

## A Review of the Action Items in the Original Plan for 2020

The Action Plan Items are shown below and an update on the progress made for each item is depicted in red:

### 1. Maintain the County's strong regulatory flood prevention standards, including:

- o Utilization of 100-year design storm for development
- o Closed basin design
- o Lot grading plan
- o Freeboard in all SFHAs
- o Coastal A Zone Requirements – 200' of mht

This activity is conducted throughout the year. The County Floodplain Management Ordinance was updated (2016-07) on March 10, 2016 with the amendments to the Florida Building Code (2016-04) updated on February 25th, 2016. This was done to be in compliance with the Florida Model ordinance.

### 2. Prioritize addressing of flooding issues in repetitive loss areas and implement capital projects to mitigate flooding. Drainage issues should continue to be prioritized in the capital improvement program, particularly in repetitive loss areas. A half cent Local Option Sales Tax was approved in FY 2017 and identification of drainage projects within the capital improvement program is a county priority. To supplement local funding, the County must continue to be proactive in obtaining additional grant funding for this program. The following sources are recommended:

- o Community Development Block Program
- o Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant
- o Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

As funding opportunities become available in the above referenced programs, the grants coordinator in consultation with the Public Works Assistant Director, County Administrator and CDBG consultant will discuss priority flooding issues and determine which projects should be submitted for funding depending on many factors including critical need, estimated cost of the project in comparison to the available grant budget and other factors. This activity is ongoing.

### 3. Implement County's Plan for Public Information.

The Public Information Outreach Strategy was formally replaced with the Plan for Public Information in July 2015. The Flood Mitigation Task Force met on [November 19, 2020](#) to update the PPI. The updated list is attached.

### 4. Pursue appropriate grants to enhance flood mitigation, including one or more of the following:

- o Flood Mitigation Assistance Program Grant
- o Hazard Mitigation Grant
- o Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant

Grant application through the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program are submitted on an annual basis depending on interest of eligible property owners. Grant applications through the Hazard Mitigation Grant program are submitted post disaster upon availability of funding.

5. Implement the following structural drainage projects previously identified in the Unincorporated County Mitigation Initiatives

- o Venetian Way/Coronado Dr (east of Coronado Drive)
- o Chipper/Maranatha Dr
- o Ranchettes / Northridge / Whisper Bay
- o Pace/Patterson Dr
- o Settlers Colony Expansion Project (west of Coronado Drive)

Construction for the Venetian Way/Coronado and Settlers Colony Expansion project are underway with completion anticipated in 2019; Chipper/Maranatha/; and Pace/Patterson drainage projects is underway are complete. Construction completion is anticipated in 2019. Construction of the Settlers Colony Expansion project will begin in September 2018, with completion anticipated in 2019. The Ranchettes/Northridge/Whisper Bay project is in right of way acquisition phase.

2020 Update: All the above drainage improvement construction projects are complete with the exception of Ranchettes/Northridge/Whisper Bay which have just completed right-of-way acquisition.

6. Implement capital flood mitigation improvement projects in the following repetitive loss areas:

- o Settlers Colony
- o Villa Venyce

A total of seven individual properties have been mitigated through the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program. Staff will continue to work with residents on the SRL and RL list to determine eligibility for individual property mitigation. Hazard Mitigation Grant funded Stormwater drainage projects in the Greenbriar and Villa Venyce areas are believed to have aided these areas significantly during the April 30, 2014 flood event. The Settlers Colony Expansion project will encompass substantial improvements in this repetitive loss area. Update: The Settlers Colony Expansion Project is under construction and will end by late 2019 or early 2020.

2020 Update: The Settlers Colony Expansion Project is complete.

7. Provide for shore/bank stabilization at Russel Harbor landing to protect Russel Harbor Rd. from further degradation and to prevent the loss of recreational opportunities.

Grant funds are needed to complete this project. Once funds have been identified, project will begin.

8. Provide knowledgeable staff to assist citizens before, during and after an event to understand their repair/rebuilding/flooding/mitigation options.

This activity is conducted throughout the year. Staff members attend continuing education training to maintain/improve their level of knowledge. Staff also attended the Florida Floodplain Managers Virtual Conference in April 2020.

9. Update Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) to include elevations in all Special Flood Hazard Areas.

This activity is currently underway. Preliminary maps were received on July 18, 2016 and are currently under review. The new maps revise a good portion of the county that were not indicating elevations and changing some properties in/out of the SFHA or the elevation requirements. 2020 Update: The appeal period ended on October 23, 2020 and the proposed effective date is in July 2021. We are currently waiting on the letter confirming this from FEMA Headquarters.

10. Identify all critical facilities located within Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs) and make contingency plans for those facilities under the responsibility of the county and continue to work with other agencies to assist with their contingency plans, in the event of flooding.

