Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group (LMS WG) Meeting- Communitywide Review
Committee Stewardship:
Hillsborough County Public Works Hazard Mitigation Program Meeting Summary

Meeting Date | Time October 16, 2013 1:30pm to 4:00pm | Meeting Location 20th Floor. Room 2028D

Agenda Topics
Time Allotted | 1:39pm-1:46pm | Agenda Topic Overview Welcome & Introductions/Purpose, Charge, Approvals, and Review Past Meeting

Discussion:

- Introduction of the attendees began at 1:39pm. Overview of the FHWA study. Information was given regarding the value of the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) and the value of input by the LMS WG; as well as, knowing it is a Board of County Commissioners sanctioned group. Discussions ensured regarding general business that included the membership, nominations, critical facilities, listing of projects, and the County’s submittal of the elected Chair and Vice Chair and the list of projects to the Board of County Commissioners for approval no later than January 2014 (the agenda item to the Board will be drafted in November or December 2013).

- With respect to floodplain management, cities of Tampa and Temple Terrace are currently rate 6 under the National Flood Insurance Program, Community Rating System (CRS). The County has a rating of 5 (the lower the rating the higher the discount off Federal flood-insurance policies within the Special Flood Hazard Area).

- The County sustained its CRS rating following the three-year cycle visit, which is a full review of all activities performed by the Board of County Commissioners agencies, which provides greater than $6 million in discounts off Federal flood-insurance policies within unincorporated areas of the county. Many agencies and teams contributed. The County also completed the annual CRS re-certification process for 2013, which was deemed successfully completed by FEMA’s subcontractor charged with the review.

- The County’s annual CRS Outreach Strategy was reviewed and was voted to be continued for the coming year as it was reviewed. The review consisted of the outreach strategy outlined within the Hillsborough County’s Floodplain Management Plan. Discussions ensured regarding various floodplain management components and activities associated with the program.

- Minutes from the past meeting will be provided for the next meeting scheduled for November.

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program awards for Tropic Storm Debby included the Tampa General Hospital. The grant award was to fortify certain parts of the Tampa General
Hospital. Discussions included other projects that were submitted under Tropical Storm Debby and Hurricane Isaac.

- Other mitigation outreach programs were discussed that included information regarding the Citizen Corps Council and associated topics, the County’s Neighborhood Programs, Post Disaster Redevelopment, and Emergency Management. Regarding the Post-Disaster-Redevelopment-Plan, the County is working with the University of South Florida to have the Technical Advisory Committees rejuvenated and the County has developed a draft table-of-organization that illustrates interconnectivity of roles under the Redevelopment Coordinator.

- In 2014, the LMS WG will begin the update to the LMS, which will incorporate consequence management for some areas of vulnerability. Other discussion ensured regarding the update and other associated documents that will require addressing with the update. Further, processes will be identified within the LMS to show how to integrate funds allocated under the Stafford Act with funds allocated under Public Assistance following a disaster, which will assist in having infrastructure built to a higher standard following a Federally declared event.

- Minutes for this meeting will be completed and sent out by the end of the week. 404 and 406 funds will be mixed (mixing these needs to be planned out).

**Time Allotted | 1:50pm-2:23pm | Agenda Topic Overview New Business**

**Discussion:**

- The Annual CRS project has been uploaded to the County’s website and has been made available for public review. The report was approved by the Board of County Commissioners; however, some task attested to as continued sanctioned activities were identified as being delayed due to the transition of systems within the County.

- A poll was taken to determine whether to continue using the current CRS Outreach Plan. The poll result was a unanimous yes.

- A review of the depth of tidal surge associated with Tropical Storm Andrea was analyzed. The County used contour data and compared it to the storm surge (3-4ft). The analyses showed the possibly affected parcels at 3,900 parcels – parcels but not necessarily structures. County field verification showed the GIS data gave results that were very accurate to what actually happened in the county. If the storm surge would have been five feet, the storm surge would have reached many structures.

- An assessment and contact had been made in the previous year to severe repetitive-loss property owners within unincorporated Hillsborough County. It is anticipated that this year’s grant-application cycle will yield grant beneficiaries. The State performed one application for a resident outside of the County’s process.
The County updated the Flood Damage Control regulations due to a Physical Map Revision for the eastern Deleny Creek Watershed.

FEMA is updating all coastal maps within Hillsborough County.

The Biggert Waters Insurance Reform Act of 2012 may have an effect on an estimated 20 to 30 thousand properties within Hillsborough County.

Currently, Susan Mueller is serving as the Vice Chair and Randy Goers is the Chair LMS_WG. Consensus via email will be settled and discussed at the next meeting.

Currently, the County is about to get underway on an assessment of floodways to identify minimal impacts.

Potential impacts of flood insurance policies based on primary and secondary homes information discussed in the meeting is available through PowerPoint. This presentation discusses the Congress’ policies regarding flood insurance. This document is pending change depending on what Congress decides in the next couple of weeks. If you’re interested in a copy, please contact Gene Henry.

Discussion ensured regarding LMS WG nominations and the projects list.

Finally, it was solicited that if you wish to remain or be removed from the LMS WG, please let Gene know.

The next meeting will be of a smaller scope and will include business regarding the nomination of the Chair and Vice Chair and the listing of projects to be included with the LMS submittal to the State.

**Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Vulnerability Assessment & Adaptation Pilot Project**

**Agenda Topics**

**Time Allocated | 2:23pm-2:28pm | Agenda Topic: Introduction to the Project**

**Introduction**

Allison Yeh:

- Climate change vulnerability assessment and adaption pilot on the transportation. The project goals are to:
  - Systematically incorporate climate risk and resiliency info into transportation planning and investment process.
  - Help Identify adaptation (climate risk mitigation) strategies for incorporation into the MPOS 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan

**Time Allocated | 2:28pm-3:53pm | Agenda Topic: Criticality Assessment Process, Transportation Data Assessment, and Next Steps**
Discussion

Josh DeFlorio

- Cambridge systematics wants local expertise to be able to understand the transportation system in the Tampa area
- We are 6 weeks into the project
- Project Scope is to:
  - Identify potentially vulnerable transportation infrastructure
  - Develop adaptation strategies for a selection of critical assets
  - Strategies will be incorporated into the current plans - we are not reinventing the wheel
- The project is federally funded by the FHWA
- There is significant latitude to the assessment; the framework is iterative, more latitude in constructing the process.
- It is a four phase framework:
  - Phase I: Data collection and criticality assessment process
  - Phase 2 - identify critical, vulnerable infrastructure (5-10 high risk assets) for adaptation
  - Phase 3 - develop adaptation (risk mitigation) strategies for a selection of high-risk assets
  - Phase 4 - document the findings and recommendations
- Sea level rise data is being retrieved from UF and other data is also coming from FAU
- Hillsborough County (Sea level rise data under NOAA and Hazard Mitigation) also has some data that could be useful to Cambridge (suggested by an LMS_WG member)
- Role of the LMS_WG
  - Provide local and regional perspective on the functional economic, and quality of life aspects of the project
  - Provide technical guidance as part of TAC (Technical Advisory Committee)
  - Ensure the practicality of the study to the Tampa Bay region
  - Allow for risk assessment incorporation into current and future projects.

Criticality Assessment Process - Points below regarding this process:

- Screening process (phase 1) - definition of criticality: that you believe as a community that one transportation system is more valuable than others.
- A preview of potential consequences of damage - helps to conceptualize the impact to the region
- Overview of the assessment:
- Step 1: make more informed decisions regarding transportation networks and their changes. It is meant to facilitate decision making within the region. Trip table- show connections between one traffic analysis zone to another (millions of origin destinations) - these are connected together. Vulnerability is something that has not been considered in projects (response to LMS_WG question).
- Step 2: using products of step 1, facilitate a dialogue among stakeholders. Repurpose travel demand model- it will incorporate the criticality assessment process.

**Group Brainstorm- People need access to and from:**
- Their jobs and homes
- Tourism
- Evacuation Routes
- Healthcare
- Consumer services
- Transit
- Agricultural (orange, phosphate)
- Amazon
- Port
- MacDill AFB
- Goods: Foods, chemicals, industrial-ethanol, coal
- Distribution centers
- Manufacturing: export/import
- Access to supply chain
- Power plants
- Utilities
- Communications facilities

**What’s Next**
- Present analysis to ask for input from the LMS_WG
- Evaluate 5-10 critical assets

**Transportation Data Collection**
- Process that we are in right now
- Inquiries will be forthcoming to the LMS_WG for missing data sources ( A list is below:
- Planned transit and/or rail facilities
- Tunnels (road/rails)
- Maritime facilities
- Inland flooding

Next Steps: Conclusion

- Critical asset selection will be the topic of the Nov. 4th meeting
- Upcoming project activities
- Volunteers for Technical Committee TAC (please email Allison if you’re interested in participating)
- Identify and leverage all of the available data
- In Kind Contributions have been sent to account for LMS_WG via email. Please keep track of your volunteering time with this group. This is an essential part of the pilot study.

Additional topics/questions from meeting participants

- Critical Regional Connections will be considered (e.g. bridges between Hillsborough and Pinellas County)
- Tampa has a catalog of critical infrastructure
- Port and Airport
- LMS group can recommend projects for funding if it is on the LMS working group list
- Define how criticality is used for this study
- Utilize existing HC Geometrics data
- May need GIS overlay for post disaster redevelopment areas