

Progress Report

Duval County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) City of Jacksonville Beach Projects and other Objective-related Actions 2011

LMS Goals & Objectives

The following is a complete list of the adopted Goals and Objectives of the Duval County LMS. Following various objectives, ***in bold***, is any information related to projects and efforts by the City of Jacksonville Beach during this reporting period towards implementation. The County-wide LMS was updated in 2010 by the Emergency Preparedness Division (JEPD) of the Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department. The updated LMS was unanimously adopted by the Jacksonville Beach Council on August 2, 2010, via Resolution No. 1857-2010. There were no new projects or initiatives added to the LMS this year (2011) that affect the City of Jacksonville Beach.

Copies of this report have been provided to the Mayor and City Council members, and the report is also available for review of the City's website www.jacksonvillebeach.org.

GOAL 1: *Minimize future losses from all disasters by reducing the risk to people and property.*

Objective 1.1

Protection of populations and properties in Duval County susceptible to economic or physical loss from natural and man-made disasters shall be consistent with the standards established in the Local Mitigation Strategy and other planning documents.

In August 2011, the US Army Corps Of Engineers completed a Beach Renourishment Project along the city's entire Atlantic Ocean shoreline, establishing a 135' wide sand berm on the beach at an elevation of 7.2' NAVD, ±1'. This additional sand placed seaward of the established oceanfront dune line protects the dunes from seasonal and storm related erosion. These oceanfront dunes, together with the concrete bulkhead structure landward of the dunes, are the primary form of protection from storm surge flooding associated with hurricanes. Hurricanes and lesser tropical systems are the primary source of flood generating rain events in the city.

Objective 1.2

Encourage higher standards of maintenance to existing drainage systems and retention ponds, and monitor cumulative development impacts with a macroscopic view.

The City continues its systematic street sweeping program in an effort to reduce the amount of wind-blown beach sand entering the City's stormwater facilities. All major drainage facilities are also inspected and maintained on a regular basis, with an emphasis on the months preceding the beginning of hurricane season each year. (ongoing)

Objective 1.3

Work with the National Weather Service to enhance communication and coordination before and during severe weather events

GOAL 2: *Emphasize pre- and post-disaster planning to decrease vulnerability of existing and new construction to loss.*

Objective 2.1

Identify vulnerable properties such as mobile homes, substandard housing, etc. by using wind vulnerability maps.

Objective 2.2

Review evacuation time estimates taking into consideration the impact of railroad and bridge openings on travel times.

One major barrier to efficient evacuation off of Jacksonville Beach, the drawbridge on US 90 (Beach Blvd) at the Intracoastal Waterway, has now been replaced with two three-lane fixed span bridges (one eastbound, one westbound). This will positively affect evacuation time from the City.

The Northeast Florida Regional Council presented the updated "Statewide Regional Evacuation Study Program, Northeast Florida Study" in December 2010. The City is currently reviewing the findings of that study in relation to its EAR-based Comprehensive Plan amendment process.

Objective 2.3

Rehabilitate low-to-moderate income housing by retrofitting for flood and windstorm vulnerability.

Objective 2.4

Where feasible, purchase land in known vulnerable areas to prevent placing people and infrastructure in harm's way

Objective 2.5

Identify post-storm redevelopment options in vulnerable coastal areas, taking into consideration short and long-term environmental, economic and structural issues.

Objective 2.6

Identify vulnerable existing public and private critical facilities and encourage pre-disaster retrofit.

GOAL 3: *Prevent flood-related repetitive losses from natural disasters through regulation and education.*

Objective 3.1

Develop and support public and private projects and programs to retrofit, relocate or acquire properties susceptible to repetitive flooding.

The City, through its annual outreach efforts to repetitive loss property owners, provides information related to flood protection and structural alteration or retrofitting. (ongoing)

Objective 3.2

Require systematic maintenance programs for stormwater management systems.

The City carries out systematic maintenance of its entire public stormwater management system, with emphasis on major drainage way inspection and clearance prior to the start of hurricane season each year. (ongoing)

Objective 3.3

Allow only low-density residential development in repetitive flood loss areas otherwise suitable for residential development.

All undeveloped areas within the Pablo Creek floodplain are zoned Residential, single family: RS-1, the City's lowest intensity zoning category. There have been no zoning or land

use changes to properties within this floodplain within this reporting period. (no change from last year)

GOAL 4: *Strengthen and utilize land use guides, zoning codes, development controls, and incentives to protect vulnerable properties and vulnerable areas.*

Objective 4.1

Monitor floodplain regulations and enforcement at all levels to assess effectiveness.

