



Introduction to the Countywide Local Mitigation Strategy



**Presented By Hillsborough County's
Hazard Mitigation Section**



www.hillsboroughcounty.org/pgm/hazardmit

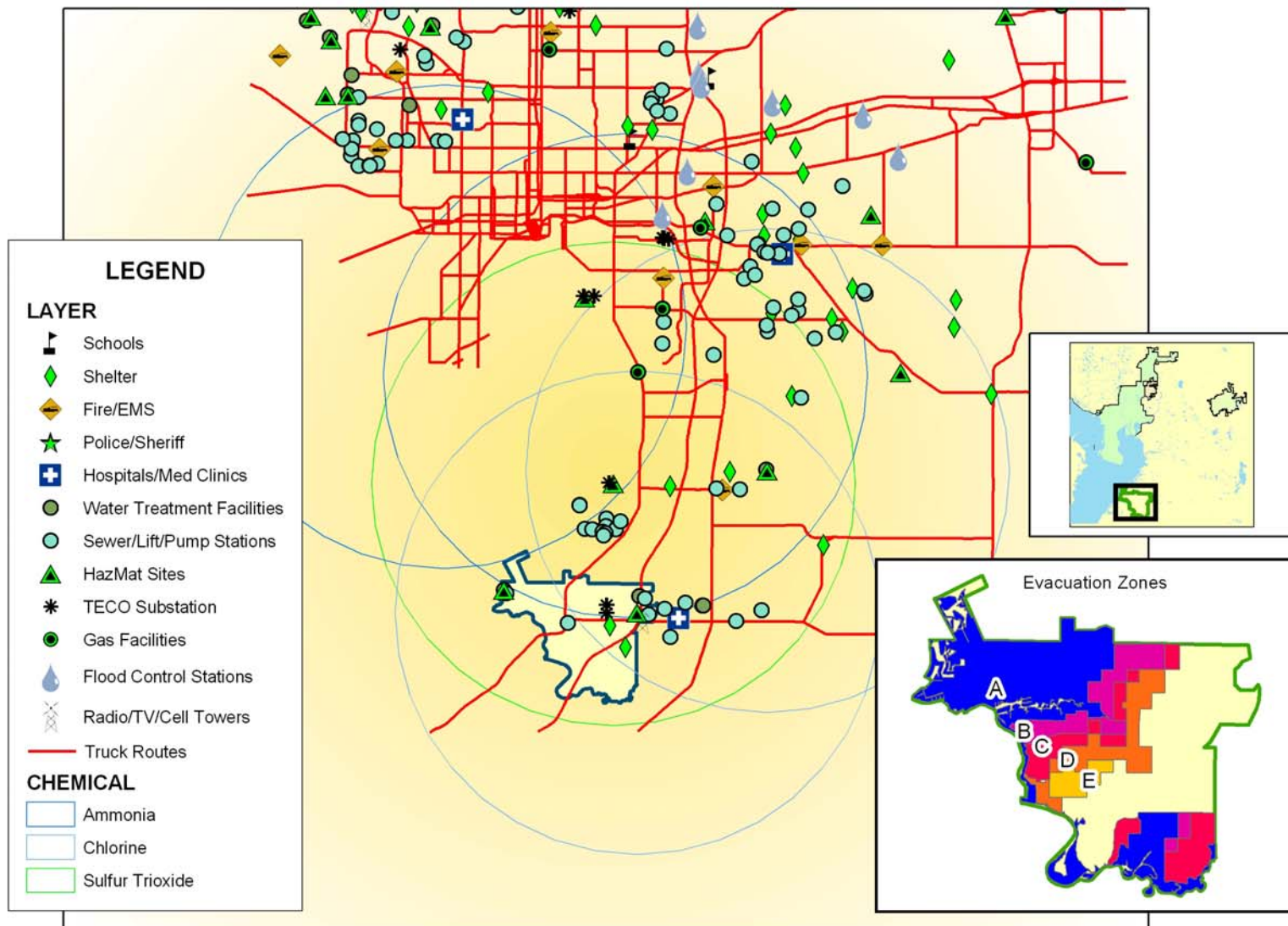
MITIGATION

- In Planning and Emergency Management, **mitigation** are actions that we can take before a disaster or when we rebuild after a disaster, that will reduce our risk of property damage or loss of life in the future.

