

MINUTES OF THE COLLIER COUNTY
FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

Naples, FL
August 2, 2024

LET IT BE REMEMBERED, the Collier County Floodplain Management Planning Committee (FMPC) in and for the County of Collier, having conducted business herein, met on this date at 9 A.M. in REGULAR SESSION at the Collier County Growth Management Community Development Department, Conference Room #6091610, 2800 N. Horseshoe Drive, Naples, Florida, with the following members

Eric Johnson	Growth Management Department Chairperson
William Lang	Community Planning & Resiliency Vice Chairperson
Jibey Asthappan	Emergency Management
Dan Summers	Emergency Management (Absent)
Deborah Curry	Communication & Customer Relations Division (Excused Absence)
Amy Ernst	Volunteer Citizen (Excused Absence)
Kelli Defedericis	City of Marco Island
Robert Dorta	City of Naples
Terry Smallwood	Everglades City
Lisa Koehler	South Florida Water Management District
Stanley P. Chrzanowski	Volunteer Citizen
Paul Shea	Volunteer Citizen
Dennis P. Vasey	Volunteer Citizen
Kenneth J. Bills	Volunteer Citizen
William N. Miller	Volunteer Citizen
Linda M. Orlich	Volunteer Citizen

ALSO PRESENT

Tonia Selmeski, Community Planning and Resiliency Division
Kari Hodgson, Director for Solid Waste for Collier County
Matt McLean, Collier County Public Utilities
Natalie Hardman, City of Naples

Any persons needing the verbatim record of the meeting may request a copy of the audio recording from the Collier County Management Community Development Department.

1. **Call to Order - Chairman Johnson**

2. **Approval of Minutes**
FMPC Meeting May 3, 2024, minutes.
Correction to minutes, Eric Johnson was absent but listed as
Co-Chair.
The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

Membership

a. Matt McLean nomination

I've worked with Collier County over ten years now in various different roles within the county. First within the Growth Management Department, on the regulatory side. Most recently I've been with Public Utilities now for two and a half years, helping to work on their infrastructure, Capital Improvement Program and Utility Planning. We have an Inspections Team, a SCADA Team, as well as various groups and Stakes and Locates that all work collaboratively together on our Utility Infrastructure on behalf of the Water and Sewer District.

So I'm pleased to be here before you today and hopeful that I'll be able to help be a valid member of this committee.

Chairman Johnson

Do I hear a motion to nominate Mr. McLean as part of the Membership?

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Kari Hodgson nomination

I'm the Director for Solid Waste for Collier County. I've been here for about five and a half years.

I'm a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Florida, Delaware and Maryland. I've been working with solid waste, which entails a lot of stormwater management as well as other liquid management for over 21 years.

Chairman Johnson

Do I hear a motion to nominate Kari Hodgson as part of the Membership?

Motion by Mr. Vasey

Seconded by Mr. Shea

Motion carried unanimously.

**c. Vice-Chair Nomination (previously Co-Chair)
Jibey Asthappan**

Chairman Johnson

Do I hear a motion to nominate Jibey Asthappan as Vice-Chair?

Motion carries unanimously

**d. William Lang, Vice-Chair introduced
Tonia Selmeski**

I've been here just over a month with the Community Planning and Resiliency Division. Prior to that I spent two years in the Planning Department with the City of Naples. Prior to that I was with Marco Island as the Environmental Planner there for three and a half years. Prior to that I had moved from Connecticut and was with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for over 13 years where I worked in the Coastal Permitting Program.

I have a bachelor's degree in environmental science and a master's degree in marine policy from the University of Rhode Island. I'm happy to be working in the County where I live and excited to learn a lot more about the Floodplain Management Program.

William Lang

We've been running Tonia through the gauntlet of Emergency Management training. She's been training to become Deputy Operations for Disaster Operations through Growth Management with me.

She's been in pretty much every meeting that we've had across the board.

Chairman Johnson

Mr. Lang, I wanted to go back to resolution 2016 102 with respect to Kari and Matt's nominations.

Section two says County membership. It says staff members shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the County Manager.

Matt McLean

I can tell you that this item is one that I personally brought up to the Manager's Office before this meeting. I asked for confirmation of their support to be on this Committee ahead of the meeting.

We did receive earlier this week direction from the Manager's Office full support for both Kari and me to join this Committee team, when they ultimately did vote us in.

