



St. Tammany Levee, Drainage and Conservation District

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS St. Tammany Parish is a thriving community and is the 4th most populated parish in Louisiana with a population exceeding 270,000 people. The Parish also has a growing labor force currently totaling over 118,000 workers;

WHEREAS St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana has experienced major devastation and significant flooding from severe hurricanes and tropical storms such as Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Isaac. The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) states, "St. Tammany Parish has experienced repeated widespread flooding from rainfall and riverine bank overtopping, waves, and storm surge, including historic impacts during Hurricane Katrina in August of 2005 and recently with the flood of August of 2016. Hurricane Katrina damaged over 48,000 residential structures, causing \$1.45 billion in damages. These flood events caused major disruptions, damages, and economic impacts to St. Tammany Parish.";

WHEREAS in 2020 the USACE initiated a multi-year Feasibility Study for the entire area of St. Tammany Parish which included the development of an Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement;

WHEREAS the goal of the St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana Feasibility Study is to reduce the severity of flood damages and risk to public health and safety, caused by heavy rainfall, riverine flooding, tropical storms and hurricane;

WHEREAS flood risk in St. Tammany Parish is multifaceted and complex, requiring the strategic use of both structural protection and non-structural protection projects to address the diverse needs of vulnerable communities;

WHEREAS the USACE St. Tammany Parish LA Feasibility Study plan includes both structural flood risk reduction (levees, floodwalls, floodgates, and pump stations) as well as non-structural flood risk reduction (elevations and flood proofing) within areas at risk of flooding including both the coastal zone and riverine flood prone areas in St. Tammany Parish;



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WHEREAS the USACE St. Tammany Parish LA Feasibility Study selected project features consist of the following: (1) Non-structural – Home Elevations and Floodproofing for over 6,400 residential and non-residential structures (2) Mile Branch Channel Improvements – 2.2 miles of channel improvements along the lower reaches of Mile Branch, and (3) South Slidell and West Slidell Levee and Floodwall System – Structural protection consisting of 18.5 miles of levee, floodwalls, pump stations and gate structures;

WHEREAS the St. Tammany Levee, Drainage and Conservation District acknowledges the USACE St. Tammany Parish LA Feasibility Study plan does not provide adequate, comprehensive protection for coastal communities south and east of Slidell, and has secured commitments from the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, State of Louisiana, and St. Tammany Parish Government that state and local projects shall take necessary action to correct this gap in protection.

WHEREAS the USACE St. Tammany Parish LA Feasibility Study selected project features result in a total project cost of \$4,452,059,000, benefits of \$402,762,000, and a benefit to cost ratio of 2.4;

WHEREAS the State Louisiana (CPRA), the St Tammany Parish Government, the City of Slidell, and the St Tammany Levee, Drainage and Conservation District have all invested significant funding and efforts to initiate these and other critical flood risk reduction projects across St. Tammany Parish;

WHEREAS the USACE St. Tammany Parish LA Feasibility Study Plan would further these State and Local efforts and further reduce flood risk to approximately 26,600 structures in the study area and approximately 70,000 residents;

THEREFORE, the St. Tammany Levee, Drainage and Conservation District supports the USACE St. Tammany Parish LA Feasibility Study Plan so that the St. Tammany Parish citizens can be provided with reductions in the severity of flood damages and reductions in risk to public health and safety, caused by heavy rainfall, riverine flooding, tropical storms, and hurricane.