



CITY OF CALLAWAY

CITY HALL

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To: City of Callaway Board of Commissioners
From: Ed Cook, City Manager

City of Callaway CRS Progress Report October 2019

On July 28, 2015 the City of Callaway Board of Commissioners approved Resolution No. 15-19 adopting the updated Bay County Local Mitigation Strategy Plan. Upon acceptance, the City committed to continued participation in the updating and expansion of the Bay County Local Mitigation Strategy Plan. This memorandum shall serve as part of the City's effort to continue to update and expand on the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Plan, and shall serve as the annual progress report required as part of the City's continued participation in the National Flood Insurance Programs (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS). This report will be available to all local news and media outlets, and to the general public via the Callaway website (www.cityofcallaway.com) and on file at the Callaway Planning Department.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the LMS Plan is to identify strategies to mitigate our community from future natural disaster, including flooding. The LMS Plan is considered a guiding or planning document to help the City achieve this means. Although voluntary, communities that adopt a hazard mitigation plan must update their plan documents and processes to continue to remain eligible for various pre- and post-disaster grant programs, funding opportunities, and other mitigation programs. In 2015, Callaway, Bay County, and other local municipalities undertook the process to update the LMS Plan to avail our communities to these opportunities and programs. During this process, representatives from the County and local municipalities completed the update to the LMS Plan through a coordinated effort. Once the Florida Division of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency found the update to Bay County LMS Plan compliant with federal standards, the City quickly adopted the plan by Resolution No. 15-19. Since that time, the City of Callaway has continued to coordinate with other local government jurisdictions to keep the LMS updated and monitor the progress of the goals and objectives specified in the plan.

The City of Callaway, as well as the whole of Bay County, is susceptible to a variety of natural hazards which endanger the health and safety of its citizens, jeopardize its economic vitality, and imperil the quality of its environment. Historical experience has demonstrated that the County and its municipalities can be affected by flooding, winds associated with tropical storm/hurricanes, tornados, and wildfires.

More information concerning the City's vulnerability to certain natural hazards can be found in to the 2015 Bay County LMS Plan. Copies of the plan are available at the City of Callaway Planning Department, the Bay County Emergency Operations Center, Bay County website <https://www.co.bay.fl.us> and the Bay County Public Library.

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GOAL AND OBJECTIVES OF THE LMS

The following goals of the Bay County LMS Plan are intended to serve as general guidance that define the long-term hazard mitigation strategies for the City, County, and other local municipalities. As previously stated, the use of these goals and strategies help guide the City of Callaway in its efforts to reduce or prevent flooding and other natural hazards.

Identifying Areas Vulnerable to Hazards and Appropriate Mitigation Actions

The City of Callaway has identified drainage improvement projects that have or should significantly help reduce or lessen the impacts in an area vulnerable to natural hazards, such as flooding, and storm surges from hurricanes and other tropical events (Table 1). Many of these projects are intended to improve deficient stormwater drainage infrastructure.

Table 1

Project	Description	Status
4th St.	Increased size of crossover pipe and cleaned drainage ditch	Complete
Pridgen St., Lance St., & Enzor St.	Installed 6" pipe to alleviate standing water	Complete
Donna Ave.	Replaced deteriorated 24" culvert	Complete
Berthe Ave. & Boat Race Rd.	Installed catch basin and 18" pipe to enclose ditch	Complete
Gay Ave. Outfall Easement	Cleared easement and cleaned ditch	Complete
S. Kimbrel Ave.	Increased stormwater structures capacity to improve drainage for the basin	Complete
N. Kimbrel Ave.	Increased culvert size and raised roadway	Complete
Lois St.	To increase capacity of drainage system to alleviate flooding	Complete
City Wide	Ditch Cleaning through NRCS Grant Funding	Currently underway
Callaway Point	Stormwater drainage improvements	City Awarded a \$500,000 grant 2019 from FEDS
Hugh Thomas Dr.	Stormwater drainage improvements	Budgeted for 2020
Cherry St.	To correct design flow in existing system (maintenance access)	Is budgeted & under negotiations for design
S. Berthe Ave. Box Culvert/Bridge	Retrofit and rebuild spillway to increase lifecycle and correct design problems	Awarded a \$1.2M grant from FEMA to replace bridge

Source: Public Works Department, 2019

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Figure 1 shows the area near the S. Berthe Avenue spillway. This stormwater infrastructure has become a top priority of the City. During an intense rain event the City had to reconstruct/reinforce a portion of the spillway. City staff is currently coordinating with FEMA personnel for possible funding and/or grant opportunities.

