

MEETING NOTES

Hillsborough County LMS Working Group
Wednesday, May 8, 2025; 1:30 PM Via MS Teams

Attendees

Facilitators: Monica Martin (Hazard Mitigation Planner & LMS Coordinator), Troy Salisbury (Hazard Mitigation Manager)

Officers: Jose De Jesus (Chair)

Committee Members: Ali Howerton, Barbara Spaulding, Ben Allushuski, Bill Twaite, Christina Hummel, Clarissa Grant, Colleen Marshall, Daniel Gessman, Diana Ramirez, Dianne Good, Eric Lindstrom, Eric Ruiz Garcia, Frank Coughenour, Hillary Paul, Jose Walsh, John Antapasis, Jonah Katz, Ken Farrell, Kevin Moran, Kyle Dollman, Robert Parris, Ross Dickerson, and Stephen Gran.

Guest Attendees: Alexander Awad, Meghan Maraia Blancher, Ciara Cobarras, Adriana Colina, Kristin Combs, Amanda Converse, Tyson Davis, Daniel Gallagher, Eric Lavina, Thomas McColgan, Matthew Pleasant, Alison Prater, Gina Vought, and Robert Wassum.

I. Welcome

a. Introductions

- i. The meeting started at 1:30 p.m., and introductions were made.

II. Action Items

a. Meeting Minutes

- i. January 9, 2025

1. Hillary Paul moved a motion to approve the meeting minutes (as is) for January 9, 2025, and Barbara Spaulding seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

- ii. March 26, 2025

1. Ken Farrell moved a motion to approve the meeting minutes (as is) for March 26, 2025, and Dianne Good seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

b. Project List Additions

- i. **Unincorporated Hillsborough County**

1. Wastewater Infrastructure Resiliency
 - a. Lakewood (\$300,000)
 - b. Northdale/Shillington (\$300,000)
 - c. Mirabay #2 (\$300,000)
 - d. Providence Lakes #2 (\$300,000)
 - e. Summer Cove (\$300,000)
 - f. Bay Crest (\$300,000)
 - g. Bridgepark (\$300,000)
 - h. Golf & Sea #4 (\$300,000)

Kevin Moran moved a motion to approve all (8) Hillsborough County's Wastewater Infrastructure Resiliency projects listed above to the LMS Project List, and Ms. Spaulding seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

ii. **Gracepoint Wellness [Non-Profit Organization]**

1. Generators - (N 22nd Ave & E Henry Ave) (\$289,000)
2. Roof - (N 22nd Ave & E Henry Ave) (\$325,000)

Kevin Moran moved a motion to approve both Gracepoint Wellness' projects listed above to the LMS Project List, and Ms. Good seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

c. **HMGP Debby Prioritization/Ranking**

- i. Q&A and Finalization

Monica Martin reviewed the ranking/prioritization process and the results. Ms. Spaulding moved a motion to approve the ranking, letter from the LMS WG, and its send out to the State and all applicants, and Christina Hummel seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

III. **Status Updates**

a. **Annual LMS Report**

- i. Ms. Martin advised the County received confirmation from the State that the Annual LMS Report for 2024-5 was received/approved.

b. **5-Year LMS**

- i. Mr. Salisbury advised the 5-Year LMS Update draft has been sent to the State for review.

c. **Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan (PDRP)**

- i. Matt Lewis (from Stantec) advised Hillsborough County, Pinellas, and Hernando will be hosting community workshops in June and/or July, the City of Tampa recently completed theirs, they are on track to complete the PDRP by the end of 2025, and once completed, a regional PDRP is the next step.

d. **Support Letter Deeper Dives**

- i. Mr. De Jesus (from Port of Tampa Bay) advised they had applied to update their Watershed Management Plan to represent the latest standards and recent growth, build upon their Community Vulnerability Assessment and Stormwater Management Plan, and create new resiliency projects.
- ii. Ms. Paul (from City of Tampa) advised they had applied to evaluate and update a specific portion of their city-wide Watershed Management Plan.

