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THE BULLETIN

The Official Newsletter of the FDEM Mitigation Bureau



What's the Buzz? A Silver Jackets Update

By: Ian Ohlin



As the year draws to a close and the holidays approach, Florida's Silver Jackets team remains hard at work. The team is leaning forward into the new year and can proudly report early progress on their latest projects.

In November, representatives from Silver Jackets partner agencies including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Florida Division of Emergency Management joined numerous other federal, state, local, and tribal agencies on a site visit to the Immokalee area. The purpose of this visit was to document ongoing stormwater management challenges faced by the Southwest Florida community. Information gathered during this trip will directly support the team's work on the Immokalee Regional Water Plan project in 2022.

The Silver Jackets are making headway in presenting the 2022 Florida Coastal Resilience Workshop. A diverse lineup of agencies have agreed to participate. The goal of this workshop is to provide local stakeholders with information on Florida's coastal planning statutes and regulations. As well as provide attendees with an opportunity to learn about available tools to help their communities meet these requirements. The workshop's collaborative kickoff meeting was held earlier this month, and the Silver Jackets are considering dates in the first and second quarter of next year to hold events.

Recently, the Florida Silver Jackets team held their fourth quarterly meeting in December. This meeting allowed team members to coordinate their efforts, provide attendees with detailed updates on current projects, and to discuss possible ideas for future projects.

For questions or updates about the Florida Silver Jackets team, please contact Ian Ohlin at Ian.Ohlin@em.myflorida.com.



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Mitigation's 2021 Wrapped

Planning

- Conducted 5 *G393: Mitigation for Emergency Managers* trainings in Lee, Santa Rosa, Monroe, Polk and Leon counties.
- Approved 33 county Local Mitigation Strategy plans.
- Began updating the 2023 State Hazard Mitigation Plan and conducted a Stakeholder Survey, which received over 130 responses.

Floodplain Management

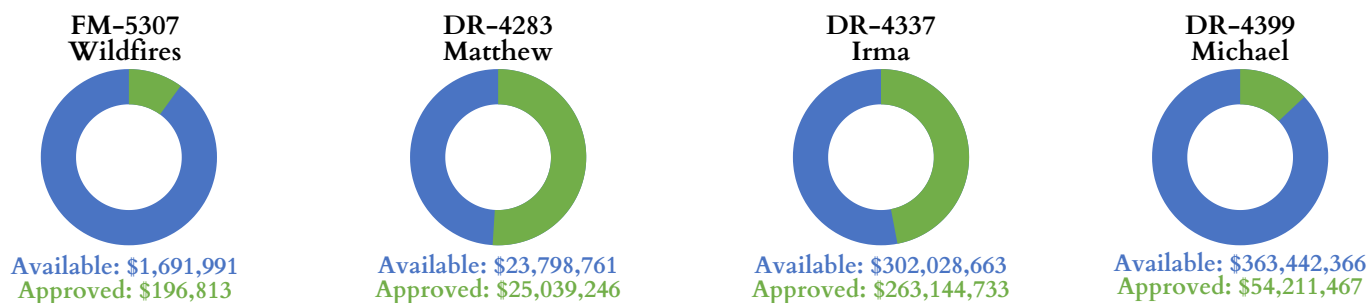
- Conducted 82 Community Assistance Visits (CAVs).
- Completed over 760 Requests for Technical Assistance from community members and local stakeholders.
- Approved 106 ordinances adopted by local communities, which are based on the Florida Building Code coordinated model.
- Attended 10 FEMA Risk MAP meetings.

Grants

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

- Held 4 application cycles for Post Fire FM-5307, Hurricane Dorian, Hurricane Sally and COVID-19 Pandemic.

Grant Status



Non-Disaster Grants

- Successfully submitted 9 FMA and 4 BRIC FY 2020 projects for further review, with an additional 3 under reconsideration or appeal.
- For FY 2021, the team received 39 FMA and 46 BRIC subapplications.
- Developed new outreach tools to better serve local partners, including the Notice of Interest Form and Statewide Applicant Briefing.

Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program

- Closed 13 FY 2020 projects:
 - Total state cost of \$3,580,689 and a community benefit of \$5,729,110
- FY 2021 HLMP: 11 active projects

FEMA Recalculates Pre-Calculated Benefits

By: Ian Ohlin

Projects that are eligible for funding under FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) programs must demonstrate cost-effectiveness. Generally, applicants demonstrate this by conducting a benefit-cost analysis (BCA) that establishes their mitigation projects have a benefit-cost ratio (BCR) equal to or greater than 1.0.

