St. Bernard Parish HMGP-funded Risk Communication, Education and Outreach
ASFPM Conference, June 3, 2014
Agenda

- Introductions
- Project Purpose
- Techniques
- HMGP Projects
- Conclusion
Project Purpose

- Cooperative endeavor between
  - St. Bernard Parish
  - Lake Borgne Basin Levee District

- Reduce the risk of loss of life and property due to natural hazards

- Educate citizens on the $52 Million in unprecedented construction and upgrades to the interior drainage system

- Educate citizens on mitigation actions
Vision

• St. Bernard safe, progressive and moving forward

• Integrate community education and outreach with strategic communications

• Concurrent Messages
  • Informational campaign to communicate local government’s efforts to ensure public safety and keep “St. Bernard Strong and Growing.”
  • Provide the most current and accurate technical information, encourage residential mitigation actions and increase community resiliency.
Vision

St. Bernard
Flood Risk
SAFETY

Your Guide To Parish Safety Programs and Government Officials

St. Bernard
Flood Risk
CONTROL

Over $50 million in hazard mitigation and disaster recovery projects are being implemented

St. Bernard
Flood Risk
RESPONSIBILITY

It is possible to improve flood protection in the area. It is an ongoing process and requires participation of individual citizens as well as support from the government.
Techniques

- Brochures
- Email network
- Media Briefings
- Open Houses
Brochures

• Flood Risk: Control, Safety, and Responsibility
• Three (3) will be produced
• 40,000 of each printed
• Distributed primarily through local newspapers
  • Innovative solution at the 9th hour
  • Initially was to be sent with water bills
  • Parish reached out to three local papers to distribute 80,000 brochures in two weeks.
• From print to distribution.
Working Together  
Ensuring Safety

- St. Bernard Parish and the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District have planned and overseen unprecedented reconstruction and upgrades to the internal drainage system resulting in more efficient and enhanced storm and rain water movement and run-off in the Parish's canals, drainage ditches, neighborhood streets, boulevards and highways.
- Together, these entities are working to raise awareness and understanding of flood risks so that the citizens of St. Bernard Parish are aware of and can take necessary actions associated with hurricanes, storms and flood events.
- This partnership leverages its collective resources to bring continual public attention to and secure state and federal dollars for flood risk management, community resiliency and education, and coastal protection and restoration efforts.

8201 W. Judge Perez Drive  
Chalmette, LA 70043  
(504) 278-1032  
www.sbpg.net
St Bernard Parish Government
Office of the President, (504) 278-4227
Office of the Parish Council, (504) 278-4228

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Office
The St Bernard Parish Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Office is a division of the parish administration. The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program provides funding opportunities for pre- and post-disaster mitigation. As of January 2014 the agency is administering 10 projects totaling nearly $32 million directly related to reducing flood risk.

Michael Hunicutt, CFM
Hazard Mitigation Technical Advisor
(504) 278-3032

Lake Borgne Basin Levee District
The Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD) was established in 1892 to protect the lives and property of citizens in St. Bernard Parish. It is one of the few levee districts in the state responsible for the pumping stations and drainage:

- 19 internal drainage canals (more than 55 miles in length) and eight major drainage pumping stations.
- 60 miles of federal and non-federal levees, two navigation sector gates, and 33 flood gates.

Nicholas Di Calli, CFM
Executive Director
(504) 682-5841

Department of Recovery
The Department of Recovery is responsible for managing and implementing all Federal Emergency Management Agency and Community Development Block Grant recovery projects on behalf of St. Bernard Parish Government.

Donald R. Bourgeois, Jr, Recovery Manager, Executive Assistant to the President
(504) 278-1597

Office of Floodplain Management
The Office of Floodplain Management is responsible for administering FEMA’s National Flood Insurance Program for St. Bernard Parish.

Department of Community Development
(504) 278-4310

Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness
The Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness is responsible for keeping St. Bernard Parish families informed by providing up-to-date information on homeland security and emergency operations as they are applicable to federal, state and local emergencies or activities.

John Rahain, Jr., CEM, LEM
Deputy Director of Homeland Security
(504) 278-4267

Office of Coastal Zone Management
The Office of Coastal Zone Management processes applications for Coastal Use Permits (CUPs) and serves as a liaison between St. Bernard Parish and all state and federal coastal wetlands regulatory agencies.

