



Flood Risk Mitigation 20 Years Post-Katrina

City of New Orleans
August 20, 2025

Flood Mitigation in New Orleans

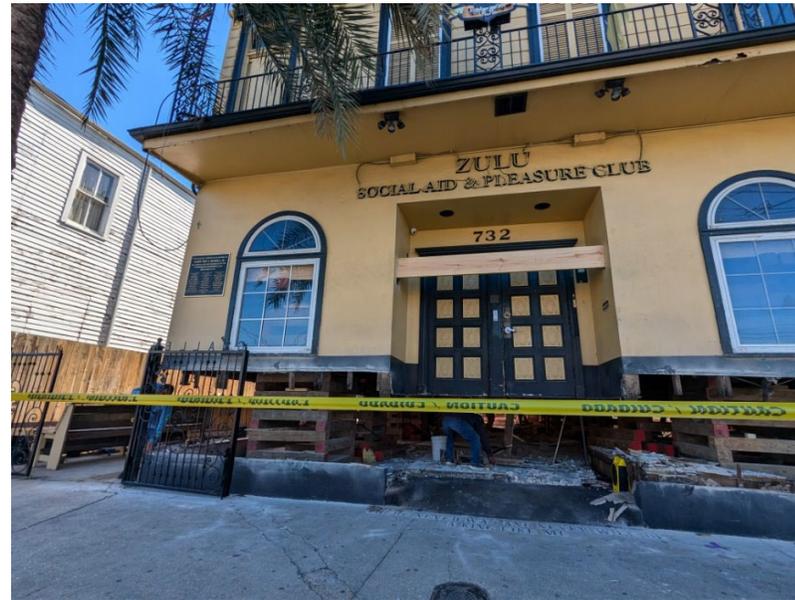
- I. Resilient Buildings
- II. Coastal Flood Protection
- III. Stormwater improvements and plans
- IV. Environmental Monitoring and Early Warning Systems

Planning Framework



Resilient Buildings: Home Elevation and Historic Preservation

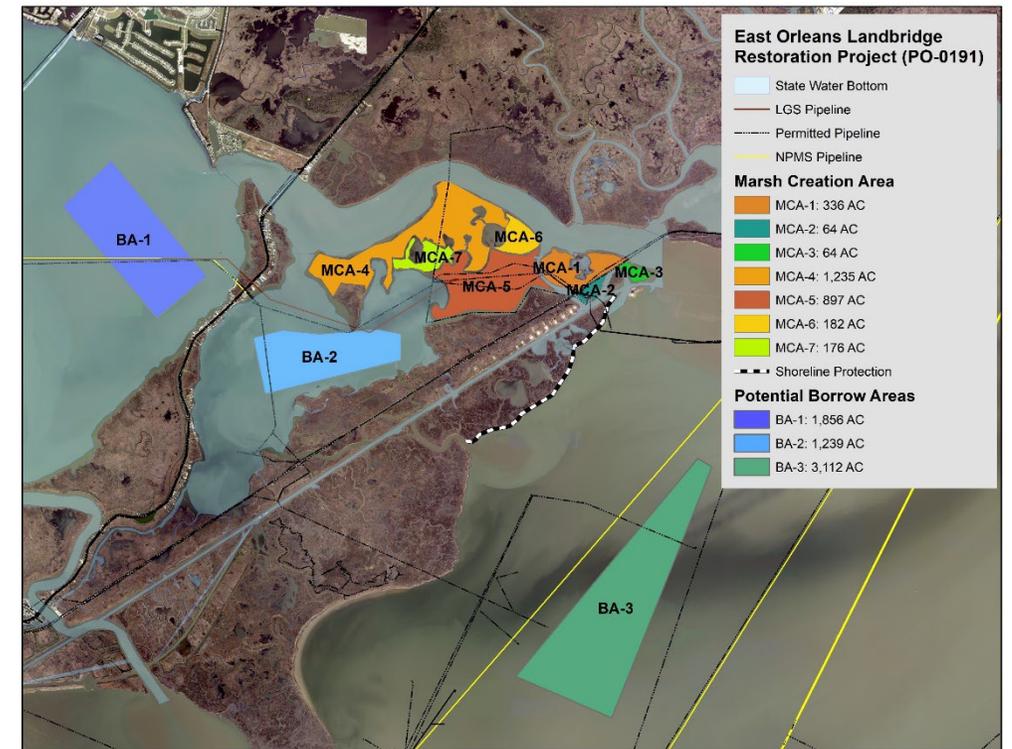
- Higher than minimum elevation standards
- No more slab on grade, elevated on fill
- Balancing historic preservation and risk mitigation
- Reduced property damages from lower-level flash floods



