

Walton County Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan



Section 1:	Introduction
Section 2:	Planning Process
Section 3:	Vulnerability Identification
Section 4:	Institutional Capacity Assessment
Section 5:	Local Plan Integration
Section 6:	Outreach and Coordination Strategy
Section 7:	Finance Strategy
Section 8:	Recovery and Redevelopment Strategy
Section 9:	Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan
Section 10:	Plan Implementation and Maintenance Procedures
Appendix A:	Supplemental Materials

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

This section provides a general introduction to the Walton County Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan (PDRP). It consists of the following five subsections:

- Background
- Purpose
- Scope
- Authority
- Summary of Plan Contents

Background

When Walton County first began to explore developing a PDRP, there was a state requirement in place that all coastal counties must develop a PDRP. The County took the steps needed to secure funding to develop this plan and received two grants that were used to develop this PDRP in order to comply with the state requirements. The grant funds came to Walton County through the State of Florida in the form of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP). Regulations that require PDRPs have since been repealed, but the importance of developing a plan that addresses post-disaster redevelopment still remains relevant and the need for PDRPs has been evidenced in communities across the country that have been drastically impacted by natural hazards. The County remained committed to their effort and this plan is the result of many hours of hard work and dedication by County staff and stakeholders. The plan will help ensure long-term sustainability and guide Walton County through pre-disaster planning and post-disaster implementation.

The Statewide PDPR Initiative is still supported by the Florida Division of Emergency Management (DEM). The initiative has included researching development lessons learned through previous disasters, applying this research during the drafting of a long-term redevelopment planning process, and testing the planning process through a series of pilot projects. Walton County used the examples and lessons learned by the Pilot Communities to develop their PDRP. The PDRP Guidebook, which is the culmination of all of the efforts associated with the PDRP Pilot Project and is the latest addition to the Best Practices Series published by the Florida Division of Emergency Management, served as a tremendous resource in the development of this plan.

Walton County is located on the Florida Panhandle along the Gulf of Mexico. The County boasts 26 miles of beaches (16 of which are certified blue wave beaches) that attract thousands of visitors each year and have influenced population and development to concentrate in the southern portion of the County. Over the past decade, the County has experienced a high rate of growth. According to the US Census Bureau, the 2010 population was 55,043 people, an increase of 35.6% since 2000. This number only accounts for permanent residents and the County has also seen an increase in the size of the annual seasonal population.

Walton County is vulnerable to a variety of natural hazards, including hurricanes and coastal storms, severe thunderstorms and tornados, coastal and riverine erosion, sinkholes, floods, and wildfires. In recognition of this vulnerability, Walton County leaders and staff members embarked on planning process to develop a PDRP designed to help the County address the complications that can arise following a disaster as the community

attempts to rebuild. By developing a PDRP, Walton County hopes to be better prepared for the tough long-term recovery and redevelopment period that could face the County following a major disaster.

Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to provide Walton County with a single reference for guiding action and decision making during the difficult long-term disaster recovery period and to detail the actions that can be taken before a disaster occurs to speed the recovery and redevelopment process.

Walton County officials recognize the importance of the citizens and businesses within the county. Without them, the County cannot function. The PDRP will be used to ensure that mechanisms, plans, policies, and procedures that facilitate the return of citizens and businesses to the County following a disaster are in place before a disaster occurs. Therefore, Walton County officials want to make certain that this plan is not perceived as an anti-redevelopment plan intended to take the place of existing planning documents developed by the County, namely the Comprehensive Plan. Walton County officials also want to ensure that the rebuilding that occurs following a disaster is done in a manner consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and incorporates hazard mitigation techniques, where possible.

Scope

This plan was developed to cover the unincorporated areas of Walton County, although portions of the plan describe and provide information on the incorporated jurisdictions within the County, including:

- City of DeFuniak Springs
- City of Freeport
- Town of Paxton

Authority

While there is no longer a state requirement to develop a PDRP, Florida Statutes 163.3177 and 163.3178 require that local governments pay great attention to the protection of coastal resources in all forms. In addition, Walton County has stated their intention to develop a PDRP in their Comprehensive Plan (Objective C-2.4) and in their Local Mitigation Strategy.

Summary of Plan Contents

The remaining contents of this plan are designed and organized to be as reader-friendly and functional as possible. While significant background information is included on the process used to develop the plan and studies completed (i.e., Vulnerability Assessment and Capacity Assessment), this information is separated from the more meaningful planning outcomes or actions (i.e., the Recovery and Redevelopment Strategy, and the Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan).

Section 2, ***Planning Process***, provides a complete narrative description of the process used to prepare the plan. This includes the identification of who was involved, who participated on the Stakeholder Group, and how the public and other stakeholders were involved. It also includes a detailed summary for each of the key meetings held along with any associated outcomes.

The ***Vulnerability Identification***, located in Section 3, provides an assessment of the potential impact of the various hazards to which Walton County is vulnerable and evaluate how this vulnerability could impact recovery. The first objective of this section is to identify the natural hazards that could impact the County. The second objective is to identify and analyze those elements within the County that are particularly vulnerable to the identified natural hazards that could impact the breadth and speed of recovery following a disaster. The Vulnerability Identification was used by Walton County officials to determine the post disaster recovery strategy and to identify recovery and redevelopment actions to include in the plan.

The ***Institutional Capacity Assessment***, found in Section 4, provides a comprehensive examination of the Walton County's capacity to implement a meaningful recovery and redevelopment strategy and identifies existing opportunities to increase and enhance that capacity. Specific capabilities addressed in this section include planning and regulatory capability, staff and organizational (administrative) capability, technical capability, fiscal capability, and political capability. The purpose of this assessment is to identify any existing gaps, weaknesses or conflicts in programs or activities that may hinder the long-term recovery and redevelopment period for the County, and to identify those activities that should be built upon in establishing a successful and sustainable Recovery and Redevelopment Strategy.

The *Vulnerability Identification* and *Institutional Capacity Assessment* collectively serve as a basis for determining the goals for Walton County's Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan, each contributing to the development, adoption and implementation of a meaningful *Recovery and Redevelopment Strategy* that is based on accurate and relevant background information.

Section 5, ***Local Plan Integration***, includes a review of post-disaster redevelopment-related plans, policies, and programs already in place as well as the identification of any gaps, shortfalls, or weakness that may hinder a successful post-disaster redevelopment operation. The review focuses on the following Walton County documents: Local Mitigation Strategy, Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, Land Development Code, and Comprehensive Plan. Additional documents were also reviewed to provide insight to unique hazards, emergency debris management, regional concerns, and economic development.

Outreach and Coordination Strategy, located in Section 6, provides information on how Walton County staff will collect and disseminate long-term recovery information after a disaster. Clear communication of recovery and redevelopment information is imperative to the successful recovery of Walton County residents and business owners, which, in turn, is imperative to a successful recovery for Walton County government.

The Outreach and Coordination Strategy also describes how the public will be involved during the long-term redevelopment process through community redevelopment and revitalization meetings and discusses the role of regional and state coordination agencies during disaster recovery.

Section 7, ***Finance Strategy***, provides an overview of the financial challenges that Walton County government will face following a major disaster and provides information about the various types of pre- and post-disaster funding sources that are available from local, state, federal, private sector, foundations and non-governmental organizations.

The ***Recovery and Redevelopment Strategy***, found in Section 8, consists of broad goal statements as well as an analysis of recovery and redevelopment techniques for Walton County to consider for their Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan. The strategy provides the foundation for a detailed ***Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan***, found in Section 9, which links specific tasks and actions for each County department or agency and

other stakeholders to locally-assigned implementation mechanisms and target completion dates. Together, these sections are designed to make the PDRP both strategic (through the identification of long-term goals) and also functional through the identification of short-term and immediate actions that will guide day-to-day decision-making and project implementation.

In addition to the identification and prioritization of recovery and redevelopment actions, emphasis is placed on the use of program and policy alternatives to help make Walton County better prepared for a long term recovery and redevelopment period following a disaster. The concept of multi-objective planning was emphasized throughout the planning process, particularly in identifying ways to link recovery and redevelopment policies and programs with complimentary community goals related to housing, economic development, recreational opportunities, transportation improvements, environmental quality, land development, and public health and safety.

Plan Implementation and Maintenance Procedures, found in Section 10, includes the measures that Walton County will take to ensure the plan's continuous long-term implementation. The procedures also include the manner in which the plan will be regularly evaluated and updated to remain a current and meaningful planning document.

SECTION 2: PLANNING PROCESS

This section describes the planning process undertaken by Walton County in the development of the Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan. It consists of the following subsections:

- Overview of Recovery / Redevelopment Planning
- Preparing the Plan
 - Post Disaster Redevelopment Planning Committee
 - Community Meetings and Workshops
 - Involving the Public and Identified Stakeholders

Overview of Recovery / Redevelopment Planning

The process of planning for the long term recovery and redevelopment of Walton County following a major disaster involves organizing community resources, identifying and assessing vulnerability of the County to natural hazards, and determining how to best recover from and redevelop areas impacted by those hazards. The product that is generated as a result of conducting this planning process is a post-disaster redevelopment plan that identifies specific recovery and redevelopment actions, each designed to achieve both short-term planning objectives and a long-term community vision.

To ensure the functionality of a post-disaster redevelopment plan, responsibility is assigned for each proposed recovery and redevelopment action (included in Section 9) to a specific individual, department, or agency along with a schedule or target completion date for its implementation. Plan maintenance procedures are established for the routine monitoring of implementation progress as well as the evaluation and enhancement of the plan itself. These maintenance procedures ensure that the plan remains a current, dynamic, and effective planning document over time that becomes integrated into the routine local decision making process.

It is important to note that this plan focuses on the long-term recovery and redevelopment of Walton County following a major disaster. It does not address short-term recovery policies and procedures, as those are already adequately addressed in Walton County's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). For the purpose of clarification, short-term recovery activities are generally defined as those activities that have to take place in order to allow for citizens to return to their homes. They are initiated in the Emergency Operations Center while in emergency response mode. Short-term recovery activities include such functions as implementing a curfew, impact and damage assessment, reestablishment of the critical infrastructure necessary for community reconstruction, reestablishment of critical services that meet the physical and safety needs of Walton County and its municipalities (e.g., water, food, ice, medicine and medical care, emergency access, and continuity of government operations), and coordinating re-entry procedures. Short-term recovery typically does not include reconstruction of the built environment.

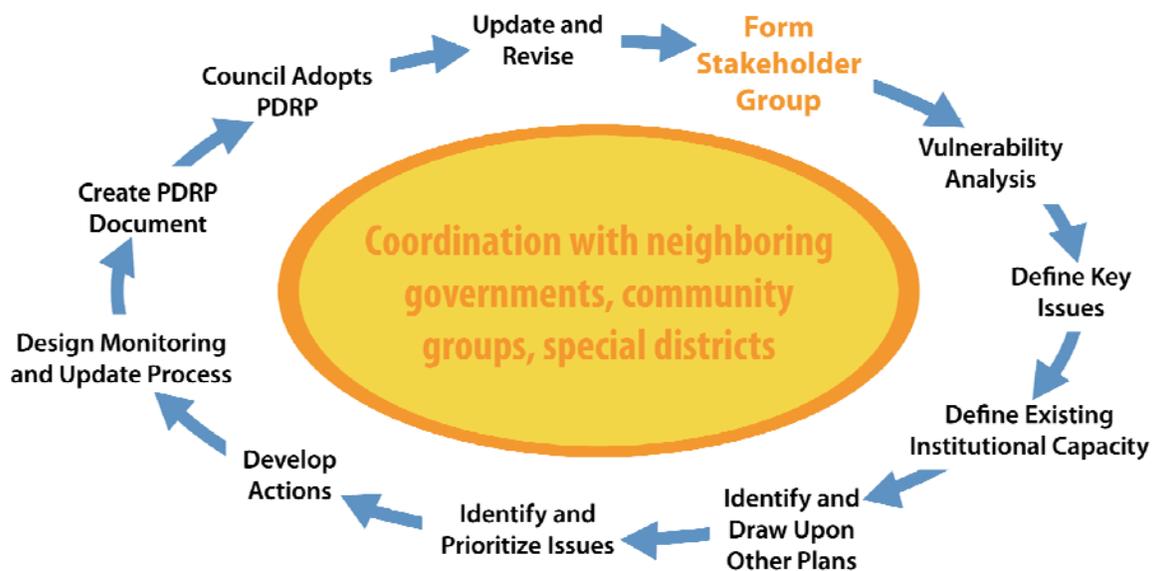
Long-term recovery usually involves those activities that take place several months after the disaster has occurred. These activities are taken in an attempt to return the community to the conditions that existed before the disaster or emergency occurred (as much as that may be possible), preferably while taking advantage of opportunities to mitigate against the impacts of future disasters. Long-term recovery activities can, and usually do, last many years following a disaster. They include activities such as redevelopment, environmental preservation and restoration, rebuilding, construction, repairs, and restoration. Economic recovery and business

assistance are some of the most important long-term recovery activities that must take place in order for a community to fully recover from a disaster.

Preparing the Plan

Walton County utilized a standard planning process that has historically been used by the county for other types of planning projects. **Figure 2.1** provides a graphical representation of the twelve (12) step process that was used by Walton County staff and stakeholders to develop this plan.

Figure 2.1
The Post Disaster Redevelopment Planning Process



PDRP Stakeholder Committee

Walton County established the following planning structure to develop the Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan. The main point of contact for this project was Renee Bradley, Planner II for Walton County.

The **PDRP Stakeholder Committee** consists of county employees and other invited stakeholders from Walton County and the municipalities within the county. This group was responsible for developing the PDRP, identifying issues and developing the Recovery and Redevelopment Strategy for Walton County, and reviewing and providing comments on the draft sections of the plan.

Table 2.1: PDRP Stakeholder Committee		
Name	Title	Department Represented
Renee Bradley	Planner II	Walton County Planning and Development Services
Emily Meyer	State PDRP Coordinator	Florida Division of Emergency Management
Jason King	Operations Officer	U.S. Coast Guard – Destin
Mark Ewing	Coordinator	Walton County Schools

Table 2.1: PDRP Stakeholder Committee		
Name	Title	Department Represented
Jay Nettles	General Manager	Seascape Resort
Les Battist	Area Sales Manager	Lowe's Home Improvement
Mike Lolley	Captain	DeFuniak Springs Police
Greg Scoville	Planning Director	DeFuniak Springs Planning Department
Latilda Henninger	City Planner	City of Freeport
Scarlett Phaneuf	Executive Director	Walton County Economic Development
David Sell	Operations Manager	Walton County Tourist Development Council
Bridget Precise	Director	The St. Joe Company
Buddy Wright	Work Program Manager	Walton County Public Works
Judy Williams	Billing Clerk	City of Paxton
Crystal Steele	Environmental Health Director	Walton County Health Department
Michelle Hill	Planner	Walton County Health Department
Donny Fugate	Vice President of Operations	CHELCO
Russell Beaty	Assistant EM Director	Walton County Sherriff's Office / Emergency Management
Bill Vorwald	COOP Plan Manager	Walton County Elections Office / later as citizen at large
Ashley Dismukes	Public Relations	Regional Utilities
Leanne Barger	Emergency Services Director	American Red Cross
George Newman	Muscogee Nation	Muscogee Nation / AECOM
Kevin Laird	GIS Data Coordinator	Walton County GIS
Marc Anderson	Assistant Chief	South Walton Fire Department
Teresa Imdieke	Executive Director	Habitat for Humanity Walton County
Chris Eddy	Project Coordinator	CHELCO
Ryan Douglass	County Construction Engineer	Walton County Public Works
Bridget Ragan	Director of Membership Development	Walton Area Chamber of Commerce
Nathan Slaughter	Project Manager	Atkins
Michael Wood	Owner	Michael R. Wood Planning
Caroline Cunningham	Planner	Atkins
Sherry Reed	Planning Coordinator	Okaloosa County
Al Ford	Emergency Management Coordinator	Walton County Sherriff's Office / Emergency Management
Billy McKee	Environmental Manager	Walton County Public Works
Scott Caraway	Environmental Specialist	Walton County Public Works
Jan Trinka	Planning Assistant	Walton County Planning and Development Services
David Bailey	Town Manger	Seaside Town Council
Laura Brazell	RN Consultant	Walton County Health Department
Louis Svehla	Public Information Officer	Walton County Board of County Commissioners

Following a disaster, the County will activate the **Long-term Redevelopment Task Force** to ensure that this plan is implemented. The duties and responsibilities of this group are detailed in *Section 10: Plan Implementation and Maintenance Procedures*.

Table 2.3: Long-Term Redevelopment Task Force
TITLE / DEPARTMENT
Walton County Administrator - Chair
Walton County Attorney
Walton County Public Information Manager
Building Official / Walton County Building Division
Director / Walton County Planning and Development Services
Director / Walton County Emergency Response Department
Director / Walton County Public Works Department
Director / Walton County Property Appraiser
Director / Walton County Geographic Information Systems
Director / Walton County Finance Department
Director / Walton County Support Services
Director / Walton County Environmental Resources
Director / Walton County Parks
Walton County Sheriff
Walton County Schools Superintendent
West Florida Planning Council
Walton County Tax Collector
Walton County Clerk of Courts
Walton County Planning Commission Chairman
Walton County Health Department
Defuniak Springs Municipal Liaison
Freeport Municipal Liaison
Paxton Municipal Liaison
Walton County Tourist Development Council
Walton Area Chamber of Commerce
Board of Realtors
Home Builders Association
Health Care Industry
Walton County Economic Development Alliance

Community Meetings and Workshops

The preparation of this plan required a series of meetings and workshops for facilitating discussion, gaining consensus and initiating data collection efforts. More importantly, the meetings and workshops prompted continuous input and feedback from relevant local officials and stakeholders throughout the drafting stages of the plan. This section of the plan provides a summary of the key meetings and community workshops that were held during the development of this plan. Detailed meeting minutes were taken for each of the meetings discussed below and provide a more in depth account of the topics discussed and the issues identified during these meeting. More detailed information about each meeting conducted has been included in the meeting minutes that have been compiled and included as **Appendix A** of this plan.

November 14, 2011 – Initial Conference Call with Walton County and Atkins

The Atkins project team and Walton County staff members participated in a brief conference call to accomplish the following objectives:

- Provide introductions of the Atkins project team members and Walton County staff
- Schedule a Kickoff Meeting for the project with the county to officially launch the PDRP project
- Initiate data collection efforts with the county

December 7, 2011 – Kickoff Meeting of PDRP Stakeholder Group

This meeting served as the initial project kickoff meeting for the larger stakeholder group for Walton County. Representatives from County offices, local private businesses, local public non-profit groups, neighboring jurisdictions among others attended this meeting. The project consultant gave an overview of the project, presented the project timeline and discussed responsibilities of participants. The six major categories of PDRP issues were also presented in detail. The meeting concluded with a question / answer session to address any question from the Stakeholder Group.

January 25, 2012 – Second Stakeholder Group Meeting

During the second meeting of the Stakeholder Group, the project consultant presented initial findings from the Local Plan Integration, Institutional Capacity Assessment and Vulnerability Identification studies. Each of these major sections of the plan was presented and comments received on each were incorporated in the plan. Time was set aside for stakeholders to hold small group discussion of PDRP issues. There was one small group per major PDRP issue was established.

February 29, 2012 – Third Stakeholder Group Meeting

For the third Stakeholder Group meeting, the project consultant presented the Outreach and Coordination Strategy and Finance Strategy for discussion. There was also a facilitated discussion about the importance of priority redevelopment areas. The large group discussed areas of critical importance in Walton County. There was also another session of small group discussions on the major PDRP issues during which the small group members continued to work on PDRP issue and solution identification.

May 1, 2012 – Fourth Stakeholder Group Meeting

At the fourth and final meeting of the Stakeholder Group, the project consultant presented the Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan, the Implementation Procedures for the PDRP, and discussed the Long-Term Recovery Task Force and final draft. The action plan was based on the discussions that took place in small group activities and can be found in Section 9 of the plan.

Involving the Public and Identified Stakeholders

An important component of the post disaster redevelopment planning process involves public participation. Individual citizen and community-based input provides the entire planning team with a greater understanding of local concerns and increases the likelihood of successfully implementing recovery and redevelopment actions by developing community “buy-in” from those directly affected by the decisions of public officials. As citizens become more involved in decisions that could impact the redevelopment of their community, they are more likely to gain a greater appreciation of the recovery and redevelopment process and take steps to offer meaningful input.

Public involvement in the development of Walton County’s PDRP was sought at two distinct periods of the planning process: (1) during the drafting stage of the plan; and (2) upon completion of a final draft plan but prior

to official plan approval and adoption. Public input was sought using two methods: (1) making all of the PDRP Stakeholder Committee meetings open to the public; and; (2) making copies of draft Plan deliverables available for public review on the County's Web site and at government offices and public libraries.

