

SID UPDATE on Levee Restoration Project May 11, 2022

Here are some highlights of the weekly meeting with the CORPS, KEU, and the SID:

The project continues to fall behind schedule. This is complicated and there are many factors that are causing this. **The main takeaway is that the SID can confirm that the lake will not reach recreational boating level by Memorial Day Weekend as originally planned.** We do not have any indication at this time when we will be able to begin pumping water into the lake. As a reminder, it will take approximately 3 weeks to fill the lake when we do start.

The obvious factor that has caused delays is the weather. Substantial and intermittent rain days basically keep KEU from doing anything for 2+ weeks. Another unforeseen issue that has come up relates to 'sand fill' quality and quantity. In simple terms, the levee is widened by bringing in different materials in multiple layers to build up the berms. This is different for the lake areas than it is for the Noerrlinger Farms area. As reported a couple weeks ago, the 'filter sand' placement is complete. The plans called for KEU to get the next layer, 'fill sand', from the Van Horn's Bend area (the CORPS property on the river side of the levee). This area was tested months ago to confirm that it met the engineers' requirements for 'fill sand' which it did. The problem is when KEU began to use this material, they encountered material that does NOT meet requirements once they got deeper below the acceptable sand. The contractor, CORPS, and AECOM (the design engineers) have sampled more material and have discussions set for today and tomorrow to come up with a solution. Until we know these answers, we cannot approximate the remaining timeline to include when we can start filling the lake.

KEU continues to work on other areas of the project while they wait for direction from the engineers.

The SID has CLOSED THE LAKE (water surface) to all motorized craft EXCEPT by permission. We will reopen to motorized traffic once we have brought the lake up to a safe operating level.

The plan is that KEU will NOT be working from approximately Noon Friday until Tuesday morning of Memorial Day weekend. We may adjust that decision based on progress of work and weather patterns.

KEU is currently working 7am-7pm Monday-Saturday (and Sunday if work days lost to weather). We are asking **EVERYONE to remain off of the earthen levee** and away from construction activity while workers are present. This means no bicycles, pedestrians, motorized vehicles, etc. PLEASE OBEY ALL SIGNAGE.

At this time we will allow all traffic to continue on the road but will need to yield to truck traffic crossing the road especially up near Bull Frog Bay Dr. PLEASE slow down in this area and stop for construction vehicles and equipment.

PLEASE NOTE:

The SID is also very concerned for the safety of the community and visitors to Waconda and for the protection and respect for the construction materials and equipment of KEU. During our preliminary discussions, the SID informed both the CORPS and KEU that we will do all we need to expedite the project and are willing to close, restrict, reroute, traffic (vehicular and pedestrian) when and where we may need to. We will keep everyone posted on any of these decisions as they are made.

There is a lot of moving parts with this project and the SID, CORPS and KEU are going to do all we can to complete this in a timely and safe manner. We all are asking for everyone's cooperation, understanding, and patience as this project progresses.

PLEASE share this information with family members and guest of ALL AGES. It will take a commitment from all of us to get the best results possible.

If you have any questions, you can contact Jim Noerrlinger, Matt Burnham, or Jon Meyers via phone or email. Contact information is on the contacts tab at www.sid1.org

Watch for continued updates here.

On behalf of the SID board, we thank you.

Jon Meyers