

Notice and Certification to Hold Video Conference Meeting

Coastal Protection and Restoration Board of Louisiana

The Coastal Protection and Restoration Board (CPRA Board) has scheduled a regular monthly meeting for March 18, 2020. Such meeting must occur on March 18th to assure that the Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Plan: Integrated Ecosystem Restoration and Hurricane Protection in Coastal Louisiana (Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Plan) is approved by the CPRA Board and timely submitted to the Louisiana Legislature no later than March 23, 2020, as legally mandated by La. R.S. 49:214.5.3. Pursuant to law and in an effort to provide for maximum input from all interested parties, the CPRA Board, through the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA), has previously formulated the Annual Plan, using the best science and engineering information available; subjected the Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Plan to a period of duly conducted public hearings in New Orleans on January 6, 2020, in Houma on January 7, 2020, and in Lake Charles on January 8, 2020; has engaged critical stakeholder groups, local governments, federal partners and review by independent science and engineering experts; and received review, comment, and recommendations from the public and elected officials through February 22, 2020. Any delay in approval and implementation of the Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Plan would hinder Louisiana's ability to address the state of crisis and emergency that has been declared to exist in the coastal area of Louisiana, as defined by La. R.S. 49:214.2(4), the effects of which continue to threaten the lives, property, health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Louisiana as set forth originally in Proclamation Number 43 JBE 2017 and as continued through current Proclamation Number 22 JBE 2020.

In an effort to reduce and limit the spread of COVID-19 in Louisiana, and to preserve the health and safety of all members of the public, the Governor has declared the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency in addition to the coastal emergency and ordered that it is necessary to limit public gathers in a single place at the same time in an effort to avoid individuals being in close proximity to one another. As a result of the public emergency, the limitations imposed on public gatherings and personal interactions, and the need for a number of members to travel to any physical meeting location from parishes where confirmed cases of COVID-19 have occurred, the Chairman of the CPRA Board hereby certifies that in order to protect the lives, property, health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Louisiana, it is necessary to conduct the CPRA Board Meeting on March 18, 2020 by teleconference or video conference in order to assure the presence of a quorum of the board members and to timely approve the Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Plan.

Therefore, in accord with Section 4 of Governor's Proclamation Number 30 JBE 2020: Additional Measures for COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, the Chairman of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Board of Louisiana CPRA will hold its March board meeting virtually.

The board meeting's only agenda item will be the approval of the Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Plan. CPRA will utilize the online platform Zoom to livestream the board meeting. Public comments will accepted during the livestream of the meeting. To submit a comment, please use the chat feature at the bottom of the web page. Comments will be read aloud at the conclusion of Executive Director Bren Haase's presentation.

The livestream will be available [here](#) beginning at 9:00 am on Wednesday, March 18.

The Annual Plan PowerPoint presentation and the Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Plan PDF will be available [here](#) [<http://coastal.la.gov/our-plan/annual-plan/>] no later than COB on Tuesday, March 17.

For questions regarding the virtual board meeting, please email coastal@la.gov.