



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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LETTER TO COMMISSIONERS

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TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: September 9, 2010

SUBJECT: Progress Report on the City's Local Mitigation Strategy Projects relative to Property Owner Discounts on Flood Insurance Premiums

Introduction and Background

Miami-Dade County is the designated local coordinator of the Local Mitigation Strategy Program (LMS) for the Miami-Dade County area, and prepares all the municipal components of the program into a single unified Countywide Local Mitigation Strategy. The primary mitigation goal of the LMS is to reduce vulnerability to natural, technological and societal hazards from all sources, but especially in South Florida from hurricanes, tornadoes, floods and other severe weather events.

The City's participation in the LMS improves its standing and classification in the Community Rating System, making flood insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program more affordable. The Community Rating System (CRS) is a points based system program that reduces flood insurance premiums for the citizens of participating communities. In the CRS program, flood insurance premiums are adjusted to reflect community activities that reduce flood damage to existing buildings, protect new buildings beyond the minimum National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) protection level, help insurance agents obtain flood data and help people obtain flood insurance. There are 10 CRS classes: Class 1 requires the most credit points and gives the greatest premium reduction. Class 10 receives no premium reduction.

Currently the City is a Class 7 community, and as such, the City's residents have been receiving a 15% discount in their flood insurance premium (equivalent to approximately \$3.5m annually for more than 46,000 policies citywide. NFIP has requested that the City of Miami Beach produce a LMS progress report on an annual basis. Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) requires this report to be submitted to the City's governing body.

On June 6, 2000 the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners passed Resolution R-572-00 to adopt the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS). Miami-Dade County has a metropolitan form of government; which means that each of the municipalities within the County has also automatically adopted the LMS.

On July 12, 2006, the City of Miami Beach adopted Resolution Number 2006-26249 adopting the Miami-Dade County Local Mitigation Strategy.

Program Continuity and Strategy to Inform the Public

City staff attends the Miami-Dade County Local Mitigation Strategy meetings once each calendar quarter. Additionally, the latest published version of the Local Mitigation Strategy, along with meeting times, dates and locations are posted on the Miami-Dade County LMS website at: www.miamidade.gov/oem/lms.asp

This memorandum will be made available to the public through the media and City Clerk's Office.

The following is a progress report on the projects listed in the City's Local Mitigation Strategy:

Flooding:

Drainage Improvement Projects

These projects have been specifically selected to improve the drainage system for the flood repetitive loss areas. Improvements consist of drainage improvements to mitigate street level flooding, reduce property flooding concerns and improve emergency response vehicle access. These projects are will alleviate chronic neighborhood flooding situations.

Nautilus Drainage Improvements: Drainage improvements for the Nautilus neighborhood.
Status: The project is 99% complete.

Biscayne Point Drainage Improvements: Construction of drainage improvements at Stillwater Drive and 85th and 86th street in Biscayne Beach.

Status: Additional design work is underway to accommodate an expanded stormwater infrastructure improvement scope that includes pump stations. The project is expected to be advertised for construction on late 2010.

Bayshore Drainage Improvements: Construction of drainage improvements from Lower Bay Road between 21st to 23rd Streets and also between 27th and Alton Road.

Status: The project is undergoing final design review by permitting agencies.

Normandy Shores Drainage Improvements: Drainage improvements for the entirety of Normandy Shores excluding the golf course.

Status: The project is 99% complete.

West Avenue Drainage Improvements: Drainage improvements are proposed for the West Avenue / Bay Road neighborhood.

Status: Project is in the planning phase and the design criteria is under development as part of the initial phase of the Stormwater Master Plan update.

Flamingo / Lummus Drainage Improvements: Drainage improvements are proposed for the Flamingo / Lummus neighborhood along the only east / west rights-of-ways that connect designated emergency evacuation rights-of-way in the South Beach area.

Status: The project is at approximately 60% design with the stormwater portion pending. The stormwater design criteria is under development as part of the ongoing Stormwater Master Plan update.

