



LAUDERTRAC

RESILIENCY UPDATE FORT LAUDERDALE

Tracking Progress on Commission Priorities for 2020



October/November 2020

CREATING A STRONGER COMMUNITY

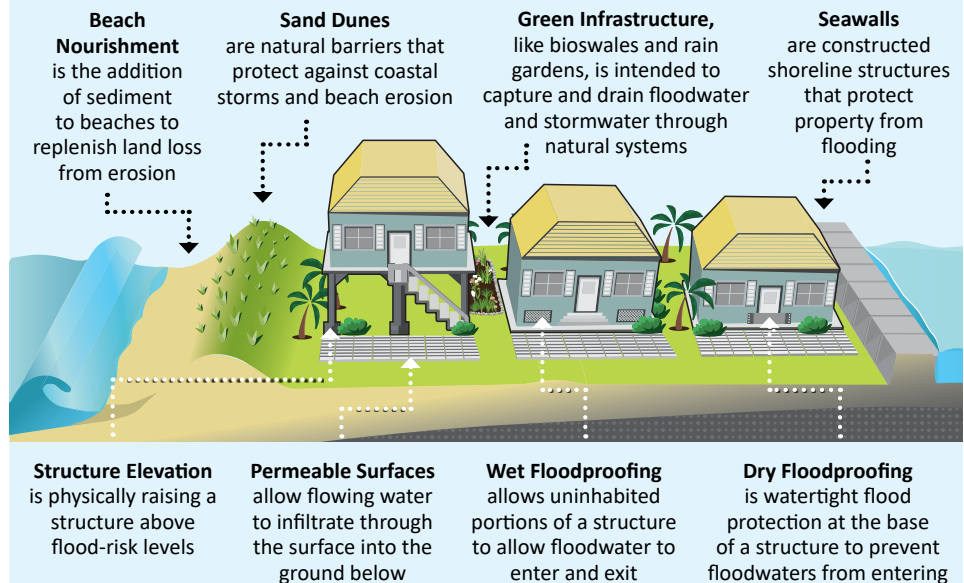
Community Partners Highlight Economic Benefits of Creating Resilience

The City is an active member of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce Economic Resilience Council. The Council's vision is for "the Greater Fort Lauderdale area to be the epicenter of solutions for our collective environmental challenges which support a resilient and robust local economy." They hope to encourage action to adapt to climate change, flooding, and sea level rise challenges.

The Council has five goals:

- ▶ Goal #1: Partner with local universities, the Museum of Discovery and Science, Broward County, Broward County Public Schools, and the private sector to increase educational opportunities for youth within our community.
- ▶ Goal #2: Continue to support the work of the City, County, and Regional Economic Resilience Group, including the next phase of the regional economic study.
- ▶ Goal #3: Develop a resilience action group that can advocate on-call for resilience needs for the community.
- ▶ Goal #4: Create a 5-year resilience work plan for the Council.
- ▶ Goal #5: Grow the membership of the Economic Resilience Committee to include a representative from each coastal city and restart quarterly Coastal Coalition meetings which include City Manager and Chamber representatives.

Community-Wide and Building-Level Adaptation Strategies*



The Council supported the idea of a study on the regional economic benefits of climate adaptation, which was backed by several government and business partners, including the four counties in the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact (Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach); the Florida Department of Environmental Protection; the Beacon Council Foundation; Broward Workshop; Community Foundation of Broward; Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce; and Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce.

On Oct. 13, 2020, the Urban Land Institute (ULI) released the report, *The Business Case for Resilience in Southeast Florida: Regional Economic Benefits of Climate Adaptation* (bit.ly/ulibuscaseres). With AECOM as a consultant, this cost-benefit analysis examines the economic risk of sea level rise in Southeast Florida. The report outlines the economic realities for public and private investment in resilient infrastructure and supports the argument that investments must be made now to prevent more costly expenses in the future. These investments will protect property against flooding and drive job creation.

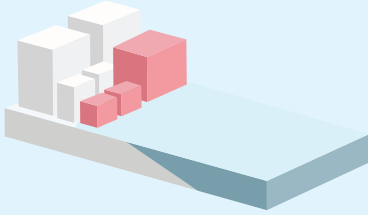
* Illustration from Urban Land Institute. *The Business Case for Resilience in Southeast Florida: Regional Economic Benefits of Climate Adaptation*. Washington, DC: Urban Land Institute, 2020.

VISUALIZING DAMAGE WITH AND WITHOUT RESILIENT ADAPTATION*

DAILY TIDE IN 2040

Without Adaptation Action

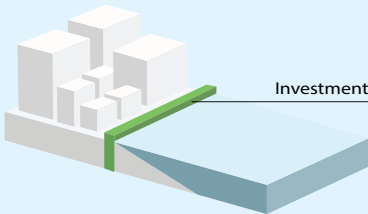
Without adaptation action, rising seas coupled with daily high tides threaten buildings and infrastructure.



DAILY TIDE IN 2040

With Adaptation Action

With adaptation actions, buildings and infrastructure are more protected from rising seas and daily high tides.



Adaptation in both the public and private realm will be necessary to avoid community-wide economic hardships caused by climate impacts. If it fails to act, Southeast Florida could see declines in property values, damage from flooding, and lost tourism and tax revenue. Regionally, the study estimates are that by 2040:

- ▶ \$4.2 billion in property value will be exposed to daily tidal inundation;
- ▶ \$3.2 billion in property damage is anticipated from one 10-year storm tide event;
- ▶ \$28 million in sales, tourism, and property tax losses from daily tidal inundation; and
- ▶ \$2 million in sales and tourism tax losses will occur from one 10-year storm tide event

On a positive note, the study outlines options to avoid these costs and uses a performance metric called “job years” which represents one job per year over the course of the study’s planning horizon. The author concludes that the return on investment from adaptation is positive. Building-level adaptations such as floodproofing, structure elevation, and the addition of permeable surfaces will generate \$9 for every \$1 invested and support 3,190 job years through 2040, or 22,660 job years through 2070. Community-wide adaptations, including green infrastructure, sea walls, and dune enhancement, will generate \$5 for each \$1 invested and support 15,200 job years through 2040, or 24,750 through 2070.

Armed with a business case for investing in resilience, the local business community can make more informed investments to achieve a stronger and more sustainable Fort Lauderdale. Working together, the City and its partners can bring the resident vision of becoming a resilient and safe coastal community to fruition.



Protect Your Property

Recent rains remind us of the importance of having flood insurance, even if you do not live in a flood zone. Neighbors are encouraged to

purchase flood insurance before flooding occurs to protect their home and possessions against loss from flood damage. Ask your insurance agent about flood insurance.



Know Your Flood Hazard

To determine your flood risk, visit www.fortlauderdale.gov/flood or contact the Floodplain Manager, Richard Benton, at 954-828-6133 or rbenton@fortlauderdale.gov.



Tracking Progress Cordova Road Seawall

Installed to date:

2,200 feet of sheet pile

1,700 feet of seawall cap

200 jet filters

Expected completion

December 2020

GET INFORMATION AND UPDATES



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

24-hour Neighbor Call Center: 954-828-8000

Alert FTL: www.fortlauderdale.gov/alertftl

Website: www.fortlauderdale.gov

Email Updates: www.fortlauderdale.gov/enews

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CityofFortLauderdale

Twitter: www.twitter.com/FTLCityNews

Nextdoor: www.nextdoor.com