

# Greater New Orleans Hurricane & Storm Damage Risk Reduction System

## *Western Tie-In Traffic Impacts*

*LA 18 Detour*

*June 9, 2010*



US Army Corps of Engineers  
**BUILDING STRONG**<sup>®</sup>



# *Meeting Purpose*

- To discuss temporary traffic impacts generated by new and ongoing construction of the Western Tie-In project, in St. Charles and Jefferson Parishes.



# Contact Information

## Tell the Army Corps of Engineers NOT to close River Road!

**Date:** Wednesday, June 9, 2010

**Time:** 6:00pm - 9:00pm

**Location:** Cytex's Tom Call Pavilion, 10800 River Road, Waggaman, LA

### Description

Wide-spread rumors and a lack of reliable information is being provided to the people of Ama, Louisiana regarding the proposed plans by the Army Corps of Engineers to work on Flood Protection in St. Charles Parish. One of the elements of this plan is to close River Road for a period of several months; possibly a year. This would sever all ties to the rest of St. Charles Parish.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will host two upcoming "Western Tie-In levee project" public meetings, to take questions from the residents of Ama, Louisiana.

These proposed changes and projects will greatly effect the residents of Ama, Louisiana in many substantial ways, including but not limited to **WORK COMMUTES, SCHOOL BUSING, ACCESS TO POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION, and LIMIT OUR HURRICANE EVACUATION ROUTE.** These are serious issues, and as such the Army Corps of Engineers should create a plan that does NOT close the road.

These are well trained and brilliant Engineers, surely their has to be a way to both do their job(s), and allow life for Ama, Louisiana's residents to remain safe, and able to go about their lives with minimal hassle.

The Army Corps of Engineers can do better and it must do better. Please attend this event to ask questions, and advocate on behalf of a better plan for Your Community!

<http://www.stcharlesparish-la.gov/index.aspx?page=164>

<http://www.stcharlesparish-la.gov/index.aspx?page=26&recordid=12678&returnURL=%2Findex.aspx>

Please contact the Public Affairs Office with questions concerning hurricane system projects.

504-862-2201

AskTheCorps@usace.army.mil



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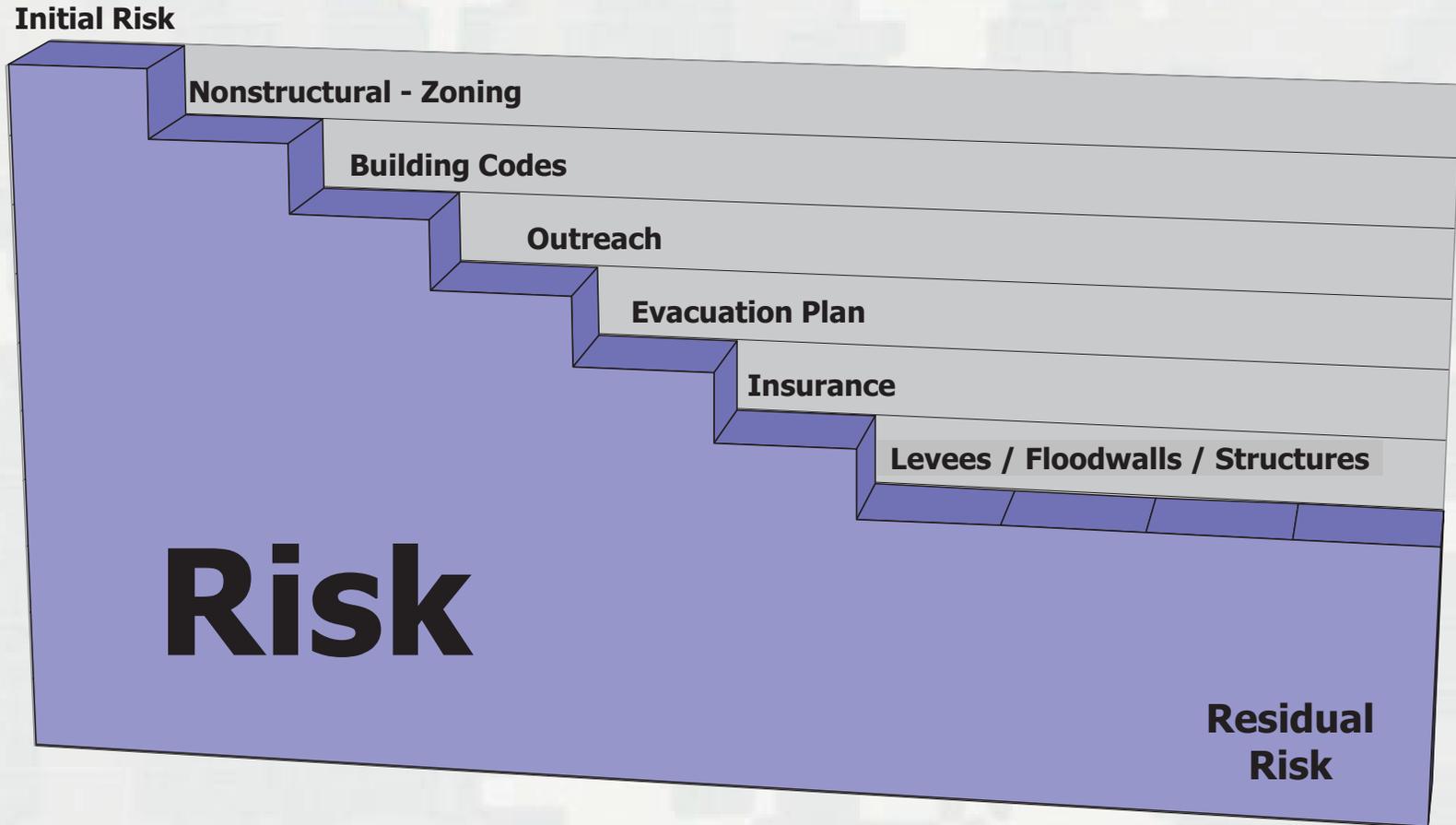
# *Minimizing Impacts is a Team Effort*

- ▶ We are making a concerted effort to minimize the impacts however, some impacts are unavoidable.
  
- ▶ To determine the best method to minimize impacts the Corps has worked closely with :
  - St. Charles Parish elected officials
  
  - Louisiana Department of Transportation
  
  - Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration
  
  - St. Charles Parish School Board
  
  - St. Charles Parish Sherriff's Office
  
  - Lafourche Basin Levee District



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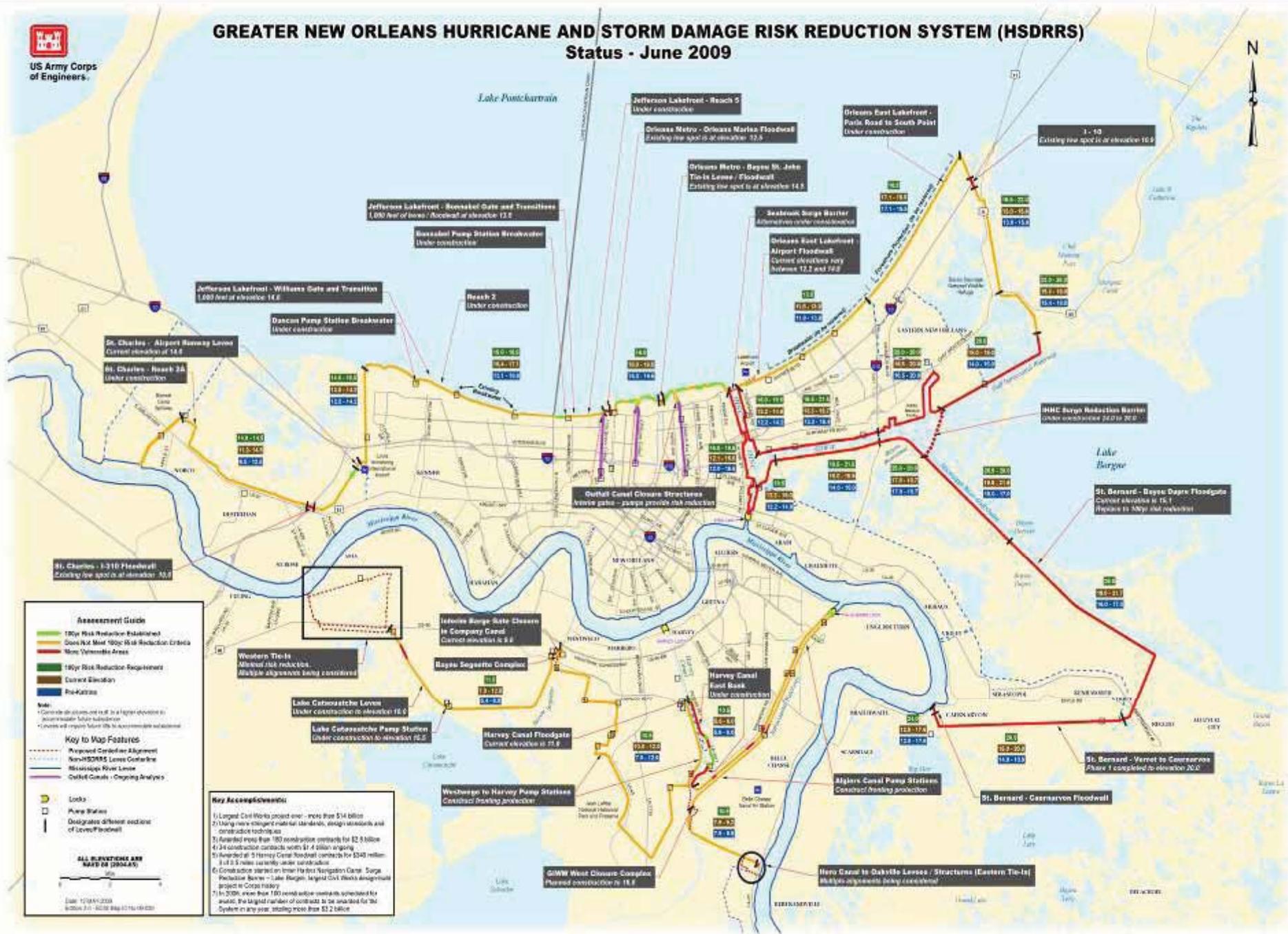
# Risk – Shared Responsibility