LMS OBJECTIVES

- **Public Education**
- **Coordination**
 - **(Between Public and Private Sectors)**
- **Development Management**
- **Critical Facilities**

Vulnerabilities in the Ruskin CBP Area



VULNERABILITY

- **Greater than 1 million People**
- **Greater than 500,000 Workers**
- **Greater than 80,000 Businesses**
- **Greater than \$11,000,000 in Payroll**

Risk Assessment: Natural Disasters

Hazard	Probability	Impact	Frequency
Coastal/Riverine Erosion	Moderate	Possible structure collapse . . .	5 to 10 Years
Minor Hurricanes/ Tropical Storms	High	Cosmetic damage, weak structures destroyed	2 years
Hurricane, Major	Moderate	Many structures destroyed	50 years
Wildfires	High	Complete loss . . .	Several per year
Flooding	Moderate	Uninhabitable to destroyed	5 to 10 Years
Sink Holes	Moderate	Cracking to collapse	Multiple Annually
Drought	Low	Agricultural losses	5 to 10 Years

Risk Assessment: Technology and Other

Hazard	Probability	Impacts	Frequency
Hazardous Materials, Transportation	High	Moderate	50-100 a Year
Hazardous Materials, Fixed	High	Major	5-10 Years
Dam/Levee	Low	Minor	Unknown
Utility Failure . . .	High	Moderate	Unknown
Terrorism	Moderate	Major	Unknown

FORMS OF MITIGATION

- Land-Use Management
- Zoning
- Construction
- Working with Industry
- Retrofitting Structures
- Regulation and Standard Implementation within High Risk Areas
- Public Outreach

RECOVERY AND REBUILDING

- While the counties have worked with the State of Florida and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to fund some of these projects over the last several years, the project list also has another purpose.
- After a major disaster the LMS provides communities with a guide for recovery and redevelopment. The LMS represents a consensus to break the cycle of destruction.
- Disaster recovery funds can be directed toward specific projects that will reduce future risk to the community.

MITIGATION INITIATIVES (sample)

- Neighborhood Information Program
- Early Warning Systems
- Floodproofing Structures
- Stormwater Facility Improvements
- Critical Facility Improvements
- Communications System
- Update Redevelopment Plan

PRIOTIZATION OF MITIGATION PROJECTS

- Vulnerability
- Essential Service
- Long-term Reduction to a Hazard
- Consistent with Intent of LMS
- Consistent with the CEMP
- Benefit Exceeds Cost
- Jurisdiction Commitment

ACCOMPOLISHMENTS (sample)

- Protection of Critical Facilities
- Centralized Debris Management System
- Stormwater Facility
- Facility Retrofits
- Repetitive Flood Loss Mitigation
- Neighborhood Outreach Program
- Signage

FLASH cards



Floods

Flooding causes more than 90 percent of disaster-related property damage in the U.S. each year. Preparation is the key to surviving a flood and reducing property damage.

Insurance

- Most homeowner policies do not cover flood damage. To determine your flood risk, contact your local growth management, building department or visit www.fema.gov/nfip.
- Remember that there is a 30-day waiting period before flood policy coverage goes into effect.
- Take inventory of all personal items (including model types, serial numbers, pictures and descriptions). Place all important documents in a water resistant/fire proof box.
- You may need NFIP Flood Insurance even if you do not reside in a high risk flood zone. Contact your local agent or private insurance company today.

Home

- Elevate your utilities (e.g. electrical service panel and disconnect(s), air conditioner, water heater, etc.) two to three feet above the base flood elevation.*
- If you have a fuel tank, anchor it to a large concrete slab whose weight can resist the force of floodwaters and flotation.
- Install sewer backflow valves to prevent sewage entry into your home during flooding.*

Safety

- Obtain a NOAA Weather Radio and pay attention to the latest information when unusually heavy rains occur or are forecast to occur.
- Pay attention to flash flood and river flood watches and warnings issued by the National Weather Service.

*Only a professional licensed contractor should carry out changes that affect the structure of your home or its electrical wiring and plumbing.



