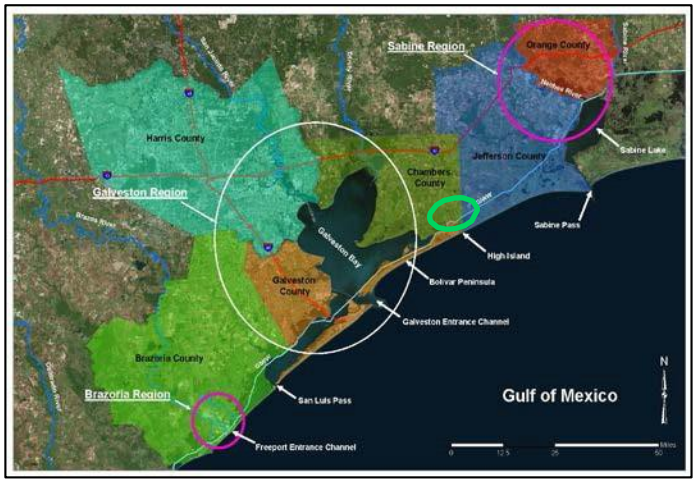
Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay, TX
Supplemental Construction

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS **BUILDING STRONG®**

FACT SHEET as of August 28, 2020



AUTHORIZATION: Section 1401 (3)3., Water Resources Development Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-270).

TYPE OF PROJECT: Hurricane and Coastal Storm Risk Management

PROJECT PHASE: Planning, Engineering and Design & Construction

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST: US Senators Cornyn and Cruz (TX); US Representatives Weber (TX-14), Babin (TX-36), TX Senator Taylor (TX-11),

NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR(S): Texas General Land Office; Velasco Drainage District; Jefferson County Drainage District Number 7; Orange County, TX; Orange County Drainage District, Texas General Land Office

BACKGROUND: The project focus area is a six County area (Galveston, Harris, Brazoria, Jefferson, Chambers and Orange) along the southeast Texas coast. This region is home to more than five million people, three of the Nation's top ten deep-draft ports, and 40 percent of the Nation's petrochemical industry. The Chief's Report for the Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay Project was completed in December 2017. The recommended plan was developed utilizing a region-wide systems approach to achieve the full range of benefits, although the three coastal storm risk management (CSRM) plans are separable and able to function individually. The Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay project recommendation includes (i) increasing the level of performance and resiliency of the existing Port Arthur and Vicinity Hurricane Flood Protection (HFPP) project in Jefferson County, Texas (the Port Arthur and Vicinity CSRM Plan); (ii) the construction of a new levee/floodwall system along the edge of the Sabine and Neches River floodplains from Orange, Texas to the vicinity of Orangefield, Texas that is approximately 26.7-miles; and (iii) increasing the level of performance and resiliency of the existing Freeport and Vicinity HFPP project in Brazoria County, Texas (the Freeport and Vicinity CSRM Plan).

STATUS: The project will be accomplished with Federal funding provided for the disaster recovery in Public law 115-123, the Bipartisan Act of 2018, signed into law February 9, 2018 and cost shared with the non-Federal Partners. The project will result in improvements and additions to the existing coastal storm risk reduction systems in Freeport and Port Arthur, TX, to include levee raises and extensions, and replacement of I-walls with T-walls. It will also include construction of 27 miles of new levees and flood walls, along with 7 new pump stations, 56 drainage structures, and 32 closure gates, in Orange County, TX.

Project Name	Federal cost ($)	Non-Federal cost ($) 1/	Estimated total cost to complete the project ($) 1/
Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay, TX - Freeport-Design and Construction	$457,687,000	$246,447,000	$704,134,000
Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay, TX - Port Arthur - Design and Construction	$560,950,000	$302,050,000	$863,000,000
Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay, TX - Orange - Design and Construction	$1,553,500,000	$836,500,000	$2,390,000,000
TOTAL	$2,572,137,000	$1,384,997,000	$3,957,134,000

1/ Public Law 115-123 provides funding for construction costs with non-federal reimbursement over 30 years after completion of construction.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY ($):	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION	
Federal Cost Estimate	$3,957,134,000	1/
Total Project Cost	$3,957,134,000	
Allocation thru FY 2016	$ 0	
Allocation for FY 2017	$ 0	
Allocation for FY 2018	$ 350,000	
Allocation for FY 2019	$13,400,000	
Allocation Request for FY 2020	$ 0	
Balance of Available Funding	$ 3,943,384,000	2/

1/ The project will be accomplished with 100% Federal funding provided for the disaster recovery in Public law 115-123, the Bipartisan Act of 2018, signed into law February 9, 2018. (NFS electing to cost share as we construct with support funding from the Texas General Land Office)
2/ Balance is included in PL 115-123 funds that have yet to be allocated.

