

Collier County, FL Floodplain Management Plan Update

Working Group Meeting #3

September 16th 2026, 9:00-11:00 AM

2800 North Horseshoe Drive Naples, FL 34104 Room 609/610 & Webex

Attendees

- Chris Mason, Community Planning & Resiliency Division, Director
- Mike Solorzano, Collier County Habitat for Humanity
- Eric Johnson, Collier County EMCD Zoning
- Amy Howard, Collier County Emergency Management
- Ned Miller, public
- Kari Hodgson, Collier County Solid Waste / PUD
- Bob Dorta, City of Naples
- Beethova Loriston, City of Naples
- Lisa Koehler, SFWMD
- Linda Orlich, public
- Ken Bills, public
- Stan Chrzanowski, public
- Duke Vasey, public
- Paul Shea, public; planning commission
- Kevin Summers, Technical Systems Operations, Collier County
- Miguel Carballo, Naples Airport Authority
- Malek Hall, City of Marco Island
- David Stroud, WSP
- Ranger Ruffins, WSP
- Kimmy Hansen, WSP

Agenda

- Floodplain Management Plan
 - Planning Process Update
 - Capability Assessment
 - Goals & Objectives
 - Mitigation Strategies
- Next Steps

David Stroud facilitated the meeting according to the agenda above.

Planning Process

There is a 10-step planning process for the Floodplain Management Plan. We are currently working on updating the mitigation strategy, which covers Steps 6, 7, and 8. This involves updating the mitigation goals, reviewing mitigation actions, and updating the action plan.

Capability Assessment

David reviewed the capability assessment process and key indicators used to understand resources that can support mitigation and identify gaps, conflicts, or opportunities within existing resources. The three main capability indicators are planning and regulatory, administrative and technical, and fiscal as shown in slides 9-11 of the presentation.

Planning & Regulatory Capability:

- David asked the County to provide an updated BCEGS rating.
- It was confirmed that the Local emergency Operations Plan was last updated in 2025.
- The 9th Edition of the Florida Building Code will become effective 12/31/26

Administrative & Technical Capability:

- Chris will review this section of the plan and note any recent changes.

Fiscal Capability:

- The County has special district water and sewer fees. Gas and electric are not provided by the County and will be removed from the capability assessment.
- Impact fees are scheduled to go to the board at the end of 2026 or early 2027. New fees have not been updated.
- David asked if private activity bonds were still done by the County. The County will follow up to confirm if this is still completed.

Goals & Objectives

David reviewed the existing goals and objectives from the previous 2015 plan and the FMP Working Group had an opportunity to discuss any necessary changes but were encouraged to review and provide additional feedback following the meeting.

David suggested that the previous objectives under goal 1 should be reduced. Several of the goal 1 objectives are too specific and speak more to mitigation actions or ongoing maintenance projects routinely performed by County staff. It was also suggested that goals 4 and 5 be combined into one goal as the intent is very similar. All existing goals and objectives can be found in slides 13-16 of the presentation. The suggested changes are as follows:

Suggested Changes to Goal 1:

Goal 1 – Reduce vulnerability and exposure to flood hazards in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of residents and visitors.

- Objective 1.1: Identify and prioritize mitigation projects to reduce flood damage
- Objective 1.2: Reduce damage to development through flood resilient strategies and measures
- Objective 1.3: Preserve open space areas, especially sensitive natural areas

Suggested Changes to Goals 4 and 5:

Goal 4 – Protect natural resources and watershed functions by employing watershed-based approaches that balance environmental, economic and engineering considerations.

- Objective 4.1: Protect and restore wetlands, aquifers, and environmentally sensitive lands to preserve natural watershed functions.
- Objective 4.2: Improve water quality and reduce runoff through effective stormwater management and best management practices.
- Objective 4.3: Preserve floodplains, open space, and natural coastal features to reduce flood risk and protect environmental resources.
- Objective 4.4: Minimize adverse impacts from development and redevelopment through resilient land use and watershed-based management approaches.

Mitigation Strategy

David described the mitigation strategy and what it aims to achieve. He clarified the difference between mitigation and maintenance noting that mitigation projects should be sustained actions aimed at reducing long-term risk & vulnerability. While maintenance projects may reduce flood risk, they tend to be routine practices or an already established task completed by staff and should not be included in the updated mitigation plan.

The CRS requires at least one action for each goal. CRS credit can be maximized by identifying projects within at least five of the six FEMA Mitigation Categories.

David presented the mitigation actions from the 2015 plan and suggested the removal of all highlighted projects shown in slides 20-23 of the presentation. David noted that many of the highlighted projects were not actions that would help mitigate flooding but were regular maintenance actions done by County staff.

Potential Capital Improvement Projects

Before the meeting, Chris coordinated with various Collier County departments to receive their input on potential capital improvement projects that could be used as mitigation actions in the FMP update. These potential projects can be found on slides 24 and 25 of the presentation.

- David reviewed the projects submitted by the Stormwater Department and noted that only the projects that are currently under design should be included in the plan. More detailed information on the individual projects will be needed.
- SFWMD asked if they should submit their projects for potential mitigation actions. David noted that since SFWMD are partners with Collier County and often collaborate, they should include their projects in this plan.
- It was noted that it would be beneficial to reach out to the Collier County Transportation Department for further project ideas and input.
- David invited the FMP Working Group to scan the QR code and use the Mitigation Strategy Form to submit new mitigation action ideas to WSP. The form can also be accessed here: [Collier County FMP Mitigation Strategy Form](#).
- Please provide the following information for new projects:
 - A short, detailed project description (a few sentences on the general issue, aim of the project, and benefits)
 - Lead department/agency responsible
 - Cost estimate (if available)
 - General timeline for implementation (short/medium/long term)



Next Steps

- WSP will schedule the final Working Group and public meetings which will be in October.
- FMPWG Action Items:
 1. Review draft Risk Assessment and send comments to WSP by Sept 25th
 - i) Access the document here: [Draft Risk Assessment](#), or on the plan website: <https://www.colliercountyfl-fmp.com/>
 2. Review the previous goals and objectives and send comments to WSP by Sept 25th
 3. Indicate new mitigation projects by October 1st

Discussion

- Chris noted that on February 8th, 2024, the coastal zone of the county received updated flood maps.
- Inland county flood maps have been updated and are under an appeals process.
- The FMP Working Group asked how WSP would like them to provide feedback on the goals and objectives. David clarified that we proposed changes to objectives for Goal 1 and combining goals 4 and 5 together, however, the Committee is welcome to submit comments on any of the goals and objectives. Please send feedback to Chris Mason or WSP staff.
- Howard clarified that current FEMA flood studies are using 2D modeling.
- Chris presented results from the CRS verification visit. The County has received the most points it's ever received and is now a class 5.