

Regular Workshop – September 15, 2014
Agenda Item 8
Consent Item

Agenda Item: Update on Floodplain Management Plan - 2014 Annual Report & Community Rating System (CRS)

Presenter: Town Manager and Staff

Summary: The 2014 Annual Floodplain Management Plan Report is forwarded as a Consent Agenda item to the Town Commission to assist with the Community Rating System requirements.

Attachments: 9-08-14 Memo, Public Works Project Manager, Town Planner to Manager;
2014 Floodplain Management Report

Recommended

Action: Approval of the Consent Agenda will confirm delivery of the required Annual Report and CRS Update to the governing body.

M E M O R A N D U M

Date: September 08, 2014

TO: Dave Bullock, Town Manager

THROUGH: Juan Florensa, Public Works Director
Alaina Ray, Planning, Zoning Building Director

FROM: James Linkogle, Public Works Project Manager
Steve Schield, Town Planner

SUBJECT: Update on Floodplain Management Plan - 2014 Annual Report & Community Rating System (CRS)

The Town of Longboat Key is currently rated as a Class Six community under the Community Rating System (CRS). The Town is due for a Five Year Cycle Verification visit conducted by the Insurance Service Office scheduled for September 23, 2014 and is endeavoring to maintain this classification.

Please find attached the 2014 Floodplain Management Plan Annual Report. To fulfill part of the CRS Manual requirements under the CRS Activity 510 these documents are submitted to the Town Commission. This year the Floodplain Management Plan is being updated to compliment new CRS Coordinator Manual activities, and will be coordinated with the current Sarasota County and Manatee County Local Mitigation Strategy Plan updates.

Additional copies of this Report and Floodplain Management Plan will be distributed to the following agencies by staff:

- Ø Local newspapers
- Ø ISO/CRS
- Ø State of Florida, DCA, NFIP Coordinator's Office
- Ø FEMA Region IV Office
- Ø Southwest Florida Water Management District
- Ø Sarasota County LMS Working Group
- Ø Manatee County LMS Working Group

/jkl

TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY
FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLAN
ANNUAL REPORT
September 2014

u **Introduction and Background**

In the year 2000 the Town of Longboat Key initiated its Floodplain Management Plan. These plans are a requirement for participation by communities in the National Flood Insurance Program. They are reviewed annually by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) to meet the requirements of the Community Rating System (CRS) for flood insurance discounts. The Town of Longboat Key adopted the initial Sarasota and Manatee County Local Mitigation Strategies via Resolution 99-13 on October 4, 1999, as a means of pursuing flood mitigation initiatives and activities. The original Floodplain Management Plan was incorporated and adopted by the Town as part of the original Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) process.

Updating of the Town of Longboat Key Floodplain Management Plan is required by the NFIP/CRS program. The Town formally adopted these plans into the LMS via Resolution 04-26 on October 5, 2004 and during the years following the Manatee and Sarasota County Local Mitigation Strategy Working Groups have continued to meet and developed the most recent versions of the LMS for participating municipalities. The Manatee County 2009 updated version was adopted by the Town in March of 2010 via Resolution 2010-14. The Sarasota County LMS was formally adopted by Resolution 2010-39 on October 4th, 2010. Sarasota County was notified by FEMA on April 4th, 2011 of the final approval for the Sarasota County LMS. The participating LMS municipalities of Longboat Key, the City of Sarasota, the City of Venice, and the City of Northport all included copies of their respective revised Floodplain Management Plans as Appendices to the LMS plan.

The LMS documents are very comprehensive and rather large. Hard copies can be made available upon request by contacting:

Town of Longboat Key, 501 Bay Isles Road, Longboat Key, 34228, or by leaving your request and contact information at 941-316-1999.

Both the Manatee and Sarasota County latest versions are available for review and downloading from the respective county websites.

The current approved Manatee County version is available for viewing at:

<http://www.mymanatee.org/home/government/departments/building-and-development-services/planning/comprehensive-planning-section/hazard-mitigation.html>

The current Sarasota County draft version is available for viewing at:

<https://www.scgov.net/AllHazards/Pages/LocalMitigation.aspx>

The Sarasota LMS includes the most recent version of the current Town of Longboat Key Floodplain Management Plan as; Annex, Tab E of the Sarasota County LMS, see table of contents.

Floodplain Management Plans provide for a comprehensive summary, evaluation, and opportunity for input from community stakeholders as to what the community's best management practices are to reduce losses to property and infrastructure due to floods. Flood mitigation activities can be categorized in six areas;

- Prevention;
- Natural Resources Protection;
- Emergency Services;
- Structural;
- Property Protection;
- Education.