It is in writing via email.

3. Mitigation Action Item Updates

Mr. Lang

- This goes back to the items within our floodplain management plan, which we are in the works of updating. Just so you're all aware, we have an element of our floodplain management plan is our repetitive loss area analysis we just began.
- We're in the final process of opening a purchase order so that we can begin work with our consultant, WSP. That same consultant produced our floodplain management plan back in 2015 that was approved. And so they'll be working on our repetitive loss area analysis.

We'll just go through a couple of mitigation action items that we covered in this quarter.

- Action **ID 1.1** is our progress report requirement. We brought that to the board a little late in the year, but we brought it in the June 11 BCC meeting, and it was accepted and approved.
- **1.3** has to do with the fact that we need to provide public information meetings we have this year scheduled through November. At the next meeting, I will propose the 2025 schedule.
- I will provide that draft prior to that meeting so that we can get some feedback from the committee directly back to me as the liaison so that we can determine if there's any conflict of interest with our current approach, which is the first Friday quarterly. So we've changed those dates over the years for various reasons. And I'll provide a draft calendar at that time, and we can go over that schedule at the next meeting.

- **2.1** is to coordinate roadway stormwater maintenance programs to address stormwater flooding problems. Just so you're all aware, and you're all already aware of the June 11 through 13 rainfall event that we experienced last month. I think it was officially titled Southwest Florida Flash Flooding event. Through the governor's office, through their State of Emergency. They're doing a lot of preparatory work to get ready for rapid damage assessment within this building, in this room that you're sitting in.
- Our job as growth management is to conduct damage assessment primarily for residential and commercial buildings. Public assistance is a little bit different. The different divisions within the county, departments within the county generally cover their own structures for public assistance reimbursement. So we primarily focus on buildings for residents and businesses.
- Although that incident was not extremely impactful, I would say across the board in Collier County, I believe the totals that I got yesterday from NOAA's story map that they have provided, and I can provide that link after the meeting, but we got around 20 inches of rain, and so in a three-day period, it was pretty expansive.
- But what we were able to do was really go through some of the motions associated with a program that we utilized known as Crisis Track. That's our damage assessment software program, and we ran a very good, I would say probably the best drill. We didn't have to deploy, but we did deploy eleven teams out in the field on June 14 which was that Friday.
- It was still raining but had settled down for the most part. I think the number one thing that we've learned is scaling. Out to 50 teams, which is the amount of fleet that we have in vehicles, it is going to be a lot harder. That's generally a Hurricane Irma type lan scenario. But we also learned, and this was the intention of the exercise, was to show the collection challenges for a post flood environment versus a post wind environment. And so there was very limited information we were able to collect post storm specifically, just looking for high water marks was the only thing that we were really able to do.

Stanley P. Chrzanowski

I think you may be lulled into a false feeling of security, because that event happened when everything was drained and low and right out of dry season. if that event were to happen today, you'd be a totally different County.

Mr. Lang

There is no false sense of security.

I would say we understand that. It was more to show the Collect Team here, the different division staff, and the challenges of collecting post flood. That was the biggest thing. Especially when it's not a storm surge and the water stays around for a little while. This was just rainfall, precipitation, and not a lot of water marks afterwards.

Lisa Koehler

After storms like that, our team collects high water marks in our canal system. I don't know how much help that will be, but that data is available.

Mr. Lang

- It is very helpful. I did get some from some requests post event for some data from the South Florida Water Management District. They were able to ultimately get the information from FEMA, but I agree. And we attended training that you guys provided at the basin location off of City Gate. So it was very helpful.

Understand. I'll leave it at this. With damage assessment here in the building, we've identified three different collection teams.

- We have our rapid damage assessment for buildings, high water mark team. We absorbed that responsibility from Collier County Stormwater within Transportation. And the third one is collection on the preserves, for their infrastructure, for public assistance reimbursement.

Mr. Vasey

We no longer use NGVD and NAVD. Have all the markers been reset with the satellites?

Mr. Lang

- That is a question that I could not answer. I must investigate that, Mr. Vasey. Let me write that down.

Mr. Vasey

What is the basis data set that you're trying to develop, and what are the visible indicators that you're using? We've asked for stilling wells and surge data along

coast, so that we know what the search is. And there hasn't been any reaction to that one. The second part is we have some inland data that's always available on DB Hydro.

