



NEW PORT RICHEY

2015 Report on Repetitive Loss Floodplain Management Plan

The City's Repetitive Loss Floodplain Management Plan (herein referred to as the Plan) is comprised of goals, objectives and policies from the New Port Richey Comprehensive Plan. All communities in the State of Florida are required to maintain a Comprehensive Plan which addresses, among other things, floodplain protection. The City continues to operate under these objectives, as required by State law. The following is a list of the adopted objectives with a short narrative addressing implementation practices:

Future Land Use Element:

Policy FLU 1.1.1 – The City shall continue to implement and enforce regulations which recognize the limitations of development in the coastal zone (e.g. vulnerability of tropical storms, topography and soil conditions). *Through its participation in the National Flood Insurance Program, the City continues to strictly enforce Federal Emergency Management Agency construction regulations within the 100-year floodplain*

Policy FLU 1.10.7 – The City, through the implementation of the Land Development Code, shall promote appropriate land use practices compatible with floodplain areas and provide for performance standards which, at a minimum, require that: a) To the maximum extent legally possible, new development shall not be located in river floodways, the area of highest velocity during flow; b) New development permitted in the flood fringe, the area of the floodplain outside the floodway, shall be required to meet flood hazard construction requirements; c) Development along the Pithlachascotee River floodplain shall be low density residential with adequate setbacks to maintain any existing areas of natural habitat; and d) The prevention of erosion, retardation of runoff and protection of natural functions and values of the floodplain be considered while promoting public usage. *The Development Review Committee reviews all projects as part of the development review process.*

Policy FLU 1.10.8 – The City shall require development/redevelopment proposals to be consistent with the performance standards regulating development within the designated floodplain. *The City has adopted regulations consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and continues to implement/enforce these regulations.*

Policy FLU 1.13.6 – In recognition of the importance of the Pithlachascotee River to the coverall health and welfare of the City, close coordination with Pasco County and its planning efforts regarding the river shall be encouraged. *The City works with neighboring governmental entities in clean-up programs and in sharing planning efforts. The City has held clean-up efforts in November, 2014 and June, 2015 and will have a final clean up date in November, 2015. This past year generated over 70 tons of debris collected and removed by volunteer groups.*

Policy FLU 3.1.1 – The City shall judiciously expend public dollars in the Coastal High Hazard Areas (CHHA) for the maintenance and improvement of its infrastructure system. *The City of New Port Richey is essentially a built-out community and continues to maintain the infrastructure necessary to serve the community. Density has been maintained and in many instances reduced in the special flood hazard area.*

Policy FLU 3.1.4 – The risk of exposure of human life and public and private property to natural disasters shall be reduced through preparedness planning and implementation of hazard mitigation measures. *The City strictly enforces Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) construction standards and tracks redevelopment of structures built prior to the Flood Insurance Rating Map program. The City purchased over 80 acres of flood-prone property as a passive waterfront park and a 10-acre parcel in the CHHA to remain as a natural and beneficial floodplain area. Additional land was purchased this past year in a flood prone area which will be used for passive parkland.*

Policy FLU 3.3.2 – The City will continue to be a participating local government in the Pasco County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS). *The City regularly attends LMS meetings and participates in LMS updates.*

Objective FLU 3.1 – Coordinate population densities in the coastal high hazard area with the Pasco County hurricane evacuation plan. *The City coordinates hurricane evacuation efforts with the Pasco County Office of Emergency Management (OEM). The City's disaster plan is updated and reviewed by the County annually. The City has several staff members that are part of the local emergency management center.*

Infrastructure Element:

Policy INF 4.1.6 – The City shall regulate the use of floodplains in accordance with the New Port Richey Land Development Code and to comply with Federal requirements under the National Flood Insurance Program. *The City regulates floodplains as required.*

Policy INF 4.1.7 – The City shall require that all proposed buildings within the 100-year flood plain shall be constructed so that finished floor elevation shall be at the base floor elevation of the 100-year flood, as indicated by the Federal Insurance Rate Map in effect at the time of building permit application or as established by site survey. *Through its participation in the National Flood Insurance Program, the City continues to strictly enforce Federal Emergency Management Agency construction regulations within the 100-year floodplain.*

