

Task Force Hope Status Report Newsletter

April 16, 2010

### Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System reaches

### **\$2 Billion in Small Business contracts**

Almost 30% of HSDRRS Small Business contracts go to Louisiana-based companies as the prime contractor

by Susan Spaht

April 15 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reached **\$2** billion in Small Business prime construction contract awards for the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS). This includes all construction contracts awarded since the Corps began work on the HSDRRS four and a half years ago. Almost 30 percent of those contract dollars went to Louisiana-based small businesses.

To put this in perspective, in 2004 (pre-Katrina) the New Orleans District Corps of Engineers awarded \$65.3 million in Small Business contracts. Multiply that by 4.5 (four and a half years) and you'll get approximately \$300 million over the same period of time.



# **\$2,000,000,000** *April 15, 2010*

When the District includes its other Small Business contracts (normal District business) with the HSDRRS Small Business contracts, it actually reached \$2.7 billion in *overall* Small Business contracts a year ago.

"We are extremely proud to announce that we've reached the \$2 billion mark in Small Business contracts for the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System,"

said Karen Durham-Aguilera, Director of Task Force Hope. "And it is very gratifying to have so many of those contracts go to Louisianabased companies – the people and

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SELA project now underway at Florida Ave.....page 4

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## "The Corps has a history of supporting Small Business..."

- Ned Foley, Deputy for Small Business Programs





Project: Floodwall construction at Collins Pipeline, New Orleans East Small Business Contractor: Hamp's Construction, LLC of New Orleans

Project: Sand Drainage Blanket (between South Point and CXS Railroad) Small Business Contractor: BIS Services, LLC of Kenner, La.

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businesses who were most affected by the 2005 hurricanes."

The \$2 billion in contracts went to Small, Small-Disadvantaged,

Women-Owned, HUB Zone, Veteran-Owned, and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned businesses.

"The Corps of Engineers has a commitment



Col. Alvin Lee

to small and disadvantaged businesses," said Col. Alvin Lee, Commander of the New Orleans District. "This \$2 billion mark clearly shows that the Corps is executing on its commitments. The Corps will continue to promote and include small and disadvantaged businesses in the design and construction of the HSDRRS."

Of all contract dollars so far awarded by the Corps in New Orleans for fiscal year 2010, **32.45 percent** were awarded to small businesses. That translates into almost \$500 million in contract awards to Small Business this year alone.

"The Corps has a history of supporting Small Business," said Ned Foley, Deputy for Small Business Programs, Corps of Engineers. The New Orleans District has received several awards over the past few years rec-

ognizing it for outstanding achievement in awarding contracts to small and disadvantaged businesses. "We

are determined not merely to meet but to exceed the dollar value of small business contracts awarded in the future," Foley added.



**Ned Foley** 

you would like more information about HSDRRS contract opportunities, go to this Web site: <u>http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/hps/</u> <u>hps\_contract\_info.aspx</u>

Almedia Drainage S

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### Small Businesses play BIG part in HSDRRS success



Project: Almedia/Walker Drainage Structures Small Business Contractor: Cycle Construction Company, LLC of Kenner, La.

Corp

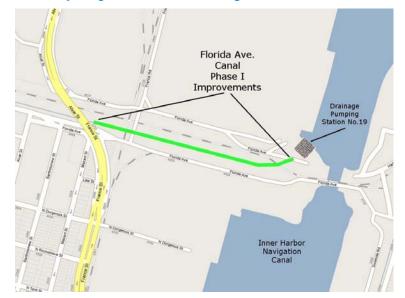


*Project:* Goodhope Floodwall *Small Business Contractor:* Integrated PRO Services, LLC of New Orleans

lurricane

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### SELA project underway at Florida Ave.



he Sewerage & Water Board of New Orleans and the Corps of Engineers hosted groundbreaking ceremonies on April 12 to announce the start of construction on Phase One of the Florida Ave. Drainage Canal project. This \$49 million project is the first of a four-phase drainage improvement program under the Southeast Louisiana Urban Flood Control Project (SELA). SELA is a Corps of Engineers program designed to reduce the flood risk potential for Orleans, Jefferson and St. Tammany parishes by addressing internal drainage issues.

The Florida Ave. Canal project consists of widening the existing canal from 25 feet to 42 feet, and heightening the canal from 7 feet to 15 feet. The area for Phase One of construction extends from Elysian Fields Ave. to Drainage Pump Station #19, approximately 10,000 feet. Construction is expected to take approximately two and a half years.

The contract for Phase One was awarded to B&K Construction Com-

pany, LLC, a Small Business company based in Mandeville, La. The project is 100% Federally-funded.

Construction of the four phases of this project is estimated to cost over \$150 million. Phase Two will run from Mazant Street to Piety Street, Phase Three runs from Piety St. to St. Ferdinand Ave., and Phase Four runs from St. Ferdinand Ave. to Peoples Ave.

"When the Florida Ave. Canal project is completed," said Col. Al Lee, Commander of the New Orleans District, "it will provide drainage improvements to almost 7,900 acres in the heart of New Orleans."

"The Florida Ave. Canal project is a perfect example of cooperation and coordination among city, state and federal agencies," said Karen Durham-Aguilera, Director of Task Force Hope. "It shows how successful we can be and how much we can achieve when we all work together toward our common goal - reducing flood risk for the citizens of this area."

**Contact Information** 

#### **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

**Task Force Hope** (504) 862-1836

New Orleans District (504) 862-2201

Hurricane Protection Office (504) 862-1708

The Status Report Newsletter supports the information program for Task Force Hope and its stakeholders. It also serves as the primary tool for accurately transmitting the Corps' hurricane risk reduction efforts to stakeholders.

This is an online publication that is open to public distribution.

#### This issue and past issues can be found at: <u>http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/hps</u>

Comments and questions may be sent to the Status Report Newsletter editor at: <u>b2fwdpao@usace.army.mil</u>

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Status Report Newsletter Task Force Hope Strategic Communications 7400 Leake Ave., Room #388 New Orleans, LA 70118 (504) 862-1949