

Minutes

Indian River County Local Mitigation Strategy

Working Group Meeting

January 15th, 2003

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The focus of this LMS meeting was on identifying issues related to disasters in an effort to better tie mitigation activities and projects to the identified needs in the community. The importance of the “Rational Nexus” was discussed. This is the idea that the projects that are identified in this LMS process should be tied directly to the hazards identified in the plan as well as the issues and problems identified in the plan. The following issues were identified by the Working Group during the meeting:

- Trade off between flood protection and water quality;
- Public infrastructure at risk from flooding;
- Connections between County and St. Johns River Water Management District's Stormwater Management Plans;
- Catastrophic events surpass what is planned for in current stormwater management plans;
- Bridges and transportation facilities are built to withstand a typical 100 year storm;
- The Town of Orchid is not a participant in the CRS program;
- Coordination between government entities and private developments and homeowner associations;
- Only the County and Sebastian have pre-arranged contracts for debris removal following an event;
- Linkage between the County and municipal Emergency Management Plans;
- Law Enforcement needs an upgraded firing range for training exercises;
- Including additional utility providers a place at the Emergency Operations Center;
- Need to revisit emergency plans and operations with various county and municipal entities;
- Public awareness about livestock relocation; and
- Public awareness about including safe room construction into new developments.

Additional information about actions that the County has taken was also discussed. The following is a brief description of those actions.

- The County is currently working on the Stormwater Master Plan;
- New developments in the County are required to hold back water;
- The St. John's River Water Management District manages a Stormwater Master Plan for eastern portions of the County;
- The County has a pre-arranged contract with a debris removal service. Sebastian does as well. Other municipalities can "piggyback" on those contracts;
- The Fairgrounds, Little League fields, and playground have been designated as debris staging areas;
- New Department of Homeland Security Directive has included Emergency Management, Public Works and Health department functions in the description of "first responders;"
- Developments of Regional Impact must provide hurricane shelter space within the community or must make a safe space within each residence;
- Every year, the County conducts a hurricane drill and a nuclear power plant accident drill; and
- The County conducts conference calls with municipal agencies to discuss emergency management procedures.

Update on the Working Group assignments: the following groups have returned The datasheets given out at the kick-off meeting: Sheriff's Office, American Red Cross, and the Planning Department. Please return your data sheet by Monday, February 2, 2004.

New Working Group assignments: Issue identification forms were handed out during this meeting. Please identify any issue related to natural, technological, societal hazards as well as issues that apply to all-hazard. The issue identification forms should be completed and returned by Monday, February 2, 2004

If you would like to request electronic copies of either of the assignments contact either Etta Lopresti or Krista Mitchell. Assignments can also be returned via the contact information listed below.

If you would like to contribute issues, problems, or needs related to disaster preparedness in Indian River County, please contact either Etta LoPresti or Krista Mitchell at the telephone numbers or email addresses listed below.

Etta LoPresti
 Department of Emergency Services
 elopresti@ircgov.com
 Phone – 772-567-8000 ext. 1523
 Fax – 772-567-9323

Krista Mitchell
 Continental Shelf Assoc., Inc
 kmitchell@conshelf.com
 Phone – 561-746-7946
 Fax – 561-747-2954

The next meeting of the Indian River County LMS Working Group will be:

Thursday, February 26, 2004
 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 Indian River County Administration Building
 Conference Room A
 1840 25th Street
 Vero Beach, FL 32960

The following individuals were in attendance:

Terry Hess, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council	Brian Burkeen, IRC EMS	Michael Brooks, Comcast	Bill Brunner, Sheriff's Office
David Jakubiak, Town of Orchid	Tom Kunz, Florida Power & Light	Etta LoPresti, IRC Emergency Management	Jim Davis, IRC Public Works
Roland Deblois, IRC Planning	Marilyn Johnson, BellSouth	Nathan McCollum, IRC Emergency Management	Krista Mitchell, Continental Shelf Assoc., Inc
Lincoln Walther, Continental Shelf Assoc., Inc	John King, IRC Department of Emergency Services		