

Santa Rosa County Multi-Jurisdictional 2016 Flood Mitigation Plan Evaluation Report

Introduction

Santa Rosa County first joined the Community Rating System in October 1993. The County has been an active participant in the development and implementation of the Santa Rosa County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) since its inception in the late Nineteen-Nineties. Until 2010, the LMS has also served as the community's floodplain management plan. Though the County has been able to make significant progress over the years using this plan, on January 6, 2009, the Local Mitigation Strategy officially authorized the formation of a Flood Mitigation Plan Task Force to develop a new plan, one that was specifically focused on flooding impacts to the entire community including the jurisdictions of Jay, Milton, and Gulf Breeze. This Task Force met consistently over a period of approximately twelve months and completed the Plan. On February 10, 2011, the Santa Rosa County Commission officially adopted the *Santa Rosa County Multi-Jurisdictional Flood Mitigation Plan*. On June 13, 2011 FEMA officially approved the plan. A copy of the plan is available at the Santa Rosa County Flood Plain Management Office and on the County's website.

In an effort to ensure that there is a continuing and responsive planning process, the following procedure is included in the Santa Rosa County Multi-Jurisdictional Flood Mitigation Plan (Section Eleven):

The Floodplain Management Plan Task Force responsible for the development of this plan shall meet annually in the month of August. Prior to the meeting, the Floodplain Manager and Grants and Special Projects Coordinator will jointly prepare a draft Floodplain Management Plan Evaluation Report that will be presented at the annual August meeting. The Task Force will review and discuss the report, after which it may be revised before the Task Force adopts it. The report shall include:

- *A review of the original plan*
- *A review of any floods that occurred during the previous calendar year*
- *A review of the action items in the original plan, including how much was accomplished during the previous year*
- *A discussion of why any action items were not completed or why implementation is behind schedule*
- *Recommendations for new projects or revised action items. Such recommendations shall be subject to approval by the County Commission as amendments to the adopted plan*

A Review of the Original Plan

A 5 year plan update of the *Santa Rosa County Multi-Jurisdictional Flood Mitigation Plan* has been completed. The Plan was approved by the State of Florida on May 18, 2016 and adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on May 26, 2016.

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A Review of Any Floods That Occurred During the Previous Calendar Year

The county has multiple departments including the Emergency Operations Center, the Public Works Department and the Floodplain Management Office that record flooding events and these events are also documented in our Computer Department's and GIS records for future planning purposes. Since July 2015, when the last evaluation was completed, we have not experienced any significant heavy rainfall or flooding events.

A Review of the Action Items in the Original Plan

As a whole, the action plan has been very successfully addressed in the past and many items have been either pursued or completed effectively.

A Discussion of Why Any Action Items Were Not Completed

Action items that were not successful were discussed and either modified or replaced with an item deemed by the FMTF more likely to be successful.

Recommendations for New Projects or Revised Action Items

The *Santa Rosa County Multi-Jurisdictional Flood Mitigation Plan* has been in effect for approximately 6 years. During this time, many of the action items have either been completed or have progressed considerably. As a result of the April 30, 2014 Flood Event, many areas in the south end including Holley By the Sea, were identified as those needing additional stormwater/drainage improvements. As a result of input from Santa Rosa County Public Works and the Engineering department, the county submitted four new stormwater drainage projects through the HMGP program including the Pace Lane and Patterson Lane area (Pace); the Chipper and Maranatha Lane (Pace); the Ranchettes/Whisper Bay Sub (Gulf Breeze); and an additional project in Villa Venyce. Each project is currently in the design phase and construction is expected in 2017. Additional activities are ongoing related to the prioritization of projects in the Holley By The Sea Master Plan Study including identification of funding and a plan for implementation. The Local Mitigation Strategy Committee will continue to address these problem areas and adjust the LMS project priority listing for consideration of Mitigation Grant funding.

