

# THE COMMUNITY RESILIENCY INITIATIVE

*Planning for Adaptation: Adaptation Action Areas*

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# COMMUNITY RESILIENCY PROJECT GOALS

- Follow the lead of local governments
- Provide coastal resilience and adaptation technical assistance to local governments in the way that is most useful to them
- Approach community resiliency at both the “grassroots” and statewide level
- Encourage sound investments and planning that support local economies, community safety, and natural resource management
- Better prepare the state for a resilient future



# ADAPTATION ACTION AREAS (AAA)

- Policy tool that allows communities:
  - To implement long-term planning for sea level rise, short/medium-term planning for current coastal hazards
  - Designate vulnerable areas
  - Prioritize adaptation strategies
- Address coastal resiliency in comprehensive plan
  - Accounting for current and future hazards

# ADAPTATION ACTION AREAS

## Section 163.3164(1), Florida Statutes

“Adaptation action area” or “adaptation area” means a designation in the coastal management element of a local government's comprehensive plan which identifies one or more areas that experience coastal flooding due to extreme high tides and storm surge, and that are vulnerable to the related impacts of rising sea levels for the purpose of prioritizing funding for infrastructure needs and adaptation planning.



# ADAPTATION ACTION AREAS

## **Section 163.3177(6)(g)(10), Florida Statutes**

“At the option of the local government, develop an adaptation action area designation for those low-lying coastal zones that are experiencing coastal flooding due to extreme high tides and storm surge and are vulnerable to the impacts of rising sea level. Local governments that adopt an adaptation action area may consider policies within the coastal management element to improve resilience to coastal flooding resulting from high-tide events, storm surge, flash floods, stormwater runoff, and related impacts of sea-level rise. Criteria for the adaptation action area may include, but need not be limited to, areas for which the land elevations are below, at, or near mean higher high water, which have an hydrologic connection to coastal waters, or which are designated as evacuation zones for storm surge.”



# ADAPTATION ACTION AREAS

- Significant flexibility in how a community can develop AAAs
  - Community Resiliency Initiative helps communities:
    - Translate statutory language into practice
    - Assist in determining appropriate options for coastal hazards models, vulnerability assessments, and sea level rise projections
    - Examine available options for developing AAAs
    - Share the results and lessons learned



# ADAPTATION PILOT PROJECTS

- Pilot projects demonstrate planning options available to communities:
  - Ways to address current and future coastal flooding vulnerabilities
  - Opportunities to improve existing decision-making processes, community collaboration, & planning communication
- AAAs Project of Special Merit: Fort Lauderdale & Broward County
- 3 Community Resiliency Initiative Adaptation Pilots
  - City of Clearwater
  - Escambia County
  - City of Indian Harbour Beach



# AAA EXAMPLE — FORT LAUDERDALE

**Fort Lauderdale:** Added AAA language to Coastal Management Element of Comprehensive Plan

Goal 3: “Increase the City’s resiliency to the impacts of climate change and rising sea levels by developing and implementing adaptation strategies and measures in order to protect human life, natural systems and resources and adapt public infrastructure, services, and public and private property.”





# AAA EXAMPLE — FORT LAUDERDALE

- **AAA purpose**: vehicle for implementing adaptation strategies
  - Integrate AAAs into existing and future City processes and city-wide plans and documents
- Defined using AAA criteria listed in statute with addition of:
  - “Other areas impacted by stormwater/flood control issues”
  - AAA designations basis: best available data and resources
    - Unified Sea Level Rise Projection for Southeast Florida
    - Broward County’s Priority Planning Areas for Sea Level Rise Map



# AAA EXAMPLE – SATELLITE BEACH

Policy 1.12A.2 – The City of Satellite Beach designates the Adaptation Action Area (AAA) as that area which includes the Coastal High Hazard Area (CHHA) and other areas of the City as may be identified by the City Council in the future as being subject to coastal erosion, flooding, sea level rise, or damage to environmental systems.

- Chose to define through current coastal hazards with ability to add and expand with time to address future hazards

## **AAA Purpose:**

- Increase funding opportunities
- Protect residents, prevent damage to public and private property, and reduce cost of flood insurance



# AAA EXAMPLE – SATELLITE BEACH

- Policy 1.4A.1 - Initiated public process to identify AAAs
  - Inland Flooding AAA
  - Erosion AAA
- Policy 1.4C.3 - The City shall encourage population concentrations away from known or predicted coastal high hazard areas consistent with the goals, objectives and policies of the Future Land Use Element in the Satellite Beach Comprehensive Plan. This policy is not intended to prohibit or discourage maintenance or replacement of existing development within the CHHA.



# REDEVELOPMENT COMPONENT

*Required in coastal management element of comprehensive plans, 163.3178.2.f, Florida Statutes*

- Outline principles to be used to eliminate inappropriate and unsafe development in the coastal area when opportunities arise. The component must:
  - Include development and redevelopment principles, strategies, and engineering solutions that reduce the flood risk in coastal areas which results from high-tide events, storm surge, flash floods, stormwater runoff, and the related impacts of sea level rise among other requirements.
  - Requirement met in EAR process, can be adopted sooner



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