Florida leads the nation in the number of flood insurance policies with more than 40 percent of the total number of policies written. Over eighty percent of Florida's population lives in the areas most susceptible to the damaging effects of hurricanes or within 10 miles of the coast. Each community within the State of Florida chooses to voluntarily participate in NFIP programs. Benefits for residents include; availability to purchasing federal flood insurance, receiving federally backed mortgages, providing discounts for residential flood insurance policies based on the quality of protection from flooding through a "flood protection rating program" called the Community Rating System (CRS). Our community has remained NFIP compliant since 1975. The Town is currently rated as a Class Six community and those citizens with NFIP flood insurance policies receive a 20% discount.

u **Public Involvement**

On an annual basis during the hurricane season the Town provides public information to warn about flood hazards, mitigation and preparedness opportunities, evacuation and reentry plans.

On June 19, 2014 the Town held a specific Hurricane Seminar as an educational and information outreach to citizens, and homeowner, condominium associations. A presentation was given by Brian Koons, Director Florida Division of Emergency Management, Ed McCrane and Don Hermey, Directors representing Sarasota and Manatee County Emergency Operations Centers respectively as well as the Town Fire Chief, Police Chief and Director of Public Works. The Town also provided information about flood protection, mitigation techniques the new Town Flood Control Ordinance, and changes in the National Flood Insurance Program as a result of March 21, 2014 passing of the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2013.

The Town continues to participate with Sarasota and Manatee County with hurricane and flood awareness public outreach programs. The Town in conjunction with Sarasota County held a series of public comment meetings on this past year in June July and August.

The LMS process also provides opportunities for public comment and input.

u **Agency Coordination**

The 2014 Floodplain Management Plan Annual Report will be distributed to the following agencies and local governments for their review and comment:

- Insurance Service Office / Community Rating System Office
- State of Florida, National Flood Insurance Program representative
- FEMA Region IV office
- Southwest Florida Water Management District
- Sarasota County Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group
- Manatee County Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group

u **Action Plan: Updates- Plan Revisions and Annual Review 2014**

The Floodplain Management Plan contains an Action Plan that identifies those mitigation actions appropriate to the community's resources, flood hazards, and vulnerable properties. These will be incorporated with the goals and initiatives associated with the ongoing updates to the Local Mitigation Strategy.

Goals: Operating Principles

Goals have been established to guide the selection of specific flood protection activities that are recommended in this Plan. The primary operating principles in development these goals are:

- Protect lives and property from the hazards of wind, storm surge, and rainfall.
- Where appropriate, flood damage prevention activities should be used to improve the environment, water quality, economic vitality and stability, and aesthetic quality of the Town.

These Floodplain Management Plan goals are supplemented by relevant goals from the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) as well as the Town of Longboat Key Comprehensive Plan.

u Pre- and Post- Disaster Redevelopment Planning

The projections made by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for hurricane activity through the next decade indicate more activity is expected in the eastern and western Gulf of Mexico than in years past. This makes the need for both preparedness and post-disaster redevelopment plans even more critical. As exhibited by the 2004 through 2013 Hurricane Seasons, flooding from both the large amounts of rain generated by the storms and especially storm surge, are recognized as the leading cause of deaths related to hurricanes. These add to the quantity of property damage above and beyond that caused by wind and floods.

Additionally, recent data from international studies has suggested that due to Global Warming or other natural cyclical events, sea elevation rise has become a topic of critical concern, especially for long range planning purposes for coastal communities such as Longboat Key.

The Town continues to update all of its departmental policies and procedures for pre- and post-disaster planning and operations. One of the primary objectives of this procedure is to prepare and respond to flooding events.

Every year the Town conducts reviews and updates of all of its Emergency Preparedness and response plans including the Continuity of Operations and Continuity of Government. The Town also includes as necessary National Incident Management System training of staff.

In support of the Town's pre- and post- disaster planning, it has included revisions to its Comprehensive Plan approved by the State of Florida.

Included in these revisions are the following that pertain to Floodplain Management Planning:

.. Conservation / Coastal Elements

OBJECTIVE 3.2

The Town will encourage the reduction of potential damage to structures subject to damage in the Coastal High Hazard Area (CHHA).

Policy 3.2.1

The Town will encourage the relocation, removal, or replacement of existing non-compliant structures in V-Zones, or seaward of the CCCL to safer locations.