Santa Rosa County has been exceptionally active and proactive concerning flood mitigation since the development of the Flood Mitigation Plan. Following is a summary of some of the specific activities undertaken by the County to strengthen flood mitigation:

Community Outreach

As described further in the attached Plan for Public Information, the Floodplain Management Office works in coordination with the Emergency Management Division to conduct community outreach multiple times throughout the year and through various

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activities and formats. Outreach by Stakeholders is also encouraged and supported by staff.

Floodplain Management

- Conducted 3 Realtor/Lender/Agent workshops.
- Participated as a panelist and made a presentation at the Gulf Coast Community of Practice Annual Meeting.
- Flyers produced by Florida Department of Emergency Management were distributed to kiosks and local agencies for availability to the public.
- Updated the floodplain website twice in 2016.
- Participated in SAFER Santa Rosa Expo for the 6th year on May 21, 2016.
- Working with the Santa Rosa County Tax Collector and the Public Information Officer to send out annual flood safety information with the Tax bills.

Emergency Response Preparedness

- Annual Hurricane Exercise (flood recovery) conducted May 18th 2016
- Participated in SAFER Santa Rosa Expo for the 6th year on May 21, 2016
- Participated in the Senior Expo on March 17, 2016.
- Participated in the Whiting Field Military Appreciation day May 13, 2016
- Distribute flood information at ‘Love My Neighbor’ event 28 Aug 16
- Discuss flood issues at Sunrise Kiwanis 10 Aug 16
- Had flood scenario in EOC activation exercise 18 May 16
- Santa Rosa PrepareAthon was 16-21 May with 17 may focused on “know
 - Tuesday – Visit floodsmart.gov and our county page, plus our SM sites, media push for this, use all assets to include chambers to push information
 - Wednesday – Tornado drill, tsunami and flood will be the small scenarios we run on the day of our exercise (which is really a great way to educate of WebEOC)
 - Thursday – hold our open house and try to get FDs to do so as well.
- Discussed local hazards to include floods with Boy Scouts working on Preparedness badge
- Santa Rosa Hospital ER Grand Opening May 14, 2016
- Wal-Mart, Navarre, FL Safety Awareness Month June 25, 2016
- Santa Rosa County Employee Health Fair July 27, 2016

Major Drainage Improvement or other Mitigation Project Construction

- Evaluated severe repetitive loss listing for eligibility in the flood mitigation program to elevate structure.

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- Five properties were identified for further review for 2015. We are awaiting approval from FEMA on these applications.
- Submitted one application for 2016- 1139 Ceylon Ct.
- Elevation Project at 3135 Harrison St is complete.
- Elevation Project at 8120 Glenview Rd is complete.
- Elevation Project at 1690 College Pkwy is complete.
- Elevation Project at 6036 Saddle Club Rd is complete.
- Completed Phase II construction of Settlers Colony Project which was funded through an HMGP allocation. We are also pursuing additional funding through available HMGP allocations to expand/re-scope the project to allow for additional improvements in the vicinity. This project is current in EHP review with FEMA.
- Master stormwater/drainage study Holley By the Sea is complete.
- Recently completed the Settlers Colony HMGP project. The following are HMGP projects that are currently being designed-Venetian Way/Coronado Drive, Chipper/Maranatha Drive, Ranchettes, and Pace/Paterson Drive. Aquamarine Drive and Vestavia Way are HMGP project that will begin phase I design in September.

To obtain a copy of the *Santa Rosa County Multi-Jurisdictional Flood Mitigation Plan*, visit the website location specified below or contact: Karen Thornhill, Floodplain Manager at 850-981-7029.

To obtain a copy of the *Santa Rosa County Multi-Jurisdictional Flood Mitigation Plan Annual Plan Evaluation Report*, contact:

Sheila Fitzgerald, Grants & Special Projects Director at 850-983-1848 or visit the following link:
www.santarosa.fl.gov/lms