NO East Landbridge PO-0191

Preliminary Engineering and Design

- Innovative Partnerships
- Advancing projects identified in State Coastal Master Plan and MRGO restoration plan
- Preliminary design funding through National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- 30% design completed 2023, pending NRDA funding to complete design



Bayou Bienvenue Restoration

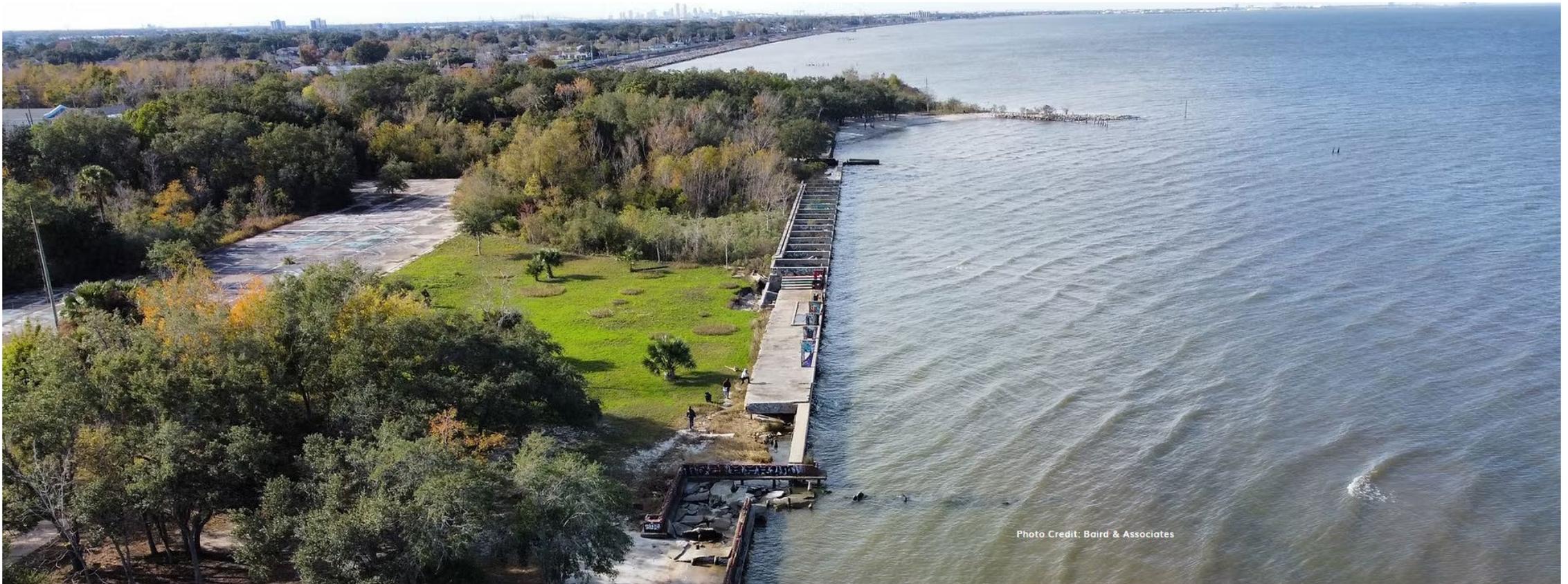
Partnership in Design

- The Water Institute
- Center for Sustainable Engagement and Design
- National Wildlife Foundation
- Nunez Community College
- City of New Orleans
- Funding: NOAA and NFWF



