



***City of Indian Rocks Beach, Florida***  
**NFIP Number 125117**

**Floodplain Management Plan / Local Mitigation Strategy**  
**Annual Report - September 2015**

**Introduction**

The City of Indian Rocks Beach has been an active participant in the development and implementation of the *Pinellas County Local Mitigation Strategy 2015* (LMS). Twenty-three communities in Pinellas County have elected to adopt (or are in the process of adopting) the LMS as their Floodplain Management Plan.

The process of developing the local mitigation strategy culminated in the identification of mitigation opportunities and initiatives, or projects. Each workgroup member is required to review, evaluate, and analyze his or her current policies and ordinances regarding mitigation. The information is then shared and compared with the other members of the workgroup. This allows for the exchange of good ideas, accomplishments, and past experiences both successful and unsuccessful. The process also identifies any inconsistencies between communities. The most successful policies limit public expenditures in areas subject to repetitive damage from disasters; protect critical facilities and infrastructure; preserve, restore and enhance natural resources that can mitigate hazards; encourage economic diversification as protection from the loss of any one asset; encourage structural retrofitting, property acquisition and relocation; and identify procedures to expedite post-disaster recovery and permitting.

On an ongoing basis, new initiatives will be considered by the workgroup for inclusion into the strategy. Completed initiatives, termed Accomplishments, will be removed from the Initiatives List and detailed in the Accomplishments Listing. The new initiatives will be added as they are identified, ranked and approved by the Workgroup.

Every five years, or after any major change, the strategy will be resubmitted to the State of Florida and FEMA for approval and to municipal councils/commissions and to the Board of County Commissioners for re-adoption. The Pinellas County LMS Committee has completed the 5-year update and it was approved by the State of Florida in March, 2015. The LMS Committee conducted the update to be compatible with the CRS Floodplain Planning requirements, and the CRS 10-step planning process.

Pursuant to the Community Rating System's Activity 510, Floodplain Management Planning procedures, the City of Indian Rocks Beach adopted the 2015 update of the Pinellas County LMS in June 2015 as its Floodplain Management Plan.

Copies of this *City of Indian Rocks Beach 2015 Annual Report* will be provided to the Indian Rocks Beach Commission, the local media, the National Flood Insurance Program Coordinating Office, the public, and will be posted to the City of Indian Rocks Beach website.

## **A Review of the Updated Plan**

A review of the floodplain management sections of the Pinellas County LMS confirms that the plan is effective. There are no significant revisions that are warranted at this time. The LMS was well developed; it is comprehensive and current. A summary of the progress being made on the mitigation initiatives and a discussion of any hindrances to the progress are included in this report.

In an effort to ensure that there is a continuing and responsive planning process, the City of Indian Rocks Beach completes an evaluation of the Floodplain Management Plan annually using the following procedure:

- *Review the original plan*
- *A review of the City of Indian Rocks Beach mitigation initiatives in the previous year's evaluation, including how much was accomplished during the previous year*
- *A discussion of why any mitigation initiatives were not completed or why implementation is behind schedule*
- *Recommendations for new projects or revised mitigation initiatives. Such recommendations shall be subject to approval by the City Commission as amendments to the adopted plan*

Due to a state requirement, the LMS Workgroup will meet to update and review the effectiveness of the Local Mitigation Strategy and will submit annual LMS updates to the Florida Division of Emergency Management no later than the last working weekday of each January. The *Pinellas County LMS Appendix 9, Mitigation Initiatives*, and *LMS Appendix 10, List of Accomplishments*, will be updated by the LMS Workgroup and approved at its January, 2016 meeting. The Pinellas County Planning Division requested that any changes/additions/deletions to the projects, also known as initiatives, must be submitted to the LMS Committee before October 1, 2015. The City of Indian Rocks Beach did not add any new projects this year.

## **Priority Procedures**

Based upon the hazard analysis and vulnerability assessment, the review of both the Goals and Policies and Local Programs and Policies, the LMS Prioritization Procedures outlined below were developed to better prioritize future projects to be submitted for mitigation funding.

Annually, new projects are brought forward and evaluated by the LMS Working Group for inclusion in the Local Mitigation Strategy. The total score is then used as the basis for the preliminary ranking of projects and programs on the list. There are three components of the total score a project receives, with 16 variables having an available total of 1500 points per project.

