

SECTION 4
LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

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GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Overview

Based on the hazards and vulnerability analyses, the next step in the LMS planning process was the development of definitive, realistic goals and objectives.

With the update of the 2015 Local Mitigation Strategy, the LMS Committee modified the goals and objectives to provide a clear, concise strategy on where to expend additional funds; as well as address mitigation as a comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional program.

In addition to non-structural approaches (growth management) to mitigation, public education campaigns as well as the hardening of critical facilities and shelters; the concepts of community resiliency and intergovernmental and inter-agency coordination remain critical to the LMS.

The LMS Committee focused on the hazard-specific goals to maintain the “all-hazards” approach. Additionally, objectives were reviewed and modified to achieve these goals.

The four goals adopted for the LMS Plan are:

- 1. Become a More Disaster Resilient Community.**
- 2. Minimize Coastal, Riverine, and Inland Flooding Losses throughout the County.**
- 3. Minimize Storm Wind Losses throughout the County.**
- 4. Minimize Wildfire Losses in the Forest / Urban Interface Areas.**

Specific Measures

Mitigation tools and techniques fall into three broad categories: (1) structural techniques including design and construction; (2) environmental interventions and (3) non-structural interventions.

Structural mitigation projects include strengthening of vulnerable structures and public facilities to withstand wind, fire and other forces, elevation of structures to protect them from flood damage, construction of storm water control facilities and drainage improvements. Environmental intervention refers to actions that reduce the vulnerability of communities by armoring them against the elements. This term includes beach restoration and stabilization projects. Non- structural mitigation refers to policies for avoiding hazard impacts, applying zoning restrictions, land acquisition in the floodplain, promoting citizen awareness and public education initiatives.

Each goal identified objectives which fell into one of five (5) specific measures:

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A. Prevention:

Government administrative or regulatory actions or processes that influence the way land and buildings are developed and built. These actions also include public activities to reduce hazard losses. Examples include planning and zoning, building codes, capital improvement programs, open space, preservation and storm water management regulation.

B. Property Protection:

Actions that involve the modification of building or infrastructure to protect them from a hazard or removal from the hazard area. Examples include acquisition, elevation, relocation, structural retrofits, flood proofing, storm shutters, and impact-resistant glass.

C. Public Education and Awareness:

Actions to inform and educate citizens, elected officials and property owners about potential risks from hazards and potential ways to mitigate them. Such actions include outreach projects, real estate disclosure, hazard information centers, and school-age and adult education programs.

D. Natural Resource Protection:

Actions that, in addition to minimizing hazard losses also preserve or restore the functions of natural systems. These actions include sediment and erosion control, stream corridor restoration, watershed management, forest and vegetation management and wetland restoration and preservation.

E. Structural Projects:

These are actions that involve the construction of structures to reduce the impact of a hazard. Such structures include storm water controls, floodwalls, seawalls, retaining walls and safe rooms.

The implementation of a mitigation program is a key component in the achievement of a “sustainable community”, one in which citizens, businesses and institutions are protected from the disruptions and impacts of disasters. In a county such as Santa Rosa County, coordination among and between levels of government is critical to the success of the program.

The LMS established the goals and objectives listed on the following pages (Table 4-1) as a foundation of the countywide mitigation strategy. These were approved by the LMS Committee at the September 24, 2015 meeting.

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Table 4-1: Mitigation Strategy - Goals and Objectives