La Gorce Drainage Improvements: Drainage improvements for the La Gorce Park Area bounded 63rd Street on South, N. Bay Road, West and intercostals on East and North.

Status: The project is undergoing final design review by permitting agencies.

Lake Pancoast Area Drainage Improvements: Construction of drainage improvements for West 24th Street, Lake Pancoast Drive, and West 25th Street.

Status: Project is undergoing final design review by permitting agencies.

Palm and Hibiscus Area Drainage Improvements: Construction of drainage improvements for Palm and Hibiscus Islands.

Status: Project design on hold while FPL completes the undergrounding design plans.

Jefferson Avenue/South Pointe Drainage Improvements: Construction of drainage improvements for the South Pointe area bounded by Meridian Court to the east, and 3rd Street to the north, Jefferson Avenue to the west, and 2nd Street to the south.

Status: The project has been completed as part of the South Pointe Phase II right-of-way improvements project and the system is pending final inspection and testing.

Lakeview Drainage Improvements: Construction of drainage improvements for the Lakeview Area bounded by 51st Street to north, N. Bay Road to west, Cherokee Avenue to east and Lake View Drive to south.

Status: The project is currently undergoing final design review by permitting agencies.

Parkview Canal Seawall Revetment: This project includes constructing revetment along eroded bank areas.

Status: This project was combined with the Dickens Avenue Shoreline Restoration Project. Conceptual plans are complete.

Extensive Repairs to Seawalls: Citywide repair of seawalls in order to mitigate the damage to the inland shoreline located throughout the City.

Status: Island View Park, Bonita Drive and Sunset Lake Park seawalls are complete. Permitting is in progress for: Rue Bordeaux, Trouville Esplanade, Rue Versailles, Flamingo Drive, Pine Tree Drive and Washington Court seawalls.

Canal Cleaning and Shaping – Citywide: Dredging of the approximately 12 miles of inland canals located within the City. This would directly impact the ability of the canal to hold tidal flooding and minimize flooding of surrounding properties during significant weather events.

Status: The City is seeking grant and alternate funding.

Flood Proofing Sewer and Pump Stations: Relining and sealing 31 pump stations and 500 manholes to prevent water intrusion which would damage pump station equipment and structures to prevent failure of stations thereby avoiding flooding.

Status: The relining and sealing of pump stations is complete. Manhole rehabilitation is being addressed.

Stormwater Outfall and Seawall Reconstruction: Replacement of seawalls and 150 stormwater outfalls with associated relining of piping leading to outfalls as part of a comprehensive program of drainage improvement projects which will alleviate chronic neighborhood flooding situations

Status: The City is seeking grant and alternate funding for this project.

City Center – Historic District Drainage Improvements: Construction of drainage improvements from Lincoln Lane North on the south, Washington Avenue on the west, 21st St on the north, and Collins Avenue on the east are part of a comprehensive program of drainage improvement projects, which will alleviate chronic neighborhood flooding situations. The project includes construction of new catchbasins and outfalls with associated piping. The stormwater will be treated using new gravity wells.

Status: Project is in construction.

Central Bayshore Drainage Improvements: Construction of drainage improvements from 28th Street on the south, Alton Road on the west, 41st Street on the north, and Pine Tree Drive on the east are part of a comprehensive program of drainage improvement projects, which will alleviate chronic neighborhood flooding situations. The project includes construction of new catchbasins and outfalls with associated piping. The stormwater will be treated using new gravity and pumped wells.

Status: The project is undergoing final design review by permitting agencies.

Sunset Islands I & II Drainage Improvements: Construction of drainage improvements on these islands are part of a comprehensive program of drainage improvement projects, which will alleviate chronic neighborhood flooding situations. The project includes construction of new catchbasins and outfalls with associated piping. The stormwater will be treated using new exfiltration trenches.

Status: Project currently in permitting stage, the project is expected to advance into final design review.