But what is the County going to do, and what are the data fields that we're looking for?

Mr. Lang

- I can't speak for the County as a whole, just for the intent of what we have for residential and commercial. We are conducting a generalized, what we call windshield assessment. It's very simple. It's whether a structure is affected, minor, major, or destroyed. It is an initial marker so that we can get numbers to the State and the Feds to obtain a proper declaration into either individual assistance, public assistance, or Small Business Administration declaration. After that, we start getting into more detail, specifically when it comes to the hot topic across the region right now of substantial damage determination. So we're conducting a rapid damage assessment to try to paint some picture to the State and Feds of whether we need a potential declaration. Go ahead.

Mr. Vasey

Breaking this down into the smallest detail. I'd probably ask you what the swales look like, and I'd probably recognize right away that the swale system is not well maintained, number one. Number two, it's probably pointed in the wrong direction in most cases. Getting a handle on a flood assessment is really going to take every bit of that because the groundwater levels are higher, the intensity of the rainfalls are longer, and the duration of our hazards are greater.

Mr. Lang

- Agreed. I'll share one last thing. We pull data directly from 911 for different events under their severe weather reporting. It's called signal 66. That's our primary data pool where we get real time reporting. But what we identified after this event was the public doesn't call in too much unless there's some storm surge event.
- A lot of people are normalized to this in southwest Florida. There's a lot of resiliencies in different communities because they've flooded continuously over the last however many years. And they also have insurance, so they

don't want to call us because we are regulatory in nature, and they don't like us.

- So in addition to 911, we are looking into some API services tagging or linking into some other programs, specifically 311 and road maintenance's cartograph. And I think once we get that connection into our crisis track program, specifically cartograph, with road maintenance, we can start to see more trends on just roadway flooding at minimum. And that will give us more of an indicator on where to send our teams. And so not negating the points that you just brought up, which are across the board. Duke, we're just looking at where we can get more real time data to make more informed decisions on where to concentrate our limited staff and deployments.

4.1 This is basically about outreach

- We do this very often. And on May 2nd we did provide some outreach to Acrisure, which was previously Gulfshore Insurance. Wright Flood was there as well. They're a big flood underwriter across the Nation and they had very good representatives there that I work with very often. And again, it was centered around a ton of information pertaining to flood mapping, flood regulation, flood insurance, and hurricane preparedness. So it's mainly for the Realty community and we got a lot of good questions and feedback out of that outreach event.

4.2 Maintain active participation and communication with federal, state, local organizations and agencies to identify flood hazard information and enhance flood hazard awareness, including building construction requirements.

- We'll go into a presentation after this, but we did meet with FEMA Region Four on July 23 at the South Regional Library for our first meeting of many to eventually finalize our outstanding physical map revisions to our flood map for our community. We had a coastal flood map change in February of this year that began in 2014. These physical map revisions for the inland portions of Collier County began in 2013. So you can see, eleven years later we're finally getting our first meeting, the result of this meeting with FEMA with the City of Naples attending.

- Mr. Dorta was there as well, along with the City Manager of the City of Naples because they do have some panels affected and I'll go into more detail in the presentation on this, but we are under a 30-day comment review period with the deadline being the 23 August. Luckily for our division, we have Burt Miller, who used to be GIs head at it, so he's able to do things very quickly for us within our division. I'm going to have him look at some of the data sets that they provided so that we can provide any feedback. If you don't have it already, the presentation I'm about to go over is a handout and it's up at the desk if you need it.

Mr. Shea

Is AECOM our contractor or FEMA?

Mr. Lang

- AECOM. Our previous consultant was Thomas Ello engineering consultant, and they retired. So we don't have that current consultant, but we did for most the physical map provisions. This just goes into activity 360 under the community rating system, which is flood, flood protection advice, basically through different categories, property protection advice, flood insurance advice. I get a lot of calls about mitigation.
- What can I do to my structure to mitigate? What can I do regarding flood insurance? It gets very detailed at times, but we have been providing a lot of these services lately. Two years after Ian, we get a lot of backlog of people trying to get different documentation, so we assist them in this activity.

