



# 2021 Local Mitigation Strategy

## Alichua County Emergency Management







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## Executive Summary

Alachua County is vulnerable to a variety of hazards that present threats to its communities, businesses and environment. These hazards could be natural, societal or technological and may have significant adverse human, environmental or economic impacts on the community. The Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) establishes a framework to lessen the vulnerability of Alachua County and its municipalities to these hazards. The LMS addresses projects, policies and programs to reduce the County's vulnerability to the impacts of disasters before and after they happen. The LMS also outlines actions that are initiated post-disaster to prevent recurring losses from future disasters.

Alachua County Emergency Management (ACEM) is one of many Emergency Management Agencies that conduct multi-hazard mitigation planning. ACEM serves as a liaison for all participating jurisdictions to monitor, coordinate, update and maintain this all-hazard mitigation document in an effort to develop a disaster-resilient and sustainable community. Formal local mitigation planning began in 1998 and is continuing with this 2021 revision.

## Introduction

### I. Mitigation Framework

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390), which amended the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, provides the legal basis for FEMA mitigation planning requirements. State, local and tribal governments must comply with these requirements to qualify for mitigation grant assistance.

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 emphasizes the need for close coordination of state, local, and tribal mitigation planning efforts to implement mitigation activities and projects. Mitigation plans are to be based upon a Hazard, Risk and Vulnerability Assessment.

### II. LMS Work Group Mission Statement

The Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy Work Group is committed to implementing effective mitigation strategies to significantly reduce or eliminate loss of life, damage to property, the environment or the local economy due to a natural, societal or technological disaster. These strategies will be expressed in a comprehensive Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Plan, to be adopted by Alachua County, participating municipalities, and agencies or institutions. The Local Mitigation Strategy Work Group will rely upon information and resource sharing and the integration of activities among all jurisdictions within Alachua County to develop a coordinated all-hazards interdisciplinary and intergovernmental approach to hazard mitigation.

### III. Mitigation Strategy Goals and Objectives

The goals of the Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy Work Group as defined in the 2015 version of the Local Mitigation Strategy still fit the goals and priorities of the Work Group in 2021. They have not been significantly revised, but have had minor revisions such as the inclusion of droughts.

**Goal 1** – Establish an ongoing Local Hazard Mitigation Strategy Planning Process as part of a comprehensive community-based emergency management program to protect public health, life safety, economic vitality, the environment and property through inter-agency cooperation.

Objective 1.1: Seek participation and LMS Plan adoption by every eligible Local Mitigation Strategy Work Group member agency or jurisdiction.

Objective 1.2: Provide the adopted LMS Plan to the State Hazard Mitigation Office and Federal Emergency Management Agency for review and acceptance.

Objective 1.3: Identify and prioritize projects in the LMS Plan so that participating jurisdictions qualify for hazard mitigation funding and disaster assistance.

Objective 1.4: Provide a process for implementation, ongoing maintenance and periodic updates of the LMS Plan, including the Project Priorities lists and Critical Facilities Inventory.

Objective 1.5: Encourage local jurisdictions to participate in the Community Rating System, National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).



Objective 1.6: Foster inter-agency coordination, collaboration, and regional mitigation and prevention activities through open lines of communication, education for elected officials and agency staff, joint-planning efforts, and consistency between various agency emergency preparedness plans, comprehensive plans and other such planning documents.

**Goal 2** – Promote disaster resilience for individuals, communities and businesses through greater self-reliance and public-private partnerships.

Objective 2.1: Foster partnerships with local businesses and Chambers of Commerce to educate the business community and build resilient, disaster-resistant communities

Objective 2.2: Support member agencies of the LMS Work Group in their efforts to increase public awareness and emergency preparedness.

**Goal 3** – Engage in hazard mitigation project planning and implementation to protect public health and safety, economic vitality, property, natural and cultural resources, critical facilities and governmental buildings and facilities.

Objective 3.1: Identify, secure and allocate appropriate resources for the mitigation of natural, societal and technological hazards.

Objective 3.2: Develop hazard mitigation proposals for construction and planning projects to protect the county from the effects of civil disturbance, terrorist acts, hazardous materials, wildland and urban fire, high winds, storms, drought, flooding and other hazards.

Objective 3.3: Actively pursue all available funding sources for identified hazard mitigation projects in order to implement these projects and reduce community vulnerability.

**Goal 4** – Integrate hazard-mitigation planning into the local Comprehensive Plans and land-use decision-making processes of all jurisdictions in Alachua County.

Objective 4.1: Consider natural and man-made hazards during the land use decision-making process.

Objective 4.2: Provide for mitigation of identified hazards during the development review process.

Objective 4.3: Include hazard mitigation requirements into development approvals and development orders.

## Planning Process

The Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy was significantly revised in 2009 by a multi-jurisdiction, multi-agency work group coordinated by Alachua County Emergency Management. It was significantly updated in 2015, and this 2021 update to the LMS represents another substantial update and review of mitigation efforts in Alachua County. This update was developed by Alachua County Emergency Management and coordinated with the entire 2021 LMS Work Group. Engagement from the LMS Work Group and the public was invited at the beginning of the drafting process for the 2021 version of the LMS. A review of requirements for the LMS was conducted and updates were solicited from the LMS Work Group in July of 2020. All local partners provided updates or feedback for their relative sections of the document, and edits were made by Alachua County Emergency Management in August of 2020. The document was then distributed to the Work Group, and the public was invited to provide feedback. A planning meeting was held on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 with those groups for final review of the document. Alachua County Emergency Management finalized revisions and submitted the draft local mitigation strategy to the Florida Division of Emergency Management for their review on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

The membership of the 2021 LMS Work Group and participating organizations are listed in [Attachment A: LMS Work Group Members, Organizations and Roles](#). LMS Work Group members are kept informed of Work Group meetings, revisions to the LMS, information concerning mitigation, notices of funding availability and similar information through direct contact either in person or by telephone and email. New stakeholders are invited to join the LMS Work Group as they are identified.

Public comment on the revised LMS was solicited using press releases via the Alachua County Communications Office and social media. All meetings of the LMS Work Group are open to the public. No feedback was provided by the public. Any feedback received would have been evaluated by the Working Group before potential incorporation.

## Plan Evaluation and Maintenance

Alachua County Emergency Management is responsible for the development, monitoring, evaluation, review, maintenance and update of the Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy. A current copy of the LMS is available for public review and comment at any time upon request. Generally the LMS is reviewed, evaluated and updated in three timeframes: the required five-year update, an annual review and progress report and as needed to address the impacts or consequences of an incident. New mitigation project proposals are solicited annually.

Any changes to the Alachua County LMS that may be outside of the five-year update are coordinated with, reviewed, and approved by the LMS Work Group as the representatives of the member local governments and other stakeholders.

The Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy Coordinator is a designated staff from Alachua County Emergency Management who monitors all mitigation activities related to the LMS Working Group daily. This includes monitoring changes with mitigation programs, distribution of mitigation notices, receipt of project updates from member organizations, and other associated tasks.

## I. 5-Year Revisions

The Alachua County LMS will be evaluated, reviewed and updated on a 5-year basis as required by Title 44, Part 201 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This process officially begins upon notification of expiration of the document, typically 18 months before expiration. However, efforts may begin unofficially before that time. During the 5-year update the LMS will be reviewed and evaluated to determine changes in local conditions that may affect mitigation strategies, changes in review criteria or statutory requirements that require action, and needed adjustments to the goals of the LMS. The five-year update is developed by Alachua County Emergency Management and coordinated with the LMS Work Group. Substantive changes to the LMS are ultimately ratified by the governing bodies of the local governments and the appropriate representatives of other participating entities.

## II. Annual Revisions

An annual review of the LMS is conducted to support NFIP Community Rating System requirements and to complete reporting processes to the Florida Division of Emergency Management. This annual report is generated by Alachua County Emergency Management and summarizes the progress towards meeting the goals of the LMS, addition of new mitigation projects, evaluation of mitigation efforts, and other mitigation activities which have occurred in the previous year. Each participating entity is asked to summarize their mitigation activities. This review also identifies needed modifications to keep the LMS current and necessary changes will be made.

Typically new mitigation project proposals are solicited from the members of the LMS Work Group annually. The mitigation projects are then reviewed and ranked by the Ranking Task Force. An amended Project List is then approved by the LMS Work Group, typically at the first meeting of the calendar year when Work Group officers are selected for the coming year. Projects are removed from the list as they are completed or found to be not applicable by the Ranking Task Force during an annual review.

## III. Post-Incident Revisions

The LMS will be amended and updated as needed to appropriately respond to the consequences of a disaster or incident that may present opportunities for mitigation activities, the potential consequences of an identified hazard, or to further the hazard mitigation efforts of Alachua County, its municipalities, and other stakeholders. During post-incident damage assessments and recovery activities, potential hazard mitigation opportunities will be identified and hazard mitigation projects will be developed by the LMS Work Group for their respective jurisdictions. If the extent of the incident is such that the Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan is activated, hazard mitigation projects will be developed and vetted as a cooperative effort of the LMS Work Group and the Redevelopment Task Force.

The effectiveness of projects are evaluated and assessed when incidents occur which test the projects.

## IV. Public Participation

The general public is encouraged to engage the LMS planning process in particular and hazard awareness and mitigation in general at any time. As noted in the Mitigation Strategy section of

this document, all levels of government attempt to engage the public in disaster awareness, preparation, and mitigation efforts throughout the year on a nearly continuous basis. For example, Alachua County publishes press releases regarding Working Group meetings and activities.

[Attachment J: Public Invitation for Planning](#) is an example of the press releases distributed to inform the public about local mitigation efforts.

#### V. Recent Development and Growth

Priorities and projects in the LMS will be revised to reflect changes in development. Since 2015, limited growth has occurred which would impact the vulnerability of the County. This is in part due to stringent development codes including updates to the countywide storm water management requirements.

The most significant areas of growth have occurred in unincorporated Alachua County just West of Gainesville where residential communities have developed. The City of Hawthorne has annexed 1300 acres for industrial development which may increase their susceptibility to hazardous materials incidents in the future, but no development permits have been issued on those properties to date. Additionally, the City of Newberry has seen some commercial and industrial growth, which could increase vulnerability to hazardous material incidents in the future. However, they have reduced their vulnerability to power outages and flooding through installation of stand-by generators.

Besides for minor residential growth, no significant changes have happened throughout the rest of the County.



## Hazard, Risk and Vulnerability Assessment

The following hazard analysis (Table 1) is used to determine the hazards that pose threats to Alachua County, and is developed from historical data. The Likely Frequency of Occurrence is defined as, in increasing frequency: < (less than) 100 years, <10 years, <2 years, and Annual. The Vulnerability Impacts are defined as, in increasing severity: Low, Moderate, High, Extensive, and Catastrophic.

There have been no significant, regularly occurring hazards for Alachua County which have been omitted. Omitted hazards include: erosion, winter storms, seismic incidents and tsunami incidents. These hazards have been omitted as they do not affect Alachua County. Erosion is not a concern as the geography and ecosystems of the county do not contribute to erosion. The climate of the county prevents winter storms. The location of the county does not contribute to a vulnerability to seismic incidents or tsunamis. Mitigation of these hazards would not likely pass cost-benefit analyses, and will not be a focus of the Local Mitigation Working Group.

This hazard, risk and vulnerability assessment speaks to all jurisdictions in Alachua County.

The 2010 Alachua County Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan can be consulted for additional information regarding potential impacts to Alachua County.

Hazard Vulnerability Category	Likely Frequency of Occurrence	Population Impact	Property Impact	Environment Impact	Government Operations Impact
Wind from Tropical Cyclone	Annual	High	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Flooding	<2 years	High	Extensive	Moderate	High
Hazardous Material Spill	<2 years	Extensive	Extensive	High	High
Nuclear Reactor Incident	<100 years	Low	Low	Low	Low
Civil Disturbance	<2 years	Moderate	Low	Low	Moderate
Mass Migration	<100 years	Moderate	Low	Low	Moderate
Coastal Oil Spill	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wildland Fire	<2 years	High	High	Extensive	High
Terrorism	<100 years	High	High	Moderate	High
Exotic Pest and Disease	<2 years	Low	Moderate	High	Low
Disease and Pandemic Outbreak	<50 years	High	Low	Low	High
Critical Infrastructure Disruption	<10 years	Moderate	High	Moderate	Moderate

Hazard Vulnerability Category	Likely Frequency of Occurrence	Population Impact	Property Impact	Environment Impact	Government Operations Impact
<b>Special Event</b>	Annual	Extensive	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
<b>Major Transportation Incident</b>	<2 Years	High	Moderate	High	Moderate
<b>Drought</b>	<10 years	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Low
<b>Geological Incident</b>	<100 years	Low	Low	Low	Low
<b>Extreme Heat</b>	<10 years	Moderate	Low	Moderate	Low
<b>Freezing Temperature</b>	<100 years	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Low
<b>Severe Weather</b>	Annual	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Low

Table 1: Alachua County Hazard Vulnerability Impact Summary

## I. Wind from Tropical Cyclone (Hurricane, Tropical Storm)

### A. General Description:

A tropical cyclone is a rotating, organized system of clouds and thunderstorms that originates over tropical or subtropical waters and has a closed low-level circulation. Tropical cyclones are classified as follows:

- **Potential Tropical Cyclone:** A term used to describe a disturbance that is not yet a tropical cyclone, but which poses the threat of bringing tropical storm or hurricane conditions to land areas within 48 hours
- **Tropical Depression:** A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 38 mph (33 knots) or less
- **Tropical Storm:** A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph (34 to 63 knots)
- **Hurricane:** A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 74 mph (64 knots) or higher
- **Major Hurricane:** A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 111 mph (96 knots) or higher, corresponding to a Category 3, 4, or 5 on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale<sup>1</sup>.

### B. Location and Extent:

Alachua County is located approximately sixty miles from both the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. Therefore, the entire County is subject to the effects of tropical cyclones. The extent varies by tropical cyclone, with some events producing just tropical storm force winds. There is potential for category 5 hurricane force winds in Alachua County, albeit that has never occurred. Any winds typically have occurred over the course of 24-48 hours.

<sup>1</sup> National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), [Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale](#).

### C. Impact and Vulnerability:

Damages related to tropical cyclones vary widely from minor vegetative damage up to instances causing widespread power outages, blocked roadways and severely damaged or destroyed buildings. Non-retrofitted structures and older structures are the most vulnerable. This hazard can threaten life safety and public health through physical injury, generation of secondary hazards such as debris, damage to facilities resulting in exposure to the elements, can damage critical facilities, disrupt infrastructure such as power or water, halt the local economy, and result in long term tax impacts from residents who do not return following an event or loss of business. This is the same for all non-retrofitted or modern structures across Alachua County, in every jurisdiction.

### D. Previous Occurrences:

Hurricane winds and other hazards associated with strong tropical systems have reached Alachua County. The storm of record for the County is the Storm of 1896, which was a strong Category 3 storm when it passed through the northwest portion of the County. Tropical cyclones have caused both wind and water damage. Since the Storm of 1896, Alachua County has felt the tropical storm force or greater wind and/or rain impacts of multiple tropical cyclones in recent history, including:

- **2004:** Hurricane Frances
- **2004:** Hurricane Jeanne
- **2012:** Tropical Storm Debbie
- **2013:** Tropical Storm Andrea
- **2016:** Hurricane Hermine
- **2016:** Hurricane Matthew
- **2017:** Hurricane Irma

## II. Flooding

### A. General Description:

A flood is defined as an overflow of water that submerges land which is usually dry. Floodplain is an area of land adjacent to a river or stream that stretches from the banks of its channels to the base of the enclosing valley walls that experiences flooding during periods of high discharge.

