



The SELA program is administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New Orleans District in conjunction with the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority through the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans.

## FLORIDA AVENUE - PHASE 2-3

### BACKGROUND

Prompted by the severity of damages associated with rainfall flooding in southeast Louisiana, local officials in the tri-parish area of Orleans, Jefferson, and St. Tammany requested Federal assistance in developing and implementing solutions to the flooding problem. After the disastrous flood in May 1995, the United States Congress authorized the design and construction of the Southeast Louisiana Urban Flood Control Project (SELA) in Section 108 of the Fiscal 1996 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act and Section 533 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1996.

The SELA program consists of individual project components that are being designed and constructed throughout the tri-parish area. These project components generally provide protection from flooding due to rainfall on a level associated with a ten-year rainfall event.

### PROJECT INFORMATION

The entire Florida Avenue Canal project consists of widening the existing concrete flume section of the canal from Elysian Fields Avenue to Drainage Pump Station 19. In addition, modifications will be made to the existing drainage in the Peoples Triangle and along the south side of the Florida Avenue Canal to aid in getting more flow to this new canal. These modifications include the installation of sub-surface drainage, curb and gutter drainage, and pavement resurfacing along portions of Abundance, Treasure, Benefit, Deers, Eads, Painters, Montegut, and Desire streets.

The Sewerage and Water Board hired the design engineering firm of Pepper & Associates to complete the plans and specifications for Phase 1 (DPS 19 to Mazant) and Phases 2 & 3 (Mazant to St. Ferdinand). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be responsible for the construction contract. Phase 1 (DPS 19 to Mazant Street) was completed in August 2013. Phase 2 (Mazant to Piety) and Phase 3 (Piety to St. Ferdinand) contract documents were combined to bid as one construction project which was awarded in August 2014 to Boh Bros. Construction for \$119.0 million. Construction of Phases 2 & 3 is estimated to be completed by late 2018.

### FUNDING

Funding for the two phases will be provided by the 6th Emergency Supplemental Funding Bill. The construction cost for the two phases will be paid with 65% federal funds (\$77.3 million) and 35% local funds (\$41.6 million). Corps policy directs that utility relocation costs (\$9.3 million) are to be paid by the S&WB. The S&WB will also receive \$4.2 million from Louisiana Statewide Flood Control funds as part of the local 35% match. The balance of the 35% local share (\$28.1 million) will be paid with a 30-year federal loan.

**Map on reverse side** ►

