

# The Local Mitigation Strategy: Your Guide To A Safer Community

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## Mitigation:

Actions we can take before a disaster or when we rebuild after a disaster, that will reduce our risk of property damage or loss of life in the future.



# After the disaster.....

- From “why did this happen?”  
to
- How can we prevent this from happening again?





# Deja Vue All over again...

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- DCA contracted with all counties in 1998 to develop mitigation plans for their communities.
- Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires the State and local governments to have an approved Mitigation Plan in order to be eligible for federal disaster mitigation funding
- DCA contracted with all counties to update their LMS and bring into compliance with DMA 2000.

# Step 1: Assessing Our Risk: Vulnerability Assessment

- Identify the hazards each community could face and the probability of the hazard.
  - Flooding
  - Hazardous material incidents
  - Severe winds from tropical storms, hurricanes, tornadoes
  - Lightning, droughts, freezes, sinkholes...



# Terrorism

- The tragic events of September 11, 2001 tragically demonstrate we are not immune.
- The threats are incorporated into the new LMS



# Step 2: Guiding Principles

- Policies
- Regulations
- Procedures
- Programs



# Step 3: Mitigation Strategies

- What are our strengths?
- What are our weaknesses?
- What are our priorities toward a safer community?



# Step 4: Mitigation Projects: Actions to Take

1. Fortifying our schools (for safer shelter) and our critical facilities (fire stations, police departments, public buildings, hospitals, etc.)





# Step 4: Mitigation Projects: Actions to Take

2. Drainage improvements and flood mitigation projects



# Step 4: Mitigation Projects: Actions to Take

- Public Education and Training





# Pinellas Mitigation Accomplishments

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- Land Acquisitions
- Retrofit Of Schools And Other Key Facilities
- Flood Mitigation Initiatives
- Security Initiatives
- Ongoing Programs – CRS Communities And Floodplain Management Plans



# The Local Mitigation Strategy: A Dynamic Plan

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- Major Update and Re-adoption – 5 years (2009)
- Intermediate Revisions:
  - Revised at quarterly LMS meetings
  - After a major event (s)
  - After a major project has been completed

# Where to Find More Information



- [www.pinellaslms.org](http://www.pinellaslms.org)
- [www.tampabayprepares.org](http://www.tampabayprepares.org)
- [www.flash.org](http://www.flash.org)