### B. Location and Extent:

There are areas of the county which are part of river watersheds that are vulnerable to flooding from rising water. These areas include the extreme southeast portion of the county along the shores of Newnans, Orange and Lochloosa Lakes; portions of Gainesville along Hogtown Creek; and the Santa Fe River floodplain.

Alachua County also has areas of floodplain that are associated with closed basins that have no outfall to other external bodies of water such as a stream or river. In these closed basins, the primary cause of flooding is direct rainfall rather than riverine flooding.

A large percentage of the eastern half of Alachua County lies in the 100-year floodplain. However, much of this area is agricultural or silvicultural, or is publicly owned and contains limited structural development. Currently, the population concentrations and developed areas in eastern Alachua County are generally associated with the communities of Cross Creek, Island Grove, Hawthorne, Melrose, Waldo, and the eastern section of Gainesville.

There are also areas in Gainesville which are prone to flooding. These areas are identified within: [Attachment F: Gainesville FIRM Zones](#), [Attachment G: Gainesville Additional Flood Hazard Areas](#) and [Attachment H: Gainesville Hurricane Irma Flood Locations](#).

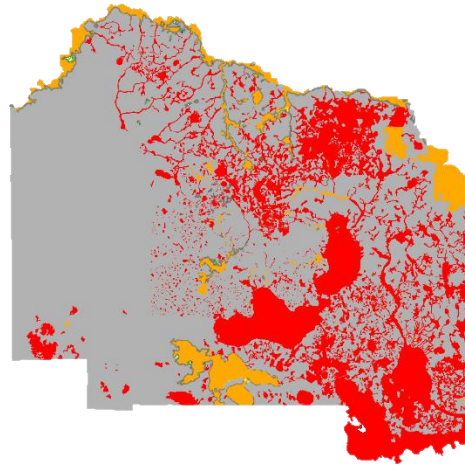


Figure 1: Floodplains in Alachua County<sup>2</sup>

The other primary flooding threat involves storm water runoff that occurs in many locations. Runoff can be exacerbated by an increase in impervious surfaces associated with development in areas subject to flooding.

Paynes Prairie is a large protected natural floodplain in the County. It acts as a buffer against flooding.

#### C. Impact and Vulnerability:

Minor flooding may only impact agricultural and silvicultural production within Alachua County and structures in highly flood prone areas. Moderate to heavy flooding may result in blocked or damaged roadways, damaged power lines, damage to homes and significant agricultural or silvicultural losses. These events can threaten life safety and public health through drowning, generation of secondary hazards such as hidden debris, facilitation of mold growth in buildings, can block access to or damage critical facilities, disrupt infrastructure such as roads or power, may restrict access to businesses, and result in long term tax impacts from loss or closure of business. Buildings and structures in flood prone areas highlighted in Figure 1 are the most vulnerable. Potential impacts are the same across the zones highlighted in Figure 1. High Springs, Alachua, LaCrosse, Waldo, Hawthorne and Micanopy are within the highlighted zones.

##### 1. Repetitive Loss Properties

There are currently eight identified repetitive flood loss properties in Alachua County. These residential properties are in or near the communities of Gainesville, High Springs and Micanopy. Annually, as part of the Community Rating System recertification process, these property owners are sent information about the NFIP.

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<sup>2</sup> FEMA, [FEMA Zones-2018](#).



The City of Gainesville has a property considered to be repetitive loss in the Sugarfoot area. The other 7 properties are within unincorporated Alachua County.

#### D. Previous Occurrences:

While minor flooding is a regular occurrence in Alachua County, there are periods of higher flooding often associated with tropical cyclones. Previous occurrences of moderate to heavy flooding include:

- **2004:** Flooding associated with Hurricane Frances
- **2004:** Flooding associated with Hurricane Jeanne
- **2012:** Santa Fe River flooding associated with Tropical Storm Debbie
- **2017:** Santa Fe River flooding associated with Hurricane Irma
- **2017:** Paynes Prairie flooding associated with Hurricane Irma

Additional discussion concerning historic flooding within Alachua County and Gainesville are within the document “Flood Hazard and Remediation in Alachua County” which is available from the City of Gainesville.

### III. Hazardous Material Incident

#### A. General Description:

A hazardous material incident is the release of a single substance or a combination of substances that have the potential to produce serious health, fire, or explosive hazards. Hazardous materials incidents are common in Alachua County because industry, business, government and private citizens use them on a daily basis.

#### B. Location and Extent:

The entirety of Alachua County is at risk from hazardous material incidents. Risk areas along major roadways, railroads, fixed facilities and pipelines cover a majority of the County. Fixed facilities are located throughout the county. Surface transportation incidents may occur on major roadways such as I-75, US 27, US 41, US 301, US 441, SR 20, SR 24 and SR 26. Railways are located in eastern, western and northern portions of the County. Additionally, several large natural gas pipelines run through the county as part of an interstate pipeline system.

As a major research institution, the University of Florida has numerous facilities containing hazardous materials, although many in small quantities. Robust laboratory safety, biological safety, radiation safety and hazardous materials management programs are in place to mitigate risks. Efforts include a standardized chemical inventory, waste disposal services, chemical hygiene planning, and conformity with state and federal requirements. UF’s Environmental Health and Safety department employs Gator TRACS (Tool for Risk Assessment and Compliance & Safety) to manage safety and compliance of laboratory programs through documenting risk assessments, maintaining plans, monitoring training, and performing lab inspections.

#### C. Impact and Vulnerability:

Minor hazardous material incidents may cause only onsite impacts to involved individuals. Incidents involving stronger agents or those that may be readily carried by weather conditions may be capable of causing significant medical impacts to affected populations, cause damage to the environment, result in suspension of operations at critical facilities for a period of time, may

injure critical workers, and could result in individuals moving away from an area. Areas around facilities and transportation routes are the most vulnerable.

D. Previous Occurrences:

Minor occurrences such as diesel spills or minor pipeline leaks happen regularly within the County. There are no well-documented instances of higher risk events on record.

#### IV. Nuclear Reactor Incident

A. General Description:

Nuclear reactor incidents occur when an event surpasses the defense-in-depth measures taken at a site which may result in the release of radiological effluents into the environment from a nuclear reactor. These incidents are primarily of concern when offsite radiation dosages would surpass the levels detailed in the Protective Action Guidelines.

B. Location and Extent:

The University of Florida maintains a training reactor on campus. The reactor is located centrally in the County within Gainesville. Due to the low levels of material used at this site and the design of the reactor, the threat is limited to the building in which it operates<sup>3</sup>.

There are no Emergency Planning Zones from commercial reactors which overlap Alachua County.

C. Impact and Vulnerability:

A nuclear reactor incident within Alachua County is extremely unlikely. Any incidents would result in the shutdown of a single facility and would result in extremely low exposures to on-site operators. There are no additional life safety, health, critical facility, infrastructure, or economical threats.

D. Previous Occurrences:

There are no previous occurrences of nuclear reactor incidents in Alachua County.

#### V. Civil Disturbance

A. General Description:

Civil disturbance is activity such as a demonstration, riot, or strike that disrupts a community and requires intervention to maintain public safety<sup>4</sup>.

B. Location and Extent:

Portions of Alachua County, especially the urban areas and the University of Florida campus area, are potentially vulnerable to civil disturbance.

C. Impact and Vulnerability:

These incidents may result in damage to government or personal property, injuries to the public or government personnel, critical facilities as well as damage to businesses. All areas of the County could be affected.

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<sup>3</sup> University of Florida, *Emergency Plan – University of Florida Training Reactor*

<sup>4</sup> FEMA, [Acronyms, Abbreviations and Terms Glossary](#)

#### D. Previous Occurrences:

In 2017 the University of Florida hosted a controversial speaker from the National Policy Institute, which required extensive planning to minimize the threat of a civil disturbance. Alachua County declared a Local State of Emergency (LSE) in anticipation of this event. Additionally, the University of Florida has also hosted presidential candidates and other political figures.

The Dove World Outreach Center Qur'an-burning Controversy occurred from 2010 – 2011 in Alachua County. This event sparked violence and civil unrest globally.

### VI. Wildland Fire (Brush fire, Wildfire and Forest Fire)

#### A. General Description:

Wildland fires are fires that occur on wildland that are not meeting management objectives and therefore require a suppression response to avoid damage to natural areas or property, and threats to life safety.

#### B. Location and Extent:

The most at-risk portions of Alachua County are the urban interface (where community development meets wildland), and rural areas where wildland fuels are present. It should also be noted that significant fuels exist in each jurisdiction past the urban interface. This denotes a significant area of the County, impacting all jurisdictions. There are few exceptions such as developed retail or healthcare areas along Archer Road in Gainesville. Wildfires may spread over large swaths of land rapidly, and may last for days or even weeks. However, wildfires in Alachua County are typically well controlled.

#### C. Impact and Vulnerability:

In addition to the potential for structural damage, wildland fires can also cause significant losses and destruction for timber interests in Alachua County. Those homes along the wildland-urban interface and agricultural interests are the most vulnerable. Individuals may receive acute or chronic injuries, and critical facilities may be damaged. All jurisdictions in Alachua County are vulnerable to wildfires and would experience similar impacts.

#### D. Previous Occurrences:

Wildfires are a somewhat common occurrence in Alachua County. [Appendix C: Alachua County Wildfire Statistics, 2009 – 2019](#) contains information on previous occurrences of wildfires within the County.

### VII. Terrorism

#### A. General Description:

Terrorism, including cyber terrorism, is a violent or dangerous act done to coerce any segment of the general populations (i.e., government or civilian population) for political or social objectives.

#### B. Location and Extent:

The potential for terrorism exists in Alachua County due to the presence of potential targets such as an international university and events which draw large numbers of people and high profile speakers and visitors. Transportation and commercial infrastructure, cultural, academic, research,

and athletic facilities are also potential targets for terrorist attacks with the intent of causing extensive, if not catastrophic, levels of property and environmental damage, injury and loss of life.

C. **Impact and Vulnerability:**

Impacts to local population, critical facilities, infrastructure and property resulting from terrorism can range from disruptions in service up to high-impact, high damage events. Cyber-attacks, vehicles, ballistics, explosives and other hazardous materials may be used to perpetuate an attack. Public spaces, government buildings and critical facilities are the most likely to be targeted.

D. **Previous Occurrences:**

There are no well documented previous occurrences of terrorism within Alachua County.

VIII. **Exotic Pest and Disease**

A. **General Description:**

Exotic pests and animal disease events are incidents associated with the spread of any insect, animal or pathogen that could pose an economic or health threat to human or animal populations, and/or the environment.

B. **Location and Extent:**

Exotic pests and diseases such as Mediterranean fruit flies, citrus canker, and the Southern Pine Beetle (SPB) may affect many parts of Florida. Biological hazards are a pervasive threat to the agricultural community and interests throughout the geographical area of Alachua County. These incidents may occur over a period of months, and may have far reaching impacts.

C. **Impact and Vulnerability:**

Damages from pests and diseases can vary widely, but cause the most concern towards environmental and agricultural damages which would be the most vulnerable to such an incident. It is difficult to predict how extensive damages may be, or what may be affected. These incidents could affect gardens, parks, nature preserves, the economy, and many other aspects depending on species. Effects would be similar across the entirety of Alachua County, in all jurisdictions.

D. **Previous Occurrences:**

The SPB is one insect that has specifically adversely affected Alachua County. Florida suffered an unprecedented outbreak of SPB in 2001, which was especially severe in North Central Florida. In addition, *Aedes aegypti* (Yellow Fever Mosquito) is capable of carrying diseases such as the Zika Virus or West Nile. Three individuals contracted Zika in 2016.

IX. **Disease and Pandemic Outbreak**

A. **General Description**

A disease outbreak is the occurrence of disease cases in excess of normal expectancy. Disease outbreaks are usually caused by an infection, transmitted through person-to-person contact,



animal-to-person contact, or from the environment or other media<sup>5</sup>. A pandemic is the worldwide spread of a new disease<sup>6</sup>.

**B. Location and Extent:**

The entire population of Alachua County may be vulnerable to disease and pandemic outbreaks, especially the population center in and surrounding the City of Gainesville. Areas with higher concentrations and traffic of individuals such as airports and bus stations can act as vectors. Disease and pandemic incidents may occur over the course of weeks, months, and potentially even years.

**C. Impact and Vulnerability:**

Disease and pandemic outbreaks may cause higher loads upon the healthcare system, supply shortages, widespread loss of income, government and business closures, staffing issues in all industries as well as have psychological impacts upon the public. This hazard directly targets members of the population, the most vulnerable groups vary between diseases. The entire population which is impacted by a disease or pandemic would experience similar impacts and vulnerability across Alachua County.

**D. Previous Occurrences:**

The COVID-19 pandemic which began in 2020 highlights the impacts a global pandemic can have on Alachua County. Other incidents include the 1918 Spanish Influenza pandemic as well as the 2009 H1N1 pandemic.

**X. Critical Infrastructure Vulnerability**

**A. General Description:**

A critical infrastructure vulnerability is the failure or interruption of systems which support the overall function of society. These events may be caused by intentional acts, weather events or be the result of aging infrastructure.

**B. Location and Extent:**

Disruptions in critical infrastructure and technology have the potential to impact all portions of Alachua County, including all geographic areas, populations, and businesses within the County.

**C. Impact and Vulnerability:**

Disruptions may include, but are not limited to cyber-attacks, telecommunications failures, utility outages and pipeline disruptions. Telecommunications failures could lead to a reduction or complete termination of some public and private functions, including emergency services. Utility outages disproportionately impact the County's most vulnerable residents, as they are most reliant on electricity to power medical equipment and maintain a reasonable indoor ambient temperature to avoid the exacerbation of pre-existing medical conditions. In addition, critical facilities could have their functions reduced. Businesses could lose income and taxes would be affected.

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<sup>5</sup> World Health Organization, [Disease Outbreaks](#)

<sup>6</sup> World Health Organization, [What is a pandemic?](#)

#### D. Previous Occurrences:

Critical infrastructure disruption occurs regularly within the county. Minor weather events, accidents and maintenance can result in the temporary loss of systems. Past critical infrastructure disruptions of significant impact have followed tropical cyclone events detailed earlier in this document.

### XI. Special Event

#### A. General Description:

Special events are designated events that may be the target of criminal activity as a result of national significance and high visibility.

#### B. Location and Extent:

Several special events are held throughout the year at the University of Florida (UF), and throughout the County. Gator Nationals is a National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) drag racing event which occurs in the Northeast area of the County. There are also numerous cultural events that occur in the various municipalities throughout the year.

#### C. Impact and Vulnerability:

Due to large crowds associated with these events and potential accidents, local traffic infrastructure can become congested or damaged. Healthcare providers may see higher numbers of patients. Law Enforcement, Fire Rescue and other public safety organizations may have staffing shortages.

#### D. Previous Occurrences:

Special events are held throughout the year in Alachua County and are considered a regular occurrence.

### XII. Major Transportation Incident

#### A. General Description:

Major transportation incidents occur when public transportation such as highways, railroads and airports are significantly impacted by an unexpected event. These types of incidents typically occur due to operator error, mechanical failure or infrastructure collapse.