Sunset Islands III & IV Drainage Improvements: Construction of drainage improvements on these islands are part of a comprehensive program of drainage improvement projects, which will alleviate chronic neighborhood flooding situations. The project includes construction of new catchbasins and outfalls with associated piping. The stormwater will be treated using new gravity wells and/or exfiltration trenches.

Status: Project design is on hold while Homeowners Association finalizes an agreement with FPL for the underground placement of above ground utilities. Once accomplished, the City will then proceed with the design of drainage infrastructure improvements.

Oceanfront Drainage Improvements: Construction of drainage improvements from 27th Street on the south, Indian Creek on the west, 44st Street on the north, and Miami Beach Drive on the east are part of a comprehensive program of drainage improvement projects, which will alleviate chronic neighborhood flooding situations. The project includes construction of new catchbasins and outfalls with associated piping. The stormwater will be treated using new gravity wells and/or exfiltration trenches.

Status: Project in construction, with projected completion by November, 2010.

South Pointe II Drainage Improvements: Construction of drainage improvements south of 5th Street are part of a comprehensive program of drainage improvement projects, which will alleviate chronic neighborhood flooding situations. The project includes construction of new catchbasins and outfalls with associated piping. The stormwater will be treated using new gravity wells and/or exfiltration trenches.

Status: Project is under construction; substantial completion anticipated for November, 2010.

South Pointe III – V Drainage Improvements: Construction of drainage improvements south of 5th Street are part of a comprehensive program of drainage improvement projects, which will alleviate chronic neighborhood flooding situations. The project includes construction of new catchbasins and outfalls with associated piping. The stormwater will be treated using new gravity wells and/or exfiltration trenches.

Status: Project is in construction procurement phase.

Star Island Drainage Improvements: Construction of drainage improvements on the island are part of a comprehensive program of drainage improvement projects, which will alleviate chronic neighborhood flooding situations. The project includes construction of new catchbasins and associated piping. The stormwater will be treated using new gravity wells and/or exfiltration trenches.

Status: Project is in the construction procurement phase.

Venetian Islands Drainage Improvements: Construction of drainage improvements on the islands are part of a comprehensive program of drainage improvement projects, which will alleviate chronic neighborhood flooding situations. The project includes construction of new catchbasins and outfalls with associated piping. The stormwater will be treated using new gravity wells and/or exfiltration trenches.

Status: Project at 90% design.

Sunset Harbor Pump Station Upgrades: As a result of changed stormwater regulations, this project will provide a higher level of stormwater service to the Sunset Harbor neighborhood. The project will upgrade three neighborhood pump stations and include three drainage injection wells (Purdy Ave/Dade Blv.) (Purdy Mains) (20th Street/West Ave).

Status: Project is in the design phase.

48" Outfall at Easement 4180 – 4200 Chase Avenue: Improvements include building a new 48" outfall; traffic control and all ancillary and miscellaneous work. This project will improve the performance of the existing stormwater system and provide adequate flood protection in the area. The proposed improvements to the stormwater system identified at this location based on recommendation in a study requested by the Public Works Department to address localized flooding under current conditions. When completed this project will produce a stormwater system capable of providing a high level of service in the area.

Status: Project is under design.

Belle Island Outfall Replacement: Replacement of three (3) outfall pipes along the Venetian Causeway East Bridge and Farrey Lane. The outfall pipes need to be replaced to complete the Belle Isle Stormwater Improvements, to alleviate the recirculation of water at the easternmost Venetian Causeway Bridge, and to replace the deteriorated outfall pipes.

Status: Project in permitting design review phase.

Middle North Bay Road Drainage Improvements: This project addresses numerous resident complaints and staff observations regarding a low storm water service level in the neighborhood. Drainage improvements would include additional drainage collection, conveyance, treatment and disposal facilities.

Status: Project will proceed once future stormwater bonds can be issued.

Windstorm

Storm Shutters and Protective Glass for City Buildings: To provide protection during a significant weather event.

Status: Impact glass installations for Fire Stations 1 and 3 and the installations at City Hall and the Police Department are expected to be completed by December 2010.

