



# LAUDERTRAC

## RESILIENCY UPDATE FORT LAUDERDALE

### Tracking Progress on Commission Priorities for 2021



September 2021

## CREATING A STRONGER COMMUNITY

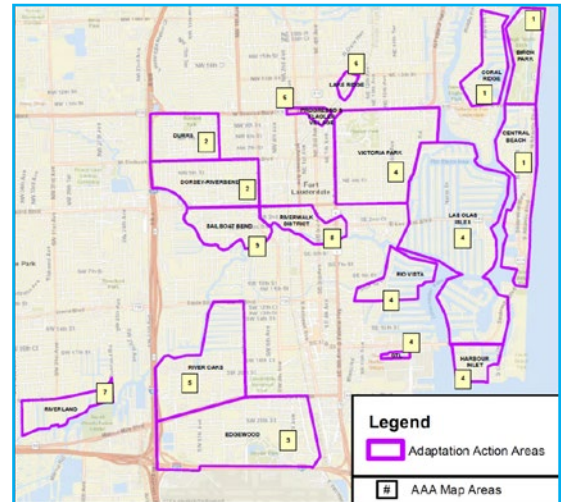
### A Focus on Addressing Flooding Protection in the Downtown

Downtown Fort Lauderdale has several challenges when it comes to stormwater management and flood protection. The area is characterized by tall buildings and paved surfaces, giving the rain few places to go but down the storm drains. Another challenge is that our drainage system is owned and maintained by a combination of several different parties: private property entities, the City of Fort Lauderdale, Broward County and the Florida Department of Transportation. Protecting downtown from flooding only works when all parties work together. Finally, the New River, which runs through the heart of downtown, is influenced by seasonal king tides and is a conduit for storm surge.

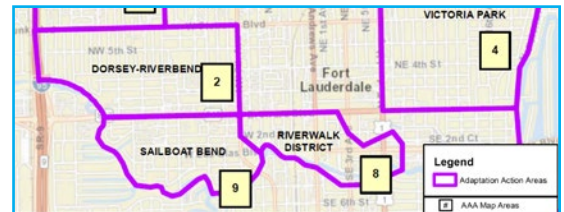
Given those challenges, the City of Fort Lauderdale has been active in assessing and addressing the flood vulnerabilities downtown. The City Commission designated the Riverwalk area as an Adaptation Actions Area (AAA). These areas experience coastal flooding and are vulnerable to the related impacts of rising sea levels. They are designated for the purpose of prioritizing funding in the five-year Community Investment Plan (CIP) for infrastructure needed to reduce flooding concerns and for adaptation planning.

Two large storm stations, hidden in plain sight along the Riverwalk, play an important role in flood protection. Over the last twelve months, these pump stations have been thoroughly cleaned, removing accumulated silts and construction debris from recent development projects. The pumps and motors have recently been rehabilitated or replaced. An additional resiliency measure is currently underway to design and install back-up power generation at both storm stations. The new generators are expected to be in place by February 2022.

The City is currently investing in the installation of tidal valves in the Sailboat Bend neighborhood just west of downtown. Tidal valves will be implemented at various outfall locations to prevent tidal water from backing up into storm drains. New drainage infrastructure will be installed to capture stormwater runoff from low-lying areas. Finally, existing storm drains will be cleaned to ensure they are draining at full capacity. This is the first of a series of projects in the City's CIP to address tidal flooding along the New River in the Downtown Fort Lauderdale area.



FY 2022-2026 Designated Adaptation Action Areas



Downtown Adaptation Action Areas

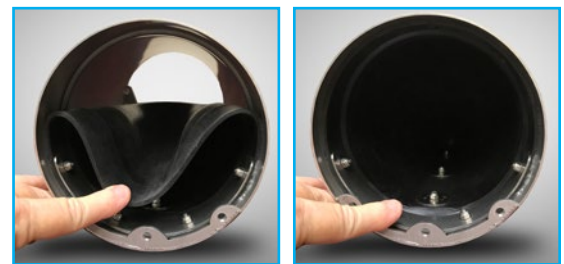


Photo showing tidal valve open on left and shut on right



Photo of storm station located along Riverwalk