

MINUTES OF THE COLLIER COUNTY
FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Naples, Florida, November 3, 2020

LET IT BE REMEMBERED, the Collier County Floodplain Management Planning Committee in and for the County of Collier, having conducted business herein, met on this date at 9:00 A.M. in REGULAR SESSION at the Collier County Growth Management Division Building, Conference Room #609/610, 2800 N. Horseshoe Drive, Naples, Florida, \with the following members present:

Chairman: Jerry Kurtz, CC Staff
Vice Chairman: Craig Pajer, CC Staff
Kenneth Bills
William Lang, CC Staff
Christa Carrera, City of Naples
Kelli DeFedericis, City of Marco Island (Excused)
Duke Vasey
Lisa Koehler (Excused)
Terry Smallwood, Everglade City (Excused)
Stan Chrzanowski (Excused)
William Miller
Deborah Curry, CC Staff

ALSO PRESENT:
Chris Mason, Floodplain Coordinator

Chairman Kurtz called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. The meeting was held via Skype and telephonically.

1. Approval of previous meeting minutes from August 19, 2020

Mr. Vasey moved to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2020 meeting as presented. Second by Mr. Bills. Carried unanimously 8 – 0.

2. ACUNE Project

Mr. Mason presented the PowerPoint “*Adaptation of Coastal Urban Natural Ecosystems – ACUNE and ACUNE Plus*” for informational purposes noting:

- That ACUNE and ACUNE Plus (Adaptation of Coastal Urban and Natural Ecosystems Plus) is a web based interactive decision support tool enabling users to develop coastal resiliency plans for flood protection, estuarine preservation, and mangrove restoration.
- The project aims to determine how natural features may be managed and restored in the future to provide flood protection for residents of southwest Florida.
- It enhances a vegetation model to predict the future distribution of mangroves and marshes, incorporate rainfall-induced inland flooding into coastal flooding models, and simulate the role of natural features in reducing flooding during past and future storms and king tide events.
- The project team, using input from coastal managers and planners, assesses the economic impacts and merits of restoring natural features.
- The team also will determine the impact of coastal and inland flooding on urban storm water systems.
- The tasks for the project include:
 - Predicting coastal inundation in future climate (SLR (Sea Level Rise), more intense storms, etc.).
 - Quantifying the role of mangroves in buffering wave, surge, and flooding
 - Predicting coastal inundation in Collier and Naples in future climate, considering various mangrove restoration plans and climate scenarios
 - Predicting future mangrove migration in upland direction.
 - Predicting salinity changes in Rookery Bay and Naples Bay.
 - Quantifying the economic impact of future inundation & mangroves.
 - Ensuring that end users have the ability to use the tool for adaptation and resilience planning

ACUNE Plus includes:

- Scientific objectives to engage managers and planners of urban and natural systems to conceptualize NNBF (Natural and Nature Based Features) restoration scenarios aimed to enhance coastal resiliency in SWFL.
- Develop an enhanced mangrove vegetation model to predict the future distribution and structure of the species.
- Incorporate rainfall-induced inland flooding models into coastal flooding models.
- Simulate the role of NNBF in reducing flooding during past and future storms and king tides, considering SLR, mangrove evolution and landward migration, and inland flooding.
- Simulate the impact of urban stormwater system on coastal urban flooding.
- Assess the economic impact and relative merit of various NNBF restoration scenarios.
- Share scientific results/products of the project with end user’s and researchers via interactive training workshops

During Committee discussion it was noted:

- A portion of the data cited may be 2 years old and Mr. Vasey to provide the source of this information to Staff for review.
- Representation for the public interest includes Collier County Departments such as Transportation, Public Utilities, Stormwater, Pollution Control, etc. and Non-Governmental Organizations.

3. Floodplain Management Plan Update

Mr. Mason presented the PowerPoint “*Collier County Floodplain Management Plan Update*” noting:

- That the purpose of the Plan is to reduce or eliminate risk to people and property from flood hazards.
- The Plan was originally adopted in 2008, updated in 2015 with a new update in process.
- The goals of the plan included:
 - Reduce vulnerability and exposure to flood hazards in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of residents and guests.
 - Encourage property owners, through education and outreach measures, to protect their homes and businesses from flood damage.
 - Reduce the vulnerability of critical facilities and infrastructure from the effects of flood hazards.
 - Protect natural resources by employing watershed-based approaches that balance environmental, economic and engineering considerations.
 - Minimize adverse impacts to surrounding areas and watershed functions.

He requested that the Committee support a Staff recommendation to delay finalizing the plan until 2023 which would allow utilization of 3 key pieces of information. As they become available (the new County FIRM (Flood Insurance Rate Map) data, updated census data and updates to sea level rise data) which will help ensure the plan is as complete as possible.

During Committee discussion the following was noted:

- Concern on utilizing the term “Stakeholders” and recommended alternate language such as “public interest” be incorporated into the document given its focus – *Mr. Mason noted he would consider a change in terminology to address the concern.*
- It would be beneficial to incorporate any relevant data available from the ACUNE project into the plan.

Mr. Vasey moved to delay adoption of the plan as proposed by Staff subject to incorporating the ACUNE data into the plan during its preparation. Second by Mr. Miller. Carried unanimously 8 – 0.

4. Mitigation Action Items Update

Mr. Mason provided the “*Collier County Floodplain Management Planning Committee Progress Report for 2020 Action Items – 4th Quarter 2020*” for informational purposes and provided the following updates:

1. Stormwater Projects

- Golden Gate City Stormwater Management Improvement – *Beginning work on replacement of stormwater outfalls.*
- Naples Park Stormwater Management Improvement – *Currently under construction.*

- West Goodlette Road Area Stormwater Management Improvement – *Phase I continuing through construction.*
 - Immokalee Area Stormwater Management Improvement - *A design consultant has been selected for prioritized the Lake Trafford Road project, including Stormwater Treatment Areas, and award of the contract is currently scheduled for December.*
2. Maintaining the Landscape Maintenance Certification Program continues.
 3. Staff is coordinating with local Real Estate Boards to provide educational opportunities about the Flood Insurance Program.

5. Development Review from last quarter

Mr. Mason provided the “*Building Plan Review Statistics*” which outlined data for new construction for the month of August and September of 2020 with activity in the County remaining steady.

6. 2021 FMPC Calendar

Mr. Mason provided the “*Schedule of the Floodplain Management Planning Committee 2021*” for informational purposes. He noted the quarterly meetings are scheduled for February, May, August and November.

Discussion occurred on whether the Committee desires to begin meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of the month as opposed to the 2nd Wednesday (the schedule for the past few years) - *Staff noted they will investigate the opportunities available to continue to hold the meetings in some virtual format given the current status of the pandemic.*

Mr. Lang moved for the Committee to hold their quarterly meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of the month as outlined by Staff (February, May, August and November). Second by Mr. Vasey. Carried unanimously 8 – 0.

7. Other Items/Committee Correspondence

None

There being no further business for the good of the County, the meeting was adjourned by the order of the Chair at 10:04 A.M.

**COLLIER COUNTY FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE**

Vice Chairman, Craig Pajer

These Minutes were approved by the Board/Chairman on Tuesday February 16, 2021 as presented at the FPMC meeting.