Program for Public Information (PPI) EVALUATION REPORT

Calendar Year 2024

Jurisdictions: St Lucie County, City of Port St Lucie, and City of Fort Pierce

Background of PPI

The jurisdictions of St. Lucie County, City of Port St. Lucie, and City of Ft. Pierce have generally developed and maintained a comprehensive outreach program to educate the public in all aspects of hazard preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.

As all jurisdictions are participants in the Community Rating System Program, part of the National Flood Insurance program which provides reductions to flood insurance premiums for residents and businesses within participating communities. The reductions are based on community floodplain management programs, including public information activities. To continue earning these discounts, communities must continually refine and implement these programs and provide an annual status report to the NFIP. The jurisdictions within St. Lucie County has emphasized not only the life and property protection components of floodplain management, but also the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains and the maintenance of open space.

In 2019, the jurisdictions jointly decided to implement a Program for Public Information to further solidify and unify the message that each jurisdiction was previously doing individually. After a year of year of meetings and preparation, the PPI sub-committee approved the first PPI in December of 2020, which was subsequently approved and adopted by the Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group as an annex to the St. Lucie County Unified Local Mitigation Strategy in June of 2021, for each jurisdiction to adopt and begin implementation. The PPI sub-committee, comprised of members from each jurisdiction that participates in the PPI, is pleased to present our annual evaluation report for the calendar year 2023.

PPI Meetings

The CRS Coordinator's Manual states that the PPI Committee is required to meet annually to evaluate the PPI, and our sub-committee decided to meet at that minimum of one (1) time per year to discuss implementation of projects as well as an annual evaluation would take place to determine which projects need to be modified, refined, or dropped to increase the effectiveness for existing audiences or to reach new audiences. The subcommittee reserves the right to meet more than one (1) time per year if needed to conduct further business related to the PPI. Once the annual evaluation report is completed and approved by the PPI sub-committee, it is then submitted to the Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group, as well as the governing bodies of each jurisdiction and to the Insurance Services Office (ISO) for their review.

PPI Sub-Committee Membership/Stakeholders

The PPI sub-committee is a multi-jurisdictional sub-committee of the St. Lucie County Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group, comprised of members from the City of Fort Pierce, City of Port St. Lucie, and the unincorporated areas of St. Lucie County. This group represents various backgrounds, all of which have a special interest in reducing the community's flood risk. These stakeholders represent local government, mortgage brokers, insurance agents, and community residents.

Name	Representative for:	Affiliation
Melissa Yunas*, Creative	City of Port St. Lucie	City of Port St. Lucie
Team Leader, Public		
Information		
Tioka Wolfhagen	City of Fort Pierce	City of Fort Pierce
Acting CRS Coordinator		
Brigette Carrillo	St. Lucie County	St. Lucie County
Emergency Management		
Coordinator –		
Recovery/Mitigation		
Oscar Hance*	St. Lucie County	St. Lucie County
Emergency Management		
Planner, CRS Coordinator, PPI		
Chair		
Joe Sweat*	City of Fort Pierce	City of Fort Pierce
Marketing Specialist, PPI		
Information Officer		
Shane Ratliff*, FPEM,	City of Port St. Lucie	City of Port St. Lucie
Emergency Operations/CRS		
Manager		
Charlene Adair	City of Fort Pierce	Floodplain Resident
Aaron Bowles, P.E.	St. Lucie County	MBV Engineering, Vice President
Angela Hayle	City of Port St. Lucie	Agent of ACCH Insurance Agency
Ryan Huff, P.E.	City of Fort Pierce	Milcor Group, Member of the Treasure Coast
		Builder's Association (TCBA)
Cecilia Jaimes	City of Port St. Lucie	VP and Commercial Lender with Center State
		Bank
Sabrina Rogers	St. Lucie County	Owner/Operator of Jaguar Insurance

Evaluation of Outreach Projects

The following table represents the outreach project (OP) list included in the PPI when updated by the PPI Subcommittee in August of 2022 and approved by the St. Lucie County LMS Working Group at the December 2022 meeting. At the September 2023 PPI Subcommittee Meeting, these projects were reviewed and determined that no changes needed to take place at this time.