Goals	Activity Class	Objectives	Actions	Implementation Documents	Agency/Depts.
Goal 1: Become a more disaster resilient community.	A. Preventive Measures	Objective 1.A.1: Adopt and enforce building codes, floodplain regulations, comprehensive plans, and land development codes which provide for enhanced public safety and structural integrity of buildings and infrastructure in order to achieve mitigation goals.	Local governments have adopted and will enforce the identified codes and will update periodically as needed.	Building Code, Comprehensive Plans, and Land Development Codes	County Development Services; City of Milton Planning Department; Gulf Breeze Community Services Department; Town of Jay City Clerk
	A. Preventive Measures	Objective 1.A.2: Local governments, non-governmental organizations, and businesses should develop and maintain Continuity of Operations (COOP) Plans which minimize the impact of business interruption and protect vital records.	Local government departments prepare and update individual COOPs; promote Business Continuity Plans, encourage non-profits to develop continuity plans.	Department emergency response plans; COOPs	County Emergency Management; all local government departments
	A. Preventive Measures	Objective 1.A.3: Continue to maintain and implement the Santa Rosa County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) which addresses preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.	The County's CEMP, currently dated 2014, is updated every 4 to 5 years.	CEMP	County Emergency Management
	A. Preventive Measures	Objective 1.A.4: Provide training opportunities and encourage staff to pursue professional development in all	Provide in-house training opportunities and encourage participation in low cost professional development	County and municipal departmental training plans.	County Emergency Management, Grants, Building

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Goals	Activity Class	Objectives	Actions	Implementation Documents	Agency/Depts.
		areas of hazard mitigation.	events related to all areas of hazard mitigation including emergency management, building inspections, planning, floodplain management, and grants.		Inspections, and Floodplain Management Depts; County and municipal Planning Depts
	B. Property Protection	Objective 1.B.1: Continue to utilize federal and state programs to encourage and provide incentives to private property owners to make homes more resistant to natural disasters.	The County will continue to work with owners of repetitive loss properties to apply for HMGP funds to elevate homes. The County will also continue to support area non-profits such as Rebuild NWFL, Community Action of Pensacola, and United Way to assist property owners in hardening their homes against disasters.	LMS; FMP	County Grants, Housing, and Floodplain Management
	B. Property Protection	Objective 1.B.2: Identify, assess, prioritize, and harden critical facilities and key critical infrastructure.	Each government, through the updating of the CEMP and LMS, assesses the status of critical facilities and infrastructure.	CEMP; LMS	Emergency Management; county and municipal public works and administration
	C. Public Education & Awareness	Objective 1.C.1: Maintain a public awareness campaign that informs citizens, officials, and businesses about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Potential risks; - Mitigation alternatives; - Incentives and funding assistance 	Continue Emergency Management and Floodplain Management education activities via internet, news outlets, social media, direct mailings, signage, training, and speaking opportunities.	FMP; website; Hurricane Guides	County Emergency Management Department and Flood Management Office
	D. Natural Resource	Objective 1.D.1: Adopt and enforce Land Development	Each local government has adopted Land Development	County and municipality LDCs.	County and municipal

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Goals	Activity Class	Objectives	Actions	Implementation Documents	Agency/Depts.
	Protection	regulations that provide for protection of environmentally sensitive lands, i.e., wetlands, coastal areas, and flood plains, in order to achieve mitigation goals.	Codes that provide this protection; continue to enforce and update as necessary.		Planning Departments; Jay Town Clerk
	D. Natural Resource Protection	Objective 1.D.2: Support environmental land acquisition programs which limit development in hazards prone areas while protecting environmental lands and/or providing recreational opportunities.	177,762 acres in unincorporated Santa Rosa County are designated Conservation/Recreation on the Future Land Use Map. Most of these are state-owned properties that protect environmental resources while removing hazard prone areas from development, particularly floodprone areas.	County Comprehensive Plan; LMS; FMP	BOCC, County Planning & Zoning Dept; County Grants Dept.
	E. Structural Projects	Objective 1.E.1: Support the construction of structures that reduce the impact of hazards including storm water controls, seawalls, security and monitoring capabilities, and shelters.	Enforce adopted building and land development codes related to structural mitigation; develop, prioritize, and seek funding for structural mitigation projects.	Building Code; LDCs; LMS	County Building Dept; county and municipal Planning; Grants; Engineering and Public Works Depts.
Goal 2: Minimize coastal, riverine, and inland flooding losses throughout the county.	A. Preventive Measures	Objective 2.A.1: Enforce adopted building codes; floodplain management regulations; and land development codes related to stormwater management.	The County enforces the Florida Building Code for all areas in the county. The floodplain management ordinance is adopted in the County's Land Development Code. The County and each municipality have adopted stormwater management	Building Code; LDCs	County Building Dept; county and municipal Planning and Engineering Depts.