To help reduce the time and effort needed to complete and review the cost-effectiveness of certain mitigation project types, FEMA is offering new pre-calculated benefits for acquisitions, elevations, and hospital generators. These pre-calculated benefits do not completely replace the existing FEMA BCA Toolkit in all situations; however, using these pre-calculated benefits does eliminate the requirement that applicants conduct a separate BCA for eligible projects. If the pre-calculated benefits are insufficient to show cost-effectiveness, applicants may still utilize the FEMA BCA Toolkit.

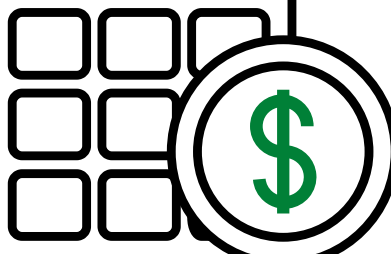
FEMA has established pre-calculated benefits for hospital generator projects in hospitals with emergency departments.

Benefits:

\$6.95
per hospital building gross square footage in urban areas, including most suburban areas

\$12.62
per hospital building gross square footage in rural areas

For more information:
<https://www.fema.gov/grants/guidance-tools/benefit-cost-analysis>



FEMA has updated the acquisition and elevation pre-calculated benefit values, originally established in 2013.

New inflation-adjusted values:

\$205,000
for elevations

\$323,000
for acquisitions

F.A.C. 27P-22 Notice of Development of Rulemaking

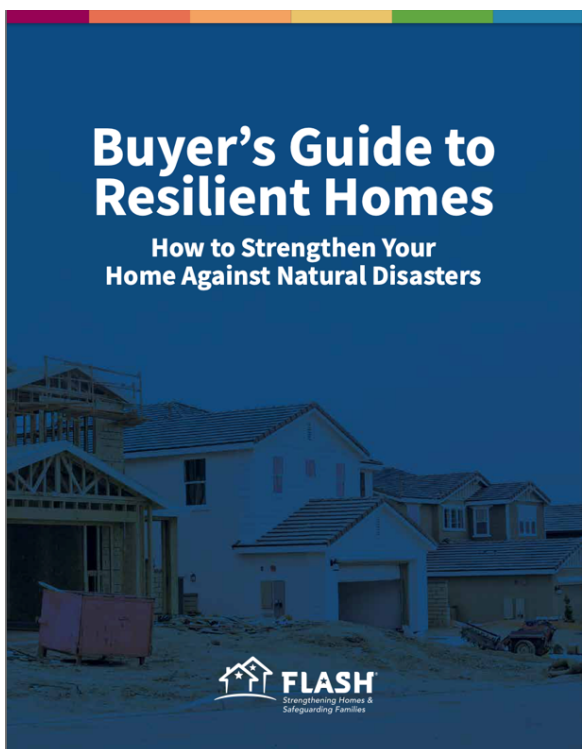
On October 28, 2021, a Notice of Development of Rulemaking was published to the Florida Administrative Register. To see the notice, visit <https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ruleNo.asp?id=27P-22.001>. More information about the rule change is forthcoming.

The purpose of updating the rule is to address mitigation funding needs available to state agencies and to establish a state project list, updated annually, to be included in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Pioneering Homebuyers Guide Advancing Resilience Nationwide

By: Federal Alliance for Safe Homes  **FLASH**

The Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) Buyer's Guide to Resilient Homes is now available as a first-of-its-kind resource for home protection against natural disasters. Informed by years of research, the groundbreaking guide educates homeowners, homebuyers, and renters on the best home resilience practices while pointing out risks associated with a home's location and construction method.



As natural disasters continue to increase and intensify, the Buyer's Guide to Resilient Homes empowers consumers with:

- How-tos on addressing complicated homebuying issues that impact resilience
- Regional best practices on safeguarding homes against natural disasters
- Checklists for resilience against each natural disaster
- Printable checklists for consumers touring prospective homes

The checklists and resources in the guide provide a roadmap for prospective homebuyers. When they use the guide while house hunting, consumers can be confident in finding a resilient home that will keep their family safe.

Check out the Buyer's Guide to Resilient Homes now and download a free copy today at <https://buyersguidetoresilienthomes.org/>

“We hope that this guide gets into the hands of anyone buying a home.”
– Dr. Rick Knabb, Hurricane Expert, The Weather Channel.

