



MEMORANDUM

Date: November 5, 2025

To: Brian L. Barroso, City Manager

Via: Patrick Wright, Growth Management Director

From: Alison Higgins, Resiliency Manager

Subject: **25-4630: Supporting the Monroe County Local Mitigation Strategy Five Year Update**

Introduction

City Commission approval/renewal of the five-year Monroe County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) as required by State and Federal regulations to qualify for certain mitigation grant funding.

Background

An important step in the process of improving resiliency is the development of a Local Mitigation Strategy. The Monroe County LMS was prepared in accordance with the guidelines provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Florida Division of Emergency Management, and steps outlined in National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System Coordinator's Manual. All five local governments, alongside utilities and nonprofit groups all within Monroe County participated in the development of this strategy.

The LMS serves several purposes. It sets the stage for long-term resistance to natural hazards through identification of actions that will, over time, reduce the exposure of people and property. Further, the LMS is required to be eligible for certain state and federal mitigation grant funds.

The LMS is maintained at the County level and has been in existence since 1999. The LMS must be updated and renewed by the County Commission and its partner local governments at least every five years, and has been in 2005, 2010, 2015, and 2020. Specifically, the 2025 LMS updates addressed the following items.:

- Consider changes in vulnerability due to action implementation;
- Document success stories where mitigation efforts have proven effective;
- Document areas where mitigation actions were not effective;

- Document any new hazards that may arise or were previously overlooked;
- Incorporate new data or studies on hazards and risks;
- Incorporate new capabilities or changes in capabilities;
- Incorporate growth and development-related changes to inventories; and
- Incorporate new action recommendations or changes in action prioritization.

Procurement

Approving the LMS will not cost the City any money and has many monetary benefits. Any project on the LMS list will score higher in state and federal grant applications. For FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, a project must be on the LMS list. The LMS is also a FEMA Community Rating System requirement, from which the City's flood insurance policy holders enjoy a 30% discount via its Class Four rating as of October 1, 2025.

Recommendation:

Approve the attached Monroe County Local Mitigation Strategy.