#### B. Location and Extent:

Highways across the county are a concern with Interstate-75 running through the center. Railroads run in the eastern and northwestern portions of the county. Gainesville Regional Airport is located centrally to the County.

#### C. Impact and Vulnerability:

Major transportation incidents can result in damage to property, loss of infrastructure, multitudes of injuries and mass casualty events. Sources of public transit and immediate nearby areas are vulnerable.

#### D. Previous Occurrences:

Alachua County regularly experiences transportation incidents along Interstate-75. The only event recorded in Alachua County which qualifies as a major transportation incident is the Interstate 75

Incident which occurred on January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012. This incident occurred in Paynes Prairie, involving 24 vehicles across 6 crashes. This incident resulted in 11 fatalities and 46 known injuries<sup>7</sup>.

### XIII. Drought

Drought is an incident where prolonged shortages in water supply begin to adversely impact local jurisdictions, residents or the environment. A drought may occur across the entirety of the County; and may occur over the course of weeks, months, and potentially even years.

Some specific impacts seen during a drought may include reduced agricultural production, reduced quantities of local flora and fauna, a potential increase in the occurrence of sinkholes, and a potential increase in the occurrences of wildfires. In extreme cases this may lead to water use restrictions and water emergencies. Natural ecosystems and agricultural interests would be the most vulnerable during this type of incident. Individuals with interests in unincorporated Alachua County, Waldo, Micanopy, Archer, Newberry, High Springs, Alachua, and LaCrosse would be the most impacted. Some specific examples of potentially impacted entities include: The Newberry Watermelon Festival, the Alachua County Farmer's Market, the Waldo Farmer's Market, Poe Springs Park, and Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park.

There are no well-documented occurrences of drought within Alachua County that would fall within the scope of this LMS.

### XIV. Mass Migration

Mass migration occurs when a migration of undocumented aliens that is of such magnitude and duration that it poses a threat to the national security of the United States, as determined by the President<sup>8</sup>. It is not anticipated in Alachua County. If it did occur, the situation would be addressed in cooperation with State and Federal agencies. The migration could occur at any area in the county, and vulnerability would be generated in the public safety and humanitarian response to the incident, which would strain resources. This has not previously occurred in the County.

### XV. Coastal Oil Spill

Coastal oil spills occur when oil is released into the environment along a coast line. Alachua County is located approximately 50 miles from the nearest coast and is therefore not susceptible to coastal oil spills. No portion of the county is vulnerable to coastal oil spills and one has never impacted the County.

### XVI. Severe Weather

Severe Weather incidents occur when weather patterns create hazardous conditions such as high winds, lightning, hail, and tornadoes which may create significant local impacts. These incidents may create impacts across the entire county, typically over a short period of time such as a few hours.

These incidents may damage personal property, down trees across infrastructure, damage power lines, destroy homes in some cases, hail may damage crops, and other impacts. Residents living in

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<sup>7</sup> DHSMV – FHP, [Interstate 75 Incident Agency Response AAR](#)

<sup>8</sup> FDEM, [Enhanced State Hazard Mitigation Plan](#)

weaker structures or those with reliance upon electricity are especially vulnerable to these incidents. Concentrations of mobile home parks exist around the outskirts of Gainesville and may be more vulnerable. However, all jurisdictions are vulnerable to this event because of the presence of older homes, mobile homes, suspended power lines, and other vulnerable structures throughout Alachua County.

These incidents occur annually inside of the County, most often with limited impacts. Previous occurrences of this hazard can be found in [Attachment I: Severe Weather Occurrences \(2015 – 2020\)](#).

#### XVII. Extreme Heat

Extreme Heat incidents occur when outside temperatures exceed those typically experienced within a region, and may strain or surpass climate control capabilities commonly available. These incidents may occur across the entire county over a few hours, days, and potentially even weeks. These incidents may lead to heat related health impacts, most notably in lower income households with weaker climate control capacities. Additionally, these incidents may impact power transmission systems and can potentially result in brownouts and power outages. As noted previously, at-risk individuals, especially those in lower income households, are the most vulnerable to this hazard. There are no well documented instances of extreme heat incidents within Alachua County.

#### XVIII. Geological Incident

Geological incidents occur when significant shifts in the ground occur which generate hazardous conditions. The primary threat for Alachua County would be from sinkholes. A sinkhole being, in Alachua County, a significant recession of the ground caused by the collapse of topsoil over an area where lower layers of soil have been weakened or removed by natural processes.

These incidents could occur across the entire county, and may occur slowly or suddenly. Impacts range from negligible to permanent depending on the circumstances of the incident and impacted area. For example, the opening of a small sinkhole in unincorporated Alachua County may have no impact, while the opening of a large sinkhole in a residential neighborhood in Gainesville may displace residents from their homes and destroy property. Further, the opening of a sinkhole could destroy private businesses, hazardous facilities, critical infrastructure, or public safety related buildings and temporarily impact local capabilities. The areas of High Springs, Alachua, LaCrosse, North Gainesville, Waldo, Hawthorne, and Micanopy are near areas of higher vulnerability to sinkholes<sup>9</sup>.


Small sinkholes occur periodically within Alachua County. A large sinkhole opened in Gainesville during late 2020, there are no other well-documented instances of recent geological incidents in Alachua County which would fall within the scope of this LMS.

#### XIX. Freezing Temperature

Freezing Temperature incidents may occur with a significant decrease in outside temperatures below 32 degrees Fahrenheit. These incidents surpass local redundancies to these conditions, may

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<sup>9</sup> FDEP, [Subsidence Incidents Reports Database](#)



occur across the entire county, and are most likely to occur over the course of a few hours. Alone, these impacts are most likely to impact low-income households or the homeless through various health impacts. These incidents may result in power losses, health impacts from traffic accidents, and heightened casualty rates when combined with other weather such as freezing rain. In those complex cases various infrastructure such as power lines, those using motor vehicles, and the electrically dependent become the most vulnerable. There have been no previous freezing temperature incidents in Alachua County.

## Mitigation Strategy

Code of Federal Regulations Title 44 Section 201.6 requires the county local mitigation strategy to “analyze a comprehensive range of specific mitigation actions and projects being considered to reduce the effects of each hazard, with particular emphasis on new and existing buildings and infrastructure.”

The following summary outlines actions that have been and could be conducted to reduce the community’s vulnerability to the identified hazards that are relevant to LMS activities in Alachua County: inland flooding, wind events, and wildfire. Many of the identified mitigation strategies and actions concern the protection of critical facilities or natural resources from natural or manmade hazards. The remaining identified hazards do not readily lend themselves to mitigation activities or have high enough of a local impact to be considered in this Local Mitigation Strategy. Those hazards are: hazardous material incident, nuclear reactor incident, civil disturbance, terrorism, exotic pest/disease, disease/pandemic outbreak, critical infrastructure disruption, special event, freezing temperatures, severe weather, geologic incidents, extreme heat, and major transportation incident. The LMS Work Group can act accordingly when a practical, achievable activity is identified to mitigate one of these hazards.

The 2010 Alachua County Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan can be consulted for additional strategies that may be applied following an event.

### I. Wind Protection

The retrofit of critical structures for wind protection has been an on-going process. Several critical facilities have been retrofitted for wind protection such as fire stations, Alachua County Fire Rescue Headquarters, the Alachua County Sheriff’s Office Administration Building, the Martin Luther King Junior Multipurpose Center as well as the Department of Health Main Site.

The protection of new buildings and existing buildings from wind damage is being accomplished through implementation of building code requirements. Buildings must be designed and constructed to comply with wind load specifications. Doing so reduces the effects of wind hazards on the buildings in the community, makes for less damage to structures and displacement of the population during wind events. Alachua County Public School District facilities will be constructed according to Enhanced Hurricane Protection Area (EHPA) standards, as appropriate.

### II. Wildfire

Current wildfire mitigation efforts in Alachua County are primarily a public outreach/education program of Florida Forest Service through their statewide wildfire mitigation efforts. Additional efforts in wildfire fuel management are undertaken by the Florida Forest Service, Florida State Parks/Department of Environmental Protection, St. Johns River Water Management District, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Alachua Conservation Trust, Alachua County Parks and Conservation Lands, and the University of Florida. In addition, local agencies participate in the development of the Alachua County Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

### III. Flooding and Storm Water Management

Recognizing the significance of the flooding and the need to protect natural water bodies, Alachua County included specific guidelines in the 2001-2020 Comprehensive Plan (adopted 2005) to



better manage storm water. Those guidelines resulted in the implementation of a Storm Water Management Program (SMP).

Two main requirements of the SMP are listed in the Comp Plan 1) the SMP must have a Dedicated Funding Source; 2) the SMP must be comprehensive and address all of the County's storm water management issues. Provisions for a Dedicated Funding Source are a critical element to the success of the SMP. Therefore, one of the main goals of the SMP is to specify the funding source, initiate its operation and insure that it is dedicated to the goals of the program.

The development of a comprehensive storm water management plan sets in place a system that will address all aspects of storm water management within the county. A major goal of the SMP is to comprehensively address necessary capital improvements and continued maintenance and administration of the program. Capital improvements will correct existing deficiencies in flooding and water quality. Maintenance will be bolstered to ensure existing and new systems perform as designed. Administration of the program is necessary for leadership, coordination and direction of the program. These three elements of the program form a comprehensive approach to proactive management of storm water.

A key component of developing an effective SMP is preparing a Storm Water Master Plan. Master planning provides an opportunity to assess the state of storm water management on a County-wide basis for unincorporated areas. The focus of the plan will be to identify management needs and costs to address flooding problems, water quality deficiencies, maintenance of drainage systems, and compliance with regulatory requirements. Costs associated with meeting the goals of a comprehensive program will be refined to allow the most appropriate funding options to be evaluated. When these flood abatement projects are refined and funding sources are identified, the projects would then be included in the Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements when the timing is appropriate.

The County and the City of Gainesville coordinate with the Suwannee River and the St. Johns River Water Management Districts and FEMA to identify and delineate flood risk areas through the Risk Mapping and Assessment Planning process (RiskMAP). The Alachua County and the City of Gainesville share ongoing studies and plans to refine FEMA flood maps. The County and the City of Gainesville conduct and coordinate special flooding studies as well to improve the management of water quantity or water quality. One of the joint County and City of Gainesville programs to help promote water quality is the Clean Water Partnership as part of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

In addition, the City of Gainesville has several Watershed Master Plans (WMP) including flood studies that show areas of potential flooding. Since 1988 the City of Gainesville has an active Storm Water Maintenance Utility (SMU) that actively funds drainage Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) and minor projects in areas that have been identified as either active drainage deficits or to mitigate potential drainage shortcomings. These projects improve drainage and mitigate flooding during smaller storm events as well as larger "100 year" storms. Watershed Master Plans are also being updated throughout the City of Gainesville, starting with Hogtown Creek, which covers over 21 square miles within the municipal limits. The updated Hogtown WMP also included revised Hydrologic and Hydraulic modeling and will revise the Flood Hazard Areas with current data. Using modeled results coupled with data from past storm events will allow for

targeted identification of potential flood risks outside of the current FEMA FIRM maps, and appropriate projects to mitigate future flood damage.

Additional possible mitigation activities concerning flooding within Alachua County and Gainesville are within the document “Flood Hazard and Remediation in Alachua County” which is available from the City of Gainesville.

Emergency services activities in response to flooding include warnings, provision of sand bags and other activities performed by local agencies in accordance with the Alachua County Flood Warning and Response Standard Operating Procedures.

#### IV. Education and Outreach

Various public information programs at the local, regional, state, and national level have been initiated to inform the community of the various hazards that they may face and options for preparing for and mitigating against the effects of these hazards. Examples of these programs are structural fire prevention programs; wildfire mitigation programs such as *Firewise Communities, the Ready, Set, Go! Program*, and the *Fire Adapted Communities* program; hurricane awareness programs; water conservation programs; and hazardous materials awareness programs.

The jurisdictions in Alachua County take advantage of local special events throughout the year to distribute hazard awareness, mitigation, and preparedness materials. Local jurisdictions also use social media and web sites to promote public awareness of hazard mitigation and preparedness activities.

The afore mentioned NPDES permit Clean Water Partnership between the County, City of Gainesville and FDOT, conducts continual water quality outreach including several items that help improve awareness of citizen actions that can improve water quality. Public outreach programs promote the use of xeriscape, reporting illegal dumping, picking up pet waste and disposing of it in solid waste containers, and facilitate proper function of natural and municipal storm water systems. This includes nutrient reduction, such as fertilizer and pet waste, as well as physical impairments like yard waste.

The County and City of Gainesville are also active in CRS outreach, and are currently developing a unified Plan for Public Information which will cover key FEMA flood related topics within projects that are targeted toward specific audiences within the communities. Topics include preventative measures and structural improvements including promoting flood insurance, health and safety during and after floods, and recovery of flood damaged property. Both the University of Florida and Santa Fe College have experts in many fields of study and can potentially provide analysis when needed or requested on hazards.

#### V. Mitigation Projects and Initiatives

Specific mitigation projects are listed in [Attachment D, Priority Ranked Projects](#). The list of Priority Ranked Projects is for the purpose of determining which projects would be funded should post-disaster hazard mitigation funding become available. This list reflects mitigation projects targeted to the hazards most likely to affect Alachua County as noted in the hazards analysis.

New mitigation proposals will be solicited from the LMS Work Group and other entities at least annually, with an emphasis placed on new and existing buildings and infrastructure. The proposals

will be reviewed and prioritized by the Project Ranking Task Force using the procedures and criteria listed on [Attachment C: Project Score Guide](#). They will then be considered for inclusion by the LMS Work Group.

## VI. Regulatory Information and Framework

Section 201.6 (c)(3) of 44 CFR requires that the local mitigation strategy plan “...shall include a mitigation strategy that provides the county-wide blueprint for reducing the potential losses identified in the risk assessment, based on existing authorities, policies, programs, and resources, and its ability to expand on and improve these existing tools. The hazard mitigation strategy shall include a description of mitigation goals to reduce or avoid long-term vulnerabilities to the identified hazards.”

Alachua County LMS Work Group has developed [goals](#) with the intent of reducing the County’s vulnerability to identified hazards discussed in the Hazards Analysis. Other planning documents and regulatory frameworks created at the local, regional, and state levels of government also help support an overall hazard mitigation strategy. The comprehensive plans, master plans, land development regulations, codes and ordinances of the political entities in Alachua County would be amended under the provisions of Florida Statutes to incorporate hazard mitigation goals and activities.

### A. Comprehensive Plans, Development Regulations and Building Codes.

The comprehensive plans and development regulations adopted and implemented by Alachua County and its municipalities are designed to reduce the effects of natural hazards on new buildings, existing buildings in some cases, and infrastructure. For example, the potential for flooding of structures has been reduced in that through its Comprehensive Plan policies. Alachua County does not allow the creation of new building parcels in wetlands or floodplains and requires that wetlands and floodplains be set aside in permanent conservation/preservation areas prior to final development approval. Alachua County development regulations also require that non-conforming buildings other than single-family dwellings that have suffered substantial damage in excess of two-thirds of their fair market value be restored in conformity with applicable regulations. Single family dwellings cannot be structurally altered in excess of fifty percent of the fair market value unless done so in compliance with current regulations.

