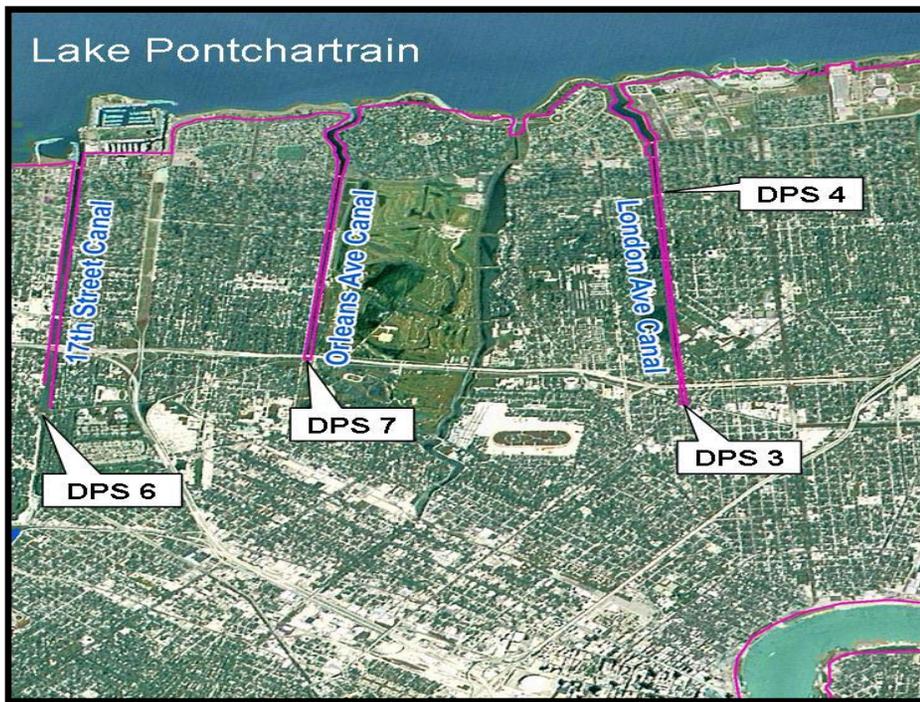




Individual Environmental Report (IER) #5 Permanent Protection System for the Outfall Canals



Purpose and Need

Protect City of New Orleans and Jefferson Parish from storm surge-induced flooding through the 17th St, Orleans Ave, and London Ave Canals, while not impeding the ability of the area's internal drainage system to remove stormwater.



National Environmental Policy Act “NEPA”

- Required for all major Federal actions
- Analyze potential impacts to the human and natural environment and investigate reasonable alternatives
- Analyses documented in Environmental Assessments (EA), Environmental Impact Statements (EIS), or Individual Environmental Reports (IER)
- Public involvement is KEY: We want to hear from you!
- **Goal: more informed decision making through public involvement**



NEPA Alternatives Summary

1. No Action (NEPA Mandated)
2. Non-Structural (WRDA Mandated) *(not carried through for consideration)*
3. Barrier Plan *(not carried through for consideration)*
4. Canal Closure *(not carried through for consideration)*
5. Parallel Protection
6. Canal Closure and Pumps
 - a. **Pumps and closures (gates) operating in series with Sewerage & Water Board of New Orleans (S&WB) pump stations at all three (3) outfall canals**
 - b. Pumps (no gates) operating in series with S&WB pump stations
 - c. Pumps with deepened canals
 - d. Convert existing Interim Closure Structures (ICS) to permanent

Proposed action is indicated above in green



Drainage Features

Examples of additional drainage features not carried forward for consideration:

- 1) Florida Avenue Diversion to Inner Harbor Navigational Canal
- 2) Hoey's Basin – Pump to the River

These features were eliminated from further consideration within IER 5 because they did not meet the purpose and need of this project. They do not provide hurricane protection.

However, they are included in the report to Congress and Southeast Louisiana Flood Control Project (SELA).



