

2015 Okaloosa County Annual Progress Report Local Mitigation Strategy and Community Rating System

Introduction

In 2011, Okaloosa County and all its municipalities adopted a substantially revised version of the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS). The new LMS was found in compliance by the Florida Division of Emergency Management in April 2011, and by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in May 2011. By July 2011, all the municipalities as well as the County had passed ordinances or resolutions adopting the 2011 LMS. Because it includes a comprehensive analysis of the County's and municipalities' floodplain areas and floodplain management strategies, as well as analyses of all other hazards by which the County is threatened, the LMS serves as the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan as provided in Section 510 of the Community Rating System (CRS) Coordinator's Manual.

This Annual Report is structured to comply with the requirements of CRS Activity 510 reporting criteria as provided in Section 510 of the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System Coordinator's Manual, FEMA publication FIA-15/2013.

Annual Report Preparation, Submittal to Governing Bodies, Release to Media, and Public Availability

This annual report was prepared internally by the Planning Division of the Okaloosa County Growth Management Department and has been distributed to all the municipalities.

For credit under the Community Rating System, this Annual Report must be distributed to the media and be made available to the public. To this end, it is being sent to the Northwest Florida Daily News, and copies of this Report are available for review or download online at the Growth Management portion of the County Website, and may be viewed or obtained in hard copy at the Growth Management Department's offices located at the Water & Sewer Administrative Complex, 1804 Lewis Turner Boulevard, 2nd Floor in Fort Walton Beach, or the North Planning Office located at 402 Brookmeade Drive in Crestview. The entire 2011 LMS, as amended, may also be accessed via the Growth Management portion of the County website or at the previously mentioned Growth Management office locations.

Revisions to Local Mitigation Strategy

Using the point ranking system established in the 2011 Local Mitigation Strategy, several projects have the same points, therefore, projects are ranked using an alpha-numeric system based upon the population the project would benefit. For example, a project with 30 points would rank as number 15 on the priority list, and two projects have received 30 points. Project X with 30 points benefits an estimated 15 individuals; Project Y with 30 points benefits. On the priority list, Project Y would be ranked as 15a and Project X would rank as 15b.

The following projects have been completed:

None.

The following projects have been removed from the attached project list.

None.

Status of LMS Goals and Objectives

At this time, much of the work identified in the LMS is ongoing.

The Goals and Objectives (the statements under each Goal), provide the broad range of what is to be accomplished during the five-year planning period from 2011 through 2015 by the LMS Steering Committee. Since Action Items are, for the most part, ongoing activities – such as implementation of the Florida Building Code, Floodplain Management practices, etc. – that are undertaken as part of the County’s and municipalities’ day-to-day operations, their status is ongoing. Projects, on the other hand, may be part of on-going, programmatic activities (such as, for example, installing generators to supply emergency power at key infrastructure) or major, one-time (or at least very long term) upgrades of facilities such as the construction of a new emergency operations center. **At the time of this 2015 Annual Report, all of the Goals and Objectives are being met.**

2015 LMS Projects

Attachment A is the current list of LMS projects as approved by the LMS Committee. This list also provides the **status** of each project, and states the reason (typically lack of funds) for any projects for which action has been deferred.

Recommendations for New Projects or Revised Recommendations

Except for the new projects noted above, there are no new projects contemplated, not are there any recommended revisions.

At this time the LMS Steering Committee is in the process of revising/updating the LMS as required for its 5 year cycle. General updates include recent storm events and 2010 Census population counts that were not available at the time of writing of the 2011 LMS.