

2014 Semi-Annual Report June 2014

The Morganza Action Coalition (MAC) worked diligently during the first half of 2014 in order to secure federal authorization for the Morganza to the Gulf (MTG) hurricane protection project. After 20 years, Morganza was finally authorized in the Water Resources Reform Development Act (WRRDA), which was signed by the President in June. This is a major milestone for the Morganza project.

MAC has worked tirelessly on Capitol Hill over the past 12 months to ensure the Morganza project would be in a position for authorization. We made numerous trips to Washington and we engaged our federal lobbyist, The Alpine Group (Mike Henry), to represent us on a day-to-day basis. We made sure that we met with the key Congressional members who served on the Conference Committee and informed them of the project and the need for federal authorization.

Achieving a federal authorization now makes the project eligible for federal funding and will allow us to implement cost saving measures, such as streamlining the environmental permitting process and consolidating mitigation efforts. MAC will continue our work on the local, state and federal level. We will be working to secure federal appropriations, maintain relationships with our federal partners, and work with the State on the design, construction and funding of the HNC Lock. MAC will continue to engage our federal lobbyist to pursue any federal funding opportunities and to further develop our relationship with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who is now the federal partner on the project.

Approximately \$265 million of local and state funding has been allocated for MTG construction projects. Recent projects completed include the Bubba Dove Floodgate on the Houma Navigational Canal, The Bayou Grand Calliou Floodgate, Reach G1 and many other projects. TLCD is currently wrapping up construction on approximately four miles of levees named Reach F of MTG. In addition, there are approximately six miles of levees under construction between Bayou Little Caillou and the Houma Navigational Canal. These reaches are referred to as Reaches G2 and H1. The Bayou Little Calliou Floodgate is also under construction and will be complete by the 2015 hurricane season. Future work will consist of construction of Reach E along Falgout Canal Road and the Falgout Canal Floodgate. These two projects should be under construction by the fall of this year.

The state of Louisiana has dedicated funds to complete the design of the HNC Lock Complex, which is expected to take approximately 18-24 months.

MAC will continue our steadfast commitment to build comprehensive hurricane protection for our communities. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Lori LeBlanc at 985.209.7932 or lori@lorileblancllc.com.

MAC Executive Committee

Sharon Bergeron, President; Darrin Guidry, Vice President; Jay Walker, Secretary; Jean Marmande, Treasurer; Jane Arnette; J.J. Buquet III; Gordon Crow; Alexis Duval; C. Berwick Duval, II; Jack Moore; Stephen Smith; Reggie Dupre – ex officio member