There are three components of the scoring system, weighed as follows:

- A. 30% Suitability of the project – 450 points
- B. 45% Risk Reduction produced by the project – 675 points
- C. 25% Cost of the project – 375 points

In the event of a tie score, the project with the lower cost is listed first. This helps to assure that, with limited funds available, more projects get accomplished. The highest scoring project in the *2015 Pinellas County LMS*, which is a *Citywide seawall assessment and repair for locations not listed as a separate project (street ends, etc.)* for the City of Treasure Island, received a score of 1710.

If mitigation funds were made available to the Pinellas County area, the Workgroup would refer to the Mitigation Initiatives List and identify those that could be accomplished with the given funds. Next, the governments of those identified initiatives would be asked if they were interested and prepared to apply. Each entity must consider that it is likely that the applicant may need to provide some matching funds.

The Initiative List will be updated each year as Appendix 9 of the LMS as part of the annual review process. The Pinellas County LMS Initiative List was approved on January 16, 2014. Initiatives that have been completed are moved to the List of Accomplishments, in Appendix 10. The Mitigation Initiative List and any prioritization procedures may also be updated following a major disaster event, a change in funding sources, or as determined appropriate by the workgroup.

### **Evaluation of Multi-Hazard Mitigation Projects**

The most effective method of determining the success of the implementation of the Multi-Hazard Floodplain Management Plan would be to list each task found in Appendix 9 of the *Pinellas County LMS* and present the manner in which each was addressed during the previous year.

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

#### **1. Project/Program Name: Stormwater Drainage**

Reconstruction of small basin stormwater collection and discharge facilities as required by NPDES. All city facilities should be updated by 2019, the end of a 15 year effort and thereby in compliance with NPDES regulations.

Jurisdiction/Department: City of Indian Rocks Beach Public Services

Natural Hazard Addressed: Flooding, Tropical Cyclones

LMS Score: 1250

Estimated Completion Time: End of 2019

Estimated Cost: (FY2015) \$190,000 (FY2016) \$394,000 (FY2017) \$275,000  
(FY2020) \$275,000

Possible Funding Sources: City of Indian Rocks Beach Capital Improvement Plan; Capitalization Grants for Clean Water State Revolving Funds; CDBG; FMAP; HMGP; Nonpoint Source Implementation Grants; Penny for Pinellas; SWFWMD

Status: **Currently underway**

## **2. Project/Program Name: Flood Mitigation Buyout**

Description: Provide a grant of up to \$15,000 per structure for the removal of noncompliant repetitive loss properties and pre-FIRM structures that are floodprone or at high risk/exposure to being flooded or experience wave action/erosion.

Jurisdiction/Department: City of Indian Rocks Beach Building Department

Natural Hazard Addressed: Flooding, Tropical Cyclone, Storm Surge

LMS Score: 1050

Estimated Cost: \$150,000

Possible Funding Sources: FMAP, EMPATF, HMGP, PDM Program, Penny for Pinellas; CDBG; Nonpoint Source Implementation Grants; Residential Construction Mitigation Program

Status: **Currently unfunded.**

## **3. Project/Program Name: Road Milling, Resurfacing and Curbing**

Description: Road deterioration causes safety hazards and negatively impacts the attractiveness of the neighborhood. This project includes continuation of street milling, resurfacing, and curb replacement and includes updating the drainage system in the areas resurfaced. This project also includes concrete curb and gutter replacement and asphalt milling and resurfacing at selected locations in Fiscal Years 2016 through 2019.

Jurisdiction/Department: City of Indian Rocks Beach Public Services

Natural Hazard Addressed: Flooding, Tropical cyclone, Storm Surge

LMS Score: 860

Estimated completion time: 2019

Estimated Cost: (FY2015) \$300,000 (FY2016) \$771,108 (FY2017) \$300,000 (FY2018) \$250,000 (FY2019) \$200,000 (FY2020) \$200,000

Possible Funding Sources: Special Revenue Fund – Penny for Pinellas; City of Indian Rocks Beach Capital Improvement Plan; Gas Tax Transfer; Capitalization Grants for Clean Water State Revolving Funds; CDBG; FMAP; HMGP; Nonpoint Source Implementation Grants

Status: **Currently underway; scheduled to be complete by 2020**

#### **4. Project/Program Name: Dune Walkovers**

Description: The existing/old walkovers hinder growth of vegetation and hinder proper dune protection. Project will transition from step to low profile walkovers to elevated walkovers that will promote growth of vegetation into mature dunes. The locations are the 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue Dune Walkover Projects along with Vehicular Drive-over Projects at 9th Avenue and 27th Avenue. This is a multiple year project.

