**City of Myrtle Beach Floodplain Management and Hazard Mitigation Plan 2020 Update**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Committee Meeting #3: Goals Meeting**

**August 12, 2020, 10:00AM to 12:00PM**

**WebEx Meeting**

Margaret Walton, project manager with Atkins, opened the meeting by introducing herself and the topic of the meeting for the day. She asked if there were any first-time participants and Katie Dennis from the City of Conway, Mitch Combs from the Town of Surfside, and Ricky Loweder from Horry Electric. Ms. Walton then provided a recap of the last meeting by touching on the overall hazard list and the hazard profiles and the risks to the City, along with the impacts from flooding on life, safety, and public health. Lastly, she reviewed the problem statements that were related to flood-prone areas that were developed from the last meeting. Ms. Walton also gave an update on the public survey and reminded the City that it would close on August 31, 2020.

Ms. Walton then reviewed some population and housing unit construction information that had been collected from the U.S. Census and American Community Survey to look at trends in growth in the communities that should be considered when thinking about hazard risk, especially flooding. During the discussion, it was noted that the growth has been steady but slower growth than the City has seen in past decades. New construction has slowed down but there are some developments that are expected. Allison Hardin from the Committee stated she would craft a list of areas and/or subdivisions that are developing or will be created in the near and long-term future. She stated that most of the developments are expected within 5 years or less and that most untouched land is outside of the jurisdiction of the City or is commercial property. The areas that were noted are as follows:

* 82nd west of intracoastal bypass – development plans approved by planning commission stop just shy of 79th but there is more developable land in there with development rights
* On the north end there are a couple of tracks on Kings Highway and ocean/swash that have had development interest
  + Marina Parkway is in city limits that is going through development
  + 1300 apartments are planned in that area
* Petition for subdivision for 290 single family and town home lots off of Granddaddy Drive which is currently a wooded area that has existing lakes and there is opportunity to provide open space.
* Development tracks in middle of the City that have no development but may see development in the future are outside of the city limits at this time
  + Larger track off of Pine Island and has localized flooding
* Proposed flood maps showed a lot of flood zones on former Air Force Base and is under development or planned for development
* Finishing parts of Clemson Track development – under review for commercial shopping center
* Arbor Glenn Planned Unit Development – planning commission required 570 units in development be brought up to future flood standards and used future flood map for property because has 100-foot wide drainage ditch through the middle and another 75-foot ditch as well
* Area zoned for industrial development but there is no date for that development

Next, Ms. Walton moved to discuss future flooding conditions and the impacts of sea level rise and how the goals should be formulated on the existing hazards. The goals were stated as needing to be broad and provide a roadmap for the overall plan. The actions and projects should be based on trying to accomplish the goals and every action should be directly linked back to at least one goal. She then examined the goals in other City plans such as the Comprehensive Plan and asked if there were other plans that should be evaluated. It was stated that there is currently a task in place to have Sea Level Rise (SLR) goals reflected in the Comprehensive Plan and could that element be moved into the Floodplain Management and Hazard Mitigation Plan. Upon, this Ms. Walton outlined all of the current goals in the plan and a discussion followed of how to include SLR in the goals. It was decided that SLR would be included in the hazards listed in Goal 1. The following edits were made to the existing goals:

* + - Edit Goal 1 – add “**sea level rise**” to the end of listed hazards
    - Edit Goal 2 – change to “**Preserve natural resources including**…”
    - Edit Goal 4 – change to “**~~a~~** comprehensive public **education** and awareness”
    - Edit Goal 5 – under normal, **future**, and emergency conditions

Next the Committee, reviewed the problem statements to ensure that the goals were overarching and could encompass the problems and suggest viable solutions. The group worked through this activity collectively and were able to determine how the City was going to combat some of the current issues surrounding flooding in the community. This also helped the group to begin thinking about potential new mitigation actions.

Following this activity, Ms. Walton began a discussion of the hazard mitigation techniques and asked the Committee members to engage in an open discussion of where they felt potential mitigation dollars would best be spent. This flowed directly to examine the existing mitigation actions and a focus was made on drainage projects and their importance for property protection. Ms. Walton shared that she felt public education and awareness could easily be capitalized with minimal or no cost. Looking at the existing mitigation actions, it was decided that any actions related to zoning ordinance or to gain CRS points should be kept and expanded upon if possible. Emily Hardee, the City POC for the project, also asked the Committee to review the existing mitigation actions.

Finally, the next steps were discussed, and all the attendees were asked to sign in online to the meeting. Ms. Walton then adjourned the meeting.