



AGENDA

Pinellas County
Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Work Group

Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
4000 Gateway Centre Blvd., Pinellas Park, FL

August 27, 2009

- Welcome and Introductions

The meeting started promptly at 1:30 PM with a welcome from the Vice Chair and introductions all around.

- Discussion of FDEM Crosswalk of the draft LMS Plan – Ed

Since our last LMS Workgroup meeting, we submitted our draft LMS Plan to FDEM. It was reviewed by Laura Herbert at the Florida Department of Emergency Management and she provided a crosswalk analysis that we have been working on since. Most of the items have been addressed by Betti (TBRPC) or Ed (PCEM). Some did require input from the municipalities. These will be discussed below.

- Public Outreach and Participation - Betti
 - Focus Groups

The public was invited to participate in three (3) Focus Groups regarding the Local Mitigation Strategy. The Focus Group meetings were held in Clearwater (central Pinellas County), Tarpon Springs (north county) and Treasure Island (South county/barrier islands). The invitation was extended to all citizens via email and electronic newsletters as well as to graduates and participants of the Pinellas County Citizen University program. Tom Iovino of the County Communications Department presented an overview of mitigation strategies and the LMS update. The group was then asked to complete the LMS Survey. We received good response and participation and will be using that input for our next plan update. The results are posted in the Appendix 7 to the plan on the sharepoint.

- Discussion of National Flood Insurance Program and shortcut with FDEM – Bob Bray, Pinellas Park

Bob Bray looked at the FDEM crosswalk regarding NFIP and CRS and was concerned that most of the information that was being asked for was already available at FDEM with the yearly CRS updates that each municipality must submit. He talked to Laura Herbert, who did our LMS Plan review, and she agreed to two considerations:

- For communities that participate in NFIP, they can submit their CRS annual certification letter, which contains all the information that FDEM is looking for.
- For communities that are not participating in NFIP, Bob drafted a checklist that asks all the pertinent questions to provide FDEM with the activities and plans of these communities regarding floodplain management.

Bob's efforts provided an easy way for all the communities to accomplish the requirements for approval of the LMS Plan by FDEM. We are grateful for his conscientiousness and time and the work that it saved everyone else.

ACTION ITEM: Each municipality participating in the NFIP needs to send their last CRS annual certification to Ed (make a .pdf and email it) so he can get it in to FDEM. Due date is Wed, Sept 2.

- FEMA has published a proposed regulation which would impose a reduction of the federal cost share to 25% for restoration of public and eligible private nonprofit facilities that have been damaged three times by the same type of event within a ten year period and have not undergone appropriate mitigation measures before the third event.

Comments are due October 13. (Docket ID FEMA-2008-0006).

<http://www.iaem.com/committees/GovernmentAffairs/GovtAffairs.htm#FEMA11Aug2009>

This item is provided to be sure that any municipalities that didn't see it would have the opportunity to provide comments to FEMA should they so desire.

- Pending Municipal Resolutions – Ed

All the municipalities will shortly have the requirement of adopting the LMS Plan that is approved by FEMA. Ed realized that the last resolution adopting the plan passed by each of the municipalities may not be readily available. So he has posted all the resolutions at the sharepoint site. This way, you can simply copy over the last one you did or check to see what others did last time and modify yours if you see a better idea or wording.

- Overview of Timeline and Deliverables - Betti

As we discussed, we are in the middle of preparing our response to the round 1 FDEM analysis of our plan. Once we satisfy those requirements, our plan will be forwarded to FEMA for their analysis and response. When FEMA is satisfied as well, they will approve our LMS Plan pending adoption by each of the participating municipalities. The plan won't be official and won't be considered approved (enabling municipalities to apply for grants to fund their projects on the project list) until each municipality adopts the plan through a city council resolution.

- New Business

A request was made that the draft LMS Plan be posted at the public LMS website. We are supposed to have it available for their comment. Ed agreed to do that.

- Schedule next meeting – November 19 at 10:00 a.m.

Belleair Beach offered to host our next meeting at their new facility. Address and directions will be distributed before the next meeting.

- Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM