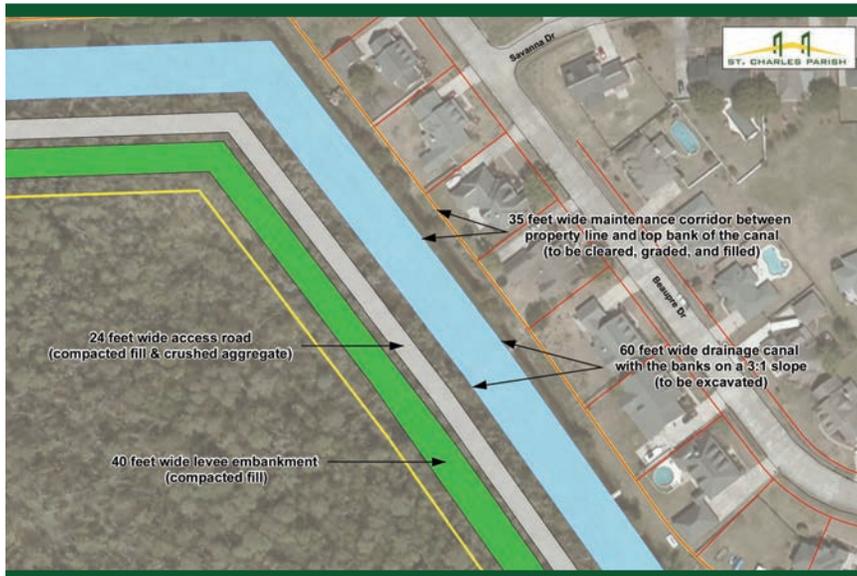


# ST. CHARLES PARISH OFFICIALS

Parish President	<i>V.J. St. Pierre Jr.</i>
Public Works & Wastewater Director	<i>Sam Scholle</i>
Council At-Large Division A	<i>Carolyn K. Schexnaydre</i>
Council At-Large Division B (Interim)	<i>Mary Tastet</i>
Council District I	<i>Terrell D. Wilson</i>
Council District II	<i>William "Billy" Woodruff</i>
Council District III	<i>Wendy Benedetto</i>
Council District IV	<i>Paul J. Hogan, PE</i>
Council District V	<i>Larry Cochran</i>
Council District VI	<i>Traci A. Fletcher</i>
Council District VII	<i>Julia Fisher-Perrier</i>
CONTRIBUTING PAST COUNCIL MEMBERS	<i>Terry Authement Clayton "Snookie" Faucheux Marcus M. Lambert Dennis Nuss Billy Raymond Sr. Shelley Tastet</i>



construction phases are complete, the levee will stand at 7 feet and include the new Willowridge Pump Station, a detention pond and two tidal interchange structures.

The **Ellington reach**, which runs south of Luling from Willowridge Drive in Luling to Magnolia Ridge in Boutte, is currently being designed, and levee consultants are acquiring rights-of-way. In addition, the procurement of soil boring and geotechnical engineering services is ongoing. The parish received a **construction permit** for this phase in March 2013.

The **Magnolia Ridge reach**, which runs south of Boutte and will tie in to the Sunset levee at the Paradis Canal, is currently being re-permitted. Regulatory agencies have reviewed all plans and public comments received during the application process and have approved changes to the permit proposed by the parish. These include a change in pump station operation parameters and the removal of tidal structures. The permit application is currently in the mitigation review phase, and the parish anticipates receiving mitigation requirement letters from regulatory agencies in the near future. Once that is complete, the parish will move forward with purchasing mitigation credits to offset impacts to 4.5 acres of wetlands.

The **Sunset reach**, which includes an

existing levee surrounding Paradis, Bayou Gauche and Des Allemands, will undergo soil boring shortly. Topographic surveys of the levee system have already been completed and submitted to FEMA under the **Levee Analysis and Mapping Procedure (LAMP) Program**. (LAMP is the process through which FEMA recognizes locally built levees as part of its Flood Insurance Rate Mapping.)

The preliminary design of additional flood control improvements in Sunset has commenced and is being prepared for submission to FEMA under the Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) process. A Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) is FEMA's comment on a proposed project that would, upon construction, affect the hydrologic or hydraulic characteristics of a flooding source and thus result in the modification of the existing regulatory floodway, the effective Base Flood Elevations (BFEs), or the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). The letter does not revise an effective NFIP map; rather, it indicates whether the project, if built as proposed, would be recognized by FEMA.