Figure 1



In addition to the improvements of the stormwater drainage systems, the City of Callaway continues to perform maintenance and inspection on existing infrastructure as part of its mitigation actions.

Enhance Public Awareness and Understanding

As a participant in the Community Rating System (CRS) program and as a goal of the Local Mitigation Strategy Plan, the City of Callaway encourages public outreach, awareness, and understanding of the issues associated with flooding and natural disasters. The City provides mail-outs and flood-proofing information to residences that have been identified in a repetitive loss area. The City has consistently made itself available to property owners, insurance agents, real estate agents, and other members of the public to educate them on ways to mitigate flooding and natural disasters. The City of Callaway has retained copies of old FIRMs in order to provide a comprehensive overview of changes and modifications to the flood map to owners and agents.

LMS Mitigation Initiatives

With consideration of aforementioned potential impacts and input from local governments, the Bay County Mitigation Initiative Prioritization List* has been integrated into to the LMS Plan. The following projects are contained in the prioritization list and are intended to benefit the City of Callaway:

Table 2

Road Drainage Improvement	Potential grant/funding source for road drainage improvements in the City of Callaway to mitigate flooding from heavy rains and storm surge.
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Traffic Signal Wind Retrofit	Potential grant/funding source for traffic signal retrofits in the City of Callaway to mitigate tornados, hurricanes, and other storms creating high winds
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Source: Bay County LMS Plan, 2015

These items were specifically included on the Mitigation Initiative Prioritization List because they are improvements that could significantly protect public assets in the community. Due to the fact that the Bay County LMS Plan has been adopted by the City, the City remains eligible for various pre- and post-disaster grant programs and other mitigation programs to help fund projects listed in the Mitigation Initiative Prioritization List.

*(The Bay County Mitigation Initiative Prioritization List is currently in the process of being revised)

Promote Compliance with State & Federal Programs

There are a number of State and Federal programs, policies, and regulations that encourage local governments to develop and adopt hazard mitigation strategy plans. Since adopting the Bay County LMS Plan on August 31, 2011 by Resolution No. 10-30, the City has promoted and continues to encourage consistency with these programs, policies, and regulations. In order to comply with the policies and regulations of the National Flood Insurance Program, the City amended portions of its floodplain management regulations and adopted the revised FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps in 2009. Since that time, the City has continued to enforce all applicable flood plain management regulations and requirements.

Enhance Local Policies for Hazard Mitigation Capability

Florida Building Code has been amended to comply with FEMA/NFIP standards. City staff is currently coordinating with State officials to draft a new standards based on the State's model ordinance that will align the City's floodplain management regulations with both State and Federal requirements. During the past several years the City has adopted and implements policies in Comprehensive Growth Development Plan that are aimed at enhancing hazard mitigation. To ensure timely and safe evacuation from the coastal areas, Callaway has implemented land use and growth management policies to maintain a roadway clearance time for hurricane evacuation of 17 hours for a Category 3 storm at high tourist occupancy. Policies have been put in place to direct future growth away from coastal high hazard areas and buffer from environmentally sensitive areas, including low lying wetland and tributaries. The City has adopted policies to limit increases in densities, and restrict development and redevelopment in vulnerable coastal areas. The City has adopted regulations to control erosion and sediment during development and construction activities. Erosion and sediment controls will ultimately reduce the frequency of repairs to drainage and storm sewers, and will have a long-term benefit for drainage and stormwater runoff in the City.

YEAR END STATUS OF THE CRS PROGRAM

Since the last CRS Annual Recertification, City staff continues to coordinate with Bay County and other local municipalities concerning updates to LMS Plan and hazard mitigation efforts. The City has considered improvements to deficient stormwater infrastructure a top priority. The City has completed a number of drainage projects that will aid in controlling stormwater runoff and help relieve areas from flooding. This year the City will take part in the CRS five (5) year cycle verification visit for the required by the CRS. The City of Callaway is currently a class (7) CRS class rating because of the activity established and enacted by staff and other community leaders. This class rating should ultimately allow for a reduction in flood insurance premium for policy holders in Callaway.

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