



**Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay**  
**Coastal Storm Risk Management Program**

# FREEPORT PROJECT OVERVIEW



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
Galveston District



## Project Overview

The Freeport Project is a partnership of USACE and its non-Federal sponsor, the Velasco Drainage District. Design and construction costs for the project are shared between these two entities (approximately 65% Federal / 35% non-Federal), with USACE being responsible for managing construction, while the Velasco Drainage District will operate and maintain the system moving forward.

Authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1962, the existing hurricane flood protection system was constructed by USACE and consists of approximately 43 miles of levees, floodwalls, and associated coastal storm risk management infrastructure. In the face of stronger storms and rising seas, improvements are necessary to increase the level of protection (risk reduction) provided by the system.

Specific features authorized for design and construction as part of the Freeport Project include:

- The raising of approximately 13 miles of existing levees
- The addition or reconstruction of approximately 6 miles of floodwall, including tie-in structures and road closure gates
- The addition of a navigable sector gate on the Dow Barge Canal
- Upgrades to an existing pump station and multiple drainage structures

Importantly, nearly all improvements proposed will be constructed within the footprint of the existing hurricane flood protection system (and within Velasco Drainage District easements/rights-of-way). Furthermore, the project is designed to maintain or increase the level of flood protection with no adverse impact to the area.

## Project Background

Along the Texas coast, vital resources critical to the social, economic, and environmental welfare of the region and the nation are at risk. When hurricanes or tropical storms come ashore in Texas, the immediate fallout and the continued aftermath affects not only the people who live in these coastal counties, but also the entire nation.

To increase the resiliency of the upper Texas coast, the Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Coastal Storm Risk Management Program (S2G Program) has been established by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and its non-Federal sponsors to deliver cost-effective and ecologically-sound solutions to reduce risk from coastal storm surge to communities, businesses, and industry in Orange, Jefferson, and Brazoria Counties.

The S2G Program is comprised of three unique projects: improvements to existing hurricane flood protection systems in the Freeport area (the Freeport Project) and the Port Arthur area (the Port Arthur Project), and the construction of a new coastal storm risk management system in southern Orange County (the Orange Project).



# Freeport Project Overview

\*Not to scale and for illustrative purposes only

- Improved/Replaced Levees
- New Levees
- Improved/Replaced Floodwalls
- New Surge Gates
- New Pump Stations

Lake Jackson

Clute

Oyster Creek

## Project Status

The Freeport Project is currently in the Pre-construction Engineering and Design (PED) phase. During this phase, the project alignment is refined, and the design of all project features is finalized. Importantly, as the project is still in development, the detailed design of the features presented in this brochure are still subject to change. On the Freeport Project, USACE and the Velasco Drainage District plan to make nearly all improvements to the system within the existing project alignment. As such, once the work is done, the project will look very similar to how it does today. However, the enhancements will better safeguard the communities protected by the system from coastal storm surge in the future.

Updates on the design of the project can be found on the project's website and StoryMap, both of which can be accessed through the QR codes on the back of this brochure.

Surfside Beach

Freeport

Quintana

288

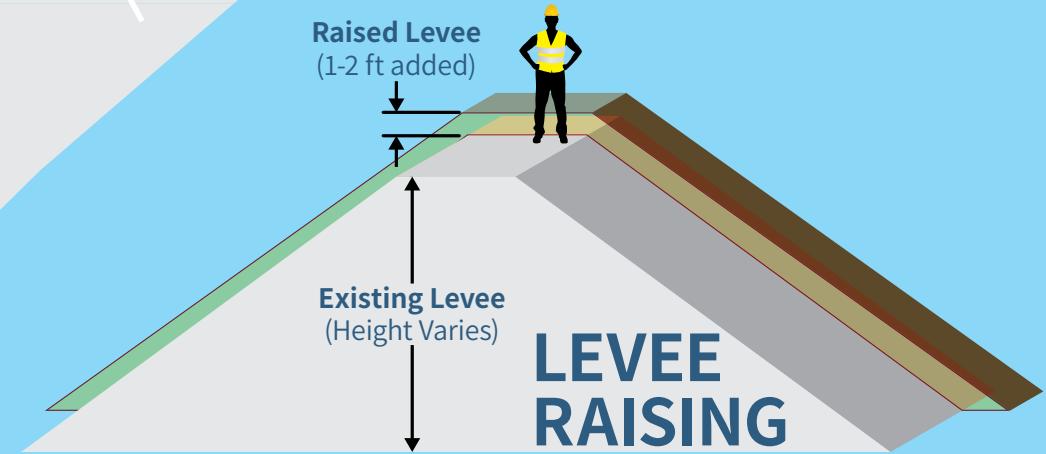
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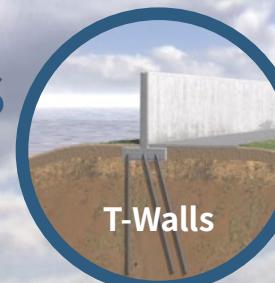
## What to Expect in the Construction Phase

Once the design is finalized, and any necessary real estate acquisition (the responsibility of the non-Federal sponsor) is completed, construction packages will go out for bid to private contractors. The number of construction contracts will depend on the size and complexity of the scope, with work likely to be grouped either geographically or by common work elements. The selected contractors will construct the project, with oversight by USACE construction staff. Stakeholders will be notified in advance of anticipated impacts during construction and will be provided regular updates on construction progress. The public can expect to see machines and equipment, construction personnel, work zones, and changes in traffic patterns. Construction activities for these types of projects typically include, but are not limited to, utility relocations, land clearing, fill/dirt placement, concrete work, and testing of new or improved systems. In addition, USACE and the Velasco Drainage District are closely coordinating with area industries (e.g. port and petrochemical facilities) and other stakeholders to manage sensitive environmental issues and to minimize disruptions to business operations.

After construction is finished, USACE will conduct final inspections to ensure that the project has been completed as designed. When the project is accepted from the contractor, it will be turned over to the non-Federal sponsor, the Velasco Drainage District, for operation and maintenance. USACE and the Velasco Drainage District will maintain a close relationship after construction is complete and will work together to monitor the project to ensure it continues to provide its intended benefits.



## FLOODWALL COMPONENTS USED IN THIS PROJECT



## Freeport Project Timeline





# We Want to Hear from You!

USACE, in coordination with the Velasco Drainage District, has begun proactively reaching out to stakeholders in the Freeport area to raise community awareness about the project, answer questions and concerns, and provide information about project construction plans.

**S2GFreeport@usace.army.mil**

For more information about the Freeport Project, please visit the project resources provided below:

**Project Website**



**Project StoryMap**

