

MEMORANDUM

TO: David Bullock, Town Manager
FROM: James K. Linkogle, Community Rating System Coordinator
Steve Schield, A.I.C.P., Chairman, Flood Plain Management Committee
SUBJECT: 2016 Annual Progress Report – 2015 Flood Plain Management Plan
DATE: September 16, 2016

BACKGROUND

The Community Rating System (CRS) Program requires a yearly progress report pertaining to our floodplain management plan. The Town adopted Resolution 2015-23 on October 5, 2015 to establish our updated Town of Longboat Key Floodplain Management Plan and to be included as an appendix to the Sarasota County Mitigation Plan. There are four municipalities that participate in the LMS including the Town of Longboat Key. This plan is a necessary tool that aids in identifying all types of hazards and allows for participating communities to be eligible to receive pre-disaster federal funding for mitigation purposes.

As part of the Community Rating System (CRS) Annual Recertification associated with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), the Town must provide an Annual Report for its Floodplain Management Plan. In order to maximize credit for maintaining discounts on NFIP Flood Insurance policies, the Town formed a committee that included appropriate departmental staff and the public. At least one-half of the members needed to be representatives of the public or community stakeholders.

The committee was chaired by Steve Schield, Planner (extra credit was given if the committee was chaired by someone with an AICP certification), and committee members were Steve Carr, contractor; Sandra Ceshker, insurance agent; Michael Drake, real estate representative; Neil Fleet, property management representative; and Marge Suarez, property management representative. James Linkogle, Public Works Project Manager, served as staff liaison to the committee. The committee met quarterly through 2015-16.

The committee reviewed and prepared updates to activities incorporated in the current plan.

DISCUSSION

This progress report addresses our participation in the LMS and gives a detailed report to the Community Rating System for the 2016 recertification process. (A copy of the report is attached.) Recertification is necessary to maintain our current rating of "5" which provides a 25% discount on flood insurance to our residents that live in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends approving the "Community Rating System, 2016 Floodplain Management Plan Progress Report" as part of the consent agenda.

**COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM
FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLAN PROGRESS REPORT
SEPTEMBER 16, 2016**

(Per CRS Coordinators Manual 2013 requirements)

TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY, FLORIDA, NFIP NUMBER 125126

1. Name of the CRS Floodplain Management Plan:

Town of Longboat Key 2015 Floodplain Management Plan

2. Date adopted:

October 5, 2015

3. Location where copies are available for review:

Town of Longboat Key Town Hall
501 Bay Isles Road
Longboat Key, Florida 34228

4. Summarize any floods that occurred during the year (if any):

Passing of Tropical Storm Colin created high tide elevations of 3.7', plus or minus, over a two-day period.

Passing of Hurricane Hermine created high tide elevations of 4.3' to 4.7' over a three-day period.

During the passing of both storms there were impacts to the beach and in-progress beach nourishment projects.

5. What impact did the floods have on the repetitive loss area:

The passing of Tropical Storm Colin resulted in the flooding of three single family structures on one residential street.

The passing of Hurricane Hermine resulted in the documented flooding of ten to twelve single family structures. Final determinations are yet to be made by Town staff based on known elevations in the post storm review.

6. Provide a listing of each element of the original plan and noting accomplishments of the past year:

Please see Attachment "A"; Summary of Action Plan Activities.

7. Were any objectives not reached or is implementation behind schedule? If so, state why:

None noted.

8. Should new projects be started or should any of the recommendations or objectives be revised:

The Town of Longboat Key has no new objectives or recommendation to the Plan at this time.

9. Progress Report discussed and/or made available at a public meeting

The Floodplain Management Plan will be updated annually by the Town Planner, CRS Coordinator, Building Official, and the Floodplain Management Plan Committee Members. The Plan will be submitted and reviewed by appropriate Town departments and Local Mitigation Strategy Committee members. The update will include an overview of this original plan, and provide status reports on projects and any revisions to the plan. Any recommendations or changes will be included in an annual update to Town Commission and made available to the public prior to October 1st of each year. The annual report will be available to the public and released to the media.

The Progress report is included on the Town of Longboat Key Commission Workshop Agenda for the September 26, 2016 meeting.