SECTION 3: VULNERABILITY IDENTIFICATION

This section provides an assessment of the potential impact of the various hazards to which Walton County is vulnerable. The first objective of this section is to identify the natural hazards that could impact the County. The second objective is to identify and analyze those elements within the County that are particularly vulnerable to the identified natural hazards that could impact the breadth and speed of recovery following a disaster. By completing these objectives, Walton County officials may be better prepared to evaluate and prioritize specific post disaster recovery and redevelopment actions. This section contains the following subsections:

- Hazard Risk Overview
- Assessment Methodology
 - GIS-Based Approach
 - Hazus-MH
- Asset Inventory
 - Improved Property
 - Critical Facilities, Infrastructure, and Utilities
- GIS Analysis Results
 - Vulnerability of Improved Property
 - Vulnerability of Critical Facilities, Infrastructure, and Utilities
 - Economic Vulnerability
 - Social Vulnerability
 - Hazus-MH Scenarios
- Development Trends and Implications

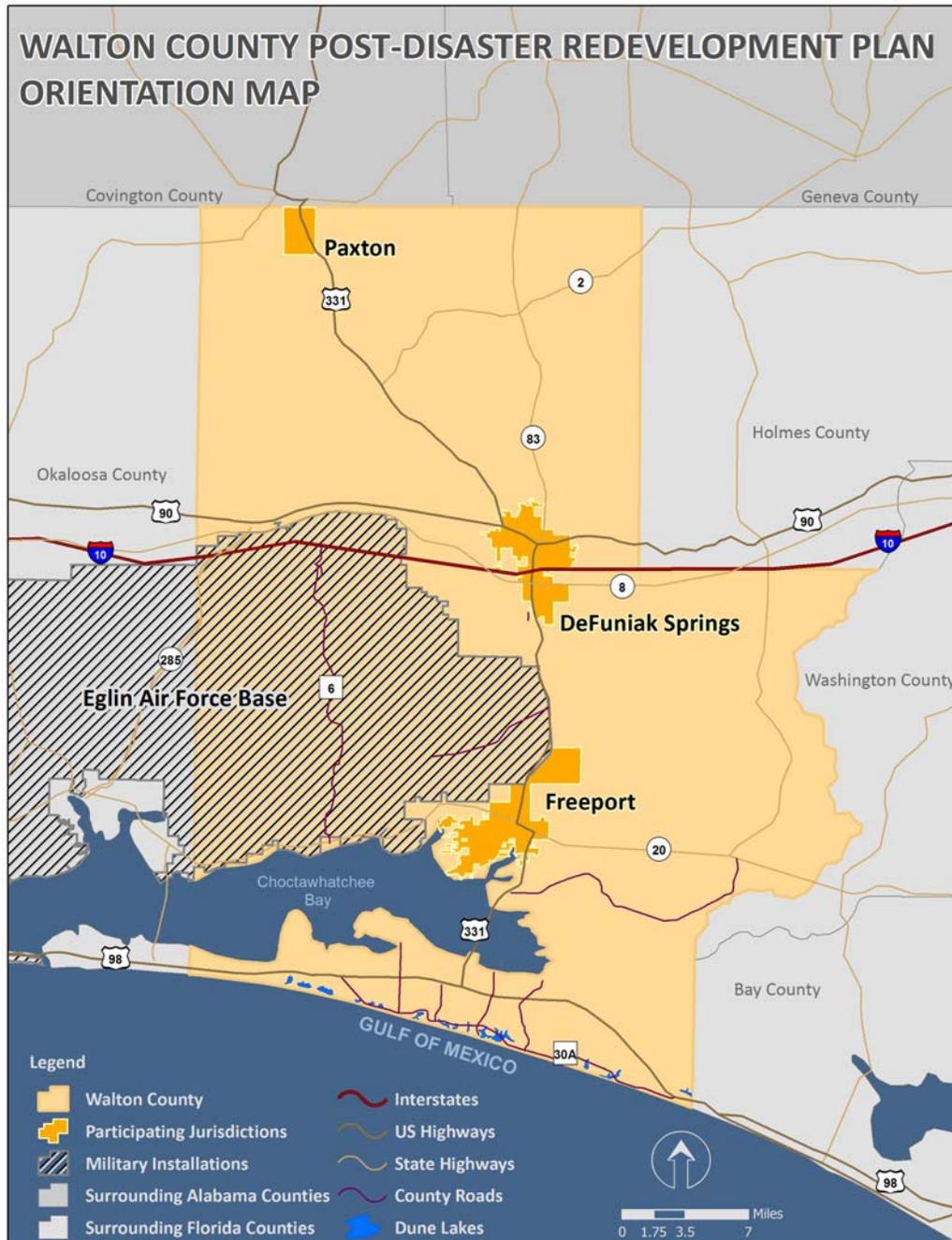
The vulnerability identification was conducted using best available data and technology and it includes a quantitative summary of current exposure to known hazards, such as the number, type and value of existing buildings and critical facilities throughout the County. It also includes the estimation of potential losses for varying magnitudes of the known hazard events. The section concludes with a general summary of assessment findings for further review and consideration in the development of Walton County's post disaster redevelopment goals, objectives and actions.

Hazard Risk Overview

Walton County is vulnerable to a variety of natural and man-made hazards. The County is adjacent to the Gulf of Mexico and is divided by the Inter-coastal Waterway, the Choctawhatchee Bay and River, and the adjacent wetland systems (**Figure 3.1**). This southern portion of the county borders the Gulf of Mexico for 26 miles and contains beautiful, fine, white sand beaches and large forested areas. These natural assets attract visitors and new residents. This region contains approximately eight percent of the overall county land mass, but is home to a majority of the County's residents and visitors. The County anticipates approximately 2.5 million seasonal residents and tourists each year with the highest rate of visitation occurring during the summer months.

The County also contains a portion of the Eglin Air Force Base (AFB) which brings a unique set of man-made hazards to the community. These include the dangers associated with the testing of aircraft and missiles, as well as training pilots. There is limited public access to the AFB within Walton County. Additionally, the marked main entrances to the AFB are outside of Walton County. This diminishes the likelihood of a domestic terrorism and / or civil disturbance within Walton County focused at Eglin.

Figure 3.1: Walton County Orientation Map



The Walton County staff conducted detailed risk assessments as part of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) and the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS). These Plans identified and evaluated the County's risk to hazards. The Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan was last updated in September 2008 and is scheduled to be updated in 2013. The Local Mitigation Strategy was last updated in 2010 and is scheduled to be updated in 2015. The Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan will help inform future revisions to the LMS and CEMP as well as possible updates to the Walton County Comprehensive Plan and the Land Development Code.

The CEMP and the LMS identified the following natural and man-made hazards. In general, these hazards fall into four categories:

1. The County has experienced these hazards and the Citizens and Visitors of the County ***could be significantly impacted.***
 - Hurricanes / Tropical Storms / Storm Surge
 - Thunderstorms / Tornadoes
 - Flooding
2. The County has experienced these hazards and the Citizens and Visitors of the County ***could be impacted.***
 - Wildfires
 - Extreme Temperatures
 - Drought
3. The County has not experienced a major incident regarding these hazards but recognizes that the ***potential does exist*** in the County. Significant impacts to the Citizens and Visitors to the County could arise from these hazards.
 - Hazardous Materials Incident
 - Domestic Terrorism / Civil Disturbances / Weapons of Mass Destruction
 - Major Transportation Incident
 - Disease / Pandemic Outbreaks
4. The County has not experienced an incident regarding these hazards and recognizes that the ***potential risk is low.*** In general, (except for a nuclear incident) impacts would be to an individual property owner(s) and not the overall populace.
 - Sink Holes (No history in the County to date)
 - Dam Failure (Farm Ponds)
 - Land Erosion (Minimal land with characteristic for erosion)
 - Nuclear Power Plant Failure (Plant - 65 miles to the Northeast; East of Dothan)

Since 1953, Walton County has been impacted by sixteen hazard events that were designated as Presidential Disaster Declarations. Presidential Disaster Declarations are requested by state governments on behalf of local governments when disasters overwhelm local resources. Once the declaration has been made by the President, several different forms of federal assistance, such as the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Public Assistance

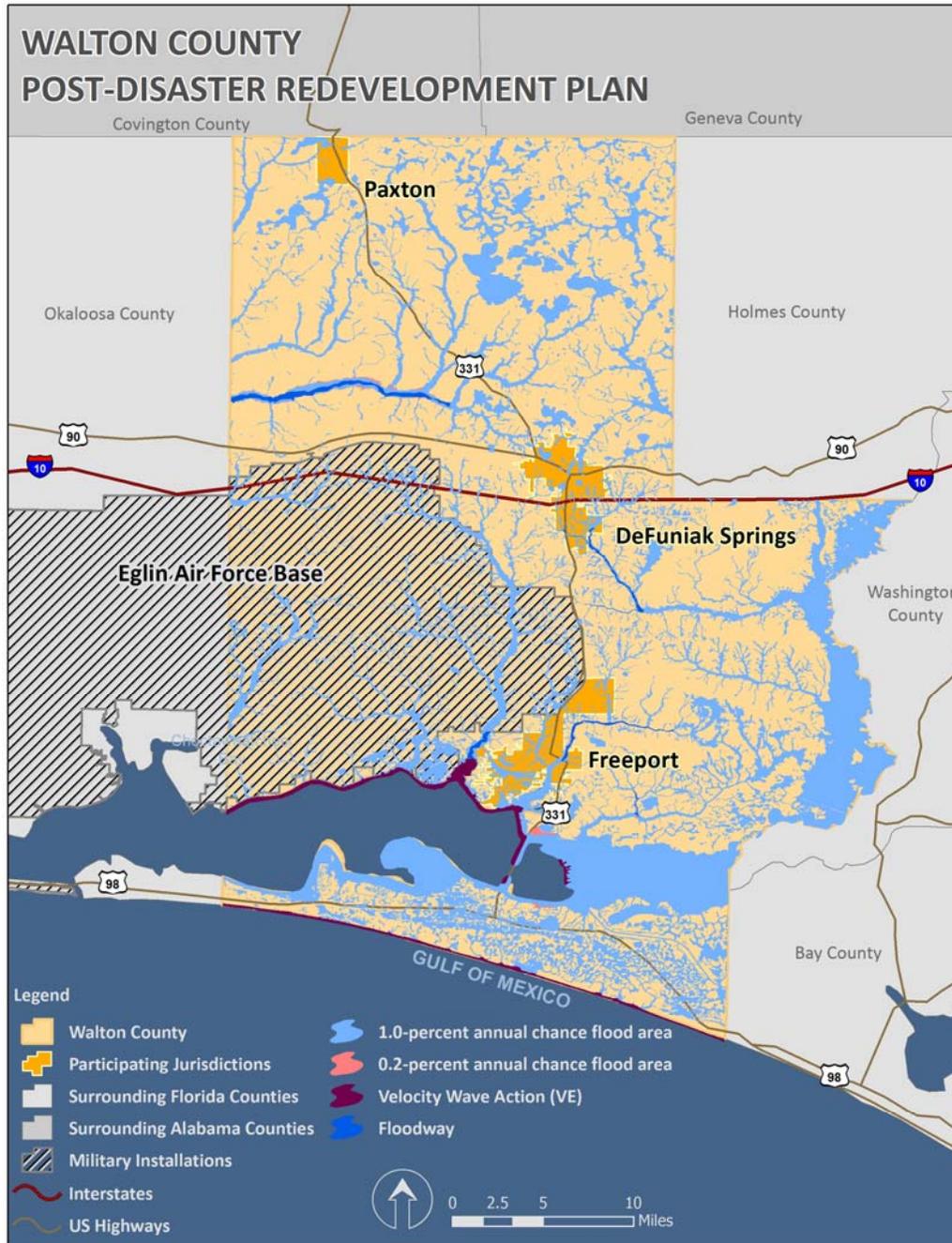
Program and Individual Assistance Program, become available from the federal government. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), now part of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security, is the federal agency tasked with coordinating the federal assistance. **Table 3.1** provides a listing of the Presidential Disaster Declarations received by Walton County.

Table 3.1: Presidential Disaster Declarations for Walton County	
DATE	EVENT
08/22/1975	Flooding
09/26/1975	High Winds, Heavy Rains, Flooding (Hurricane Eloise)
09/13/1979	Hurricane Frederic
04/03/1990	Severe Storms and Flooding
07/10/1994	Severe Storms and Flooding (Tropical Storm Alberto)
08/11/1995	Hurricane Erin
10/06/1995	Hurricane Opal
03/18/1998	Severe Storms, High Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding
07/09/1998	Extreme Fire Hazard
10/05/1998	Hurricane Georges
08/13/2004	Hurricane Charley and Tropical Storm Bonnie
09/04/2004	Hurricane Frances
09/16/2004	Hurricane Ivan
07/10/2005	Hurricane Dennis
08/28/2005	Hurricane Katrina
04/21/2009	Severe Storms, Flooding, Tornadoes, and Straight-line Winds

Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency

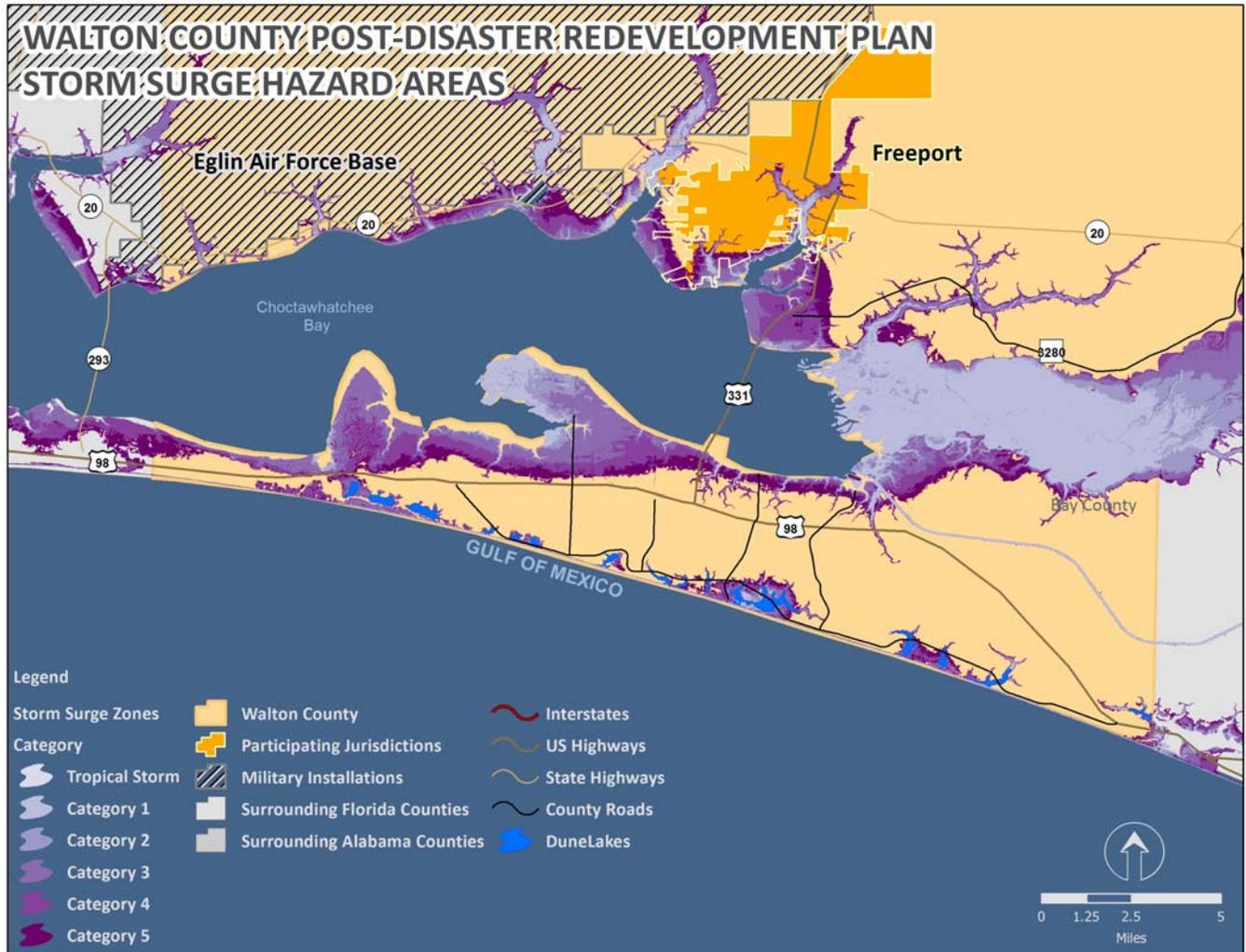
Based on the risk assessments completed for the CEMP and the LMS as well as the history of hazards, partially evidenced above by the list of Presidential Disaster Declarations, the hazards that will be evaluated in this assessment are: **hurricanes and tropical storm wind, storm surge, flooding, and wildfire**. **Figure 3.2** shows the mapped hazard zones for flood, **Figure 3.3** shows the mapped hazard zones for storm surge, and **Figure 3.4** shows the mapped hazard zones for wildfire.

Figure 3.2: Walton County Flood Hazard



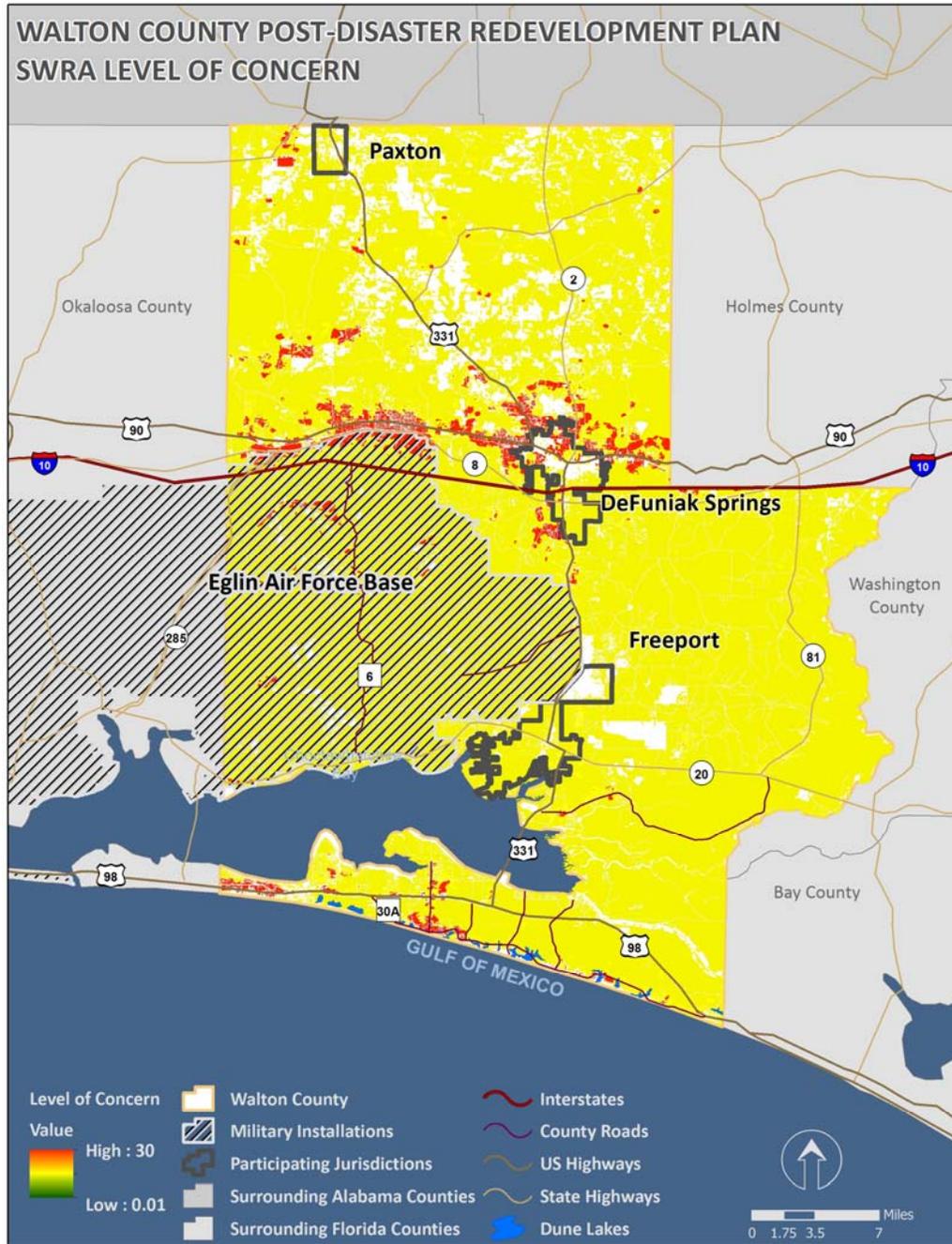
Source: FEMA DFIRM

Figure 3.3: Walton County Storm Surge Hazard



Source: Florida Department of Emergency Management

Figure 3.4: Walton County Wildfire Hazard



Source: Southern Wildfire Risk Assessment, LOC; Florida Forest Service

Assessment Methodology

The vulnerability identification was conducted utilizing a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) analysis where possible. Hazus-MH, a modeling tool built on the ArcGIS platform, was also utilized to analyze hurricane scenarios. Where GIS technology could not be employed, a qualitative analysis was completed instead.

GIS-Based Approach

GIS can be defined as a collection of computer hardware and software tools used to enter, edit, store, analyze and display geographically referenced information. GIS tools allow users to conduct interactive queries, analyze spatial information, edit data, create maps and present the results of all these operations in a consolidated report.

The GIS-based parcel analysis approach provides estimates for the potential impact of hazards by using a common, systematic framework for evaluation. To perform the assessment, digital data was collected from the Walton County GIS Department as well as regional, state and national sources as needed. ESRI® ArcGIS™ 10.1 was used to assess vulnerability by utilizing digital data including local tax records for individual parcels, georeferenced point locations for critical facilities (including a comprehensive range of facilities, infrastructure, and utilities) as well as economic criteria. In addition, GIS was used to bolster the discussion of social vulnerability. Using these data layers, vulnerability was assessed by identifying the number of assets within each hazard area with delineable geographic boundaries. When data permitted, vulnerability was further evaluated by estimating the assessed building value associated with the parcels determined to be located in identified hazard areas. It should be noted that elevation is not included in this analysis, emphasizing that this vulnerability identification is an approximate measure of risk. The following text discusses the sources of data used to complete the GIS analysis for flood, storm surge, and wildfire:

Flood Data: The flood analysis uses FEMA’s Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) for Walton County created on August 9, 2010. The data is a polygon shapefile. The purpose of the DFIRM is to spatially depict flood risk. It is also the basis of premium insurance rates offered through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The analysis used ESRI ArcGIS Select by Location tool to determine parcels that intersect the 1.0-percent annual chance flood (ACF) hazard areas, 0.2-percent annual chance flood (ACF) hazard areas, and the Velocity with Elevation (VE) zone. As noted previously, this analysis does not account for elevation.