Examples of Diverse Public Comments

- Safety first, aesthetics second - pump station at or in the lake is safest location
- Pump station at lake detracts from neighborhood quality of life and property values
- Avoid taking of public lands and green space
- Avoid disruption of neighborhoods
- For and against use of UNO properties



Site Alternative Evaluation Criteria

- Reliability/Risk
Storm load exposure, number of transitions, operations & maintenance
- Constructability
Space restrictions, traffic impacts
- Real Estate
Timeframe associated with acquiring property
- Costs – Construction & Real Estate
Total cost for constructing the pump station and flood protection system
- Natural Environmental Impacts
Threatened & endangered species, water quality
- Land Use Impacts
Changes to existing land use, i.e. green space, residential, commercial

17th Street Proposed Action

Site Location A: Maximum Footprint



Impact Type

-  Maximum Extent of Permanent Impacts
-  Temporary Construction Easement

Scale: 1:7,000

Basemap Source: USACE 2007



17th Street Proposed Action Site Location A

- **PROS**

- Construction phasing easier
- Maintaining drainage flow relatively simple
- Property to be acquired mostly publicly held (less private property to be acquired)
- Water access available for construction
- Highway access available for construction
- Less construction nuisance to residents
- More staging area available
- No bridge modifications required
- No impact on existing level of hurricane protection

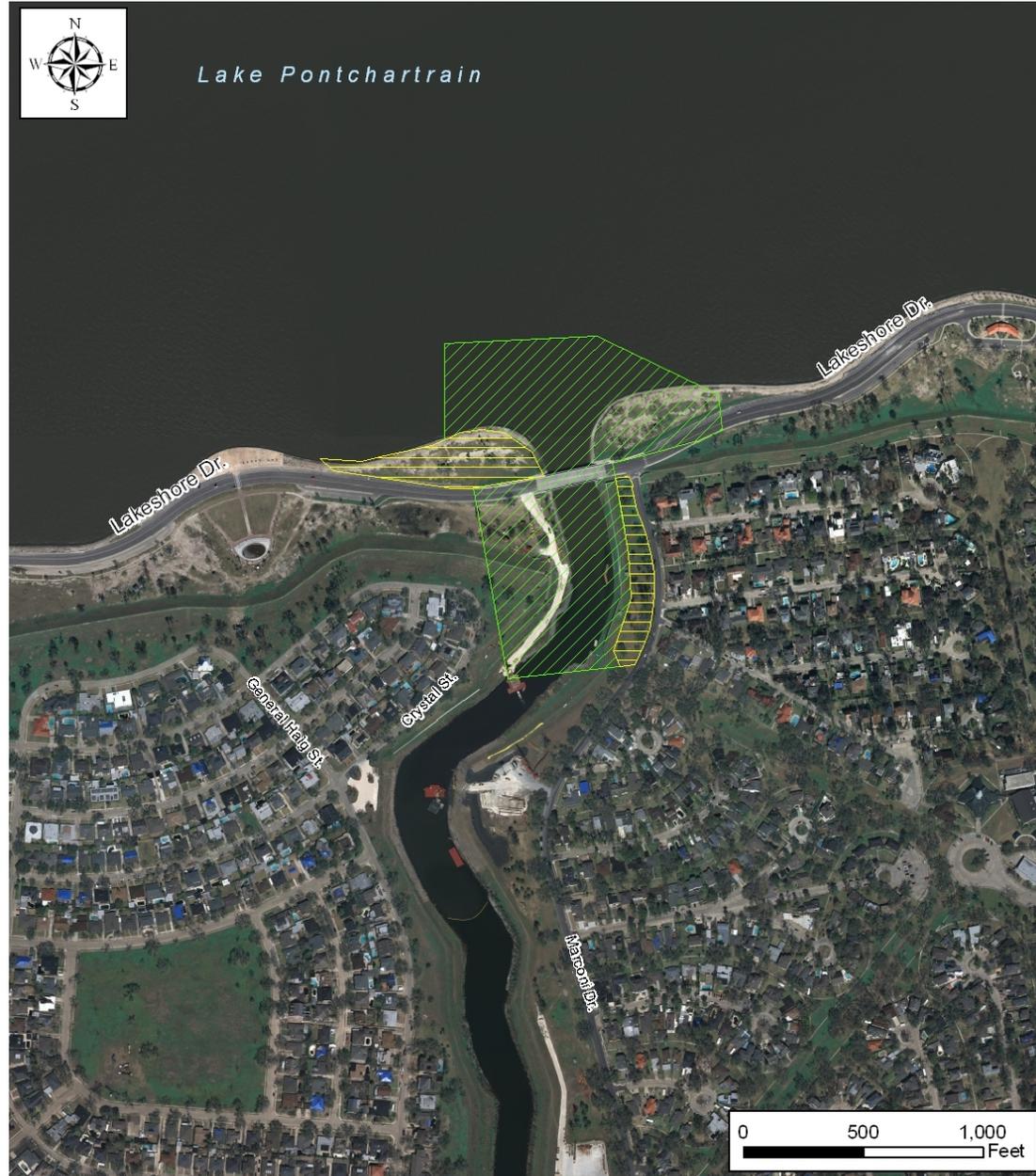
- **CONS**

- Construction/cofferdams in water
- Exposure to lake/stormwater levels during construction



Orleans Ave Proposed Action

Site Location B: Maximum Footprint



Impact Type

-  Maximum Extent of Permanent Impacts
-  Temporary Construction Easement

Scale: 1:7,000

Basemap Source: USACE 2007



Orleans Avenue Proposed Action Site Location B

- **PROS**

- Water access available for construction
- Non-residential access available for construction
- Limited impact on levees and floodwalls
- Utilize Lakeshore Drive for construction
- All property needed is publicly held – no taking of homes
- No bridge modification required

- **CONS**

- Exposure to lake/stormwater levels during construction
- More lakefront visual impact than sites further south



London Ave Proposed Action

Site Location C: Maximum Footprint



Impact Type

-  Maximum Extent of Permanent Impacts
-  Temporary Construction Easement

Scale: 1:7,000

Basemap Source: USACE 2007



London Avenue Proposed Action Site Location C

- **PROS**

- Less environmental and visual impacts
- No exposure to lake/stormwater levels during construction
- Construction phasing easier (widest part of canal)
- Does not impede S&WB drainage flow
- No bridge modification required

- **CONS**

- Requires small amount of UNO property acquisition
- More parallel protection required than lakefront location
- Construction traffic through residential areas and UNO



The Path Forward

- Awaiting Coastal Zone Management concurrence on the proposed locations
- Review and evaluate all input and finalize Draft IER
- December: Release Draft IER #5 (including proposed action alternative and site locations) for 30-day public comment period
- Corps to hold a public meeting during 30-day public comment period; date To Be Determined
- January '09 / February '09: Make Final Decision - District Commander signs the IER document
- Initiate procurement process to bring on Design-Build Contractor



Opportunities for Public Input

- Monthly Public Meetings throughout New Orleans Metro Area
 - Make sure to sign in tonight to get on our meeting notification mailing list
- Comments can be submitted at any time at www.nolaenvironmental.gov
- Individual Environmental Reports (IER) 30-day Public Review

Questions and comments regarding Hurricane Protection Projects should be addressed to:

Gib Owen
PM-RS
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267
Telephone: 504-862-1337

E-mail: mynenvironmental@usace.army.mil

USACE Web Site

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

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 **US Army Corps of Engineers** 

search usace New Orleans District

Floodwalls

Building them bigger, stronger, better
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is continuing to work expeditiously to complete the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) by 2011. To this end, the Corps is using valuable lessons learned to construct more resilient levees and floodwalls.

[See for yourself >>](#)



PUBLIC INFORMATION

6 Hurricane & Flood Risk Reduction

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

Emergency Information

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Nola Environmental

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TOP HEADLINES

[USACE Issues Environmental Impact Statement Confirming Action on Westwego to Harvey](#)

[Corps releases environmental document for public review](#)

[Corps to provide update on Westbank risk reduction projects](#)

[Corps Seeks Industry Input on Design and Construction Testimony for Westbank](#)

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ASK THE CORPS

The Corps wants to hear from you!

Q. *Do you have information on the closing of Industrial Locks on August 1, 2008 for 60 days?*

A. *Yes, for information regarding the August 1st closing of the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Lock, [please click here.](#)*

Submit questions or comments to askthecorps@usace.army.mil.

FEATURED VIDEOS

 **West Closure Complex**
Learn more about the alternatives under consideration to reduce risk on the Westbank. [Watch >>](#)

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

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