OP #	Audience	Project	Topic/Message #'s	Assigned Jurisdiction	Frequency	STK Y/N	Stakeholder Name
1	Whole Community	Social Media Posts	All T/M	All Jurisdictions	Throughout Year	N	Facebook Next Door Twitter Instagram
2	Whole Community	"When Waves Swell" video (social media, website, Government TV)	T3 T4	All Jurisdictions	Throughout Year	Υ	FEMA Facebook Twitter Next Door Instagram Govt TV
3	Whole Community	"When Clouds Form" video (social media, website, Government TV)	T1 T2 T3 T4	All Jurisdictions	Throughout Year	Υ	FEMA Facebook Twitter Next Door Instagram Govt TV
4	Whole Community	Utility Bill	T2/M1 T3/M1 T3/M2 T4/M2 T6/M2 T10/M1	Fort Pierce	Once per Year	Y	Utility Company
	Target Audience #1	Mailer to all addresses in the SFHA	All T/M (PSL and SLC)	Port St Lucie St Lucie County	Once per year	N	No STK
5	Target Audience #2 Target Audience #2	Mailer Mailer	T1/M2 T2/M3 T5/M1 T8/M1 All T/M (PSL and SLC)	Fort Pierce Port St Lucie	Once per Year Once per	N	N/A
6	Target Audience #3	Mailer	All T/M FEMA F-435	St Lucie County Port St Lucie St Lucie County	Year Once per Year	Υ	Lenders Realtors
				•			Insurers
7	Whole Community	Hurricane Expo Booth/ Handouts	All T/M	Port St Lucie St Lucie County	Once per Year	Υ	Multiple Business Sponsors
OP #	Audience	Project	Topic/Message #'s	Assigned to/Jurisdiction	Frequency	STK Y/N	Stakeholder Name

OP	Audience	Project	Topic/Message #'s	Assigned to/Jurisdiction	Frequency	Y/N	Name
17 OB	Whole Community	Booth at County Fair	T2/M1 T3/M1 T3/M2 T4/M2 T6/M2 T10/M1	Fort Pierce	Once per Year	Y STK	St Lucie County Fair Association Stakeholder
16	SFHA	ICC Flood Insurance Handout	Activity 370	Fort Pierce	Throughout the Year	Υ	FEMA
15	Builders	Presentation at TCBA	T5/M1 T4/M1 T6/M2	Fort Pierce	Once per Year	Υ	ТСВА
14	Whole Community	County Flood Webpage	All T/M	St Lucie County	Throughout the Year	N	N/A
13	Whole Community	Public Areas Elected Official to speak at Hurricane Expo	Activity 370	Port St Lucie	Once per Year	Y	Several Business Sponsors
12	Whole Community	Flood Facts Brochure in 4	All T/M	Port St Lucie	Throughout the Year	N	N/A
11	Audiences Whole Community	Article in PSL On the Pulse Magazine	All T/M	Port St Lucie	Throughout the Year	N	N/A
10	Whole Community and all Target	City Flood Webpage	All T/M	Port St Lucie	Throughout the Year	N	N/A
9	Whole Community	Booth/Public Safety Fair	T2/M1 T3/M1 T3/M2 T4/M2 T6/M2 T10/M1	Fort Pierce St Lucie County	Once per Year	N	N/A
8	Whole Community	Earth Day Handouts	T2/M1 T3/M1 T3/M2 T4/M2 T6/M2 T10/M1	Fort Pierce St Lucie County	Once per Year	Υ	Several Local Sponsors
R	Whole	Farth Day	T2/M1	Fort Pierce	Once per	٧	Several Lo