Alachua County and the City of Gainesville require a minimum of one foot freeboard from a known base flood elevation for structures built in a flood zone on parcels of record that preceded the current land development regulations. Alachua County adopted a floodplain management ordinance and began participating in the NFIP in 1982. Alachua County’s floodplain regulations have been modified to be consistent with the Florida Building Code and the State’s model ordinance which satisfies the regulatory requirements of the NFIP. Floodplain management is achieved primarily by ensuring the application of the Flood Hazard Reduction Standards set forth in Chapter 406, Article 7 of the Alachua County Unified Land Development Code (ULDC). The Ordinance and the ULDC meets the requirements of the NFIP Program for community participation as set forth in Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 59 and 60.

Alachua County’s Unified Land Development Code requires new developments to apply for a Letter of Map Revisions (LOMR) due to fill before final project plats are recorded. The LOMR

process then removes the burden from individual homeowners of having to apply for a LOMA (Letter of Map Amendment) for their particular parcel. This process also establishes the base flood elevations for structures to be built above in these areas thereby reducing the potential for structural flooding.

All jurisdictions in Alachua County are required to comply with and do enforce at least the minimum requirements of the Florida Building Code regarding building within flood hazard areas. Alachua County Growth Management currently provides building plan review and inspection services for the municipalities of Archer, Hawthorne, Lacrosse, and Micanopy. The remaining municipalities of City of Alachua, Gainesville, High Springs, Newberry, and Waldo oversee building code compliance in their jurisdictions.

The following is a summary of the comprehensive plan and land development code provisions of Alachua County, the municipalities in Alachua County and the activities of the Alachua County Library and Public School Districts. The following sections describe their activities as participating entities in the Alachua County LMS that are relevant to hazard avoidance or mitigation, floodplain regulation, or the LMS.

## B. Alachua County

Alachua County's Comprehensive Plan contains a general strategy to minimize the conversion of land from rural to urban uses by incorporating hazard-resilient land planning into the land use decision-making process [Future Land Use Element (FLUE) General Strategy 1]; provides for clustering in rural subdivisions to avoid natural hazards [FLUE ]; provisions to include hazard mitigation into storm water management system design, public education about floodplain protection, avoidance of actions that would change or obstruct floodways [Storm water Element Obj 7.1 and policies]; provisions for mapping of flood and fire prone areas [Conservation and Open Space Element (COSE) Policy 2.1.1]; provisions for public education concerning flood and fire hazard mitigation [COSE Policy 2.2.2]; provisions to maintain the natural function of flood plains and flood ways [COSE Obj 4.8 and Policies]; provisions for wildfire hazard mitigation [COSE 5.6.2, 5.6.4]; provisions to implement hazard mitigation plans such as the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) [Intergovernmental Coordination Element (ICE) Policy 1.1.9]; provisions for capital improvement projects for public facilities that mitigate hazards as ranked in the LMS Project List [CIE Policy 1.5.2]; provisions for the protection of natural drainage features through floodplain management [Storm water Element Goal 1]; establishes levels of service that require all new building lots to include adequate buildable area above the 100-year floodplain and all new habitable structures must be constructed outside the floodplain and prohibits adverse impacts to the 100-year floodplain [Storm water Element Policy 3.1.1]; designation of wetlands, surface waters and floodplains as conservation areas [COSE Policy 3.1.1]; provisions for the protection of the natural functions of floodplains and floodways and other areas of 100-year flood elevation [COSE Obj 4.8 and policies]; provisions that floodplains be designated as open space in development plans [COSE Obj 5.2 and policies].

The Alachua County Unified Land Development Code provides for the protection and maintenance of the natural functions of floodplains, floodways, and all other natural areas having hydrological characteristics of the one hundred (100)-year flood elevation, establishes minimum requirements to safeguard the public health, safety, and general welfare, and minimizes public and private

losses due to flooding through regulation of development in flood hazard areas [ULDC Chapter 406, Article VII]; recommends the inclusion of Firewise design principles in landscape plans [ULDC Chapter 407, Article IV].

The above policies are reviewed and updated during Comprehensive Plan updates whenever necessary to ensure continued compliance with NFIP requirements.

Alachua County revised the Alachua County Comprehensive Plan in 2019, pursuant to Rule Chapter 73C-49, Florida Administrative Code, and according to the 7 year schedule mandated by State law. A few examples of how the Alachua County Comprehensive Plan has incorporated and furthered the goals of the Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy recently are measures such as a requirement for Alachua County to develop watershed management plans (Conservation and Open Space Policy 4.6.13), requirements protecting wetlands and associated buffers by regulating significant alterations to those areas (Conservation and Open Space Policy 4.7.7), the encouragement of the use of permeable hardscapes (Potable Water Policy 8.1.8), and policies reducing speeds on County roads which may reduce the likelihood of mass transportation incidents (Transportation and Mobility Policy 1.8.5). These additions and revisions to the Alachua County Comprehensive Plan demonstrate progress in local hazard mitigation efforts. F.S. 163.3184A also provides a basis for on-going Plan amendments.

### C. City of Alachua

The City of Alachua's Comprehensive Plan establishes goals, objectives, and policies to reduce the impact of development upon flood prone areas. Policy 1.12.e of the Conservation & Open Space Element (COSE) states that the City shall protect the natural function of flood plains, and that flood plain regulations shall be based upon the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM.) Policy 1.12.f of the COSE states that the City shall work with FEMA, the Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD), the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and Alachua County to regulate development within special flood hazard areas susceptible to the one percent annual chance flood. Additionally, this policy states the City will require development to occupy only the non-floodplain portion of a site when feasible; preserve the natural function of the floodplain; require the minimum Finished Floor Elevation (FFE) to be at least one foot above the established Base Flood Elevation (BFE); and prohibit the storage of hazardous materials or waste within the floodplain.

Section 6.9.4 of the City's Land Development Regulations (LDRs) provides for the regulation of structures built within flood prone areas. Flood prone areas are mapped and referenced to the Flood Insurance Rate Map, as may be amended from time to time, and all supporting data and revisions. The City's floodplain management standards were updated in 2018 to incorporate a model ordinance developed by the Florida Department of Emergency Management (FDEM). FDEM and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) worked together to develop the FDEM model floodplain ordinance, which has been recognized by FEMA as meeting the requirements of the NFIP. Adoption of these standards in 2018 ensures the City remains compliant with NFIP requirements.

Section 6.9.4 requires new construction or substantial improvements to be constructed using methods and practices that minimize flood damage. The City's LDRs require structures to be built

outside of flood prone areas when other alternatives for the location of the structure exist on the site. When no other alternatives exist, any structure built within the 100-year floodplain must be elevated a minimum of one foot above the BFE. When a structure is proposed in a flood prone area and the BFE is undetermined, the City's LDRs require the structure to be elevated 5 feet above the highest adjacent natural grade.

Any encroachments, including fill, new construction, or substantial improvements in a flood prone area must be certified by a professional engineer demonstrating that the encroachments shall not result in an increase in flood levels during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.

The above policies will be reviewed and amended during Comprehensive Plan updates and implemented through the LDRs, if necessary, to ensure continued compliance with NFIP requirements.

The Conservation & Open Space Element (COSE) and Future Land Use Element (FLUE) of the Comprehensive Plan require development plans to consider any limitations of on-site soils (Objective 1.5, COSE, Policy 5.1.b, FLUE), geologic features (Objective 1.7, COSE), wetlands (Objective 1.10), and flood plains (Policies 1.12.d - 1.12.f). Development plans must address limitations of soil types that may be presented by the construction methods to be utilized by a proposed development (Policy 1.5.a, COSE). The Comprehensive Plan requires any geologic features, such as sinkholes, to be identified, protected, and conserved to preserve their natural functions (Objective 1.7, COSE). New development is required by the Comprehensive Plan to provide minimum buffers from wetlands and water bodies to ensure potential hazards are mitigated and to maintain the natural function of such features (Policies 1.10.g, 1.10.h, and 1.12.g, COSE).

These goals, objectives, and policies are reviewed and updated as needed. Updates occur no less than as part of the evaluation and appraisal of the Comprehensive Plan as mandated by Florida Statutes. The most recent evaluation and appraisal of the Comprehensive Plan occurred in 2019 and 2020, with the amendments implementing the evaluation and appraisal updates to the Comprehensive Plan being adopted in July 2020. These revisions further the goals of the Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy.

#### D. City of Archer

Archer's Comprehensive Plan provides for the restriction of development in areas subject to flooding and the regulation of flood prone areas to maintain the flood storage and flood carrying capacity of floodplains. Flood prone areas are mapped and referenced to the Flood Insurance Rate Map. Plan policies require coordination with the Suwannee River Water Management District on all proposed development in the basins of all priority water bodies. The plan establishes level of service standards for storm water management systems for pre- and post-development runoff and design storm events. Plan policies require residential construction to be elevated 1 foot above the 100-year storm elevation. Code provisions include requirements that uses vulnerable to floods be protected from flooding, regulate activities that would change or diminish the flood storage capacity of function of floodplains and floodways, and provisions for compliance with the NFIP.

The above policies will be reviewed and updated during Comprehensive Plan updates, if necessary, to ensure continued compliance with NFIP requirements.



#### E. City of Gainesville

The City of Gainesville's Comprehensive Plan provides for the protection of wetlands and wetland function through avoidance, minimization, mitigation of detrimental impacts, property protection activities, emergency services activities, and public information activities. [COSE Obj 1.1, Policy 1.1.1]; require buffers and setbacks from creeks, lakes and wetlands [ COSE Policy 1.1.2]; provide for coordination with various entities to develop basin storm water management plans [COSE Policy 1.1.5]; provides for the preservation of wetland function and acreage in designated basins [COSE Obj 2.1, Policy 2.1.1]; adopts the 100-year critical duration storm event as the storm water management Level of Service Standard [SME policy 1.1.1]; provides for specific basin storm water management projects – Depot Avenue, Sweetwater Branch, Hatchet Creek-Lake Forest Creek, NW 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, SW 35<sup>th</sup> Terrace [SME Policy 1.2.2]; the provisions of adequate storm water management systems to meet projected needs by maintaining or reducing the elevation of the 10-year flood channel and the 100-year floodplain as established by the most recent FIRM or local study using FEMA-approved methods [SME Obj 1.3 and associated policies]; provides for maintenance of the storm water management systems to reduce or eliminate structural flooding, street flooding, enhance water quality, and to enhance environmental quality.

The City of Gainesville's Code provides specific implementation of the Comprehensive Plan objectives and policies. The City's code establishes a floodplain management district for the purposes of preventing or minimizing future flood damage; managing activities or development which may increase flood damage or erosion potential; managing the alteration of flood hazard areas, watercourses, and shorelines to minimize the impact of development on the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains; minimizing damage to public and private facilities and utilities; maintaining a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of flood hazard areas; minimizing the need for future expenditure of public funds for flood control projects and response to and recovery from flood events; and meeting the requirements of the NFIP for community participation.

The above policies will be updated during Comprehensive Plan updates, if necessary, to ensure continued compliance with NFIP requirements.

#### F. City of Hawthorne

The City of Hawthorne significantly amended its land development code in 2012 to comply with the provisions of the NFIP Program for community participation as set forth in Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 59 and 60. Among other things these amendments provided for adoption of flood hazard maps for the community, provide for procedures and criteria for development in flood hazard areas, and adopt local administrative amendments to the Florida Building Code.

The above policies will be updated during Comprehensive Plan updates, if necessary, to ensure continued compliance with NFIP requirements.

#### G. City of High Springs

The High Springs Comprehensive Plan provides for the elevation of structure one foot above the 100-year flood elevation, restrict development within flood prone areas, require regulation of development at and below the riverine 100-year flood elevation, the preservation of the flood

storage capacity and natural functions of the floodplains and floodways, mapping of flood prone areas, and participation in the NFIP. City Code contains provisions to prevent or limit activities that will alter floodplains such that the capacity of those floodplains is diminished or the areal extent of the floodplain. Code provides for avoidance and minimization of impacts to floodplains and floodways. Requirements that new construction or substantial improvements to structures be built one foot above the base flood elevation.

The above policies will be updated during Comprehensive Plan updates, if necessary, to ensure continued compliance with NFIP requirements.

#### H. Town of LaCrosse

Comprehensive Plan provisions to participate in the NFIP and require that construction be done outside of flood prone areas. For parcels of record that are all floodplain then buildings must be built two feet above grade. Require maintenance of floodplain function such as flood storage capacity. The plan establishes level of service standards for storm water management systems for pre and post-development runoff and design storm events. Plan policies require residential construction to be elevated 1 foot above the 100-year storm elevation. Floodplain areas are mapped, referenced to FIRM.

The above policies will be updated during Comprehensive Plan updates, if necessary, to ensure continued compliance with NFIP requirements.

#### I. Town of Micanopy

Comprehensive Plan policies to require residential landowners whose property lies within the 100-year floodplain to construct outside the floodplain, maintain a floodplain ordinance to reduce floodplain uses to agricultural, forest, and wildlife management and such other uses that are not likely to be severely disrupted by flooding, and participation in the NFIP along with regulation of development and the installation of utilities in flood hazard areas in conformance with NFIP requirements. Plan provisions for transferring development rights from wetlands and flood plains to upland areas. Requirements to elevate buildings 1-foot above 100-year flood elevations. Plan policies to protect the natural function of floodplains, recognizing the role of flood patterns in maintaining water quality and quantity. Flood plain regulations are to be based on Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM).

The above policies will be updated during Comprehensive Plan updates, if necessary, to ensure continued compliance with NFIP requirements.

#### J. City of Newberry

Newberry's Comprehensive Plan provides for the location of development outside of floodplains and wetlands, establishes storm water management standards for quantity and quality, prohibits the alteration or interruption of natural drainage flow, the preservation of floodplain and wetland function, clustering of development onto the non-flood prone areas of parcels or the elevation of structures if an entire parcel is flood prone. Newberry's Land Development Code [Flood Management Ordinance] provides for the use of appropriate construction practices in order to prevent or minimize future flood damage; the management of activities or other development which may increase flood damage or erosion potential; limitations on the alteration of flood hazard areas, watercourses, and shorelines to minimize the impact of development on the natural

and beneficial functions of the floodplain; minimize the need for future expenditure of public funds for flood control projects and response to and recovery from flood events; and meet the requirements of the NFIP for community participation.

The above policies will be updated during Comprehensive Plan updates, if necessary, to ensure continued compliance with NFIP requirements.

#### K. City of Waldo

Plan provisions to require clustering of buildings outside of floodplain, provisions to participate in the NFIP, and require that construction be done outside of flood prone areas. For parcels of record that are all floodplain then buildings must be built two feet above adjacent grade. Prohibits structures in wetlands except for water dependent uses [docks, etc.]. Plan policies require coordination with the Suwannee River Water Management District on all proposed development in the basins of all priority water bodies. The plan establishes level of service standards for storm water management systems for pre- and post-development runoff and design storm events.

The above policies will be reviewed and amendments considered by City Council during Comprehensive Plan updates, if necessary, to ensure continued compliance with NFIP requirements.

#### L. Alachua County Library District

The Alachua County Library District has no authority or responsibility for land use decisions. The Library District buildings and facilities are located within municipal boundaries or urbanized areas in the case of unincorporated Alachua County locations. These facilities are located upon small parcels of land, typically with significant parcel coverage by buildings and impervious surfaces.

#### M. Alachua County Public School District

The school Board of Alachua County and Alachua County have structured an inter-local agreement that provides for coordination of land use and school capacity. Along with this agreement the Alachua County Comprehensive Plan contains a Public School Facilities Element which generally provides for the accommodation of anticipated public school enrollment. Objective 3.6 of this Element provides for development standards for schools and school sites. Policy 3.6.1 provides specific requirements for school site development, one of which is consistency with the applicable policies of the Conservation and Open Space Element [COSE] of the Alachua County Comprehensive Plan. As noted above the requirements of the COSE provide for storm water management and floodplain function in particular.

### VII. Local Incorporation and Integration

Alachua County provides building permitting services [plan review, permitting, and inspection] for the municipalities of Hawthorne, Micanopy, Lacrosse and Archer. Through this process the provisions of the Florida Building code [such as those concerning flood abatement, or structural flood proofing] are enforced. Taken on the whole, all of these requirements when implemented will help advance the goals of the LMS and ensure continued compliance with the NFIP.

Local government comprehensive plans are required to be periodically reviewed and assessed. Section 163.3191, FS requires that every seven years local governments review their comprehensive plans to determine if they adequately reflect state requirements and are

“encouraged to comprehensively evaluate and, as necessary, update comprehensive plans to reflect changes in local conditions”. This evaluation and appraisal process affords all local governments in Alachua County the means to incorporate current hazard mitigation strategies and activities into their local community planning efforts. Beyond the evaluation and appraisal process, local governments can amend their comprehensive plans as needed to reflect and react to changing conditions within their jurisdictions. Specific mitigation projects that involved capital expenditures and that are funded in whole or part by local governments in Alachua County have typically been incorporated into the local government’s Capital Improvements Plan as part of their adopted comprehensive plan and capital projects programs.

It is through the above processes that each jurisdiction will improve their policies and programs to be in-line with the Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy.

The documents and activities noted below provide support to and furtherance of the 2021 Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy. These documents are consulted during revisions, and also consider the Local Mitigation Strategy during their revisions:

A. Community Development:

- Alachua County Comprehensive Plan (County)
- Municipal Comprehensive Plans (Cities)
- University of Florida Master Plan
- Alachua County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (County/Cities)
- Unified Land Development Regulations (County and Cities)
- Debris Management Plan (County and Cities)
- National Flood Insurance Program (County-wide)
- Community Rating System (County and Gainesville)

B. Protecting Public Health and Safety:

- Florida Statute Chapter 252 (County)
- Floodplain Ordinance (Cities and County)
- Adopted Comprehensive Plans ( Cities and County)
- Dept. of Environmental Protection Regulations (Cities and County)
- County and City Debris Management Plan
- Alachua County Emergency Management Hurricane Standard Operating Procedure (County-wide)
- Alachua County Emergency Management EOC Activation SOP (County)
- UF Natural Disaster Plan (UF)
- Disaster Housing Plan (Cities and County)
- Solid Waste Plans and Regulations (Cities and County)
- Fire Prevention Codes and Regulations (County-Wide)
- Florida Building Code (Cities and County)
- Community Health Improvement Plan
- Alachua County Flood Warning and Response SOP

C. Building and Retrofitting to Minimize Potential Property Damage:

- Alachua County Unified Land Development Code

- Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan (County-wide)
- County Floodplain Ordinance
- Florida Building Code (county-wide)
- University of Florida Design and Construction Standards

D. Fostering Economic Activities within the County:

- Alachua County Comprehensive Plan, Economic Development Element

E. Educating to Promote Community Awareness:

- Florida Statute Chapter 252 [county-wide]
- Hazard Awareness and public outreach activities (County-wide)

F. Protecting Natural Resources and the Environment:

- Alachua County Floodplain Management Ordinance
- Alachua County Comprehensive Plan Conservation and Open Space Element
- Hazardous Materials Cost Recovery Ordinance (County-wide)
- Watershed Management Plans (City of Gainesville)

G. Managing Storm Water to Protect Community Resources:

- Alachua County Water Quality Ordinance
- Alachua County storm water Management Plan
- St. Johns River Water Management District Regulations (all jurisdictions southeastern Alachua County)
- Suwannee River Water Management Regulations (all jurisdictions northern and western Alachua County)

H. Coordinating Local and State Government Activities During a Disaster:

- Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement, FL Statute 252, Chapter 23
- Alachua County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
- Emergency Support Functions SOP



## Appendix A: Local Mitigation Strategy Adoption Documentation



## Appendix B: NFIP Enrollees & CRS

NFIP #	Community Name	Joined NFIP	Current FIRM Date
120001	Alachua County - CRS Class 5	09/28/1984	06/16/2006
120664	City of Alachua	06/09/1994	11/2/2018
120670	City of Archer	06/09/1994	06/16/2006
125107	City of Gainesville - CRS Class 7	10/01/1971	11/2/2018
120682	City of Hawthorne	07/29/2010	06/16/2006
120669	City of High Springs	03/24/1994	06/16/2006
120679	City of Newberry	02/03/2000	06/16/2006
120003	City of Waldo	11/04/1988	11/2/2018
120626	Town of LaCrosse	12/13/2011	06/16/2006
120344	Town of Micanopy	06/16/2006	06/16/2006

Table 2: National Flood Insurance Program Enrollees and FIRM Dates<sup>10</sup>

The NFIP Community Rating System (CRS) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP requirements. As a result, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from the community actions meeting the three goals of the CRS: (1) reduce flood losses; (2) facilitate accurate insurance rating; and (3) promote the awareness of flood insurance. As a class 5 community, policy holders in unincorporated Alachua County qualify for up to a 25% premium discount. As noted in the adopted Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy, Alachua County’s Comprehensive Plan and Unified Land Development Code regulate and restrict development in floodplains. As a class 7 community, policy holders in the incorporated limits of the City of Gainesville qualify for up to a 15% premium discount.

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<sup>10</sup> FEMA, [Community Status Book](#)

## Appendix C: Alachua County Wildfire Statistics, 2009 - 2019

Cause	Number	Percentage	Acres	Percentage
Campfire	18	3.38	136.2	1.58
Children	10	1.88	17.8	0.21
Debris Burn*	0	0	0.0	0
Debris Burn--Auth--Broadcast/Acreage	15	2.81	123.3	1.43
Debris Burn--Auth--Piles	15	2.81	96.0	1.11
Debris Burn--Auth--Yard Trash	15	2.81	48.0	0.56
Debris Burn--Nonauth--Broadcast/Acreage	9	1.69	22.8	0.26
Debris Burn--Nonauth--Piles	34	6.38	103.2	1.20
Debris Burn--Nonauth--Yard Trash	60	11.26	305.3	3.54
Equipment use*	0	0	0.0	0
Equipment--Agriculture	11	2.06	21.1	0.24
Equipment--Logging	1	0.19	1.0	0.01
Equipment--Recreation	6	1.13	99.5	1.15
Equipment--Transportation	10	1.88	8.7	0.10
Incendiary	39	7.32	545.3	6.32
Lightning	106	19.89	1,215.2	14.08
Miscellaneous --Breakout	5	0.94	110.8	1.28
Miscellaneous --Electric Fence	0	0	0.0	0
Miscellaneous --Fireworks	2	0.38	9.5	0.11
Miscellaneous --Power Lines	29	5.44	48.5	0.56
Miscellaneous --Structure	4	0.75	3.1	0.04
Miscellaneous--Other	17	3.19	39.1	0.45
Railroad	2	0.38	36.0	0.42
Smoking	1	0.19	0.1	0.00
Unknown	124	23.26	5,639.8	65.35
Total	533		8,630.3	

Table 3: Alachua County Wildfire Statistics<sup>11</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Florida Forest Service, *Community Wildfire Protection Plan*

## Attachment A: LMS Work Group Members, Organizations & Roles

Jurisdiction	Agency	Title	Representative	Role
*Alachua County	Public Works	Civil Engineer	Lalit Lalwani	Chair / P.C.
*City of Gainesville	Fire Rescue	District Chief, Emergency Manager	David McIntire	Vice Chair
*Alachua County	Emergency Management	Acting Director	Jen Grice	Member
*Alachua County	Emergency Management	Program Coordinator	Brady Nettina	Member
*Alachua County	Emergency Management	Program Coordinator	Dalton Herding	Coordinator
*Alachua County	Growth Management	Senior Planner	Kathleen Pagan	Primary Contact
Alachua Conservation Trust	Alachua Conservation Trust	Santa Fe River Basin Project Coordinator	Melissa Hill	Member
Alachua County Library District	Director's Office	Director	Shaney Livingston	Primary Contact
Alachua County Library District	Facilities and Safety	Administrator	Larry Jones	Member
Alachua County Library District	Automated Services	Administrator	Christopher Cochran	Member
*City of Alachua	Finance and Administrative Services	Director	Rob Bonetti	Primary Contact
*City of Archer	City Manager's Office	City Manager	Charles Hammond	Member
*City of Gainesville	Gainesville Regional Utilities		Harry Flanigan	Primary Contact
*City of Gainesville	Gainesville Regional Utilities		James Lennon	Member
*City of Gainesville	Gainesville Regional Utilities		Fernando Martins	Member
*City of Gainesville	Public Works	Storm Water Services Supervisor	Alice Rankeillor	Primary Contact
*City of Hawthorne	Office of the City Manager	City Manager	Ellen Vause	Primary Contact
*City of High Springs	City Manager's Office	City Manager	Joel DeCoursey	Member
*City of High Springs	High Springs Fire Rescue	Fire Chief, Emergency Coordinator	Bruce Gillingham	Primary Contact
*City of Newberry	Planning & Economic Development	Principal Planner	Wendy Kinser-Maxwell	Primary Contact
*City of Newberry	Finance and Administration	Director	Dallas Lee	Member

Jurisdiction	Agency	Title	Representative	Role
*City of Newberry	Newberry Fire Department	Fire Chief	Ben Buckner	Member
Florida Division of Emergency Management	Bureau of Recovery	Recovery Regional Coordinator	Pamela Bergstrom	Member
Florida Forest Service	Waccasassa Forestry Center	Wildfire Mitigation Specialist	Ludie Bond	Member
Saint John's Water Management District		Senior Regulatory Scientist	Susan Davis	Member
*Santa Fe College	Safety and Risk Management	Safety Coordinator	Marian Nesbitt	Primary Contact
School Board of Alachua County	Safety and Security	District Chief	Casey Hamilton	Member
Suwannee Water Management District	Resource Management Division	Director	Warren Zwanka	Member
*Town of LaCrosse	Mayor's Office	Mayor	Dianne Dubberly	Primary Contact
*Town of Micanopy	Town Administrator's Office	Town Administrator	Debbie Gonano	Primary Contact
*Town of Waldo	City Manager's Office	City Manager	Kim Worley	Primary Contact
*University of Florida	Emergency Management	Director	Kenneth Allen	Primary Contact
*University of Florida	Utilities and Energy Services Division		Elizabeth McAlister	Member
*University of Florida	Facilities Services		Jennifer Meisenhelder	Member
*University of Florida	P.K. Younge	School Safety Administrator	Bob Toporek	Member
*University of Florida	Florida Institute for Built Environment Resilience	Associate Professor	Jason Von Meding	Member

Table 4: LMS Member and Organization Roster

\*2021 Agencies Seeking Adoption

## Attachment B: Project Ranking Task Force Procedures

1. Purpose and Authority
  - 1.1. These procedures describe the process for submission, ranking and adoption of projects for the Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS).
  - 1.2. Authority for the procedures is derived from approval of the Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy Work Group and Rule 9G-22.005(6)-(7), Florida Administrative Code.
  - 1.3. The purpose of the procedures is to create and maintain both a ranked and an unranked project list. The ranked list, referred to as the LMS Project Ranking List, will be employed to set the order of priority for projects.
2. Project Ranking Task Force
  - 2.1. The Project Ranking Task Force is a permanent Task Force of the Local Mitigation Strategy Work Group. The Task Force is established by Article III.B.ii of the *Bylaws of the Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy Work Group*.
  - 2.2. Task Force members will be appointed annually by the Work Group. Task Force Members are not required to be voting members of the Work Group.
  - 2.3. Task Force members will be responsible for meeting and electing a Chair and Vice-Chair.
  - 2.4. A minimum of three (3) appointed Task Force members is required in order to conduct a Project Ranking Task Force meeting.
3. LMS Project Ranking List
  - 3.1. The purpose of the *LMS Project Ranking List* is to comply with Rule 9G-22.005(7), Florida Administrative Code by maintaining a list of approved projects in order of priority. The priority will be employed to determine distribution of funding under mitigation grant programs such as the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.
  - 3.2. Project Application Submission
    - 3.2.1. Jurisdictions participating in the Alachua County LMS may submit projects for inclusion on the Project Ranking List. Project proposals must be submitted by March 15<sup>th</sup> of each year or an alternate date determined by the Work Group.
    - 3.2.2. For a project to be considered, a completed *Mitigation Project Proposal* must be submitted either electronically or hard copy by the appropriate deadline to the Alachua County Division of Emergency Management. Copies of the project application and instructions are available from the Division.
    - 3.2.3. Following an incident which impacts Alachua County, such as hurricane, the Work Group may instruct the Task Force to meet, accept and rank new projects. The Work Group will be responsible for setting project application and ranking deadlines should this occur.
  - 3.3. Project Ranking
    - 3.3.1. The Task Force will meet within thirty (30) calendar days following the project application deadline to validate and rank all submitted projects.
    - 3.3.2. Alachua County Division of Emergency Management will email each jurisdiction's voting member the Task Force validated score for all projects submitted by the member's jurisdiction.
  - 3.4. Appeals of Task Force Validated Scores by a Jurisdiction
    - 3.4.1. Following notification in Section 3.3.2, a jurisdiction's voting member may appeal a Task Force validated score within thirty (30) calendar days. The appeal must be in writing, e-mail or hard copy, to the Alachua County Division of Emergency Management.

- 3.4.2. All appealed projects will be removed from the Task Force recommended ranked list and the Alachua County Division of Emergency Management will notify all Task Force members of the appeal.
- 3.4.3. The Task Force will meet within thirty (30) calendar days following the appeals date deadline in Section 3.4.1 to re-evaluate all appealed projects.
- 3.4.4. Jurisdictions may make a presentation and submit additional, relevant information to the Task Force regarding each appealed project.
- 3.4.5. Alachua County Division of Emergency Management will e-mail each jurisdiction's voting member the Task Force validated score for all re-evaluated projects submitted by the member's jurisdiction.
- 3.4.6. The validated scores of all appealed projects will be placed on the ranked list unless a jurisdiction's voting member disagrees with the re-evaluated score.
- 3.4.7. Jurisdictions not satisfied with the re-evaluated project score validated by the Task Force may appeal to the Work Group for final resolution.
- 3.5. Approval by Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy Work Group
  - 3.5.1. The Work Group must vote to approve and accept or reject the ranked list of validated scores recommended by the Task Force.
  - 3.5.2. If approved and accepted by the Work Group, the list will become the *LMS Project Ranking List*.
- 3.6. Maintenance and Publication
  - 3.6.1. Alachua County Division of Emergency Management will be responsible for clerical maintenance of the Project Ranking List.
  - 3.6.2. Publication and distribution of the Project Ranking List as directed by the Work Group will be the responsibility of the Alachua County Division of Emergency Management.
- 4. LMS Initiative List
  - 4.1. The purpose of the *LMS Initiative List* is to maintain an unranked list of mitigation projects.
  - 4.2. The list will denote each project submitted by jurisdictions participating in the LMS. Jurisdictions will appear alphabetically on the list. The list will **not** be employed to determine distribution of funding under mitigation grant programs.
  - 4.3. Project Application Submission
    - 4.3.1. Projects submitted for the Ranking List will automatically be included on the Initiative List.
    - 4.3.2. Jurisdictions participating in the LMS may submit projects for inclusion on the Initiative List that are not submitted for the Ranking List.
    - 4.3.3. For a project to be included on the Initiative List, a completed *Score Guide Cover Page* must be submitted either electronically or hard copy to the Alachua County Division of Emergency Management. Copies of the *Score Guide* and instructions are available from the Division. The jurisdiction should indicate on *the Score Guide Cover Page* that the project is for inclusion solely on the Initiative List.
    - 4.3.4. Jurisdictions participating in the LMS may submit or remove projects for the Initiative List year round.
  - 4.4. Maintenance and Publication
    - 4.4.1. Alachua County Division of Emergency Management will be responsible for clerical maintenance of the Initiative List.