4.5 Comprehensive Approach provides flood insurance throughout the community.

- We have annual letters that we send out specifically to repetitive loss properties and repetitive loss areas.
- I don't want to get into the definition of that. I've gone over that several times in these meetings. Basically you put in a certain number of claims within a certain number of years with FEMA and you get put on a list, which is why we're here in this committee. We have a Floodplain Management Plan responsibility for this community because we have many repetitive loss properties. I'd say over just over 250 properties.

- Before Ian we had about 50, and before Irma we had about 30. So you can see what that storm surge event did to us. So we sent those notifications out, and unlike the past where we got kickbacks from the US Postal Service, we did not. That did not happen. So this was very successful with the vendor that we went with, and we've gotten a few calls pertaining to the letters that we sent out, but we're basically offering within that letter FEMA grant opportunities.
- Any questions?

Mr. Vasey

Check the updated CRS manual.

Mr. Lang

- That's a good question. They just sent out for public comments for updating the CRS program. I'd have to get back with you, Duke. For them to be asking about feedback, means that they're moving in that direction. But I feel that it would probably be another two years at minimum before we get an updated community rating system manual.
- Considering everything that's happened down here, post en, and all of the various feedback that they are requesting for the community rating system due to Lee County's challenges lately with their CR's program, we usually run a CR's user group through Lee County, through Billy Jacoby, the floodplain coordinator. But understanding that they're under a lot of pressure and time constraints, we haven't requested that meeting, but we do want to maybe do that soon.

Mr. Dorta

Just to address the gentleman's question. There's a CRS update that just came out last week, and there were three public online Zoom meetings you could sign up for. They're coming up in the middle of the month, middle of August, and they're limited to 500 seats per meeting. So if you need me to send that to you to populate the meeting. I can do that.

4. FEMA Flood Risk Review, FRR meeting overview, July 23, 2024

Mr. Lang

- This is again the first step and many steps that we need to go through to adopt our eventual physical map revisions. One and two that we initiated in 2013. We met with FEMA on the 23 July at the South Regional Library. These were the staff that participated from FEMA region four.
- The State Floodplain Coordinator was not in attendance through the Florida Division of Emergency Management, but I work very heavily with Yong Jung, who's an engineering manager with AECOM, and Zachariah Cahoon, known as Zach. I've been working exclusively with them since I came on last year and providing them with the coastal flood map that we adopted in February and now this future map. So we'll go over scope of work and deliverables, project schedule, course, communication, next steps, and action items. Some of this stuff is boilerplate with FEMA.
- We've had this mastered down, but just want to kind of show you the difference in things. So when I talk about the coastal flood map product, at any given point in the past, future, or present, the risk map product was the coastal flood map product that we adopted in February. So this was the risk map program.
- These were the Southwest Florida Counties that were affected by that coastal flood map update.
- And this was the result for Collier County. We went over this extensively in prior meetings, but just understanding that these were the panels of our flood map that were affected by that coastal flood map update in February.
- Getting into the remaining portions, physical map revision one and two are based on another reality that I shared with the group. We've had flood maps since 1979 here we've updated them several times since 1979. Specifically, we all remember the 2012 flood map update that incorporated the AH zone into the eastern portion of the County. Right before we adopted that map in 2012. We got new updated Lidar from 2001 Lidar to 2007. Sometimes people call it to the 2010 Lidar.
- We tried to get FEMA to let us update our 2012 flood map with all of that lidar. They told us, you have 90 days. We chose the Golden Gate Main west and Golden Gate east stormwater basins, because those areas had never had flood insurance. So we figured if we brought in the new lidar at that point for them, at least when we went through this product eleven years later, which we thought would be a lot sooner, we wouldn't have to. Essentially, we wouldn't hit them with new flood insurance requirements because of changes in the flood map.