# GREATER NEW ORLEANS HURRICANE AND STORM DAMAGE RISK REDUCTION SYSTEM (HSDRRS)

## Status - June 2009



**Assessment Guide**

- 100yr Risk Reduction Established
- Does Not Meet 100yr Risk Reduction Criteria
- Not a Viable Area
- 100yr Risk Reduction Requirements
- Current Elevation
- Pre-Katrina

**Key to Map Features**

- Proposed Construction Alignment
- New HSDRRS Levee Centerline
- Mississippi River Levee
- Outfall Canals - Ongoing Analysis

**Legend**

- Locks
- Pump Stations
- Designates different sections of Levee/Floodwall

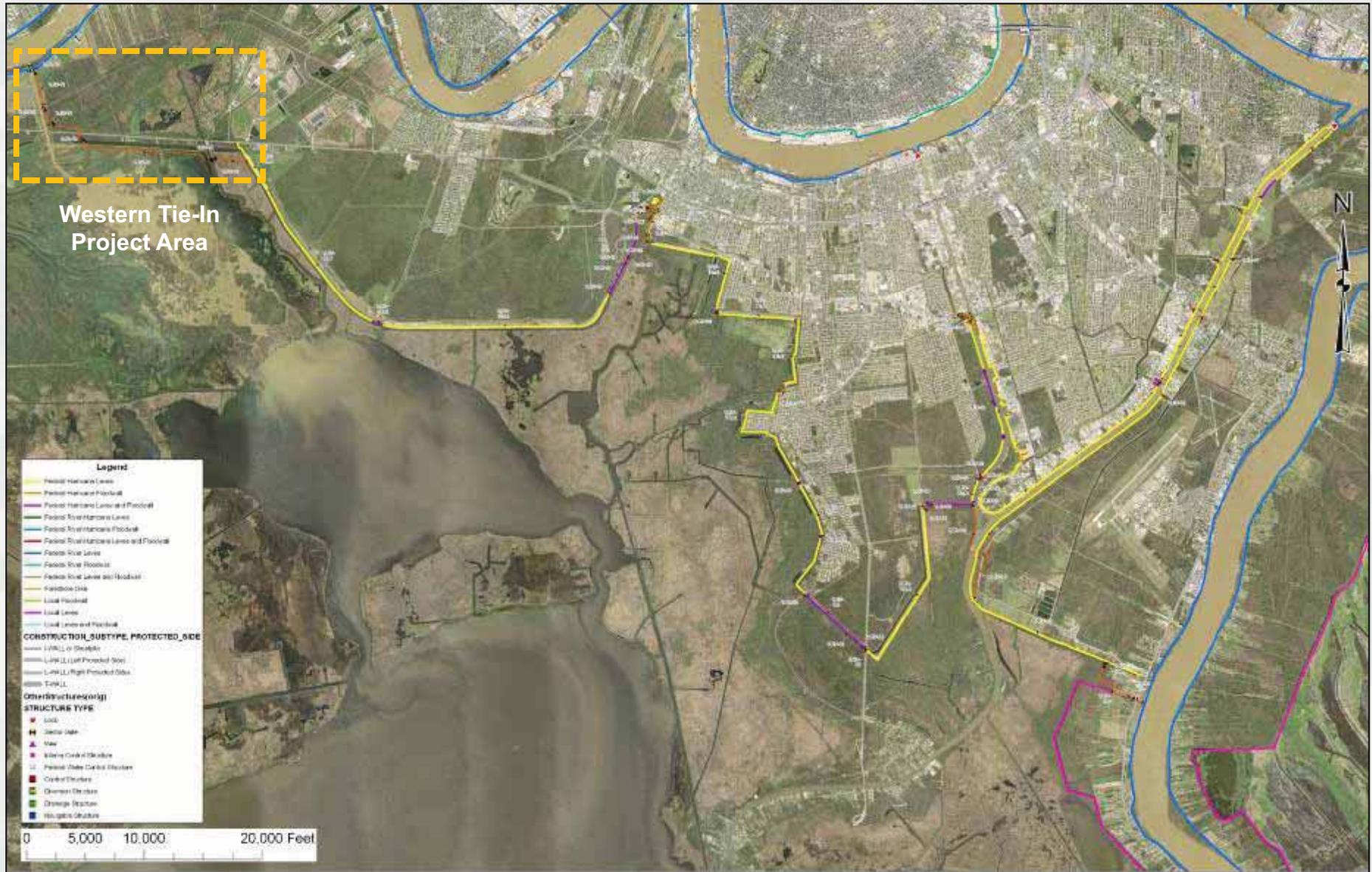
**ALL SURVEYS ARE MADE AS SHOWN**

Date: 12/04/2008  
 6:20:34.31 - 6:20:36.84 12/14/08 02:31

**Key Accomplishments**

- 1) Largest Civil Works project ever - more than \$14 billion
- 2) Using more stringent material standards, design standards and construction techniques
- 3) Awarded more than 180 construction contracts for \$2.5 billion
- 4) 144 construction contracts worth \$1.4 billion ongoing
- 5) Awarded 45 Harvey Canal floodwall contracts for \$240 million
- 6) 3 of 5 levees awarded under construction
- 7) Credit action started on lower Harbor Navigation Canal - Surge Protective Barrier - Lake Borgne, largest Civil Works design-build project in Corps history
- 8) In 2008, more than 100 new bid notice contracts anticipated for award, the largest number of contracts to be awarded for the System in any year, totaling more than \$3.2 billion

