



LMS TIMES



Volume 15, Issue 4

Fall: Oct/Nov/Dec 2021

Special points of interest:

- Director's Corner
- HMGP Overview
- Funding for COVID-19
- Ready PBC
- Mitigation Outreach

The LMS Times is a quarterly publication that seeks to provide residents of the Palm Beach County community with key information in the areas of mitigation and public safety. If you have stories that would benefit the community, please contact us. We want YOU involved. Send articles to:

rheen@pbcgov.org

Director's Corner

By Mary Blakeney,
FPEM, Director,
PBCDEM



The Florida Division of Emergency Management staff are our friends, let me tell you why. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers a Program Administration by States (PAS) program which gives states increased control and oversight to implement FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). Florida is the only state in the nation with all allowable delegations.

FDEM reviews and approves applications on behalf of FEMA, manages the project and financial aspects of the program, and reviews and approves Local Mitigation

Strategy (LMS) plans.

This suite of programs include Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), Floodplain Mitigation Assistance (FMA), and Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program (HLMP). Should you need additional information on any of these programs, Ronnie Heen is available to assist you.

When we think of Mitigation as we head toward the 2022 Atlantic Hurricane Season, we need to be aware of the Legislative Season underway and especially proposed legislative bills (SB 578 and HB 837) to Extend the repeal of the HLMP program to June 30, 2032. Every action we can take to mitigate today may save us dollars in recovery tomorrow.

If I can ever be of assistance to you, feel free to contact me at mblakene@pbcgov.org.

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Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Overview Report



The Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) continues to assist states, local governments, private non-profit organizations and Indian Tribes in implementing long-term hazard mitigation measures following a major disaster declaration.

Although the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) is federally funded, the program is administered by the FDEM. The process of selecting eligible mitigation projects to be submitted for funding consideration has

been delegated to each county's Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group in accordance with 27P-22 of the Florida Administrative Code.

In December 2021, FDEM sent out an updated HMGP Overview Report for Quarter 4. The report included the statuses of projects previously closed, currently active, and pending award.

Palm Beach County added five (5) new projects from four (4) Palm Beach County agencies to this report. The City of Riviera Beach, Town of Jupiter, Town of Lake Park, and the Village of Palm Springs have all been approved for HMGP funding under the Presidential Disaster Declaration for Hurricane Dorian (FEMA 4468-DR-FL).

CRS Corner: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Offers More Equitable Flood Insurance Rates Be- ginning Oct. 1

By: FEMA

The new National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) premiums are the result of the program's new pricing methodology delivering rates that are actuarially sound, equitable, easier to understand and better reflect an individual property's flood risk.

New policies will be sold using the new methodology, and some existing policyholders may be eligible for immediate premium decreases when their policy renews.

FEMA has provided more than 2.8 million quotes and trained 20,792 agents, to date.

Potential and existing policyholders can learn their specific rates with a call to their insurance company or agent.

"The NFIP's new rating methodology is long overdue since it hasn't been updated in more than 40 years," said David Maurstad, senior executive of the National Flood Insurance Program. "Now is the right time to modernize how risk is identified, priced and communicated. By doing so we empower policyholders to make informed decisions to protect their homes and businesses from life-changing flooding events that will strike in the months and years ahead due to climate change."

Also known as Risk Rating 2.0, the new methodology uses increased technological and mapping capabilities to determine and communicate a property's full flood risk. In addition, the new rating methodology has exposed inequities in pricing whereby some policyholders have been unjustly subsidizing other policyholders.

Upcoming LMS Working Group Meetings

The Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Working Group will hold its meetings on the following dates:

- March 9, 2022 @ 9:00 am
- June 8, 2022 @ 9:00 am
- September 14, 2022 @ 9:00 am
- December 14, 2022 @ 9:00 am

The LMS Steering Committee has decided that all future meetings will be via conference call or Webinar until we are able to meet in person once again.

The public is highly encouraged to attend.

For more information, contact:

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Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Funding for COVID-19 Response Continues

By: FEMA Press Release

On November 9th 2021, President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. announced that funding to support all eligible COVID-19 work will continue at a 100% federal cost share through April 1, 2022.

This funding will be available to local, state, tribal or territorial governments and certain non-profit organizations for eligible costs associated with ongoing COVID-19 recovery efforts and vaccine initiatives.

FEMA will continue to provide 100% of the federal funding for National Guard activities to combat and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. National Guard activities under Title 32 remain under the command and control of their respective governors but is funded by the Department of Defense (DoD). FEMA has mission assigned DoD to fund Title 32 National Guard deployments to support state and territorial efforts in response to the pandemic.