William McCartney, IV, CFM
Coastal Zone Management Administrator
(504) 278-4303

Caernarvon Canal Sector Gate

Intersection of Blue Bird and Congressman Herbert Canals

Office of Floodplain Management

Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness

Office of Coastal Zone Management

Pump station discharge into central wetlands
COMMUNITY
EDUCATION &
OUTREACH
OPEN HOUSES

June 10 (3pm-7pm)
Val Reiss Multi-Purpose Center
100 East Magee Street
Chalmette, LA 70043

June 11 (3pm-7pm)
Docville Farm
5124 East St. Bernard Highway
Violet, LA 70092

June 18 (3pm-7pm)
Los Isleños Heritage & Cultural Society Museum Complex
1357 Bayou Road
St. Bernard, LA 70085

St. Bernard
Flood Risk
CONTROL

Over $50 million in hazard mitigation and disaster recovery projects are being implemented

Working Together
Ensuring Safety

St. Bernard Parish and the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District are working to raise awareness and understanding of flood risks so that the citizens of St. Bernard Parish are aware of and can take necessary actions associated with hurricanes, storms and flood events.

THE ESTOPINAL GROUP
A PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS FIRM

Dewberry
Safe Rooms
During hurricane and other extreme weather conditions, the construction of these safe rooms will protect essential personnel while they conduct LBBLD pump station operations. The project will cost an estimated $2.47 million.

Generators
New 300KW generators at the St. Bernard Sheriff’s Office and the St. Bernard Public Works Office will ensure uninterrupted operations of the facilities during power outages caused by natural hazards such as high winds and rain. The diesel fuel powered generators will provide 72 hours of power during emergency conditions. The project will cost an estimated $480,000.

SCADA Computer Monitoring System
The Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) computer monitoring system will remotely monitor all St. Bernard Parish water control assets, including lift stations, water towers, monitoring locations, and pump stations. In the event of a problem during extreme weather conditions, for example, the remote computer ensures that emergency personnel will not have to visit all 104 lift stations individually. The monitoring system will increase efficiency and reduce costs. The project will cost an estimated $3.45 million.

Violet/Dravo Sewer Improvements
New 12-inch pipes will be installed at the Violet and Dravo sewer pump stations. The new pipes will alleviate an existing sewer lift station. The project also includes construction of a new Violet pump station that will improve effectiveness throughout the sewage system. The project will cost an estimated $14.48 million.

Canal Drainage Work
The Congresswoman Helen, Greely, and Blue Bird Canal drainage areas, which encompass 306 acres of land in St. Bernard Parish, will undergo channel bottom regrading, flattening of the side slopes throughout the length of the canals, and replacement of existing pipes to provide more effective stormwater flow. The project will cost an estimated $4.55 million.

LBBLD Pump Engine Upgrades
Pump station upgrades will include the installation of modern engines at Pump Stations #3 and #4, as well as new valves, actuators, and air release valves at Pump Stations #6 and #8. The updated equipment will boost horsepower, reduce standing water removal times, and decrease operational and maintenance costs of the facilities. The project will cost an estimated $6.26 million.

Structure Elevation
This project will pursue elevation, acquisition, and flood proofing of repetitive loss structures in St. Bernard Parish. The elevations will dramatically reduce losses due to flooding and save citizens from emotional and financial hardship. The project will cost an estimated $0.8 million.

Clear Well Pump Station & Raw Water Intake Pipe
A new Clear Well Pump Station will be constructed to replace the current 50-year-old station. The pump station will reduce maintenance costs and leakage and provide for a new water treatment process. The existing damaged Mississippi River raw water intake pipe will be replaced. The project will cost an estimated $3.74 million.

Palmsano Blvd Drainage Improvements
Drainage improvements across 159 acres of the Palmsano Boulevard drainage system will significantly reduce flooding and dramatically improve lift-pump capacity. The improvements will eliminate flood losses by constructing new concrete box culverts and enhancing pumping station efficiency. The project will cost an estimated $8.36 million.
St. Bernard Flood Risk Safety
Your Guide To Parish Safety Programs and Government Officials

The parish government and the levee district share one common goal: reducing the risk of loss of life and property due to natural hazards.

Keep an eye out in the coming months, for important information you can use to protect your property. As we get closer to Hurricane season, it is more important than ever to get familiar with your local information sources and parish officials. We have listed names and contact information here, for your convenience. Please also add this email address to your email contacts so that you will be sure to receive future notifications from this office.

As we approach June, you will want to follow our flood risk mitigation "best practices." A comprehensive list will be available from this office in the coming weeks. We also thought you would like to know exactly what is being done in St. Bernard...
Email Network

• Governing partners
  • Parish Officials
  • SLFPA-E, LBBLD
  • GOHSEP
  • USACE
  • FEMA

• Others
  • NGOs
  • RPCs
  • Civic & Neighborhood Associations
  • Businesses
Briefing

St. Bernard Parish Government & Lake Borgne Basin Levee District Community Education and Outreach
Flood Risk: Safety, Control, and Responsibility

WHAT:
St. Bernard Parish Hazard Mitigation Technical Advisor Michael Hunnicutt and Lake Borgne Basin Levee District Executive Director Nicholas Cali will brief media and community leaders in a short informational session to be held in the Pecan Grove Room at the St. Bernard Parish Government Complex.