Jurisdiction/Department: City of Indian Rocks Beach Public Services

Natural Hazard Addressed: Erosion, Tropical Cyclone, Storm Surge

LMS Score: 1190

Estimated completion time: 2016

Estimated Cost: (FY2016) \$50,000

Possible Funding Sources: The City will be utilizing County beach grants. Included in the City CIP FY 2015/2016

Status: **Currently underway. The dune walkovers at 6th, 17th, and 22nd Avenue have been completed.**

#### **5. Project/Program Name: Gulf Boulevard Utility Undergrounding**

Description: To make aesthetic and safety improvements to Gulf Boulevard, including undergrounding of the Gulf Blvd overhead utilities and to elevate transformers and other equipment above the base flood elevation. Phase 1 of the project, about \$4 million in costs, would start at the southern boundary of the City (Whitehurst) and continue north to State Road 688.

Jurisdiction/Department: City of Indian Rocks Beach Public Services

Natural Hazard Addressed: All Hazards

LMS Score: 870

Estimated completion time: 2018

Estimated Cost: (FY2016) \$750,000 (FY2017) \$2,250,000 (FY2018) \$1,000,000

Possible Funding Sources: Capital Project 2015/2016 Budget, Pinellas County has set aside \$35 million for the barrier island communities to make aesthetic and safety improvements to Gulf Boulevard. The Indian Rocks Beach share is just over \$4 million and the City Commission has designated those funds for undergrounding of the Gulf Boulevard overhead utilities.

Status: Phase I of this project, approximately \$4 million in costs, will start at the southern boundary of the city (Whitehurst Avenue) and continue north to State Road 688.

## 6. Project/Program Name: Walsingham Utility Undergrounding

Description: To make aesthetic and safety improvements to Walsingham Boulevard, including undergrounding of the Walsingham Blvd overhead utilities and to elevate transformers and other equipment above the base flood elevation. This project reflects the City's commitment to underground utilities along Gulf Boulevard and one of the three gateways into our city.

Jurisdiction/Department: City of Indian Rocks Beach Public Services

Natural Hazard Addressed: All Hazards

LMS Score: To be added to Appendix 9 in Pinellas County LMS in 2106

Estimated completion time: This project is scheduled for 2019

Estimated Cost: (FY2019) \$350,000

Possible Funding Sources: Capital Project, Pinellas County has set aside \$35 million for the barrier island communities to make aesthetic and safety improvements to Gulf Boulevard. The Indian Rocks Beach share is just over \$4 million.

Status: Scheduled to be implemented in 2019

## **Mitigation Accomplishments**

As projects are funded and accomplished in Indian Rocks Beach - either through federal, state, or local resources – they move from the mitigation initiatives (Appendix 9) to the List of Accomplishments (Appendix 10) in the *Pinellas County LMS*. The List of Accomplishments may not include all of the projects completed over the last 5-10 years. In fact many of the successes funded locally, especially stormwater projects accomplished through local Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs) and transportation projects identified in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIPs), probably have not been captured in Appendix 10 of the LMS. However, communities have recognized the benefit of celebrating these successes in the LMS:

- ❑ Three dune walkover projects have been completed. The existing/old walkovers hindered growth of vegetation and hindered proper dune protection. The project transitioned the walkovers from step to low profile walkovers to elevated walkovers that will promote growth of vegetation into mature dunes. The locations are the 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Dune Walkover Projects. The project was funded in part by Pinellas County Beach Grants.
- ❑ Rebuilt small basin area infrastructure to provide proper drainage and improve pedestrian and transportation safety. This project included the installation of stormwater treatment Best Management Practices to improve the water quality from the discharge of the 4.98 acre Harbor Drive North and 5.26 acre Harbor Drive South drainage basins. The project will develop, implement, and enforce stormwater protection to meet the City's Code of Ordinances as well as Federal flood protection regulations, FEMA's, CRS and State water policies. The project, completed in 2012, also mitigates issues of extended ponding of roadways and private property after a storm event.
- ❑ Completed Shore Stabilization Project - Upland property in the areas of Keegan Clair Park and 1<sup>st</sup> Street boardwalk area was eroding into the Intracoastal Waterway due to a lack of shoreline armoring. This project identified some type of shoreline erosion and stabilization alternatives for these areas in an effort to protect the upland and street areas. The project was a combination of three separate projects: Seventeen free transient docks opened for public use in September, 2012. The shore stabilization to secure the waterway bank was finished in early August, 2012. The final step of park sidewalks, drainage, signage, kayak/paddleboard facilities, and landscaping is complete.
- ❑ The 2012 Sand Key Beach Renourishment Project for Indian Rocks Beach began on August 15, 2012 and was completed on October 1, 2012. The beach frontage in Indian Rocks Beach was renourished with approximately 325,000 cubic yards of sand. The renourishment project was part of the "Sand Key Project" which included the communities of Sand Key (Clearwater), Belleair Beach, Indian Rocks Beach, Indian Shores, Redington Shores, and North Redington Beach. The project was sponsored and paid for by the Army Corps of Engineers, the State of Florida and Pinellas County. Norfolk Dredging Company was the project contractor.
- ❑ Demolished ten pre-FIRM non-conforming structures and replaced them with conforming structures at a cost of \$2,432,000 has been completed through private funding.
- ❑ 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 1<sup>st</sup> Street drainage project to mitigate local flooding and provide treatment of local stormwater runoff at a cost of \$260,000 has been completed through local and state funding.
- ❑ Design 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue through 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue drainage project to mitigate local flooding at a cost of \$290,000 through local funding.
- ❑ Reclamation of 1.2 acres of wetlands to act as a flood buffer has been completed at a cost of \$100,000 through local funding

