

GRANT APPLICATION

Project Title: Nassau County Vulnerability Assessment: Phase I

Grantee

Organization Name: Nassau County Board of County Commissioners

Chief Elected Official or Agency Head: Pat Edwards

Title: Chairman

Address: 96135 Nassau Place

City: Yulee

Zip Code: 32097

Area Code and Telephone Number: (904) 530-6010

E-mail Address: pedwards@nassaucountyfl.com

Project/Grant Manager:

Organization Name: Same as above

Chief Elected Official or Agency Head: Taco Pope, AICP

Title: Director, Planning and Economic Opportunity

Address: 96161 Nassau Place

City: Yulee

Zip Code: 32097

Area Code and Telephone Number: (904) 530-6300

E-mail Address: tpope@nassaucountyfl.com

Fiscal Agent:

Organization Name: Nassau County Clerk of Courts

Chief Elected Official or Agency Head: John Crawford

Title: Clerk

Address: 76347 Veterans Way

City: Yulee

Zip Code: 32097

Area Code and Telephone Number: (904) 548-4500

E-mail Address: jcrawford@nassauclerk.com

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Mailing Address for Reimbursement (if other than the Grantee address):

Same as above

FEID No.: 59-1863042

DUNS No.: 829978514

PROJECT LOCATION:

WORK PLAN *(Expand text areas as needed, keeping within the 10-page limit for the Work Plan)*

1. Project Abstract:

Nassau County is applying for a Resilience Planning Grant (RPG) to conduct a vulnerability assessment for two specific areas of the County: 1) east of I-95 on the mainland, and 2) west of I-95 south and west of A1A/SR 200/301. These areas represent portions of the County experiencing the most rapid growth and development pressures, and lands that are highly vulnerable due to extensive floodplain and wetland areas. Another critical reason for conducting a high-level vulnerability assessment is that significant portions of these areas have not had Flood Insurance Studies (FIS) conducted and there are no Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) for these parts of the County. Major long-range planning efforts are currently being conducted for these regions of the County, and a vulnerability assessment would help inform these efforts and future planning by Nassau County. The County has a goal of holistically incorporating resiliency planning into all planning activities, instead of treating it as a siloed, separate planning exercise.

2. Project Description:

Nassau County is applying for a Resilience Planning Grant (RPG) to conduct a Vulnerability Assessment for two specific areas of the County: 1) east of I-95 on the mainland, and 2) west of I-95 south and west of A1A/SR 200/301. Amelia Island is not included in the request due to existing Vulnerability Assessment work conducted in 2013, and the remainder of western Nassau is not included at this time in order to keep the scope of work manageable for purposes of the grant time period. It is anticipated that the remainder of Western Nassau would be addressed through a second phase Vulnerability Assessment in the future.

Flooding, stormwater, drainage are top of mind with elected officials and community based on recent storm events like Matthew and Irma, but also because of everyday flooding after typical summer thunderstorms. It is not uncommon to hear on a weekly basis from citizens in the county regarding road flooding issues or that they have been dropped from their flood insurance. The community has indicated they are ready for action. A Vulnerability Assessment for our rapidly growing areas, and areas with demonstrated existing flooding issues, will help us better prepare in Nassau County and will dovetail well with existing long-range planning projects that are underway.

Nassau County Planning and Economic Opportunity (PEO) Department staff are working on numerous long-range planning initiatives in the proposed project areas. The timeline for these projects is roughly all over the next 18-24 months. Having a Vulnerability Assessment

conducted now is an opportune time to make sure we are adequately addressing future impacts of flooding and SLR as the County progresses on these planning projects. This not only helps the County plan for our citizens, it will also help the County plan internally in terms of siting future infrastructure projects. Projects underway include:

- **SR200/A1A Corridor Design Plan:** approximately thirteen-mile project area from west of I-95 to the Intercoastal Waterway.
- **William Burgess District Connectivity Blueprint:** future transportation and infrastructure planning for the William Burgess District just east of I-95.
- **Western Nassau Heritage Preservation:** long-range vision plan for land use for the entire portion of the County west of I-95.
- **Recreation:** Long-range planning for future neighborhood and regional recreation needs in Nassau County.
- **Conservation Land Acquisition:** Conducting priority mapping and convening task force of experts to assist in goals related to conservation land acquisition.
- **Updating Development Review Regulations:** Completing substantive overhaul of development review regulations in the County Land Development Code.
- **Cultural Resources Survey Grant:** Applied for state grant to have comprehensive cultural resource survey completed for the unincorporated County and towns of Hilliard and Callahan.
- **School Board Growth and Land Use Committee:** Participating in discussions with the School Board related to future growth and school siting.
- **Updating Comprehensive Plan with Peril of Flood Requirements:** PEO staff will be drafting and forwarding Comprehensive Plan updates in Fall 2018.