Additionally, a CLOMR will be submitted for the entire West Bank levee system being evaluated by CPRA.

**The 2014 St. Charles Parish operating budget includes \$25 million for levee work and matches to grant funding.**

*To keep up with the progress of the St. Charles Parish West Bank Hurricane Protection Levee, visit [www.scpwestbanklevee.com](http://www.scpwestbanklevee.com), and sign up for e-notifications at [www.stcharlesparish-la.gov/enews](http://www.stcharlesparish-la.gov/enews).*



**St. Charles Parish West Bank Levee Projects**  
**St. Charles Parish, LA**



**T**he **St. Charles Parish West Bank Hurricane Protection Levee** is a multi-phase project that encompasses 33 miles from the **Davis Diversion West Guide Levee** in Luling to a ridge at **Highway 308** in Lafourche Parish. This long-term project is split into four reaches within St. Charles Parish – Willowridge (Luling), Ellington (Luling and Boutte), Magnolia Ridge (Boutte) and Sunset (Paradis, Bayou Gauche and Des Allemands).

It will offer flood protection to approximately **25,300 residents and numerous business and industrial sites**, including energy and petrochemical producers, on the West Bank. It will also protect U.S. Highway 90, a critical evacuation route for southeast Louisiana residents from multiple parishes.

The overall goal of the **West Bank Levee Initiative** is to design and construct a flood protection system that meets both **Federal Emergency Management Agency** and **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers** requirements. This projected \$500 million project can only be accomplished with cooperation and funding provided by supporting agencies, including the **Lafourche Basin Levee District (LBLD)** and **Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA)**, in collaboration with St. Charles Parish government.

Currently, the **Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development's**

**Statewide Flood Control Program** is funding 70 percent of the total cost of the Willowridge levee and 90 percent of the proposed Willowridge Pump Station. **The State of Louisiana Division of Administration, Facility Planning and Control** provides additional funding. To meet that goal – and with the recent transfer of the governing authority of the **Sunset Drainage District** to St. Charles Parish – all phases are being worked on simultaneously as funding allows.



LBLD is currently working with CPRA to have the overall levee alignment included in the state's Coastal Master Plan, which will open the door for further state funding and **BP RESTORE Act** funding for the levee. CPRA is in the process of evaluating the hydraulic model of the levee system and preparing a cost / benefit ratio for the project. If CPRA makes a favorable recommendation, the Louisiana Legislature can include funding through the fiscal year 2015 annual plan that the legislature would adopt in its 2014 session.

On Nov. 18, 2013, the St. Charles Parish Council took historic action by approving a \$5.8 million construction contract with **Southern Delta Construction LLC** for the first construction phase of the Willowridge reach of the West Bank Hurricane Protection Levee. Once complete, the first phase of the Willowridge Levee will offer **5.5 feet** of hurricane and tidal flooding protection from the Peterson Canal (on the western side) to an existing berm behind Willowridge Drive. When all four

## **OPENING PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*Rev. Gary McCall*  
Bible Center Church, Luling

## **WELCOME**

*Renee A. Simpson*  
St. Charles Parish Public Information Officer

## **REMARKS**

*Garret Graves*  
Governor's Executive Assistant for Coastal Activities  
Chair, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board (CPRA)

*The Honorable Gary L. Smith Jr.*  
Louisiana State Senator, 19th District

*Steve C. Wilson*  
Representative East of the Atchafalaya River, CPRA Board  
President, At-Large, Pontchartrain Levee District

*Randy Trosclair*  
Executive Director, Lafourche Basin Levee District

*Sam Scholle*  
St. Charles Parish Public Works and Wastewater Director

*The Honorable Julia Fisher-Perrier*  
St. Charles Parish Councilwoman, District VII

*The Honorable V.J. St. Pierre Jr.*  
St. Charles Parish President

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

*Rev. Gary McCall*

## **GROUND BREAKING**

*Please join us for a reception immediately following the ceremony at Grand Ridge Golf Club, 500 Willowdale Blvd., Luling. Parking is available in the rear of the facility.*

