


ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

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Memorandum

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

THROUGH: Richard J. Lemack, Town Administrator 

FROM: Phillip R. Holste, Program Manager

SUBJECT: Status of Broward County Local Mitigation Strategy: Town of Davie – 2011 Update

DATE: September 27, 2011

The Town of Davie has participated in the Local Mitigation Strategy process since September 1998 (Resolution 98-278). The Town formally adopted the local mitigation strategy plan in 2004. In 2009, the County submitted and FEMA approved the 5 year update to the strategy. The revised strategy was subsequently readopted by the Town in March 2010.

Broward County produces an annual progress report for this plan. This memo is the Town's annual progress plan specific to its participation and actions in the implementation of the plan's goals. The memo was prepared by Town staff and was reviewed, revised, and approved by Administration.

For credit under the Community Rating System, this memo must be distributed to the media and available to the public. It is being sent to the media that covers the Town of Davie. Copies of this report and of the Broward County Local Mitigation Strategy are available for review at Town Hall, 6591 Orange Drive and the Davie/Cooper City Library, 4600 SW 82 Avenue. A notice of its availability is posted on the Town's website under press releases and in the section devoted to the local flood hazard.

I. Background

The original Broward County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS thereafter) was drafted by the Broward County Mitigation Task Force and Broward County Emergency Coordinating Council in 1999-2000. The strategy focused on all potential hazards including those related to wind and flood. The plan recommended four goals to reduce and prevent hazards, including flooding.

The plan was updated in 2002-2004 and identified an additional goal which focused on increasing awareness of available funding sources for mitigation. The Town has been a member of the Mitigation Task Force, also known as the LMS Working Group, since its inception and attends its quarterly meetings. In 2007-08, the Task Force completed the drafting of its Chapter 4: Risk Assessment. In June 2009, the task force submitted the revised LMS for review by the State of Florida. The State reviewed and approved this strategy and it was submitted for final FEMA approval. In January 2010, the County received notification that its updated strategy met federal compliance and was approved until January 2015. Currently, Broward County and its municipal partners are enhancing the mitigation plan through Hazard Mitigation Grant funding.

This document reviews the LMS goals listed in Section 5 – Mitigation Initiatives. The goal's outcome will be analyzed using the defined action items to determine the Town's overall implementation and successes. The Town continually evaluates these goals and actions and makes necessary modifications as deemed necessary.

II. Review of Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Protect human health, safety and welfare

a. Expansion of Town's open space and parks system

Status: In September 2005, Town residents approved a \$25 million Open Space Bond. The bond's goals included protecting the quality of water bodies and the preservation of natural areas. These funds have been used to purchase 240 acres of open space/park land including the Arrowhead Golf Course, Governor Leroy Collins Park and Expansion, Old Davie School Addition, Sunny Lake Expansion, Devine Parcels, Batten's Farm and Palma Nova properties.

Goal 2: To increase the business, residential and public community's awareness of hazard mitigation.

a. Disseminate flood information through Town publications and other resources.

Status: Ongoing. The Town publishes an annual flood information outreach document within its magazine, the Davie Update. This 2-page article covers a wide range of floodplain management subjects.

The Town's website and Town-run television channel, Channel 78 on Comcast and Channel 71 on BellSouth, are two sources through which residences receive flood information on a regular basis throughout the year. The website contains the Town's flood protection webpage that provides extensive information on flood insurance, safety, property protection measures, and other flood-related issues. This information is updated yearly. The Town has also been proactive in getting short articles published in community newspapers relating to its flood protection efforts.

b. Develop a clearinghouse to disseminate accurate and consistent information relating to disaster mitigation.

Status: The Engineering Division has responded to flood protection assistance requests focusing on property protection measures. The Town's grant division serves as the clearinghouse for all grants including those related to disaster mitigation. Staff is available to assist residents in completing mitigation grant applications. In FY2012, we will continue to seek funding for disaster mitigation.

Goal 3: To ensure adequate training opportunities to support hazard mitigation.

a. Provide training opportunities to staff members involved in floodplain management.

Status: Ongoing. Town employees continue to maintain their membership in local, state and national floodplain management organizations. Staff members attended flood protection courses at the Florida Governor's Hurricane Conference including courses on elevation certificates, FEMA benefit/cost analysis and hazard mitigation courses.

The Town continues to conduct internal training of public works staff on the importance of proper maintenance, the cleaning of catch basins and removing materials to prevent blockages.

Goal 4: To facilitate preparedness measures to mitigate structural hazards

a. Provide site specific information and assistance to inquirers, including map information, flood protection advice, and information of selecting and dealing with contractors.

Status: This activity is ongoing. Town staff responded to inquiries related to FIRM (Flood Insurance Rate Map) and LOMA (Letter of Map Amendment)/LOMR (Letter of Map Revision) requests. The Engineering Division continues to conduct site visits to review flooding and drainage issues. They also provide one-on-one assistance as needed to property owners. Engineering also conducted swale inspections as part of the Town's development process.

b. Implement projects to correct localized flood problems.

