

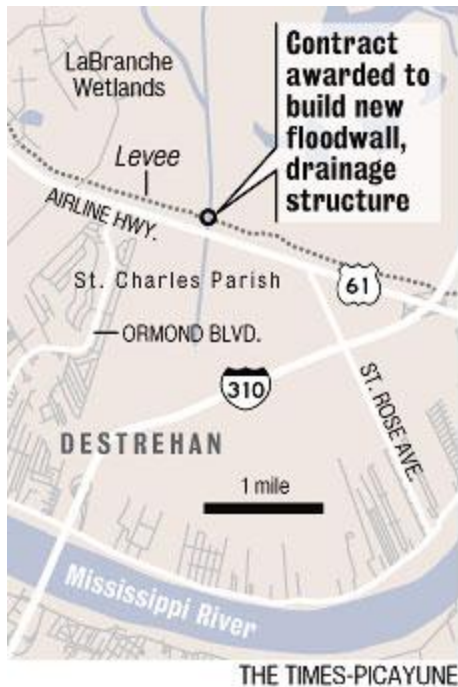


Corps of Engineers awards St. Charles levee contract

By Matt Scallan, The Times-Picayune

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The Army Corps of Engineers has awarded a \$9.5 million contract to build a new floodwall at Cross Bayou in the St. Charles Parish East Bank Hurricane Protection levee.



The new floodwall, which includes a drainage structure that can be closed during periods of tidal flooding, will be built north of the existing structure, which will be demolished when the new structure is complete in the spring of 2011.

"Construction will not interfere with drainage in St. Charles Parish," says Brad Drouant, project manager. "We are taking measures to maintain drainage throughout the duration of the contract."

The contract was awarded to Lakeshore Engineering Services of Detroit.

In a separate project, the Pontchartrain Levee District is building a pump station on the bayou's western bank that is designed to pump rainwater over the levee, reducing flooding in the parish's populated areas.

The district is using using federal credits for previous levee work, federal and state funding and contributions from industry and levee district to build the station,

The district's Board of Commissioners awarded an \$18.9 million contract to build the station two weeks ago to BLD Services of Kenner two weeks ago.