

**MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA
LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MINUTES
July 17, 2024**

A public hearing of the Marion County Local Mitigation Strategy Committee was held on July 17, 2024 at 10:00am in the Marion County Growth Services Training Room, 2710 E. Silver Springs Boulevard, Ocala, Florida.

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am. Members present creating a quorum were: MCSO Emergency Management - Sean Lanier, Marion County BCC - Fire Ken McCann, City of Belleview Bob Titterington, City of Ocala Preston Bowlin, HCA Ocala Hospital - Samuel Peppard, Ocala Metro Chamber & Economic Partnership (CEP) Kelli Holt, Salvation Army Major Phillip Irish, HCA –Staff members present were: Growth Services Transportation Planner Kenneth Odom, Administrative Manager Sage Dick and Staff Assistant Autumn Williams.

Sean Lanier led the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was noted by Sage Dick that the meeting met the Sunshine Law requirements and Posting of Notice can be found on the Marion County Website.

1. ACTION ITEMS:

There were no action items.

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

2.1 Marion County Vulnerability Assessment

The Office of the County Engineer's Stormwater division is spearheading a county wide Vulnerability Assessment (VA). Vulnerability Assessments are a standardized approach for local and state level government to analyze current and future risk (primarily flood by precipitation in our case) to property (both government and private), critical facilities, and transportation infrastructure. This is required by Florida statutes and grant funding is being provided by FDEP for the initiative.

Ken Odom introduced Christine Vrabic with The Office of the County Engineer's Stormwater division who gave an update, sharing that the Office of the County Engineer's Stormwater division is spearheading a county wide Vulnerability Assessment (VA), focusing on unincorporated areas of Marion County, and the towns of Reddick and McIntosh, with the consultation of Halff Engineering. Christine Vrabic went over a presentation covering key information, points and held time for questions from the committee.

2.2 FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis Discount Rate

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Video from FEMA Policy to Practice Series outlining the new discount rate for HMGP and other programs.

Ken Odom discussed FEMA portal and Benefit-Cost Analysis toolkit to assist with application preparation.

2.3 FEMA Local Grant Resources

Staff will present a brief overview of the FEMA website update outlining grant opportunities resources for multiple programs and recipients.

Ken Odom discussed FEMA grants available: HMGP, BRIC, Flood Mitigation, as well as Shelter and Service programs. Next Generation Warning System Grant for all communications systems.

2.4 FDEP Map Direct Gallery

Staff will present a brief introduction to the MAP Direct Gallery to outline the resource and diversity of tools available to local agencies and municipalities.

Ken Odom discussed MAP Direct Gallery and the diversity of tools and wealth of information available to local agencies and municipalities. He will send links to everyone to utilize this tool.

3. COMMENTS:

3.1 Steering Committee/Work Group Comments

- Sean Lanier mentioned upcoming stormwater project.
- There was discussion about obtaining information for updated contacts for various positions on committee. Ken Odom and staff will work to update contact lists and share.

3.2 Public Comments: There was no one in the audience to bring forward any public comments and the chair closed the public portion of the hearing.

4. OTHER BUSINESS:

Next scheduled quarterly meeting: Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 10:00 AM in the Growth Service Building – Training Room

5. MINUTES:

No meeting minutes were approved at this time.

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ADJOURNED: The meeting adjourned at 10:31 AM.

Attest:

Sear Lanier for 10/30/25

~~Erin Miller, Chair~~

Date

Sear Lanier, Vice Chair

[Signature] for

Sage Dick, Administrative Manager

Rebecca Brinkley, Staff Assistant IV