



SECTION I INTRODUCTION

A. MITIGATION

Mitigation is defined as "sustained action that reduces or eliminates long-term risk to people and property from natural hazards and their effects" (FEMA, National Mitigation Strategy, 1996). This definition distinguishes actions that have a long-term impact from those that are more closely associated with preparedness for, immediate response to, and short-term recovery from, a specific event, recognizing that the boundaries are not absolute. The intent is to focus on actions that produce repetitive benefits over time, not on those actions that might be considered emergency planning or emergency services (these are planned actions). The primary purpose of hazard mitigation is to ensure that fewer citizens and their communities are victims of various disasters. However, another important benefit is that current dollars spent on mitigation will significantly reduce human suffering and the demand for large amounts of future dollars when disasters strike. Current mitigation expenditures will also reduce the economic disaster that often accompanies the hazard event through destruction of property, loss or interruption of jobs, and closing or disabling of businesses. This process describes the ongoing effort at the Federal, State, local, and individual levels to lessen the impact of disasters upon families, homes, communities and economy (Federal Emergency Management Agency, Strategic Plan, 1996).

Mitigation should be viewed as the means to decrease demands for disaster-response resources. It reduces the principal causes of injuries and deaths; it enables a quicker lifesaving response and economic recovery because the community infrastructure remains intact; and it reduces the societal impacts of disaster because it results in less disruption of the social environment. In essence, mitigation is the foundation of sustainable community development.

Through the application of mitigation technologies and practices, society can ensure that fewer homes and businesses become victims of various disasters. For example, mitigation measures can be applied to strengthen homes so that belongings are better protected from floods, hurricanes, and other hazards. They can be used to help business and industry avoid damages to their facilities and remain operational in the face of catastrophe. Mitigation technologies can be used to strengthen hospitals, fire stations, and other critical service facilities so that they can remain operational or reopen more quickly after an event. In addition, mitigation measures can help reduce disaster losses and suffering so that there is less demand for money and resources in the aftermath.

In practice, mitigation can take many forms. Actions that can be made are as follows:

1. Promoting sound land-use planning based on known hazards,
2. Working closely with the Insurance industry,
3. Retrofitting to withstand disasters where an increased risk is present,

4. Providing opportunities to have hurricane straps installed to more securely attach a structure's roof to its walls and foundation,
5. Developing, adopting, and enforcing effective standards in high risk areas,
6. Engineering roads and bridges to withstand earth subsidence/sink holes,
7. Developing and implementing a hazard mitigation plan to illustrate avenues to reduce susceptibility to hazards.

Reducing the risk to people and our society is the basic goal of emergency management. In a national program of emergency management centered on people helping people, mitigation is the principal foundation because it helps reduce the number of victims, property loss, and environmental damage.

B. THE LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY

The Local Mitigation Strategy offers innovative approaches for combining funds and coordinating government leadership with the private sector. It is an opportunity for each sector of our community to plan for a safer future. Through these efforts, it is the only avenue to reduce risks from disasters. Mitigation has become a cornerstone to emergency management. It is the ongoing effort to lessen impacts disasters have on people and property. In response to the unacceptable loss of life and property from recent disasters, and the prospect of even greater catastrophic loss in the future, the Local Mitigation Strategy provides a conceptual framework to reduce these losses by breaking the cycle of "disaster event-rebuild-disaster."

Hillsborough County and its municipalities developed a unified Local Mitigation Strategy during the late nineties, which was updated in 2004 as a result of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 also requires that the Local Mitigation Strategy be updated every five years. The update is a re-write of the document as required. By developing the Local Mitigation Strategy, Hillsborough County can increase the resiliency of the community to the disruption and hardship of disaster and attempt to reduce the potential and actual costs of their impact. The cost of recovery and rebuilding due to the devastation caused by a disaster is much greater than the cost of planning and preparing before disaster strikes.