The City has recently (Oct., 2011) prepared a proposed amendment to its Land Development Code flood hazard area regulations for adoption on Nov. 7, 2011, to coincide with the adoption of the new Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for the City. This amendment is based on a review of the City's current regulations by the State Floodplain Management Office.

Objective 4.2

Develop and support economic incentive programs for both public and private sectors promoting benefits of structural retrofitting.

Objective 4.3

Restrict variances and exceptions in flood hazard areas as identified by Flood Insurance Rate Maps, storm surge and historical flooding.

Jacksonville Beach Land Development Code (LDC) Sec. 34-287 contains 16 specific standards for variances requested in Flood Hazard Areas. (ongoing)

As stated above, the City has recently (Oct., 2011) prepared an amendment to its Land Development Code flood hazard area regulations for adoption on Nov. 7, 2011, to coincide with the adoption of the new Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for the City. This amendment is based on a review of the City's current regulations by the State Floodplain Management Office.

Objective 4.4

Enforce the Florida Building Code standards requiring new developments and construction to meet applicable wind load standards for proximity to coast. **(ongoing)**

Objective 4.5

Enforce regulations for new structures in 100-year flood areas to be elevated to the Base Flood Elevation.

Jacksonville Beach Land Development Code Sec.34-467(d)(2) states this requirement. (ongoing)

Also, as stated previously, the City has recently (Oct., 2011) prepared an amendment to its Land Development Code flood hazard area regulations for adoption on Nov. 7, 2011, to coincide with the adoption of the new Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for the City. This amendment is based on a review of the City's current regulations by the State Floodplain Management Office.

Objective 4.6

Enact and enforce policies to restrict locations of critical facilities (schools, hospitals, etc.) in proximity to identified hazardous material facilities.

Objective 4.7

Enact development standards in urban/wildland interface areas, such as setbacks, forest maintenance, access of response vehicles and construction materials.

Objective 4.8

Strengthen existing land use regulations and policies through enhancement of review procedures, and enforcement.

Objective 4.9

Review and consider policies to assure more permeable area in development, by limiting construction of paved surfaces and decreasing run-off.

The City strictly enforces the maximum lot coverage standards of the Jacksonville Beach Land Development Code for all permitted redevelopment and new development activity. (ongoing)

Objective 4.10

Promote and support incentives to encourage higher standards of protection to structures and facilities from hazards.

Objective 4.11

By pre-storm planning, identify and implement a system to rebuild and protect the dunes system, with crossovers, restoration and revegetation.

GOAL 5: *Strive to protect business and industry by reducing their economic vulnerability and increasing their recovery capabilities*

Objective 5.1

Develop and implement disaster planning training through collaborative programs with appropriate government agencies and community organizations.

Planning Division staff represents the City on the Duval County LMS Advisory Committee, as well as on its Risk Assessment Subcommittee and participates annually in the updating and maintenance of the LMS. (ongoing)

Objective 5.2

Analyze the factors involved in small business decision making regarding preparing for disasters and integrating hazard mitigation into their management practices

Objective 5.3

Develop a set of mitigation guidelines for small businesses to raise awareness about local hazards, assist in vulnerability assessment, aid in the identification of financial and technical assistance available, and facilitate hazard mitigation implementation

GOAL 6: *Hazard Mitigation should promote personal awareness and responsibility, with an emphasis on education and training for property owners, families and individuals, which should be communicated to the public in a simple, easy to understand format*

The City and local media provide detailed hurricane and flood preparation information each year to property owners, utility customers and subscribers prior to the start of hurricane season. (ongoing)

Objective 6.1

Develop and support disaster preparedness education and awareness programs, targeting specific benefits to homeowners, families and individuals.

Objective 6.2

Develop and support disaster preparedness education and awareness programs, targeting specific benefits to public and private sector.

Objective 6.3

Develop and implement public information programs for hazard mitigation, emphasizing its direct benefits to citizens, including public officials and private businesses.

Objective 6.4

Identify and coordinate hazard mitigation public information programs and events such as contests and festivals with public and private partners.

Objective 6.5

Identify and seek multiple funding sources that will support hazard mitigation awareness and training program

Objective 6.6

Educate and promote elected officials, builders and potential homeowners, the economic and safety benefits of designing mitigation features into new construction.