FLASH's mission is to promote life safety, property protection and resiliency by empowering the community with knowledge and resources for strengthening homes and safeguarding families from natural and man-made disasters.

Mitigation Spotlight

Please join us in formally congratulating Laura Dhuwe on her new role as FDEM's Deputy Bureau Chief of Mitigation! Laura is also serving as the Bureau's Acting Chief, as Miles Anderson moves toward retirement.

Laura is a veteran and dedicated mitigation professional, as shown in her 5 years of service in the Mitigation Planning Unit as both a planner and unit manager. Laura is an important advocate for the benefits of comprehensive hazard mitigation here in the Sunshine State and we look forward to her continued leadership!



The Cyclone of LMS Updates!

We are in a Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) update cycle. Each plan must be updated every five years and we only have a few plans left. Keep track with us as we finish up this cycle!

County Congratulations!

We want to congratulate Bradford, Okaloosa, St. Lucie, Sumter, and Washington counties on their plan approvals!

0	Under Review
0	In Revisions
2	APA
14	Approved
47	Cycle Complete
1	Expired

New Employee Spotlight

We are so excited to welcome our new employees to the Mitigation Team!



Karla Brown
Senior Management Analyst I



Carolyn Collins
Senior Management Analyst I



Eliwallis Cortes
Engineering Specialist I



Margarita Hernandez
Engineering Specialist I



Misael Lugo
Senior Management Analyst I



Samantha Politano
Senior Management Analyst II



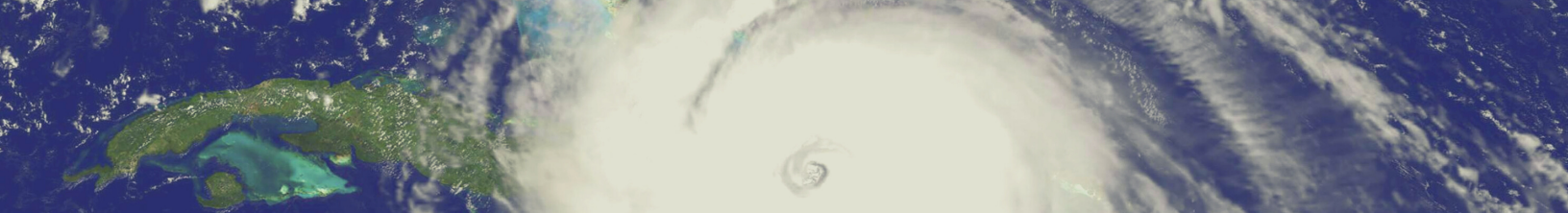
Linda Vause
Senior Management Analyst I



Kayla Weller
Environmental Specialist I



Tierra Williams
Senior Management Analyst I



Making Mitigators Across Florida

In its pursuit of effective and comprehensive statewide hazard mitigation, FDEM is uniquely positioned to offer FEMA's *G-393 Mitigation for Emergency Managers* training course to communities throughout the state.



Source: Claudia Baker, FDEM from Polk County class

Since August, members of the Mitigation Bureau's Planning Unit have traveled to Lee, Leon, Monroe, Polk, and Santa Rosa counties. Each of these trainings provided state planners the opportunity to work with a variety of both public and private sector stakeholders.

Students of G-393 spend three days engaging in practical exercises and modules meant to simulate real world mitigation activities. These local mitigation activities are a fundamental component in reducing and eliminating long-term risk to hazards in Florida communities.



Source: Jeff Manning, Monroe County EM

If you or your staff are interested in hosting a G-393, *G-318 Mitigation Planning Workshop*, or *FL-391 LMS Update Manual* course in your County or region, please reach out to your LMS Liaison.

Need More Information?

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The Bureau of Mitigation

Mitigation is an integral part of the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM). Mitigation actions reduce or eliminate the loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters. Due to Florida's weather, geography, and miles of coastline the state is highly vulnerable to disasters. These events can be very costly to both our citizens and governments.

Under the direction of Division Director Kevin Guthrie and State Hazard Mitigation Officer Miles E. Anderson, the Bureau of Mitigation administers several federal mitigation grant programs including the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Program, and the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program. The Bureau also administers a state funded mitigation program called the Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program.

If you would like to know more about mitigation in Florida please visit:

www.floridadisaster.org/mitigation.