IV. **Key Stakeholder Updates**

a. **Unincorporated Hillsborough County**

- i. **Innovation, Resiliency and Sustainability – Troy Salisbury and Ali Howerton**

Mr. Salisbury advised of the following: The County is adding the cities of Temple Terrace and Plant City to the Community Vulnerability Assessment (CVA).

Ms. Howerton advise of the following: The County, along with several partners, completed three school plantings under their “Classroom to Canopy” program; updates are being added to the Sustainability and Resiliency Action Plan (SRAP) and a draft is being prepared; resiliency projects are being selected in Wimauma; and hazard mitigation/resilience information-sharing at the Air Fair was a success.

ii. **Floodplain Management – Kyle Dollman**

Advised of the following: The County is continuing their Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map update and will be submitting to FEMA in June; continuing to with their consultant on the Post Hurricane Regional Stormwater Assessment Study & Evaluation; continuing with the substantial damage process; and are preparing HMGP Helene/Milton project submittals.

iii. **Community Rating System (CRS) – Christina Hummel**

Advised of the following: The County is preparing for the 3-year CRS audit, which includes doing a lot of public outreach, finalization of the Program for Public Information (PPI) document to prepare for re-adoption, and reviewing the LMS, which includes the Floodplain Management Plan in the hopes to increase the total score.

iv. **Emergency Management – Dianne Good**

Advised of the following: The County has been working with Ms. Hummel to complete CRS requirements and improve the total score, which has included doing more public outreach.

v. **Soil & Water Conservation District – Joe Walsh**

Advised of the following: The District is now able to plan for FY26; received a lease for Fire Station #25, where he is currently working/recruiting out of; the County’s Real Estate Services are retrofitting Fire Station #25 in anticipation of working more closely with the Office of Emergency Management (OEM); they are cross-training staff with OEM-specific training for disasters to assist with rapid assessments in rural areas; are doing stakeholder engagement to identify in-demand skills/services not currently being provided; and added a new intern to their staff.

b. Cities within Hillsborough County (Tampa, Temple Terrace, Plant City)

i. **City of Tampa**

Ms. Paul advised of the following: HMGP Helene/Milton applications are being prepared; and the City’s Community Vulnerability Assessment (CVA) was completed and is available online.

Ben Allushuski advised of the following: The City is waiting for the finalization of their CRS audit; however, they received enough points for a Class 3 rating.

ii. **Plant City**

Frank Coughenour advised of the following: A HMGP Helene/Milton application is being prepared.

c. **University of South Florida (USF)**

- i. Daniel Gessman advised of the following: HMGP Helene/Milton applications are being prepared; and their football stadium recently broke ground.

d. **Adjacent Communities, Partners, and Counties**

i. **Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council**

1. Meghan Blancher advised of the following: Alison Bednar, formerly with USF, joined their team and will be assisting with grants; and announced the Stormwater Outreach and Education Funding for Community grants was now available.

ii. **Port Tampa Bay**

1. Mr. De Jesus advised of the following: The Watershed Master Plan would be going before the Board; and they successfully completed their internal Hurricane Table-Top Exercise, which included information-sharing with the County's Office of Emergency Management.

V. **Old/New Business and Announcements/Activities**

a. **6-Month LMS Project List Update Request**

Ms. Martin advised a request for updates to the LMS Project List will be sent to keep on schedule with 6-month updates.

VI. **Future Meetings**

i. **Schedule for 2025 LMS WG quarterly meetings**

1. Wednesday, June 25th, 1:30 pm [Special Meeting – HMGP-Specific Only]
2. Thursday, August 7th, 1:30 pm [3rd Quarter Meeting]
3. Thursday, November 6th, 1:30 pm [4th Quarter Meeting]

Mr. De Jesus reviewed the dates and advised the registration links are available on the LMS WG webpage.

VII. **Adjournment**

- a. Jonah Katz motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Ms. Hummel seconded. The Motion passed unanimously and adjourned at 3:00 pm.