# Westbank and Vicinity System



# Western Tie-In



Railroad Closure Structure/  
Earthen Ramp at LA 18  
WBV 75

Railroad Closure Structure

WBV 71

Floodwall/US 90  
Elevated Crossing  
WBV 73

East/West Levee

WBV 72

Closure Gate WBV 74

Dewatering  
Cells  
WBV 75

DAVIS  
POND

BAYOU  
VERRET

# *Western Tie-In*

- Project Features:
  - Levees
  - Sector gate
  - Floodwall
  - Highway crossing
  - 3 rolling gates
  - Highway bridge



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# ***WBV-75: Railroad and Hwy 18 Crossings***

- Contract features 3 roller gates:
  - ▶ 2 roller gates at railroad
  - ▶ 1 roller gate at Hwy 18
- Proposed changes to the existing plan include an earthen ramp at Hwy 18 instead of the approved roller gate
- Contract award scheduled for Oct 2010 and expected completion date is May 2011



# Construction Area at Hwy. 18



# *Roller Gate vs. Ramp at Hwy. 18*

- Original plan was a roller gate at Hwy 18
- Plan was re-evaluated due to concerns raised about evacuation events
- Revised plan developed in conjunction with:
  - ▶ Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration
  - ▶ Department of Transportation and Development



# *Roller Gate vs. Ramp at Hwy. 18*

- Factors considered during re-evaluation
  - ▶ Risk / Reliability
  - ▶ Environment (Natural / Human)
  - ▶ Total Project Cost
  - ▶ Time / Constructability
  - ▶ Operations & Maintenance Impacts



# Roller Gate vs. Ramp at Hwy. 18

	Alternative 1 ( Roller Gate)	Alternative 2 (Ramp)
<b>Evaluation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Requires someone to close before an event</li> <li>-Risk if the wall is not maintained</li> <li>- Cannot close in high winds</li> <li>-Will have an emergency bypass route</li> <li>- Immediate 2057 elevation, less chance of overtopping</li> <li>- Minor impacts to traffic during construction</li> <li>-Noise Impacts</li> <li>-Continuous evacuation route during an event (one lane)</li> <li>-Estimated construction duration</li> <li>- Estimated cost were virtually equal</li> <li>- Requires more cost for the operation</li> <li>- Guard rails would require maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Does not require human involvement</li> <li>-Smoother transition into the MRL</li> <li>-Will be able to pass traffic during an event for evacuation</li> <li>-Small wooded area impacted</li> <li>- Significant local traffic impacts during construction</li> <li>- approx 45 to 60 day road closure during construction</li> <li>-Ramps are safer for local residents for day to day traffic</li> <li>-Noise Impacts</li> <li>-Continuous evacuation route during an event (two lanes)</li> <li>- Estimated construction duration</li> <li>- Estimated cost were virtually equal</li> </ul>



# *Ramp Option*

- The ramp was selected over the floodgate
  - ▶ Risk/reliability
  - ▶ Shorter project duration
  - ▶ Less Operations and Maintenance
- Provide continuous access
- Allow traffic to continue on the highway during storm events
- Preferred alternative by the local sponsor



# *Ramp Construction Impacts*

- Increased traffic along LA 18 near construction site for approx 45-60 days
- Re-route traffic (bypass road and detour)
- Elevated noise levels
- Impact small wooded area



# *Traffic Impacts*

- Anticipated duration of approx 45-60 days
  - ▶ School bus and emergency vehicle traffic will continue to travel on River Road with assistance from the St. Charles Parish Sheriff Deputies
  
- Concerted effort to minimize impacts
  
- Worked to minimize the temporary traffic impacts by coordinating with :
  - St. Charles Parish elected officials
  - Louisiana Department of Transportation
  - Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration
  - St. Charles Parish School Board
  - St. Charles Parish Sherriff's Office
  - Lafourche Basin Levee District



# Current Conditions

## Luling to Cytec

Route:

- Luling
- River Road (LA 18)
- Total travel 7.3 miles
- Travel time: 12min



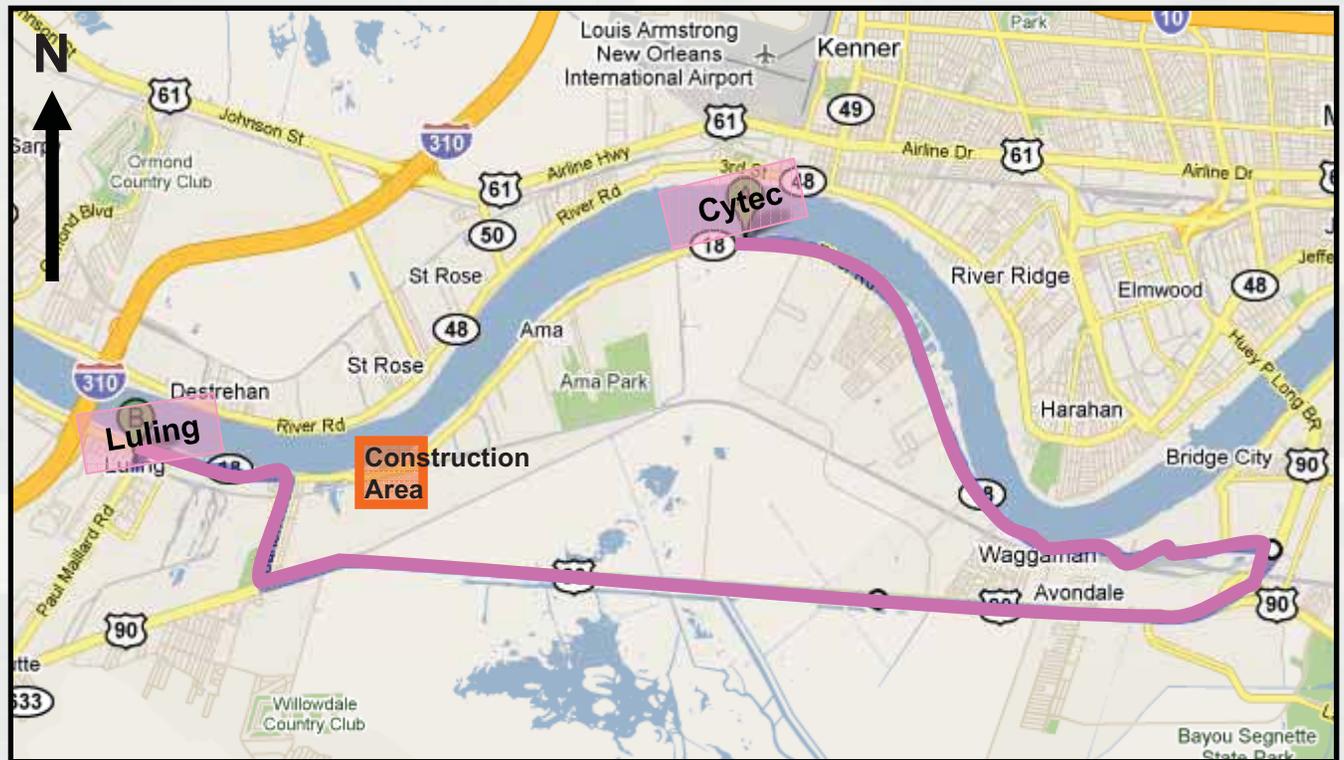
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# Detour Route

## Luling to Cytec

Route:

- Luling
- River Road (LA 18)
- Barton Ave
- Hwy 90
- River Rd
- Total travel 20 miles
- Travel time: 29 min



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# Current Conditions

## Hahnville to Avondale Shipyards

Route:

- Hahnville
- River Road (LA 18)  
Total travel 17.5 miles
- Travel time: 28 min



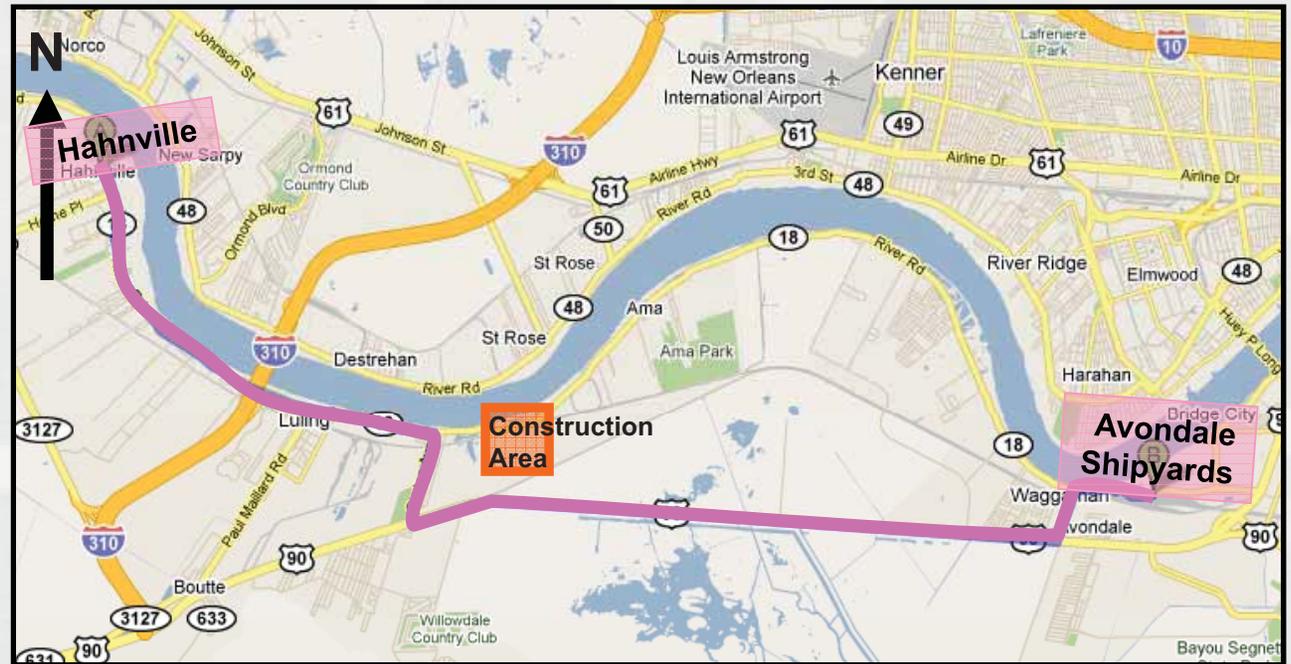
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# Detour Route

