

As many of you know, the Corps of Engineers has been studying our levee since September in response to issues following the 2019 flood event. At this point NO DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE NOR HAVE ANY ACTIONS BEEN TAKEN BY THE SID.

LEVEE STATUS: Our SID is a levee sponsor in the USACE PL84-99 Rehabilitation program. That comes with both benefits and responsibilities. The benefits are that we qualify for an 80/20 cost share for projects related to the levee. If the levee requires repair or improvement, the USACE covers 80% of the costs and the SID pays 20%. Other benefits include assistance in flood fighting as well as ongoing maintenance requirements and inspection. The responsibilities include the maintenance suggested and the fact that if they deem certain projects (such as this one) are required, we must agree to them or risk dropping out of the PL 84-99 program.

If the levee is removed from the program and loses certification, either because it has degraded or because required improvements are not made, the results are potentially catastrophic. The SID would likely not be eligible for FEMA disaster funding, meaning that the SID would have to pay, without reimbursement, for the hundreds of thousands or millions of dollars in flood fighting costs and repairs after each event. Additionally, the SID believes (and are confirming) that individual homeowners would be unable to obtain the flood insurance we have now, meaning that we would likely be required to repair and rebuild out of our own pockets. If the levee was removed from the program, the next major flood event would potentially result in destruction from which the area would never fully recover. Damages would lower property values, which would lower SID income, which would lower the SID's ability to provide flood protection and repairs, which would result in more damage from the next event. The downward spiral would ensue and the community would become something very different than what we have today.

During and following the flooding of 2019 we experienced extensive boil activity throughout and along the levee as well as serious issues in and near Bullfrog Bay Rd. The CORPS basically reviewed all levees in the area. Ours was one of few that did NOT fail or was breached however it was apparent that repairs and improvements are necessary for the immediate and long term.

HISTORY OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT: The USACE outsourced the design to AECOM engineers. The SID, along with TD2 (our engineers), have been in communication with the USACE throughout the process. That process was to start with preliminary plans progressing to a 60% completed set then to a 90% completed set and then to a 100% set of plans for our review. The process was hung up for months at the 60% level as we continually asked them to try different options or solutions to mitigate the issues while not affecting homeowners and property within the levee system. There were a number of suggested plan designs by both AECOM and TD2 ranging from widening the levee from the flagpole to lot 205 effectively cutting off all of Bullfrog Bay to putting a wall down through the middle of the levee to bedrock...and many variations in between. The attached files show the current 90% completed plan. The CORPS is in the comments phase at this time. Our comments along with other USACE departments' are currently under consideration.

CURRENT PLAN: The current plan is to widen the levee by adding a berm similar to the work that was done in 2013 following the 2011 flooding. This will include again narrowing the lake at the north end, this time from the guardrail, or where we left off in 2013, traveling south to Bullfrog Bay, crossing Bullfrog Bay Road and coming through Turtle Bay and moving across the very north end of East Lake Drive. The plan also includes continuing the berm south of the COBB Center all the way through the noerrlinger farm area down to where East Lake Drive meets with the south levee road. The attached files illustrate this. Unfortunately, this plan necessitates removing 6 homes in close proximity to the levee near Bullfrog Bay. The SID informed these homeowners and either met with them this week, or have attempted to meet with them and will do so privately as soon as schedules allow. As mentioned earlier, we have submitted comments asking for a variation to the current plan prior to progressing to the 100% final plan. There are two pages from this current 90% plan for view that are posted on this webpage. One is the overall site plan and the other is zoomed in on the Bullfrog Bay area. Also, you can click on this link that shows a rendering of the construction limits of the project and which homes are affected. [VIEW RENDERING](#) There is a full set of plans that will be made available by contacting Jim or me if you are interested in seeing the detail at this point.

COSTS: The USACE has estimated that their designed project will cost between \$4M and \$6M of which we would be responsible for 20%. However, there are additional costs that the District would be 100% responsible for including but not limited to: purchasing the homes that need to be removed, moving expenses for the homeowners, removing the homes and any structure within the construction limits, bringing in fill materials for the entire project, relocation of water main and other utilities, etc. We do not know the costs at this time but estimate that this could be another \$2M-\$3M. This money would come from issuing bonds and paid back through an increase in property taxes. We are looking at alternative options to issuing bonds as well.

OPTIONS: There are not a lot of options for us. Once the design reaches 100% we will need to determine whether to agree to the plan, be responsible for our share, perform the required work and remain in the PL 84-99 program...or refuse and drop out of the program. If we choose this latter course of action, all repairs necessary to the levee will be 100% our responsibility. We will lose flood fighting assistance. Any repairs we want to do or choose to do will still require USACE approval. It is unknown yet (we are looking into it) whether our individual homeowner flood insurance rates would be adversely affected.

PROCESS: The decision process is for us to open this up to a public comment period once we have all the information. We will inform you when that time comes for comment. The actual decision is *not* put to a vote. In an SID, that responsibility is placed on the 5 board members. If the decision is made to participate, it will take months to get to the point that the construction work on the levee starts.

CONCLUDING COMMENTS: None of the 5 members of the SID Board take pleasure in this. This decision weighs heavily upon each of us. It is our responsibility to attempt to do what is right for the entire community. These responsibilities include the affordability of property taxes, maintaining property values, providing for recreation, securing the future for the district, and MOSTLY for the safety of all residents and guests.