Policy INF 4.2.1 – The land development regulations shall contain, at minimum, the following provisions to protect the functions of natural drainage features and natural groundwater recharge areas: a) Minimization of impervious surface areas; b) Maintenance of the flood-carrying and flood storage capacity of the 100-year floodplain; c) To the extent legally possible, prohibition of new development in river floodways, the area of highest velocity during flow; and d) Requirement that new development permitted in the flood fringe meet flood hazard construction requirements; Requirement that development within the Pithlachascotee River floodplain be low density residential with adequate setbacks to maintain any existing areas of natural habitat; Prevention of erosion, retardation of runoff and protection of natural functions and values of the floodplain in conjunction with public usage. *An amendment to the flood hazard regulations and Flood Insurance Rate Maps was adopted last year. The City reviews all land development projects for compliance with the Land Development Code and advises Developer of all applicable regulatory agency permits or authorizations required.*

Objective INF 4.3 – Maintain, and where necessary improve, the stormwater drainage system located within the municipal boundaries. *The City's 2013 Stormwater Master Drainage Plan (10-Year update) is used to identify stormwater capital improvement projects. All projects identified in the Master Drainage Plan include flood control and water quality elements. Several sites are in the design phase of the City's miscellaneous neighborhood stormwater improvement projects including those on Maple Street, Meadowlawn Street and Monroe Street. Several properties have been purchased along Marine Parkway for future stormwater ponds to improve that area.*

Objective INF 4.5 – Maintain a financially sound stormwater management capital improvements program through matching annual expenditures with annual stormwater management utility revenues. *The City maintains a Five-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) which is driven by the Comprehensive Plan. The CIP is a budget mechanism that identifies projects that help to alleviate level of service deficiencies and water quality. The City's Stormwater Utility is expected to have funds carried over from the previous year while still performing capital projects.*

Coastal Management Element:

Policy CME 2.2.1 – The City shall maintain or reduce allowable density in the Coastal High Hazard Area consistent with the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan. *Densities have been maintained in the CHHA and, whenever possible, have been reduced through development review. The City purchased a six-acre site along the Pithlachascotee River which will be used for passive recreation. It has entitlements for residential density that will not be utilized.*

Policy CME 2.3.1 – The City shall coordinate with FDOT, Pasco County MPO and Pasco County to ensure that major evacuation routes are adequately signed and maintained and, as conditions warrant, improved to increase the rate of evacuation. *The City continues to participate with the Pasco County OEM in evacuation plans.*

Policy CME 2.4.2 – The City shall continue to implement hazard mitigation programs, such as building codes, floodplain management regulations, stormwater management regulations, land use regulations, as well as proper siting and management of public facilities in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan. *The City implements hazard mitigation programs as required.*

Policy CME 2.4.4 – The City shall ensure that the hazard mitigation considerations in the Pasco County Local Mitigation Strategy that are applicable to the City are implemented, when feasible. *The City implements hazard mitigation by elevating new construction, flood proofing and miscellaneous stormwater improvements.*

Capital Improvements Element:

Policy CIE 1.2.1 - The City shall judiciously expend public dollars in the Coastal High Hazard Area for the maintenance and improvement of its infrastructure system. *The City funds projects in the CHHA that maintain existing or adopted levels of service. The City is obligated to maintain a budget and to stay within it; this includes the CIP.*

Objective CIE 1.1 - Provide capital improvements to correct existing deficiencies, accommodate desired future growth, and replace worn out or obsolete facilities, as indicated in the Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements. *All development undergoes a concurrency review to determine that there is adequate infrastructure available to serve that development. The concurrency review standards are based on adopted levels of service.*

City of New Port Richey, Florida
Local Mitigation Strategy Plan
Progress Report 2015 (120232 NIFP Community Number)

The State of Florida, Department of Community Affairs, and the Pasco County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) entered into a Contractual Services Agreement on April 7, 1998, to develop the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS). On July 14, 1998, the BCC approved subcontracts with the cities of Dade City, New Port Richey, Port Richey, San Antonio, St. Leo and Zephyrhills to develop a single, unified Local Mitigation Strategy. The purpose of the LMS is to establish an ongoing process that will make hazard mitigation part of the daily functioning of the entire community. The objective of this LMS is to make Pasco County and the City of New Port Richey a safer, more disaster-resistant community.

The LMS was developed and approved by the overall Hazard Mitigation Committee (HMC) by establishing a planning schedule, establishing goals and objectives for the LMS, identifying the hazards, analyzing mitigation policies and programs. The HMC will reconvene annually in January to review and amend (as necessary) the LMS. City Resolution 2009-10, dated August 18, 2009, adopted the February 2009, Revision of the Local Mitigation Strategy.