The purpose of the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) is to establish an ongoing process that will make hazard mitigation part of the daily functioning of the entire community. The LMS process assessed vulnerabilities of the community to different types of hazards, identified a comprehensive list of plans, programs and projects to decrease the magnitude of those vulnerabilities and prioritized the implementation of these initiatives. The "all-hazards" mitigation strategy will continue to be implemented through the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), the local government comprehensive plans, land development regulations, floodplain management plans, Hillsborough County Construction Code (Ord. 09-3) and the unified Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan.

C. THE PLANNING PROCESS

At the core of the multi-jurisdictional mitigation planning process for Hillsborough County is coordination and partnership among the governmental units involved in the planning effort – the (unincorporated) County and the cities of Plant City, Temple Terrace and Tampa. In addition, the planning process relies upon the close involvement of public and private sector organizations and State and federal agencies. In the original design of the LMS, the University of South Florida (USF) provided analysis and review of drafts. Neighboring jurisdictions were invited to meetings and sent drafts for review. Also participating were environmental organizations such as the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD); community organizations such as homeowners associations, the Citizen Corps Council (CCC) and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) organizations. Private organizations such as representatives from the insurance industry, power utility (Tampa Electric) participated and relief organizations such as the American Red Cross serve on the committee.

The update of the LMS document has essentially been an ongoing process since the previous update in 2004. The agendas for the meetings of the LMS Working Group (LMSWG) during the past five years detail many revisions that would be included in this five-year update. Examples include: At the November 8, 2006 meeting, the LMSWG voted to change the mandatory meeting schedule to twice a year. The meetings included subcommittee reports from private/quasi-public groups and non-profit/volunteer groups; updates on continuity planning and critical facilities and infrastructure; training announcements, proposed and completed projects; reports on modifications to the Land Development Code and Comprehensive Plans as they related to mitigation; discussions of available funding and grant application cycles. Additionally, the LMSWG updated the LMS yearly as required by 9G-22. The five-year update as noted in the LMSWG meeting minutes of October 29, 2008 started in October 2008, however, the major re-writing of the plan update began in February 2009. A contractor was not used for this update process. For the current update, the vice-chairman of the LMSWG, who is also the Urban Planning Coordinator for the City of Tampa, conducted a review of the current LMS against the FEMA crosswalk and produced a suggested work plan identifying what needed to be updated/revised in each section and providing recommendations on how to proceed. A meeting was held with the AICP-certified senior planner of the Hazard Mitigation Section to finalize the work plan that the County's Hazard Mitigation Section would use to update the LMS. Then a committee comprised of the LMS Vice-Chair, the Hazard Mitigation Officer for Hillsborough County; a professional engineer working in the Hillsborough County Planning and Growth Management Department, Transportation and Land Development Review Division; the senior planner with the Hazard Mitigation Section, and the LMS Coordinator held several meetings to review the recommendations and work plan to formulate a strategy on how to best proceed with the update. The LMS Coordinator created a task list from these discussions and organizations and personnel were identified to complete the initial revisions.

Initial revisions were performed or coordinated by the committee. The revised sections were then sent to the entire LMSWG for comment, suggested revisions and deletions or

additions. Each jurisdiction was represented during this process and participated in the process. All suggestions, revisions and corrections were considered in the final document.

Section I was initially revised by the LMS Coordinator as the person who had been tasked with coordinating the update of the LMS and coordinating the meetings of the Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan Technical Advisory Committees. The LMS Coordinator was also responsible for scheduling all LMS meetings, agendas and minutes since the 2004 update.

Examples of revisions that were coordinated with other entities included updating the demographic information in Section II. An economist for the City/County Planning Commission updated this section. The section was then submitted to the entire LMSWG for review, corrections and comments, which were incorporated into the final draft forwarded to the state. There was a correction noted regarding the number of employees at Tampa General Hospital and several other comments and corrections that were noted.