18	Whole Community	Booth at TC Home Expo	T2/M1 T3/M1 T3/M2 T4/M2 T6/M2 T10/M1	Fort Pierce	Once per Year	N	N/A
19	Business Community	Handouts at Chamber of Commerce	Activity 370	Fort Pierce	Throughout the Year	Y	FEMA Chamber of Commerce
20	Whole Community	City Webpage	T1 T2 T3 T4 T5 T6 T7	Fort Pierce	Throughout the Year	N	N/A
21	Whole Community	Handout at lenders/banks	Activity 370	Fort Pierce	Throughout the Year	Υ	Banks
22	Whole Community	Handout (difference between homeowner & flood insurance)	Activity 370 or Topic 2	Fort Pierce	Throughout the Year	N	N/A
23	Business Community	Business Expo		Fort Pierce	Throughout the Year	N	N/A
24	Whole Community	Friday Fest Handouts/Boo th	T2/M1 T3/M1 T3/M2 T4/M2 T6/M2 T10/M1	Fort Pierce	1st Friday of the Month	Y	Fort Pierce Mainstreet
25	Whole Community	Video from the Ft. Pierce Mayor (Social Media/FPTV)	Activity 370	Fort Pierce	Hurricane Season	Υ	Facebook Next Door
26	.2% Flood Zone Properties	Mailer	Activity 370	Fort Pierce	Once per Year	N	N/A
OP #	Audience	Project	Topic/Message #'s	Assigned Jurisdiction	Frequency	STK Y/N	Stakeholder Name
1	Whole Community	Social Media Posts	All T/M	All Jurisdictions	Throughout Year	N	Facebook Next Door Twitter Instagram

3	Whole Community Whole Community	"When Waves Swell" video (social media, website, Government TV) "When Clouds Form" video (social media, website, Government TV)	T3 T4 T1 T2 T3 T4	All Jurisdictions All Jurisdictions	Throughout Year Throughout Year	Y	FEMA Facebook Twitter Next Door Instagram Govt TV FEMA Facebook Twitter Next Door Instagram Govt TV
4	Whole Community	Utility Bill	T2/M1 T3/M1 T3/M2 T4/M2 T6/M2 T10/M1	Fort Pierce	Once per Year	Y	Utility Company
	Target Audience #1	Mailer to all addresses in the SFHA	All T/M (PSL and SLC)	Port St Lucie St Lucie County	Once per year	N	No STK
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6	Target Audience #3	Mailer	All T/M FEMA F-435	St Lucie County Port St Lucie St Lucie County	Year Once per	Y	Lenders Realtors
7	Whole Community	Hurricane Expo Booth/ Handouts	All T/M	Port St Lucie St Lucie County	Once per Year	Y	Multiple Business Sponsors
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9	Whole Community	Booth/Public Safety Fair	T2/M1 T3/M1	Fort Pierce St Lucie County	Once per Year	N	N/A

			T3/M2 T4/M2 T6/M2 T10/M1				
10	Whole Community and all Target Audiences	City Flood Webpage	All T/M	Port St Lucie	Throughout the Year	N	N/A
11	Whole Community	Article in CM's Biweekly Magazine	All T/M	Port St Lucie	Throughout the Year	N	N/A
12	Whole Community	Flood Facts Brochure in 4 Public Areas	All T/M	Port St Lucie	Throughout the Year	N	N/A
13	Whole Community	Elected Official to speak at Hurricane Expo	Activity 370	Port St Lucie	Once per Year	Y	Several Business Sponsors
14	Whole Community	County Flood Webpage	All T/M	St Lucie County	Throughout the Year	N	N/A
15	Builders	Presentation at TCBA	T5/M1 T4/M1 T6/M2	Fort Pierce	Once per Year	Y	ТСВА
16							
	SFHA	ICC Flood Insurance Handout	Activity 370	Fort Pierce	Throughout the Year	Y	FEMA
17	Whole Community	Insurance Handout Booth at County Fair	T2/M1 T3/M1 T3/M2 T4/M2 T6/M2 T10/M1	Fort Pierce	the Year Once per Year	Υ	St Lucie County Fair Association
17 OP #	Whole	Insurance Handout Booth at	T2/M1 T3/M1 T3/M2 T4/M2 T6/M2		the Year Once per		St Lucie County Fair
ОР	Whole Community	Insurance Handout Booth at County Fair	T2/M1 T3/M1 T3/M2 T4/M2 T6/M2 T10/M1 Topic/Message	Fort Pierce Assigned	the Year Once per Year	Y	St Lucie County Fair Association

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22	Whole Community	Handout (difference between homeowner & flood insurance)	Activity 370 or Topic 2	Fort Pierce	Throughout the Year	N	N/A
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24	Whole Community	Friday Fest Handouts/Boo th	T2/M1 T3/M1 T3/M2 T4/M2 T6/M2 T10/M1	Fort Pierce	1st Friday of the Month	Υ	Fort Pierce Mainstreet
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26	.2% Flood Zone Properties	Mailer	Activity 370	Fort Pierce	Once per Year	N	N/A