- Again. So you can see the boundaries and either in your packet or on the screen, but specifically the areas in red outline are PMR two and in purple are PMR one, and then you can see the portions that are not within there that primarily were a part of the coastal flood map product. You can see some overlap there as well, but we'll get into that. So specifically, PMR number one includes Cocohatchee A, B, and C, district six, and the Henderson Creek stormwater basins. PMR two includes Ave Maria, Faca Union, Faka Miller, Faka Union Fakahatchee Strand, and then the southern coastal portion.
- Not going to get into all this. I'm providing this packet, and I can provide this presentation specifically if you've got questions for the next meeting, but we'll move on through this portion.
- AECOM performed a combined probability analysis on the provided Riverine study to create a final mapping for FEMA risk map. The point of me showing you this is that we currently have what's called a water surface grid layer that gives us the exact BFE between BFE contours. We also have what's called a combined probability analysis, our CPA raster file, which allows us to click on the map and tell us the exact BFE within coastal areas. What we are looking for from AECOM in this particular map product is an advancement from the water surface grid layer to a raster file that we can use across the County to give us exact BFE contours. Because as you move into the eastern portions of the county, we have BFE contours in half foot increments, and it can get very, very difficult for the development community and engineering firms, surveyors, and us to make the correct base flood elevation determination per property, per project.
- If we can obtain that raster file, that will give us a lot more clarity moving forward for everyone involved, external and internal, to assist us.

Mr. Shea

Define base flood elevation. Because base flood elevation is different depending on whether you have a surge, whether it's still raining, and there are so many different variables. Under what condition do you define the base flood elevation?

Mr. Lang

- I will generally say that the base flood elevation is based off of a calculated 1% event, or the 100-year flood is what you commonly hear it referred to as, which I don't like.
- It is the 1% event within a given year. You could have multiple 1% events, which will eventually result in what's called advisory base flood elevations after a disaster or a flood event. And then ultimately all that data is being collected, and then eleven years later, they take all that and incorporate all those changes to try to account for the lidar at the time, and then the changes that have occurred, specifically from natural disasters and the amount of rainfall that we may have encountered, the amount of storm surge we may have encountered. But all those different types of events will contribute to a 1% event, potentially.
- To give you an example. Outside of the 1% event if you are higher than the 1% event, then you are in an x-500 zone. If you are higher than a less chance event known as the 0.2% event, 500-year flood, if you're higher than the 100 year and the 500 year or the 1% or 0.2%, you are considered what we would call a true x-zone. So the higher you are up, but between the 100 year and the 500-year event determines if your x-500 or x-zone.
- The base flood is the 1% event calculation.

Mr. Shea

It's a flood elevation. No matter how it got there, what contributed doesn't matter. You're measuring the elevation. It could have happened in a lot of different ways.

Mr. Lang

- Correct. And those floodways and outside of those floodways in Lee County, they have a special flood hazard area. It's just that floodways are very restrictive, in those unlike other areas, you must calculate not only the base flood elevation.....

Mr. Shea

My only point was that we are always going to be in that category.

Mr. Lang

- We always will be in that category. It's just the floodways are more restrictive in those other communities. Put it that way.

- When they say 0.2% annual chance decrease, I don't know if that means that that would tell me that is a good thing, but I'm going to have to get more clarification from FEMA on this legend. This is one good example where I can at least digest this. 1% annual chance decrease. You can see in blue here. I believe the orange is not on the legend.
That would be the structures. They're using some type of building footprint layer. And that's why you're seeing orange and then in gray there.
Throughout, you're seeing no change in the base flood elevation. But getting to a table very soon you'll understand these decreases.
- This is an example where you have increases in the base flood elevation. And these are the panel references at the top. These are map panel references which are all throughout the county. But this is just an example showing increases versus decreases.
- This is where we need to review the data a little bit more to validate with FEMA. What are they using as the metric? What building footprint layer are they utilizing? I'm sure they have some national data set that they're utilizing, or maybe they got something from the property appraiser. But at the end of the day, this is good news overall.
- The City of Naples has some changes, doesn't look like they have any net change in their SFHA to non SFHA and vice versa. But for us specifically, this is good news. And it makes sense considering how much area in the County, specifically the eastern portions, are being updated with this physical map revision. So I would say for the City of Naples, it's a little bit less impact and is probably the reason you're not seeing much of a change. But for us, it's a big change, and we like to see a negative number when it comes to this.

Chairman Johnson

There are 11,721 footprints being removed from the special flood hazard area. Is a footprint a building or a unit or a property? Could you explain a little bit more?

Mr. Lang

- It would be a structure, essentially different types of structures. It is a structure versus a property.