SCHEDULE:

FY 2020 Scheduled Milestones:

Freeport - Awarded programmatic task order in AUG 2020 for PED activity.
- Signing Project Partnership Agreement in SEP 2020.

Orange - Awarded programmatic task order in SEP 2020 for PED activity.
- Signing a Design Agreement in SEP 2020 to complete design work.

Port Arthur - Awarded initial construction contract in April 2020.

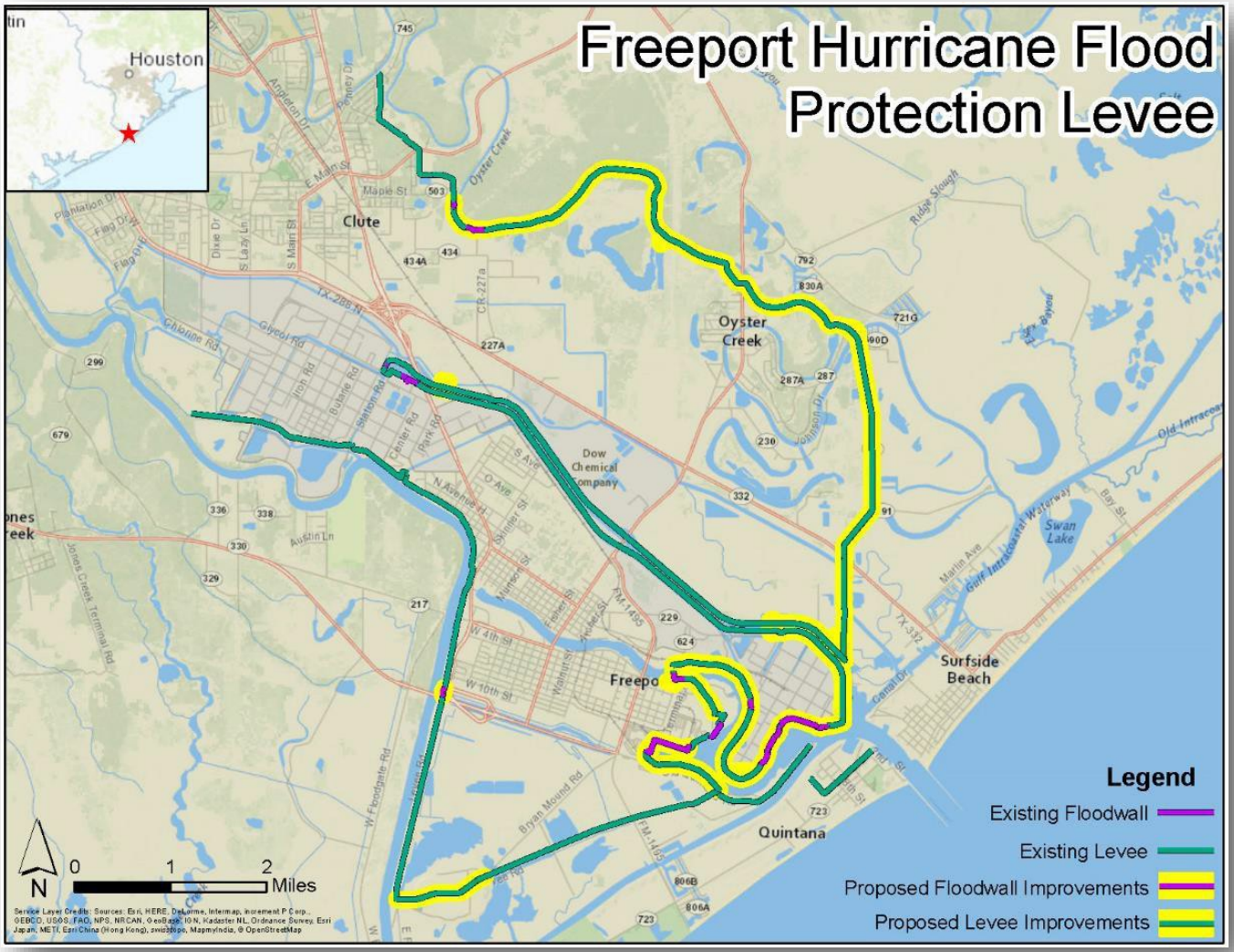
***COMPLETION*:** The estimated construction completion dates:

Freeport - JUNE 2026

Orange - JUNE 2026

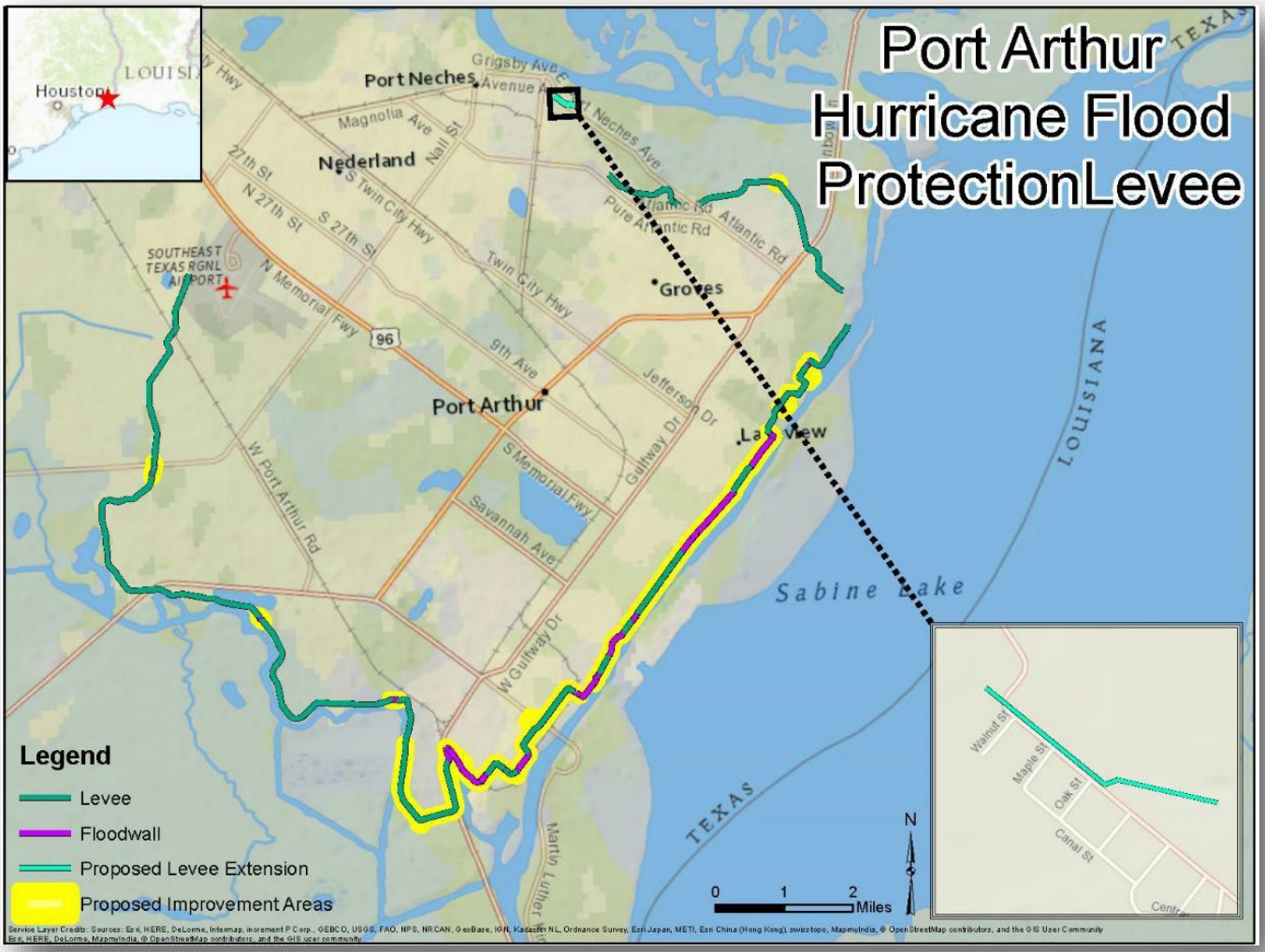
Port Arthur - SEP 2026

For more information regarding the Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay, TX, project, contact Dr. Edmond J. Russo, Jr, P.E. Deputy District Engineer for Project Management at 409-766-3018 or Edmond.J.Russo@usace.army.mil.