The first update of Section III was done by the vice-chair to reflect new data that was posted on the National Climate Database. Examples of current storm impacts were also obtained from the National Climate Database and newspaper articles (derived from internet searches). The descriptions of the hazards were reformatted so that information on the description, risk assessment, history of events, and probability of occurrence, consequence and potential mitigation actions could be more easily referenced. The Countywide Vulnerability Matrix table was updated and a new table showing the vulnerability matrix by each city within Hillsborough County was added. The LMS Coordinator made additional revisions to the tables and forwarded to Temple Terrace and Plant City for their revisions. The section was then forwarded to the entire LMSWG for their input.

The maps were updated because the previous maps in Section II and III were from 1999. Several persons were responsible for these revisions, including the Real Estate Department/County Survey, the Planning and Growth Management Department and Hazard Mitigation Section and the City/County Planning Commission.

The Section IV update was coordinated by the professional engineer on the committee. The work effort included research and use of various related reports and documents including: MEMPHIS model, the Hillsborough County Profile/Integration of the Local Mitigation Strategy into Local Comprehensive Plan/Florida Department of Community Affairs/2009m Update, and the Economic Analysis of a Hurricane/Catastrophic Event in Hillsborough County, Florida/Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council/February 2009. There was discussion regarding whether or not to use the TAOS tables or the MEMPHIS tables. It was determined that the MEMPHIS tables were more current and were therefore used to update this section.

Section V required updating to meet the new NFIP requirements and to revise outdated information included in other parts of the section. The remapping effort to update the Hillsborough County FIRMs won a national award for outreach to the public. The community relations coordinator who assisted with that outreach updated this part with corrected timelines and activities. The NFIP specific information was obtained from the Insurance Services Office and the Repetitive Loss (RL) list was obtained from the State NFIP

Coordinator by the LMS Coordinator. The LMS Coordinator then reviewed the RL list to determine the types and numbers of repetitive loss structures for each jurisdiction. The Section was reviewed by the LMSWG and the CRS Coordinators prior to being sent to the state.

The original assessment of Section VI indicated that an update was not required. However, on further review and with input from the LMSWG it was decided that an update was required. Improved technology was added as a mitigation measure. Several other mitigation measures had minor word revisions and grammatical corrections. Power/back-up power and education and coordination had additional information added that reflect current mitigation efforts. In addition, at the recommendation of the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) a narrative description of processes that are in place to update or amend plans, procedures and programs was added. This description further enhances the information described in Appendix B.

Section VII was completely revised by the vice-chair as a first draft and sent to the entire LMSWG for comments. It was determined that this section was really out of date and some of parts were no longer relevant. The vice-chair sent an email to the LMSWG requesting input on major actions that should be pursued in the next few years. His request was for each member to submit one or two major items that they think should be considered. From that a list would be compiled as a good place to start. The LMS Coordinator reviewed the minutes from the meetings of the past five years and forwarded recommendations and discussion items from those minutes to the vice-chair for possible inclusion in the revision. As with the other sections, once the proposed work plan was revised, it was forwarded to the LMSWG for comment.

Sections and appendices that related to a specific jurisdiction were sent to the representative for that jurisdiction for the required revisions.

Appendix A – Mitigation Strategy Conflict Resolution did not require an update.

Information in Appendix F was updated to match the revisions in Section VI. The “*Project Evaluation Worksheet*” was revised to be more grammatically correct and easier to understand.

The LMS Coordinator reviewed and coordinated the revisions for Hillsborough County and obtained input from individuals and departments as necessary. The revisions included the following:

- Appendix B – Evaluation of Existing Programs and Policies was reviewed and updated with input from the City County Planning Commission and with information from the June 25, 2008 minutes of the LMS meetings. For instance, the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code were updated to include level-of-service provisions required by HB 1359. The Land Development Code was also updated to allow for temporary housing and building structures in the case of a disaster while rebuilding the primary structure.

- The description of departments and mitigation functions for Hillsborough County did not change from the previous update and required only minor edits and revisions.
- The LMS Coordinator revised the project list form with the new requirements and forwarded the project list and new format to affected departments responsible for the project update. The revised format was also sent to the other jurisdictions for their updates.

