



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

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News Release

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Corps awards contract for W. Esplanade Bridge as part of Southeast Louisiana Urban Flood Damage Reduction Project (SELA)

NEW ORLEANS – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, awarded a contract today for work in Jefferson Parish on the West Esplanade Bridge over the Elmwood Canal.

Shavers-Whittle Construction, Inc., of Covington, La., received the \$13,075,332 contract to replace the existing bridge with a new pile founded, four-lane concrete bridge. The contractor will also complete associated canal improvements including two box culverts to divert water from Canal No. 2 to the Elmwood Canal and slope paving to tie into the existing Elmwood Canal.

Soheila Holley, SELA project manager, said, “The replacement of the West Esplanade bridges, along with the recently awarded contract for replacing the bridge on Kawanee Avenue, will provide a significant improvement in delivering water to the Elmwood Pump Station.”

The Elmwood Canal Bridge at West Esplanade Project encompasses a 154-foot-wide section with 15 feet of concrete slope paving on both sides, ending with 18 inches of rip-rap with geotextile beneath it covering the bottom. The bridge design includes a pre-cast, pre-stressed pile foundation. Provisions will be made to minimize disruption to traffic and two-way traffic will be maintained on West Esplanade Avenue throughout the period of construction.

The Canal No. 2 section consists of a concrete box culvert that ties in under the bridge. The box transitions into a concrete U-frame as it passes under the new bridge and enters the Elmwood Canal, directing the flow north to the Elmwood Pump Station. This project also covers all incidental road work and utility relocations required for construction.