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Lightning

Electrical surges from lightning can destroy electronic devices in your house, but this damage can be lessened or prevented by installing a system of surge protection that consists of point-of-use devices and a whole house surge device.

Surge Protective Devices (SPD)

- These systems protect electronic and electrical appliances from all but the most severe electrical surges or direct strikes.
- They should be installed at all items to be protected.
- A good electrical grounding system is essential.

Lightning Protection Systems*

- The systems provide a direct path for lightning to follow to the ground rather than through the house structure and its wiring.
 - Consult a qualified contractor for installation.
- *Please note: a lightning protection system will not protect a home from electrical damage or fire from lightning entering through the telephone, cable or electrical lines to the house. Whole house surge protection devices are needed for this protection.

Whole House Surge Protection

- A whole house surge protection system can be installed on the electric meter or the electrical panel to help protect the appliances and electronic equipment in your house such as computers, TVs and VCRs.
- Contact your local electric company for installation information. If your utility company doesn't offer the service, a qualified electrician can install this device at your electrical panel.



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Terrorism

Unlike with a Hurricane or a Flood there will likely be **NO WARNING** for a terrorist attack. Therefore, families need to plan ahead, communicate that plan, test it and stock up on necessary supplies. Your family disaster plan should include **EMERGENCY CONTACTS**, identification of **MEETING PLACES** and a **DISASTER SUPPLY KIT**.

Have a Disaster Plan

- Determine escape routes from your home and places to meet including a child's school, a neighbor's home or a public place
- Have an out-of-state contact, so all family members have a single point of contact, and identify at least two ways of contact (phone number, email, etc.)
- Make a plan now for what to do with your pets if you need to evacuate
- Post emergency telephone numbers by your telephones, on the refrigerator, in your wallet or purse and in children's book bags or backpacks. Be sure children know how and when to call 911
- Set up a safe room or improvised shelter in an upstairs room as nerve gas and other toxic gases and mists are heavier than air. Keep duct tape plastic sheeting or garbage bags to seal around windows and doors and to close off heating and air conditioning ducts
- Stock nonperishable emergency supplies and a disaster supply kit
- Stock your disaster supply kit with these items: **WATER** - at least one gallon per person per day for three days; **FOOD** - a three to seven day supply; **BLANKETS, PILLOWS & OTHER BEDDING; CLOTHING; FIRST AID KIT; MEDICINES; SPECIAL ITEMS FOR BABIES OR THE ELDERLY; TOILETRIES; MOISTURE WIPES; FLASHLIGHT BATTERIES; RADIO** - Battery operated and NOAA weather radio; **CASH** - Banks and ATMs may not be open or available for extended periods; **EXTRA SET OF KEYS; TOYS, BOOKS & GAMES; IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS; TOOLS; VEHICLES WITH FULL GAS TANKS; PET CARE ITEMS; DUCT TAPE AND PLASTIC SHEETING**

Explosion

- Leave premises as quickly and calmly as possible
- If items are falling from above seek shelter under a sturdy table or desk and exit as soon as possible
- If you are trapped in debris cover your mouth with a piece of cloth and tap on a pipe or wall so that rescuers can hear you. Shouting should be a last resort as it can result in inhalation of dangerous amounts of dust

Bio-chemical Agent

- Authorities will instruct you to either seek shelter and seal the premises or evacuate immediately

Mail

- Do not handle suspicious letters or packages
- Contact local law enforcement immediately

For more information visit one of these sites,

www.flash.org || www.floridadisaster.org
www.fema.org || www.ready.gov

Or call our toll-free help desk at 1-877-221-SAFE
or email flash@flash.org.

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MORE INFORMATION

<http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/pgm/hazardmit/lm2009.cfm>

- The true value of the LMS is that it is not a stagnant plan sitting on a shelf collecting dust. It is a dynamic document that must be updated and revised annually as goals are reached or priorities shifted. Public input and participation is a key component in this planning process.
- If you would like to find out more about preparedness and mitigation or the LMS, contact the County's Hazard Mitigation Agency or log onto the website above.

Have a Safe Storm Season !!

For Further Discussion:

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For general information on Hazard Mitigation:
<http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/pgm/hazardmit/>