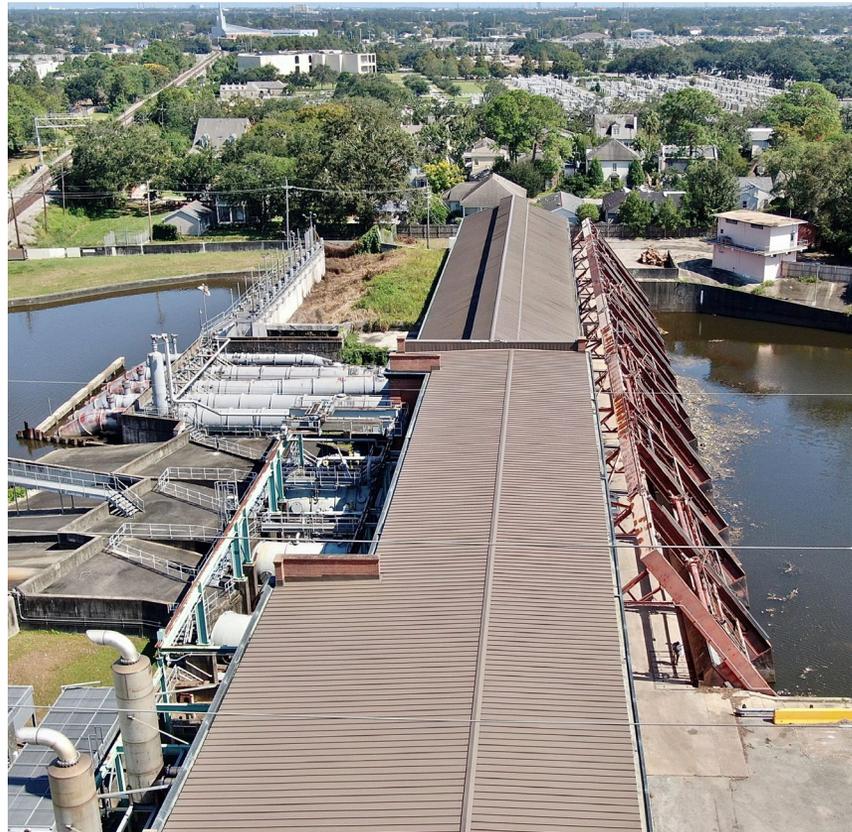
Lincoln Beach Redevelopment

Recreational and Cultural Connections



Drainage Infrastructure Improvements

Repairs and Upgrades to Pipes, Canals and Pumps



Green Stormwater Infrastructure

Nature-Based Flood Mitigation

- Repurposing vacant urban space
- Can provide multiple environmental and social benefits
- Complimentary to canal and pump drainage system



Mirabeau Water Garden

- 25 acre site owned by Sisters of Saint Joseph
- Conceived in 2008
- Funding: FEMA and HUD



Photo: ORS

New Project Development

H+H Study and Stakeholder Engagement

- Design funding through FEMA's FMA and BRIC programs
 - Upper Ninth Ward Bunny Friend
 - Hung Dao Gardens
- Lakeview / West End / Mid City H+H studies

Stormwater Master Planning

Next Generation of Drainage Improvements

- Standardizing model maintenance and version control
- High-resolution modeling focused on urban flooding
- Leverage new local monitoring data for calibration/validation
- ID and Prioritize Grey and Green infrastructure improvements

Flood Warning System

Remote data collection and alerting

- 12 Pilot Sites Installed 2019 after a series of flash floods
- Added WeatherStem MET stations in 2022
- Added 50 new sites in summer 2024
- Developing flood mapping capability

Objectives/Applications:

- Road Safety
- Public Information
- Emergency Response and Recovery
- Planning, Modeling and Risk Assessment





Thank You

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