Outcomes – The sub-committee has reviewed each outreach project for each jurisdiction and has determined that since the adoption of the governing bodies the current outreach projects have had positive feedback. The social media messaging has been implemented in all jurisdictions, and CRS Coordinators report increased traffic to the webpages our messaging drives people to visit. Also the outreach to targeted areas has been completed and has spurred more interest from the public inquiring about flood zones, flood insurance, and how they can mitigate the potential of flooding near their homes.

Evaluation of Target Audiences/Areas (VIII)

In 2022, the City of Port St. Lucie and St. Lucie County both requested to update their target audiences in the PPI to better align with the updated projects and ensure full CRS credit was attained for the outreach which is to be performed. The PPI sub-committee agreed with their requests and made the requested changes as part of the updated PPI document in that year. No changes were requested or made to target audiences in 2024. The added message is highlighted below.

City of Port St. Lucie

Target Audience #1 – Properties located in the SFHA (Zone AE, Coastal A, AH and VE).

The City of Port St. Lucie has 5222 acres of land located in the SFHA, which is considered high-risk for flooding. Within these Special Flood Hazard Areas, only 33% of the structures have insurance coverage.

Target Audience #2 – Properties located in repetitive loss areas (RLA).

The City of Port St. Lucie has 14 Repetitive Loss Areas. These areas are prone to repetitive flooding. It is important to inform property owners at risk of flooding, regardless of their SFHA, about the flood hazards that face them.

Target Audience #3 – Lenders, Real Estate Agents, and Insurance Agents

Lenders, real estate agents, and insurance agents have a role to play in promoting flood insurance, as they are often the 3 groups most likely to have contact with a prospective homeowner, well before the City would ever be in contact with them. Targeting these groups through the City's CRS Program will bring an awareness that is needed in those industries to create the working relationship with the jurisdiction to help better inform prospective homeowners about the availability of flood insurance at reasonable rates before they have the opportunity to get flooded.

St. Lucie County

Target Audience #1 – Properties located in the SFHA (Zone AE, Coastal A, AH and VE).

St. Lucie County has 16,640.56 acres of land located in the SFHA, which is considered high-risk for flooding. Because of the high risk of flooding, it is important to communicate risk of flooding and steps to take to mitigate to protect people and property from flood risk.

Target Audience #2 – Properties located in repetitive loss areas (RLA).

St Lucie County has 49 Repetitive Loss Areas. These areas are prone to repetitive flooding. It is important to inform property owners at risk of flooding, regardless of their SFHA, about the flood hazards that face them.

Target Audience #3 – Lenders, Real Estate Agents, and Insurance Agents

Lenders, real estate agents, and insurance agents have a role to play in promoting flood insurance, as they are often the 3 groups most likely to have contact with a prospective homeowner, well before the County would ever be in contact with them. Targeting these groups through the County's CRS Program will bring an awareness that is needed in those industries to create the working relationship with the jurisdiction to help better inform prospective homeowners about the availability of flood insurance at reasonable rates before they have the opportunity to get flooded.

Evaluation of Section X – Projects and Initiatives

In 2024, the PPI Subcommittee met in November to evaluate all messages, topics, and outreach projects within the PPI document. Due to the County being struck by a historic tornado outbreak as part of Hurricane Milton in October of 2024, the PPI Subcommittee desired to add a new message to Topic 7 regarding tornadoes and how to get warnings. This was the only change made to the document (other than updating membership) in 2024.

Topic 1: Know Your Flood Hazard

Message (1): Find out what your flood zone is, go to (jurisdiction's website or flood map information line) to learn your risk today.

Outcome (1): Increase requests for map information

Message (2): All of Florida is prone to aerial flooding, protect your property by knowing your hazards. Go to (jurisdiction's website) today.

Outcome (2): Increase hits to the jurisdiction's webpage

Topic 2: Insure your property for your flood hazard

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Message (1): Homeowners and renters insurance does not typically cover flood damages, consider purchasing flood insurance today.

