

LMS Executive Summary

The development and implementation of a local mitigation strategy provides a mechanism to address issues that will reduce or eliminate exposure to hazard impacts. Due to the importance of avoiding or minimizing the vulnerabilities to these hazards, the public and private sector interests of Brevard County have joined together in **Brevard Prepares**. Brevard Prepares Steering Committee has undertaken a comprehensive planning process in conjunction with Brevard County Emergency Management, culminating in the publication of this 2020 update of the “Brevard County Local Mitigation Strategy.”

This is a multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan, and the planning effort has been conducted through the coordinated, cooperative effort of local governments and other organizations and agencies within Brevard County. The local governments include the City of Cape Canaveral, the City of Cocoa, the City of Cocoa Beach, the Town of Grant-Valkaria, the Town of Indialantic, the City of Indian Harbour Beach, the Town of Malabar, the City of Melbourne, the Town of Melbourne Beach, the City of Palm Bay, the Town of Palm Shores, the City of Rockledge, the City of Satellite Beach, the City of Titusville, the City of West Melbourne and Brevard County.

Other key participant organizations and agencies involved with this project include Waste Management, Canaveral Port Authority, St. John’s River Water Management District (SJRWMD), Harris Corporation, Florida Institute of Technology, and Brevard Public Schools.

For this 2020 update, a new hazard and risk analysis was completed by Brevard County Emergency Management in cooperation with partner jurisdictions. Brevard Prepares Steering Committee worked to identify, justify and prioritize specific proposals for projects and programs that will avoid or minimize these vulnerabilities in the future. These proposed projects and programs are also referred to as “Mitigation Initiatives” in this document.

This update has been submitted to the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM), who also has the authority to review the document on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), for review in comparison to the requirements from the Local Mitigation Plan Review Guide, revised by FEMA in October 2011. Once a decision has been made that the updated plan adequately addresses these requirements, the plan will be submitted to the participating jurisdictions’ governing Brevard County Local Mitigation Strategy Aug 11, 2020 bodies for formal adoption and approval. Adoption resolutions can be found in Appendix VII.

The final draft plan will be submitted to the governing bodies of the participating jurisdictions for final approval and adoption. Consistent with the normal practices of the participating jurisdictions, which conduct meetings in accordance with Florida’s open meetings statutes, the public will have an opportunity to comment upon each jurisdiction’s adoption of the plan during public meetings. In accordance with Federal practice, the participating local jurisdictions have one year from the date of State approval of the plan to complete the formal adoption.

This plan will continue to be updated in the future to ensure it addresses changing conditions in the participating jurisdictions, experiences with disasters that occur and any changes in the characteristics of the hazards that threaten the involved communities. This updating process and future editions of the local mitigation strategy will also be used to inform and involve the public, and other interested groups, to elicit their participation in making the community more resilient to the impacts of future disasters.