In addition, a pre-FIRM analysis was completed using local tax parcel record information (year built) and GIS analysis. The analysis used ESRI ArcGIS Select by Location tool to determine properties that intersect the flood zones and were built prior to a community joining the NFIP. This analysis does not account for elevation.

Storm Surge: The storm surge data was developed by the Florida Division of Emergency Management as part of the Florida Statewide Regional Evacuation Study Update. The data is a polygon shapefile derived from the National Hurricane Center’s Sea Lake Overland Surges from Hurricanes (SLOSH) model’s Maximum of the Maximums output. This indicates that the model is a worst case scenario. The analysis used ESRI ArcGIS Select by Location tool to determine properties that intersect the surge zones (categories 1 – 5). This analysis does not account for elevation.

Wildfire: Wildfire data was provided by the Florida Forestry Service and developed as part of the Southern Wildfire Risk Assessment (SWRA) project (completed by private contract). Several data layers are available as part of the SWRA. The Level of Concern (LOC) layer was used in this plan as an indication of fire risk. The Level of Concern layer combines the areas where fires have historically occurred with several susceptibility measures

(such as slope, climate, soil, fuel, among others) to determine where the greatest risk lies in the community. A higher number indicates a higher level of risk. Risk in Walton County ranged from 0 to 30 and an arbitrary division was made to define low fire areas as values 1-10, moderate fire areas as values 11-20, and high fire areas as values 21-30. The analysis used ESRI ArcGIS Select by Location tool to determine parcels and properties that intersect the moderate and high wildfire zones.

In addition, FEMA's Hazus-MH software (further described below) was used to model and generate estimated potential losses for hurricane winds. Hazus also provides digital Census 2000 data by census block; it was obtained to determine vulnerable population concentrations throughout the county. In addition, this data was used to determine the number of people in known hazard areas, as discussed in the social vulnerability section.

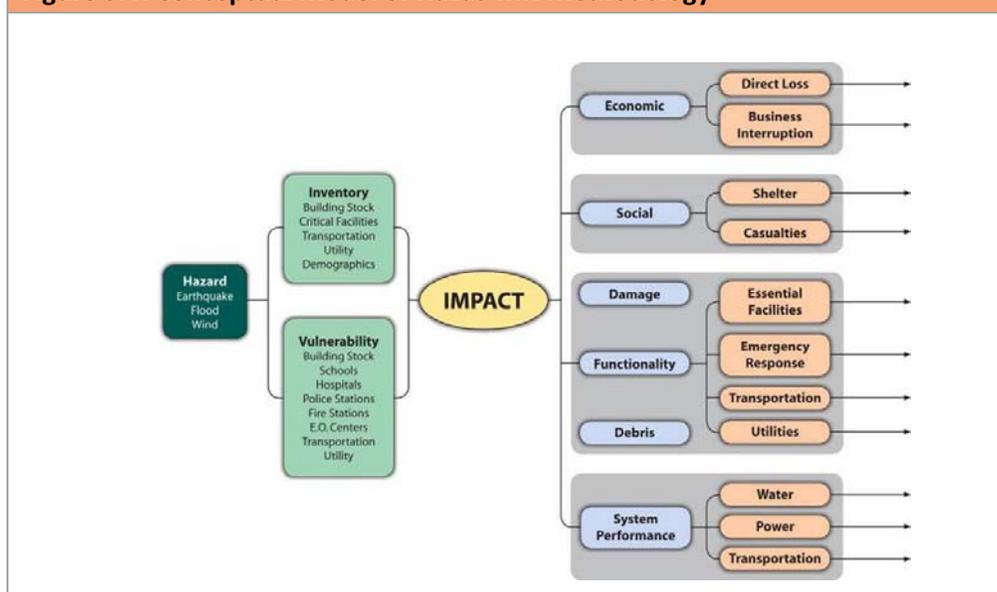
Hazus-MH

Hazus-MH ("Hazus") is FEMA's standardized loss estimation software program built upon an integrated GIS platform to conduct analysis at a regional level (i.e., not on a structure-by-structure basis). The Hazus risk assessment methodology is parametric, in that distinct hazard and inventory parameters (e.g., wind speed and building types) can be modeled using the software to determine the impact (i.e., damages and losses) on the built environment. While Hazus can be used to model the expected impacts from earthquakes, wind and flood events, it was only used in this vulnerability assessment to estimate losses for the hurricane wind hazard.



It is important to note that Hazus is a loss estimation tool for planning purposes only. Uncertainties are inherent in any loss estimation methodology and arise in part from incomplete scientific knowledge concerning natural hazards and their effects on the built environment. Uncertainties also result from (1) approximations and simplifications necessary to conduct such a study; (2) incomplete or outdated data on inventory, demographic or economic parameters; (3) the unique nature and severity of each hazard when it occurs; and (4) the amount of advance notice that residents have to prepare for the event. As a result, potential exposure and loss estimates are approximate. Results should not be interpreted or used as precise outcomes from a hazard event and should only be used to understand relative risk. More detailed information on Hazus and its default national inventory data is available through FEMA at: www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/hazus/. **Figure 3.4** illustrates the conceptual model of the Hazus-MH methodology as applied to Walton County.

Figure 3.4: Conceptual Model of Hazus-MH Methodology



Asset Inventory

An inventory of Walton County's georeferenced assets¹ was created in order to identify and characterize those properties potentially at risk to natural hazards. By understanding the type and number of assets that exist and where they are located in relation to known hazard areas, the relative risk and vulnerability of such assets can be assessed. For this assessment, three categories of assets were created and then further evaluated through geographic information systems (GIS) analysis. The three categories of assets include:

1. **Improved Property:** This includes all improved properties in Walton County according to local parcel data provided by the County. The information has been expressed in terms of the number of parcels, number of buildings² and total assessed value of improvements (buildings and accessory structures) that may be exposed to the identified hazards.
2. **Critical Facilities:** These critical facilities are based on a list of over 1,200 facilities designated as critical in the Walton County LMS which includes animal-related facilities, child care facilities, churches, emergency medical services (clinics, EMS, Hospitals), fire departments, government offices, mobile home parks, nursing homes, police departments, schools and shelters.
3. **Critical Infrastructure and Utilities:** This critical infrastructure is based on a list of over 1,200 facilities designated as critical in the Walton County LMS which includes airports, bridges, communication centers, correctional facilities, electrical systems, fuel storage (gas stations), hazardous material sites, heliports, landfills, marinas, lift stations, water treatment plants and well heads. In addition, this includes primary roads in the County.

¹ While potentially not all-inclusive for Walton County, "georeferenced" assets include those assets for which specific location data is readily available to connect the asset to a specific geographic location for GIS analysis purposes. Primary data sources included Walton County GIS, Florida Geographic Data Library (FGDL), and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

² Number of buildings was determined by summing the number of parcels with a value greater than zero dollars since building footprints were unavailable.

GIS Analysis Results

Vulnerability of Improved Property

Table 3.2 lists the number of parcels, the estimated number of buildings and the total assessed value of improvements³ for all of Walton County.

Table 3.2: Improved Property in Walton County			
Jurisdiction	Estimated Number of Parcels	Estimated Number of Buildings	Total Assessed Value of Improvements
Walton County (All)	82,047	29,878	\$4,437,183,493

Source: Walton County GIS

The building vulnerability assessment was conducted using a GIS analysis process in which hazards with a spatial delineation (flood, storm surge and wildfire) were overlaid with local parcel data to determine the approximate number of structures and parcels located in these hazard zones. Tax assessment data from 2011 was then used to determine the assessed value of these at-risk buildings. Tables 3.3 provides an overview of the numbers and values of structures located in identified hazard zones for Walton County and the participating jurisdictions. It should be noted that DeFuniak Springs and Paxton are not susceptible to coastal storm surge so those categories were omitted from the table.

Table 3.3: Hazard Zone Vulnerability – Walton County			
Hazard Zone	Approximate Number of Parcels	Approximate Number of Buildings	Approximate Assessed Building Value (2011) of At-Risk Buildings
WALTON COUNTY⁴			
1% ACF*	13,095	3,821	\$568,878,756
.2% ACF*	249	70	\$6,392,655
Coastal VE Zone	1,426	446	\$177,920,855
Cat 1 Storm Surge	538	58	\$ 5,343,064
Cat 2 Storm Surge	1,067	281	\$36,800,694
Cat 3 Storm Surge	7,598	2,878	\$582,025,735
Cat 4 Storm Surge	7,394	2,694	\$565,696,562
Cat 5 Storm Surge	4,400	1,468	\$325,598,871
Moderate Wildfire Potential (11 to 20)	704	185	\$7,121,318
High Wildfire Potential (21 to 30)	141	35	\$951,251
DEFUNIAK SPRINGS			
1% ACF*	222	81	\$8,149,537
.2% ACF*	0	0	0
Moderate Wildfire Potential (11 to 20)	25	14	\$444,374
High Wildfire Potential (21 to 30)	0	0	0

³ Total assessed values for improvements is based on November 2011 property appraiser records. This data does not include dollar figures for tax-exempt improvements such as publicly-owned buildings and facilities.

⁴ These figures include all parcel data for Walton County and the participating jurisdictions.

FREEPORT			
1% ACF*	214	36	\$1,740,491
.2% ACF*	0	0	0
Coastal VE Zone	0	0	0
Cat 1 Storm Surge	32	2	\$17,729
Cat 2 Storm Surge	20	1	\$98,079
Cat 3 Storm Surge	38	15	\$675,741
Cat 4 Storm Surge	67	14	\$1,286,336
Cat 5 Storm Surge	80	21	\$1,066,401
Moderate Wildfire Potential (11 to 20)	0	0	0
High Wildfire Potential (21 to 30)	0	0	0
PAXTON			
1% ACF*	28	0	\$537,702
.2% ACF*	0	0	0
Moderate Wildfire Potential (11 to 20)	0	0	0
High Wildfire Potential (21 to 30)	0	0	0

* ACF – Annual Chance Flood

Given the high volume of properties in the flood zone, a secondary GIS analysis was performed to determine pre-FIRM risk. For this analysis, the National Flood Insurance Program join date was determined for each of the participating jurisdictions. Using tax records for individual parcels, the number of structures built prior to the join date was calculated. These values are indicative of the potential number and values of structures at greater risk to flood and surge hazards due to lesser building requirements, such as elevating to the base flood level. The results are shown in **Table 3.4**.

Table 3.4: Hazard Zone Vulnerability

Hazard Zone	Approximate Number of Parcels with At-Risk Buildings (Pre-FIRM only)	Approximate Assessed Building Value (2011) of At-Risk Buildings (Pre-FIRM only)
WALTON COUNTY (join date of 1977)		
1% ACF	694	\$28,007,056
.2% ACF	15	\$560,484
Coastal VE Zone	67	\$7,713,254
Cat 1 Storm Surge	18	\$984,291
Cat 2 Storm Surge	59	\$3,141,094
Cat 3 Storm Surge	306	\$15,929,335
Cat 4 Storm Surge	288	\$15,818,946
Cat 5 Storm Surge	119	\$6,484,563
DEFUNIAK SPRINGS (join date of 1984)		
1% ACF	75	\$3,919,938
.2% ACF	0	0
FREEPORT (join date of 1992)		
1% ACF	6	\$257,359
.2% ACF	0	0
Coastal VE Zone	0	0
Cat 1 Storm Surge	2	\$17,729

Cat 2 Storm Surge	1	\$98,079
Cat 3 Storm Surge	11	\$4,355,071
Cat 4 Storm Surge	8	\$155,834
Cat 5 Storm Surge	13	\$521,749
PAXTON		
1% ACF	115	\$7,142,127
.2% ACF	0	0

Vulnerability of Critical Facilities, Infrastructure, and Utilities

In order to complete the vulnerability assessment for Walton County’s critical facilities, infrastructure and utilities, geospatial databases were made available through the Walton County GIS Department. These databases included georeferenced point locations for all of the items listed in the asset inventory.

To determine the vulnerability of infrastructure and public utilities to hazards, an overlay analysis was conducted utilizing GIS. Storm surge, flood and high potential wildfire hazard zones were overlaid with the critical facilities, infrastructure and utilities to determine vulnerability. **Table 3.5** provides a general summary of the number and type of facilities at risk to the hazard. This is followed by a detailed list of the critical facilities located in hazard areas by name. Additional discussion regarding vulnerability of critical facilities follows these tables. A list of vulnerable critical infrastructure and utilities can be found at the end of this section in **Table 3.16**.

Type	Total Number	Number with Flood Risk	Number with Surge Risk	Number with High Wildfire Risk ⁵
Animal-Related	10	1	1	0
Churches	142	4	8	0
Hospitals	2	0	0	0
Clinics	4	0	0	0
EMS	8	0	2	0
Fire Stations	21	1	2	0
Government Buildings	37	2	0	0
Mobile Homes	58	5	10	0
Nursing Homes	7	0	1	0
Police Stations	2	0	0	0
Police Dispatch	4	0	0	0
Schools	19	0	0	0
Shelters	5	0	0	0

⁵ It should be noted that many facilities are at risk to fire throughout the County even though they may not reside in a defined “high potential wildfire area”.

As noted above, **Table 3.6** provides a detailed list of the critical facilities located in hazard areas by name and specific hazard risk.

Table 3.6: Critical Facilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
ANIMAL-RELATED FACILITIES (10)									
Aidmore Animal Clinic									
Alaqua Animal Refuge	●					●	●	●	
Allen Rescue Foundation									
Barry Veterinary Hospital									
Best Friends Pet Doctor									
Freeport Pet Clinic									
Kindness Pet Hospital									
Santa Rosa Animal Hospital									
Walton County Animal Clinic									
Walton County Animal Control									
CHURCHES (142)									
ALAQUA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH									
ARGYLE BAPTIST CHURCH									
ARK OF THE COVENANT RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTER	●					●	●	●	
BALDWIN AVE BAPTIST CHURCH									
BEECH GROVE CHURCH OF GOD									
BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH									
BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH									
BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH									
BIBLE METHODIST CHURCH									
BLACK CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH	●								
BREAD OF LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH									
BROWN MEMORIAL HOLINESS CHURCH									
BRUCE COMMUNITY CHURCH									
BRUCE METHODIST CHURCH									
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH									
CANEY CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH									
CENTER RIDGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH									
CHILDRENS HOME ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH									
CHOCTAW BEACH METHODIST CHURCH									
CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH									
CHRIST THE KING EPISCOPAL CHURCH								●	
CHRISTIAN INTERNATIONAL									
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS									
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS									
CLEAR SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH									
CLUSTER SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH									

Table 3.6: Critical Facilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
COLLEGE AVE CHURCH OF CHRIST									
COMMUNITY HOLINESS CHURCH									
CONTINENTAL WORSHIP CENTER									
CORNERSTONE CHURCH									
CORNERSTONE LIFE CHURCH									
COUNTRYSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH									
CROSS ROADS ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH									
CROSSPOINT CHURCH									
CROWDER CHAPEL CHURCH									
DAMASCUS PENTECOSTAL MINISTRIES									
DARLINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH									
DARLINGTON METHODIST CHURCH									
DEFUNIAK SPRINGS FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH									
DEFUNIAK SPRINGS SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH									
DESTINY WORSHIP CENTER									
EAST BAPTIST CHURCH									
EMERALD COAST CHRISTIAN CENTER							●	●	
EMERALD COAST LUTHERAN CHURCH									
EUCHEE VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH									
EUCHEEANNA APOSTOLIC CHURCH	●								
FAITH ASSEMBLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH									
FELLOWSHIP OF LOVE CHURCH									
FIRST APOSTOLIC CHURCH									
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD									
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHOCTAW									
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DEFUNIAK SPRINGS									
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF FREEPORT									
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LIBERTY									
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MOSSY HEAD									
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF WOODLAWN									
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH									
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH									
FREEPORT ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH									
FREEPORT CHURCH OF CHRIST									
FREEPORT CHURCH OF GOD								●	
FREEPORT FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH								●	
FREEPORT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH									
FREEPORT UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH									
FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH									
GASKIN CHURCH OF CHRIST									
GASKIN FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH									
GASKIN PENTECOSTAL CHURCH									
GLENDALE BAPTIST CHURCH									
GLENDALE CHURCH OF GOD									

Table 3.6: Critical Facilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
GLENDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH									
GOOD NEWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH									
GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM CHURCH									
GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH									
GUM CREEK HOLINESS CHURCH									
HAVEN HOUSE MISSION	●					●	●	●	
HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH									
HOUSE OF DELIVERANCE									
INDIAN CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH									
KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAHS WITNESS									
KINGDOM HALL OF WITNESSES									
KNOX HILL BAPTIST CHURCH									
LAKEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH									
LIBERTY ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH									
LIBERTY CHURCH OF CHRIST									
LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST CHURCH									
LIMESTONE BAPTIST CHURCH									
MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH									
MT NEBO BAPTIST CHURCH									
MT OLIVE AME CHURCH									
MT PISGAH AME CHURCH									
MT PLEASANT AME CHURCH									
NEW BEGINNINGS CHURCH									
NEW BETHEL AME CHURCH									
NEW DELIVERANCE HOLY PENTECOSTAL CHURCH									
NEW HARMONY BAPTIST CHURCH									
NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH									
NEW LIFE HOLINESS CHURCH									
NEW ST MARK AME									
NORTH 83 COMMUNITY CHURCH									
NORTHSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH									
OAK GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH									
OAKWOOD HILLS CHURCH									
OUT REACH FOR CHRIST									
PARK STREET CHURCH OF GOD									
PAXTON ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH									
PAXTON BAPTIST CHURCH									
PAXTON HOLINESS CHURCH									
PINEVIEW HOLINESS CHURCH									
PINEY GROVE CHURCH									
PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH									
PLEASANT RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH									
PLEASANT VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH									
POINT WASHINGTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH								●	
PORTLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH									
RED BAY BAPTIST CHURCH									

Table 3.6: Critical Facilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
RED BAY CHURCH OF CHRIST									
RED BAY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH									
RED BAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH									
RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH									
SANTA ROSA BEACH COMMUNITY CHURCH									
SEAGROVE BAPTIST CHURCH									
SEASIDE CHAPEL									
SOUTH WALTON BAPTIST CHURCH								●	
SOUTH WALTON CHURCH OF CHRIST									
SOUTHWIDE BAPTIST CHURCH									
ST AGATHAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH									
ST JOHNS AME CHURCH									
ST JOSEPH AME CHURCH									
ST MARGARETS CATHOLIC CHURCH									
ST MARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH									
ST RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH									
ST STEPHENS BAPTIST CHURCH									
ST SYMEON THE NEW THEOLOGIAN GREEK									
TEMPLE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH									
TRINITY MISSION									
TRUIMPH THE CHURCH & KINGDOM									
UNION SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH									
VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH									
WESLEY MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH									
WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH									
WORLD EVANGELISM OUTREACH CHURCH									
EMERGENCY SERVICES									
HOSPITALS (2)									
Sacred Heart Hospital									
Healthmark Regional Medical Center									
CLINICS (4)									
DeFuniak Springs Walk-In									
Fawaz Medical and Surgical Clinic									
Seagrove Beach Medical Clinic									
South Walton Medical Center									
EMS STATION (8)									
WCFR Mossy Head EMS 11									
WCFR Paxton EMS Station									
WCFR DeFuniak Springs EMS Station									
WCFR Freeport EMS 12									
SCRF United EMS Station 2									
South Walton EMS 3							●	●	
South Walton EMS 4								●	
South Walton EMS 2									
FIRE STATIONS (21)									

Table 3.6: Critical Facilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
South Walton 1									
South Walton 2									
South Walton 3							●	●	
South Walton 4								●	
South Walton 5									
Freeport Fire Department									
Argyle Fire Department (6268 Co Hwy)	●	●							
Argyle Fire Station (67 Fire Dept Ave)									
Argyle Fire Department 3									
DeFuniak Springs Fire Department									
Liberty Fire Department									
WCFR Darlington/Gaskin Fire Station 3									
WCFR Darlington/Gaskin Fire Station 3A									
WCFR Glendale Fire Station 6									
WCFR Glendale Fire Station 6A									
WCFR Mossy Head Fire Station 11									
WCFR Paxton Fire Station 1									
WCFR Red Bay Fire Station 8									
WCFR United Station 2									
WCFR United Station 2A									
WCFR Tri-Village Fire Station 10									
GOVERNMENT OFFICES (37)									
DISTRICT 1 COMMISSIONERS OFFICE-SCOTT BRANNON									
DISTRICT 2 COMMISSIONERS OFFICE-KENNETH PRIDGEN									
DISTRICT 3 COMMISSIONERS OFFICE-LARRY JONES									
DISTRICT 4 COMMISSIONERS OFFICE-SARA COMANDER									
DISTRICT 5 COMMISSIONERS OFFICE-CECILIA JONES	●								
SOUTH WALTON TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL									
WALTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATION									
WALTON COUNTY ATTORNEYS OFFICE									
WALTON COUNTY BUILDING DEPT									
WALTON COUNTY COASTAL BRANCH LIBRARY									
WALTON COUNTY CODE ENFORCEMENT									
WALTON COUNTY CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT									
WALTON COUNTY COURT HOUSE									
WALTON COUNTY DISTRICT 1 ROAD OFFICE									
WALTON COUNTY DISTRICT 2 & 3 ROAD OFFICE									
WALTON COUNTY DISTRICT 4 ROAD OFFICE									

