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Gov. Edwards Awards More Than $41 Million to Coastal Parishes for LA SAFE Flood-Resilience Projects

BATON ROUGE – Today, Gov. John Bel Edwards awarded more than $41 million to six coastal parishes for flood-resilience improvement projects developed through Louisiana’s Strategic Adaptations for Future Environments (LA SAFE). LA SAFE is an innovative effort championed by the governor to create and implement adaptations to ongoing coastal land loss and rising seas.

“Along with our Coastal Master Plan and the new Louisiana Watershed Initiative, these award-winning LA SAFE projects represent the cutting-edge in our efforts to proactively plan for the reality of our state’s increasing vulnerability to weather events and coastal erosion,” Gov. Edwards said. “In an era of escalating risks, now is the time to help our communities develop future sustainability and resilience.”

The ten projects that will receive a total of $41,016,000 in Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery funding are as follows:

- Jefferson Parish: $5,605,000 for Gretna Resilience District Kickstart;
- Jefferson Parish: $475,000 for Louisiana Wetlands Education Center;
- Lafourche Parish: $7,000,000 for Resilient Housing Prototype;
- Lafourche Parish: $3,500,000 for Emerging Industry Business Incubator;
- Plaquemines Parish: $4,765,000 for Plaquemines Harbor of Refuge;
- Plaquemines Parish: $1,865,000 for Plaquemines Mental Health and Substance Abuse;
- St. John the Baptist Parish: $6,046,000 for Airline & Main Complete Streets;
- St. Tammany Parish: $5,310,000 for Safe Haven Blue-Green Campus & Trails;
- Terrebonne Parish: $3,600,000 for Lake Boudreaux Living Mitigation; and
- Terrebonne Parish: $2,850,000 for Buyout of Permanent Residents.
Funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s National Disaster Resilience Competition and spearheaded by the state’s Office of Community Development in partnership with the Foundation for Louisiana, the LA SAFE process included grassroots, community-based planning which involved 71 individual public outreach and engagement events over a nine-month period during the past year. Nearly 3,000 residents from six coastal parishes participated.

For more information on the individual projects or the LA SAFE process, please visit the LA SAFE.