



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Corps to collect feedback on development of Request for Proposal for Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps

Jan. 21 working group meeting to take place at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral

NEW ORLEANS, LA – The Corps is hosting the second in a three-part series of public meetings on Thursday, Jan. 21, 2010 at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 1200 Robert E. Lee Blvd., near Bayou St. John, to collect feedback on development of the Request for Proposal (RFP) to build the Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps at the 17th St., London Ave. and Orleans Ave. Outfall Canals.

The meeting will begin with an open house from 6 to 6:30 p.m. At 6:30 Corps team members will give a brief presentation on the status of the draft RFP. The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans will also give a brief presentation. Following the presentations meeting attendees will be invited to participate in smaller working groups to provide feedback on the draft RFP. The Statement of Work contained in the RFP was released for public review in Nov. 2009. It may be reviewed and downloaded at www.nolaenvironmental.gov, <<<http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov/caldetails.aspx?id=1868>>>.

“This series of meetings was developed to ensure community members will have an opportunity to provide input into the RFP and the kind of pump stations that will be constructed,” said Dan Bradley, senior project manager for the Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps.

The first public meeting recapped the project purpose and highlighted the technical sections of the RFP for the public’s review. This second meeting will allow the public to provide their feedback on the RFP in a small group setting.

Written comments will also be accepted through Jan. 30, 2010.

At the third meeting, the Army Corps will review the modified RFP and explain what was and was not incorporated and why. The third meeting is slated for mid-March. The Corps has hosted more than 30 public meetings throughout development of the proposed plan.

The Interim Control Structures currently at the mouths of the outfall canals are temporary measures that reduce risk from a storm surge event that has a 1 percent chance of occurring in any given year however, the lifespan of the ICS is limited. Negotiations to finalize the Project Partnership Agreement between the Corps and Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration are ongoing.

Meeting details are:

When: Thursday, Jan. 21, 2010
Open house 6 to 6:30 p.m.
Presentation and Small Groups 6:30 p.m.

Where: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
1200 Robert E. Lee Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70122

Questions or comments concerning the Permanent Canal Closures and Pumps may be addressed to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Hurricane Protection Office -- PCCP
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267
Phone: 504-862-2201
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For more information or to sign up to be on a meeting notification list please visit:
www.nolaenvironmental.gov.

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