Table 3.6: Critical Facilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
WALTON COUNTY DISTRICT 5 ROAD OFFICE	●								
WALTON COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER									
WALTON COUNTY ENGINEERING									
WALTON COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE									
WALTON COUNTY FACILITIES MAINTENANCE									
WALTON COUNTY FIRE RESCUE									
WALTON COUNTY FREEPORT LIBRARY									
WALTON COUNTY GIS/IR DEPT									
WALTON COUNTY GLADYS N MILTON LIBRARY									
WALTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPT									
WALTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPT									
WALTON COUNTY HUMAN RESOURCES									
WALTON COUNTY NORTH WALTON MOSQUITO CONTROL									
WALTON COUNTY OMB/PURCHASING									
WALTON COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION DEPT									
WALTON COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS									
WALTON COUNTY RECORDS FACILITY									
WALTON COUNTY SHOP									
WALTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE									
WALTON COUNTY SOUTH WALTON ANNEX									
WALTON-DEFUNIAK LIBRARY									
MOBILE HOME PARKS (58)									
Ashley's Landing									
Bass Haven Campground									
Beulah Mobile Home Park									
Black Creek Lodge	●				●	●	●	●	
Camping on the Gulf Holiday Travel Park	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	
Cherokee Park									
Christian International									
CIP Mobile Home Park									
Circle X Trailer Park									
Country Living Mobile Home Park									
Dawn Lane Mobile Home Park								●	
Destin East Mobile Home Park									
Destin RV Beach Resort									
Diamond R									
Faze's Acres									
Freedom Family Partnership									
Freedom Family Partnership Argyle Park									
Geronimo RV Resort									
Godwin's Trailer Park								●	
Grayton Beach State Park	●				●	●	●	●	

Table 3.6: Critical Facilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
Headricks Rentals									
Hoot Owl Ridge Trailer Park								●	
Howell Ave Trailer Park									
James Russell Lodging Park									
Juniper Lake Campground									
Lazy Days RV Park								●	
Leach Mobile Home Park									
Leons Trailer Village									
Long Leaf RV Park									
Loop Village									
Magnolia Branch Mobile Home Park									
Norwood Park									
NW GL Girl Scout Camp									
Pahl Trailer Park									
Peach Creek RV Park									
Quail Ridge Trailer Park							●	●	
Raccoon Ridge Trailer Park							●	●	
Sandy Pines RV Park									
Sarah's Mobile Home Court									
Seminole Park									
Simpler's Fish Camp and RV Park									
Smokehouse Lake Trailer Park	●								
Spanish Trail Boy Scout Camp									
Springs Mobile Home Park									
Summerfield									
Sunset King Campground									
The Outpost	●						●	●	
Topsail Hill RV Resort									
TR Trailer Park									
TRI-State Christian Camp									
Twenty-First Street Trailer Park									
Walline Estates	●					●	●	●	
Walton's Mobile Home Park									
Water Oaks Mobile Home Park									
ECBW Investments LLC									
Willows Campground									
Woodlawn Mobile Home Village									
NURSING HOMES (7)									
BROOKDALE CRYSTAL BAY							●	●	
CHAUTAUQUA REHAB AND NURSING HOME									
COPE CENTER HOUSING									
DELTA HEALTH CARE									
HOWELL ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY									
HOWELL ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY									
STANLEY HOUSE									
POLICE STATIONS (2)									
DeFuniak Springs									

Table 3.6: Critical Facilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
Walton County Sheriff Department									
POLICE DISPATCH (4)									
DeFuniak Springs Dispatch									
Walton County Sheriff Dispatch North									
Walton County Sheriff Dispatch South									
Walton County Main Dispatch									
SCHOOLS (19)									
Bay Elementary									
Compass Rose Academy									
Emerald Coast Middle School									
Freeport Elementary School									
Freeport High School									
Freeport Middle School									
Maude Saunders Elementary School									
Mossy Head Elementary School									
Paxton School									
Seaside Neighborhood School									
South Walton High School									
Van R Butler Elementary School									
Walton Academy									
Walton Career Development Center									
Walton High School									
Walton Learning Center									
Walton Middle School									
West DeFuniak Elementary School									
Wise Education Center									
SHELTERS (5)									
Freeport High School Shelter									
NW FL State College Building 2 Shelter									
Paxton School Shelter									
Mossy Head Elementary Shelter									
Walton High School Shelter									
Walton Middle School Shelter (Special Needs)									

Given the results from the aforementioned tables, mobile homes warrant further discussion due to increased vulnerability.

Mobile Homes

There are 52 sites identified as mobile home parks in Walton County (some of these areas are Recreational Vehicle (RV) parks or campgrounds). Of those sites identified, eleven are located in a hazard area as shown above in **Table 3.6**

Mobile homes are often considered to be more at risk to natural hazards (namely hurricane, thunderstorm and tornado winds). Especially at risk are those mobile homes built before 1994 when the wind safety provisions of the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Code were upgraded as a result of Hurricane Andrew.

In a post disaster environment, Walton County should try to take advantage of this unique opportunity to reduce the number of mobile homes located in hazard zones. This can be done through a variety of post disaster redevelopment policies that can be considered as part of the County's Post Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment Strategy.

Economic Vulnerability

Restoring the economic engine of the County is essential to the successful redevelopment of the community. It is estimated that anywhere from 25 to 40% of small businesses that are impacted by a disaster, never reopen. If this were to occur in Walton County, it could have a major impact on Walton County Government and the services it provides its citizens.

Large businesses are often better prepared to recover from a disaster due to the larger network of resources available to the business and the preparation put into planning for a disaster. This planning is often put in writing in the form of a disaster recovery plan for the business. However, large businesses are not completely immune to the impacts of a catastrophic disaster.

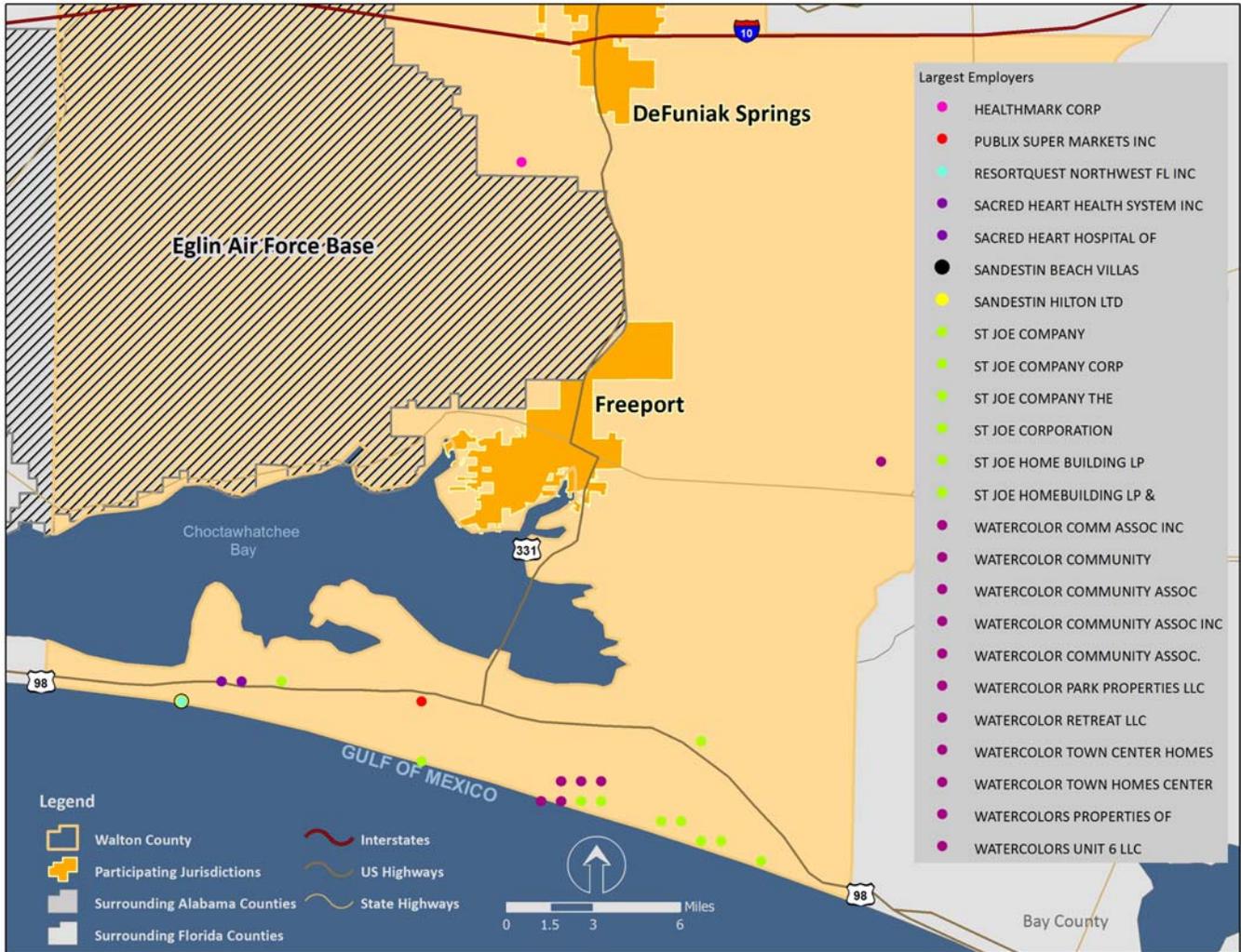
Table 3.7 contains a listing of the nine largest private sector employers in the county, including the number of employees, as identified by Enterprise Florida, the official economic development organization of the State of Florida. Wal-Mart is also noted as a large employer in the County.

Table 3.7: Major Employers in Walton County	
Company / Organization Name	Number of Employees
Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort	691
Sacred Heart on the Emerald Coast	540
ResortQuest	500
Publix Super Markets	425
Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa	400
WaterColor Inn and Resort	275
St. Joe Company	250
HealthMark Regional Medical Center	200
Professional Products, Inc.	170

Source: Enterprise Florida, 2010

In addition, there are several public sector jobs including those in local government and schools. **Figure 3.5** depicts the locations of the identified major private sector employers.

Figure 3.5: Walton County Major Private Sector Employers



A GIS analysis was run on these properties to determine potential vulnerability as shown in **Table 3.8**. The analysis determined that each of the facilities except one, HealthMark, is at risk to at least one of the identified hazards. This indicates that careful planning is necessary to limit damage and speed up recovery at these properties. Specific actions on how the County is preparing to handle economic redevelopment can be found in the PDRP Action Plan.

Table 3.8: Largest Employers Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
ANIMAL-RELATED FACILITIES (10)									
Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort								X	

Table 3.8: Largest Employers Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
Sacred Heart on the Emerald Coast	X								
ResortQuest								X	
Publix Super Markets	X								
Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa								X	
WaterColor Inn and Resort	X								
St. Joe Company	X		X	X			X		
HealthMark Regional Medical Center									
Professional Products, Inc.							X		

Hazus-MH Analysis

Hazus was used to determine the amount of damage that could be incurred by the County as a result of two different hurricane modeling scenarios. First, Walton County conducted a probabilistic analysis that produced loss estimates for the most likely types of storms that could impact the area. The County also used Hazus to model what might occur in the County if a “user-defined” Category 5 storm were to make landfall in Walton County.

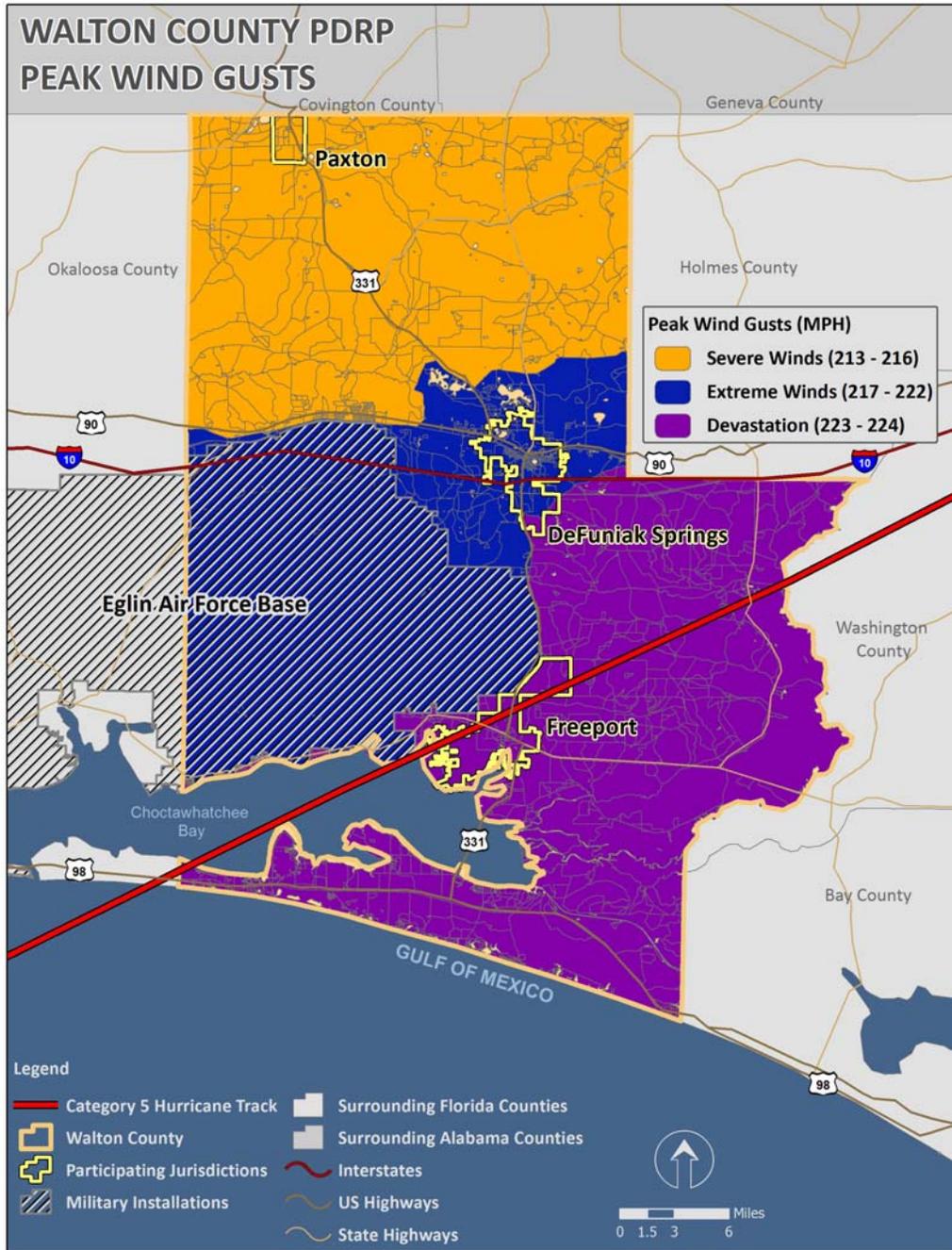
For the probabilistic scenario, default Hazus wind speed data, damage functions and methodology were used to determine the potential estimated losses for 50-, 100-, 200-, 500- and 1000-year frequency events and annual expected loss at the census tract level. **Table 3.9** shows estimated potential losses to improved properties in Walton County for 50-, 100-, 200-, 500-, and 1000-year hurricane wind event scenarios based on a total exposure of \$5,374,968,000.

Table 3.9 Potential Capital Stock Losses (Building, Content, Inventory Damage) from Hurricane and Tropical Storm Winds (by Return Period)		
Return Period	Peak Wind Gust	Estimated Potential Losses (Countywide)
10-year	75	\$2,395,000
20-year	100	\$15,078,000
50-year	108	\$55,456,000
100-year	118	\$126,486,000
200-year	133	\$300,175,000
500-year	141	\$690,803,000
1000-year	155	\$1,102,124,000

Hazus-MH was also used to model a “user-defined” Category 5 storm to help illustrate the potential impacts of a catastrophic hurricane making a direct hit on the county as shown in **Figure 3.13**. The modeled storm had maximum peak gusts of 224 miles per hour, making it an extreme scenario. This scenario was conducted so that

Walton County stakeholders could better understand, and thus plan for, the challenges that will be faced by the County following a disaster.

Figure 3.13: Walton County Hazus Category 5 Scenario



The following text and tables gives an overview of the results.

The total exposure in the Walton County Hazus study region is defined in buildings as well as dollar value. There are a total of 27,929 buildings in the Hazus study region which are reported by occupancy (a general description

of how the building is used) and building type (the material it is made of). The buildings, including their content and inventory, have a combined dollar exposure of \$5,374,968,000. Damage in the Hazus hurricane model is measured by building type and location in relation to peak wind gusts. The text below discusses the damages sustained due to the Category Five wind scenario.

In this scenario, *all* buildings in the County were damaged. According to **Table 3.10**, most buildings (99 percent) were severely damaged or completely destroyed. Some 82 percent of residential buildings were completely destroyed, the highest of any occupancy category. This was followed by agricultural buildings with 68 percent of holdings classified as completely destroyed. The occupancy classes are also used to assess building economic damage.

Table 3.10: Damage State by Occupancy Results from Category 5 Hazus-MH Scenario

Occupancy Category	Exposure		Damage State			
	Total Building in Occupancy Class	Percent of Total Buildings	Minor	Moderate	Severe	Destroyed
Agricultural	111	0.4%	0	1	34	76
Commercial	1,339	4.8%	0	13	578	747
Education	32	0.1%	0	0	17	15
Government	41	0.1%	0	1	24	16
Industrial	533	1.9%	0	6	271	256
Religion	158	0.6%	0	2	69	87
Residential	25,715	92.1%	19	317	4,215	21,164
TOTAL	27,929	100%	19	340	5,208	22,361

The building damage estimates, reported in dollar loss, indicate that nearly 90 percent of the \$5.4 billion in exposed building stock could sustain damage (**Table 3.11**). The hardest hit occupancy type is residential buildings, whose damages totaled 64 percent of the total exposure in the region. This was followed by commercial buildings, whose damages totaled 17 percent of the total exposure (*total exposure = \$5,374,968,000⁶*).

⁶ Note that total exposure in Hazus-MH differs from the actual exposure in the county based on tax parcel records. Hazus-MH uses the replacement value of structure while the tax parcel data is an improved or assessed value.

Table 3.11: Building Damage by Occupancy from Category 5 Hazus-MH Scenario

Occupancy Category	Building	Contents	Inventory	Total	Percent of total exposure
Agricultural	\$13,040,000	\$12,099,000	\$2,105,000	\$27,244,000	1%
Commercial	\$454,139,000	\$467,888,000	\$12,372,000	\$934,399,000	17%
Education	\$19,574,000	\$18,825,000	\$0	\$38,399,000	1%
Government	\$21,096,000	\$22,456,000	\$0	\$43,552,000	1%
Industrial	\$90,078,000	\$107,951,000	\$22,272,000	\$220,301,000	4%
Religion	\$66,090,000	\$61,619,000	\$0	\$127,709,000	2%
Residential	\$2,315,206,000	\$1,101,945,000	\$0	\$3,417,151,000	64%
TOTAL	\$2,979,223,000	\$1,792,783,000	\$36,749,000	\$4,808,755,000	89%

Building type is also a measurement of damage. Some building types withstand hurricane wind better than others, such as concrete. **Table 3.12** assesses the building type damages across the Walton County study region. All buildings sustained some level of damage and most were severely or completely destroyed. Ninety-one percent of manufactured housing was completely destroyed. Over 80 percent of wood and masonry structures were completely destroyed. Concrete structures fared best, although over 90 percent of concrete buildings were severely damaged.

Table 3.12: Damage State by Occupancy Results from Category 5 Hazus-MH Scenario

Building Type Category	Exposure		Damage State			
	Total Buildings Category	Percent of Total Buildings	Minor	Moderate	Severe	Destroyed
Concrete	717	3%	0	10	670	37
Steel	848	3%	0	8	374	465
Wood	5,968	24%	1	50	1,017	4,900
Masonry	11,375	45%	3	97	1,976	9,299
Manufactured Housing	6,200	25%	16	163	345	5,676

The scenario estimates that:

- 14,635 households would be displaced as a result of the storm (those who will need long-term sheltering due to a loss of habitation)
- 3,848 people would seek temporary shelter in public shelters.

It is evident that if a storm of this intensity were to actually occur in Walton County, it would present significant post disaster redevelopment challenges and opportunities for the County. This dramatic and devastating scenario was used during a stakeholder meeting to get attendees to think in terms of a worse-case scenario.

Social Vulnerability

The U.S. Census Bureau has estimated that the 2010 population for Walton County was 55,043, an increase of more than 35 percent over the 2000 population of 40,601. According to 2000 data from the U.S. Census Bureau, the median age in Walton County is 40.5 years which is considerably higher than the national average of 35.3 years. The average household size is 2.35 persons. Several areas were investigated to identify population segments that may potentially be at higher risk in the event of a disaster. In general,

- 5.3 percent of the population is under the age of five (a total of 2,158 persons)
- 7.0 percent speak a language other than English at home (aged 5 years and older)
- 15.8 percent of the population is age 65 years and over (a total of 6,431 persons)
- 38 percent of households (in 1999) have incomes of \$35,000 or less (9,709 households)
- 11.6 percent of families with children hold poverty status
- 24.9 percent (10,123 persons age five and up) hold disability status.⁷

These factors indicate that elderly populations, disabled persons and low income persons are populations which may face a greater vulnerability in the wake of a major disaster. **Table 3.13** provides an overview of the social vulnerability in Walton County according to U.S. Census 2000.

