



US Army Corps
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New Orleans District

News Release

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New sheet pile to strengthen Kenner floodwall

Deeper than existing barrier, reinforced by 10-foot concrete apron

NEW ORLEANS—The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will begin next week to drive 1,550 feet of steel sheet pile to strengthen the hurricane-protection floodwall along Vintage Boulevard on Kenner's west border with the St. Charles Parish marshes.

The interim protection is being installed by Purnell Construction Co. of Baton Rouge under a \$1.68 million contract. The Corps expects to complete the work in 50 days. The new wall will be replaced later by permanent protection whose design is yet to be chosen.

The new wall is being installed parallel to and two feet on the protected side of the existing wall. Each 60-foot pile will be driven about 54 feet into the embankment. The new pile will be embedded more than three times as deep as the existing pile. For further stabilization, the earthen berm has already been raised on the floodwall's protected side.

“This work will strengthen the hurricane storm-surge protection on the west side of Jefferson Parish at Vintage Boulevard,” said Mervin Morehiser, the project manager.

“For additional protection, a 10-foot wide, 6-inch thick concrete apron will be built on the protected side of the new wall to protect against scour in the event of overtopping by a storm surge,” Morehiser said. “All of the work will be done within the existing right of way.”

Because it is important to complete the work as soon as possible, an extended workday may be employed. The Corps will monitor for vibration in the neighborhood so it can be kept to proper levels.