



**PALM BEACH COUNTY
LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY
WORKING GROUP
AGENDA**



**Village of Wellington Council Chambers
12300 Forest Hill Boulevard
Wellington, FL 33414
October 15, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.**

1. Call to Order – Welcome and Introductions – Ralph Wall, Chairperson (Virtual)
 - *Meeting called to order at 10:05 am.*
2. Emergency Management Staffing Changes – Brenden DiBerardino, PBC DEM
 - Brenden DiBerardino – LMS/CRS Coordinator
 - *Brenden briefly introduced himself to the group. Encourages all to contact him with any LMS questions/updates. Provided all with a card with his information.*
 - Joseph Nelson – Planning Section Manager
 - *Joseph briefly introduced himself.*
3. LMS2024 Adoption Status – Brenden DiBerardino, PBC DEM
 - Atlantis, Glen Ridge, Seacoast Utility Authority, Westlake (set to adopt), Mangonia Park (set to adopt)
 - *Breden advised that most communities have adopted the LMS. Wants to reiterate to those communities that haven't adopted that you can still adopt past the deadline. All municipalities must adopt the LMS to receive FEMA funding.*
 - *Ralph also added that the first thing that FEMA does after a disaster is come in with the funding and ask for the PPL and start funding projects. However, to be eligible you must adopt the LMS.*
4. FEMA and FDEM Programs – Brenden DiBerardino, PBC DEM
 - MySafeFLHome:
 - Open for residents to apply directly
 - First come, first served
 - Wind mitigation upgrades ONLY
 - Elevate Florida:
 - FEMA has begun Notices of Awards
 - 2 of 210 applications chosen
 - Rejected Resident Talking Points – FDEM
 - *If there is money left over from those cost allocations, why aren't these projects being funded. In a meeting Brenden attended the only response was that the money would be used in Palm Beach County, however it didn't go into how.*
 - *Ralph would like to request accounting for this. Seeing as implementation fell short of expectation.*
5. Prioritized Project List – Brenden DiBerardino, PBC DEM



PALM BEACH COUNTY LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY WORKING GROUP AGENDA



- Funding opportunities
- Scoring Form
 - Brenden received feedback on how projects are scored and funded. Decided to break down how the projects are scored.
 - If a disaster happens 100,000,000 million dollars is allocated, Palm Beach County get 10%. \$10,000,000 is disbursed and the projects are funded in order from the PPL.
 - Projects can get funding in other ways even if it isn't from a post disaster HMPG grant.
 - Also shared with the group via email and via presentation today the detailed scoring form that is used. This form is available on the LMS website to help develop your project or increase your score.
 - Example: Loxahatchee Groves were shown the documents and all of their projects increased by 40 points because they followed the scoring form closely.
 - Brenden is always available for additional assistance.
 - Ralph also added that when we say provide documentation, provide actual documentation. If you say you had public support, show minutes, letters as documents of public support.
 - Also, that cost benefit analysis is crucial. Don't just provide a number. Provide the analysis and provide a formula.
 - Brenden opened the floor regarding project questions, scoring, etc.
 1. Question regarding when funding will start going down the PPL list. Brenden explained that 10% only gets disbursed after a disaster.
 2. Ralph added everyone should have a project on the PPL. Ralph also added that if all things remain consistent if you have critical projects as soon as the announcement is made, that other funding sources reopen. Put together your application and LMS will give you a letter of support to complete your projects with grants/alt funding.
 3. Would there be any policy put in place to prevent municipalities from getting multiple projects funded to make it equitable for other projects. Ralph answered that if they have a good project the project list is fair based on score. This is something to consider discussing in the upcoming LMS revisions.
 4. Comment that "priority" only comes into effect with Tier I projects, but tier II/III any one can apply. There are many funding sources available and you don't have to wait for a disaster to be funded.
 5. Question on if an example of a great project can be sent out. Brenden will provide one. Ralph also added that the PPL scoring



PALM BEACH COUNTY LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY WORKING GROUP AGENDA



is open to the public if anyone would like to attend and see how the scores are decided on.

6. Mitigation Success Stories/Challenges to Share? – All
 - New members w/ questions
 - *Ralph in the City of west palm was able to harden their water plant and create a safe room so staff can be on site during a hurricane. Got the roofs to cat 5 in a couple of buildings. Hurricane windows. All of these were projects on the ppl. He leveraged the money he had and matched grant funding,*
7. Next Meeting Schedule – Brenden DiBerardino, PBC DEM
 - December 10, 2025: Location – TBD
8. Questions/Comments – Ralph Wall, Chairperson
 - *None.*
9. Adjournment – Ralph Wall, Chairperson – *Meeting adjourned at 10:47 am*