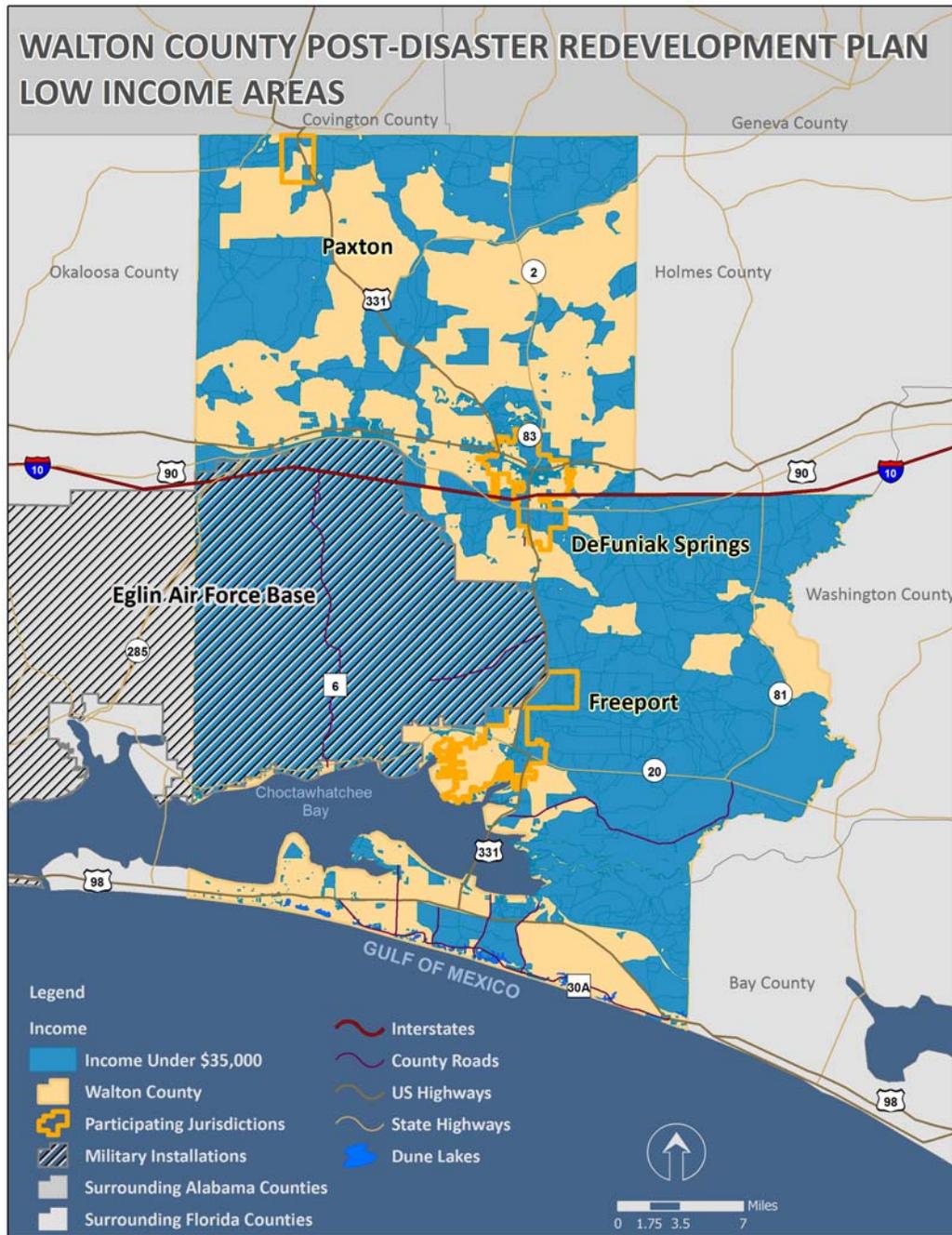
Social Vulnerability Category	Number of Persons	% of Population
Over 85 years old (2008)	563	1.4
Over 65 years old	6,431	15.8
Under 5 years old	2,158	5.3
English not spoken at home	1,951	5.1
Disabled	10,123	24.9
Poverty Status (Family with children under 18)	1,312	11.6
Poverty Status (Individual over 18 years old)	5,577	14.4
Income Less than \$35,000	9,709	23.9

Source: US Census Bureau

The social vulnerability categories provided in **Table 3.13** were also used in the analysis to create social vulnerability maps found in **Figure 3.6** (low income) and **Figure 3.7** (population over 65 years of age). GIS shapefiles from Hazus-MH MR4 were used to develop maps represented at the 2000 Census block level.

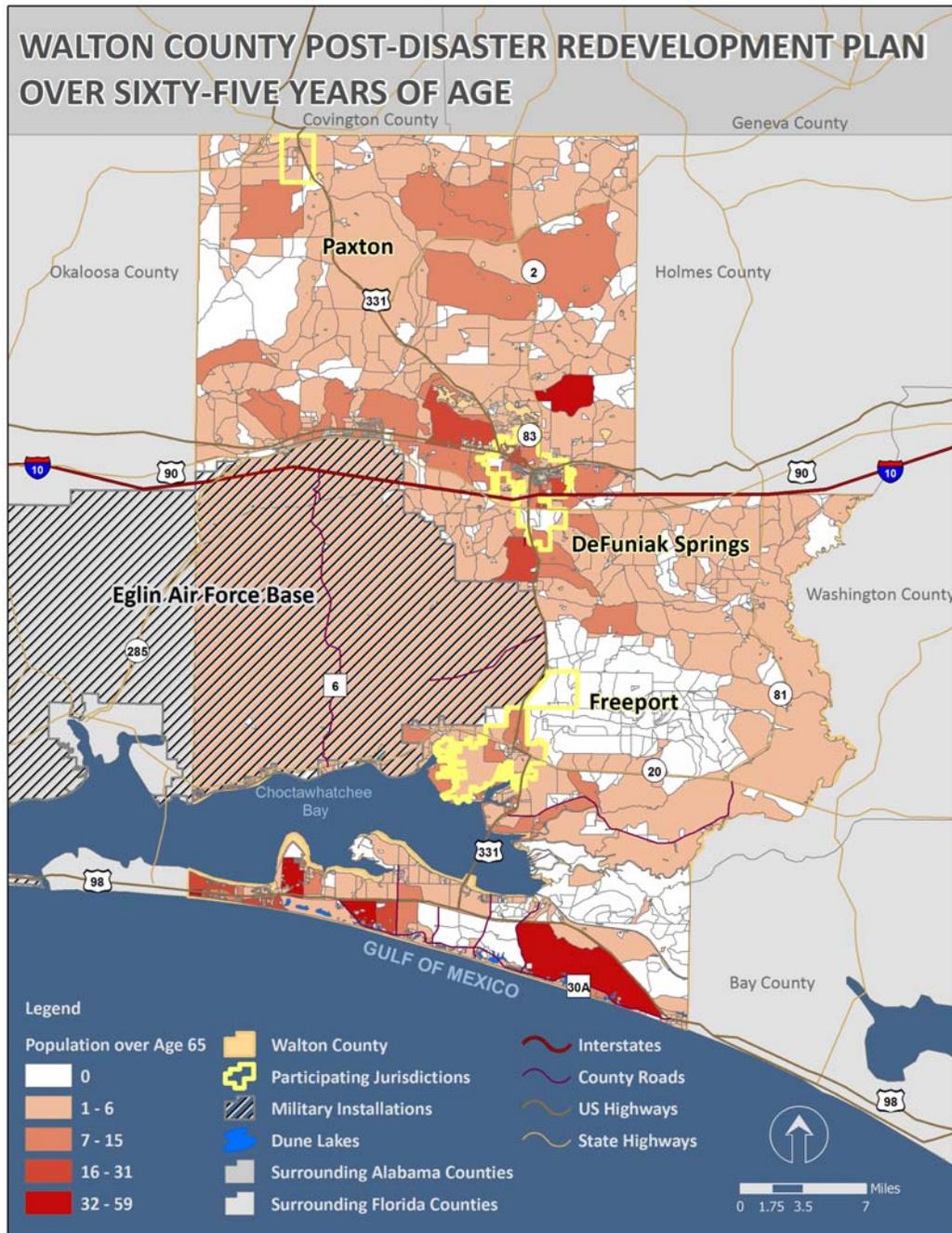
⁷ The US Census Bureau defines disability as “a long-lasting physical, mental, or emotional condition. This condition can make it difficult for a person to do activities such as walking, climbing stairs, dressing, bathing, learning, or remembering. This condition can also impede a person from being able to go outside the home alone or to work at a job or business.”

Figure 3.6: Vulnerable Population – Low Income (under \$35,000)



Source: Census 2000

Figure 3.7: Vulnerable Population – Persons Over 65 Years of Age



Source: Census 2000

GIS analysis was also used to determine the population located in known hazard areas. These results are shown below in **Table 3.14**.

Table 3.14: Population Vulnerability to Known Hazards			
Hazard Zone	Approximate Population	Over 65 years of Age	Income less than \$35,000
WALTON COUNTY⁸			
1% ACF*	9332	658	2260
.2% ACF*	60	6	16
Coastal VE Zone	266	23	56
Cat 1 Storm Surge	356	24	86
Cat 2 Storm Surge	430	29	94
Cat 3 Storm Surge	2484	200	538
Cat 4 Storm Surge	2711	264	576
Cat 5 Storm Surge	1458	125	321
Moderate Wildfire Potential (11 to 20)	470	44	95
High Wildfire Potential (21 to 30)	16	2	3
DEFUNIAK SPRINGS			
1% ACF*	1574	105	7316
.2% ACF*	0	0	0
Moderate Wildfire Potential (11 to 20)	45	2	8
High Wildfire Potential (21 to 30)	0	0	0
FREEPORT			
1% ACF*	327	26	84
.2% ACF*	0	0	0
Coastal VE Zone	0	0	0
Cat 1 Storm Surge	0	0	0
Cat 2 Storm Surge	34	3	10
Cat 3 Storm Surge	42	4	10
Cat 4 Storm Surge	39	4	11
Cat 5 Storm Surge	276	19	69
Moderate Wildfire Potential (11 to 20)	0	0	0
High Wildfire Potential (21 to 30)	0	0	0
PAXTON			
1% ACF*	188	12	54
.2% ACF*	0	0	0
Moderate Wildfire Potential (11 to 20)	0	0	0
High Wildfire Potential (21 to 30)	0	0	0

⁸ These figures include all parcel data for Walton County and the participating jurisdictions.

Additional Vulnerability Considerations

Historic properties and agricultural holdings did not lend themselves to conduct a GIS analysis, but do warrant discussion as part of the County's vulnerable assets.

Historic Property Vulnerability

Historic properties are defined for the purposes of this study as any historic district, site, building, structure or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) maintained by the Secretary of the Interior or any such property recognized by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) as being historically significant. This term may also include artifacts, records and remains that are related to and located within such properties. This subsection provides a summary of those assets potentially at risk. **Table 3.15** provides an inventory of properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places as well those properties considered historically significant by the state.

Table 3.15: Historic Properties in Walton County			
NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	REGISTER
DeFuniak Springs Historic District		DeFuniak Springs	National
Biddle, Perry L., House	203 Scribner Ave	DeFuniak Springs	National
Chautauqua Hall of Brotherhood	Circle Drive	DeFuniak Springs	National
Governor Stone	Baytown dock	Sandestin	National
Operation Crossbow Site	undisclosed	Eglin AFB	National
Sun Bright	606 Live Oak Ave	DeFuniak Springs	National
Florida's First Confederate Monument		DeFuniak Springs	State
Eden State Gardens		Point Washington	State
Walton-DeFuniak Library	Live Oak Avenue and Circle Drive	DeFuniak Springs	State
Florida's Educational Association	Circle Drive	DeFuniak Springs	State
Eucheeanna Community		DeFuniak Springs	State
Knox Hill Academy 1848		DeFuniak Springs	State
Euchee Valley Presbyterian Church and Cemetery		DeFuniak Springs	State
Chautauqua Hall of Brotherhood	Circle Drive	DeFuniak Springs	State

Source: National Register of Historic Places, Florida SHPO

According to the National Register Information System⁹ and data provided by the SHPO, there are 5 individual national register entrees for Walton County plus one historic district. There are also 8 properties recognized by the State Historic Preservation Office that include NRHP properties and other properties of possible historic significance dating from c1845 to c1958.

Due to lack information on specific location, GIS analysis could not be utilized to determine properties potentially at risk to hazards. However, this should be considered for future updates.

⁹The National Register Information System (NRIS) is a computerized database accessible via the National Park Service Web site (www.nps.gov) that contains information on every property in the National Register of Historic Places.

The local desire to preserve and protect Walton County's heritage is a consideration in analyzing vulnerability and determining the place of historic properties in a redevelopment strategy. There is a high level of community value placed on historic properties and cultural resources in Florida at the state, regional and local levels. This extends to historical, archaeological, museum and folk culture resources as well as other aspects of historic assets. The state's Bureau of Historic Preservation, for example, invests in and provides architectural preservation, compliance review, survey and registration, master site file, Florida Folklife Program and grant services. There is a widespread feeling that Florida's many historic resources, including those in Walton County, contribute significantly to the state's character and economic base and reflect each community's distinct heritage. This is particularly true in DeFuniak Springs.

Walton County has put measures in place that would protect these otherwise threatened structures in a post-disaster environment. Policy H-5 in the Comprehensive Plan Housing Element provides several protection measures for historic properties including a delay-of demolition provision for properties over 75 years of age, among others.

Agricultural Holdings

According to the 2007 U.S. Census of Agricultural, there were 754 farms in Walton County, an increase of 40 percent from 2002. The average size of farms also increased during this time to 168 acres from 148 acres. Top crop items include forage (hay, grass silage, greenchop), cotton and peanuts for nuts. The County ranks sixth in the state for cotton and cotton seed sales and ninth in the state for poultry and egg sales. The County had \$25.5 million in agricultural products sales in 2007.

According to the University of Florida, Walton County has 676,900 acres of open agricultural land. Forests cover a majority of this at 76 percent. This standing timber is valued at \$443 million.

This information is included in the Vulnerability Identification to bring attention to the vulnerability of agricultural and open land property in the County since they account for a large portion of the total land and do hold substantial financial holdings.

Development Trends and Implications

Development pressures will continue to increase as the County's residential and seasonal populations grow. Growth is occurring in both coastal and rural areas, though mostly outside of hazard areas in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan. The primary growth area is in South Walton which is consistent with the County's overall future land use strategy. Walton County has strong planning policies in place within the Comprehensive Plan to regulate coastal development. Notably, Policy L-1.12.1 prohibits increasing the density within the Coastal High Hazard Area. Similar to policies for coastal areas, strong policies are in place that will maintain the low densities and character of the rural area. Most of the growth is occurring in places that are located outside of the Coastal High Hazard Area.

Summary of Hazard Vulnerability

- The primary tax base is along coast is vulnerable to hurricane wind, storm surge, and flooding
- Many roads vital to evacuation, including Highway 331, are at risk to hurricane wind, storm surge, and flooding.
- All critical facilities, infrastructure, and utilities should be considered at risk to hurricane-force winds
- Wildfire poses a threat to the entire county. High risk areas include land along Highway 90, DeFuniak Springs, and land along the coast.
- Several critical facilities are at risk to hazards including two EMS Stations at risk to storm surge and three Fire Stations at risk to storm and flood (two to storm surge and one to flood hazard)
- Eleven mobile home parks are at risk (ten to storm surge and five to flood hazard)
- Of an estimated 4,337 properties in a flood zone, several are designated as pre-FIRM based on year built: 18 percent of the properties in the 0.1-percent ACF zone are designated as pre-FIRM, accounting for 5 percent of the value at risk; 21 percent of the properties in the 0.2-percent ACF zone are pre-FIRM, including 9 percent of value; 15 percent of properties in the VE coastal zone are designated as pre-FIRM, accounting for 4 percent of the value.
- Several of the county's largest employers are at risk to hazards.
- Many other critical facilities, infrastructure, and utilities are near hazard areas
- Valuable timber stands and agricultural holdings are at risk to hurricane winds and flooding
- There are approximately 192,404 acres in the flood zones (185,929 acres in the 1.0-percent ACF; 687 acres in the 0.2-percent ACF; 5,785 acres in the VE Zone), which account for approximately \$434,130,582 in improved value (10 percent of total) throughout the county.
- Vulnerable populations in the county include the elderly, disabled, and low income persons.

Vulnerable Critical Infrastructure and Utilities List

Table 3.16 shows the critical infrastructure and utilities in relation to flood, storm surge, and wildfire risk.

Table 3.16: Critical Infrastructure and Utilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
BRIDGES (141)									
CHURCH ST BRIDGE	●							●	
CEMENT BRIDGE 600078	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600082	●					●	●	●	
CONCRETE BOX BRIDGE 600017									
CONCRETE BOX BRIDGE 600048	●								
CONCRETE BOX BRIDGE 600058									
CONCRETE BOX BRIDGE 600060									
CONCRETE BRIDGE HUB PRESLEY RD	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE CO HWY 181-C	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE BIG CEDAR RD	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE CO HWY 280A									
CONCRETE BRIDGE US HWY 98	●					●	●	●	
CONCRETE BRIDGE US HWY 331 S									
CONCRETE BRIDGE HALL HUNT CIR	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600004									
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600007									
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600008									
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600012									
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600013									
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600019	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600021	●			●	●	●	●	●	
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600022	●			●	●	●	●	●	
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600023									
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600024	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600026	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600037									
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600049	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600067									
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600068								●	
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600069									
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600073									
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600076	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600077	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600079	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600080	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600081	●							●	
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600087	●			●	●	●	●	●	
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600089	●					●	●	●	
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600090									
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600092	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600093	●			●	●	●	●	●	

Table 3.16: Critical Infrastructure and Utilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600095	●				●	●	●	●	
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600096	●				●	●	●	●	
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600098	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600099	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600101	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600102	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600103	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600105	●						●	●	
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600107	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 60011	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600110	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600113	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600115	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600116	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600123	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 60070	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600910	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 600920	●			●	●	●	●	●	
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604025	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604033	●			●	●	●	●	●	
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604107									
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604108	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604109	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604120	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604128	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604132									
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604134	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604135									
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604137	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604138	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604139	●						●	●	
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604140									
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604141	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604306	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604344	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604350	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604362	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604365	●								
CONCRETE BRIDGE 604380	●								
STEEL BRIDGE 604131	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE YORKEY RD	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE CHOCTAWHATCHEE RIVER RD	●							●	
WOODEN BRIDGE WALTON ST	●					●	●	●	
WOODEN BRIDGE W INDIAN CREEK RANCH RD									
WOODEN BRIDGE CHARLES RUSHING RD	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE HEWETT RD	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE MILES MARTIN RD	●								

Table 3.16: Critical Infrastructure and Utilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
WOODEN BRIDGE CHESSER RD	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE WILLIAMS RD									
WOODEN BRIDGE PEN WILLIAMS RD	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE BAYSHORE DR						●	●	●	
WOODEN BRIDGE LITTLE CREEK TRL									
WOODEN BRIDGE 574120	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 600032	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 602506	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604001									
WOODEN BRIDGE 604002									
WOODEN BRIDGE 604003	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604005	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604006	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604007	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604008									
WOODEN BRIDGE 604009									
WOODEN BRIDGE 604010	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604011	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604012									
WOODEN BRIDGE 604013	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604024	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604026	●			●	●	●	●	●	
WOODEN BRIDGE 604095									
WOODEN BRIDGE 604106	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604111	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604112	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604113	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604114	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604121	●			●	●	●	●	●	
WOODEN BRIDGE 604124	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604125	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604129	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604130	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604136	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604147	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604304	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604316	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604332	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604333	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604335	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604337	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604338	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604341	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604345	●						●	●	
WOODEN BRIDGE 604348	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604352	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604366	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604369	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604372	●								

Table 3.16: Critical Infrastructure and Utilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
WOODEN BRIDGE 604373	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604382	●								
WOODEN BRIDGE 604385									
WOODEN BRIDGE 604613	●								
AIRPORTS (8)									
Dugger Field Airport									
Breezy Knoll Airport									
Cedar Lane Airport									
Cuchens Airport									
Joy Farms Airport									
Unicorn Place									
Melanies									
Ellis Agricultural Field Airport									
TRI SITES (1)									
Perdue Farms									
MARINAS (13)									
Sandestin Marina	●					●	●	●	
The Outpost	●					●	●	●	
Black Creek Marina	●				●	●	●	●	
LANDFILLS (8)									
Walton County									
Central Landfill									
Waste Recyclers of N FL (Rock Hill Rd)									
Nettles Land Cleaning Debris Disposal Facility									
Black Creek Center									
Crawford Sugar Properties									
Waste Recyclers of N FL (Hwy 20)									
Coyote Land Co									
Coyote West Landfill									
HELIPORTS (2)									
Pennington									
Mack Bayou Airheart									
FUEL STORAGE (45)									
AMERIGAS PROPANE									
AOC FOOD MARTS 12									
BELLS COUNTRY STORE									
BLACK CREEK GENERAL STORE 14									
BOBBIE JEANS GROCERY									
BUDDIES FOOD MART									
CHRISTIAN INTERNATIONAL FUEL STORAGE									
CIRCLE K									
CIRCLE K 8821									
DOWDLE GAS COMPANY									
DOWDLE GAS COMPANY									
EXPRESS LANE									
EXPRESS LANE 2									
EXPREZIT									

Table 3.16: Critical Infrastructure and Utilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
EXPREZIT 610 SIGN SAYS FILL-UPS FOOD STORES									
FILL-UPS FOOD STORE 3040									
FILL-UPS FOOD STORES									
FILL-UPS FOOD STORES 3012									
FILL-UPS FOOD STORES 3030									
FILL-UPS FOOD STORES 3035	●								
FILL-UPS FOOD STORES 3075									
FILL-UPS FOOD STORES SIGN SAYS EMERALD EXPRESS									
FULLERS GROCERY									
J & K GROCERY									
MELHORNS MINI MART									
MURPHY OIL TERMINAL									
MURPHY OIL USA 5781									
PETRO FOOD MART									
PRIDGENS DIXIE DANDY									
RACEWAY									
RITZ FOOD STORE 50									
SALLYS BY THE SEA STORE									
SANDESTIN FUEL STORAGE								●	
THE HITCHING POST									
TOM THUMB 109									
TOM THUMB 110									
TOM THUMB 116									
TOM THUMB 123	●								
TOM THUMB 14									
TOM THUMB 47									
TOM THUMB 48									
TOM THUMB 80									
TOM THUMB 86									
TOM THUMB 92									
WALTON COUNTY FUEL STORAGE									
COMMUNICATION TOWERS (95)									
Cable TV Tower 717 EARL GODWIN RD S									
CELL TOWER 35 W BRADLEY ST									
CELL TOWER 691 INSTITUTION RD									
CELL TOWER 1885 MACK BAYOU RD									
CELL TOWER 1159 BLACK CREEK BLVD	●					●	●	●	
CELL TOWER 961 JOLLY BAY RD								●	
CELL TOWER 5147 US HIGHWAY 98 E									
CELL TOWER 14063 US HIGHWAY 331 N									
CELL TOWER 2892 CO HIGHWAY 0605									
CELL TOWER 5567 CO HIGHWAY 192									
CELL TOWER 72 CLAYTON LN									
13767 331 BUSINESS									
CELL TOWER ASR1250945									