These projects are directly related to projected growth trends for Nassau County. In Spring 2018, the PEO Department released a Growth Trends report with projections relative to population and potential future land areas expected to be impacted as a result of this growth. The proposed areas for this Vulnerability Assessment, which are areas of existing population concentration and growth, are projected to be the areas continuing to grow over the next ten years. Additionally, the East Nassau Community Planning Area (Wildlight) is in the proposed Vulnerability Assessment area. This 50-year plan will result in a significant increase only in terms of population and developed land area.

Incorporating resiliency into all of these planning efforts represents the holistic planning approach the County wishes to see implemented. In addition, there are other specific projects related to floodplain management and resiliency that PEO staff is working on, or has suggested for implementation. A memo relaying these projects is provided as an attachment to this application.

Specific areas to address in the Vulnerability Assessment for the proposed areas include: future exposure to existing developed areas and future areas, financial exposure, and risks to significant environmental and cultural resources. A Vulnerability Assessment can help the County identify focus areas and areas for potential Adaptation Action Areas, which can be incorporated into the County's Comprehensive Plan, but also any of the related long-range planning projects. Because of the high level of community interest, the County envisions outreach opportunities as part of the assessment process especially around the focus areas and sharing information from the assessment. An example would be to host a minimum of two

information giving and gathering sessions in areas the County knows are already experiencing routine flooding issues. Additional outreach materials could be created by PEO staff for distribution after the assessment is complete.

The County's PEO Department has a diverse team of professionals with varied backgrounds who can take information from a Vulnerability Assessment and start thinking about adaptation strategies and policy. But assistance is very much needed with technical components like a Vulnerability Assessment. PEO staff envisions adopting adaptation strategies holistically throughout many of the existing planning projects underway, in addition to the Comprehensive Plan, so that policies are not relegated to a siloed plan that sits on a shelf.

3. Project Need and Benefit:

- a. Explain the demonstrated need, which the project addresses.

Nassau County's land cover is dominated by floodplain and wetlands. Proposed areas for the Vulnerability Assessment represent areas of the County for which we already see significant impacts and vulnerabilities after storm events, both as severe as hurricanes or as routine as a daily thunderstorm in the summer. The proposed areas also represent major projected growth areas for the future, as well as existing growth areas that the PEO office sees on a daily basis. One of the major challenges for our community is that the areas in the proposed Vulnerability Assessment reflect inland flooding issues. But the water bodies are tidally influenced, and we have seen some of our worst flooding in the Callahan area, a good distance from the coast. A Vulnerability Assessment would enable the County to have data to support future planning decisions in these areas and create adaptation strategies and policies.

Another critical reason for conducting a high-level Vulnerability Assessment is that significant portions of these areas have not had Flood Insurance Studies (FIS) conducted and there are no Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) for these parts of the County. At this time, FEMA maps are amended on a project by project basis through the LOMA and LOMR-F processes. It is understood that a Vulnerability Assessment would not provide the level of information required for a Flood Insurance Study. It is a goal of the County to work to find additional funding opportunities to have Flood Insurance Study-level information established. However, a Vulnerability Assessment would provide initial high-level information on risk areas for which the County can begin to plan in the absence of more detailed information.

- b. Explain how the proposed project meets the purpose of one or more of the RPG four priority areas, as defined in Attachment 1.

The proposed project directly meets Priority Area 3: Vulnerability Assessments, Adaptation Plans or Resilience Plans, and indirectly meets Priority Areas 2 and 4 by providing a baseline assessment that will inform County outreach, decision-making and planning.

- c. Discuss how the project is feasible and can be completed by the Deadline of June 21, 2019.

PEO Staff will be responsible for managing the Vulnerability Assessment process, and are capable of seeing it to completion in a timely manner consistent with the project deadline. Because of the grant funding requested amount, a formal RFP process that takes a significant

amount of time is not required. Breaking up the County geographically will help because: 1) It provides a more manageable geographic area to address as an assessment before June 2019, 2) it allows for more concentrated opportunities for outreach, and 3) it targets the most immediate areas already facing growth or facing growth over the next five to ten years.