Mitigation Responsibilities:

- City Clerk: The City Clerk records and documents all official action taken and emergency decisions made by the City Council during and after disaster operations.
- City Manager: The City Manager acts as the Executive Director to the City Council for all disaster operations including natural disaster planning and the training of all designated City departments.
- Development Department: The Development Department addresses actions to be taken and policies to be developed before a disaster, in order to reduce damage to buildings and property and conducts damage assessment surveys after an incident to ensure proper disposition of unsafe or damaged structures. The department maintains the City's GIS database and manages the City's Repetitive Loss Program.
- Finance Department: The Finance Department enters into agreements with other locations for backup support data functions and financial records and maintains financial records in support of any natural disaster.
- Fire Department: The Fire Department develops the concept, identifies resources, coordinates procedures and conducts operations to provide fire suppression, emergency medical services and search and rescue and plans and organizes the needs assessment effort for determining the impact of damage occurring during and after a disaster.
- Parks & Recreation Department: The Recreation and Aquatic Center was built in 2007 and is the designated City Emergency Operations Center in disaster situations.
- Police Department: The Police Department develops procedures for evacuation and early warning of citizens in areas of potential danger and establishes traffic control and maintains law and order throughout a disaster situation.
- Public Works Department: The Public Works Department plans, coordinates and manages various duties including debris clearance and repair of City streets and evacuation routes and maintenance of water and wastewater production and distribution equipment and facilities. The Public Works facility was built to exceed the 130 mile an hour wind load, per Florida Building Code 2004.

Community Guiding Principles:

The City continues to work toward fulfilling the goals/objectives of the LMS Guiding Principles, with these efforts:

- Increase public awareness through outreach project mailings, hand-outs, and flood hazard section in the library and on City website and participation in the annual Hurricane Exposition;
- Offer flood services to insurance agents, citizens, and realtors and advertise this service;

- Ensure new development and redevelopment complies with all applicable regulations;
- Regulate all new development and redevelopment to reduce property damage caused by flooding;
- Regulate on-site management of stormwater run-off;
- Require all new development and redevelopment projects to regulate stormwater run-off and not allow infill without drainage study/report;
- Maintain and improve existing stormwater and drainage facilities;
- Inform citizens and assist in flood mitigation assistance grant projects for mitigation of repetitive loss properties within the City;
- Develop, implement, and update the Stormwater Master Drainage Plan;
- Provide evacuation and shelter information to citizens;
- Encourage purchase of flood insurance through outreach projects;
- Administer business continuity plan to minimize post-disaster business interruptions and apply for grant assistance to develop a Post-disaster Redevelopment Plan and Recovery and Reconstruction Ordinance;
- Continue to participate in a statewide mutual aid agreement;
- Participate in the annual review and update of the Local Mitigation Strategy as a member of the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee;
- Update and coordinate the local Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Land Development Code (LDC), and local ordinances;
- Continue to identify and pursue available grant funds and other funding sources for hazard mitigation activities;
- Use the LDC and Comprehensive Plan to encourage protection of natural resources and resolution of stormwater quantity and quality problems; and
- Enforce building codes to require wind load structural design standards for new construction.

Repetitive Loss Areas:

The City had 40 repetitive loss properties reported after the flooding in the 1990s. Since that time, the City has encouraged residents and developers to mitigate their repetitive loss properties by either demolition or elevation. To date, 12 properties have been mitigated.

Implementation and Maintenance of the LMS:

The City continues to work on drainage improvements and pursue FEMA mitigation grants to elevate homes as ways to mitigate flooding problems in the City. In order to ensure public awareness, the City continues its outreach efforts through its newsletters, mailings, and hand-outs available at City Hall.

Mitigation Project/Programs:

The property located at 7200 Morningstar Lane is continuing the mitigation process with Pasco County. FEMA is intending to purchase this property.

Recommendations:

The City should continue to work toward the goals and objectives of the LMS Guiding Principles. It should determine feasible projects and improvements, and continue to work with Pasco County to identify and pursue available grant fund and other funding sources to assist in accomplishing mitigation efforts. It should continue outreach efforts to increase public awareness of stormwater issues, local hazards, and types of assistance currently available.

This report is being sent to the local media. Copies of the report and the LMS Plan are available for review at City Hall, Development Department, 5919 Main Street. A notice of its availability will be posted on the City's website and at City Hall. This Progress Report was presented to, and accepted by, the City Council of the City of New Port Richey, Florida this 6th day of October, 2015.

ATTEST:

Doreen Summers, City Clerk

Rob Marlowe, Mayor