Table 3.16: Critical Infrastructure and Utilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
CELL TOWER FCC1023339									
CELL TOWER FCC1026863									
CELL TOWER FCC1026865									
CELL TOWER FCC1026866									
CELL TOWER FCC1026868								●	
CELL TOWER FCC1028148									
CELL TOWER FCC1029263 SITE REFERENCE369G5171							●	●	
CELL TOWER FCC1029264									
CELL TOWER FCC1029303									
CELL TOWER FCC1029304									
CELL TOWER FCC1030466									
CELL TOWER FCC1033139									
CELL TOWER FCC1039185									
CELL TOWER FCC1039199									
CELL TOWER FCC1040735									
CELL TOWER FCC1044464									
CELL TOWER FCC1054431									
CELL TOWER FCC1058431									
CELL TOWER FCC1204303									
CELL TOWER FCC1219953									
CELL TOWER FCC1225557									
CELL TOWER FCC1225558									
CELL TOWER FCC1225560									
CELL TOWER FCC1226827									
CELL TOWER FCC1226971									
CELL TOWER FCC12312336									
CELL TOWER FCC1232573									
CELL TOWER FCC1236339									
CELL TOWER FCC1238944									
CELL TOWER FCC1241319									
CELL TOWER FCC1242544									
CELL TOWER FCC1247761									
CELL TOWER ON BLDG 3768 E CO HIGHWAY 30A									
CELL TOWER ON BLDG 4200 BEACHSIDE TWO DR	●								
CELL TOWER ON BLDG 2393 W CO HIGHWAY 30A	●								
CELL TOWER ON BLDG 1096 SCENIC GULF DR									
CELL TOWER ON BLDG 2936 SCENIC GULF DR									
CELL TOWER ON BLDG 4100 E CO HIGHWAY 30A									
CELL TOWER ON BLDG 9100 BAYTOWNE WHARF BLVD									
CELL TOWER ON BLDG 114 MAINSAIL DR	●					●	●	●	
CELL TOWER ON WATER TOWER 99 N								●	

Table 3.16: Critical Infrastructure and Utilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
WALL ST									
CELL TOWER ON WATER TOWER 121 W MAIN AVE									
CELL TOWER ON WATER TOWER 9971 E CO HIGHWAY 30A									
CELL TOWER ON WATER TOWER 20 SEA CROFT DR									
CELL TOWER SITE870038 FCC1030357									
CHELCO DISPATCH									
COMMUNICATION TOWER									
COX COMMUNICATION TOWER									
EGLIN AFB RADAR STATION TOWER									
EOC RADIO TOWER									
MAIN DISPATCH CENTER FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES									
MEDIACOM CABLE TV TOWER									
POLICE DISPATCH 355 US HIGHWAY 90 E								●	
RADIO TOWER 464 MACK BAYOU RD									
RADIO TOWER 221 MILLARD GAINEY RD							●	●	
RADIO TOWER 4410 US HIGHWAY 98 E									
RADIO TOWER 3140 STATE HIGHWAY 2 W									
RADIO TOWER 12601 331 BUSINESS									
RADIO TOWER ASR1030868									
SHERIFFS NORTH TOWER									
TELECOM TOWER 67 FIRE DEPT AVE									
TELECOM TOWER 10618 ROCK HILL RD									
UNKNOWN									
UNKNOWN									
UNKNOWN BLDG8965									
WALTON COUNTY BCC TELECOMMUNICATION TOWER									
WCSB TELECOMMUNICATION 118 GILMORE RD									
WCSB TELECOMMUNICATION 145 S PARK ST									
WCSB TELECOMMUNICATION 15381 331 BUSINESS									
WCSB TELECOMMUNICATION 360 KYLEA LAIRD DR									
WCSB TELECOMMUNICATION 645 GREENWAY TRL									
WCSB TELECOMMUNICATION 6694 W CO HIGHWAY 30A									
WCSB TELECOMMUNICATION 815 LINCOLN AVE									
WCSB TELECOMMUNICATION 761 N 20TH ST									
WCSB TELECOMMUNICATION 625 PARK									

Table 3.16: Critical Infrastructure and Utilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
AVE									
WCSB TELECOMMUNICATION 555 WALTON RD									
WCSB TELECOMMUNICATION TOWER AT PAXTON SCHOOL									
WCSO SOUTH END DISPATCH									
WCSB TELECOMMUNICATION CENTER									
WCSO NORTH END DISPATCH									
WZEP RADIO TOWER FCC1208091									
WZEP RADIO TOWER FCC1208091	●								
CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES (3)									
Walton Correctional Institution									
No. American Family Institute									
Walton County Department of Corrections									
ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS (31)									
CHELCO FREEPORT OFFICE									
CHELCO MAIN OFFICE									
CHELCO OPERATIONS CENTER									
CHELCO OPERATIONS CENTER							●	●	
CHELCO SOUTH WALTON OFFICE	●								
CHELCO SUBSTATION 60 CO HIGHWAY 1087	●								
CHELCO SUBSTATION 1258 BLACK CREEK BLVD									
CHELCO SUBSTATION 248 CHIPPEWA DR									
CHELCO SUBSTATION 315 J D MILLER RD									
CHELCO SUBSTATION 5075 CO HIGHWAY 282									
CHELCO SUBSTATION 1424 STATE HIGHWAY 20 W									
CHELCO SUBSTATION 324 E HEWETT RD									
CHELCO SUBSTATION 13786 331 BUSINESS									
CHELCO SUBSTATION 2930 CO HIGHWAY 0605									
CHELCO SUBSTATION 84 STATE HIGHWAY 2 W									
CHELCO SUBSTATION 5706 STATE HIGHWAY 81									
CHELCO SUBSTATION 90 MILLARD GAINNEY RD									
CHELCO SUBSTATION 105 POPE ST									
CHELCO SUBSTATION 5459 E CO HIGHWAY 30A									
CHELCO SUBSTATION 279 N CO HIGHWAY 393									
CHELCO SUBSTATION 15354 US HIGHWAY 331S								●	

Table 3.16: Critical Infrastructure and Utilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
CHELCO SUBSTATION 994 State HWY 83									
GULF POWER OFFICE 1226 CIRCLE DR									
GULF POWER SUBSTATION 317 J D MILLER RD									
GULF POWER SUBSTATION 11873 US HIGHWAY 98 E									
GULF POWER SUBSTATION 155 RALPH DAVIS RD									
GULF POWER SUBSTATION 924 STATE HIGHWAY 83									
GULF POWER SUBSTATION 214 MIRAMAR BEACH DR									
GULF POWER SUBSTATION 57 ADAMS ST									
GULF POWER SUBSTATION 10 SANDESTIN CT									
LIFT STATIONS (1)									
Freeport Water Boost Pump									
Goldsby Road Booster Pump Station									
WATER TREATMENT PLANT (1)									
Walton County Environmental Test Wells									
SWU Wastewater Treatment Plant									
WELL HEADS (15)									
Regional Utilities Well 1									
Regional Utilities Well 2									
Regional Utilities Well 3									
Regional Utilities Well 4									
Regional Utilities Well 5									
Regional Utilities Well 6									
Regional Utilities Well 7									
Regional Utilities Well 8									
Regional Utilities Well 9									
South Walton Utilities Monitoring Site									
S. Walton Utilities Monitoring Site (1)	●								
S. Walton Utilities Monitoring Site (2)									
S. Walton Utilities Well 1									
S. Walton Utilities Well 2	●					●	●	●	
S. Walton Utilities Well 3									
S. Walton Utilities Well 4									
S. Walton Utilities Well 5									
S. Walton Utilities Well 6									
S. Walton Utilities Well 7								●	
S. Walton Utilities Well 8									
S. Walton Utilities Well 9									
S. Walton Utilities Well 10									
S. Walton Utilities Well 11									
S. Walton Utilities Well 12									
SWU General Brown Wellfield Operations Facility									
PRIMARY ROADS									

Table 3.16: Critical Infrastructure and Utilities Located in Known Hazard Zones

Facility	Flood Hazard Zones			Storm Surge Hazard Zones					Wildfire Hazard Zones
	100-year	500-year	VE	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Cat 5	High Potential
I-10									
US HWY 90									●
US HWY 98	●			●	●	●	●	●	
US HWY 331	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
ST HWY 2	●								●
ST HWY 8	●								
ST HWY 20	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
ST HWY 81	●								
ST HWY 83	●								
ST HWY 285				●	●	●	●	●	
County Road 6						●	●	●	
County Road 30A	●			●	●	●	●	●	
County Road 3280	●			●	●	●	●	●	

SECTION 4: INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY ASSESSMENT

This section discusses the capacity of Walton County government and other critical stakeholders to implement a post disaster redevelopment strategy. It consists of the following five subsections:

- Description of a Capacity Assessment
- Conducting the Capacity Assessment
- Capacity Assessment Findings
- Conclusions on Local Capacity
- Recommendations for Building Capacity

Description of a Capacity Assessment

The purpose of conducting a capacity assessment is to determine the ability of a local jurisdiction to implement a post disaster redevelopment strategy, and to identify potential opportunities for establishing or enhancing specific recovery / redevelopment policies, programs or projects.

As in any planning process, it is important to try to establish which goals, objectives and / or actions of a plan are feasible, based on an understanding of the organizational capacity of those agencies or departments tasked with their implementation. A capacity assessment helps to determine which recovery and / or redevelopment actions are practical and likely to be implemented over time, given a local government's planning and regulatory framework, level of administrative and technical support, amount of fiscal resources.

A capacity assessment has two primary components: 1) an inventory of a local jurisdiction's relevant plans, ordinances or programs already in place and analysis of their potential impact on post-disaster redevelopment; and 2) an analysis of the jurisdiction's capacity to carry them out.

Careful examination of local capacity will detect any existing gaps, shortfalls or weaknesses with ongoing government activities that could hinder proposed recovery / redevelopment activities and possibly exacerbate community recovery / redevelopment efforts. A capacity assessment also highlights the positive steps that have already been taken by the local government to prepare for post-disaster redevelopment, which should continue to be supported and enhanced through future mitigation efforts. The capacity assessment completed for Walton County serves as a critical planning step and an integral part of the foundation for designing an effective post disaster redevelopment strategy. Coupled with the *Vulnerability Assessment*, the *Capacity Assessment* helps identify and target meaningful recovery / redevelopment actions for incorporation in the *Recovery and Redevelopment Strategy* section of the Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan. It not only helps establish the goals and objectives for the County to pursue under this Plan, but also ensures that those goals and objectives are realistically achievable under given local conditions.

Conducting the Capacity Assessment

In order to facilitate the inventory and analysis of the local government capacity for Walton County, a detailed Capacity Assessment Survey was distributed to staff members of County Government and the Municipalities within Walton County. Assessments have been received from the City of Paxton, City of DeFuniak Springs, City of Freeport and Walton County.

The survey questionnaire requested information on a variety of “capacity indicators” such as existing local plans, policies, programs or ordinances that contribute to and / or hinder the Community’s ability to implement recovery and redevelopment actions. Other indicators included information related to the fiscal, administrative and technical capabilities, such as access to local budgetary and personnel resources.

At a minimum, survey results provide an extensive inventory of existing County plans, ordinances, programs and resources in place or under development. Copies of the completed surveys can be found in **Appendix A**.

In completing the survey, respondents were also required to conduct a self-assessment of the jurisdiction’s specific capabilities. The survey instrument thereby not only helps accurately assess the degree of local capacity, but also serves as a good source of introspection which can be used to improve capabilities, fill identified gaps, strengthen weaknesses, and to recognize and resolve conflicts. These then can all be recast as opportunities for specific actions within the Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan.

The second method of assessing capacity is in the review of the various planning documents provided to the consultant. A wide variety of planning documents were reviewed. The four planning documents most connected to this effort were the Walton County Comprehensive Plan, the Walton County Land Development Code, the Walton County Local Mitigation Strategy, and the Walton County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. The County has a solid set of Plans, Policies, and Regulations establishing the basis for hazard mitigation planning and recovery. These documents provide insight into the Values, Principles, Goals, Objectives, Strategies, Processes, and Functions of the Walton County Community. The results of the review of these planning documents are discussed in detail in Chapter 5: Local Plan Integration.

The third and possibly most critical part of assessing capacity entailed conversations with staff through the PDRP Work Group and through public input. It is through these conversations that clarity can be brought to the information obtained in the Capacity Assessment Survey and the document review.

These three methods provide critical information for developing an effective and meaningful post disaster recovery and redevelopment strategy.

Capacity Assessment Findings

As a result of reviewing survey responses, completing the review of local planning documents and conducting interviews of Walton County staff, it was determined that, in general, Walton County has the capacity to respond and recovery from a disaster. The County recognizes that depending on the size of a disaster, outside assistance will be needed. Additionally, the Municipalities recognize that they will need county assistance to properly respond and implement recovery actions within appropriate timeframes. As with all communities facing major disasters, Walton County will be challenged to meet needs and citizen expectations as a disaster grows in scope and scale.

Planning and Regulatory Capacity

Planning and regulatory capacity is based on the implementation of plans, ordinances and programs that demonstrate a local jurisdiction’s commitment to guiding and managing growth, development and redevelopment in a responsible manner, while maintaining the general welfare of the community. It

includes emergency response and mitigation planning, comprehensive land use planning and transportation planning, in addition to the enforcement of zoning or subdivision ordinances and building codes that regulate how land is developed and structures are built, as well as protecting environmental, historic and cultural resources in the community. Although some conflicts can arise, these planning initiatives generally present significant opportunities to integrate recovery and redevelopment principles and practices into the local decision making process.

This assessment is designed to provide a general overview of the key planning and regulatory tools or programs in place or under development for Walton County, along with their potential effect on recovery and redevelopment. This information will help identify opportunities to address existing gaps, weaknesses or conflicts with other initiatives in addition to integrating the implementation of this Plan with existing planning mechanisms where appropriate.

Table 4.1 provides a summary of the relevant local plans, ordinances and programs already in place or under development for Walton County. A checkmark (✓) indicates that the given item is currently in place and being implemented, or that it is currently being developed for future implementation. Each of these other local plans, ordinances and programs should be considered available mechanisms for incorporating certain elements of the Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan.

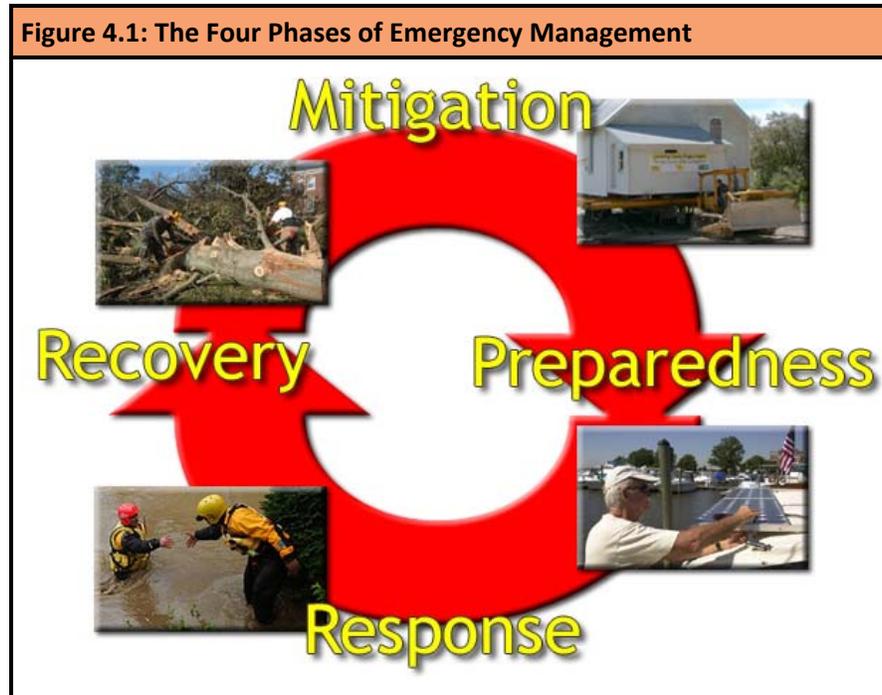
Table 4.1: Relevant Plans, Ordinances and Programs					
PLANNING / REGULATORY TOOL	IN PLACE / UNDER DEVELOPMENT	DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE	EFFECT ON RECOVERY / REDEVELOPMENT		
			Strongly Supports	Helps Facilitate	Hinders
Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan	Under Development	Walton County Planning and Development Services	✓		
Post Disaster Redevelopment / Reconstruction Ordinance	Under Development	Walton County Planning and Development Services	✓		
Comprehensive Land Use Plan	✓	Walton County Planning and Development Services	✓		
Floodplain Management Plan	✓	Walton County Planning and Development Services	✓		
Open Space Management Plan	✓	Walton County Planning and Development Services	✓		
Stormwater Management Plan	✓	Walton County Planning and Development Services	✓		
Natural Resource Protection Plan	✓	Walton County Planning and Development Services	✓		
Flood Response Plan	✓	Walton County Planning and Development Services	✓		
Comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan	✓	Walton County Emergency Management	✓		
Recovery Annex to Emergency Operations Plan (Short-term recovery)	✓	Walton County Emergency Management	✓		
Continuity of Operations Plan	✓	Walton County Emergency Management	✓		
Evacuation Plan	✓	Walton County Emergency Management	✓		

PLANNING / REGULATORY TOOL	IN PLACE / UNDER DEVELOPMENT	DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE	EFFECT ON RECOVERY / REDEVELOPMENT		
			Strongly Supports	Helps Facilitate	Hinders
Hazard Mitigation Plan (Local Mitigation Strategy)	✓	Walton County Planning and Development Services	✓		
Capital Improvements Plan	✓	Walton County Planning and Development Services		✓	
Economic Development Plan	✓	Walton County Economic Development Alliance		✓	
Historic Preservation Plan	✓	Walton County Planning and Development Services		✓	
Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance	✓	Walton County Planning and Development Services	✓		
Zoning Ordinance	✓	Walton County Planning and Development Services	✓		
Subdivision Ordinance	✓	Walton County Planning and Development Services	✓		
Land Development Code	✓	Walton County Planning and Development Services	✓		
Building Code	✓		✓		
Fire Code	✓		✓		
Debris Management Plan	✓		✓		
Temporary Housing Plan					
National Flood Insurance Program	✓	Walton County Planning and Development Services	✓		
NFIP Community Rating System	Under Development	Walton County Planning and Development Services	✓		

A more detailed discussion on Walton County’s planning and regulatory capacity follows, along with the incorporation of additional information based on the narrative comments provided by County staff members in response to the survey questionnaire.

Emergency Management

Recovery is recognized as one of the four primary phases of emergency management. The three other phases include preparedness, response and mitigation. In reality each phase is interconnected as **Figure 4.1** suggests.



Recovery is generally described as the process of taking the steps necessary, following a disaster, to return a community to the condition it was in before the event occurred. There are two general phases of recovery: **short-term** and **long-term**. Short-term recovery activities are generally those activities that have to take place following a disaster in order for citizens to return to their homes. They are typically initiated in the County Emergency Operations Center while in emergency response mode. Short-term recovery activities include such functions as: implementing a curfew; conducting impact assessments; re-establishing the critical infrastructure necessary for community reconstruction; re-establishing critical services that meet the physical and safety needs of the community (e.g., water, food, ice, medicine and medical care, emergency access, and continuity of government operations), and coordinating re-entry procedures. Short-term recovery typically does not include reconstruction of the built environment.

Long-term recovery usually involves those activities that are taken in an attempt to return the community to the conditions that existed before the disaster or emergency occurred, preferably while taking advantage of opportunities to mitigate against the impacts of future disasters. Long-term recovery activities can last for many years following a disaster. They include activities such as: redevelopment; environmental preservation and restoration; rebuilding; construction; repairs; and restoration. Economic recovery and business assistance are some of the most important long-term recovery activities that must take place in order for a community to fully recover from a disaster.

Planning for each phase of emergency management is a critical part of a local comprehensive emergency management program and a key to the successful implementation of a post disaster recovery and redevelopment strategy. As a result, the Capacity Assessment Survey asked several questions across a range of emergency management plans in order to assess Walton County's willingness to plan and their level of technical planning proficiency.

Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan: A post-disaster redevelopment plan identifies policies, operational strategies, and roles and responsibilities for implementation that will guide decisions that affect long-term recovery and redevelopment of the community after a disaster. The plan emphasizes seizing opportunities for hazard mitigation and community improvement consistent with the goals of the local comprehensive plan and with full participation of the citizens. Recovery topics addressed in the plan should include business resumption and economic redevelopment, housing repair and reconstruction, infrastructure restoration and mitigation, short-term recovery actions that affect long-term redevelopment, sustainable land use, environmental restoration, and financial considerations as well as other long-term recovery issues identified by the community.

- This plan serves as Walton County's first Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan.

Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS): Also called a hazard mitigation plan, the local mitigation strategy represents a community's blueprint for how it intends to reduce the impact of natural and human-caused hazards on people and the built environment. The essential elements of a local mitigation strategy include a risk assessment, capability assessment, mitigation strategy and the mitigation projects list.

- Walton County developed the first version of their local mitigation strategy in 1999 and has subsequently updated the plan in 2005 and 2010. The plan will be updated again before 2015.
- The Walton County LMS was reviewed in greater detail as part of the *Local Plan Integration* discussion.

Comprehensive Emergency Management Operations Plan (CEMP): The CEMP outlines responsibilities and the means by which resources are deployed during and following an emergency or disaster. The CEMP also establishes command and control of the emergency management program and coordination among municipal, county, state, and federal agencies. Although the CEMP is predominantly an operations plan, the following sections contain elements that are highly relevant to post-disaster redevelopment:

- Walton County Emergency Management has prepared an Emergency Management Operations Plan to address the County's response to a variety of disasters and emergencies.

