Crews are cleaning ditches and removing debris in four channels.

While it may not seem like much is happening, Frederick Trahan, public works project manager, said work is underway. Public works crews are cleaning and digging ditches, he said, while other city-parish and state highway department workers remove debris from ditches and drains under bridges and at road intersections within existing LCG and highway department rights of way.

Debris accumulation in four channels where they intersect with roadways is being targeted for removal at this time. The four channels — Isaac Verot Coulee, Bayou Parc Purdue, Darby Coulee and the lower part of Bayou Parc Perdue Lateral 1 — are more than 14 miles long.

The work, Trahan wrote in an email, is labor intensive and progressing slowly.

"Hopefully very soon we will get approval to hire some outside workers through our annual contract through operations to assist our operations crews in roadside ditch digging as well as the removal of some debris in the channels," he said.

These four coulees are among the largest and longest in the parish, Trahan wrote. They affect a large part of...
Drainage
Continued from Page 1A

the parish and cleaning the debris should significantly improve the drainage ability of the channels, he said.

Bids were opened May 24 for cleaning four concrete channels.

Bids were opened Thursday for another part of the project, this one to remove silt and debris from Coulee Mine Branch, Coulee Ile des Cannes Lateral 8B and Coulee des Poches Lateral 4.

The debris and silt removal is part of a larger contract through operations and maintenance. It could take as long as six weeks to get contracts approved and bonds and insurance cleared so work can begin, Trahan said.

The channels combined are about 3.6 miles long.

Some work could be completed by the end of the year.

Three channels in the top 27 prioritized projects already were active projects in public works and are funded with other sources.

Work involving Coulee Ile des Cannes Lateral 4 and the Isaac Verot Coulee Lateral 5 may be completed by the end of the year.

A third, Coulee Ile des Cannes Lateral 7, is being worked on and includes widening the channel as well as cleaning. A completion date hasn’t been determined.

The combined length of the three channels is more than 3.7 miles.

Surveys and wetlands studies are underway on 16 channels.

Preliminary work is underway on 16 other channels in the top 27.

“We’re about 80 percent complete with survey and about 75 percent complete with wetlands delineation studies,” Trahan said.

LCG contracted with consultants to survey the 16 channels, he wrote in an email. They’re locating debris that needs to be removed and locating the historical channel bottom grades.

Contracts will be issued to remove trees and excess brush on channel banks and to re-establish the historical depth of the channels.

Work on some of the channels may be delayed if U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits are needed.

Trahman hopes work on most of the channels, measuring a combined 20 miles in length, can be completed within the year.

The 16 channels include:
- Acorn Drive Coulee
- Anselm Coulee
- Anselm Coulee Lateral 4
- Bayou Carencro Lateral 9
- Bayou LaSalle (b)
- Coulee Ile des Cannes Lateral 8C
- Coulee Mine East
- Coulee Mine East Lateral 7
- D. Man Outfall
- Dan Debaillon Coulee
- Isaac Verot Coulee Lateral 4
- Isaac Verot Coulee Lateral 4A (lower)
- Isaac Verot Coulee Lateral 6A
- Isaac Verot Coulee Lateral 6D
- Isaac Verot Coulee Lateral 7
- Manor Park Coulee
- Public Dashboard for tracking drainage work in the works.

Robideaux promised residents they would be able to track the progress of drainage work through an online dashboard.

The dashboard isn’t up yet, but it is in the works, Trahan said.

LCG is finalizing a contract with a host company. Updates on the drainage work is assembled in a spreadsheet, so once the contract is completed, it can be posted on the LCG website.