

## **2025 Okaloosa County Annual Progress Report Local Mitigation Strategy and Community Rating System**

### **Introduction**

In 2016, Okaloosa County and all its municipalities adopted a substantially revised version of the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS). The new LMS was found in compliance by the Florida Division of Emergency Management in July 2016, and by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in August 2016. This substantially revised version was updated in 2021 in accordance 44 CFR 201.6. The 2021 LMS was found in compliance by the Florida Division of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency on October 18, 2021. The current LMS Committee is in the process of updating the 2021 LMS to create the new 2026 LMS to be submitted to the State of Florida Department of Emergency Management in April 2026 for approval to be further submitted to FEMA for approval. Upon approval the county and municipalities will need to adopt the document.

All the municipalities as well as the County have passed ordinances or resolutions adopting the 2021 LMS. Because it includes a comprehensive analysis of the County's and municipalities' floodplain areas and floodplain management strategies, as well as analyses of all other hazards by which the County is threatened, the 2021 LMS serves as the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan as provided in Section 510 of the Community Rating System (CRS) Coordinator's Manual.

This Annual Report is structured to comply with the requirements of CRS Activity 510 reporting criteria as provided in Section 510 of the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System Coordinator's Manual, FEMA publication FIA-15/2017.

### **Annual Report Preparation, Submittal to Governing Bodies, Release to Media, and Public Availability**

This annual report was prepared internally by the Planning Division of the Okaloosa County Growth Management Department and has been distributed to all the municipalities.

For credit under the Community Rating System, this Annual Report must be distributed to the media and be made available to the public. To this end, it is being sent to the Northwest Florida Daily News, and copies of this Report are available for review or download online at the Growth Management portion of the County Website, and may be viewed or obtained in hard copy at the Growth Management Department's offices located at the Okaloosa County Administrative Complex, 1250 N. Eglin Parkway, 3rd Floor in Shalimar, or the North Planning Office located at 402 Brookmeade Drive in Crestview. The entire 2021 LMS, as amended, may also be accessed via the Growth Management portion of the County website or at the previously mentioned Growth Management office locations.

## **Revisions to Local Mitigation Strategy**

As of this writing, no revisions have been made to the programs and strategies of the 2021 LMS.

No projects were completed in the past year

No projects have been removed from the attached project list. See attached project list

## **Status of LMS Goals and Objectives**

At this time, much of the work identified in the LMS is ongoing.

The Goals and Objectives (the statements under each Goal), provide the broad range of what is to be accomplished during the five-year planning period from 2021 through 2026 by the LMS Steering Committee. Since Action Items are, for the most part, ongoing activities – such as implementation of the Florida Building Code, Floodplain Management practices, etc. – that are undertaken as part of the County's and municipalities' day-to-day operations, their status is ongoing. Projects, on the other hand, may be part of on-going, programmatic activities (such as, for example, installing generators to supply emergency power at key infrastructure) or major, one-time (or at least very long term) upgrades of facilities such as the construction of a new emergency operations center. **At the time of this 2025 Annual Report, all of the Goals and Objectives are being met.**

## **2021 LMS Projects (with 2025 Update)**

Accompanying this Update is the current list of LMS projects as approved by the LMS Committee. This list also provides the **status** of each project, and states the reason (typically lack of funds) for any projects for which action has been deferred.

## **Recommendations for New Projects or Revised Recommendations**

No new projects have been added or removed from the project list

### **Project List**

<https://myokaloosa.com/sites/default/files/Users/piouser/Copy%20of%202024%20LMS%20Project%20Priority%20List%20.pdf>