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Charlotte A. Randolph, *Parish President*

PRESS RELEASE

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Local Officials Head to Washington to Discuss Including Non-certified Levees on FEMA Flood Maps

The inclusion of non-certified levees in FEMA flood modeling is the topic of a roundtable discussion Tuesday in Washington, D.C. in which Lafourche Parish President Charlotte Randolph and North Lafourche Conservation, Levee & Drainage District General Manager Dwayne Bourgeois are participating.

The facilitator is Mary Jo Mullen, who works in the Flood Insurance and Mitigation Directorate of FEMA, in the Risk Analysis Division, which is the flood mapping division of the National Flood insurance Program. She is working with the Levee Analysis and Mapping Project (LAMP) team, specifically related to communications, stakeholder engagement and guidance. This marks the first effort to engage local communities and levee owners in the solution in the process of developing for LAMP.

"Long ago, FEMA and the Corps of Engineers presented Lafourche with new maps that did not recognize the existence of the South Lafourche levee system," said President Randolph. "The initial shock led to further review, which revealed some convoluted flood zones in the Raceland/Bayou Blue area. This procedure needs to change."

LAMP is an effort undertaken by FEMA, at the request of Congress, to develop alternative analysis and mapping methods for non-accredited levees. All ongoing projects with non-accredited levees have been placed on hold by FEMA until this effort is completed. The team has been working for the last several months with a variety of internal technical experts, and they have developed a technical solution and an improved collaborative process for working with communities and levee owners. The internal review process is almost complete, and the next step is to engage communities, states and levee owners to discuss the feasibility of the solution as it stands today, and gain input as how to develop the solution and implementation guidance for the effort.

Other participants in will represent communities in California, New York, Missouri, Florida and other states.

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