



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



**March 11, 2020
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
City of Greenacres – City Hall
5800 Melaleuca Lane, Greenacres, 33463**

- I. Call to Order – Welcome and Introductions – Ralph Wall, Chairperson**
 - Agency representation will be reflected in meeting notes
 - Meeting minutes can be found at:
<http://discover.pbcgov.org/publicsafety/dem/Sections/Planning-Local-Mitigation-Strategy.aspx>

- II. Spring 2020 Project Submission Period for scoring and ranking in the PPL**
 - The dates for the Spring Submission period have been issued.
 - Submissions will be accepted from April 06 – 17
 - Projects will be evaluated and scored from April 20 – May 01
 - Final PPL recommendations to be approved May 14 at the LMS Steering Committee regular meeting

- III. Presentation: “Mitigation in your Community; A Business Perspective” – Gene Kennedy – President; Savannah Trims**

- IV. LMS2020 Completed – Ralph Wall, Chairperson**
 - The State produced a second call for project submissions for DR-4399 no later than April 10, 2020.
 - The County was considered a Tier 3 claimant but all projects on the current Prioritized Project List (November 2019 PPL) may qualify for submission to the State application project manager.
 - Please do not forget to notify the PBC LMS Coordinator in order to receive your Letter of Support. The application will not be accepted at the State without this letter.

- V. Rule Change to Chapter 27P-22 Update – Joe Mercurio, LMS Coordinator**
 - Jo asked for time to address the Working Group on an immediate item of interest that has direct influence on municipal stakeholders.
 - The State of Florida Division of Emergency Management – Mitigation, recently announced planned changes to the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) authorities under rule 27P-22.006. A public hearing was made known with less than 24-hours’ notice (January 31, 2020) and rescheduled for February 10, 2020. This meeting was held for the purpose of



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holding a workshop hearing to allow additional public comment on the proposed modifications to Chapter 27P-22, HMGP.

- A certain stakeholder on the community conference call, indicated that it would be appropriate to allow the Governor the direct ability to affect selected project funding.
- In the same call, and in direct contrast to the said comment, the Emergency Management community represented by County Emergency Managers, highly disagreed. They all believed the current process in assessment, development, and control of the PPL should remain “as-is” with the local EM community. Municipal stakeholders have a vested interest in development of their projects and the dedicated work by all involved to initiate a project application is paramount to the success of everyone’s LMS program.
- There is a perception by the direction of the initial comment that the Governor should be allowed the authority through resilience, the opportunity to pick and choose what projects could/should be considered for funding.
 - Palm Beach County believes this is a hindrance to our inland communities in their mitigation efforts.
- Joe stated that the State is going to review the comments as presented and make possible adjustments to the HMGP language. However, he stated that if the State promotes another public comment call, we will make notification to all stakeholders to possibly join in order to promote direct community feedback. More to follow.

VI. Hurricane Michael [DR-4399] HMGP funding opportunity – CLOSED; Joe Mercurio, LMS Coordinator

- As of January 28, 2019, the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) has declared a postponement of the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)
- FDEM will continue normal HMGP activities with state-wide applicant’s briefings as well as in-person applicant workshops to declared Counties
- You are required to have a letter of support from the LMS. Once you have sent the LMS Coordinator a copy of your application to FEMA, he will provide you with a letter of support.



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VII. Meeting Location Selections (LMS Working Group) – Joe Mercurio

- The Steering Committee has selected the following host LMS Working Group locations:
 - March 11, 2020 Greenacres
 - June 10, 2020 Palm Springs
 - September 09, 2020 Port of Palm Beach
 - December 09, 2020 Seacoast Utilities

VIII. Questions/Comments – Ralph Wall, Chairperson

IX. Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 10, 2020, Palm Springs, 9:00 a.m.



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