Policy 3.2.2

The Town will encourage owners to take advantage of buy-out programs for structures subject to repetitive damage in the V-Zones.

Policy 3.2.3

The Town will encourage residents to retrofit their homes with storm resistant materials.

Policy 3.2.4

The Town will enforce applicable Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), FDEP and the FBC requirements for the safety of structures.

Policy 3.2.5

The Town will require all future building setbacks, fronting the Town's north and south passes, to be equal to or greater than those setbacks required for construction along the Gulf of Mexico.

Policy 3.2.6

Existing structures not conforming to minimum flood elevation that suffer in excess of 50% damage will be demolished. Permits to rebuild will be issued only if the design meets current applicable local, state, and federal regulations.

OBJECTIVE 3.3

The Town will enforce policies related to reconstruction in the designated Coastal High Hazard Area (CHHA) following a catastrophic disaster that will reduce the danger to human life, the exposure of property damage from future natural hazards, as well as eliminate non-conformities to the extent practicable.

Policy 3.3.1

In the event of a hurricane or storm event that requires post-disaster redevelopment actions, the Town will implement its short-term post-disaster redevelopment plan.

Policy 3.3.2

In the event of a hurricane or storm, the short-term recovery effort will be accelerated by emergency permits to repair and clean up damage to private and public structures and utilities that are potential public health, safety or welfare hazards, to the extent allowable by law.

Policy 3.3.3

It is the policy of the Town that during long-term reconstruction following a catastrophic storm event, all reconstructed structures will be brought into compliance with the Florida Building Code, FEMA requirements and local flood control regulations to the greatest extent practicable while still allowing original density and building cubic volume as described in Policy 3.3.4.

Policy 3.3.4

Legally nonconforming structures, buildings and uses that are substantially damaged by natural disaster or involuntary action by more than 50% in accordance with the Town Code, may be reconstructed to the same building cubic content and number of units in existence prior to the casualty, subject to conditions in the Town Code.

Policy 3.3.5

The Town will monitor the development of Sarasota County's long-term post-disaster redevelopment plan. The Town will also monitor Manatee County's efforts to develop post-disaster redevelopment plans.

OBJECTIVE 3.4

The Town will limit public expenditures and subsidies in the Coastal High Hazard Area (CHHA) to the population capacity established by the permitted density of the adopted Future Land Use Map and direct concentrations of people away from designated V-zones or storm breach areas.

Policy 3.4.1

Use of funds from the recreation and open space acquisition fee will be prioritized to acquire, enhance, or protect properties that serve the public interest, and are adjacent to or in close proximity to existing open space areas or within the FEMA V-Zone and must be consistent with the criteria identified in Recreation and Open Space Policy 1.2.2.

Policy 3.4.2

Public expenditures that subsidize development in the Coastal High Hazard Area (CHHA) will be limited through the implementation of Objective 1.2 (and its associated policies) of the Capital Improvements Element.

“ Future Land Use Element

- Policy 1.2.1 Proposals for development within the floodplains will be approved only if significant alteration of the functions of the floodplain will not occur (i.e., no increase in flood hazards should be permitted) and if the proposed development is consistent with the regulations of the appropriate_agencies regulating development within floodplain areas.

u Current Activities

n Preventive Strategies

- Development Review: The Town continues to enforce FEMA regulations and standards through its building and zoning departments and local ordinances.
 - ∅ STATUS: The Town adopted a revised Flood Ordinance recommended by the State of Florida for concurrence with the 2010 Florida Building Code. This Town Ordinance, No. 2013-25 replaced the Town Code Chapter 154, Flood Protection Ordinance in entirety and was adopted taking effect March 17, 2014. This adoption process was concurrent with the NFIP compliance review and formal adoption of the FEMA Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map for the Manatee County portion of the island effective the same date. Per Town Code of Ordinances Chapter 150.01, the current version of the adopted 2010 Florida Building Code includes provisions for National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
 - ∅
 - ∅ The Town adopted Ordinance 06-09, Reconstruction of Non-conformities, to require that all structures be brought into compliance with the State of Florida Building Code, FEMA requirements, and local flood control regulations.
 - ∅ RECOMMENDATIONS: Continue to monitor status of 2010 Florida Building Code changes and potential adoption of International Codes. Continue with the public outreach and education programs for understanding of all applicable local, state and federal codes.
- Long Range Planning: The Town has adopted by Resolution 2011-13 a Vision Plan.
 - ∅ STATUS: The Town’s plan is in process, including potential amendments to the Towns Comprehensive Plan.