Message (2): Protect the life you've built with flood insurance. Visit floodsmart.gov or contact your local insurance agent to purchase flood insurance.

Outcome (all messages): To increase the number of flood insurance policies in all jurisdictions

Topic 3: Protect people from the flood hazard

Message (1): Never drive or walk through a flooded area. Just six inches of moving water can sweep you off your feet, and 12 inches can sweep your vehicle away.

Message (2): Stay away from downed power lines and pay attention for gas leaks after a flood. Outcome (1/2): Decrease number of cars stuck on flooded roadways, reduce number of injuries during flood events

Message (3): Sign Up for Alert St. Lucie to get important notifications and flood-related information at stlucieco.gov/alert.

Outcome (3): Increase number of people signed up to receive flooding alerts and notifications.

Topic 4: Protect your property from the hazard

Message (1): Just one inch of water can cause \$25,000 of damage to your home. Visit (jurisdiction's website) for protection measures you can take

Outcome (1): Decrease number of damaged buildings

Message (2): Contact (jurisdiction's flood protection assistance/site visits) to get assistance and recommendations regarding retrofitting and flood control techniques. They can also schedule a site visit to assist you in mitigating flooding issues.

Outcome (2): Increase the number of requests for flood protection assistance

Topic 5: Build Responsibly

Message (1): Know your local flood regulations: When your structure has been damaged or flooded, you may be subject to substantial damage regulations. Visit (jurisdiction's website) for more information

Outcome (1): Increase the number of building permits after a flooding event

Topic 6: Protect natural floodplain functions

Message (1): Sweep up yard debris, rather than hosing down areas. Leaves, grass clippings, and tree trimmings that are blown into the streets can clog storm drains, increasing the risk of flooding on your street.

Outcome (1): Decrease reported number of clogged storm drains after a flooding incident.

Message (2): Don't dump or throw anything into storm sewers, inlets, ditches, or basins. If you see someone dumping debris in these areas, please contact (jurisdiction's phone number).

Outcome (2): Decrease number of citations issued for illegal dumping

Topic 7: Tips for hurricane season

Message (1): Plan ahead for possible flooding throughout hurricane season. Whether you live in a hurricane prone area or not, heavy rains or flooding may still affect you. Visit https://ready.gov/plan to get a plan for you and your family.

Message (2): Visit the St Lucie County website <u>www.stlucieco.org/eoc</u> for a copy of the Disaster Preparedness Guide or to find evacuation routes, shelters, and other important information.

Outcome (ALL): Fewer properties damaged by flooding during a hurricane

Message (3): Tornadoes are always possible when hurricanes approach, sign up for Alert St. Lucie at stlucieco.gov/alert to get notified of tornado activity.

Outcome (3): Fewer injuries from tornadoes and having a more informed public.

Topic 8: Flooding can happen anywhere, even outside a special flood hazard area

Message (1): Every property is vulnerable to flooding, don't wait until it's too late! Flood insurance policies have a 30-day waiting period before they go into effect.

Message (2): If you live outside of the special flood hazard area, you can obtain flood insurance at a low premium, contact an insurance agent for more information.

Outcome (all): Increase number of flood insurance policies in low-risk areas

Topic 9: Flood mitigation

Message (1): Flood mitigation is the lessening the impact of disasters through targeted efforts. You should act now to protect your family and your home investment. Visit (jurisdiction's website) to see how you can reduce your risks.

Outcome (1): Decrease number of insurance claims after a flooding incident

Topic 10: Working to protect our waterways

Message (1): Do your part to help protect our waterways, report any spills, leaks or discharges to (jurisdiction's phone number). Reporting promptly allows contaminants to be contained and avoid further pollution.

Outcome (1): Increase the number of reports received, which improves the quality of our waterways.

Outcomes – From those who were able to target messaging through social media in 2023, preliminary information suggests that the messaging is working as intended, as there have been more queries, more hits to our flood pages, and other key indicators that the messaging is being received by the population. With only being in effect since December of 2022 (less than a year) since the last verbiage changes were made, we will see more outcomes as these are instituted and gotten out to the public.

Evaluation of Flood Response Preparations

In 2023, The PPI committee felt that the topics adopted for Flood Response Preparations were appropriate and no changes need to be made this year to the FRP messages.