This activity is conducted throughout the year.

11. The Division of Emergency Management will implement the Post-disaster Mitigation Policy and Procedures outlined in Appendix R.

This activity is conducted on a post-disaster recovery basis.

12. The Division of Emergency Management shall ensure that immediately prior to, during and after a hurricane or flood event, pertinent information will be posted concerning major points of interest, such as bridge and road closures, evacuation orders, emergency shelter locations and electrical outages, utilizing the following media:

- o County website
- o Email advisements
- o Television Government Access Channel
- o Electronic message boards
- o Reverse 911 telephone system
- o AlertSantaRosa.com
- o Public Service Announcements through local media
- o Brochure handouts at PODs
- o Other social media as applicable

This activity is conducted on an as-needed basis and was utilized as appropriate during the last year

13. The Division of Emergency Management shall ensure optimal staffing of emergency management personnel to receive and respond to emergency events.

Staffing levels are routinely monitored and adjusted on an as-needed basis to ensure optimal staffing.

14. Continue to prioritize reduction of repetitive loss properties through various means of mitigation, updating repetitive loss forms and removing properties from Repetitive Loss List.

This activity is conducted throughout the year. AW-501's have or will be sent on properties mitigated.

15. Work with County Housing Program to provide education to home buyers regarding flood information.

County Housing asks for and receives a flood determination on all properties for which assistance is provided. This is done via email between the housing program and the floodplain manager.

16. Continue to require that installation of stormwater management facilities made necessary by new development is the responsibility of the developer.

This is required by the Land Development Code as part of every site plan review.

17. Consider the relocation, mitigating or replacement of infrastructure currently present within the Coastal High Hazard Area where state funding is anticipated to be needed, as identified in the Local Mitigation Strategy Priority List.

This activity is conducted throughout the year and action taken when appropriate.

18. Integrate response to flooded homes with appropriate response organizations (Red Cross, Baptist Association, etc).

This activity is conducted on a post disaster basis. Regular communication and training occurs between the county and response organizations to ensure optimal response efforts.

19. Continue active participation in the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program to mitigate NFIP insured repetitively flooded properties.

Applications have been submitted through the FMA program for the last nine of ten years. Since the last plan update, three homes have been elevated. A total of 17 repetitive loss properties have been elevated or acquired. There is currently one SRL properties that are being considered for funding in the 2020 cycle.

2020 Update: Two SRL properties were funded for elevation in the FMA 2018 cycle.

20. Assist with establishment of Disaster Recovery Center (DRC).

This activity is on-going and we are ready to assist as needed.

21. Ensure citizens know how to contact FEMA post flood.

This activity is conducted on an as-needed basis. Information is contained on the county's website and in our disaster guides. All employees received an email with important information to give out to citizens which included FEMA assistance contact information and locations of DRCs.

22. Include notification of grants, loans and service availability in all County publications, seminars and websites that address flood mitigation.

Property owners of repetitively flooded properties are notified by the state and the county of the availability of grant funds. A press release is also generated when workshops are held notifying the public of the availability of grant funds. Social media was also used to spread the word about grant funding availability.

23. Maintain and enforce designation of Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) property.

Ongoing – this is done by staff, on a daily basis.

24. Maintain strong working relationship with all state and federal agencies including Northwest Florida Water Management District in an effort to ensure that our regulations pertaining to floodplain management are equal to or are greater than their regulations.

Ongoing – this is done by staff on a daily basis. The Floodplain Manager is in contact with the NFWMD, State DEM, FEMA and other agencies.

25. Implement strict enforcement of best management practices for reducing erosion during development activity.

Erosion Control plan is part of site plan and WMD permit that has enforcement capabilities. This activity is conducted throughout the year. The county's building inspection department has increased efforts to enforce the implementation of erosion control practices on the construction sites for single family homes and has hired a site inspector to further that effort.

26. Assist citizens with Letter of Map Amendment and Letter of Map Revision Paperwork.

Ongoing – this is done by staff on a daily basis. The Floodplain Manager has assisted numerous individuals with LOMA (Letter of Map Amendment) paperwork. Floodplain Manager reviews all LOMA and LOMR requests prior to being submitted to FEMA. **There is currently one LOMA in review as of this date.**

27. Encourage individual property owners to pursue percolation-oriented drainage improvements using best management practices through outreach and education. Drainage that seeps into the soil, rather than being directed out to the open water, provides multiple benefits. Not only does it mitigate flooding, but it also recharges the aquifer, enhances water quality, and reduces erosion.

