Clipper Canal Bulkhead Update January 2014

This is an update on the status of the canal bulkhead repairs. We have received stamped engineered drawings for the canal bulkhead on the east side of Clipper and they are out for bid with 5 contractors. We have received 3 bids to date and expect at least one more. We will stop accepting bids on January 15 and begin the bid evaluation process immediately.

The design requires purchasing the empty lot (Lot 50) and moving the canal over 12 feet on the SE side of the canal. This will allow us to have 22' tieback rods instead of our current 10' for a much stronger structure. We will grade the slope to a 4 to 1 ratio which will reduce the load on the bulkhead as well. Importantly, we will eliminate the need for a bulkhead on the NE side which will lower our construction and maintenance costs considerably.

Our engineer, Bill Thomassie from Infinity Engineering, has started the permit process. The agencies that have to approve the design are the Army Corps of Engineering, the Office of Coastal Management, LA Dept of Natural Resources and the Department of Environmental Quality. St. Tammany Engineers will also need to approve the design following the Federal and State approvals.

The bulkhead on the SW side of Clipper is failing and the Board has decided to temporarily close the canal by installing pilings across the canal to brace the bulkhead and keep it from failing. Our concern is that if it falls into the canal it will become a boating hazard and be a liability to the HOA.

Our plan is to award the fixing or replacing of the bulkhead on the SW side to the contractor who wins the bid to repair the NE and SE side.

This canal bulkhead has been an eyesore and problem for our community for a very long time. We are determined to resolve this and will be proceeding as fast as the government agencies allow us to.

Best Regards and Happy New Year!

Your Clipper Estates HOA Board of Directors

Carol Barber, Scott Bourgeois, Kyle Bowser, Jim Langendonk, Mark Poole, Pat Walsh