

Press Release



Funding the Bypass Road

For Immediate Release – October 20, 2009

The State Bond Commission recently approved the \$12 million needed to begin work on the Bypass Road, an alternative route to Highway 23 which allows drivers the option of going around Belle Chasse and connecting with the Highway at Walker Road, south of the Naval Base. Construction is scheduled to begin on the Bypass Road in 2010.

The project connects Peters Road in Jefferson Parish with Walker Road in Plaquemines Parish with a bridge over the Intracoastal Waterway. It will be built in three phases. Phase One is the south approach road from the intersection of Highway 23 and Walker Road to the site of the future bridge. Phase Two is the north approach road at the intersection of Peters Road and Engineers Road. Phase Three is the bridge over the Intracoastal Waterway.

The funding for phase one should be available sometime around the middle to end of the next legislative session. By available, it is meant that bonds might need to be sold so that the state will have the funding.

“With all the state budget cuts this year, this shows the commitment Governor Jindal has to Plaquemines Parish. Because of the relationship we have with Jindal, his staff, and many state legislators, we feel confident that funding will continue—both on the state and federal level—to see the Bypass Road started on schedule,” said Parish President Billy Nungesser.

“We’re very excited about starting this project next year and keeping it fast tracked,” said Bruce Badon of Burke Kleinpeter Inc. “President Nungesser has asked us to cut any red tape to see this bridge built as soon as possible.”

All engineering involved with Phase I is expected to be completed in December 2009. Therefore, the project will be ready for construction following that date. It is expected that most of the land will be donated although, in some instances, the Parish will cover the land acquisition costs.