They will address the details of the soon to be launched education and outreach campaign, Flood Risk: Safety, Control, and Responsibility, a community project of St. Bernard Parish Government and the Lake Borgne Basin Levee District.

WHEN:
Tuesday, April 15, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

WHERE:
Briefing
Open House

St. Bernard Parish
Flood Risk: Safety, Control, and Responsibility

COMMUNITY EDUCATION
& OUTREACH OPEN HOUSE
3PM-7PM

June 10
Val Reiss Multi-Purpose Center
899 East Magistrate Street
Chalmette, LA 70043

June 11
Docville Farm
5124 East St. Bernard Highway
Violet, LA 70092

June 18
Los Isleños Heritage & Cultural Society Museum Complex
1357 Bayou Road
St. Bernard, LA 70085
Open House Visuals

Distance To Pump Station - Drainage Area 2
Open House Visual

E.J. Gore #5 PS
Intake - Forty Arpent Canal
Discharge - Wetlands to rear of station & Bayou Dupre
Number of pumps - 6
Capacity - 866 CFS
Fills approximately 4.5 olympic sized swimming pools every ten minutes.
Non-Regulatory Products

Flood Risk Products provide an additional look at the information within the floodplain providing more insight on the variability of risk to assist communities.

- **Changes Since Last FIRM (CSLF)**
  - Allows address look-up to review map changes
  - Online and currently available for public use

- **Flood Depth Grids**
  - 10%, 2%, 1% & 0.2% annual chance
  - 1% annual chance

- **Water Surface Elevation Grids**
  - 10%, 2%, 1% & 0.2% annual chance
  - 1% annual chance

- **Flood Risk Grids**
  - Percent annual chance
  - Percent 30-year Mortgage chance

- **Flood Risk Report, Map w/ Average Annualized Loss (AAL) Hazus Level 2**
CSLF Results

Changes Since Last FIRM
- No Change
- SFHA Decrease
- SFHA Increase
- Zone Change (AE -> VE)
- Zone Change (VE -> AE)
Preliminary FIRM Flood Zone Changes

- No SFHA or Zone Change: 80%
- SFHA Decrease: 15%
- SFHA Increase: 3%
- Non-Coastal Zone to Coastal: < 1%
- Coastal Zone to Non-Coastal: < 1%
10-year Depth Grid

10% Event Flood Depth
- <2 feet
- 2 - 13 feet
- >13 feet

Mississippi River Levee (MRL)
Forty Arpent Canal Levee
100-year Depth Grid

1% Event Flood Depth
- <2 feet
- 2 - 13 feet
- >13 feet

Mississippi River Levee (MRL)

Forty Arpent Canal Levee
The Risk Communications Guidebook for Local Officials

Online access to tools, templates and ideas for sharing information and communicating about local risk with residents and business owners.

St. Bernard Key Messages

• Remember, anywhere it can rain, it can flood.

• Nearly $2 billion of infrastructure is in place to protect the citizens of St. Bernard Parish.

• Residents should help keep storm drains clear of debris during storms (not to rely solely on local government or others).

• When trash or lawn clippings are blown or washed into the storm drains, you are compromising the safety of your family and home.
St. Bernard Key Messages

• Support coastal restoration efforts in your area such as plantings (cypress trees, marsh grass, etc.), and sediment trapping.

• Retrofitting your home to prevent damage from high winds by strengthening the structural frame.

• Reinforcing garage doors.

• Ensure you are conforming to local building codes. You can find information on these codes at the St. Bernard Parish Office of Safety and Permits.
HMGP Projects, $51.8 million

• Safe Rooms
• Generators
• Sewer Improvements
• Canal Drainage Improvements
• Pump Engine Upgrades
• Home Elevations
• New Pump Station & Raw Water Intake Pipe
• SCADA System
Conclusion

• St. Bernard Parish & Lake Borgne Basin Levee District leadership is passionate about education to ensure safety

• Hope is that citizens
  • Understand true risk
  • Understand interior drainage better
  • Take action to reduce risk
  • Implement simple tactics that also reduce risk

• Risk MAP Products can be used to target citizens
Questions?

jdaniels@dewberry.com

Sorry I couldn’t be there. Thanks, Duncan!