For more information, contact:

James K. Linkogle, CRS Coordinator

Phone: (941) 316-1958, Ext. 2213

or

Steve Schield, Town Planner;

Phone: (941) 319-1966, Ext. 2514

Attachment "A"

SUMMARY OF ACTION PLAN ACTIVITIES

ACTION PLAN

The Floodplain Management Plan contains an Action Plan that identifies those mitigation actions appropriate to the community's resources, flood hazards, and vulnerable properties. These are incorporated with the goals and initiatives associated with the Local Mitigation Strategy.

◆ Current Activities

These activities were reported to the Town Commission during the adoption process of the 2015 Floodplain Management Plan, and have been updated through the Floodplain Management Plan Committee process in 2015 and 2016 to be included in this report.

Preventive Strategies

- Development Review – Planning Zoning Building Department (PZB): The Town continues to enforce FEMA regulations and standards through its Building and Zoning Departments and local ordinances.
 - STATUS: The Town adopted a revised Flood Ordinance recommended by the State of Florida for concurrence with the current effective Florida Building Code. Town Ordinance 2013-25 replaced the Town Code Chapter 154, Flood Protection Ordinance in entirety and was adopted, effective March 17, 2014. The adoption process was concurrent with the NFIP compliance review and formal adoption of the FEMA Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map for the Manatee County portion of the Island effective the same date. Per Town Code of Ordinances Chapter 150.01, the current version of the adopted Florida Building Code includes provisions for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
 - The Town adopted Ordinance 06-09, Reconstruction of Non-conformities, to require that all structures be brought into compliance with the State of Florida Building Code, FEMA requirements, and local flood control regulations.
 - RECOMMENDATIONS: Monitor status of 2014 Florida Building Code (effective July 1, 2015) changes and potential adoption of International Codes. Continue with the annual public outreach and education programs for understanding of all applicable local, state and federal codes as they pertain to floodplain management principals.

Long Range Planning - PZB: The Town adopted a Vision Plan through Resolution 2011-13 containing the following specific goals related to floodplain management.

- Develop and participate in sustained policy efforts at state and federal levels to develop property and disaster insurance alternatives for coastal communities that help those communities remain economically viable.

- Increase public education and information on public safety, particularly disaster issues.
 - Maintain a high level of readiness for disaster response.
 - Continue to participate with other governments in cooperative efforts to protect and restore Sarasota Bay.
 - Periodically examine the beach management program as needed, including regional cooperation.
 - Seek opportunities to purchase open space for public use, with public input, as to features, uses, and costs.
- STATUS: The Town's plan is in process, including potential amendments to the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

In October 2013 the Town hired the Urban Land Institute (ULI) to conduct a community study. The ULI Advisory Services Panel Report provided an analysis of the existing conditions in the Town and for its future. The ULI study made the following specific recommendations concerning climate adaptation and coastal resiliency:

- Research and understand new flood insurance.
 - Re-establish, maintain, and promote native vegetation along the coastline.
 - Implement planning management tools such as setbacks and buffers, and zoning plus development regulations and incentives.
 - Improve access to education and information, particularly through coastal monitoring systems, advisory notice, and evacuation plans.
 - Coordinate neighborhood plans with city and regional strategies.
 - Link outcomes of site analysis, vulnerability assessment, and resilience enhancement to the waterfront planning process.
- RECOMMENDATIONS:
- Follow through with the adopted Vision Plan and recommendations of the ULI Study.
 - Track progress quarterly on an annual basis. Continue to look for opportunities for conserving open space within the Town's boundaries through its land use and zoning regulations.
 - Adopted revisions to the Comprehensive Plan including Coastal Conservation Elements, Recreational Open Space, including Sustainability Elements, will be completed by the Fall of 2016.

- Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) – All Participating Town Departments: The Town continues to participate in the LMS process for hazard mitigation initiatives and projects.
 - STATUS: Staff continues participation in scheduled meetings with both Sarasota and Manatee counties. The LMS Working Group includes the area jurisdictions of the Cities of Sarasota, North Port, Venice, the Town of Longboat Key, Sarasota County and the Tampa Bay Regional and Southwest Regional Planning Councils. One purpose of the LMS is to provide consistency of flood-plain management issues within participating communities. Additionally, the LMS provides participating communities in the Community Rating System a platform for coordinating the updating of the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps and Risk Map Analysis Initiative.
 - RECOMMENDATIONS: Continue Town involvement with coordination between the Town and the two County LMS plans. Continued participation in LMS Working Groups with reaching goals and objectives identified by the group. The process of updating each County LMS was completed in the Spring of 2016.
- Community Rating System (CRS) PZB – Public Works Department (PW): The Town continues to participate in the NFIP/CRS program.
 - STATUS: Staff completed the process of the 5-Year CRS Verification Visit by Insurance Service Office which commenced September 23, 2014.