For the city of Tampa, the LMS vice-chair was the point of contact for those revisions, which included:

- A Hazard Mitigation Policy Crosswalk that provided a summary of the policies and regulations and their mitigation function. This was a complete re-write of the information found in Appendix B of the previous LMS. The information was updated and re-formatted into a table to make it easier to read.'
- The list of Mitigation Responsibilities for the city of Tampa was also updated during this process. The city had undergone reorganization since the last update. The previous crosswalk was sent to department managers, who updated their mission and description of services related to mitigation.
- The vice-chair also coordinated the revisions to Tampa's LMS project list. The list was sent to managers of all facility departments, the emergency management coordinator and other managers involved in land use, permitting and zoning. Each was asked to review the project list, make changes or to recommend new projects that would make the city more disaster-resistant. Managers were asked to identify the project and the hazard that it would help mitigate. The information was compiled from the managers into a new format showing the completed projects, active, deferred and deleted projects.

The city of Temple Terrace and Plant City had similar participation in the updates of their respective sections of the plan. The Assist to the City Manager served as the coordinator for the LMS update for the City of Plant City. The coordinator forwarded the document to the city department directors for review, comments and corrections. The update included revisions from the Planning and Zoning Division Director regarding changes to the Plant City Code and the Public Works Director regarding division changes within the organization as well as the LMS project listing. The coordinator conducted a final review of the document and changes for consistency in terminology and format.

Appendix D was forwarded to the organizations that are discussed in this appendix for update and revisions. The Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, Tampa Electric Company, the Hillsborough County Citizen Corps Council, the Florida Council of 100, and the Hillsborough County Emergency Management Department. Also, the figure depicting the relationships of the different current and proposed LMS organizations that was inadvertently left out of the 2004 update was inserted.

Appendix E was revised to include the listing of the Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan Stakeholders and the members of the individual PDRP Technical Advisory Committees. In

the previous update this appendix included the detailed TAOS reports, which were eliminated in this update.

Appendix F was updated to correspond with the updates in Section VI for prioritizing projects.

Appendices G and H were both totally updated to reflect the new requirement for project status. The different jurisdictions updated their projects list to include a breakdown of completed, deferred, deleted and current projects. An explanation of what each status means was included with the projects lists. The LMS Coordinator and a volunteer compiled the different lists and verified that all columns were completed.

Appendix I was sent to the entire group for update, but few responses were received. The LMS Coordinator, as the grant person, for Hazard Mitigation added several grant programs that were not available at the last update. These programs include the Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC), Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL), and Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM).

Appendix J is the Floodplain Management Plan for the City of Tampa. As a part of the review and updating of the Local Mitigation Strategy, it was determined by the City of Tampa Stormwater Department that though the goals and objectives of its Floodplain Management Plan were sound and viable today as they were when it was adopted in 2004, it would be logical to revise the plan concurrently with the LMS. Its Planning Division updated the various data tables and imbedded information to bring the plan current. The information contained in sections pertaining to repetitive loss, National Flood Insurance claims, severe weather events and emergency response were revised utilizing recent statistics and data. This information was gathered from sources such as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Southwest Florida Water Management District, the Hillsborough County Planning Commission, and City Departments for Growth Management, Stormwater, and Construction Services.

Appendices K is the critical facility inventory and is protected by law. Therefore, this section was updated in collaboration with the departments and entities that are responsible for the maintenance and protection of this list.

Appendix L is the repetitive loss list, which is referenced in Section V. This list is also protected and the update was limited to the Community Rating System Coordinators and the Floodplain Managers of the jurisdictions. A list of these properties is not included since it is protected by the privacy act and therefore, not subject to a public records request. The state has a copy and furnishes an updated copy to the different jurisdictions yearly.

Appendix M is a compilation of the agendas, meeting minutes and sign-in sheets since the 2004 update.

