

## **News Release**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Corps awards Southeast Louisiana Urban Flood Control Project (SELA) contract for Gardere Canal

NEW ORLEANS – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District awarded a contract today for work on the west bank of Jefferson Parish, east of Harvey Canal. Work is scheduled to begin in February.

B&K Construction Co. of Mandeville, La. received the \$31 million contract. The project, which is intended to reduce damages from rainfall flooding, consists of improvements to the Gardere Canal from 8<sup>th</sup> Street south to Martin Luther King playground.

Stan Green, SELA project manager, said, "The Gardere work is the last piece to be put in place in the system originally authorized under SELA for the drainage basin that lies east of the Harvey Canal in Jefferson Parish." The system includes the recently completed Whitney/Barataria Pump Station along with improvements to numerous canals.

The Southeast Louisiana Urban Flood Damage Reduction Project (SELA) provides channel and pumping station improvements in Orleans and Jefferson Parishes to support the parishes' master drainage plans and generally provides flood damage reduction on a level associated with a ten-year rainfall event. At the same time it reduces damages for larger events.