4. Project Timeline:

This is required to show a summary of details provided for the project. The tasks must be completed by the corresponding task end date and all deliverables must be received by the designated due date. *(Select example table text below and add or delete to fill in your project information.)*

PROJECT TIMELINE

Task/ Deliverable No.	Task or Deliverable Title	Task Start Date	Task End Date	Deliverable Due Date	Task Amount
1	Consultant Selection Process (Quotes, Selection, Procurement)	1/1/2019	1/31/2019	1/31/2019	\$0
2	Initial Kickoff Meeting and Planning Discussion	2/1/2019	2/8/2019	2/8/2019	\$0
3	Data Collection and Work on Draft Vulnerability Assessment	2/11/2019	3/29/2019	4/1/2019	\$20,000
4	Review Draft Assessment and Conduct Outreach Around Assessment	4/2/2019	4/30/2019	4/30/2019	\$10,000
5	Incorporate Outreach and Complete Final Assessment	5/1/2019	6/10/2019	6/10/2019	\$10,000
6	Transmit Final Plan to DEP For Review	6/11/2019	6/21/2019	6/21/2019	\$0

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Task 1

Title: Consultant Selection Process (Quotes, Selection, Procurement)
Description: Work with County Contract Manager to Quote and Select Consultant
Deliverable: Contract to Complete Vulnerability Assessment

Task 2

Title: Initial Kickoff Meeting and Planning Discussion
Description: Meet with Consultant to Discuss Scope of Work and Schedule
Deliverable: Project Timeline and Final Scope

Task 3

Title: Data Collection and Work on Draft Vulnerability Assessment
Description: Consultant to Gather Data and Complete Draft Assessment
Deliverable: Draft Vulnerability Assessment

Task 4

Title: Review Draft Assessment and Conduct Outreach Around Assessment
Description: PEO Staff to Provide Comments & Conduct Outreach with Consultant
Deliverable: PEO Staff Comments and Feedback from Community Outreach

Task 5

Title: Incorporate Outreach and Complete Final Assessment
Description: Consultant to Complete Final Assessment
Deliverable: Final Vulnerability Assessment (Provided in Electronic Format/Hard Copy, and with Any Associated Data Files – GIS Shapefiles, etc.)

Task 6

Title: Transmit Final Plan to DEP for Review
Description: PEO Staff to Submit Final Assessment to DEP for Review
Deliverable: Final Vulnerability Assessment

5. Budget Summary:

	Grant
AGREEMENT TOTAL	\$ 40,000

TOTAL GRANT FUNDS

Categories	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	Task 5	Task 6	TOTAL BY CATEGORY
Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fringe	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contractual	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$40,000
Indirect (limited to 10% of salaries + fringe)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$
SUB-TOTAL BY TASK	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$40,000

(Select example table above and add or delete to fill in your project information.)

- 6. Salaries Detail.** All staff for whom grant funding is being used to pay salary must track the hours spent on each individual task and provide a written statement with the request for payment of the number of hours spent on that task.

Task Number	Position Title	Total Hours per Task	Maximum salary per hour (shall be based on actual salary)	Fringe (either % or fringe per hour)
N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ N/A	N/A

For further information, contact:

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)
 Florida Resilient Coastlines Program (FRCP)
 ATTN: Angel Baratta, Grant Manager
 3900 Commonwealth Blvd.
 Douglas Bldg., MS 235
 Tallahassee, FL 32399
 (850) 245-2849
Angel.Baratta@FloridaDEP.gov

Certification Statement

“By signing this title page, the undersigned certifies that:

- a. This application is in all respects fair and submitted in good faith without collusion or fraud;
- b. If selected through this application process, the recipient will work in good faith and in partnership with the Florida Resilient Coastlines Program to manage its subcontractors in a timely and accurate manner;
- c. Any funds awarded as a result of this application process will not be used to supplant or replace any state or local funds;
- d. Any funds awarded as a result of this application process will not be used as matching funds to apply for or receive other state or federal funds;
- e. The applicant local government’s adopted comprehensive plan has been found to be in compliance with Chapter 163, Part II, F.S.;
- f. The undersigned has full authority to bind the applicant.”



Signature

Michael S. Mullin

Printed Name

Interim County Manager

Title

9/6/19

Date

If applicant is a Florida college, community college, state university, regional planning council, or national estuary program; include the signature, name, title of contact for partnering entity, the name of the eligible county or city partner, and the date.

Signature of Partner

County or City Partner Entity

Printed Name

Title

Date

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