Location: The project is located in Ste. Genevieve County, Missouri, adjacent to the west bank of the Mississippi River between miles 121 and 125 above the confluence of the Ohio River.

Description: The project consists of a 3.5 mile long levee that provides Urban Design Flood protection from Mississippi River flooding; a gravity drain pump station facility with a 575 cubic feet per second capacity and three electric-powered pumps; a 505-acre ponding area; interior drainage ditching and grading; two closure structures; road, railroad, and utility relocations; 24 relief wells; tree screens; an environmental mitigation area; and other features. The Mississippi River Levee and associated features were completed in 1999. Because of changed site conditions, the remaining features have been reevaluated in a General Reevaluation Report (GRR). The GRR is scheduled to be approved in FY 2019 and recommends non-structural floodproofing solutions to protect historic structures along North and South Gabouri Creeks as well as a recreation trail on top of the Mississippi River Levee.

Status: The levee protection system successfully withstood the Spring 2017 flood event.

Importance: The project protects the city of Ste. Genevieve and its nationally-recognized historic resource from Mississippi River flooding and the remaining features recommended in the GRR will reduce flash flood damages along North and South Gabouri Creeks.

Risk: Loss of historical structures. The “poteaux-en-terre” structures, with their wood and earth foundations, are particularly susceptible.

Consequence: Ste Genevieve contains three of the five known remaining “poteaux-en-terre” structures in North America. Continued flooding will result in the loss of three-fifths of the nations’ inventory.

Activities for FY 20: Carryover funds from FY15 are being used to complete the General Reevaluation Report (GRR).

Acquisition Strategy: Not applicable

Activities after FY 20: Initiate PPA and development of up to five Non-standard estate real estate floodproofing agreements.

Project Partner: The Urban Design Levee sponsor is the Ste. Genevieve Joint Levee Commission, which is composed of the city of Ste. Genevieve and Ste. Genevieve County Levee Districts 2 and 3. The sponsor for the tributary and recreation facilities is expected to be the city of Ste. Genevieve.

Congressional Interest: Senate: Blunt (MO) House: Jason Smith (MO-8).