4.4.2. Publication and distribution of the Initiative List as directed by the Work Group will be the responsibility of the Alachua County Division of Emergency Management.

4.4.3. Alachua County Division of Emergency Management will e-mail an updated version of the Initiative List to voting members of all jurisdictions participating in the LMS within ten (10) working days of a project being added or removed from the list.

5. Public Record

5.1. The *LMS Project Ranking List* and *LMS Initiative list* will be considered public records.

Jurisdictions should exercise appropriate judgment when naming project proposals since project titles will be included on both lists.

5.2. Jurisdictions will be considered custodian of their submitted project proposals, not Alachua County Division of Emergency Management or Alachua County LMS Work Group.

5.3. Some project proposals may be exempt from public release based upon the provisions of Section 119.071, Florida Statutes. Jurisdictions are responsible for documenting projects that qualify for exemption from public by completing LMS Exemption Form A or B and note "Exempt" on the *Score Guide*.

## Attachment C: Project Score Guide

Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy

Score Guide / Cover Page

Jurisdiction/Agency:

Date of submittal:

Project Contact:

Contact Address:

**Telephone:**

**Fax:**

**E-mail:**

Project Name:

Project Description: (include a brief project overview):

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Project Estimated Cost:

Project Estimated Completion Timeframe:

If project is exempt from the Public Record Act, provide Florida Statute and statement from legal representative documenting exemption. Exempt: Yes/No

This project submitted for:

LMS Project Ranking List\* (score required)

LMS Initiative List (score not required)

\* If project listed on LMS Project Ranking List, the project will also be listed on the LMS Initiative list in alphabetical order.

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Proposed Project Type:

Please indicate the type of project proposed in accordance to the four tier approach of the LMS Workgroup.

- Life Safety
- Critical Operations and Infrastructure
- Economic Vitality
- Preparedness Planning and Studies

When scoring projects, assign a score to the nearest quarter point (0.25) within the Decision Factor score range, unless the Decision Factor requires a whole number score.

1. Jurisdictional Benefits:

This **decision factor** evaluates the extent of the jurisdictional benefits of the proposed mitigation project.

Score	Description of the Decision Factor	Applicant Score	Committee Validation
3	Project will benefit a multi-jurisdictional area.		
2	Project will benefit a single jurisdiction.		
1	Project will benefit less than 100% of a jurisdiction (i.e., neighborhood)		

2. Estimate of Population Benefited:

This **decision factor** evaluates the benefit to human health and safety derived from implementation of the project. The beneficial effects of the proposed project may affect more than the population of the sponsoring entity.

Score	Description of the Decision Factor	Applicant Score	Committee Validation
5	This project would benefit the health and safety of at least 200,000 people by directly reducing personal injury and/or risk of illness.		
4	This project would benefit the health and safety of between 100,000 to 199,999 people by directly reducing personal injury and/or risk of illness.		
3	This project would benefit the health and safety of 5,001 to 99,999 people by directly reducing personal injury and/or risk of illness.		
2	This project would benefit the health and safety of up to 5,000 people by directly reducing personal injury and/or risk of illness.		

Score	Description of the Decision Factor	Applicant Score	Committee Validation
0	This project has no direct benefit to the health and safety of the population.		

### 3. Environmental and Human Health Impact

This **decision factor** is designed to account for potential short or long term environmental impact or human health hazards that may occur as a result of implementation of the project.

Score	Description of the Decision Factor	Applicant Score	Committee Validation
2	The project will demonstrably improve environmental and/or human health conditions		
1	The project offers minimal improvement potential to the environment or human health.		
0	Risk to human health and/or the environment are undeterminable.		
-1	The project creates a situation that is a detriment to human health or has short or long-term negative environmental impacts.		

### 4. Consistency with other Plans and Programs:

This **decision factor** is used to consider the level of consistency that the mitigation project has with other current plans and programs that have been approved, accepted or utilized by the community to be affected or benefited by the project. The premise here is that proposed project proposal should be ranked higher if they are consistent with and further these other plans and programs, rather than if they are inconsistent or in conflict with the goals and objectives of generally accepted guiding principles.

The following types of plans, policies and programs to be considered under this decision factor are the following:

- The goals and objectives of the Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS)
- Entities adopted Comprehensive Plan, or other guiding plan or document.
- Special Area Plans or Conservation Management Plans
- The jurisdiction’s Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and or the Alachua County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP).
- Any applicable land development code or zoning ordinance.
- Any applicable environmental resource preservation or protection plan, policy or ordinance
- Any other applicable local, state building code or federal law, regulation or plan.

Score	Description of the Decision Factor	Applicant Score	Committee Validation
4	The project or activity is incorporated into at least three of the documents listed, or judged to be highly consistent with all.		
3	The project or activity is incorporated into at least two of the documents listed.		
2	The project or activity is incorporated into at least one of the documents listed.		
1	The project or activity is consistent with other standards deemed acceptable however not specifically listed above.		
-1	Project or activity is inconsistent with [conflicts with] adopted comprehensive plan or land development code.		
-2	Project or activity is inconsistent with [conflicts with] a Special Area Plan or a Conservation Management Plan.		

5. Community Exposure:

The proposed project mitigates a frequently occurring hazard or problem or a hazard to which a community is particularly vulnerable. The scoring factor is based upon combinations of high, medium and low levels of exposure and frequency.

Score	Description of the Decision Factor	Applicant Score	Committee Validation
5.0	High Exposure and High Frequency		
4.5	High Exposure and Medium Frequency		
4.0	High exposure and Low Frequency		
3.5	Medium Exposure and High Frequency		
3.0	Medium Exposure and Medium Frequency		
2.5	Medium Exposure and Low Frequency		
2.0	Low Exposure and High Frequency		
1.5	Low Exposure and Medium Frequency		

Score	Description of the Decision Factor	Applicant Score	Committee Validation
1.0	Low Exposure and Low Frequency		

6. Supports Natural Resources, Critical Infrastructure, Critical Services or Key Resources:

This **decision factor** evaluates how the project will support public or private critical infrastructure, services, or man-made or natural resources that provide a hazard mitigation function. The critical infrastructure, service, or resource must provide some capacity for or type of hazard mitigation such as the enhancement of storm water systems [man-made resource] or the restoration of floodplains [natural resource] to attenuate flooding potential.

Score	Description of the Decision Factor	Applicant Score	Committee Validation
5	The project will ensure continuity of operations of critical infrastructure or services.		
3	The project will support infrastructure, resources that provide hazard mitigation functions or services with history of loss or damage.		
1	The project will support infrastructure, or resources that provide hazard mitigation functions or services without history of loss or damage.		
0	The project's operation would have no impact community infrastructure or services if disrupted.		

7. The Probability of Receiving Funding for Implementation:

This **decision factor** considers the likelihood that a project will be adequately funded for its implementation or completion as proposed. The underlying assumption is that one of the fundamental purposes of the Alachua County LMS is to secure funding for meritorious project proposals which otherwise may not be funded in a timely manner. Please list the likely funding sources for the proposed project:

Score	Description of the Decision Factor	Applicant Score	Committee Validation
4	The only potential funding sources for this project are readily available through mitigation or emergency preparedness funding sources.		

Score	Description of the Decision Factor	Applicant Score	Committee Validation
3	The only potential funding sources are other state or federal grants or similar funding sources.		
2	Funding may be accomplished through matching local jurisdiction dollars with funds from budgeting, capital improvement, or a mixture of other funding sources.		
1	Funding may be obtained through available locally controlled budget sources.		

8. The Feasibility of Implementation:

This **decision factor** considers the feasibility of implementation of the project from an administrative or managerial perspective. At a minimum, the following external factors are to be evaluated for each proposed project:

- The time involved to complete a project, including planning and engineering studies, environmental assessments and ecological surveys.
- The type, number and time needed to secure permits and approvals.
- If the project proposal would require a referendum vote by the general public.
- If the project proposal would require a public hearing and/or specific commission/council approval.

Score	Description of the Decision Factor	Applicant Score	Committee Validation
4	The project would be relatively easy to complete or implement within one year.		
3	The project is not anticipated to be difficult to implement; no external factors affect the proposed project or would only have a minimal influence on the implementation process.		
2	The project may be somewhat difficult to implement because one identified external factor will impede the implementation process.		
1	The project may be fairly difficult to implement because two external factors will impede the implementation process.		
0	The project may be difficult to implement because three or more external factors will impede the implementation process.		



9. Community Rating System:

This **decision factor** takes into a proposed project’s positive affect upon Community Rating System (CRS) flood-related activities. These activities would enhance public safety, reduce damages to property and public infrastructure, avoid economic disruption and losses, reduce human suffering and protect the environment.

- Project supports public information activities.
- Project supports mapping (i.e. GIS) and regulations.
- Project supports flood damage reduction activities.
- Project supports flood preparedness activities.

Score	Description of the Decision Factor	Applicant Score	Committee Validation
4	The project supports all four elements of CRS flood-related activities.		
3	The project supports three elements of CRS flood-related activities.		
2	The project supports two elements of CRS flood-related activities.		
1	The project supports one element of CRS flood-related activities.		
0	The project has no component applicable to the CRS.		

10. Repetitive Loss Mitigation:

This **decision factor** rates how the project would mitigate Severe Repetitive Loss (RL) properties which are structures flooded two or more times in a ten-year period.

Score	Description of the Decision Factor	Applicant Score	Committee Validation
4	Project protects 50% or more of RL structures		
2	Project protects less than 50% of RL structures.		
0	Project does not protect a RL structures		

11. Preliminary Estimated Benefit /Cost Ratio:

This **decision factor** considers the preliminary estimated benefit to cost ratio (BCR) of implementing the project. Please show the calculations used to derive the BCR and list all assumptions. A more detailed Benefit/Cost Ratio analysis using FEMA- approved methods and formulae will be required to support the proposed mitigation project for any funding application

and prior to initiation of any project. Planning projects do not require the support of a Benefit/Cost analysis and will be assigned a score of 2 for purposes of project ranking.

Score	Description of the Decision Factor	Applicant Score	Committee Validation
2	The project demonstrates a BCR > 1 indicating that the expected benefit is more than the costs associated with the project. Planning projects will be assigned a score of 2.		
-2	The project demonstrates a BCR < 1 indicated that the expected benefit is equal to or less than the costs associated with the project.		
0	The cost benefit ratio cannot be determined.		

12. Other Benefits:

This **decision factor** credits the project for benefits relating to proactive mitigation activities. Scoring for this decision factor will be determined by the LMS Project Ranking TF based on responses given in the “Project Description Form.”

Score	Description of the Decision Factor	Committee Validation
1.5	Project provides multi-hazard risk reduction (i.e. wind, flood, fire, etc.)	
1.5	Project provides another benefit not addressed. Please justify	

13. LMS Priority:

This **decision factor** will be used only when the scores of projects result in a tie. Projects supporting life/safety considerations shall be ranked above non-life safety projects. The Project Ranking TF will determine the final ranking of tied projects by a vote of the Task Force. The TF will provide a summary of the reasoning behind the final project ranking. All applicants **must** answer the following question:

Does the project support Life Safety considerations?

Yes       No

## Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy Workgroup Project Description Form

Jurisdiction/Agency:

Proposed Project Name (brief description)

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Please present a brief description of your project that includes:

- A. Justification of self-evaluation scores of the Decision Factors.
- B. Components of your project that warrant special attention.
- C. Any other pertinent information that can be used in ranking the proposed project.

Provide an overall description of your proposed project including your goals to be accomplished by the project and the objectives to be completed as intermediate steps towards the goal(s).

1. Provide information on the jurisdiction's population that will potentially benefit from your project such as demographics and an estimated number of people. Indicate if the project would provide multi-jurisdictional benefits.
2. Describe how the project will directly influence the health and safety of the population of Alachua County or a portion thereof.
3. Provide an explanation of how the project will directly affect the environment and human health. Include possible risks or adverse effects that may be associated with implementation or completion of the proposed project.
4. Provide documentation explaining the consistency of your project with the plans and programs of the applicable jurisdiction including an explanation of consistency with the adopted Alachua County Comprehensive Plans, Special Area Plans, Conservation Management Plans, or other applicable plans, policies, and/or guiding principles.
5. Assess the relative exposure to an identified hazard of your community and the frequency with which this hazard occurs.
6. Illustrate how your project will affect essential or non-essential services or infrastructure necessary to support life (power, water, sewer, gas, medical care); provide for safety and security (law enforcement, fire, telecommunications); minimize adverse impacts to the economy (fueling facility, food retail outlet); protect cultural resources (artifacts, historical buildings); protect natural resources and/or their functions (floodplains, flood attenuation, water quality); or promote educational programs.

7. Present the likelihood that your project proposal would receive funding for implementation from HMGP or another funding source. Indicate if the project is eligible for short-term, long-term, or capital improvement grants.
8. Present an explanation of the feasibility of implementing your project including, but not limited to supplying information on the complexity of implementation and a timeframe for completion.
9. Describe how your project is complementary to one or more of the components or activities of the Community Rating System (CRS).
10. Describe how your project would mitigate Repetitive Loss properties identified by FEMA or known to a jurisdiction.
11. Illustrate how your project considers the Benefit to Cost Ratio (BCR) of providing quantitative and qualitative benefits for health, safety and valuable resource protection at may be realized by implementing the initiative. Determine the Preliminary Estimated BCR using the sum of the net benefits of the project divided by the total cost to complete or implement the project. Provide the assumptions and data utilized in the analysis. Be aware that the FEMA approved software and Benefit Cost Ratio procedures must be used to support your project before it will be eligible for State or Federal funding.
12. Provide a description of other benefits or proactive mitigation activities that would be provided by the proposed project.

Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy Work Group Validation Worksheet

Sponsor/Agency Contact:

\_\_\_\_\_

Project Proposal Name (or brief description) \_\_\_\_\_

Date Scoring validated by LMS Committee: \_\_\_\_\_ Project Confidential: Y / N

Applicant Scores	Determining Factors	Committee Validation
	1. Jurisdictional Benefits	
	2. Population Benefited	
	3. Environmental and Human Health Impact	
	4. Consistency with other Plans and Programs	
	5. Community Exposure	
	6. Supports Natural Resources, Critical Infrastructure and Services, or Key Resources	
	7. Probability of Receiving Funding for Implementation	
	8. Feasibility of Implementation	
	9. Community Rating System	
	10. Repetitive Loss Mitigation	
	11. Preliminary Estimated Benefit Cost Ratio	
	12. Other Benefits	
	13. LMS Priority Ranking	

Total Applicant Score:

Total Validated Score:

Authorized LMS Officials:

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

Ranking TF Chair

Signature:

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

LMS Work Group Chair

Signature:

## Attachment D: Priority Ranked Projects

Jurisdiction/Agency	Project Description	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Estimated Time to Complete	Score
City of Gainesville Public Works	FL Park Berm	\$1,250,000	1, 2, 3	2 Years	29.25
City of Gainesville Public Works	Airport Runway Creek Stabilization	\$1,000,000	1, 3	2 Years	29.25
City of Gainesville Public Works	Mason Manor Flood Wall	\$250,000	1, 2, 3	1 Year	27.75
City of Waldo Manager's Office	Mobile Generators	\$75,000	1, 2	3 Months	27.00
Town of LaCrosse Mayor's Office	FD Generator	\$33,150	1, 2	3 Months	26.50
Alachua County Public Works	OakCrest Eagle Pt Chelsea Lane Basin Expansion	\$950,000	1, 2, 3	2 Years	26.50
City of Waldo Manager's Office	WW Lift Stn Generators	\$300,000	1, 2	3 Months	26.00
Santa Fe College Safety and Risk Management	Building U Generator	\$149,600	1, 2	3 Months	25.50
City of Gainesville Public Works	Clear Lake Buy Out	\$60,000	1, 2, 3	3 Months	25.00
Alachua County Public Works	Sunningdale Pump Station	\$640,000	1, 2, 3	3 Months	24.75
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Possum Creek Manhole Imp	\$50,000	1, 2, 3	3 Months	24.75
Alachua County Public Works	OakCrest Eagle Pt Chelsea Ln Acquisition	\$950,000	1, 2, 3	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Hogtown Creek Crossing 3	\$550,000	1, 2	1 Year	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable NE 8th Ave Duval	\$133,206	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable SW Williston Rd	\$27,000	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable SW 2 Ave NW 8 Ave NW 34 St NW 23 St Golf view	\$162,546	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable SW 91 St, 8 Ave & 24 Ave	\$37,044	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable SE 39 Terrace south of Hawthorne Rd	\$18,522	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable Forest Ridge	\$205,200	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable Brywood	\$96,000	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable Meadows	\$14,400	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable Coclough Hills	\$75,600	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable Kirkwood	\$160,800	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable Sbrbn Heights 546	\$148,800	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable Sbrbn Hts 1037	\$156,000	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable Glen Springs Rd	\$60,000	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable NW 34 St- NW 39 Ave and NW 13 Ave. Circuit 542	\$105,000	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable NW 39th Av Circuit 542	\$112,200	1, 2	3 Months	24.50

Jurisdiction/Agency	Project Description	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Estimated Time to Complete	Score
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable NW 16-8 Av NW 23-34 St Circ 211&216	\$125,400	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable NW 43-38 ST NW 16 Av Circ 541	\$160,200	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable NW 34 St to NW 38 St off NW 16 Blvd	\$109,545	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable West Hills and University Acres	\$207,801	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable NW 43 St to 34 St and NW 8 Ave to NW 16th Ave	\$328,635	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable NW 8 Ave from NW 13 St to NW 23 St	\$25,977	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable North of NW 23 Ave btwn NW 71 St & 62 Trcc	\$88,719	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable W Univ Av & NW 8 Av - NW 34 St & NW 35 Trcc	\$64,800	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable NW 6 St & NW 13 St and NW 30 Ave & NW 39 Ave	\$102,900	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable Clear Lake	\$135,822	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable Buckingham & Sunningdale	\$96,207	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable NE 9 St E Univ. Ave. to NE 10 Ave	\$168,477	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable Taps to south off SW 24 Ave Tower Rd to SW 84 St	\$77,922	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable SW 63 Blvd & SW 75 St & Archer Rd & SW 49 Place	\$101,340	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable NW 77 St north of Millhopper Rd.	\$13,377	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable Northwood	\$121,407	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable Fletcher's Mill	\$123,687	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable Broadmoor Area	\$51,693	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable SW 35 Drive S Williston Rd fuse pole P37960	\$54,528	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable Durant Estates	\$17,493	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable Creekside Mall	\$49,122	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Mssngr Cable Robin Lane off NW 39 Ave & area	\$79,983	1, 2	3 Months	24.50
City of Newberry Planning & Economic Development	Generator of City Hall Central Command	\$46,000	1, 2	3 Months	24.00
Alachua County Public Works	SE 15th St.	\$30,000		1 Year	24.00
Alachua County Public Works	Hills Santa Fe Emer Accs	\$150,000	1, 2	1 Year	23.50
City of Newberry Planning & Economic Development	Diesel Tank for ENSC Shelter Generator	\$19,000	1, 2	1 Year	23.50
Alachua County Public Works	Robin Ln Full Optn	\$1,400,000		1 Year	23.00
Alachua County Public Works	Hills of Santa Fe Full Prjct	\$1,350,000		1 Year	23.00



Jurisdiction/Agency	Project Description	Estimated Cost	Potential Funding Sources	Estimated Time to Complete	Score
Gainesville Regional Utilities	FL Park Berm Sewer Relocation	\$1,150,000	1, 2, 3	1 Year	22.00
Alachua County Public Works	SE 27th St.	\$70,000		3 Months	22.75
City of Gainesville Public Works	Featherwood Pump Station	\$45,000	1, 2, 3	3 Months	22.00
Alachua County Public Works	Sunningdale Acquisition	\$710,000		3 Months	21.25
City of Hawthorne Manager's Office	Lake Breeze Buyout	\$540,000	1, 2, 3	3 Months	21.00
Gainesville Regional Utilities	Backyard Sewer Relocation	\$425,000	1, 2, 3	3 Months	20.50
Alachua County Public Works	Heatherwood Basin Ex	\$560,000	1, 2, 3	1 Year	20.50
Alachua County Public Works	SW 12 Av Acquisition	\$560,000	1, 3	3 Months	20.00
Alachua County Public Works	Robin Ln Grav Otfll	\$60,000	1, 2, 3	3 Months	19.75
Alachua County Public Works	Robin Ln Acquisition	\$600,000	1, 3	3 Months	19.50
Alachua County Public Works	Hills of Santa Fe Acquisition Only	\$500,000	1, 3	3 Months	18.50
Alachua County Public Works	Ruslewood Acquisition	\$660,000	1, 3	3 Months	18.50
Alachua County Public Works	SE 35th St.	\$80,000	1, 2, 3	3 Months	18.00
Alachua County Public Works	Pine Hills Pump Station	\$500,000	1, 2	3 Months	18.00
Alachua County Public Works	Emerald Woods Acquisition	\$800,000	1, 3	3 Months	17.25
UF Facilities Services	Lake Alice Overflow Control	\$950,000	1, 2, 3	3 Years	16.50
UF Athletic Association	UF Golf Course Electrical	\$40,000	1, 2	1 Year	15.00
UF Athletic Association	UF Golf Course Bunkers	\$200,000	1, 2	1 Year	8.00
City of Gainesville Public Works	MLK Shelter Generator	\$125,000	1, 2	1 Year	Not Scored
City of Gainesville Public Works	GFR Administration Building Generator	\$150,000	1, 2	1 Year	Not Scored
City of Gainesville Public Works	Anglewood Levee Improvements	\$1,000,000	2	2 Years	Not Scored

Table 5: Project Priority List

**Funding Sources:**

Most probable funding sources – 1. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, 2. Pre-Disaster Mitigation, 3. Flood Mitigation Assistance grant programs.

**Projects are the responsibility of the Jurisdiction/Agency they fall under. Primary Contacts are responsible for the projects of each jurisdiction/agency, and are identified in [Attachment A: LMS Work Group Members, Organizations & Roles](#).**

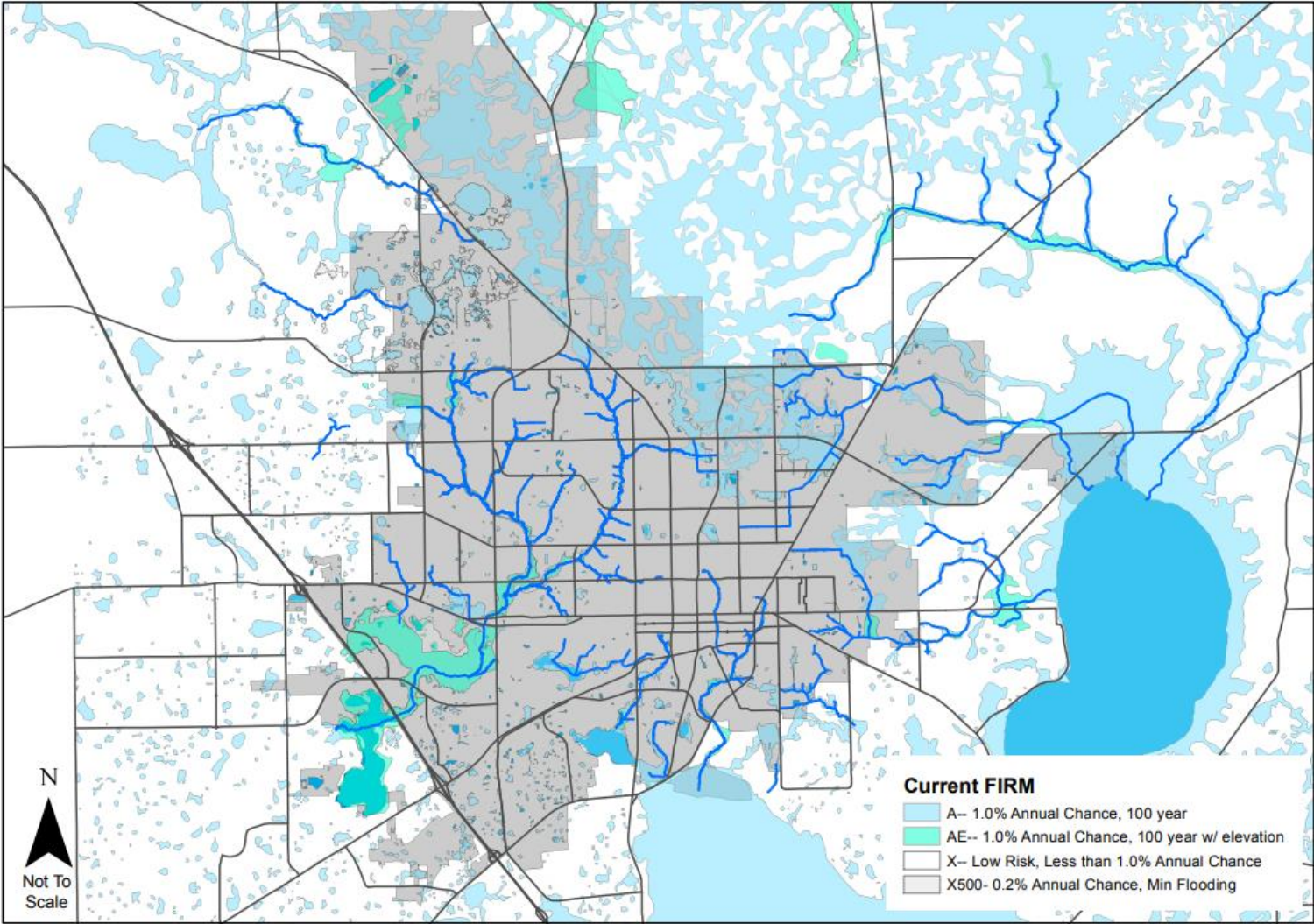


## Attachment E: Critical Facilities List

This section exempt from public records under: 119.071(3)(a), F.S., 119.071(2)(d), F.S., 252.34, F.S., and 395.1056, F.S.

