

2022-23 Report on Repetitive Loss Floodplain Management Plan

All communities in the State of Florida are required to maintain a Comprehensive Plan which addresses, among other things, floodplain protection.

The City participates with Pasco County in the Pasco County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS). Pasco County Department of Emergency Management revises the LMS annually and updates documents as necessary. A new cycle submission of the LMS is due in 2024 for which a new assessment of risks and threat to the City and County will be conducted.

The complete report is available at County libraries and from Pasco County's Department of Emergency Management website at:

[Local Mitigation Strategy | Pasco County, FL - Official Website \(pascocountyfl.net\)](https://www.pascocountyfl.net)

The City's Repetitive Loss Floodplain Management Plan is comprised of goals, objectives and policies from the New Port Richey Comprehensive Plan. The City continues to operate under these objectives. 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 overall 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 hosts two neighborhood clean-up events annually. The last*

event was held in November 2022 and the second event will be May 21, 2023. City residents are encouraged to bring unwanted items to dumpsters rented by the City. The last event, the City disposed of 15.59 tons of unwanted items. In addition, over 55 electronic items, 300 gallons of paint, chemicals, and used oil was properly disposed of.

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 continues to look for available properties in our flood prone areas to purchase to remain as a natural and beneficial floodplain area to be used for passive parkland.*

Coastal Transfer of Development Rights Program:

Objective FLU 3.2 - The City of New Port Richey shall continue to implement the adopted Coastal Transfer of Development Rights program to:

- Assist suitable redevelopment within the Coastal High Hazard Area;
- Protect environmentally-sensitive lands within the Coastal High Hazard Area;
- Redistribute residential development rights allocated by the Future Land Use Map in accordance with objectives CME 2.1, CME 2.2, CME 2.3, and CME 3.4 and their supporting policies; and
- Implement hazard mitigation strategies.

FLU 3.2.4 - Development rights authorized by the Future Land Use Map on lands owned by the City within the Coastal High Hazard Area are transferable to designated receiving lands within the Coastal High Hazard Area.

FLU 3.2.5 - The residential development rights allocated by the Future Land Use Map in the Coastal High Hazard Area shall not be exceeded.

FLU 3.2.6 - In no case shall residential development rights from areas outside the Coastal High Hazard Area (CHHA) be transferred into the Coastal High Hazard Area. *The Transfer Development Rights (TDR) program is still in operation in the City. In May 2022 the City transferred 39.5 credits to the Entitlement Bank Registry to make the total credits available, 102.5. These transfer of development rights will help protect environmentally-sensitive land in the CHHA.*

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 in 2020. The City reviews all land development projects for compliance with the Land Development Code and advises developers 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. Beach St. Stormwater Resiliency Improvements Project has already gone through the design phase, and is in the Capital Improvement Plan to be constructed as soon as notification of the grant has been awarded. In addition, the City maintains to budget \$100,000 annually for Misc. Flood Control/ Water Quality Projects. The following projects have been included in the 2022-2023 5-year Capital Improvement Program:*

- *Carlton Rd, Dartmouth Rd., Berkley Ave. Resiliency Improvements Project*
- *Downtown Resiliency Improvements - Phase I*
- *Aspen St Resiliency Project.*

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 will adopt an updated CIP in the approval of the next City budget this October 2023 for FY 2023-24 through FY 2027-28. Projects include stormwater system improvements and upgrades, along with closed landfill pond rehabilitation. The City's stormwater utility is expected to fund these capital projects.*

Coastal Management Element:

Policy CME 2.2.1 - The City shall maintain or reduce allowable density in the Coastal High Hazard Area (CHHA) 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. In the past few years, City purchased a seven-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 Office of Emergency Management 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 enforcing the elevating of 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 (CHHA) 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. The Beach St. Stormwater Resiliency Improvements project is still in this year's capital improvement program, the City has applied for grant funding that if awarded can potentially be up to 90% of the project cost.*

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- *Aspen St Resiliency Project.*