At the threat of a flood or storm

Topic 3: Protect people from the flood hazard

Message (1): Sign up for emergency alerts at www.stlucieco.gov/alert

Outcome (1): Increase number of people signed up to receive flooding alerts and notifications

Message (2): Turn around don't drown

Outcome (2): Decrease the number of occupied vehicles driving through flooded roads

Topic 4: Protect your property from flood hazard

Message (1): Protect your home, put up shutters or plywood

Message (2): Properly filled and placed sandbags are a simple way to prevent or reduce flood damage. They do not guarantee a water-tight seal and should not be relied on as the only solution to keep water outside of a building.

Message (3): Implement your flood mitigation plan and be prepared for flooding. However, if damage does occur, obtain permits before starting repairs.

Outcome (all): Fewer damage reports after a flood incident

Topic 7: Tips for hurricane season

Message (1): Do not get on the road without a chosen destination

Outcome (1): Less people on the roads during a storm

Message (2): Know where the evacuation shelters are, visit <u>www.stlucieco.org/eoc</u>

Outcome (2): Fewer calls to disaster information lines inquiring about shelter locations

Message (3): Tornadoes are always possible when hurricanes approach, sign up for Alert St. Lucie at stlucieco.gov/alert to get notified of tornado activity.

Outcome (3): Fewer injuries from tornadoes and having a more informed public.

After a flood or storm

Topic 5: Build Responsibly

Message (1): Hire only licensed contractors

Outcome (1): Fewer citations for unlicensed contractors

Message (2): Contact your local floodplain official for information on flood regulations

Outcome (2): Increase permitted repairs after a flooding incident

Topic 9: Flood Mitigation

Message (1): If you have a flood insurance policy, you may be eligible to file a claim for Increased Cost of Compliance to elevate your home or implement other mitigation measures, contact your flood insurance agent today.

Outcome (1): More mitigation measures implemented in covered homes

The FRP messaging above is also presented below in table format:

<u>OP #</u>	<u>Audience</u>	Method of Distribution	Topics/Message #'s	Assigned Jurisdiction	When to Disseminate	Individus Methods Available
1	Whole Community	Social Media	T3/M1-2 T4/M1- 3 T7/M1-2	All Jurisdictions	At the Threat of a Flood or Storm	Facebook Next Doo Twitter Instagran
2	Whole Community	Social Media Handouts	T5/M1-2	All Jurisdictions		Facebook Next Doo Twitter Instagran
3	Whole Community	Social Media Handouts	T9/M1	All Jurisdictions	After a Flood or Storm	Facebook Next Doo Twitter Instagran

Attachments to this Report

Attachment 1:

PPI Meeting minutes 11/07/2024

Meeting Minutes November 7, 2024

I. Attendance/Introductions

Brigette Carrillo, St. Lucie County EM
Tioka Wolfhagen – Building Department, City of Ft. Pierce
Shane Ratliff – City of PSL Emergency Management
Angela [last name not provided] [Department/entity missing]
Aaron Bowles – APB Engineering
Cecilia Jaimes – Commercial Lender [Not sure the Entity]
Doris Szabo – St. Lucie County Public Safety

II. Public Comment

None

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve: Shane Ratliff; Second: Angela ___ All in favor

Motion to approve: Cecilia; Second: Shane

All in favor

V. Annual PPI Review/Monitoring

a. Outreach Projects Completed

IV. Approval of Minutes (September 20, 2023)

Shane/City of PSL completed outreach projects, including sending out informational mailers. Found A better way to do so without doing the water bill, which costs a lot. Uses a local printer who uses a USPS program which delivers to any address you want for much cheaper.

b. Outcome for Each Project

[No specific outcomes were provided; participants discussed effectiveness and potential adjustments.]

VI. Suggested Changes to PPI Plan

Tornado Alerting:

Shane suggested adding messaging on tornado alerts, emphasizing the importance of signing up for "Alert St. Lucie" for real-time notifications. **Proposed addition to** Topic 3, Message 3: "Tornadoes are always possible when hurricanes approach, sign up for Alert St. Lucie at stlucieco.gov/alert to get notified of tornado activity." Subcommittee agreed, will be added.