Appendix N will be forthcoming once the state and FEMA approve the update and the jurisdictions adopt the update.

The development of the Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan (PDRP) process, which started in June 2008 was the beginning of planning process of the LMS update. Many of the same actions required to develop the PDRP were also required as part of the five-year update of the LMS. The post-disaster redevelopment plan strategy is an integral part of the LMS. Hillsborough County's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) details actions in the immediate aftermath of a disaster event. The previous LMS, along with the various codes, ordinances and plans, detail actions pre-disaster to facilitate in mitigation and post-disaster to assist in the recovery. With the addition of the post-disaster redevelopment plan strategy, which looks at mitigation from post-recovery to complete recovery, the county and cities will have a more comprehensive all-hazards plan.

In May 2008 the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners approved an agreement with Florida Department of Community Affairs to participate in a pilot project, along with four other jurisdictions, to develop a county-wide Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan (PDRP). The kick-off meeting with the leadership of the county and municipalities was held in June 2008, followed by a Stakeholders' meeting in July. The stakeholders group ultimately divided into eight technical advisory committees (TACs), which met over the last ten months to identify components of the PDRP. The TACs were: Economic Redevelopment, Environmental Restoration, Financial Administration, Health and Social Services, Housing Recovery, Infrastructure and Public Facilities, Land Use, and Public Outreach. The TACs held numerous meetings and the chairs/vice-chairs met twice, as a separate group. The last meeting was a tabletop held after the Hillsborough County Annual Hurricane Exercise.

The TACs identified priority issues in each of their respective areas of expertise. There were a total of 56 priority issues identified. Each TAC also prioritized their issues in order to insure that the most critical issue was addressed first, followed by actions compiled to address the issues. Some actions were identified as pre-disaster and others were identified as post-disaster. These actions will be more fully expanded and the pre-disaster actions will be implemented where possible as part of the LMS.

The TACs also identified Priority Redevelopment Areas (PRAs) in which to concentrate rebuilding after a disaster. The PRAs were identified based on areas identified in the Comprehensive Plans as focus areas for future growth and development. Each of the following plans, the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS), the Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan), and the Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan (PDRP) use different terms for areas where greater intensities and densities are to be directed. These were consolidated into one term for the PDRP as Priority Redevelopment Areas. The areas were further refined by looking at and weighing other factors such as proximity to critical infrastructure, location in the coastal high hazard area, whether it was a critical economic engine, etc.

A second stakeholders' meeting was held in December 2008 and the Executive Teams of the jurisdictions were briefed in February 2009. In March, six public outreach meetings were held to discuss the PDRP and LMS process. Brochures and a survey were distributed at those meetings, which were noticed on the website and with a press release and an advertisement in the local papers.

Early in the development process, the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council was contracted to perform an Economic Impact Analysis (EIA) of a category three and a category five hurricane in the Tampa Bay area. In the scenarios of the EIA 100,000-500,000 residents would be affected; 100,000-250,000 structures damaged by flood and wind; 25,000 businesses in the CHHA and 60, 000 businesses countywide would be affected; and \$11 billion dollars in annual payroll could be lost. (The complete EIA is located in Section IV- D.)

Another outcome of the PDRP planning process was the identification of nine public policy issues that need to be resolved prior to a disaster. These were brought to the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) and the City of Tampa City Council (Council) in June 2009 for review. The BOCC and the Council directed staff to proceed with the research for these public policy issues and bring back recommendations in the next planning phase.

The development of a mitigation strategy requires the involvement of representatives from the public, private, and governmental sectors. Therefore, every attempt has been made to include the following entities in the Workgroup membership: interested local municipalities, private organizations, civic organizations, Native American Tribes or authorized tribal organizations, water management districts, independent special districts, and non-profit organizations. Through the involvement of the members of the Local Mitigation Strategy Workgroup, the LMS was developed in coordination with neighboring communities, local and regional agencies involved in hazard mitigation activities, agencies that have development review authority, businesses, academia and other private and non-private interests. All representatives are brought together to form the Hillsborough County Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group.

