

Office of Community Development
State of Louisiana
Division of Administration



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CONSTRUCTION BEGINS AT AUDUBON ESTATES IN POINTE COUPEE PARISH

The Louisiana Office of Community Development begins construction today at the future site of Audubon Estates, a resettlement community for residents of the flood-prone Pecan Acres subdivision in Pointe Coupee Parish. Most homes in Pecan Acres have flooded more than 17 times in the past 30 years. The state will hold a formal groundbreaking ceremony at a later date.

The infrastructure construction includes installing roads and utilities, which brings Pecan Acres residents one step closer to living on higher and drier ground. The state will issue a request for proposals for a homebuilder in the coming weeks and should start building houses this summer. Residents could start moving into their new homes by spring 2021.

“After all the planning with the residents to get to this point, it’s exciting to finally break ground, bringing us one step closer to moving residents out of harm’s way,” OCD Executive Director Pat Forbes said. “As flooding becomes more frequent throughout Louisiana, resettlement communities like this will serve as models as the state moves toward sensible, smart solutions to mitigate flood risks.”

This effort is part of the state’s Sustainable Resettlement Program, funded by grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, for property owners on Pecan Drive West and Pecan Drive East located outside New Roads. OCD partnered with Pointe Coupee Parish and USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service to purchase the flooded properties in Pecan Acres and help homeowners move out of the area into safer homes in the new community.

OCD worked with Pecan Acres residents to select the Audubon Estates resettlement site and to plan and name the new community, located north of Nelson Lane on La. 10. The 22-acre site is large enough for all eligible Pecan Acres households that wish to move there and is located outside of the 100-year flood zone.

More information on the resettlement of Pecan Acres is available [here](#).