*Table 6: Critical Facilities List*

Attachment F: Gainesville FIRM Zones



**Current FEMA FIRM Zones  
Gainesville Florida**



Figure 2: Gainesville FIRM Zones

# Attachment G: Gainesville Additional Flood Hazard Areas

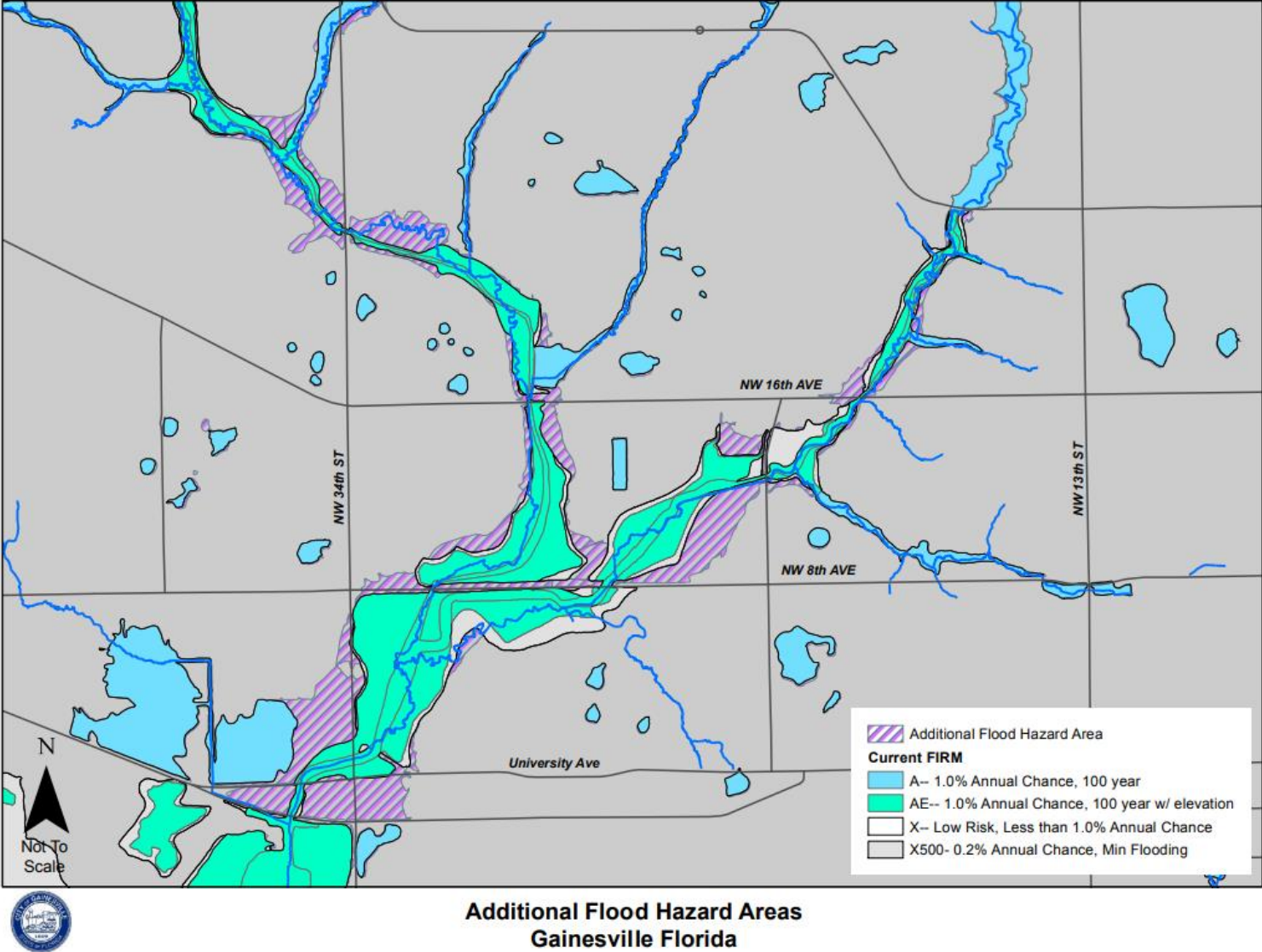


Figure 3: Gainesville Additional Flood Hazard Areas



Attachment H: Gainesville Hurricane Irma Flood Locations

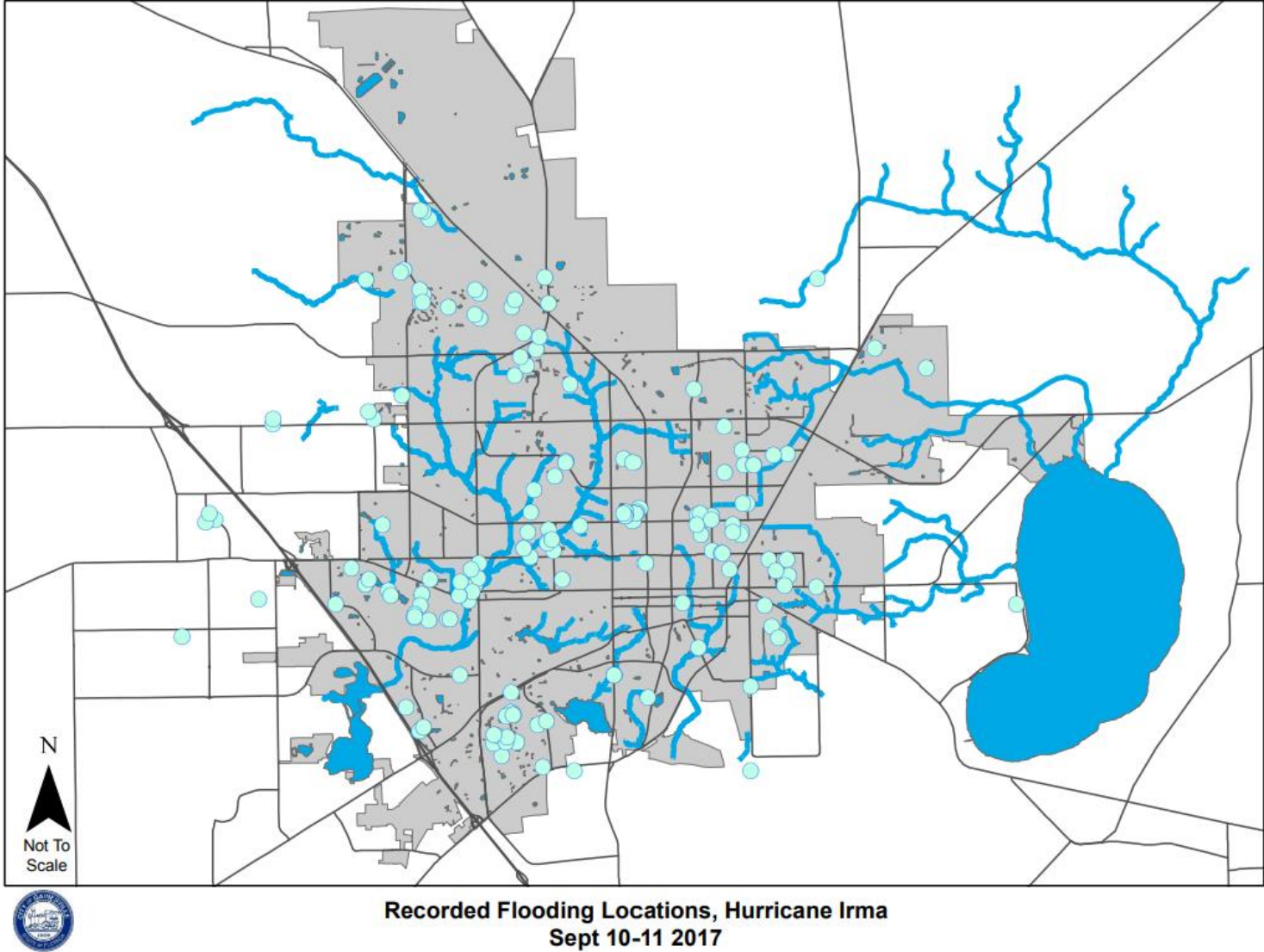


Figure 4: Gainesville Hurricane Irma Flood Location

## Attachment I: Severe Weather Occurrences (2015 – 2020)

The below table details different severe weather occurrences, as defined in [Severe Weather](#), for Alachua County from 1/1/2015 – 12/31/2020. Data was acquired from the [NOAA Storm Events Database](#).

Location	Date	Time	Type
DAYVILLE	2/26/2015	2:10	Thunderstorm Wind
CAMPVILLE	4/19/2015	14:20	Thunderstorm Wind
PHIFER	5/31/2015	17:00	Thunderstorm Wind
HIGH SPGS	5/31/2015	17:35	Thunderstorm Wind
HIGH SPGS	5/31/2015	17:35	Thunderstorm Wind
PHIFER	6/1/2015	16:01	Hail
HAGUE	6/1/2015	16:02	Hail
NEWBERRY	6/1/2015	16:14	Hail
PHIFER	6/24/2015	14:39	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE NORTH	6/30/2015	20:03	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE WEST	7/2/2015	11:49	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE WEST	7/2/2015	11:55	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE EAST	7/5/2015	14:37	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE EAST	7/5/2015	14:48	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE EAST	7/5/2015	14:50	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE EAST	7/5/2015	14:50	Thunderstorm Wind
HAWTHORNE	7/5/2015	14:54	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE EAST	7/17/2015	15:45	Thunderstorm Wind
HIGH SPGS	7/20/2015	13:35	Thunderstorm Wind
DAYVILLE	8/3/2015	18:10	Thunderstorm Wind
ARREDONDA	8/3/2015	18:20	Thunderstorm Wind
EVINSTON	8/13/2015	14:20	Thunderstorm Wind
BLAND	8/13/2015	16:00	Thunderstorm Wind
HIGH SPGS	8/13/2015	16:18	Thunderstorm Wind
PHIFER	8/17/2015	14:30	Thunderstorm Wind
HIGH SPGS	9/12/2015	11:50	Thunderstorm Wind
PHIFER	9/12/2015	12:10	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE NORTH	9/12/2015	12:10	Thunderstorm Wind
ALACHUA (ZONE)	1/23/2016	18:00	Strong Wind
MICANOPY	3/24/2016	21:25	Thunderstorm Wind
EAST ALACHUA	3/24/2016	21:32	Thunderstorm Wind
PHIFER	3/24/2016	21:45	Thunderstorm Wind
PHIFER	5/13/2016	16:30	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE WEST	5/13/2016	16:35	Thunderstorm Wind
HAWTHORNE	5/13/2016	17:10	Thunderstorm Wind
PEACH ORCHARD	5/17/2016	14:35	Thunderstorm Wind
DAYVILLE	5/17/2016	14:55	Thunderstorm Wind
PHIFER	5/17/2016	16:10	Thunderstorm Wind

Location	Date	Time	Type
GAINESVILLE WEST	5/20/2016	11:25	Tornado
HAGUE	5/31/2016	17:22	Thunderstorm Wind
HAGUE	5/31/2016	17:42	Thunderstorm Wind
DAYVILLE	6/1/2016	17:45	Thunderstorm Wind
WALDO	6/10/2016	17:35	Thunderstorm Wind
ARREDONDA	6/10/2016	18:15	Thunderstorm Wind
ARREDONDA	6/10/2016	18:15	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE NORTH	6/10/2016	18:15	Thunderstorm Wind
HIGH SPGS	7/14/2016	12:45	Lightning
NEWBERRY	7/15/2016	14:05	Thunderstorm Wind
NEWBERRY	7/15/2016	14:30	Thunderstorm Wind
DAYVILLE	7/15/2016	15:10	Thunderstorm Wind
WALDO	7/15/2016	15:12	Hail
BLAND	7/16/2016	14:55	Thunderstorm Wind
DAYVILLE	7/23/2016	20:15	Thunderstorm Wind
PHIFER	7/23/2016	20:30	Thunderstorm Wind
SPRING HILL	7/23/2016	20:55	Thunderstorm Wind
WALDO	1/22/2017	18:55	Thunderstorm Wind
CLARK	2/7/2017	21:00	Thunderstorm Wind
CLARK	2/7/2017	21:18	Thunderstorm Wind
HAGUE	2/7/2017	21:46	Thunderstorm Wind
WALDO	2/7/2017	22:20	Thunderstorm Wind
ARCHER	4/4/2017	7:45	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE NORTH	4/4/2017	7:45	Thunderstorm Wind
NEWBERRY	5/30/2017	16:05	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE WEST	7/20/2017	18:50	Thunderstorm Wind
FAIRBANKS	7/20/2017	18:52	Thunderstorm Wind
FAIRBANKS	7/20/2017	18:55	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE NORTH	8/9/2017	15:00	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE	8/9/2017	15:05	Thunderstorm Wind
ARCHER	9/1/2017	11:11	Thunderstorm Wind
ARREDONDA	9/15/2017	17:46	Thunderstorm Wind
NEWBERRY	3/19/2018	5:30	Thunderstorm Wind
ARCHER	3/19/2018	5:40	Thunderstorm Wind
ARREDONDA	3/19/2018	6:00	Thunderstorm Wind
ARREDONDA	5/15/2018	13:20	Thunderstorm Wind
BLAND	6/3/2018	17:20	Thunderstorm Wind
ARREDONDA	6/3/2018	17:24	Lightning
ARREDONDA	6/3/2018	17:24	Lightning
MICANOPY	6/3/2018	17:25	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE WEST	6/3/2018	17:42	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE NORTH	6/3/2018	17:42	Thunderstorm Wind



Location	Date	Time	Type
GAINESVILLE	6/3/2018	17:45	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE	6/3/2018	17:48	Thunderstorm Wind
DAYVILLE	6/4/2018	14:31	Thunderstorm Wind
HAGUE	6/4/2018	14:48	Thunderstorm Wind
HAINESWORTH	6/4/2018	14:51	Thunderstorm Wind
ALACHUA	6/28/2018	17:30	Thunderstorm Wind
ARREDONDA	7/16/2018	11:48	Thunderstorm Wind
PHIFER	7/22/2018	12:15	Thunderstorm Wind
PHIFER	7/22/2018	12:30	Thunderstorm Wind
ARREDONDA	8/16/2018	15:12	Thunderstorm Wind
DAYVILLE	8/16/2018	16:19	Thunderstorm Wind
DAYVILLE	8/17/2018	14:58	Thunderstorm Wind
ARREDONDA	8/17/2018	15:26	Thunderstorm Wind
ARCHER	8/30/2018	13:35	Thunderstorm Wind
HAWTHORNE	1/4/2019	14:38	Thunderstorm Wind
HAWTHORNE	1/4/2019	14:38	Thunderstorm Wind
PHIFER	3/1/2019	15:00	Thunderstorm Wind
(GNV)GAINESVILLE ARP	3/2/2019	14:51	Thunderstorm Wind
ARCHER FLYING TEN AR	4/19/2019	10:10	Thunderstorm Wind
DAYVILLE	4/19/2019	10:30	Thunderstorm Wind
PHIFER	4/19/2019	10:30	Thunderstorm Wind
DAYVILLE	4/19/2019	10:50	Thunderstorm Wind
DAYVILLE	4/19/2019	10:50	Thunderstorm Wind
HIGH SPGS	7/3/2019	17:01	Thunderstorm Wind
NEWBERRY	7/4/2019	16:40	Thunderstorm Wind
PHIFER	7/19/2019	13:40	Thunderstorm Wind
PHIFER	7/19/2019	13:50	Thunderstorm Wind
MICANOPY	12/14/2019	3:46	Thunderstorm Wind
KIRKWOOD	12/14/2019	3:50	Thunderstorm Wind
KIRKWOOD	12/14/2019	3:53	Tornado
ROCHELLE	12/14/2019	3:55	Thunderstorm Wind
WESTERN ALACHUA	2/6/2020	10:33	High Wind
EASTERN ALACHUA	2/6/2020	12:30	High Wind
CLARK	2/6/2020	21:20	Thunderstorm Wind
GAINESVILLE WEST	2/6/2020	21:50	Thunderstorm Wind
ARCHER FLYING TEN AR	7/15/2020	19:35	Thunderstorm Wind
BLAND	9/10/2020	14:13	Thunderstorm Wind

Table 7: Severe Weather Occurrences (2015 – 2020)

## Attachment J: Public Invitation for Planning

Alachua County Emergency Management coordinates with the Alachua County Communications Office to publish press releases. These press releases typically invite public participation in Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group Meetings, but were also leveraged during the planning process for this document.

The below image is pulled from the [Alachua County Communications Archive](#).

# Alachua County Emergency Management Invites Public Participation in Mitigation Planning

*Published on 9/2/2020*

*Last updated: 9/2/2020 11:30 AM*



Alachua County Emergency Management invites residents to attend the Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Working Group meeting on September 8, 2020, from 8 a.m. to noon. This meeting will give another opportunity for the public to provide feedback on the 2020 revisions to the Local Mitigation Strategy. The meeting will be held virtually. Those interested in attending must [register online](#).

The most recent draft can be requested from Alachua County Emergency Management by sending an email to [✉ acem@alachuacounty.us](mailto:acem@alachuacounty.us).

The Alachua County LMS Working Group is responsible for maintaining the Alachua County Local Mitigation Strategy. This document is intended to guide efforts to protect life, property, and the environment from natural or technological hazards.

Membership in the LMS Working Group is open to all jurisdictions, County government, private organizations, civic organizations, trade and commercial support groups, property owners' associations, authorized tribal organizations, state agencies, regional planning councils, independent special districts, and non-profit organizations.

For more information, contact Alachua County Emergency Management at 352-264-6500 or [✉ acem@alachuacounty.us](mailto:acem@alachuacounty.us).

*Figure 5: Public Invitation for Planning*

## Attachment K: 2015 Completed, Deleted, Deferred List

The following table represents the mitigation projects from the previously approved Local Mitigation Strategy (2015). This list identifies which items have been completed, deleted, or deferred as of the current LMS update (2021). If the item has been deferred, an explanation of why no changes were made is included.

Jurisdiction/Agency	Project	Status	Comments
City of Newberry	Fire Station Hardening	Complete	N/A
Town of Micanopy	Fire Station Hardening	Deferred	Under evaluation and review
Alachua County Public Works	Red Lobster/NFRMC Flood Abatement	Deleted	Local measures taken
City of Gainesville	Hydraulic Hydrologic Model	Deleted	Does not qualify for independent funding
City of Gainesville	Wildfire Mitigation Program	Deleted	Local measures taken
Alachua County Public Works	Robin Lane Flood Abatement	Deferred	Moved down in priority
Alachua County Public Works	Hills of Santa Fe Flood Abatement	Deferred	Moved down in priority
Alachua County Public Works	Oak Crest Flood Abatement	Deferred	Moved down in priority
Alachua County Public Works	SW/NW 91 <sup>ST</sup> Street Flood Abatement	Deleted	Local measures taken
Alachua County Library District	High Springs Stormwater Management	Deferred	Under evaluation and review

Table 8: 2015 Mitigation Initiatives