

Monroe County Local Mitigation Strategy

Meeting 3: Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group

Time & Date: Tuesday November 10, 2020 1:00 PM

Location: Zoom Video Conference Call

Introductions and Agenda

Approximately 16 people were in attendance at the Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group (LMSWG) Meeting #3 which took place at 1:00pm on Tuesday November 10, 2020.

Jeff Manning, from Monroe County Emergency Management thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He expressed excitement over the positive feedback from FDEM on the sections of the plan they have reviewed. He is ready for the next step. He noted that tropical storm impacts may have affected the turnout for the meeting.

David Stroud and Abby Moore (Wood) presented the briefing slides per the meeting agenda shown below.

1. Updates: Where we are in the planning process
2. Review Mitigation Goals & Objectives from Meeting 2
3. Review Mitigation Ideas for New Actions
4. Reminders & Next Steps:
 - a. Finalize Action Status Reporting
 - b. Submit New Actions
5. Questions

Planning Process

David updated the LMSWG on where the consultants are in the Planning Process. Wood has submitted the HIRA to FDEM and received a few small updates. In this meeting, Wood focused on Step 7 and 8: reviewing mitigation actions and drafting a mitigation action plan. These are the final few big steps to completion of the LMS. With speedy responses from the LMSWG, we will be able to complete a draft of the plan by the next meeting on November 23rd.

Review Mitigation Goals & Objectives

David reviewed the goals presented at meeting 2. Wood did not receive many comments on these goals. He noted that any new projects or projects being carried forward will be nested under these goals and objectives. The LMSWG had no further comments on these goals.

Mitigation Action Plan Requirements

The requirements for the mitigation action plan are twofold: FEMA DMA 2000 Requirements and CRS Step 8 Requirements

- ▶ **FEMA DMA 2000 Requirements:** The mitigation action plan must have two actions for every high and moderate priority hazard in the plan. In the Monroe County Plan, all hazards are considered high or moderate priority. All hazards actions count as one project for each hazard. Emergency Services actions do not count toward this requirement. All communities must have at least one structural requirement.
- ▶ **CRS Step 8 Requirements:** In order to receive maximum credit in the CRS under Step 8: Draft an Action Plan (45 points max.) each community must have action in 5 of the 6 categories that addresses flood related hazards or all hazards. In the CRS program, to become a class 4 or better community, you must receive 50% of the credit in steps 2, 5, and 8. As such, Wood will work to ensure all communities receive maximum points.

David went through the community's existing Mitigation Actions to highlight the focus on property protection and structural projects. Each community will need to expand the breadth of projects to fulfill the requirements above.

Wood will create one mitigation action table that includes all projects (working group initiatives, community initiatives, and HMA initiatives). The HMA list will be included in an appendix. For scoring purposes, having everything in one place is essential.

Mitigation Ideas

Abby reviewed a selection of mitigation action ideas from the FEMA “Mitigation Ideas” publication. She encouraged the LMSWG to review the full document to find ideas for new mitigation actions. The County and Participating Jurisdictions can also use mitigation strategies that address all hazards.

- ▶ Hazard Strategies include: Alter, Avert, Adapt to, and Avoid the Hazard.
- ▶ Mitigation Categories include: Prevention, Property Protection, Emergency Services, Structural Projects, Natural Floodplain Functions, and Education and Outreach Programs.

Abby briefed the working group on Multi-hazard mitigation ideas as well as ideas for Drought, Erosion, Flood, Severe Weather, Sea Level Rise, Storm Surge, Tornado, and Wildfire. The FEMA guide is available on the Plan Website. She also briefed the LMSWG on potential options by mitigation category.

Abby concluded this section of the meeting reviewing the actions by category from the carried forward actions based on reporting from the community. The county can pursue an action that would cover all jurisdictions to aid in filling in gaps.

Project Prioritization

Abby presented Wood’s version of a modified STAPLEE criteria. This is unique from the prioritization process used for the HMA lists. Under the STAPLEE criteria, a project can earn up to 7 points. Each category is given a score based on impact: -1 (negative), 0 (neutral), and 1 (positive). Neutral is not necessarily a bad thing and should be used as appropriate. STAPLEE Categories are as follows:

- ▶ Socially Acceptable
- ▶ Technically Feasible
- ▶ Administrative Resources
- ▶ Legally Allowable
- ▶ Economically Sound
- ▶ Environmentally Sound

To this, Wood recommends adding four questions, which are rated 0 through 3: 0 = unlikely, 1 = maybe, 2 = probably, and 3 = definitely:

- ▶ Will the action result in lives saved?
- ▶ Will the action reduce property damages?
- ▶ Will the action reduce the need for response actions?
- ▶ Will the benefits exceed the costs?

Questions

- ▶ Does building a new wellfield to combat saltwater intrusion and climate change count as natural resource protection? The goal is to protect drinking water quality. In this instance, a case could be made to be under natural resources.
- ▶ Should we continue to include actions that are submitted by other entities? Although it might make the grant application process a bit more confusing, it is important to continue to include these in the mitigation action plans. Having a variety of responsibility for projects is good. By keeping it in the plan, it may be justified for other funding opportunities outside of HMA. In the future, organizations such as Housing Authorities may participate in the planning process and adopt the plan for funding consideration.

Next Steps

Wood will send follow up spreadsheets to the community to summarize which hazards and categories communities have covered and where the gaps are. The communities are asked to add all new mitigation actions

to fit within the DMA and CRS requirements and prioritize (using the STAPLEE criteria) all carried forward and new actions for the Mitigation Action plan.

Please finalize and return action status reporting ASAP to Frankie at francesca.zito@woodplc.com

Submit new Mitigation Actions and prioritization to Frankie by **Wednesday November 18th, 2020**.

The next and final LMSWG meeting will be on **Monday November 23rd @ 3:00 PM**.

Meeting Adjourned