

## LMS2024 Revision Summary

### The Local Mitigation Strategy

The Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) is a living document that **develops** and **executes** an ongoing methodology for reducing a Palm Beach County's (PBC) vulnerability to identified natural, technological, and human caused hazards. The LMS **provides** the rational, managed basis for considering and prioritizing hazard-specific mitigation options, and for developing, and executing sound, cost-effective mitigation projects through the Prioritized Project List (PPL). The LMS **provides the basis for justifying the solicitation** and use of local, state, federal, and other funding sources to support hazard mitigation projects and initiatives.

*The Purpose is Mitigation. The methodology is the LMS. The instrument is the PPL. The goal is Resilience.*

### LMS2024 – Why Do We Have an LMS

- Formally adopted in 1999, the LMS is a **statutory requirement** in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and Fla. Stat. § 252.3655 (2022).
- It allows communities to identify hazards and prioritize unfunded projects to mitigate those hazards when funding becomes available from local, state, and federal sources.
- It is required in order to receive financial assistance through Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM), Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) funding from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) before and after a disaster strikes.
- It puts local communities in control of projects and funding priorities.

### LMS2024 – Updates to LMS2020

- PBC commissioned a new threat hazard and identification risk assessment (THIRA) in 2021, used in the LMS2024, to illustrate our risks and determine the level of capability they need in order to address those risks.
- Historic events for natural hazards were added through 2023 and deleted if older than 10 years, unless they had significant impact to the County. In which case, they were left in the document.
- Recent years have shown increased vulnerabilities as modeling, and mapping capabilities improve, and as more information is gathered on potential impacts of climate change, and sea level rise. This LMS integrates updated information on storm surge and sea level rise and climate change into our hazards, mitigation measures, mapping and project list.
- Collaboration with the Office of Sustainability and participation in the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact has increased the number of planning stakeholders we are working with for assessments.
- Analyses of local flooding conditions as it relates to PBC communities
- Update of Agricultural Pests and Diseases with specifics on the citrus industry
- Updates in severities of Pandemic/Communicable Diseases (mosquito borne diseases)
- Improved project tracking system through creation of a WebEOC internet based board, and encouraged participants to track projects; illustrates all of the mitigation work being done in Palm Beach County

### Adoption of LMS2024

Your jurisdiction must adopt the LMS2024 in order to be eligible for any mitigation funding in the future (HMGP, PDM, and/or FMA grants). Adoption of LMS2024 is paramount to your community remaining a viable stakeholder in mitigation research, identification, and prioritization. Our communities utilize the LMS to include mitigation in their development, and redevelopment projects through inclusion in their Master Plans and Capital Improvement plans. Communities are proactively including mitigation projects into their internal funding, and capital improvement budgets. LMS2024 is your comprehensive approach to effectively reduce the impact of current, and future hazards, and risk faced within Palm Beach County.

Failure to adopt LMS2024 will negate your community hazard mitigation plans as a condition for receiving certain types of non-emergency disaster assistance, including funding for mitigation projects.