News Release

East Jefferson Levee Lift Project is Underway

Levee Lift Project Spans East Jefferson Lakefront from Northwest Kenner to Bucktown

New Orleans, LA - The East Jefferson Lakefront Levee Lift Project is underway. The project spans the Lakefront and is being simultaneously performed in three sections: Northwest Kenner from the West Return Floodwall to the Duncan Canal; In Kenner and Metairie, from the Duncan Canal to the Suburban Canal; And, in Northeast Metairie, from the Suburban Canal to the 17th Street Canal in Bucktown.

Click here to view maps of the Lakefront Levee Lift sections.

"Safety for the public and construction crews is a top priority. Levee District Police have stepped-up patrols on the levee and connecting transportation corridors," said East Jefferson Levee District Executive Director Derek Boese. "With Jefferson Parish and City of Kenner public works and transportation officials, we daily monitor and identify truck routes and ensure that adequate public signage is posted. Our goal is to ensure a safe and minimally disruptive environment for the public," said Boese.

The All Weather Access Road (Pedestrian and Bike Path) will remain open. However, depending on construction activity, entry and exit points to the levee will be limited and users should expect temporary closures, at times. Levee users should stay out of fenced construction areas or risk being cited for trespassing.

Outreach efforts to East Jefferson neighborhood associations, businesses and governments are ongoing. "I would like to thank the Jefferson Parish Council for allowing Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East Board President Joe Hassinger and myself the opportunity to present at its regularly scheduled Council meeting earlier this month. At each stage of the project, we will continue project updates and briefings to the Jefferson Parish and City of Kenner Councils, residents and business and community groups," said Boese.
Detailed maps and project status updates are immediately available at LakefrontLeveelift.com, 504-833-LIFT (5438), and leveelifts@ejld.com. The levee lift project is expected to be completed in late Summer of 2017.

Lakefront levees will be lifted to approximately 17 feet. Project crews will clear existing vegetation and associated organic material from the levees. Removed material will be hauled to a designated permitted location. Crews will then lift the levee by adding 1-2 feet of new clay. When the lift is complete, levee grass will be reestablished.

The project is a $8 million investment in flood risk reduction infrastructure. When completed, the lifted levees will mitigate subsidence, account for sea level rise, and maintain levee accreditation. Continued compliance with federal accreditation standards will maintain current FEMA flood risk assessments, and support stable and possibly lower flood insurance premiums and coverage requirements. Levee lifts performed prior to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' levee armoring project will extend levee life and save an estimated $8-10 million in local tax dollars.

Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority-East (SLFPA-E)
Ensures the physical and operational integrity of the regional flood risk management system, and works with local, regional, state, and federal partners to plan, design, and construct projects that will reduce the probability and risk of flooding for the residents within the agency's jurisdiction. SLFPA-E sets policy and provides oversight and governance to its three member Levee Districts: East Jefferson, Orleans, and the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District.

Board of Commissioners:
SLFPA-E is governed by a nine member Board of Commissioners appointed by the Governor and receives oversight from the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA).

Lambert J. Hassinger, President; Richard A. Luettich Jr., Vice President; G. Paul Kemp, Secretary; Mark L. Morgan, Treasurer; Clay Cossé; Quentin D. Dastugue; Andrew J. Englande, Jr.; Jason P. Latiolas; Herbert I. Miller.

Regional Director:
Robert A. Turner, Jr.

East Jefferson Levee District (EJLD)
Established in 1979 by the Louisiana Legislature, EJLD protects the lives and property of citizens on the east bank of the Mississippi River in Jefferson Parish from flooding and wind-driven storm surge from Lake Pontchartrain.

Executive Director:
Derek Boese

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Current Flood Protection Gate Closure Status
for Marine and Boating Traffic is Available at www.SLFPAE.com