS – JULY 2012 CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS**

Reaches 1-5 – Substantially complete. The EJLD is mowing grass on Reaches 1, 3, 4 and 5. The Corps' contractor is mowing Reach 2. Final inspections for all reaches took place in July but the EJLD is still working with the Corps to reduce unwanted vegetation and get adequate grass coverage. Notification of Construction Completed (NCC) sent to the State for Reach 1.

Duncan Breakwater – NCC letter was sent to the State.

Bonnabel Breakwater – NCC letter was sent to the State.

Williams Floodwall and Gate – NCC letter was sent to the State.

Bonnabel Floodwall and Gate – NCC letter was sent to the State

Fronting Protection at Bonnabel, Suburban, Elmwood and Duncan – 74% complete. Excavation is ongoing at the Bonnabel pump station. The contractor is installing drainage on the west side of the Suburban pump station and placing rip rap around the breakwater. Final work continues on the new bridge at the Elmwood pump station. Dewatering is complete at Duncan pump station and excavation has begun.

Causeway – 85% complete. 100-year protection is now in place with a temporary flood gate that can be put in place in the event it is needed.

West Return Wall – North – 99% complete. The pre-final inspection was May 23<sup>rd</sup>. The contractor is working on punch list items and turf establishment. The Corps is working to isolate the cause for the seepage near the Parish Line Pump Station to decide on the best path forward. The latest issue on this project is rust colored water stain seeping from the flood side of the old recurve wall. Landside runoff drainage is still in design.

West Return Wall - South – 99% complete. The pre-final inspection was May 30th. The contractor is working on punchlist items and turf establishment. The Corps is investigating new wet spots in the area of I-10.

Foreshore Protection – Reaches 1 and 2 – 91% complete. Reach 2 is approximately 90% complete. Reach 1 is 94% complete. The contractor will have to top off and shape rock and address turf establishment. The Corps is gathering surveys and info from the failure areas for a path forward meeting with the Authority and Levee District. The EJLD raised questions about the gradation of stones and the Corps believes these Reaches are fine.

Foreshore Protection – Reaches 3 and 4 – 91% complete. The contractor is working on the erosion control mod. The EJLD raised questions about the gradation of stones and the Corps is looking at that issue. The Corps is gathering surveys and info from the failure areas for a path forward meeting with the Authority and Levee District.

Foreshore Protection – Reaches 4 and 5 – 99% complete. The contractor has completed placing rock but they are experiencing the same loss of material through the land side edge of the rock. A revision to the project using the Corps' proposed solution has been submitted to FEMA. Turf establishment is being addressed.

Airport Runway Levee – 98% complete. The pre-final inspection was May 29<sup>th</sup>. The contractor is attempting to cut the grass on this reach. We expect the NCC letter very soon from the Corps. This project was over built and the State agreed to accept with limited turf establishment.

17<sup>th</sup> Street Canal Remediation – Grass issues.

### **MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT**

- Danny and maintenance supervisors continue to attend weekly construction meetings, red zone, pre-final and final inspections. Most recent inspections include finals on Reaches 1-5, slope pavement on the MRL and a meeting with BKI for turf establishment for the Reach 5 foreshore project.
- Danny and staff continue to monitor and document turf establishment and ongoing construction project issues.
- Safety meeting held to stress awareness of high temperatures and the need to stay hydrated. Supervisors are allowing more frequent breaks and the levee district has been providing fruit and encouraging workers to drink more water and Gatorade.
- Maintenance is assisting in the testing of the leaks around the West Return North project.
- Maintenance is repairing deficiencies from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Inspection.

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

- In the normal 24/7 patrols, the EJLD police continue to monitor levee conditions, permit violations and construction areas, trailers and gates for trespassers.
- The Police Department continues to provide off duty and after hours security for the contractor's equipment for the Huey P. Long Bridge widening project.
- Officers assisted the Secret Service with security around the airport for President Obama's visit to New Orleans.
- Officer Durnin completed training for "Screening of Persons by Observational Technique Awareness Level" given by the National Center for Biomedical Research & Training Academy of Counter-Terrorism.
- Two officers participated in a week long training seminar for "Tactical Planning for Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents."

## **OTHER**

July 17<sup>th</sup> – Final Inspection for Reaches 1 and 2

July 19<sup>st</sup> – Final Inspection for Reach 5.

July 25<sup>th</sup> – Final Inspection for Reaches 3 and 4