Chairman Johnson

Over 11,000 is significant

Mr. Lang

- Just structures that fall within that panel and how are they affected based off various things, but primarily Lidar.
- Okay, this is where we start getting into questions with FEMA specifically, we're trying to project out what we need to do for the community. So our flood risk review meeting again was on July 23. You see a big jump from July to December.
- Basically, we'll provide the 30-day response by August 23.
- Then there'll be a three-to-four-month period where they take those comments while still finalizing the map.
- We will then get what's called a preliminary flood map, like we did the coastal flood map in 2020. We will then hold open house meetings with the public in various strategic locations throughout the County.
- Considering this map update will affect Collier County, Unincorporated Collier County primarily, and the City of Naples, I would guess that we would have at least two map meetings, one for the City of Naples and one for Unincorporated.
- But it also depends on the affected areas. And when we look at the data that's been provided to us, if we start seeing concentrations of BFE increases, like Immokalee or Ave Maria, we may look at having those meetings at other areas in the further eastern portions of the County where traditionally we would meet at the South Regional Library as a Central Point for the County. So again, you see the preliminary maps are provided in December, tentatively. Then we will have our open map meetings tentatively in February.
- And then you can see with the appeal period, that can drag out for quite a bit of time depending on how many appeals they get from Collier County, this could go into late fall of 2025 for an adopted, finalized map. This is just a timeline version graph of how that works. So again, this is a little confusing. Between the FRR to the preliminary map issuance, it looks very short, but again, from July to December is what they're projecting, open houses occurring in early 2025, this appeal period.
- And then we would obtain the Soma letter. It's not mentioned here, but it would probably be at the beginning of this resolve, appeals and finalized map product. Then we would get our letter of final determination. Excuse me, that is our soma. Our summary of map action is included in this LFD or

the letter of final determination. And then those effective maps would probably be towards the end of 2025.

- Let me just clarify one more thing. We are hoping that unlike the coastal flood map product that went through Covid-19 we won't have such a lag of four years between a preliminary map and a finalized map like we did. So usually it's a lot faster. We're looking at a one year, one-and-a-half-year process here versus a four-year process theory.
- And this just tells the difference between an appeal and a comment. They're asking for comments from us currently. An appeal would be something generally from an engineering firm hired by someone. I'll give you an example. Mark did an appeal for the coastal flood map product and that dragged that out for a little bit.
- But that's the difference between an appeal and a comment. An appeal is an official kind of submission with engineering data to say, hey, we believe that the flood zone, the BFE, or the flood risk in general is either too low or too high in this location. And here's why.
- This just goes into what happens at open house meetings across the Nation and this is the general schedule across the board for FEMA.
- This talks about the different flood zones. I would just say back to the context of the discussion of the 100-year versus the 500-year. An example here is low risk would be higher than 100 year and 500-year. Medium risk would be between 100-year and 500-year. It would be between that on your elevations and then high risk would be where you're a-zone or v-zone.
- You're not x or x-500 basically. This is just stating that if you are in a high-risk flood zone or you are remapped into a high-risk flood zone and you have an FDIC backed mortgage, you will be notified that you have to get flood insurance within 45 days or they will force place your escrow. I have been helping homeowners consistently with this issue since February.
- So we're very familiar with this chart. We're in the red. We like to assume that it's just a safe assumption.
- This is showing the link between this and the result which is our local mitigation strategy plan.
- Collier County is in the purple, which means that we have a requirement to update our LMS by the beginning of 2025. That is being spearheaded by Amy Howard, the staff liaison for emergency management. She is the new Rick Zyvoloski, if you remember Rick Zyvoloski. And she's been with the County for quite a while in emergency management. She was our human

services program manager or our special needs program manager. She ran all the special needs shelter expectations during Hurricane Ian. She works with Jibey, very knowledgeable.

- We are down to getting critical infrastructure to WSP. They're working with WSP as well for their threat assessment. So we've got to get a threat assessment done.
- We're under a bit of a time crunch with the LMS. I'm the chairperson for the LMS, and so I'm working with her to give her that information.
- Not going to get into risk communication. We do that quite enough with the community, but basically, again, we met with them on the 23rd. They're asking for comments back by August, and then they're claiming they'll do a 30-day quality review. But then the preliminary product comes out in December. So it sounds like to me they have some time requirements beyond just the 30-day quality review before they can get to the preliminary map where they're finalizing some of their engineering environmental portions.
- When we get that letter of final determination, that is where we start to see the potential effects on letters of map change through that summary of map action letter. And then the day after the map is adopted, we will get what's called a revalidation letter. And that is the official document saying these passed muster and these did not.
- These are the contacts.

