

Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** January 8, 2018 Contact: Chuck Perrodin (o) 225-342-7615

## Public Hearings Scheduled for CPRA's Draft Fiscal Year 2019 Annual Plan

In accordance with Louisiana Legislative Act 8 of the First Extraordinary Session of 2005, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) was created to develop, implement, and enforce a comprehensive protection and restoration Master Plan for Louisiana. While the Master Plan looks out over 50 years and outlines a comprehensive suite of projects, implementing them requires funding.

CPRA's Annual Plan: *Integrated Ecosystem Restoration and Hurricane Protection in Coastal Louisiana* is the mechanism by which the state outlines projected revenues and expenditures for the upcoming Fiscal Year and two additional fiscal year cycles; project implementation schedules are also outlined.

Beginning this evening, the first of three public hearings are scheduled to present the Draft FY 2019 Annual Plan and to receive public comment on the plan. Public comment can be submitted in person at the hearing(s) in writing or verbally, taken into record by a court reporter.

- 5:30 p.m. Open House, CPRA Exhibit and Annual Plan materials;
- 6:30–7:30 p.m. Presentation on the Draft FY 2019 Annual Plan and public comment session.

January 8, 2018 Belle Chasse Auditorium 8398 LA Hwy 23 Belle Chasse, LA 70037 January 9, 2018 Houma Terrebonne Civic Center 346 Civic Center Boulevard Houma, LA 70360

## January 10, 2018

Lake Charles Civic Center 900 Lakeshore Drive Lake Charles, LA 70601

- Written comments can also be emailed to: <u>Coastal@LA.gov</u> Subject Line: Public Comment
- Written comments can sent via postal mail to: Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority, Public Comment, 150 Terrace Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70802; letters must be mailed to arrive no later than February 12, 2018.
- Public comments will be accepted until February 12, 2018.

Once approved by the CPRA Board, the FY 2019 Annual Plan will be sent to the legislature as the funding request for expenditures in the coming fiscal year to Master Plan projects that are in the process of moving toward construction. Visit <u>http://coastal.la.gov/</u> for more detailed information and a copy of the Draft FY 2019 Annual Plan.

The Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority notified the parish governing authorities, regional flood protection authorities, levee districts, and the state legislators of the parishes in the coastal zone of the public hearing to be held in their area, for the purpose of soliciting their comments and recommendations on the Draft FY 2019 Annual Plan.

## ###

Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority is the single state entity with authority to develop, articulate, implement, and enforce a comprehensive coastal protection and restoration Master Plan of unified vision to reduce hurricane storm surge flood impact, to restore our bountiful natural resources, to build land to protect our nation's critical energy infrastructure, and to secure Louisiana's coast now and for future generations.