## Hahnville to Avondale Shipyards

Route:

- Hahnville
- River Road (LA 18)
- Barton Ave
- Highway 90
- Avondale Garden Rd
- Total travel 17 miles
- Travel time: 29 min



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# ***Bypass Road Alternatives Considered***

- Controlled Single Lane Access South of LA-18
- Bridge Across Davis Pond Diversion Canal
- Railroad Spur Removal for 2 Lane Access
- Controlled Two-Lane Access on the North & South of LA-18



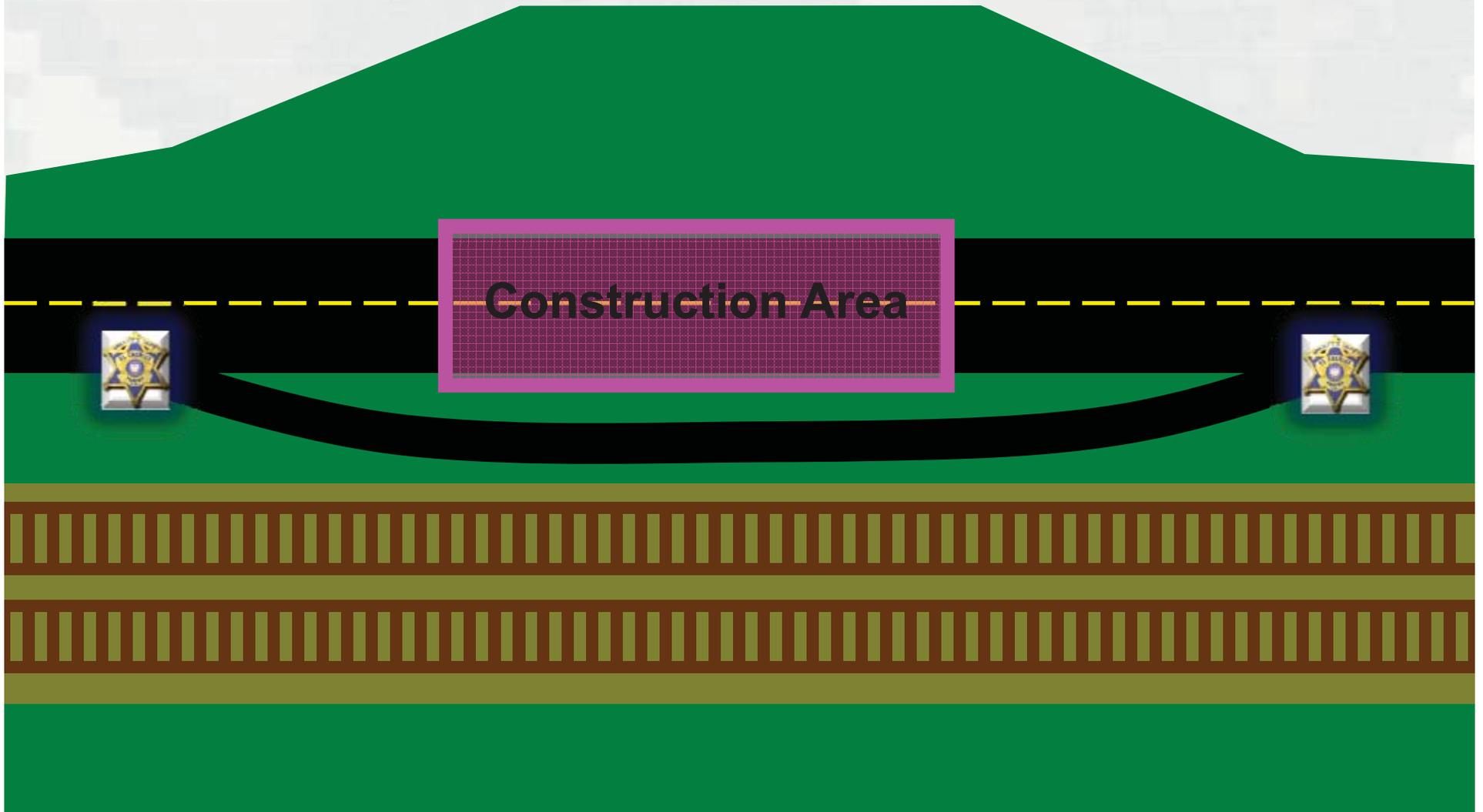
# *Limiting Factors for Bypass Road*

- Construction Right of Way (ROW)
- Cost
- Timeline
- Railroad capacity
- DOTD detour requirements



# ***LA-18 Bypass Road***

***Controlled Single Lane Access South of LA-18***



**Not to scale**

# Proposed Action

Controlled Single Lane Access South of LA-18



# *Proposed Ramp Benefits*

- St. Charles Parish Sheriff Deputies will control traffic 24-hours per day
- Maintains safe conditions for construction workers
- Does not require additional Right-of-Way
- Does not require the removal of any adjacent structures
- Preliminary design is complete
- Shortest construction duration allows completion of risk reduction features by June 2011
- Only construct one detour lane within existing ROW
- Does not require additional re-design