Comment - Mr. Bills

Is FEMA pricing flood insurance based on the preliminary map, or will they adjust based on the final map or something in between.

Mr. Lang

- Pricing off the effective map, not the preliminary map. The only way they could do that with a preliminary map would be if we had in our flood ordinance that we adopt preliminary maps before finalized. And we're not going to do that. But also understand, and this is an adjustment from the legacy program of the FEMA flood insurance program or the National Flood Insurance program, is that the flood zone is not the driver anymore it's several factors to not only include the base flood elevation, but the flood zone. If your flood zone changes from x to a or v, that is only a mechanism for the mortgage lender to decide whether you require flood insurance. So

the flood zone is not so much of an issue if it changes, but it is the base flood elevation, if it increases, it will potentially affect your flood insurance premium annually.

5. Committee Correspondence

Chairman Johnson

This is an email from Dennis Vasey on June 2, 2024, titled Rethink Coastal Development in light of rising sea levels?

I came across this article that highlights the urgency of considering the long-term impacts of climate change on our coastal communities. While beach renourishment provides a temporary solution, it's becoming a costly bandaid. We should be reevaluating permitting for new development in flood prone areas. Long term sustainability should be a key factor in approving construction projects.

William Lang

He's asking, I think collectively, our opinion as the County. Is this an agenda item for the FMPC? It's here now. Yes, it is. If it isn't, then the community can ensure our coastal areas remain vibrant places.

- In my response I included Andrew Miller with Coastal Zone Management, and he provided some information back on a particular individual that he is indicating might be able to shed some more light on this. I will share that email as well after this meeting, but I really would like Coastal Zone Management or the Coastal Advisory Committee to provide feedback as well. That would be, I think, the appropriate place for that currently.
- I think once we start getting through some of our studies here in Community Planning and Resiliency, specifically our VA study, our repetitive loss area analysis, our floodplain management plan, our US Army Corps of Engineer Coastal Storm Risk Management study, I think that we will be able to then start looking at our resiliency plan as a whole and be able to address many of these factors. One of the other things that we're identifying, and just so everyone is aware, we were initially going to run the FDEP's vulnerability assessment through this committee as a subcommittee. What we determined was that due to the repetitive loss area analysis that is coming up for us, for this group, which is part of our

job, to update our Floodplain Management Plan, we redirected that subcommittee to the LMS working group, and for various reasons. The primary reason is we don't want to burden this committee with another project in addition to the RLAA, which is our primary objective. But number two is that the LMS working group has a large majority of internal and external stakeholders that can provide us with a lot of infrastructure information that we need, specifically government entities.

- In our LMS meeting, our last one that we held on the 19 July we had a subcommittee meeting. Even though the LMS meeting is public, it wasn't considered our first VA public meeting. We have one meeting that we must conduct with the public, but it was really our initial kind of grounding meeting to say hey, I need critical infrastructure from the various entities here. What we're discovering, unlike public utilities, I will speak very fondly of public utilities, is that many groups in the County and outside the County don't have a robust asset management group, and we need that throughout the County. I think Mr. Vasey has talked about the community tracking system, if I'm not mistaken with that terminology, the CTS, and essentially what we would like to see, and I'm speaking accurately based off my Director Mr. Mason's agreeance, is that we would like to be the one stop shop at the end of the day for critical infrastructure.
- At minimum. I'll be very blunt, I'm getting tired of not having a living, breathing critical infrastructure list. And again, Public Utilities is the exception. I've been working with Drew Cody, currently Patrick Thier, and they're amazing. They have their stuff together, they have the information, they can provide it in a spatial data format for the vendor, which is very easy.
- But we need, and I'll give credit to South Florida Water Management District as well, because they've been working directly with our vendor without us even having to get involved. So not to speak ill of any other division, everyone has their stove pipes and they're working very hard, and we have had a lot of feedback from different divisions, but I'm not seeing something that has stood the test of time. We're either going to have to decide if we're going to hire a consultant to get it done, or whether we'll do it ourselves. We'd like to do it ourselves because even with a consultant you do all the work anyways. We'd like to take ownership, but we're going to have to agree to a universal template that we can move forward with so

that if anybody needs this for any study moving forward throughout the county, they can tap us on the shoulder.