The Town received the results of the Verification Visit on November 23, 2015, a Class upgrade from Class 6 to a Class 5 Community. Effective May 1, 2016 this Classification provides for a total 25% discount to all applicable NFIP flood insurance policy holders.
 - RECOMMENDATIONS: Staff continue to work with Insurance Service Office and FEMA Region IV to maintain Town’s CRS rating and required activities.

■ **Property Protection**

- Education of Repetitive Loss Property Owners – PW & PZB: Annual outreach through Town newsletter.
 - STATUS: An educational outreach letter to each repetitive loss property was mailed in August 2016.

The 2016 Annual Summer Newsletter was mailed the last week of August 2016 to all addresses within the Town zip code. Information included flood awareness, flood safety, property protection methods, and hurricane preparedness and response information.
 - RECOMMENDATIONS: Continue to improve the Town’s formal outreach program to inform Repetitive Loss property owners of options for mitigation and

funding. Continue to include updated information about the Homeowners Flood Insurance Affordability Reform Act of 2014/15.

- Enforcing New Construction and Renovation Standards - PZB
Continuously enforce the current 2014 Florida Building Code edition as adopted by State Statute.
 - STATUS: Building Inspectors and Plans Examiners continue their review of the current Florida Building Code (FBC) and any amendments. Staff attends scheduled opportunities to maintain Continuing Education requirements for Building Officials, Building Inspectors, Plans Examiners, Code Enforcement and Certified Floodplain Managers.
 - RECOMMENDATIONS: Educate contractors and the public as to any changes in the FBC and amendments with emphasis on flood protection techniques and requirements by including in annual outreach meetings.
- Conduct Public Outreach Programs – PZB & PW
 - STATUS: The Town held two public forums, one on March 22, 2016 for seasonal residents, and a Hurricane Awareness Seminar on June 9, 2016 at Town Hall to discuss Flood Protection and Hurricane Awareness and Preparedness.
 - RECOMMENDATIONS: Continue to hold annual public forums and investigate opportunities for additional public outreach and utilize the local media to educate the public. Support the required maintenance of the Floodplain Management Plan Committee (quarterly).

■ Natural Resource Protection

- Sarasota Bay Estuary Program – PZB & PW
The Town is a member of and provides financial support to the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program to enhance the preservation and/or creation of the local floodplains and wetlands.
 - STATUS: Continue to support wetland protection in Sarasota Bay.
 - RECOMMENDATIONS: Continue current support, investigate opportunities for restoration and protection of wetlands, Natural Beneficial Functions of the floodplains and preservation of Open Space. Continue Town representation at regularly scheduled meetings on the Policy, Technical and Citizen Committees for the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program.
- Town Wetlands Protection and Restoration – PZB & PW
 - Durante Park, Phase Four project
 - Sisters Key Restoration Project
 - Lyons Lane Restoration Project
 - Quick Point Nature Preserve
 - Greer Island

- STATUS: The wetland mitigation project on Sister Keys, completed in August 2008, has completed the five-year permit-required monitoring and maintenance program.
- RECOMMENDATIONS: Continue to monitor restoration projects efforts in all parks and on Sisters Key. Investigate additional opportunities for Public Outreach and Education as to Natural and Beneficial Functions of the floodplain and preservation of open space, at minimum, on an annual basis or at quarterly Floodplain Management Plan Committee meetings.
- Beach Renourishment Projects – PW
 - In the Summer of 2016, the Town completed a central island truck haul project which nourished four eroded segments of the beach by placing over 200,000 cubic yards of sand. During late Summer and Fall, both New Pass on the southern end and Longboat Pass on the northern end will utilize authorized inlet channel borrow areas to place an additional 400,000 cubic yards of sand on adjacent shorelines. Beach renourishment projects provide additional shoreline and dune protection for upland structures.