In October 2013 the Town had a community study done by the Urban Land Institute (ULI). The ULI Advisory Services Panel report did an analysis of the existing conditions in the Town and its future. The ULI

study made the following recommendations in regards to climate adaptation and coastal resiliency:

1. Research and understand new flood insurance.
2. Reestablish, maintain, and promote native vegetation along the coastline.
3. Implement planning management tools such as setbacks and buffers, and zoning plus development regulations and incentives.
4. Improve access to education and information, particularly through coastal monitoring systems, advisory notice, and evacuation plans.
5. Coordinate neighborhood plans with city and regional strategies.
6. Link outcomes of site analysis, vulnerability assessment, and resilience enhancement to the waterfront planning process.

- Ø RECOMMENDATIONS: Follow through with the adopted Vision Plan and recommendations of the ULI Study. Investigate opportunities for establishing a permanent Floodplain Planning Committee. Continue to look for opportunities for conserving open space within the Town's boundaries through its land use and zoning regulations.
- Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS): The Town continues to participate in the LMS process for hazard mitigation initiatives and projects.
 - Ø STATUS: Staff continues participation in scheduled meetings with both Sarasota and Manatee counties. The LMS Working Group includes the area jurisdictions of the cities of Sarasota, Northport, Venice, The Town of Longboat Key, Sarasota County, and the Tampa Bay Regional and Southwest Regional Planning Councils. One purpose of the LMS is to provide consistency of flood-plain management issues within participating communities. Additionally the LMS provides participating communities in the Community Rating System, a platform for coordinating the updating of the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps and Risk Map Analysis initiative.
 - Ø RECOMMENDATIONS: Continue Town involvement with coordination between the Town and the two county LMS plans. Continued participation in LMS Working Group with reaching goals and objectives identified by the group.
- Community Rating System (CRS): The Town continues to participate in the NFIP/CRS program.
 - Ø STATUS: Staff is in process of preparation for the 5-Year CRS Verification process to be conducted commencing September 23,

2014. As of the October 12, 2010 confirmation letter from FEMA the Town is currently rated a Class 6 community. This provides for a total 20% discount to NFIP flood insurance policy holders.

- Ø RECOMMENDATIONS: Staff continue to work with Insurance Service Office and FEMA Region IV to maintain Town's CRS rating and required activities.

n **Property Protection**

- **Education of Repetitive Loss Property owners:** Annual outreach through Town newsletter.
 - Ø STATUS: An educational outreach letter to each repetitive loss property was mailed in August 2014. Included were changes in Homeowners Flood Insurance Affordability Reform Act of 2014 authorizing funding of Grant programs for Repetitive Loss and Severe Repetitive Loss properties.
The 2014 Annual Summer Newsletter was mailed in June to all residents within the Zip Code. Information included flood awareness, flood safety, property protection methods, and hurricane preparedness and response information.
 - Ø RECOMMENDATIONS: Continue to improve the Town's formal outreach program to inform Repetitive Loss property owners of options for mitigation and funding. Continue to include updated information about the Homeowners Flood Insurance Affordability Reform Act of 2014 signed by the President on March 21, 2014.
 - Ø
- **Enforcing New Construction and Renovation Standards**
Continuously enforce the current 2010 Florida Building Code edition as adopted by State Statute.
 - Ø STATUS: Building inspectors and plans examiners continue their review of the current Florida Building Code (FBC) and any Amendments.
 - Ø RECOMMENDATIONS: Educate contractors and the public as to any changes in the FBC and Amendments with emphasis on flood protection techniques and requirements.
- **Conduct public outreach programs.**
 - Ø STATUS: The Town held a public forum on June 19, 2014, at Town Hall to discuss Hurricane Awareness Program, including flood protection.
 - Ø RECOMMENDATIONS: Continue to hold public forums and investigate opportunities for additional public outreach and utilize the

local press to educate the public. Consider developing a permanent Floodplain Management Plan Committee.

n **Natural Resource Protection**

· **Sarasota Bay Estuary Program**

The Town is a member and provides financial support to the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program to enhance the preservation and/or creation of the local floodplains and wetlands.

Ø STATUS: Continuing to support wetland protection in Sarasota Bay.

Ø RECOMMENDATIONS: Continue current support.

· **Town Wetlands Protection and Restoration**

- Durante Park, Phase Four project
- Sisters Key Restoration Project
- Lyons Lane Restoration Project

Ø STATUS: The wetland mitigation project on Sister Keys Completed in August 2008 has completed the five-year permit required monitoring and maintenance program.