**This activity is ongoing throughout the year.**

28. Review County Code of Ordinances to strengthen maintenance requirements of private stormwater management facilities.

Staff will continue efforts to strengthen language in the county codes related to the ongoing maintenance on privately owned and operated stormwater management facilities. Owners of private stormwater facilities (ponds, swales, pipes etc.) for commercial and non-county maintained residential developments have an ongoing obligation to maintain their facilities in accordance with the standards approved with the issued permits and county development order. Code Enforcement staff respond to complaints of non-compliant facilities only after possible negative impacts have occurred. A cooperative and pro-active set of standards can be sought to lessen the likelihood of stormwater system failures as an effort to reduce flooding.

29. Consider acquisition of natural areas for parks or open space.

Policy 7.1.B.6 of the Comprehensive Plan requires the County to consider the acquisition of open space and natural areas on a continuous basis. This activity is ongoing.

30. Require designation of open space property for all major development.

Policy 7.1.B.5 of the Comprehensive Policy requires the designation of neighborhood sized active parks, playing fields, usable open space, trail systems, water access or other recreational or open space areas/facilities an Policy 7.1.B requires the continued cooperative efforts between public and private sectors of recreational opportunities.

31. The Division of Emergency Management shall ensure adherence to the County's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, particularly in the event of evacuation orders.

This activity is conducted as appropriate.

32. The Public Works Department shall provide information on where to get sandbags to residents prior to impending floods. Public Works will have sand available for residents to fill sandbags.

This activity is conducted as appropriate and with the approval of appropriate administration. The County is prepared for distributions as the need arises.

33. Continue County's periodic inspection program of county-maintained stormwater control structures to ensure the proper functioning of such structures.

A County inspection and maintenance crew, that utilizes inmate labor, is assigned the task of addressing all issues discovered relative to the functioning of our stormwater facilities. This activity is conducted throughout the year and includes: the cleaning of debris and trash from the ponds, mowing, fence repair, and the cleaning of pond bottoms to restore percolation. The inmate squad is assisted by our District Crew when heavy machinery is involved.

34. Ensure that all public buildings that serve first response and critical emergency/public needs, including record/data collection and communication centers/infrastructure, are located outside of flood zones or flood-prone areas.

According to the data collected for the Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan the following structures that serve first response and critical emergency/public needs are located in flood zones or flood-prone areas: Milton EMS Station is in 0.2% ACF zone, Avalon Beach-Mulat Fire Dept Station #2 is in a 0.2% ACF zone, Milton Well #1 is in a 0.2% ACF zone, Navarre Beach Fire Dept is in an AE flood zone, Navarre Beach wells #2 & 3 are in an AE flood zone, Milton WWTP is in an AE flood zone, Navarre Beach STP & utilities office are in an AE flood zone, Jackson Pre-K School is in an AE flood zone, Santa Rosa County Courthouse is in an AE flood zone, and approximately 70 lift stations are in various flood zones. The county works to relocate and/or mitigate first response and critical emergency/public needs infrastructure as appropriate based on funding limitations and geographic needs.

35. Continue practice of identifying and correcting localized drainage problems so that the best possible drainage standards are maintained.

This activity is conducted throughout the year. County maintenance crews have focused drainage improvement activities on the areas that have demonstrated the need during prolonged periods of rain. Numerous projects have been identified and we are currently working towards obtaining funding for these projects.

36. Include separate updating of the *Flood Mitigation Plan* in the *Local Mitigation Strategy* 5-year updates.

Per the plan, separate updating of the *Flood Mitigation Plan* shall occur in conjunction with the *Local Hazard Mitigation Strategy* 5-year updates. The *Flood Mitigation Plan* is included as an appendix to the *Local Hazard Mitigation Strategy*. The five-year update was completed and the plan was approved by the State of Florida on May 18, 2016 and adopted by the Board on May 26, 2016.

37. Incorporate into the County's review processes for infrastructure planning an assessment of the appropriateness of public capital improvements in coastal high hazard areas as identified in the Coastal Management Element of the Comprehensive Plan. (Comp Plan Policy 8.1.B.2)

This activity has occurred and is on-going.

38. Evaluate the Flood Mitigation Plan, and particularly the Action Plan, annually.

Currently underway. The Flood Mitigation Task Force met on **November 19, 2020** to evaluate the plan and the action plan. Evaluation Report made available to the public on the county's LMS page after presentation to the Governing bodies.

Board of County Commissioners presentation: **December 10, 2020**

City of Milton City Council presentation:

City of Gulf Breeze presentation:

39. Consider expansion of the County's properties that are designated natural and beneficial areas.

Policy 7.1.B.6 of the Comprehensive Plan requires the County to consider the acquisition of open space and natural areas on a continuous basis. This activity is ongoing.

40. Encourage designation, protection and maintenance of wetlands as identified in the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code.

This is conducted as part of the site plan review process for every building permit.

41. Support efforts of the Institute of Food and Agricultural Services (IFAS/County Cooperative Extension Service) and the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) as it relates to reduction and mitigation of flood hazards to crops and silvicultural operations.