Recovery Annex to the Emergency Management Operations Plan: This section of the CEMP establishes the organization and procedures for conducting short-term recovery operations.

- The Walton County CEMP does contain a Recovery Annex.

Continuity of Operation Plan: A continuity of operations plan establishes a chain of command, line of succession, and plans for backup or alternate emergency facilities in case of an extreme emergency or disaster event.

- Walton County Emergency Management is working to finalize Continuity of Operation Plans for all departments and coordinate their relocation sites. Each county department and unit of local government needs to develop a basic COOP that identifies chain of command and anticipates responses to loss of their facilities. Each departmental COOP will also need to anticipate shifts in the type and amount of work that will be required in a long-term post disaster environment. All COOP's will need to be reviewed and updated each year to respond to shifts in organizational structure and staffing. To assist in coordinating these efforts, a basic framework for each department or agency to follow should be employed.

Debris Management Plan: The Debris Management Plan (DMP) provides the operational and coordination activities to remove, collect and dispose of debris following a disaster. The DMP explains the organizational structure, roles and responsibilities and the concept of operations including debris removal priorities. Debris removal is important to expedite recovery efforts in the affected area and reduce the threat to public health and safety. While debris operations are mainly considered short-term recovery, certain elements (including placement of debris reduction sites) can have impacts on long-term recovery.

- Walton County has a DMP in place.

Temporary Disaster Housing Plan: The Temporary Disaster Housing Plan establishes the framework for addressing temporary housing for those that are left homeless following a disaster and identifies the key agencies that can be brought together to identify and activate housing resources. This plan is currently being updated as a result of FEMA's recent change in temporary disaster housing policies. While the temporary disaster housing issues are mainly considered short-term recovery, certain elements (including location of the temporary housing sites) can have impacts on long-term recovery.

- Walton County does not currently have a Temporary Disaster Housing Plan. Developing one is a primary focus in the Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan.

General Planning

The implementation of post disaster redevelopment activities relies heavily on the local planning department. Other important stakeholders may include public works officials, economic development specialists and others. In many instances, concurrent local planning efforts will help to achieve or complement recovery and redevelopment goals even though they are not designed as such. Therefore, the Capacity Assessment Survey also asked questions regarding each of Walton County's general planning capabilities and to the degree to which post disaster recovery and redevelopment planning is integrated into other on-going planning efforts.

Comprehensive Land Use Plan: The Comprehensive Plan establishes the goals and objectives that govern the community's growth and development and policies for daily land-use and development decision making. The Comprehensive Plan serves as the foundation for land development regulations, zoning, major capital expenditures and other initiatives to accomplish the community's overall vision. The Comprehensive Plan includes a demographic analysis and elements that address future land use, housing transportation, public facilities and services, conservation, recreation and open space, intergovernmental coordination and capital improvements. Given the broad nature of the plan and its regulatory standing, the integration of post-disaster redevelopment policies into the Comprehensive Plan can enhance the likelihood of implementing a successful post-disaster redevelopment strategy following a disaster.

- Walton County adopted their Comprehensive Plan on November 7, 1996. The plan is revised every seven years through the Evaluation and Appraisal Report process coordinated through the Florida Department of Community Affairs (FDCA). The County also updates the plan as needed. The Comprehensive Plan is evaluated in greater detail later in this Section.

Capital Improvements Plan: A capital improvement plan guides the scheduling of spending on public improvements. A capital improvements plan can serve as an important mechanism for guiding future development away from identified hazard areas. Limiting public spending in hazardous areas is one of

the most effective long-term mitigation actions available to local governments and helps to reduce post disaster damage.

- Walton County has a Capital Improvements Element (CIE) that is part of the Comprehensive Plan which addresses just those improvements that impact concurrency components – traffic, water, sewer, parks, and schools. It also has a 5 year Capital Improvement Program that contains all capital expenditures for the county. Each of these is updated yearly. The CIE was developed through a joint venture by the Planning Department, Public Works Department, and Finance Department.

Historic Preservation Plan: A historic preservation plan is intended to preserve historic structures or districts within a community. An often overlooked aspect of the historic preservation plan is the assessment of buildings and sites located in areas subject to natural hazards, and the identification of ways to reduce future damages. This may involve retrofitting or relocation techniques that account for the need to protect buildings that do not meet current building standards, or are within a historic district that cannot easily be relocated out of harm's way. These properties provide unique challenges in the post disaster environment.

- Walton County has not developed a specific Historic Preservation Plan. The majority of identified historic assets reside within the City of DeFuniak Springs. As the city develops a post disaster planning framework, recognition and protection of historic buildings should be encouraged. An example action would be to provide greater timeframes for historic buildings to conduct repairs. This recognizes the common situation in which most historic properties will need to take additional time to repair and rehabilitate as compared to new construction.
- There is a need for a qualified individual or firm to methodically identify potential historic assets. These would include both buildings and archaeological sites. The County in cooperation with the cities could seek funding from the Florida Division of Historical Resources to hire qualified consultant to conduct this analysis. Identifying and locating these resources will allow for proper consideration within a post disaster environment.

Zoning Ordinances: Zoning represents the primary means by which land use is controlled by local governments. As part of a community's police power, zoning is used to protect the public health, safety and welfare of those in a given jurisdiction that maintains zoning authority. A zoning ordinance is the mechanism through which zoning is typically implemented. Since zoning regulations enable local governments to limit the type and density of development, it can serve as a powerful tool when applied in identified hazard areas.

- Walton County has adopted a Land Development Code (LDC) that serves to regulate future land use and new development and to guide local decisions for residential, commercial, and industrial growth in the unincorporated areas of the County. Unwise development patterns in hazardous areas is prohibited or discouraged through floodplain and conservation districts.

Subdivision Ordinances: A subdivision ordinance is intended to regulate the development of housing, commercial, industrial or other uses, including associated public infrastructure, as land is subdivided into buildable lots for sale or future development. Subdivision design that accounts for natural hazards can dramatically reduce the exposure of future development.

- Walton County enforces subdivision regulations and includes the consideration of natural hazards as part of their application (i.e., buffer zones and setbacks against flood hazards areas). The subdivision ordinance is also included as part of the County's Land Development Code.

Building Codes, Permitting and Inspections: Building Codes regulate construction standards. In many communities permits are issued for new construction and inspections of work take place over the course of construction of the building. Decisions regarding the adoption of building codes (that account for hazard risk), the type of permitting process required both before and after a disaster, and the enforcement of inspection protocols all affect the level of hazard risk faced by a community.

- Walton County has adopted and enforces the Florida Building Code. The 2010 Florida Building Code became effective March 15, 2012.

The adoption and enforcement of building codes by local jurisdictions is routinely assessed through the Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) program developed by the Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO).¹ Under the BCEGS program, ISO assesses the building codes in effect in a particular community and how the community enforces its building codes, with special emphasis on mitigation of losses from natural hazards. The results of BCEGS assessments are routinely provided to ISO's member private insurance companies, which in turn may offer ratings credits for new buildings constructed in communities with strong BCEGS classifications. The concept is that communities with well-enforced, up-to-date codes should experience fewer disaster-related losses, and as a result should have lower insurance rates.

In conducting the assessment, ISO collects information related to personnel qualification and continuing education, as well as number of inspections performed per day. This type of information combined with local building codes is used to determine a grade for that jurisdiction. The grades range from 1 to 10, with the lower grade being better. A BCEGS grade of 1 represents exemplary commitment to building code enforcement, and a grade of 10 indicates less than minimum recognized protection.

- Walton County has received a BCEGS rating of grade of 4 for its commercial lines and a rating of 4 for its residential lines. The County was last evaluated for rating in March 2012.

Floodplain Management

Flooding represents the greatest natural hazard facing the nation. At the same time the tools available to reduce the impacts associated with flooding are among the most developed. In addition to approaches that cut across hazards, such as education, outreach, and the training of local officials, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) contains specific regulatory measures that enable government officials to determine where and how growth occurs relative to flood hazards. These regulations particularly apply to buildings damaged during a disaster through the NFIP's Substantial Damage regulations. These regulations will play an important role in post disaster redevelopment. Therefore, the community's floodplain management program is evaluated as a key indicator for measuring local capacity as part of this assessment.

In order for a community to join the NFIP, they must adopt a local flood damage prevention ordinance that requires jurisdictions to follow established minimum building standards in the floodplain. These standards require that all new buildings and substantial improvements to existing buildings will be protected from damage by the 100-year flood, and that new floodplain development will not aggregate existing flood problems or increase damage to other properties.

Another key service provided by the NFIP is the mapping of identified flood hazard areas. Once prepared the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) are used to assess flood hazard risk, regulate construction practices and set flood insurance rates. FIRMs are an important source of information to

¹ Participation in BCEGS is voluntary and may be declined by local governments if they do not wish to have their local building codes evaluated.

educate residents, government officials and the private sector about the likelihood of flooding in their community.

- Walton County joined the NFIP on November 16, 1977. The current effective map date for the County's FIRMs is September 29, 2010. The County is committed to maintaining its continued compliance with the NFIP.
- As of February 29, 2012, there were 17,972 NFIP policies in force in unincorporated Walton County providing approximately \$4,417,270,200 in flood insurance coverage. To date, there have been approximately \$53 million paid in insurance claims on 2,671 reported losses (FEMA NFIP).

An additional indicator of floodplain management capacity is the active participation of local jurisdictions in the Community Rating System (CRS). The CRS is an incentive-based program that encourages counties and municipalities to undertake defined flood mitigation activities that go beyond the minimum requirements of the NFIP, adding extra local measures to provide protection from flooding. All of the 18 creditable CRS mitigation activities are assigned a range of point values. As points are accumulated and reach identified thresholds, communities can apply for an improved CRS class. Class ratings, which run from 10 to 1, are tied to flood insurance premium reductions as shown in **Table 4.2**. As class ratings improve (decrease), the percent reduction in flood insurance premiums for NFIP policy holders in that community increases.

CRS CLASS	PREMIUM REDUCTION
1	45%
2	40%
3	35%
4	30%
5	25%
6	20%
7	15%
8	10%
9	5%
10	0

Community participation in the CRS is voluntary. Any community that is in full compliance with the rules and regulations of the NFIP may apply to FEMA for a CRS classification better than class 10. The CRS application process has been greatly simplified over the past several years based on community feedback to make the CRS more user-friendly. Extensive technical assistance is also available for communities who request it.

- Walton County is currently in the process of joining the CRS program and is very close to completing the application process. The State of Florida has granted the County approval to join the program and the County has participated in the required Community Assistance Visit (CAV) which is a prerequisite to joining the program.

Floodplain Management Plan: A floodplain management plan (or a flood mitigation plan) provides a framework for action regarding the corrective and preventative measures in place to reduce flood-related impacts.

- Walton County does not have a stand-alone floodplain management plan but the Local Mitigation Strategy addresses flood vulnerability and includes mitigation actions to address the flood hazard in Walton County. Walton County also practices sound floodplain management through the County Land Development Code and Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance and is currently in the process of updating these ordinances to address the flood provisions that have been included in the 2010 version of the Florida Building Code.

Open Space Management Plan: An open space management plan is designed to preserve, protect, and restore largely undeveloped lands in their natural state, and to expand or connect areas in the public domain such as parks, greenways, and other outdoor recreation areas. In many instances open space management practices are consistent with the goals of reducing hazard losses, such as the preservation of wetlands or other flood-prone areas in their natural state in perpetuity.

- The Walton County Parks Department is responsible for managing open spaces in the County. The County's Environmental Department is responsible for the Walton County Coastal Dune Lakes, Habitat Conservation Plan, Invasive Species Plan and Sea Turtle Program. In addition to county owned recreational lands, significant acreages subject to flooding and storm surge is held in public trust by various public agencies for environmental protection.

Stormwater Management Plan: A stormwater management plan is designed to address flooding associated with stormwater runoff. The stormwater management plan is typically focused on design and construction measures that are intended to reduce the impact of more frequently occurring minor urban flooding.

- Walton County has developed a stormwater management plan, however there are challenges with implementing the plan since the County has no dedicated funding source for implementing the plan. Walton County has adopted stormwater requirements for new development. This approach ensures only limited impacts will occur offsite during significant rainfall events.

Administrative and Technical Capacity

The ability of a local government to develop and implement a post disaster redevelopment strategy through projects, policies, and programs is directly tied to its ability to direct staff time and resources for that purpose. Administrative capacity can be evaluated by determining how post disaster redevelopment-related activities are assigned to local departments and if there are adequate personnel resources to complete these activities.

The degree of intergovernmental coordination among departments will also affect administrative capacity for the implementation and success of proposed post disaster redevelopment activities.

Technical capacity can generally be evaluated by assessing the level of knowledge and technical expertise of local government employees, such as personnel skilled in using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to analyze and assess community hazard vulnerability.

The Capacity Assessment Survey was used to capture information on administrative and technical capacity through the identification of available staff and personnel resources.

Table 4.3 provides a summary of the results for Walton County with regard to relevant staff and personnel resources. A checkmark (✓) indicates that the given local staff member(s) is maintained through the County's local government resources.

Walton County also has Constitutional Officers that serve as elected County employees. These include a Sheriff, Tax Collector, Property Appraiser, Supervisor of Elections, Clerk of Courts, and five County Commissioners.

Fiscal Capacity

The ability of a local government to implement a successful post disaster redevelopment strategy is often closely associated with the amount of money available to implement policies and projects. This may take the form of outside grant funding awards or locally-based revenue and financing. The costs associated with recovery / redevelopment policy and project implementation vary widely. In some cases, policies are tied primarily to staff time or administrative costs associated with the creation and monitoring of a given program. In other cases, direct expenses are linked to actual projects which can require a substantial commitment from local, state and federal funding sources.

The Capacity Assessment Survey was used to capture information on Walton County’s fiscal capacity through the identification of locally available financial resources.

Table 4.4 provides a summary of the results for Walton County with regard to relevant fiscal resources. A checkmark (✓) indicates that the given fiscal resource is locally available.

Table 4.3: Relevant Staff / Personnel Resources			
STAFF / PERSONNEL RESOURCES	IN PLACE	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
Planners with knowledge of land development and land management practices	✓	Walton County Planning and Development Services	
Engineers or professionals trained in construction practices related to buildings and / or infrastructure	✓	Walton County Public Works Department	
Planners or engineers with an understanding of natural and / or human-caused hazards	✓	Walton County Public Works Department	
Emergency manager	✓	Walton Sherriff’s Office	
Floodplain manager	✓	Walton County Planning and Development Services	
Land surveyors	✓	Walton County Public Works Department	
Scientist familiar with the hazards of the community	✓	Walton County Public Works Department	
Staff with education or expertise to assess the community’s vulnerability to hazards	✓	Walton County GIS	
Personnel skilled in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and / or FEMA’s HAZUS program	✓	Walton County GIS	
Resources development staff or grant writers	✓	Walton County Finance Department	
Public Information Officer	✓	Walton Sherriff’s Office	

Table 4.4: Relevant Fiscal Resources

FISCAL RESOURCES	AVAILABLE	DEPARTMENT	COMMENTS
Capital Improvement Programming	✓	Walton County Finance, Planning, Public Works, and Engineering Departments	
Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)	✓	Walton County Grants Department	Small Cities Program
Special Purpose Taxes (or taxing districts)		Walton County Tax Collector	If desired in future
Gas / Electric Utility Fees			
Water / Sewer Fees	✓		Collected by Freeport and DeFuniak Springs
Stormwater Utility Fees			If desired in future
Development Impact Fees	✓	Walton County Planning and Development Services	Proportional fair share
General Obligation, Revenue and / or Special Tax Bonds			If desired in future
Partnering arrangements or intergovernmental agreements	✓		
Other			

Economic Capacity

The Tourism Development Council (TDC) is funded through tourist occupancy tax or bed tax. The TDC maintains the nearly 60 public beach accesses in Walton County, including eight regional beach accesses with parking and restrooms. The TDC is also responsible for sending beach crews to clean the beaches seven days a week / 365 days a year. The TDC is also responsible to overseeing beach restoration projects in the County. The last of which was completed in 2007 in Western Walton County.

The Walton Area Chamber of Commerce (WACC) serves the business community in Walton County through leadership, advocacy and services. Their mission is to advocate a positive climate to retain business, foster success, cultivate leadership, and strengthen the economic environment” in Walton County. The Walton Area Chamber is a private, not-for-profit organization with a base of more than 800 members with more than 20,000 employees making up these businesses.

Both the Walton Area Chamber of Commerce and the Tourism Development Council participate on emergency support function (ESF) 18 Business and Industry. ESF 18 is one of eighteen groups, each responsible for coordinating and completing assigned missions during a disaster, that comprise the County’s Emergency Response Team. This relatively new ESF serves the function of a resource broker between the business community, support agencies, and emergency management officials with the goal of maintaining economic stability after a major disaster. Close coordination between the state, federal, and private organizations and agencies directed at business recovery will be a responsibility for the WACC and TDC for ESF 18.

Currently there are many projects and activities taking place in the County that promote economic development. These include marketing efforts, a very strong existing industry program, and workforce development. In addition, Walton County government has made significant changes to improve the business climate and enhanced focus and tools for economic development.

However, financial grants or loan assistance to businesses after a disaster is very limited. The State of Florida does implement an Emergency Bridge Loan in time of need. This is a short-term loan program for small businesses (2 to 100 employees) in the county or counties affected by the disaster. The loans can range from \$1,000 to \$25,000 with terms of 90 to 180 days. The need for the loan and use of proceeds must be directly related to the physical impact of the disaster.

Social Services Capacity

The mission of the Walton County Health Department is “to protect and promote the health of all residents and visitors in Walton County.” The Walton County Health Department was recognized in 2010 by the National Association of County and City Health Officials' (NACCHO) for being Project Public Health Ready (PPHR). Project Ready is a collaborative public health preparedness initiative between the Florida Department of Health (FDOH), the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

PPHR was developed by and for local health departments to enhance the ability of a county health department to protect the public's health before, during, and after an emergency or disaster. Project Ready sets national criteria for public health readiness under three main goals:

- All-Hazards Preparedness Planning
- Workforce Capacity Development
- Quality Improvement through Exercises and Real Event Response

The health department disaster preparedness and planning program is a three county program to develop plans and activities that increase Walton, Holmes, and Washington County's ability to prepare, respond, and mitigate man-made or natural disasters. This program collaborates with local Emergency Management staff and the Regional DOH staff to meet planning, training, and exercise needs of health care workers in both the public and private sectors.

Political Capacity

One of the most difficult capacities to assess involves the political will of a jurisdiction to enact meaningful policies and projects designed to improve disaster recovery or manage redevelopment activities following a disaster. Redevelopment can often be faced with tremendous political pressure and the community's goals for post disaster recovery and redevelopment may be seen as an impediment to other goals of the community, such as growth and economic development. Therefore the local political climate must be considered in designing the recovery and redevelopment strategy, as it could be the most difficult hurdle to overcome in accomplishing its implementation.

The Capacity Assessment Survey was used to capture information on Walton County's political capacity. Survey respondents were asked to identify some general examples of local political capacity, such as guiding development away from identified hazard areas, restricting public investments or capital improvements within hazard areas, or enforcing local development standards that go beyond minimum state or federal requirements (e.g. building codes, floodplain management, etc.).

- The decision by the Walton County Board of County Commissioners to accept funding to develop a PDRP indicates that the political leaders of the County understand the importance of such planning and support County staff in their efforts to develop and implement this plan.

Recommendations for Building Institutional Capacity

While the County does have adequate capacity to implement a post disaster recovery and redevelopment strategy, there are ways the County could build institutional capacity. To increase institutional capacity, the following recommendations are offered.

1. Building the Capacity of People

Increase the Quantity and Capacity of Volunteers

- Increase the number and the activities of the Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT).
 - Continue to build upon the existing good efforts of the County in developing CERTs. These individuals create an excellent base of volunteers who can provide untold assistance to the community throughout the response and recovery timeframes. A common issue with CERT (and most all volunteer groups) is keeping them engaged and interested. Consistent communication, refresher training, new subject matter training will help keep volunteers interested in the CERT and program. A possible method to maintain interest would be to develop additional roles / responsibilities in the longer term recovery. Individuals could shift from their immediate community to interested subject matter such as the environment, housing, or social service needs.
- Establish digital methods (social media) for the community to provide real time input to the EOC during activation and recovery.
 - Social media has created a revolution in how information is shared. Emergency Management and governmental staffs in general must be prepared to take full advantage of the assistance that the community can provide. Photos and videos provided by citizens could be some of the first pieces of information coming into the EOC from the field during a disaster and later during the recovery. Encouraging the public to be a partner with the staff in response and recovery (being the eyes and ears in the community) will increase the understanding of the scope and magnitude of a disaster. Basic instructions to include time and place of the images will be critical to increase efficiency of the response activities.
- Increase the participation of the business community during hazard mitigation, emergency activation, and long term recovery.
 - Continue to build upon the existing efforts of the County and the business community to develop beneficial working partnerships in all stages of hazard mitigation, response, and recovery. Assist and encourage the

development of hazard mitigation plans for private businesses. Encourage the development of Continuity of Operations Plans within the business community. Invite key businesses to participate with Emergency Management in training and drills focused on long-term recovery and redevelopment. Increase the knowledge and understanding within the public staff of critical issues for businesses impacted by disaster. Encourage the designation of a Business Recovery Liaison during the post disaster time frame to ensure concerns and resources are properly communicated between the business sector and the local governments.