Flood Insurance Collaboration:

Angela mentioned an opportunity to collaborate with the Inc. organization in Fort Pierce and

Smart Growth America to promote flood insurance. She will share details later.

Alternative Alert Platforms:

Shane mentioned a website that issues alerts slightly faster than Alert St. Lucie and suggested including this information to improve public awareness and mitigate injuries.

Outreach Project Changes:

Shane advised one of his projects has been rebranded as "On the Pulse."

This should be communicated during outreach events for all agencies.

He noted that post-meeting, an annual report must be submitted to ISO with certification and proof of outreach efforts, like emails sent before Hurricane Million, to maintain compliance.

Flood Insurance Uptake:

Angela observed an increase in homeowner inquiries and purchases of flood insurance. She suggested amplifying outreach to address this trend.

Target Audiences:

Brigette asked if any changes should be made to target audiences; no changes were suggested.

Distribution Efficiency:

Shane shared that distributing notices with water bills has reduced costs by about twothirds.

Mandatory Flood Insurance with Citizens:

Angelina noted that flood insurance will become mandatory with Citizens Insurance within the next three years, regardless of flood zone. Shane confirmed this legislative change and mentioned the longer-term mandate for all Florida properties within ten years.

Outreach Project Reviews and Points System:

Tioka noted the absence of a current CRS representative and received guidance from Shane to review existing outreach projects for the 2026 deadline.

Brigette asked about the limit on outreach projects; Shane clarified there is no limit, though points are capped.

Aaron inquired about point allocation; Shane explained that it is based on a complex formula.

Historical Documentation and Updates:

Shane emphasized the importance of maintaining a historical record of outreach, starting from original 2019 messaging, without removing past content.

Aaron raised the need to update Topic 10 (page 12) with 2024 activities. Shane confirmed that the LMS coordinators would include these updates in the upcoming evaluation report.

VII. Next Meeting Date and Time

June 18, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

VIII. Member Comments

No additional comments recorded.

IX. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Shane; Second: Aaron

All in favor





City of Port St. Lucie Evaluation of Coverage Improvement Plan

In order to adequately review and evaluate the coverage improvement plan listed in the Program for Public Information (PPI), the City of Port St. Lucie's CRS Manager requested a copy of the CIS information from the State Floodplain Management Office to be compared with the same information received in February of 2024. The State Floodplain Management Office replied that they no longer sent that data to communities within Florida, as the data "was not reliable" in nature, and that I would have to contact FEMA Region 4 NFIP in order to get their data instead. After multiple attempts at requesting the data from Region 4, I was finally sent an excel sheet with the information all together that I had to parse out to turn into info to be compared with what has been compared with in the past.

The results of the comparison show that the number of flood insurance policies in force in the City of Port St. Lucie have declined in the 13 months since the last CIS information was run, from 3,478 to 2,988, a 14.1% decrease in active policies. After further examination, the information given to us by FEMA Region 4 no longer provides the premium broken down by zone versus number of policies, making it impossible to determine if prices are increasing or decreasing on policies, which would be a factor in whether homeowners bought flood insurance policies.

Our coverage improvement plan, part of the PPI, calls for increased messaging and outreach to both targeted audiences, as well and more general outreach to the public. The City has completed these PPI outreach projects for the past 3 years (including sending out mailers to our 3 targeted audiences, costing thousands of dollars), and yet we still see a decrease in total number of policies. During our outreach events, the CRS Manager specifically asks residents whether they have flood insurance and if not, why not. The overwhelming majority cite cost as a prohibitive factor in purchasing flood insurance. Over the past year, particularly in the past few months, the fear of a spike of inflation has residents reconsidering their regular purchases, including groceries, entertainment, and insurance. Florida continues to be in an insurance crisis, where insurers are few and prices are rising exponentially after each successive hurricane season. In 2024, we had 3 hurricanes strike the state, and insurers are now raising prices and pulling out of the market altogether. The CRS Manager understands why residents would drop or not purchase flood insurance over homeowners insurance with prices at this unsustainable rate. However, our Emergency Management Division continues to advise residents that flood insurance is the only way to become whole again after a flooding event. The City will continue to message both general audiences and target audiences on the importance of flood insurance and its being your first line of defense to recover from a flooding incident.