To obtain a copy of the *Pinellas County Local Mitigation Strategy*, visit the website location specified below or contact:

Renea Vincent, AICP  
Division Manager, Community Development & Planning  
Pinellas County Planning  
310 Court Street  
Clearwater, FL 33756  
727-464-5698  
email: [rvincent@pinellascounty.org](mailto:rvincent@pinellascounty.org)  
website: <http://www.pinellaslms.org/pdf/Pinellas-LMS.pdf>

To obtain a copy of the *Indian Rocks Beach Floodplain Management Plan/Local Mitigation Strategy Annual Evaluation September 2015* report, please visit the website location specified below or contact:

Danny Taylor  
Planning and Zoning Director  
City of Indian Rocks Beach  
1507 Bay Palm Boulevard  
Indian Rocks Beach, FL 33785  
727-517-0404  
email: [dtaylor@irbcity.com](mailto:dtaylor@irbcity.com)  
website: [www.indian-rocks-beach.com](http://www.indian-rocks-beach.com)

Attachment: Indian Rocks Beach Resolution 2015-25, adopting the *Pinellas County Local Mitigation Strategy*



**CITY OF INDIAN ROCKS BEACH  
RESOLUTION NO. 2015-25**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF INDIAN ROCKS BEACH, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE PINELLAS COUNTY LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, City of Indian Rocks Beach is located in an area that is vulnerable to natural and man-made disasters; and

**WHEREAS**, City of Indian Rocks Beach supports efforts to make our community more disaster-resistant, thereby reducing the costs of disasters, preventing or mitigating their impact to our residents and reducing time needed for recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Florida has designated that a Local Mitigation Strategy is the first step in the process of making a community disaster-resistant; and

**WHEREAS**, by adopting this strategy, the framework for future mitigation efforts and post disaster redevelopment is established and recovery time can be reduced; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Mitigation Strategy represents a unified countywide strategy toward a more disaster-resistant community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners has unanimously adopted the Pinellas County Local Mitigation Strategy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Mitigation Strategy provides the consistent framework for future pre-disaster mitigation efforts and post-disaster redevelopment, regardless of the type of future threat faced by our community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF INDIAN ROCKS BEACH, FLORIDA, THAT:**

**Section 1.** The City Commission hereby adopts the Local Mitigation Strategy developed cooperatively by the workgroup at which a City representative was present; and

**Section 2.** The City Commission hereby adopts the goals and objectives of a unified countywide Local Mitigation Strategy and the right of the county and each municipality located within Pinellas County, Florida to adopt policies and

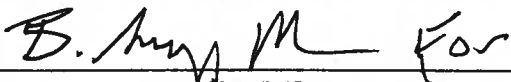
ordinances that implement the Local Mitigation Strategy and regulate development within their respective jurisdictions.

**Section 3.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

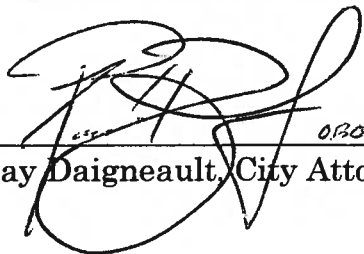
**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 9th day of June 2015, by the City Commission of the City of Indian Rocks Beach, Florida.

  
R.B. Johnson, Mayor-Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
Deanne B. O'Reilly, MMC, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

  
Jay Daigneault, City Attorney