



SEWERAGE AND WATER BOARD OF NEW ORLEANS

ANNUAL REPORT ON SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA URBAN FLOOD PREVENTION PLAN 2025



SECTION 1. BACKGROUND

Pursuant to La. R.S. 33:4072.A, “[a]t the beginning of every quarter, the Coastal Protection Restoration Authority, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, the Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, and representatives from the Jefferson Parish Department of Public Works, the Saint Bernard Parish Department of Public Works, and the Plaquemines Parish Engineering & Public Works Department shall meet with the executive director of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and his team to develop a coordinated southeast Louisiana urban flood prevention plan. The purposes of the meetings shall be to identify areas that need to be addressed in order to allow for proper drainage, to model and predict storm drainage in the multi-parish area, and to anticipate emergency response priorities. The plan shall be presented to the members of the New Orleans Delegation and the city council of New Orleans annually on May fifteenth, beginning May 15, 2025.”¹

SECTION II. ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2025

The Southeast Louisiana urban flood prevention plan working group met quarterly in 2024 in accordance with La. R.S. 33:4072.A. The first meeting took place on April 2, 2025, and included representatives from the following agencies:

- City of New Orleans (CNO)
- Governor’s Office
- Greater New Orleans, Inc. (GNO Inc)
- Infrastructure Advisory Board
- Jefferson Parish
- Plaquemines Parish
- Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO)
- United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

The meeting began with status updates on drainage operations from the USACE. Items included possible incorporation of Kenner into the SELA program, BCA progress on the Hoey’s Basin Project, and progress of the 533d study of drainage pump stations along the 17th St. and London Avenue Canals. Jefferson Parish discussed several drainage pump station improvement projects in various stages, as well as capital outlay requests that would increase drainage to/through the Monticello Canal by both Jefferson Parish and SWBNO. The CNO office of Resilience and Sustainability discussed

¹ Act 763 of the Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, 2024.



two completed Hydrologic and Hydraulic (H&H) studies in West End and Lakeview with viable projects identified in both areas. A third study in Mid-City was also completed with a report due within the next 30 days. They noted that 4 projects were submitted for federal funding opportunities.

The working group then discussed regional planning and modeling initiatives, including the potential benefits of large-scale H&H modeling and the importance of modeling short-duration rainfall events.

The second meeting of the working group took place on July 16th, 2025, and included representatives from the following agencies:

- Governor's Office
- Greater New Orleans, Inc. (GNO Inc)
- Infrastructure Advisory Board
- Jefferson Parish
- St. Charles Parish
- Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO)
- Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DoTD)

This meeting began with status updates on drainage operations. Jefferson parish noted that they have a capital request under review for the Monticello Canal project, and SWNO is to review scope and outlay request to ensure compliance with request intent/language. SWBNO also shared their initial findings on their investigation of catch basins and laterals following transfer of responsibility of the minor drainage to SWBNO, noting a large quantity of debris in over 50% of lines investigated.

Next, the group discussed hurricane preparedness. SWBNO, Jefferson Parish, and St. Charles Parish did not note any staffing concerns in anticipation of increased demand. SWBNO noted all 3 turbines in operation, with the Power Complex anticipated to replace the turbines as primary power generation infrastructure. The group also discussed drainage pumping. SWBNO noted that 86 of its 93 major pumps were in service, and St. Charles parish outlined ongoing drainage pump station projects and the construction of new culverts.

Regional initiatives were then discussed. SWBNO shared that they received a presentation from FloodID whose modeling could be useful relative to specific pumps being in or out of service.

The meeting concluded after briefly discussing the drafting of the 2024 annual report.



The third quarterly meeting took place on September 19, 2025, and included representatives from the following agencies:

- City of New Orleans (CNO)
- Governor's Office
- Greater New Orleans, Inc. (GNO Inc)
- Infrastructure Advisory Board
- Jefferson Parish
- Plaquemines Parish Department of Public Works
- St. Charles Parish
- St. Bernard Parish
- Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO)
- Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DoTD)
- United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority

Senator Jimmy Harris was also in attendance.

The meeting began with follow-up items from the previous meeting. USACE provided an update on the Hoey's Basin project. SWBNO shared that their CEA with CNO was executed relative to the Monticello Canal project, with design solicitation anticipated between Q4 2025 and Q1 2026. SWBNO also updated the group in the cleaning of small diameter drainage, noting the launch of a work order dashboard the following week, and coordination with DoTD on drainage within state highways. Lastly, SWBNO noted that the Power Complex would soon be coming online.

The group then shared other drainage status updates. Plaquemines parish noted that 6 drainage pump station repair projects would be complete by mid-2026. Several other capacity increase projects were noted as pending design solicitations. CNO informed the group they received the report from their Mid-City H&H study and would submit to SWBNO for secondary review. They also noted that modeling is underway for Algiers and Lower 9th Ward neighborhoods.

Regional initiatives were then discussed. Items discussed included DoTD cleaning of small drainage along state highways, and SWBNO and St. Bernard Parish cleaning drainage along Jackson Barracks. GNO Inc. concluded the meeting by discussing their work in tracking legislation and funding opportunities in Washington, DC.



The last quarterly meeting took place on December 11, 2025, and included representatives from the following agencies:

- City of New Orleans (CNO)
- Governor's Office
- Water Institute
- Infrastructure Advisory Board (IAB)
- Jefferson Parish
- United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
- Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO)

The meeting began with updates on regional initiatives. The group received a FloodID modeling update presentation, and discussed two options for truthing data- hyfy and RTCC camera data. CNO took the action to coordinate with FloodID on this exchange of information.

The group then shifted to status updates from regional entities. Jefferson Parish provided status updates on several DPS projects, with Vets pump stations set to be turned on within the next 1-2 months. SWBNO shared that 3 major drainage pumps would soon be coming online, and that the small diameter drainage dashboard is operational. They also shared that 2 of the 3 frequency changers at the Power Complex were now online.