# ***Proposed Action Summary***

- ***Controlled Single Lane Access Selected for:***

1. Safety
2. Constructability and Time
3. Total Project Costs

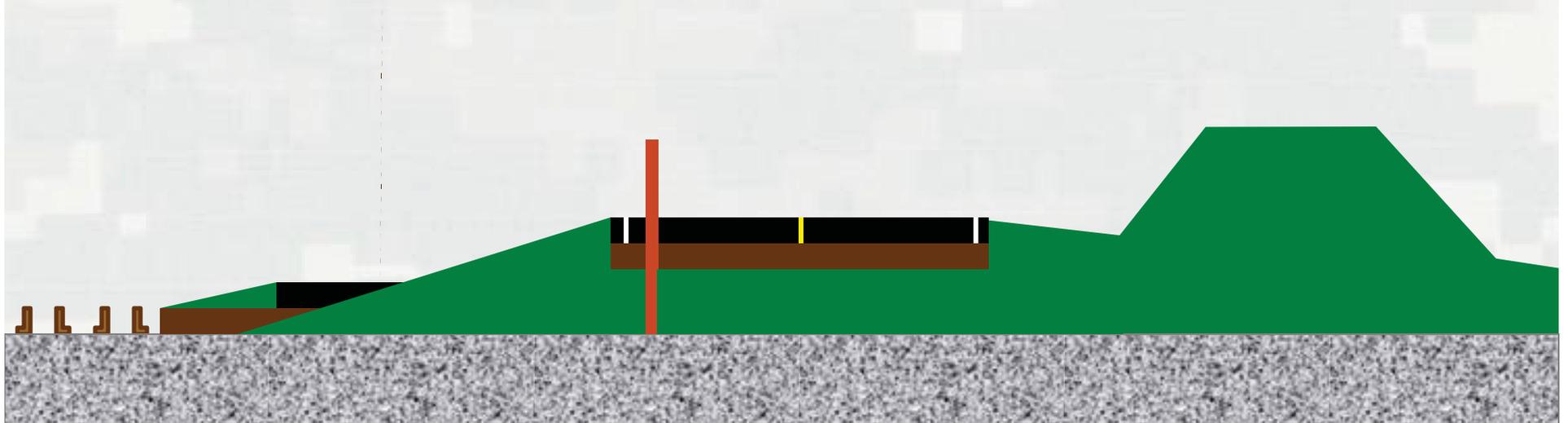
- **Alternative Comments**

1. Crossing Davis Pond would be unsafe for commuters, would require at grade railroad crossings and is cost prohibitive
2. Permission to remove the Railroad Spur is highly unlikely, very time consuming and extremely expensive
3. Detouring traffic to both the North and South of the project would be unsafe for construction workers. Property on north side of LA 18 is slated for utility relocations



# Possible Controlled Two-Lane Access Road Under Evaluation

Current Landscape  
Possible Construction Landscape



Facing West



Not to scale

# *Next Steps*

- Collect feedback tonight
- Environmental document (Individual Environmental Report Supplemental 16) scheduled for release later this month



# *Opportunities for Public Input*

- Regular public meetings throughout the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) Area
- Make sure to sign in tonight to get on our meeting notification mailing list
- Construction Impact Hotline: **1- 877- 427- 0345**
- Comments can be submitted at any time at  
[www.nolaenvironmental.gov](http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov)

Questions and comments may be submitted to

Telephone: 504-862-2201

[E-mail: AskTheCorps@usace.army.mil](mailto:AskTheCorps@usace.army.mil)



# Upcoming Public Meetings

## Tuesday, Jun. 15, 2010

LCA Convent/Blind River FS meeting  
St. James Parish Courthouse  
5800 LA 44  
Convent, LA 70723  
Open house is from 6 to 7:00  
Presentation begins at 7:00 p.m.

## Thursday, Jun. 17, 2010

LCA Convey Atchafalaya River/Houma Navigation Canal  
Lock FS Morgan City Auditorium  
728 Myrtle St.  
Morgan City, LA 70380  
Open house 6 to 7 pm  
Presentation 7 to 9 pm

## Tuesday, Jun. 22, 2010

LCA- White Ditch  
Phoenix High School  
13073 Highway 15  
Braithwaite, LA 70040  
Open house is from 6 to 7:00  
Presentation begins at 7:00 p.m.

## Thursday, Jun. 24, 2010

LCA - Amite River Diversion Canal FS  
French Settlement High School  
15875 Hwy 16  
French Settlement, LA 70733  
Open house is from 6 to 7:00  
Presentation begins at 7:00 p.m.

## Tuesday, Jun. 29, 2010

IER Supplemental 16 public meeting (Western Tie-In)  
Cytec's Tom Call Pavilion  
10800 River Road, Waggaman, LA  
Open House 6:00 p.m.  
Presentation 6:30 p.m.

## Thursday, July 15, 2010

LCA - Terrebonne Basin Barrier Shoreline Restoration  
FS Dumas Auditorium  
301 West Tunnel Blvd.  
Houma, LA 70360  
Open house is from 6 to 7:00  
Presentation begins at 7:00 p.m.