The full capacity and capability of the federal government is brought to this effort to protect and support our families, schools and businesses and to assist state, local, tribal and territorial governments in the fight against COVID-19.

The National Guard will continue assisting with vaccine distribution as their medical teams continue supporting direct patient care. National Guard teams help distribute food and personal protective equipment, support contact tracing and testing.

To date, FEMA has provided more than \$32.1 billion in COVID-19 assistance, including \$6.1 billion for vaccination support. Previously, President Biden approved FEMA to provide 100% cost share on these measures until Dec. 31, 2021.

Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Resources

By: Ronnie Heen, LMS Coordinator

The LMS program page is a great resource that can assist Palm Beach County (PBC) public sector and private sector organizations and individuals, including the general public, regional universities, and neighboring emergency management departments.

Visit ReadyPBC.com, Programs & Services menu, Local Mitigation Strategy section to access a wide-range of information pertaining to the potential hazards, mitigation efforts, and actions preformed by PBC and its' stakeholders.

Examples of valuable data available include:

- Local Mitigation Strategy 2020
- LMS Times Newsletters
- Prioritized Project Lists
- LMS Project Guidance Documents
- LMS Working Group Minutes
- LMS Steering Committee Minutes



Examples above are just a few of the available resources that can assist the community and it's stakeholders in improving mitigation knowledge. This information increases the ability to identify actions to reduce losses from those hazards identified within the LMS documents and mitigation projects.

This resource also gives a great overview of the LMS program, its' structure and organization, as well as the processes of how PBC utilizes the program to serve it' residents and the community.

Flood hazards, evacuation zones, shelter information, and the Community Rating System are additional materials that are only a click away. PBC provides these informational topics and resources to educate the community and its residents.

Please visit the following link to access all of the mentioned LMS Resources:

www.ReadyPBC.com

Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Prioritized Project List (PPL)

The purpose of the LMS is to develop and execute an ongoing methodology for reducing a community's vulnerability to identified natural, technological, and human caused hazards. The strategy provides a rational, managed basis for considering and prioritizing hazard-specific mitigation options, and for developing and executing sound, cost-effective mitigation projects. The LMS also provides a basis for justifying the solicitation and use of local, state, federal, and other funding to support hazard mitigation projects and initiatives.

Each year, the LMS provides two (2) opportunities to submit projects for the PPL. The LMS Steering Committee, on the recommendation of the LMS Evaluation Panel, will approve a single, ranked, prioritized project list, which is one of the ultimate goals of the LMS effort. In order to remain eligible to submit projects, each local government or agency must remain in good standing with the LMS, which includes adopting and continuing to follow Palm Beach County's (PBC) LMS participation rules.

All LMS stakeholders have an opportunity to submit new projects to be scored and ranked on the PBC LMS PPL.

The updated Fall 2021 PPL is available for request and at the website listed below.

Information regarding the PBC LMS, PPL, or previous LMS meeting minutes is available on our LMS webpage at:
www.ReadyPBC.com

MITIGATION OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

Palm Beach State College has partnered with Palm Beach County Division of Emergency Management to offer Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training

CERT is a community based organization of residents who learn how to take emergency response actions in safe ways until the professional emergency responders can respond.

The CERT program offers a nationwide approach to volunteer training and organization that professional responders can rely on during disaster situations, allowing them to focus on more complex tasks.

The CERT program educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for the hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as:

- Fire Safety
- Team Organization
- Light Search & Rescue
- Disaster Medical Operations

Upcoming CERT Training

PALM BEACH GARDENS CAMPUS MARCH 14 – APRIL 6, 2022 MONDAY & WEDNESDAY 6:00pm - 9:00pm BUILDING: LC ROOM: 117	LOXAHATCHEE CAMPUS APRIL 11 – MAY 4, 2022 MONDAY & WEDNESDAY 6:00pm - 9:00pm BUILDING: LC ROOM: 117
BOCA RATON CAMPUS MAY 3 – MAY 26, 2022 TUESDAY & THURSDAY 6:00pm - 9:00pm BUILDING: LC ROOM: 117	TEEN CERT - LAKE WORTH CAMPUS APRIL 30 – MAY 21, 2022 SATURDAY 9:00AM - 3:30PM <small>1/2 HOUR LUNCH INCLUDED, BUT NOT PROVIDED</small> BUILDING: PSD ROOM: 108

Additional information can be found on the Programs & Services menu, Community Involvement section:

www.ReadyPBC.com