Streetlight System Upgrade: When flooding occurs in low areas both residential and commercial, water intrusion occurs inside the bases of the streetlight poles and results in the malfunction of the lighting system. This project improvement will include re-wiring and placing individual fuses at each pole base and eliminate streetlight service interruptions, and damages to the street lighting infrastructure system.

Status: The City is seeking grant and alternate funding for this project.

Enhanced Emergency Response Program: This project provides for a comprehensive preparedness program by the City including field deployment with hazard mitigation

equipment and training, and equipment and training for search and rescue teams and protective clothing and equipment.

Status: Project ongoing. Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) and Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) have been completed. Training for search and rescue team (LTRT- Light Technical Rescue Team) is ongoing.

Citywide Dune Enhancement Project: To enhance and restore the City's dune system to retain sand and protect upland structures from storm surges and flooding impacts.

Status: The City is seeking grant and alternate funding for this project.

Talmudic University: Protective storm shutters and impact resistant glass for the Talmudic University located at 4000 Alton Road.

Status: Seeking grant and alternate funding for this project.

Mount Sinai Hospital: Includes building hardening, installation of a protective perimeter barrier, installation of phase 1 of drainage and stormwater improvements and relocation of generator and construction enhancements to a new medical office tower, central energy plant and surgical tower.

Status: Seeking grant and alternate funding for this project.

Other Hazards

Miami Beach Interoperability / Communications / EOC Program: This project includes enhancements to the City's EOC, such as a Computer Aided Dispatch/Records Management System, 911 Workstations, a microwave radio system and PSCU upgrade, etc.

Status: The Computer Aided Dispatch/Records Management System project is underway.

Citywide Water Infrastructure Improvements: This project will implement the City of Miami Beach Water System Master Plan; the project includes the replacement of aging water lines (60+ years old).

Status: This project is fully programmed through neighborhood projects and other projects in the City's 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan (2008/09 – 2012/13), subject to appropriation of additional programmed funding in fiscal years 2009/10 through 2013-14.

Citywide Stormwater Infrastructure Improvements: The City's Master Plan effort identified over 160 drainage basins in the City of Miami Beach. Approximately 34 of these basins were identified as a priority. The City has committed to improving the facilities within the 34 priority basins.

Status: This project is fully programmed through neighborhood projects and other projects in the City's 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan (2008/09 – 2012/13) subject to appropriation of additional programmed funding.

Portable Traffic Light Signals: Ten (10) portable traffic signals for emergency situations.

Status: The City is seeking grant and alternate funding for this project.

Citywide Wastewater Infrastructure Improvements: The wastewater lines were built between 1926 and 1956, and the pipes are either beyond or at the end of their useful life.

Status: This project is fully programmed through neighborhood projects and other projects in the City's 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan (2008/09 – 2012/13), subject to appropriation of additional programmed funding in fiscal years 2009/10 through 2013-14.

West Avenue Bridge: To relieve congestion on Alton Road, reduce the volume of local traffic at the busiest intersections and provide a safer venue for road users to access the

causeway to Miami.

Status: The project is ongoing. The feasibility study has been completed.

Regional Communication/Command Van: Regional Communications/Command Van for Miami Beach and neighboring barrier island communities. This Regional capability is crucial as with a natural disaster or terrorist incident, our ability to receive assistance from the mainland can be non-existent. The ability to communicate and continue to operate public safety is crucial to mitigating damage and/or injuries caused by a major incident. As the largest of the barrier island communities, Miami Beach would be in position to provide public safety services to our neighboring municipalities as well as provide command and control for a unified operation.

Status: The City has targeted grant funds for this project.

Recommendations:

1. The City will continue to participate in Miami-Dade County's LMS program and monitor the projects, as needed.
2. The City will continue to have various outreach projects to inform the residents and visitors about hurricanes and floods preparedness and safety.

Please contact me if you need any additional information.


JMG/KGB/AR/JH/MJ