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Goals	Activity Class	Objectives	Actions	Implementation Documents	Agency/Depts.
			codes to prevent flood losses. The County and municipalities will continue to enforce these regulations.		
	B. Property Protection	Objective 2.B.1: Continue to work with repetitive loss property owners to apply for HMGP grant funds for elevating their homes.	Contact repetitive loss homeowners to advise of availability of HMGP funds and assist them with the application process.	LMS; FMP	Grants Dept and Floodplain Management Office
	C. Public Education & Awareness	Objective 3.C.1: Provide residents and property owners with up-to-date information regarding their: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hurricane Evacuation Zone; - Flood Zone; and - Opportunities to participate in programs which can assist them with their mitigation efforts. 	Continue Floodplain Management education activities via internet, news outlets, social media, direct mailings, signage, training, and speaking opportunities.	FMP; website	Floodplain Management Office and Emergency Management
	D. Natural Resource Protection	Objective 3.D.1: Protect by regulation, acquisition and/or restoration, existing natural areas, particularly in the floodplain.	Enforce land development regulations that protect shorelines. Support acquisition and restoration projects that mitigate flood events.	LDCs; LMS; FMP	County and municipal planning depts.; County Grants Dept.
	E. Structural Projects	Objective 3.E.1: Identify structural projects where appropriate that minimize flooding loss.	Update Comprehensive Plan Capital Improvements Elements; local capital improvement programs; and LMS project lists.	County and municipal Comprehensive Plans and capital programs; LMS	County and municipal Planning, Eng, and Public Works Depts; County Grants Dept

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Goals	Activity Class	Objectives	Actions	Implementation Documents	Agency/Depts.
Goal 3: Minimize storm wind losses throughout the county.	A. Preventive Measures	Objective 3.A.1: Enforce the adopted Building Code with regard to wind resistance.	Continue to enforce the Florida Building Code.	Building Code	County Building Dept.
	B. Property Protection	Objective 3.B.1: Continue to utilize federal and state programs to encourage and provide incentives to private property owners to harden homes against wind damage.	Continue to support area non-profits such as Rebuild NWFL and Community Action of Pensacola to assist property owners in hardening their homes against wind damage.	LMS	County Building Inspections, Grants and Housing Depts.
	E. Structural Projects	Objective 3.E.1: Identify structural construction techniques that minimize wind loss damage to critical facilities and infrastructure.	Each local government, through update of the LMS and CEMP will assess the status of critical facilities.	CEMP, LMS	County Emergency Management, Engineering, and Public Works; municipal city and town managers, Public Works, and Utility Depts.
Goal 4: Minimize wildfire losses in the forest/urban interface areas.	A. Preventive Measures	Objective 4.A.1: Enforce adopted building codes related to fire protection.	The County, in conjunction with municipalities and fire districts, will enforce the adopted building code.	Building Code	County Building Dept; fire districts
	A. Preventive Measures	Objective 4.A.2: Evaluate the adoption of “firewise” policies to minimize risk.	The County and municipalities will evaluate firewise policies for inclusion in LDCs or provision of educational materials.	LDC	County and municipal Planning Depts.

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Goals	Activity Class	Objectives	Actions	Implementation Documents	Agency/Depts.
	D. Natural Resource Protection	Objective 4.D.1: Conduct prescriptive burning programs in forested areas.	Carry out controlled burning, mechanical vegetative thinning, and timber thinning policies of local forest management plans.	Forest management plans	FI Forest Service; County Emergency Management

MITIGATION INITIATIVES