Ø RECOMMENDATIONS: Continue to monitor restoration projects efforts in all Parks and on Sisters Key.

· **Beach Renourishment Projects**

- In the Summer of 2006, the Town completed an island-wide major beach renourishment project, which provides additional shoreline and dune protection.

Ø STATUS: Most recent island wide Beach Restoration was completed in July 2006. Two Permeable Adjustable Groins were constructed at the Islander Club in 2009-10. An Interim renourishment was completed for the North end, Reach 1, of the island in July of 2011. Another interim Emergency Fill project on the North end was completed in June of 2014 as a result of a WCIND Sand Shoal Dredging project. A renourishment permit has been approved by FDEP and a variety of renourishment and beach protection projects are being considered and tentatively scheduled for the fall of 2014 through Spring of 2016 including a project to construct two Permeable Adjustable Groins on the North End.

Ø RECOMMENDATIONS: Continue to maintain and monitor existing beach conditions and plan for future renourishment projects. Provide recommendations to update the 2008 Beach Comprehensive Management Plan.

n Police and Fire Departments Emergency Services

- Enhance the early-warning systems
 - To provide the earliest warning of weather conditions to all residents, commercial owners, and Town employees.
 - Ø STATUS: Installation was completed in July 2006 of the “Code Red” automatic phone notification system, and the Town is now promoting participation through the Town’s website and local newspapers. The Town updates on an annual basis the Town of Longboat Key Hurricane Plan.
 - Ø RECOMMENDATIONS: Investigate further opportunities for improvements to communications and coordination. Coordinate with Sarasota and Manatee Counties’ EOC communication systems and insure requirements can be met to provide for opportunity to be eligible for CRS Activity 610 reporting.
- Enhancement of the evacuation program for Special Needs residents.
 - Ø STATUS: The Special Needs Evacuation lists are updated annually on the county and local levels.
 - Ø RECOMMENDATIONS: Maintain lists on an annual basis.
- Continued Participation in Manatee County Disaster Preparedness Planning Committee (DPPC)
 - Ø STATUS: Participation is ongoing.
 - Ø RECOMMENDATIONS: None.

n Structural Projects/Capital Improvements

- Town-wide storm water system improvements
 - Ø STATUS: The Town will include in the 2014-15 budget year a review and analysis of storm water system conditions in the Village area.
 - Ø RECOMMENDATIONS: Continue permitted maintenance requirements.
- Continue comprehensive 5-year Public Works projects for Water and Wastewater facilities.
 - Ø STATUS: Construction process underway for improvements to harden water and sewer plants. Provide for a new sub-aqueous water main crossing of Longboat Pass for insurance of maintained water supply from Manatee County.

- Ø RECOMMENDATIONS: Complete improvements as identified through the design phase. Continue to fund and complete projects.

n **Public Information**

- **Floodplain Management Plan Updates and Evaluations**

- Ø STATUS: In progress.

- Ø RECOMMENDATIONS: Staff continues to utilize the participation in the LMS as a platform and process for future updates and review of the Town's Plan. Review and plan for the required modification and adoption per new policy under the current version of the CRS Coordinator Manual implemented in 2013 and effective during the current 5 Year Cycle Verification visit.

- **Public Education Program-**

- Ø STATUS: Ongoing.

- Ø RECOMMENDATIONS: Maintain current activities and investigate other venues for educating the public and construction industry. Consider developing a permanent Floodplain Management Plan Committee.

u **Summary: Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Floodplain Management Plan will be maintained by personnel from the Planning, Zoning and Building Department and the Public Works Department. In addition, these departments are responsible for maintaining the status of all other activities under the Community Rating System (CRS). Other appropriate Town departments will be contacted on an as-needed basis for input regarding other specific responsibilities related to this plan. The Annual Report will provide an overview of the plan and of progress made toward implementing the identified action items during the previous 12 months.

For credit under CRS, this Annual Report must be distributed to the media and be made available to the public. Copies of the Report will be provided to all local newspapers that cover the Key, and the Report and any current Plan Updates will be made available for review at Town Hall, Town Clerk's Office, 501 Bay Isles Road, Longboat Key. Also, a notice of the Report's availability will be posted on the Town's website.

This Annual Report will be submitted as a Consent Agenda item at the regularly scheduled Town Commission Workshop meeting on September 15, 2014.



End of Agenda Item