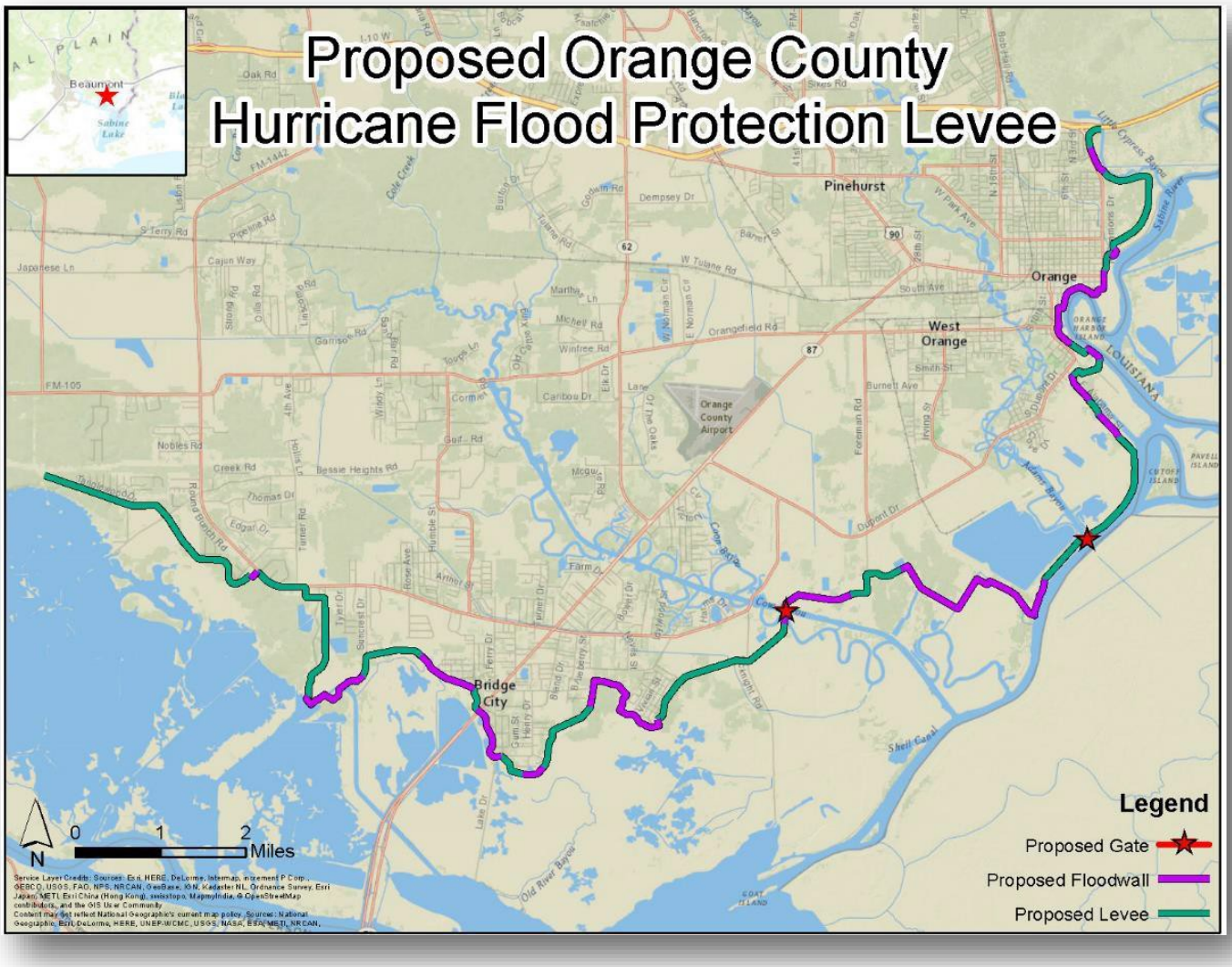
FREEPORT AND VICINITY CSRM PLAN:

The recommended Freeport and Vicinity CSRM Plan would raise approximately 13.1 miles of the existing earthen levee system and construct or reconstruct approximately 5.5 miles of floodwall, improving approximately 43 percent of the existing 43-mile long system. Final elevations would range from 15.8 to 23.8 feet North American Vertical Datum (NAVD) 88. Navigable sector gates would be installed in the Dow Barge Canal to reduce surge penetration in that area. Ten vehicle closure structures at road and railroad crossings would be replaced and erosion protection would be added. Other project features include raising and reconstructing the Highway 332 crossing, installation of four drainage structures, including one at the head of the Dow Barge Canal, and raising the floodwall at Port Freeport's Berth 5 dock. The existing Freeport Harbor Flood Protection Project local sponsor, the Velasco Drainage District, will be the non-Federal cost-sharing sponsor for the Freeport and Vicinity CSRM Plan.



