Resilience + Sustainability

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

Coastal Master Plan Projects in New Orleans

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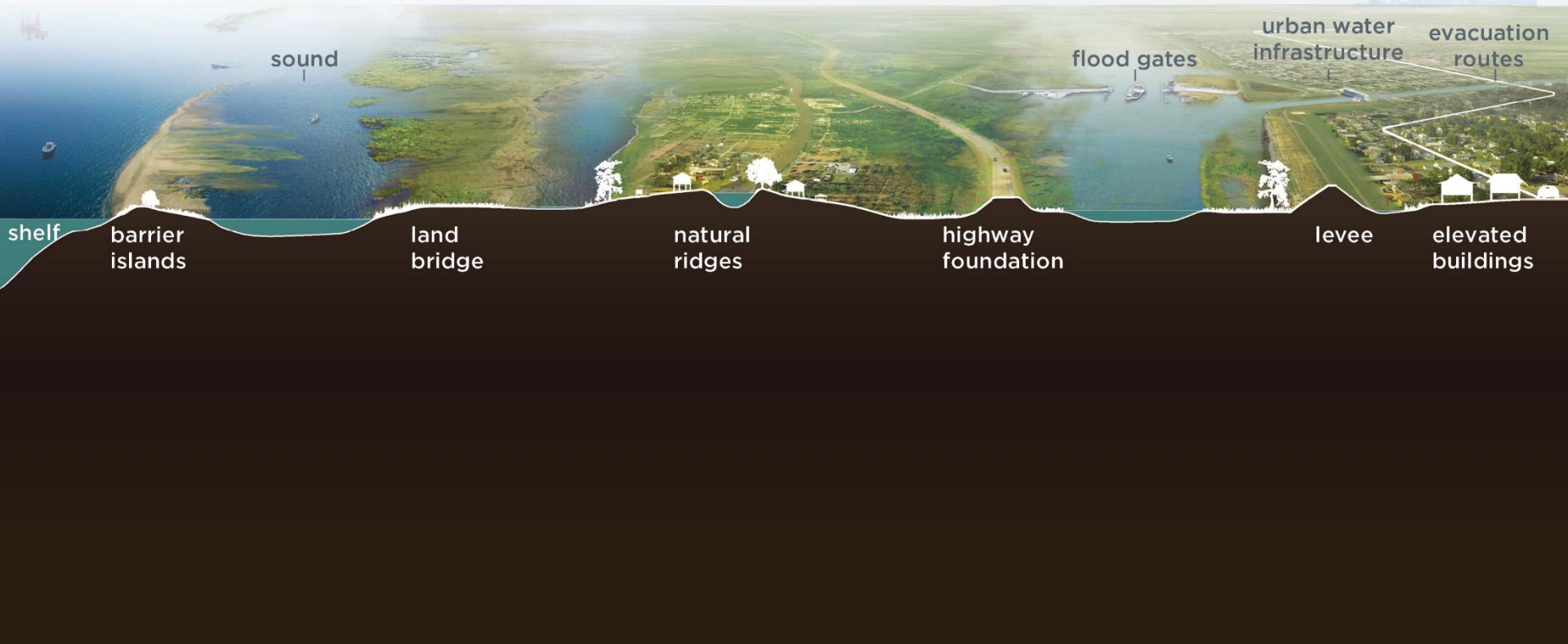
Anne Coglianese
Coastal Resilience Program Manager
Office of Resilience + Sustainability
City of New Orleans

New Orleans is a coastal city.

New Orleans' location, where the Mississippi River Delta becomes the Gulf of Mexico, is strategic for commerce, but also defines our most existential threat.

Multiple Lines of Defense Approach: we need to support resilience and adaptation projects *From Curb to Coast,* both inside and outside our levee protection system.



Advance coastal protection and restoration

FEATURED ACTION

Leverage critical resources for coastal projects

Lead: City of New Orleans
Partners: Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority; Greater New Orleans, Inc

ASPIRATION

The coast is healthy, functioning, and sustains industries, communities, and ecosystems.

RESILIENCE VALUE

By protecting and restoring our coast, New Orleans can reduce flood risk, protect critical economic assets, and safeguard indispensable wildlife habitat and recreational areas.

Credit: CPRA

To improve the flood protection provided by coastal wetlands, New Orleans will support the efforts of the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) by leveraging financial resources available through the BP settlement, the National Disaster Resilience Competition, and the RESTORE Act. **In partnership with the CPRA, the City will help advance coastal restoration and protection projects in Orleans Parish that benefit the city of New Orleans and the region, providing flood protection, habitat restoration, and workforce opportunities.**

The Coastal Master Plan's risk reduction targets of "500-year" storm protection can only be achieved through a combination of "structural" flood protection, such as levees and coastal restoration, and "nonstructural" approaches, including home elevations and flood-proofing measures. New Orleans will be the model for combining these approaches through the development of coastal projects and complementary urban water management strategies and the reduction of risk by adapting the urban environment.

Create a culture of environmental awareness at every stage of life

FEATURED ACTION

Develop knowledge and capacity of emerging environmental stewards

Lead: City of New Orleans
Partners: Louisiana Children's Museum, Ripple Effect, Evacuteer

ASPIRATION

The next generation of New Orleanians has an accurate understanding of our physical environment and the risks we face, and has developed the capacity to prepare for and adapt to those risks.

RESILIENCE VALUE

By equipping our youth with the knowledge and understanding of local hydrologic and geographic conditions and processes, we develop leaders for today and tomorrow for adapting to our changing natural environment.

Credit: LCM, Mithun

The future Louisiana Children's Museum campus in City Park, focused on water education.

We will actively facilitate connections that prioritize the development of environmental stewardship and disaster readiness in our region's students. **The City will partner with organizations already serving as hubs for experiential learning about the environment and preparedness and support content development with the best information available about our changing environment.** Going beyond the inclusion of geography as a curriculum element, we seek expand to opportunities to experience the power of water and our environment across in-classroom subjects and in the wider city-as-laboratory. For example, Ripple Effect partners with teachers, designers, and water experts to rethink in-school science education. Around the city, students engage in site-specific design challenges that also meet national science standards.

We recognize the need for physical sites outside of schools for students and educators alike to interact and learn about how we live with water. As an example, the Louisiana Children's Museum is committed to being a space for environmental education and experiences for children and adults—with a focus on all the ways we live with water in coastal Louisiana.

Bayou Bienvenue

- Allocating RESTORE Act Direct Component funds to restoration project in the wetland triangle
- Returning area to a health marsh and cypress ecosystem
- Incorporating community visioning and feedback in design and scope of project
- Will serve as a window into the land loss crisis in Southeast Louisiana and the benefits of coastal restoration

Community Education & Engagement

- Build awareness of the themes of environmental adaptation and engaging communities in the design of projects
- Develop a community of coastal stakeholders
- Develop knowledge and capacity of emerging environmental stewards

Resilient New Orleans

Strategic actions to shape our future city

Anne Coglianese
Coastal Resilience Program Manager

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