

# **HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY**

**April 2004  
FINAL DRAFT**



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City and County Water and Sanitary Sewer Depts.  
City & County Public Works Depts.  
City and County Transp. and Human Services Depts.  
Hillsborough School Board  
American Red Cross  
Hillsborough County Community Improvement  
Florida Department of Transportation  
Florida Department of Highway Patrol  
Dept. of Children and Families  
MacDill Airforce Base  
RACES – Amateur Radio  
Salvation Army  
U.S. Post Office  
Volunteer Center  
Medical Director for Mass Casualty  
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# GLOSSARY

*Base Flood Elevation (BFE):* The highest elevation, expressed in feet above sea level, of the level of flood waters occurring in the regulatory base flood (i.e. 100-year flood event).

*Building Codes:* Regulations adopted by local government that establish standards for construction, modification, and repair of buildings and other structures.

*Coastal High Hazard Area (CHA):* Evacuation zone for a Category 1 hurricane as established in the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council's Hurricane Evacuation Study.

*Community Development Block Grant (CDBG):* The objective of the CDBG program is the development of viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities primarily for persons of low- and moderate- incomes. Funds must be used so as to give maximum feasible priority to activities which will carry out one of the three broad national objectives of: benefit to low- and moderate-income families; or aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; or activities designed to meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community where other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

*Community Rating System (CRS):* An initiative of the Federal Insurance Administration to encourage increased efforts in the reduction of flood losses, facilitate accurate insurance ratings and promote the awareness of flood insurance.

*Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP):* Required by Florida Statutes and addresses the four inter-related phases of emergency management: preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation.

*Critical Facilities:* A structure from which essential services and functions for victim survival, continuation of public safety actions, and/or disaster recovery are performed or provided.

*Cultural Facilities:* Establishments such as museums or art galleries of an historic, educational or cultural interest.

*Development:* The carrying out of any building activity or mining operation, the making of any material change in the use or appearance of any structure or land, or the dividing of land into three or more parcels.

*Disaster:* Any natural, technological, or civil emergency that causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to result in a declaration of a state of emergency by a county, the Governor, or the President of the United States. Disasters shall be identified by the severity of resulting damage, as follows:

- **Minor Disaster** - A disaster that is likely to be within the response capabilities of local government and to result in only a minimal need for State or Federal assistance.

- Major Disaster - A disaster that will likely exceed local capabilities and require a broad range of State and Federal assistance.
- Catastrophic Disaster - A disaster that will require massive state and federal assistance, including immediate military involvement.

*Drainage:* Surface water runoff or the removal of surface water or groundwater from land by drains, grading or other means.

*Emergency Management, Preparedness and Assistance (EMPA) Trust Fund Grant Program:* Competitive grant for the state or regional agencies, local governments and private non-profit organizations for the implementation of projects that will further state and local emergency management objectives.

*Evacuation Routes:* Routes designated by Hillsborough County Office of Emergency Management and the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council for the movement of persons to safety in the event of a hurricane or other threat requiring massive evacuation.

*Floodplain Management Plan:* The operation of a program containing corrective and preventive measures for reducing flood damage including, but not limited to, flood control projects, floodplain land use regulations, floodproofing of buildings and emergency preparedness plans.

*Floodprone Areas:* Areas inundated during a 100-year event or areas identified by the National Flood Insurance Program as an "A Zone" on Flood Insurance Rate Maps or Flood Hazard Boundary Maps.

*Florida Prepares:* Federally funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), a State initiative that challenges communities to take actions that protect families, businesses and property by reducing the effects of natural disasters.

*Goal:* Long-term end toward which programs or activities are ultimately directed.

*Habitat:* The particular natural community or communities that typically support a population of a particular plant or animal species.

*Hazardous Material:* Any substance or material in a quantity or form which may be harmful to humans, animals, crops, water systems, or other elements of the environment if accidentally released. Hazardous materials include: explosives, gases (compressed, liquefied, or dissolved), flammable and combustible liquids, flammable solids or substances, oxidizing substances, poisonous and infectious substances, radioactive materials, and corrosives.

*Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP):* The program operates under the authority of Public Law 100-707, the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. (The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMPG) will be replaced in 2004 by Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program (PDM.) Section 404 provides 75/25 matching funds to eligible applicants to implement immediate and long-term hazard mitigation measures. A total of up to 15 percent of the combined public assistance and individual assistance programs are available to fund hazard mitigation projects. Section 406 is site-specific mitigation that is written if authorized by the federal/state/local officials and is in accordance with any

applicable rules and regulations. This type of mitigation receives 75 percent federal money and requires a state/local match of 25 percent.

*Historic Resources:* All areas, districts or sites containing properties listed on the Florida Master Site File, the National Register of Historic Places, or designated by a local government as historically, architecturally, or archaeologically significant.

*Hurricane Shelter:* A structure which meets the shelter selection guidelines, designated by local officials to be pre-identified for sheltering residents during a hurricane.

*Infrastructure:* Man-made structures which serve the common needs of the population, such as: sewage disposal systems, potable water systems, potable water wells serving a system, solid waste disposal sites or retention areas, stormwater systems, utilities, piers, docks, wharves, breakwaters, bulkheads, seawalls, bulwarks, revetments, causeways, marinas, navigation channels, bridges, and roadways.

*Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS):* Plan developed to minimize negative impacts (potential loss of life or property damage) from a natural, man-made or technological disaster.

*Long-Term Temporary Housing:* Tents, mobile homes, suitable rental housing, or other readily fabricated dwellings set-up for residents to live in until they are able to return to their own homes or find new homes. Utilization of this type of housing can last up to two weeks or longer.

*Mitigate:* To offset or reduce negative impacts through measures such as, but not limited to, the following:

- Not taking action or parts of a certain action.
- Limiting the degree or magnitude of the action.
- Repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected resources.
- Preserving and maintaining operations over time during the life of the action.
- Replacing or providing substitute resources or environment.

*Mobile Home:* A structure, transportable in one or more sections, twelve (12) body feet or more in width, and over forty (40) feet in length, which is built upon an integral chassis and designed to be used as a dwelling unit with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities, and includes the plumbing, heating, air conditioning, and electrical systems contained herein. If fabricated after June 15, 1976, each section shall bear a HUD label certifying that it was built in compliance with Federal Manufacturing Home Construction and Safety Standards 42 USC 5401 and 24 CR 3282 and 3283.

*Mobile Home Park:* A mobile home development consisting of a parcel of land under single ownership which has been, or is proposed to be, planned and improved for the placement of mobile homes for nontransient use.

*Mobile Home Space:* A plot of land for placement of a single mobile home within a mobile home park.

*National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP):* A federal program, which authorizes the sale of federally subsidized flood insurance in communities that agree to adopt and implement flood mitigation strategies and regulations.

*Objective:* A specific, measurable, intermediate end that is achievable and marks progress toward a goal.

*Open Space:* Undeveloped lands suitable for passive recreation or conservation uses.

*Post-Disaster Recovery:* Long-term activity designed to return life to normal or improved levels following a disaster.

*Public Facilities:* Transportation systems or facilities, sewer systems or facilities, solid waste systems or facilities, drainage systems or facilities, potable water systems or facilities, educational systems or facilities, parks and recreation systems or facilities and public health systems or facilities.

*Recreational Vehicle:* Vehicle-type unit primarily designed as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, or travel use, which either has its own motive power or is mounted on or drawn by another vehicle.

*Recreational Vehicle (RV) Park:* Place set aside and offered by a person, for either direct or indirect remuneration of the owner, leaser, or operator of such place, for the parking, accommodation, or rental of five or more recreational vehicles or tents; and the group camping and similar recreational facilities.

*Retrofit:* Corrective measures taken on an existing structure to minimize damage caused by water, wind and/or fire.

*Runoff:* The part of the rainfall that travels to surface streams and water bodies via surface or subsurface routes.

*Storm Surge:* The abnormal rise in water level caused by the wind and pressure forces of a hurricane or tropical storm. Storm surge produces most of the flood damage and drowning associated with storms that make landfall or that closely approach the coastline.

*Stormwater:* Flow of water resulting from a rainfall event.

*Subdivision:* The division of land, lot, tract, or parcel into two or more lots, parcels, plats, or sites, or other divisions of land for the purpose of sale, lease, offer, or development, whether immediate or future. The term also includes the division of residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, or other land whether by deed, metes and bounds description, lease, map, plat, or other instrument.

*Wetlands:* Areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soils.

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