PORT ARTHUR AND VICINITY CSRM PLAN:

The Port Arthur and Vicinity CSRM Plan would raise approximately 5.5 miles of the existing 27.8 miles of earthen levee to elevations ranging from 14.4 to 17.2 feet NAVD 88, and construct or reconstruct approximately 5.7 miles of floodwall to elevations ranging from about 14.4 to 19.4 feet NAVD 88. A separate 1,830 feet of new earthen levee would be constructed in the Port Neches area northwest of the existing northern terminus. Additionally, 26 vehicle closure structures would be replaced and erosion protections would be added. (2) The existing Port Arthur HFPP local sponsor, Jefferson Country Drainage District No. 7, will be the non-Federal cost-sharing sponsor for the Port Arthur and Vicinity CSRM Plan.



ORANGE 3 CSRM PLAN:

The Orange 3 CSRM Plan includes 15.6 miles of newly constructed levee ranging from 12.0 to 17.5 feet NAVD 88 in elevation and 10.7 miles of newly constructed floodwalls and gates ranging from 13.5 to 16 feet NAVD 88. Seven pump stations, 56 drainage structures, and 32 closure gates located at road and railway crossings would be constructed to mitigate interior flooding during surge events. Finally, two navigable sector gates with adjacent vertical lift floodgates for normal channel flows would be constructed in Adams and Cow Bayous to reduce surge penetration. Unavoidable direct and indirect environmental impacts to 2,409 acres of forested wetlands and estuarine marsh associated with the Orange 3 CSRM Plan would be fully compensated by the implementation of the mitigation plan. Monitoring and adaptive management of the mitigation areas will be conducted until the mitigation measures have been demonstrated to be successful. Orange County, Texas and the State of Texas will be the non-Federal cost sharing sponsor for the Orange 3 CSRM Plan.

Talking Points:

<u>USACE Hurricane Protection on the Texas Coast and Response to Hurricane Laura:</u>

- The Army Corps of Engineers Galveston District is in standing partnership with Coastal Storm Flood Control Districts in Orange, Port Arthur and Freeport, TX.

- During Hurricane Laura, the Galveston District Commander co-located with the Orange County Incident Response Center to provide real-time coastal engineering analysis and rapid damage assessment support to the County and County Drainage District. In the event Texas requested support from FEMA, USACE was ready to immediately respond under the National Response Framework.

- Port Arthur and Freeport, TX have existing Hurricane Storm Surge Protective Levee Systems built by the Corps of Engineers and operated by local drainage districts. Jefferson County Drainage District 7 operates the Port Arthur system and Velasco Drainage District operates the Freeport System.

- After Hurricane Harvey, Congress passed the Bipartisan Budget Act in 2018 that fully funded nearly $4B that would provide a new Hurricane Storm Surge Protection System for Orange, TX and improvement of both the existing Port Arthur and Freeport Hurricane Storm Surge Protection Systems so that they would withstand storms with even larger storm surge than Hurricane Laura.

- Current Status - The Corps of Engineers Galveston District is completing design and beginning construction on the Port Arthur improvements with their Partner, Jefferson County Drainage District 7. The Galveston District has also begun design of the new system in Orange, TX with their partner Orange County Drainage District and begin to design the improvements in the Freeport System with their Partners Velasco Drainage District. Combined, all three projects will protect over 100,000 residences, critical infrastructure and industry on the coast from storm surge greater than Hurricane Laura.

- In 2019, the State of Texas passed SB-500 that provided $200M of State funding to fund the initial costs of the non-federal share of the Orange, Port Arthur, and Freeport projects as the Corps proceeds with their local partners.

- The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 also funded to completion the Coastal Texas Resilience and Restoration Study to completion. This Corps of Engineers study, being prepared in partnership with the Texas General Land Office, provides a comprehensive solution that accounts for ongoing Hurricane Protection system improvements in Orange, Port Arthur, and Freeport - and provides a plan for additional Hurricane surge protection for Bolivar Peninsula, Galveston Island and Houston. It also provides comprehensive ecosystem restoration for the Southern Texas Coast which will enhance the environment to mitigate impacts from storm surge. All-together this study will provide a plan for Coastal Resilience for the whole of the Texas Coast. The study is due to be complete in May of 2021.