1. LMS Working Group

- The LMS Working Group consists of the County Hazard Mitigation Section, Emergency Management and emergency management/hazard mitigation representatives from Tampa, Plant City and Temple Terrace. The LMS Working Group assesses risks within the county and maintains an updated list of potential mitigation initiatives that will reduce risks associated with hazards that are most likely to occur in respective communities.
- The LMS Working Group voted that the group should meet two times a year with additional meetings to be scheduled as the workload dictates. All business conducted by the LMS Working Group is submitted for approval to the voting members and is passed or defeated by majority vote.
- The meeting calendar is provided in Appendix M and reflects the committee work through the development and the revision of the LMS.
- Participation - The representatives' acceptance of the invitation and agreement to become group members initiate their commitment to the effort. The representatives commit their time and available resources to

develop a mitigation strategy that protects life, property, and the environment as well as contribute to the economic well being of the county. The implication of the Hazard Mitigation Planning and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program is that each of the jurisdictions and representatives must show participation in the planning process to qualify for HMGP, Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (PDM) and Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA) funding.

- The definition of participation is the mandatory attendance of two meetings during the year. Each member signs in at each meeting. This data is used to document participation. A CDROM is provided with the document which includes the meeting notice, agenda, sign-in sheet, and minutes of all meetings. Refer to Appendix M for the list of committee members and their jurisdiction/ association.
- Requirements - The Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) define the local mitigation strategy requirements. The State requires that the Local Mitigation Strategy must provide the processes for application, project selection, and distribution of funds under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Under Florida Administrative Code Chapter 9G-22, the Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group must meet several conditions to maintain compliance. These requirements are:
 - No later than the last working weekday of each January, the Chairperson of the Board of County Commissioners shall submit to the Florida State Division of Emergency Management, a list of the members of the Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group and its designated chairperson and vice-chairperson.
 - The Working Group shall include, at a minimum, representatives from various agencies of county government, representatives from all interested municipalities in the county, and representatives from interested private and civic organizations, Native American tribes or organizations, trade and commercial support groups, property owners associations, water management districts, regional planning councils, independent special districts, and non-profit groups.
 - The county shall submit documentation that indicates that, within the preceding year, it has issued a written invitation to each group as specified above in the previous bullet.
 - The Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group shall be charged with the responsibilities of designating a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson; developing and revising the Local Mitigation Strategy as necessary; coordinating all mitigation activities within the County; setting an order of priority for local mitigation projects, and submitting an annual LMS update to the Florida Division of Emergency Management by the last working weekday in January of each year.

The update shall include changes to the hazard assessment, project priority list, critical facilities list, repetitive loss list, and revisions to all maps.

- As required under State Statute, all meetings are open to the public. They are noticed on the County web site events calendar.

2. The Disaster Recovery Committee (DRC)

The LMS Working Group acts under the direction of the Disaster Recovery Committee (DRC). The DRC is comprised of all agencies which have Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) in the County as defined in the Hillsborough County CEMP. The County Disaster Recovery Committee will be a major forum for providing training on the most current county, state and federal disaster policies and procedures. Representatives from county, municipalities, state and federal agencies in the local area, as well as volunteer agencies (e.g. Red Cross, Salvation Army, United Way, etc.) participate and share information on respective roles and responsibilities during disasters.

The local emergency planning process is coordinated through various subcommittees of the Disaster Recovery Committee: the Shelter Committee, the Emergency Transportation Committee, the Hospital Disaster Planning Committee, the Nursing Home/ALF Committee, the Special Needs/Home Health Care Committee, the Power Committee and other various ad hoc committees and working groups.