# Resources

[www.nolaenvironmental.gov](http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov)

**NOLA Environmental**  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA  
Environmental Compliance Data Bank  
[www.nolaenvironmental.gov](http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov)

PROJECTS MEETINGS LIBRARY DATA VIEWER GET INVOLVED RELATED LINKS

Welcome to NOLA Environmental! This site has been set up to share with the public the efforts being made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other federal and state agencies in south Louisiana regarding the environmental compliance for proposed federal and state Hurricane Risk Reduction Projects. Additional information pertaining to other federal and state agencies hurricane recovery efforts in southeast Louisiana will also be posted on the site as it becomes available.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division, New Orleans District implemented Alternative Arrangements on March 13, 2007 under the provisions of the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR § 1506.11). Learn more...

### Announcements

- Draft [IER 2 Public Comment](#) Period 5/6 - 6/4
- Draft [IER 13 Comment](#) Period extended to 5/18
- Draft [IER 5 Public Comment](#) Period 5/4 - 4/3
- Draft [IER 16 Public Comment](#) Period 5/1 - 5/30
- Draft [IER 6 Public Comment](#) Period 4/24 - 5/23
- [IER 6 - The Clean Water Act Section 404 Public Notice Comment](#) Period 4/24 - 5/23
- [Orleans Parish Pump Station Stormwatering EA #474 Drafts Public Comment](#) Period 4/17 - 5/23
- [Jefferson Parish Pump Station Stormwatering EA #475 Drafts Public Comment](#) Period 4/24 - 5/20
- Draft [IER 10 Public Comment](#) Period 4/13 - 5/12

[More...](#)

### Upcoming

- [05/11/2009 - Public Meeting IER 6, 9, 10 and IER 10](#)
- [05/17/2009 - Draft IER 10 Public Comment Period Ends](#)

[More...](#)

### Newly Available

**NEW** NOLA Environmental Data Viewer

- [New Release 06 May 09 Draft IER 5](#)
- [IER 5 - Phase 2 Final Report: Operating Scenario Analysis](#)

[More...](#)

**FEATURED PROJECT**

USACE-MvH Emergency Alternative Arrangements  
Greater New Orleans  
Hurricane and Storm Damage  
Risk Reduction System Projects

<http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil>

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District - Microsoft Internet Explorer: provided by USACE, New Orleans District

**US Army Corps of Engineers**  
New Orleans District

SEARCH

### PUBLIC INFORMATION

[Learn more about what the Corps is doing to reduce risk. HURRICANE](#)

**Emergency Information**  
[Food Storage](#), [Disaster Response](#), [Health Information and More...](#)

**NOLA Environmental**  
Did you miss a meeting? No problem! Find presentations, presentations and more.

### TOP HEADLINES

[Document confirms action on Westbank Sloughs](#)

[SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW](#)

[SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW](#)

[SOUTH MISSISSIPPI ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT FOR PUBLIC REVIEW](#)

### ASK THE CORPS

The Corps wants to hear from you!  
Q: Do you have information on the closing of Industrial Locks on August 1, 2009 for 60 days?

A: Yes, for information regarding the August 1st closing of the lower Harbor Navigation Canal Lock, please visit [http://www.usace.army.mil](#)

Submit questions or comments to [ask.usace@usace.army.mil](mailto:ask.usace@usace.army.mil)

### FEATURED VIDEOS

[Meet Closure Complex Learn more about the alternatives under consideration to reduce risk on the Westbank, Sloughs](#)

[Hurricane & Storm Damage Risk Reduction System From levees to pumping stations, find out more about system features](#)

HOME DISCLAIMER PUBLIC INQUIRY PRIVACY AND SECURITY FOIA INFORMATION QUALITY ACT ACCESSIBILITY





US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
New Orleans District

# Social Web Networking Communities

and what they mean to you

## twitter



is an online messaging and social networking system that allows people to share their daily life experiences minute-by-minute, hour-by-hour, and/or day-by-day via their computer or mobile phone. Team New Orleans is joining in and taking on the opportunity to tweet with the public and offer reports on developments, additions, changes, and upcoming public meetings and events that will affect local communities. Check it out by going to [twitter.com/teamneworleans](http://twitter.com/teamneworleans).

Flickr is an online community platform for global photo management and sharing applications via the web. Team New Orleans has become a part of the movement and is using Flickr to visually explain our projects.

Check out our photos at [www.flickr.com/photos/37671998@N05](http://www.flickr.com/photos/37671998@N05).

## flickr



Explore...

## facebook

is a global social networking Web site that links people from across the world and is currently ranked as the most popular of its kind. Team New Orleans is following in the trend and is using Facebook to update the

public about projects, events, activities and public meetings.

Become friends with Team New Orleans by visiting [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com), search New Orleans District.



# Visit the following links to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Flickr:

<http://www.facebook.com/people/New-Orleans-District/100000017439096>

<http://twitter.com/teamneworleans>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/37671998@N05>



# ***Ground Rules***

- **Speaker Request Cards are available at the sign-in tables**
- **Speakers will be called upon to speak in the order their request card is received**
- **Speakers will have a maximum of 5-minutes to speak**
- **Speakers may not yield unused portions of their time to another speaker**
- **A speaker may not speak a second time until all speakers have been called on to speak a first time**
- **All question/comments, verbal or written, will become part of the official record for Individual Environmental Report Supplemental 16**
- **All comments, verbal or written, will be considered equally**
- **Written comments may be submitted on [www.nolaenvironmental.gov](http://www.nolaenvironmental.gov)**