This activity is conducted throughout the year with the financial support of the County to these agencies.

42. Investigate the feasibility of including base flood finished floor elevations on Certificates of Occupancy.

Ongoing – this request has been submitted to the Computer Department. They will incorporate as staff time is available. The elevation certificates are currently available on the property appraiser’s website or by visiting the Building Inspection Department, also by calling or emailing the Floodplain Manager. Elevation certificates are updated on the PA’s website as they become available. This activity is ongoing.

43. Continue County participation in, and compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and the Community Rating System (CRS). Seek CRS classification improvements within capabilities of County programs, including adoption and administration of FEMA-approved ordinances and flood insurance rate maps (FIRMs).

Ongoing – this is done by staff on a daily basis. Currently working towards Class 4; however, this may not be feasible until a County wide drainage plan is produced. CRS 3 year cycle visit was conducted on June 6, 2018. **2020 Update – Recertification cycle visit is due in 2021. Received notification from Florida DEM that they are working on a template for a watershed master plan and a possible grant program to assist with this CRS requirement.**

44. Develop Holley by the Sea Master Drainage Plan.

Master stormwater/drainage study has been completed. Projects are moving forward with Local Option Sales Tax funding with BOCC allocating \$619,000.00 for the first round of drainage easement maintenance items identified in a follow-up plan, (HBTS Drainage Easement Maintenance plan, May 2017). **The HBTS drainage easement project is underway, with three phases. Phase one is complete, phases 2 and 3 are underway. All work is due to be completed by the end of 2019.**

**2020 Update: The HBTS drainage easement maintenance project has been completed.**

45. Implement projects identified in the Holley by the Sea drainage improvement study, January 2016.

Below are projects moving forward from the January 2016 study:

- Tom King Bayou East Branch Channel Restoration – Design phase is currently under contract with a consulting engineering firm
- Camden Drive Outfall Improvements – ~~Design is complete. Anticipated to be on BOCC agenda 9/24/2018 for approval for county to enter into contract with low bidder meeting specifications for Phase 1 construction.~~ **Update Construction of Camden Drive Phase I is complete. A second phase of Camden Drive is currently in permitting and construction is anticipated to occur in 2020. Phase one construction has been completed. Phase two is currently under USACE review.**
- Sunrise Drive North Drainage Improvements – BOCC approved task order on 9/13/2018 to an engineering firm for design, permitting and bidding services
- Sunrise Drive Entrance Drainage Improvements – Complete
- West Williams Creek Channel Restoration – BOCC approved task order on 9/13/2018 to an engineering firm to provide design and permitting services
- Edgewood Drive Drainage Improvements – BOCC approved task order on 9/13/2018 to an engineering firm to provide design, permitting and bidding services
- East Bay Boulevard Culvert Upgrades – BOCC approved task order on 9/13/2018 to an engineering firm to provide design, permitting and bidding services



2020 Update: Essentially no change. All projects remain in progress except as noted. Phase II of Camden Drive is not yet complete, although the USACE review may be complete.

46. The replacement of the box culvert, at the Alabama Street crossing of Collins Mill Creek, with a bridge.

Grant funds are needed to complete this project. Once funds have been identified, project will begin.

47. Implement a drainage project in Metron Estates Drainage area in Pea Ridge.

The Board of County Commissioners allocated \$304,794 in design funding to undertake the design and permitting of improvements in this area. Design is nearing completion and permit application submittals are expected to occur by September 2018. An HMGP grant application was submitted for consideration of Hurricane Irma Funding. Update: Design is nearing completion and the NFWFMD permit was issued in June 2019. Right of way acquisition phase is underway and construction is anticipated to begin in 2020.

2020 Update: Construction funds have not yet been identified.

48. Implement a drainage project in the Pace Patriot / Tiburon Subdivision areas of Pace, Florida.

The Board of County Commissioners allocated \$4.6 million to undertake design, permitting and construction of improvements in this area. Design is approximately (30)% complete and construction is anticipated for 2019. Update: At the July 25, 2019 meeting, the Board approved a construction bid for implementation of this project. The project is scheduled to commence in September 2019 and end in late 2020 or early 2021.

2020 Update: Construction is in progress.

49. East District - The project will alleviate flooding and includes the installation of piping to provide a positive gravity outfall for the following areas: McClure Drive, Shirley Drive, Stearns Street, Robert Avenue and portions of the Plantation Hill subdivision.

2018: New project for City of Gulf Breeze

50. Gilmore Basin - The project will alleviate flooding and includes the installation of piping to provide a positive gravity outfall for the following areas: Gilmore Drive, San Carlos Avenue, Hampton Street, York Street, Navarre Street, Warwick Avenue and others.

2018: New Project for City of Gulf Breeze