Local Mitigation Strategy
Annual Update to
Commissioners

Sheila Fitzgerald
Special Programs/Grants
Local Mitigation Strategy

- Florida requires each county, its communities and other potential applicants for mitigation-related funding to coordinate, develop and implement a county-wide mitigation plan.
- The plan is required to receive hazard mitigation funding.
Local Mitigation Strategy Task Force

Primary Purposes:
- Maintain & update LMS (plan)
- Identify risks
- Develop mitigation priorities to minimize risks
- Prioritize mitigation projects
- Work to fund & complete projects

• Cross-jurisdictional representation & coordination
• Community input
• Next meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2020
Santa Rosa County LMS Plan

- LMS received approval from FEMA and the state of Florida for its 2016-2021 plan in June 2016.
- The plan will expire on June 9, 2021.
- The 18-month plan update process will begin in January 2020.
- The prioritized mitigation project listing is currently under review and undergoing updates by LMS.
  - Now using STAPLEE methodology for ranking projects.
  - All projects are in the process of being updated and rescored and reprioritized per new criteria
  - New intake form process for addressing localized drainage/flooding concerns
Mitigation Initiative Process

1. Mitigation Need or Issue
2. Staff Evaluation
3. Initiatives Development
4. Project evaluation and scoring
5. Funding secured or allocated
6. Added to prioritized list
7. Communication to County
8. Removed upon completion

- Added to prioritized list
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Project Progress - Completed

The following mitigation activities were completed during Fiscal Year 2019

- Multiple Residential Retrofits in Santa Rosa County through Rebuild Northwest Florida (3,202 total as of October 2019)
- Construction completion of
  - Pace-Patterson Lane drainage project in Pace
  - Chipper Lane / Maranatha Drive drainage project in Pace
  - Camden Drive Drainage Phase I
- Construction under way
  - Venetian Way & Coronado Drive (nearing completion)
  - Settlers Colony Expansion West of Coronado (complete in Jan 2020)
  - Tiburon Pace Patriot Drainage (commenced October 2019)
- Design / permitting phase substantially complete for Metron Estates
The following mitigation activities were completed by Public Works:

- Installation of the Sweet Bay Drive bridge to reduce upstream roadway flooding
- Enhancements to the John Hamm Road pit
- Pipe upgrade in Ashley Plantation
- Pipe upgrades on Pine Ridge Drive
- Drainage upgrades on Fairlands Drive
- Water quality enhancements for the Avalon Beach area
- Broad Street Bridge for improved flow conveyance
Project Progress

- The following activities are underway and/or approved for funding in HBTS:
  - Camden Drive Phase 2 – Permit phase
  - East Bay Blvd. (portion of) culvert upgrades – Design and permitting complete
  - Realignment of driveway culverts/drainage infrastructure in select areas of HBTS
  - Implementation of plan for maintenance of drainage easements under construction
  - Implementation of clearing and cleaning platted drainage easements
  - Tom King Bayou East Branch and West Williams Creek Channel Restoration – Under design
Project Progress – Ongoing efforts

Public Works incorporation of mitigation efforts into projects include, but are not limited to:

- Utilizing non-moisture sensitive construction materials to repair roadways in areas subject to frequent inundation
- Installing larger or additional stormwater conveyance pipes in areas subject to flooding
- Increased efforts to clean sediment from stormwater pipes in critical areas
- Diverting of stormwater runoff away from flood prone areas to safe discharge points
- Modifying bridge construction techniques to provide wider spans between pilings to reduce the buildup of debris
- Enlarging existing county owned retention ponds
- Increased monitoring and cleaning of vital stormwater conveyance ditches
- Providing sand for sandbags prior to heavy rain events
CRS and Flood Insurance

- CRS or Community Rating System is a voluntary program
- The community earns discounts on Flood Insurance for its citizens by completing activities and maintaining documentation
- Discounts range from 5% to 45%
- Santa Rosa County Unincorporated (including Town of Jay) is currently a Class 5 (25% discount)
- City of Milton is a Class 6 (20% discount)
- City of Gulf Breeze is a Class 6 (20% discount)
CRS Goals Reached

- CRS 3-year cycle visit was conducted this year; we received confirmation that we maintain our Class 5 rating.
- Our Floodplain Ordinance matches the State Model Ordinance and the Florida Building Code.
- Updated the Plan for Public Information.
- Participated in Flood Safety Awareness Week by resolution.
- Completed the annual update of our Flood Mitigation Plan.
CRS Goals

- Maintain our current rating of Class 5 – continue to accumulate points toward a Class 4 rating.
- Encourage and educate citizens on the value of flood insurance and floodplain safety.
- Encourage sound building practices within the Special Flood Hazard Areas to improve resilience of structures which could be impacted by flooding.
- Participate in Flood Safety Week in May 2020
  - Resolution bringing attention to Flood Safety
  - Special education/outreach events
Repetitive Loss Properties

- There are currently 709 properties in Santa Rosa County that are classified as Repetitive Loss Properties
  - 56 of these are Severe Repetitive Loss Properties
  - 200 of these are code compliant
- 17 repetitive loss properties have been mitigated since 2009
- Two Severe Repetitive Loss Properties currently under review
The updated timeline for the preliminary flood insurance rate maps is now as follows:

Appeal Period is due to begin Spring 2020

Start of 5-month compliance period (issuance of letter of final determination from FEMA) in Fall of 2020

Effective date of flood study products Spring 2021
The Flood Mitigation Plan Task Force completed development of the original Plan in March 2010.

The county received approval of its Multi-jurisdictional Flood Mitigation Plan in June 2011.

Plan underwent a five-year update in conjunction with the LMS plan update with the plan receiving final approval on June 9, 2016.

The Flood Mitigation Plan Task Force met October 2019 to review the progress of the Flood Mitigation Plan and the Plan for Public Information.

The Evaluation Report was made available on the county’s LMS page and the public was notified of its availability through a press release.
Flood Mitigation Plan Annual Review

- Review indicates that the plan is effective, current and that minor revisions are necessary during our 5-year update to meet the CRS requirements.
- The action plan was successfully addressed, and items were pursued or effectively completed.
- Additional action items have been added as identified.
- The Plan for Public Information was reviewed and revised as needed.
Plan for Public Information

The Flood Mitigation Plan Task Force met in October 2019 to review the progress of the Flood Mitigation Plan and the Plan for Public Information.

The full Plan for Public Information and Tables can be found online.
The Future

- Finalize the revised Local Mitigation Strategy Prioritized Initiatives List and align with funding sources
- Continue to encourage community and organizational representatives to attend and actively participate
- Encourage homeowners to retrofit homes if they are in a risk area
- Identify and develop HMGP grant applications for mitigation projects as funding opportunities are announced
- Continue to educate the public regarding mitigation including purchasing Flood Insurance for all areas