Status: This action item is ongoing.

The Town is currently developing a stormwater master plan for one of its two redevelopment areas, the transit-oriented corridor area. This plan will enable the Town to identify the flood storage needs of the area and design an interconnected system for 800+ acres area.

The following drainage projects are identified in the Town's Capital Improvements Program. These projects will be completed by the Community Redevelopment Agency.

- Eastside Drainage Improvements Phase II and III– replacement of existing undersized storm drainage facilities constructed over thirty (30) years ago in the Playland Village area.
- Westside Drainage – creation of a master drainage system for properties on the west side of the Davie Road corridor.

Goal 5: To facilitate planning initiatives to ensure effective hazard mitigation (programs and policies).

a. Monitor the implementation of the local mitigation strategy and prepare a written progress report to the Town Council yearly.

Status: This document represents the Town's update to the local mitigation strategy. In 2007-08, the Task Force completed the drafting of its Chapter 4: Risk Assessment. In June 2009, the task force submitted the revised LMS for review by the State of Florida. The State reviewed and approved this strategy and it was submitted for final FEMA approval. In January 2010, the County received notification that its updated strategy met federal compliance and was approved until January 2015. The County and its municipal partners are working on enhancements to this plan.

b. Update the Broward County mitigation project list to represent new local initiatives.

Status: The Town submits projects to the local mitigation task force for inclusion on the county-wide mitigation list. These sites are scored to determine their priority during grant cycles. In FY10, the LMS task force updated this list to reflect the project status and redesigned the scoring criteria. The Town will submit new projects to this list as necessary.

c. Maintain the Town's Community Rating System (CRS) classification.

Status: The Town is currently a Class 7 community in the CRS program. The Town's last cycle verification visit occurred in September 2008. The Town continues to maintain sufficient CRS activities to maintain its CRS classification.

d. Ensure the Town's Evaluation and Appraisal report (EAR) and capital improvements program evaluate the Town's drainage system and make improvements as necessary.

Status: The Town adopted the EAR on April 19, 2006 through R2006-122. The EAR evaluated the current status of the drainage system. The plan states that the Town's drainage system provides adequate protection from flooding. The Town continues to evaluate its system and identify funding sources for drainage improvements. The Town has an ongoing capital improvements drainage program. Please see Goal 4b for specific improvements.

e. Continue to participate in flood management programs and disseminate information and recommendations to the Town Council, staff, and residents.

Status: Town Administration and Engineering have kept the Council up to date on the Town's participation in the CRS and its compliances with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The State conducts its annual NPDES audit review in October.

f. Create a Town-wide stormwater master plan.

Status: The Town is desirous of creating a stormwater master plan that encompasses all properties. The first initiative towards this plan has been the creation of a stormwater master plan for the transit-oriented corridor, one of the Town's redevelopment areas. This project will serve as a basis for the creation of the Town-wide plan.

Goal 6: Develop and enhance regional mitigation efforts.

a. Participate in regional mitigation efforts.

Status: The Town has been a member of the Mitigation Task Force, also known as the LMS Working Group, since its inception and attends its quarterly meetings. The Town also currently serves on the LMS Executive Committee and Planning subcommittee.

Goal 7: Promote mitigation partnerships.

a. Increase awareness of mitigation funding sources, especially repetitive loss properties

Status: Through its annual outreach to repetitive loss properties and/or SFHA properties, the Town provides information on the various flood mitigation grant programs, including the Flood Mitigation Assistance and Repetitive Loss. The Town has been contacted by residents about these programs and is providing assistance to determine eligibility. The Town has also completed a repetitive loss area analysis. This analysis evaluates repetitive loss areas to identify the flooding source, determine if drainage issues are site specific or neighborhood-wide and propose potential solutions. This analysis provides a basis for identifying mitigation funding for future projects.

III. Action items that have not been completed.

Of the 13 action items reviewed, 12 items are underway (Goal 1, Goal 2, Goal 3, Goal 4, Goal 5a-e, Goal 6 and Goal 7). The Town has taken steps to implement overall stormwater master plan (5g). We will continue to seek funding for the Town-wide stormwater master plan.

Overall, 12 out of 13 action are completed or underway equating to a 92% implementation rate.

IV. Recommendations

1. Implement the Progress Plan's action items and recommendations.
2. Continue participating in the Broward County Mitigation Working Group, Executive Committee and related subcommittees.
3. Update the Town website to include additional flood protection information and electronic versions of flood documents i.e. FIRM maps, elevation certificates, etc.
4. Initiate a broad public information strategy that incorporates existing outreach efforts with campaign targeting specific groups i.e. building and engineering professionals, realtors and homeowners' associations.
5. Seek grant funds to conduct further flood studies and drainage improvement projects.