Mr. Vasey

I rely on big cyber spaces and there are a lot of things that I can imagine, and I can't imagine, but I would like to see this massive amount of data considered. Now, I know there are firewalls out there and there are other restrictions, but my heavens, the change that we're observing and ours is just a recent one, the last 30 years, areas that we've taken photographs of, we don't see the same data in the county, but there's a photograph of what it was. And it's not too hard to figure out what it's telling you. It's telling you that there are massive changes taking place.

And they're almost, we're almost unable to keep up with them simply because they're that fast. But then again, they've been coming for a hundred years, and they just aren't sexy enough for us to want to grab ahold of them and give them a big hug. And we've got to do that now.

Lisa Koehler

The Water Management District has also been studying rainfall and how that is changing over the last few years. We've had a study with the University of Miami, and there was a presentation to our Big Cypress Basin Board earlier this spring, if anybody cares to go and watch it. But it's still in the process. But they are preliminary results. Our rainfall is changing both in the amounts, its intensity, in its duration.

So whenever we're looking at our infrastructure and County Standards, State Permitting Standards for how much rain you need to hold back for certain flooding, that is going to change. So a heads up that that's out there, it's being studied and it's coming.

Comment - Mr. Chrzanowski

I was born and raised in Bayonne, New Jersey, right across the Hudson from New York City. And I go to their website, I keep in touch, and I see they have a lidar and I pop it up and I look. I'm zooming out and it's within 3ft. and I wonder why. So you know that contour interval.

And I keep zooming out and I see it's not just them, it's all North Jersey and then all of New York. And then I see the whole northeast and you can take the pointer and put it anywhere and it'll tell you what the elevation is. And I keep zooming out

and I pan down to Florida and there's Naples and I go to different and it's accurate within a few feet. But you know, when you get down to Naples 3ft., that's 3 miles in the difference. So I wonder how far it goes.

And I keep zooming out. And I go to the Barringer meteor crater out in Arizona and I go to Mount Everest, which tells me it's 29,000ft. tall, it's got the whole world. And every time you go to a different area, the legend in the upper right hand corner changes by the area you pick, and it picks the lowest point and the highest point automatically and it prints a lidar that is for that area, the Grand Canyon. It's amazing that they can do this for the whole world.

I sent an email to the Board suggesting they find the person that did this. And we have a lidar that's accurate within a 10th of a ft. for most of the County. When we ground truthed it, it was the 2007, 2008. It's deadly accurate.

We went to intersections that, you know, an intersection doesn't change from year to year, ten years, unless you have post glacial rebound or subsidence or something, that ground is not going to change. The 2007 lidar, McKenna and I checked it when it came out with the county surveyor. And we went to intersections where you can find a striping and go to the exact point, pick that point, check it, and everything was within a tent. We were amazed.

Whoever wrote that program that does it for the whole world, you would think they could do it for Collier County, 2000 sq mi. You pick a square and you zoom. You know, once you zoom in, it gives you the lidar for that area. And that would be so handy for a lot of what we do because I still get people call me up and ask me questions about drainage even though I've been retired for 15 years. And it used to be I could get a lidar from the County, but now they won't do you a lidar. I wrote the letter to the Board and did not get any response at all. I don't see why they can't do this.

I just figured I'd get on record to say that it is possible to do. I've seen it done. If you go to the Bayonne, New Jersey website, look at the lidar, zoom out, look at the world, you will be fascinated by what you can find and, and that's a lot more data than would be in Collier County.

Mr. Lang

I've been working with our GIS Manager, Jason Regula. We're trying to get a cost on that. I spoke with him a day or two ago and he requested a price from our ESRI rep.

Comment - Mr. Chrzanowski
Tell him thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Chairman Johnson
Welcome, Matt and Kari. Thank you for joining.

Note: Kari Hodgson temporary left the meeting for approximately 15 minutes (9:30am – 9:45am) AND Jibey Asthappan left the meeting for approximately 3 minutes (9:50am – 9:53am), per Chairperson Johnson's record keeping during the meeting.

6. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Bills
Seconded by Mr. Miller
Meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m.

**COLLIER COUNTY
FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE**



Eric Johnson, Chairman

These minutes were approved by the Committee/Chairman on 11/01/2024.

(choose one) as presented _____, or as amended X _____.