

1 Introduced August 22, 2023 by Councilman
2 DiSanti

3
4 **RESOLUTION R23-22**

5 A resolution in support of the United States Army Corps of Engineers St.
6 Tammany Parish LA Feasibility Study Plan.

7
8 WHEREAS St. Tammany Parish is a thriving community and is the 4th most
9 populated parish in Louisiana with a population exceeding 270,000 people. The Parish
10 also has a growing labor force currently totaling over 118,000 workers; and

11
12 WHEREAS St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana has experienced major
13 devastation and significant flooding from severe hurricanes and tropical storms such as
14 Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Isaac. The United States Army Corps of Engineers
15 (USACE) states, "St. Tammany Parish has experienced repeated widespread flooding
16 from rainfall and riverine bank overtopping, waves, and storm surge, including historic
17 impacts during Hurricane Katrina in August of 2005 and recently with the flood of August of
18 2016. Hurricane Katrina damaged over 48,000 residential structures, causing \$1.45 billion
19 in damages. These flood events caused major disruptions, damages, and economics
20 impacts to St. Tammany Parish."; and

21
22 WHEREAS in 2020 the USACE initiated a multi-year Feasibility Study for the
23 entire area of St Tammany Parish which included the development of an Integrated
24 Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement; and

25
26 WHEREAS the goal of the St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana Feasibility Study is
27 to reduce the severity of flood damages and risk to public health and safety, caused by
28 heavy rainfall, riverine flooding, tropical storms and hurricanes; and

29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39

1
2 **RESOLUTION R23-22**
3 **PAGE 2**

4 WHEREAS flood risk in St. Tammany Parish is multifaceted and complex,
5
6 requiring the strategic use of both structural protection and non-structural protection
7 projects to address the diverse needs of vulnerable communities; and
8

9 WHEREAS the USACE St. Tammany Parish LA Feasibility Study plan
10 includes both structural flood risk reduction (levees, floodwalls, floodgates, and pump
11 stations) as well as non-structural flood risk reduction (elevations and flood proofing) within
12 areas at risk of flooding including both the coastal zone and riverine flood prone areas in
13 St. Tammany Parish; and
14
15
16

17 WHEREAS the USACE St. Tammany Parish LA Feasibility Study selected
18 project features consist of the following: (1) Non-structural – Home Elevations and
19 Floodproofing for over 6,400 residential and non-residential structures across the Parish,
20 (2) Mile Branch Channel Improvements – 2.2 miles of channel improvements along the
21 lower reaches of Mile Branch, and (3) South Slidell and West Slidell Levee and Floodwall
22 System – Structural protection consisting of 18.5 miles of levee, floodwalls, pump stations
23 and gate structures; and
24
25
26
27

28 WHEREAS the USACE St. Tammany Parish LA Feasibility Study selected
29 project features result in a total project cost of \$4,452,059,000, benefits of \$402,762,000,
30 and a benefit to cost ratio of 2.4; and
31
32


33 WHEREAS the State Louisiana (CPRA), the St Tammany Parish Government,
34 the City of Slidell, and the St Tammany Levee, Drainage and Conservation District have all
35 invested significant funding and efforts to initiate these and other critical flood risk
36 reduction projects across St. Tammany Parish; and
37
38
39


1
2 **RESOLUTION R23-22**
3 **PAGE 3**

4 WHEREAS the USACE St. Tammany Parish LA Feasibility Study Plan would
5
6 further these State and Local efforts and further reduce flood risk to approximately 26,600
7
8 structures in the study area and approximately 70,000 residents.

9 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Slidell City Council that it fully
10
11 supports the USACE St. Tammany Parish LA Feasibility Study Plan so that the St.
12
13 Tammany Parish citizens can be provided with reductions in the severity of flood damages
14
15 and reductions in risk to public health and safety, caused by heavy rainfall, riverine
16
17 flooding, tropical storms, and hurricanes.

18 **ADOPTED** this 22nd day of August, 2023.

19
20 
21
22 Kenny Tamborella
23 President of the Council
24 Councilman, District E

25 
26 Thomas P. Reeves
27 Council Administrator

28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39