3. Public-Private Participants

An important component of the LMS and the success of the hazard mitigation initiatives in general, is the participation of both the public and the private sector in the planning process. It is recognized that this participation is crucial to the economic recovery of a community following a disaster. The government entities need the input of the private sector in order to gain the perspective and insight necessary to adequately address the needs of business and industry. In turn, business and industry gain an increased awareness of the importance of preparedness and mitigation, technical assistance for business continuity planning, and invaluable support and contact information. The LMS Working Group encourages participation from the chambers of commerce, economic development agencies, private utilities and communications companies, and large employers. These companies in turn, provide service, technical assistance and outreach to their commercial accounts.

4. Public Outreach and Participation

Hillsborough County is required to solicit public participation in the LMS planning process. In addition to noticing the LMS meetings, the section and its partners on the LMS Working Group actively seek public input as well as provide the public with opportunities to learn more about mitigation for their family, business and community. Below is a list of events and successful outreach activities during 2008-2009.

- Provided educational information through such media avenues as the County's Newsletter and utility-bill notifications, and power bills from Tampa Electric Company (TECO), the City of Tampa and the City of Temple Terrace
- Provided educational information through jurisdictional Internet "Web" sites that also provide links to FEMA (www.fema.gov) and the State of Florida (www.floridadisaster.org);
- Provided link to current FEMA FIRM maps;
- Continued to publish the annual Hurricane Guide (400,000 copies in Spanish and English) distributed in a local major newspaper, public buildings, post offices, etc.;
- Continued to provide evacuation maps and emergency preparedness information within the local telephone books;
- Continued to provide informational and educational training courses associated hazard mitigation (includes flooding) program through USF's Small Business Development Center;
- The Business Continuity Planning (BCP) Manager conducted numerous seminars and training sessions for businesses in the community as well as provided one-on-one technical assistance in BCP development;
- Mailed notices to repetitive loss property owners;
- Performed an annual review of structures identified as being a repetitive-flood loss structure by the Federal Emergency Management Agency;
- Placed additional NFIP materials within local permitting offices and libraries;
- Provided the main branch of the County Library with a complete copy of FIRM maps after each FIRM update or as required to maintain a full set of maps,
- Participated in the annual Hillsborough County Neighborhood Conference held at the Dale Mabry Campus of the Hillsborough County Community College,
- Participated in annual Hurricane Expos held at the Museum of Science and Industry,
- Held six public meetings to solicit input for the development of the unified Post-Disaster Redevelopment Strategy and update to the Local Mitigation Strategy,
- Issued a press release and placed an advertisement soliciting input on the update of the Local Mitigation Strategy, April 2009,
- Developed a brochure for the Local Mitigation Strategy update,
- Held 103 Technical Advisory Committee meetings, two stakeholder meetings and two chair/vice-chair meetings on the development of the Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan (PDRP);
- Met with the executive teams from the jurisdictions to give updates on the development of the Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan,
- Held a workshop with the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners and participated in a workshop for the Tampa City Council;

- Distributed the LMS survey to the neighborhood and condominium associations registered with the Hillsborough Office of Neighborhood Relations: <https://hcboocc.websurveyor.net/wsb.dll/10/lmssurvey.htm>
- Issued a press release and placed an advertisement soliciting input on the update of the Local Mitigation Strategy, October 2009
- Attended the Disaster Recovery Committee (DRC) meeting on October 22, 2009 for approval to forward the updated LMS to the state and FEMA
- Held the final LMS meeting for 2009 to discuss five-year update, the proposed calendar for coming year, and to complete the one-year update requirements.
- The LMS will be available at the following meetings for the public to review and comment:
 - Hillsborough County Annual Neighborhood Conference on March 27, 2010
 - Public Meeting, Brandon Regional Service Center, April 19, 2010 to receive public comment on the LMS
 - Annual Hurricane Expo, Museum of Science and Industry, May 22, 2010.

In addition, the draft LMS is available to download (pdf format) from a new web site: <http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/pgm/hazardmit/localmitigation.cfm>. Users will be provided an overview of the mitigation concept, an Executive Summary of the LMS, a calendar of meetings, and a public comment form to solicit their comments and suggestions.