

Morganza Action Coalition
AUGUST 21, 2018

WHEREAS, the Morganza Action Coalition ("MAC") was formed by community leaders in Terrebonne Parish in 2006 as a nonprofit organization with a primary purpose of implementing the Morganza to the Gulf Hurricane ("MTG") Protection Project, a project deemed necessary by the findings of a 1992 "reconnaissance study" directed by the United States Congress and conducted by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (the "Corps"), which concluded that hurricane storm surge protection was needed in South-Central Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the reconnaissance study and subsequent additional studies have cost in excess of \$72 million federal dollars to date, with not one federal dollar having been appropriated to construction of the MTG project and, in fact, New Start Designation has not even been granted by the Corps to enable the project to receive federal funding; and

WHEREAS, MTG has been authorized three (3) times by the United States Congress:

- 1) First, the U.S. Congress granted "Contingent Authorization" of the MTG Project in the 2000 Federal Water Resources and Develop Act (WRDA), contingent upon the Corps having a signed "Chief's Report" by December 31, 2000, which authorization expired because the Chief's Report was not timely issued, without explanation or justification;
- 2) Second, the US Congress granted full authorization of the MTG Project in the 2007 WRDA using a \$888 Million Dollar construction estimate provided to Congress by the Corps; however, less than six months after Congressional authorization, the Corps determined that the construction estimate provided by them to Congress was not \$888 Million Dollars, but was more likely in excess of \$10 Billion Dollars due to post-Katrina design standards, which required a third major study called the Post Authorization Change ("PAC") Report;
- 3) Third, in December 2014, the US Congress granted full authorization of the MTG Project using a \$10.3 Billion Dollar Corps cost estimate (the "Current Authorization"); and

WHEREAS, the residents of Terrebonne & Lafourche Parishes, have suffered consistently and considerably from the ravages of hurricanes, storm surges and erosion and have aggressively, consistently and prudently taxed themselves over the past seventeen years, first in 2001 with a one-quarter ($\frac{1}{4}$)-cent sales tax, and again in 2012 with a one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$)-cent sales tax, to implement the MTG Project in hope and in full confidence that their efforts would serve to impress upon our federal government, the Corps, and our federal delegation of representatives and senators of our resolve and of the sense of urgency and need for MTG storm surge protection through federal participation; and

WHEREAS, presently, in excess of \$400 million dollars in state and local construction investment has been made along the MTG alignment and another \$387 million dollars is committed with the addition of the Houma Navigation Canal lock, which represents in excess of three-quarters ($\frac{3}{4}$) of a billion dollars of non-Federal investment in this Federal project.

WHEREAS, the recent announcement that the Corps received \$600 Million Dollars in discretionary spending for Louisiana projects with no money coming to MTG coupled with the failure of the Corps to grant New Start Designation to MTG has created a sense of urgency, disappointment and frustration in the communities of Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes and throughout South-Central Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, WE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the Morganza Action Coalition, acutely share the sense of urgency, disappointment and frustration of the people of Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes at the lack of federal participation in MTG and plead for immediate New Start Designation and for federal construction funding for MTG at the earliest possible time.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED, that the Morganza Action Coalition Board of Directors hereby respectfully and urgently requests the support of the United States Federal Government in granting a "New Start" designation and appropriating construction funding for the Morganza to the Gulf Hurricane Risk Reduction Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be submitted to United States President Donald Trump, members of the Louisiana Congressional Delegation, Assistant Secretary of the Army R.D. James, Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards, CPRA Chairman Johnny Bradberry, members of the Terrebonne & Lafourche Parish State

Legislative Delegation, U. S. Army MG Richard Kaiser, and U.S. Army Corps Col. Michael Clancy

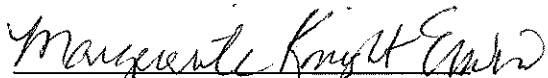
YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT AND/OR NOT VOTING:

The resolution was adopted on the 21st day of August, 2018.

THE FOREGOING IS CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY.



Marguerite Knight Erwin

Secretary

Morganza Action Coalition