- Establish a plan for a Volunteer Coordination Center to match volunteers to needs.
 - A central place for volunteers to be processed, organized, and dispatched will be vital to maximize the effectiveness of the volunteers within the community. An organized system matching unmet needs with appropriate volunteers is critical to speed the long term recovery. Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Faith Based Organizations (FBOs) coming from inside and outside of the County will volunteer. These organizations provide a wide range of services and expertise. Their effectiveness can be increased when targeted to the appropriate need.
- Establish one or two local non-profit organizations as entities to receive monetary donations for unmet needs.
 - In concert with the volunteers, is the need to establish / designate a non-profit organization(s) to receive monetary contributions to assist the community and individuals. These funds are typically used for unmet needs (those needs not covered by other established resources such as government funding or private insurance). It is critical to have this identified prior to the disaster so the opportunity for donations in the immediate timeframe is not lost. These organizations must coordinate with all the non-profit agencies working on disaster response / recovery within the Walton County community. Success will be dependent upon collaboration, coordination, transparency, and trust.
- Encourage the establishment of a local banking consortium to provide gap financing.
 - A key to re-establishing businesses is to provide financing that can be quickly obtained. Local banking consortiums have been successful in providing expertise and financing on shorter time frames while larger insurance claims are settled or qualification to government assistance programs are determined.

Increase Training and Cross Training

- Develop further depth and expertise throughout the county and municipal staffs by providing basic emergency management training so that all employees have emergency job position(s).

- Creating greater depth within the staff will allow the county to better handle longer term emergency situations. As out of county resources are pulled back after the initial response, existing staff will need to adapt to changing roles throughout the recovery period.
- Train and / or pre-contract building inspectors and floodplain managers to conduct damage assessments.
 - Quickly and accurately conducting damage assessments is vital for home owners and businesses, allowing them to begin making redevelopment decisions for their properties. Providing sufficient resources to conduct these assessments in a timely manner is the critical first step in moving forward.
- Anticipate, solicit, and assist employees with their unmet needs during the recovery timeframe.
 - Understand that staff will be impacted at home and will need assistance to continue to effectively assist the community. A healthy, focused staff will be a vital component of the redevelopment of the community. Assessing the needs and circumstances of the staff and providing avenues for assistance will allow them to help themselves and in turn help the community.

2. Building Capacity Through Words

Increase Clarity of Documents

- Continue to improve the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, following the standards established by the National Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). Additional details are provided in Section 5 under the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) discussion.

Finalize / Adopt an Economic Development Plan.

- The County has established 2012 as the year to adopt an Economic Development Plan. In the post disaster environment this will be an important document to help guide redevelopment decisions. This plan will also need to be integrated into the PDRP during the next update of the PDRP.
- Establish / Adopt a Post Disaster Redevelopment Ordinance.
 - This ordinance could address items such as Moratoria, Removal of Hazards, Right of Entry, Vacant Abandoned Property, Authority, and Emergency Planning and Permitting Process. While many of these items are inherent in the authority of the Board of County Commissioners, under emergency circumstances it is best to provide a single consolidated place where authority and limits are clear when addressing emergency actions.

- Increase clarity and coordination of Continuity of Operations Plans between County Departments and Municipalities.
 - Encourage each department to develop a basic COOP. Coordinate the individual COOPs through the Emergency Management Division to ensure approach and resources are properly coordinated. Consider establishing service priorities, anticipating associated staffing needs within each department in a post disaster environment. Consider possible consolidation of services between departments and jurisdictions to maintain basic services and efficiencies.
- Encourage all Constitutional Offices to have Continuity of Operations Plans (COOPs) adopted and coordinated with the Emergency Management Division.
 - The normal operation of the Constitutional Offices is a critical part of the long term recovery of the community. Understanding of the issues, concerns, risks and needs associated with the operations of the Constitutional Offices prior to a disaster will allow the County to increase overall preparedness and speed return to normal governmental operations.

Increase Intergovernmental Agreements

- Formalize various “hand shake” agreements via Memos of Understanding, Joint Policies and Procedures, Contracts, and adopted Intergovernmental Agreements between governments.
 - As the County continues to grow, formalization of informal agreements will need to be done to ensure that responsibilities and duties of each party are understood.
- Catalog, maintain, and update existing agreements ensuring all parties are aware of existing obligations.
 - As staff and elected officials change over time it is important that existing inter-local agreements continue to be reviewed, remain relevant, and properly exercised.

SECTION 5

LOCAL PLAN INTEGRATION

Introduction

An important aspect in determining a community's capacity to implement a successful post-disaster redevelopment strategy is to obtain a thorough understanding of the community's post-disaster redevelopment-related plans, policies, and programs already in place. This Local Plan Integration analysis describes the process that was conducted to review Walton County's plans and associated goals, objectives, and policies that contribute to the County's ability to implement a post-disaster redevelopment strategy. The analysis also served as a means of identifying existing gaps, shortfalls, or weaknesses, if any, within the County's regulatory framework that may hinder a successful post-disaster redevelopment operation. Any identified gaps, shortfalls, or weaknesses can become actions to be implemented in the County's Post-Disaster Redevelopment Strategy.

Walton County has a solid set of policies, plans, and regulations guiding the actions for disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. This conclusion was derived from a comprehensive review and analysis of those policies, plans, and regulations conducted by the consulting team that worked with Walton County to develop this plan. The review focused on the following Primary documents:

Primary Documents:

- Walton County Local Mitigation Strategy
- Walton County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
- Walton County Land Development Code
- Walton County Comprehensive Plan

These four plans will have the most impact during any disaster response and recovery, as well as addressing mitigation of hazards during "blue skies."

In addition, a set of secondary documents were reviewed to provide insight to additional hazards unique to Walton County, as well as to develop an understanding the County's approach to emergency debris management, regional concerns, and economic development. These secondary plans included the following:

Secondary Documents:

- Eglin Air Force Base Land Use Study
- Debris Management Contract
- West Florida – Strategic Regional Policy Plan
- Walton County Economic Development Alliance Strategic Plan

While the County has a solid policy and regulatory foundation, additional improvements can be made to better integrate hazard mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery into the primary documents. These recommendations are discussed in the pages that follow.

Local Mitigation Strategy

The Walton County Local Mitigation Strategy has an excellent set of Goals and Principles to guide the community in hazard mitigation and post disaster redevelopment. The LMS will be key in providing staff, elected officials, and the public an understanding of Walton County's redevelopment Goals and Principles.

LMS - Goals

1. Provide the community with programs and administration to protect life and property.
2. Provide standards to control development susceptible to flooding and high winds.
3. Protect the environment and natural areas to serve as a natural buffer.
4. Provide land use regulation to limit damage to development.
5. Provide post disaster planning and programs to mitigate loss of life and property.

LMS - Principles

1. Employ Non-Structural Mitigation Techniques
2. Reduce Future Expenses
3. Protect the Environment and Natural Resources
4. Employ Land Use Regulations to Limit Damage to Development

Recommendations for the LMS

There are no specific recommendations to LMS at this time. The LMS is updated on a regular cycle consistent with federal and state requirements. As the PDRP and the LMS are updated and evolve over time it will be important to ensure consistency between these documents.

Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan – CEMP

The CEMP provides the basis of all emergency response planning for the entire county. The CEMP addresses the four phases of emergency management (Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Mitigation). It parallels federal and state activities set forth in the Federal Response Plan and State of Florida Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. It describes how national and state resources will be coordinated to supplement County resources in response to a disaster. The CEMP has adopted the state structure for Emergency Support Function – ESFs, and the National Incident Management System – NIMS.

The CEMP contains the following sections;

1. The Basic Plan

Concept of Operations, Financial Management, and Capabilities Assessment

2. Annexes

Annex A Recovery Functions

Annex B	Mitigation Functions
Annex C	Administrative and Hazard Specific Appendices
	Terrorism
	Wildfire
	Evacuation
	Sheltering
	Re-Entry
Annex D	Public Information Guide

3. Emergency Support Function – ESF Plan(s)

Address the specific planning program for each of the 17 identified ESFs.

ESF – 1	Transportation
ESF – 2	Communications
ESF – 3	Public Works
ESF – 4	Fire Fighting
ESF – 5	Information and Planning
ESF – 6	Mass Care
ESF – 7	Unified Logistics
ESF – 8	Health and Medical
ESF – 9	Search and Rescue
ESF – 10	Hazardous Materials
ESF – 11	Food and Water
ESF – 12	Energy
ESF – 13	Military Support
ESF – 14	Public Information
ESF – 15	Volunteers and Donations
ESF – 16	Law Enforcement
ESF – 17	Business, Industry and Economic Stabilization

Recommendations for the CEMP

Strive to adhere to the standards established by the National Emergency Management Accreditation Program – EMAP.

These are very high standards in which few communities have obtained accreditation. While it is not expected for Walton County to become EMAP accredited, these are the accepted standards for emergency management programs throughout the nation. These standards provide excellent guidance on how to improve all aspects of emergency management emphasizing written procedures, plans, and standard operating guidelines.

The following EMAP areas could be prioritized for the county:

- Adoption of a Communications Plan
 - Communication / Public Information are critical for decision making throughout the response and continuing into the recovery time frame. Citizens, business owners, and the financial community will all be looking for accurate timely information from their local governments to inform their decision making.
- Adoption of a Temporary Housing Plan
 - Strategies to keep citizens and the work force housed within the County will be key in speeding the redevelopment of the community. Maintaining the population base within the County will help stabilize neighborhoods and businesses. One challenge will be to provide appropriate housing for special needs populations in a post disaster environment. This entire effort will benefit from an Inter-Agency Housing Work Group made up of public and private providers.
- Adoption of a Debris Management Plan
 - The County has taken the progressive step to establish a contract with a private firm for emergency debris removal which includes a detailed response strategy. FEMA encourages communities to adopt Emergency Debris Removal Plans. To encourage this effort FEMA rewards communities with a higher rate of reimbursement on debris removal. The County could evolve the existing strategies into a plan meeting the FEMA standards.
- Adoption of ESFs for Animal Issues, Business and Industry, and Long Term Recovery
 - The County has recently established a Business and Industry Emergency Support Function within the Emergency Operations Center. This new ESF will need to develop a written Emergency Response Plan and train to continue building capacity.

The County should consider establishing an ESF for animal issues. The proper handling and care of animals in a post disaster environment is dependent upon a coordinated effort that includes individual volunteers, interested groups, and animal experts recognizing the various types of animals within Walton County.

The County should consider establishing an ESF for Long Term Recovery within the Emergency Operations Center. This group can provide input regarding the impact on the long term redevelopment of the community from the series of short term decisions that are being made during an emergency activation. This group will help transition the County from response to recovery.

Walton County Comprehensive Plan

The Comprehensive Plan primarily provides the policy structure guiding the development of land and the protection of natural resources within Walton County. In general, the county has a strong set of

policies in place addressing hazard mitigation within the Comprehensive Plan. Additional adjustments and recommendations would continue to advance the goals of preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery.

Recommendations for the Comprehensive Plan

Specific recommendations for the Comprehensive Plan have been identified (refer to page 5-7).

Walton County Land Development Code - LDC

The Walton County Land Development Code regulates the development of real property within unincorporated Walton County. The LDC reflects the strong policy stance provided in the Comprehensive Plan. The LDC also contains the Floodplain Protection regulations.

Recommendations for the Land Development Code

Specific recommendations for the Land Development Code have been identified (refer to page 5-11).

Other Recommendations

- Pursue participation in the National Flood Insurance Program – Community Rating System
 - Walton County is positioned to score well in the Community Rating System, thereby providing discounts to all holders of flood insurance policies within the unincorporated county.
- Adopt a Post Disaster Redevelopment Ordinance
 - This ordinance would address items such as Building Moratorium, Removal of Hazards, Right of Entry, Abandoned Property, preservation of historic resources, and Emergency Planning and Permitting Process to name a few.
- Continue to develop public / private partnerships to address issues at all stages of hazard mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.
 - Community partnership at all stages of hazard mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery are needed to rebuild and recover from a disaster. The entire community (public and private sectors) must come together before, during, and after a disaster to repair and improve the community for future generations.
- Establish a planning / permitting re-build team to expedite redevelopment approvals.
 - Develop a team with knowledge and expertise to provide clear, consistent direction to expedite redevelopment approvals within the recovery time period. The Re-Build Team will be key to understanding redevelopment challenges entwined with the

various regulatory requirements. This team will need to make, record, and consistently apply applicable requirements and / or exceptions to the requirements (allowed by law).

- Identify areas of historic assets, recognize most of these will not be listed on any registry.
 - Most historic assets throughout the nation are not recognized nor inventoried on any list at the local or state level. Most historic buildings are modest, privately owned single family homes. In a post disaster environment with destruction to historic buildings, the local permitting structure will need to recognize that the redevelopment of these properties in a historically appropriate manner can take well beyond the “standard” timeframes. An additional measure could be to not require demolition of historic structures no matter the level of destruction unless agreed to by the property owner.

Proposed Policy Integration Improvements: Comprehensive Plan

Future Land Use Element

Policy 1.3.4 Density Bonus System

Reward hazard mitigation techniques (beyond requirements) within the density bonus system.

Policy 1.5.1 Location of Schools

Discourage / Prohibit new schools within hazard areas / evacuation zones .

Policy 1.13.1 General Principles for the Future Land Use Map

Consider adding cross reference to Conservation - Coastal Policy 1.7.1 Shoreline Land Uses on the Future Land Use Map. This policy establishes the priority of shoreline land uses:

1. Conservation / Recreation
2. Public Access
3. Water Dependent Commercial or Industrial
4. Residential
5. Water Related Commercial or Industrial

Policy 1.17.1 Planned Unit Development

Identify hazard mitigation techniques within the list of criteria used in examination of planned unit developments.

Coastal Zone / Conservation Element

Goals C-1, C-2 Protect People and Property from Natural Disasters

Include policy language stating the Guiding Principles identified in the Local Mitigation Strategy:

1. Employ Non-Structural Mitigation
2. Reduce Future Expenses
3. Protect Natural Resources
4. Employ Effective Land Use Regulations

Include policy language stating the Priorities identified in the Local Mitigation Strategy:

1. Increase Protection of Life
2. Improve Evacuation Route Infrastructure

3. Improve Survivability of the Utility Infrastructure
4. Reduce the Number and Cost of Repetitive Loss Properties

Expand language to include Man Made Disasters not just Natural Disasters.

Objective 2.4 Enhance / Accommodate Post Disaster Redevelopment

Consider adding policy to identify property characteristics and a ranking system for land acquisition to be employed in a post disaster environment. (Does not identify specific properties, identifies the criteria to be considered when making decision).

Consider adding policy to develop Post Disaster Emergency Ordinance to address items such as closure of areas, building moratoria, and emergency permitting and planning processes.

Policy 2.4.1 PDRP / LMS

In addition to identifying short term actions, identify long term post disaster redevelopment actions. Provide for the appropriate inclusion of actions from the PDRP.

Recreation Element

No suggestions at this time.

Transportation Element

Policy language could be included that indicates that the County recognizes how quick coordination with the FDOT is vital in the event of a disaster affecting the viability of the bridges serving the south county.

Infrastructure – Water Sub-Element

Objective 1.7 Maximize Existing Facilities

Language could be included regarding the hardening or relocation of vulnerable infrastructure.

Policy language could be included to encourage the centralized potable water systems to develop emergency inter-connections thereby creating redundancy within all the central system(s).

Infrastructure – Sanity Sewer Sub-Element

Objective 2.2 Priorities for Replacing and Correcting Sanitary Sewer Facilities

Language could be included regarding the hardening or relocation of vulnerable infrastructure.

Policy language could be included to encourage the centralized sanitary sewer systems to develop emergency inter-connections thereby creating redundancy within all the central system(s).

Consider language to discourage the use of septic tanks in hazard prone areas.

Consider language to encourage the connection to existing central systems in the hazard prone areas.

Infrastructure – Solid Waste Sub-Element

Discourage or prohibit certain hazardous waste (production and / or storage) within the CHHA / Primary Storm Surge Areas

Update status of Emergency Debris Removal Plan

Infrastructure – Drainage Sub-Element

Include language to recognize that improvements to the stormwater systems are a hazard mitigation technique that improves public safety.

Policy 4.1.9 Community Rating System

Provide language to detail steps toward participation in the CRS.

Infrastructure – Aquifer Re-Charge Sub-Element

Discourage or prohibit certain hazardous waste within the aquifer re-charge areas.

Housing Element

Objective 4.1 Sub-Standard Housing

Include policy language which considers hazardous areas when replacing sub-standard housing stock.

Include policy language to encourage the hardening of the housing stock as part of the improvements to sub-standard housing.

Objective 5.1 Historic Preservation

Provide language recognizing the unique circumstances for historic properties in a post disaster environment and the need for special review to maintain these community assets.

Objective 6.1 Special Needs Housing

Include policy language to encourage the hardening of housing stock for Special Needs citizens, recognizing the unique challenges of providing housing in a post disaster environment.

Intergovernmental Coordination Element

Objective 1.4 Coordination with Fire Districts

Include language recognizing the role of the Fire Districts in response and recovery during disasters.

Objective 1.6 Comprehensive Planning Forum

Include hazard mitigation and post disaster redevelopment as topics appropriate for inclusion in the Comprehensive Planning Forum.

Objective 1.8 Hazard Mitigation Coordination

Expand language beyond just the efforts of the Local Mitigation Strategy such as the Comprehensive Plan, PDRP, CEMP, and LDC.

Capital Improvements Element

Policy 1.1.1 Capital Improvements Criteria

Expand language to clearly include hazard mitigation efforts as a criteria during capital improvement planning.

Public Schools Element

Policy 1.3.3 Schools / Emergency Shelters

Consider language to discourage / prohibit the location of new public schools within the evacuation zones.

Economic Development Element

Include language to recognize / encourage / coordinate the connection between economic development and hazard mitigation efforts to increase economic sustainability.

Proposed Integration Improvements: Land Development Code

Section 2.01.02 Land Use Districts

Establishes the Zoning - Land Use Districts.

Recommendations: Consider creating Zoning Overlay District for the Coastal High Hazard Area.

Section 2.04.04 Workforce / Affordable Housing Density Bonus System Standards

Establishes the Density Bonus System.

Recommendations: Reward hazard mitigation techniques (beyond standards) within the Bonus System.

Section 2.06.02 Planned Unit Development Standards

Establishes site plan standards for Conceptual and Detailed Site Plans.

Recommendations: Include the identification of Storm Surge Zones / Evacuation Zones on Conceptual and Detailed Site Plans.

Identify hazard mitigation techniques within the list of criteria used in examination of planned unit developments.

Section 4.01.03 Wetland Protection – Restrictions on Development

Establishes development restrictions within wetland areas.

Recommendations: None

Section 4.02.01 - .05 Coastal Resource Protection – Areas Defined

Defines the following areas; Coastal Dune Lake Protection Zones, Coastal High Hazard Zone, and the Coastal Building Zone.

Recommendations: Consider creating Zoning Overlay District for the Coastal High Hazard Area.

Section 4.02.06 Restriction on Development within the Coastal Protection Zone

Establishes development restrictions for the areas defined above, including a prohibition on the creation of new lots within the Coastal High Hazard Zone.

Recommendations: Prohibit / Discourage the development of new school sites within the Coastal High Hazard Zone.

Prohibit / Discourage the storage of certain hazardous waste within the Coastal High Hazard Zone.

Section 4.05.01 Floodplain Protection and Damage Prevention

Establishes the Floodplain Protection Program, provides the Purpose, Intent, and Objectives along with definitions. As example requires one foot of freeboard above base flood elevation, prohibits encroachments into the Floodway, requires three feet of freeboard for Critical Facilities within the Special Flood Hazard Area, requires the elevation of access routes to the BFE or above, and the prohibition of fill for structural support of buildings.

Recommendations: None

Section 5.00.08 General Clustering Policy in all Districts

States the intention of the County to encourage the clustering of development to avoid environmentally sensitive areas, to create open space, and encourage efficient infrastructure design.

Recommendations: Include hazard mitigation as reason to encourage clustering.

Section 5.05.01 H Placement of Utilities Underground

Requires utility placement to be underground with minor exceptions.

Recommendations: None

Section 5.06.03 Stormwater Management Requirements

Generally establishes the design standard for stormwater management systems to be a 25 year storm event requiring at a minimum the first inch of rain to be retained on site.

Recommendations: Include language to allow higher stormwater standard in areas of known flooding.

**Section 8.01.01 Defines Types of Non-Conforming Development
Section 8.01.02 Continuation of a Non-Conformity
Section 8.01.03 Termination of a Non-Conformity**

Provides definitions of Legal Non-Conformity, Non-Conforming Use, Non-Conforming Structure, Non-Conforming Lot of Record, and Non-Conforming Sign.

Provides the circumstances in which a Non-Conformity may continue.

Provides when a Non-Conformity is terminated.

Recommendations: Conduct analysis to understand the type, general location, and amount of non-conformities present and the impact on redevelopment in a post disaster environment.

Conduct analysis to understand the amount and general location(s) of Pre-Firm structures that are anticipated to be impacted during flooding events (floodplain / coastal surge).

SECTION 6: OUTREACH AND COORDINATION STRATEGY

Introduction

The purpose of this section is to provide methods and information on how Walton County will collect and disseminate long-term recovery information before and after a disaster. This section also provides information about how the public will be involved during the redevelopment process through community meetings and the role of regional and state coordination agencies during disaster recovery.

Communication is one of the most significant roles of government after a disaster, especially during long-term redevelopment when the media focus has decreased yet the public still has a heightened need for information.

Message Distribution

Methods of distributing information fall into three general categories. Any of the three or a combination of methods could be appropriate communication tools to consider utilizing:

1. **Electronic communications** are those that occur via computer, telephone, television, or radio.
 - a. Examples include the emergency alert system (EAS), email, internet, intranet, video and webcasts, reverse 911, electronic newsletters, podcasts, blogs, wikis, voicemail, conference calls, SMS text messaging, screensaver messaging, desktop alert messages, desktop news feeds, radio, television, RSS feeds, websites, and social media tools.
2. **Printed communications** are those that are ink and paper.
 - a. Examples include newspapers, magazines, newsletters, brochures, faxes, posters, and fliers.
3. **Face-to-face communications** are one-to-one and one-to-many forums where people are physically present.
 - a. Examples include briefings, conferences, town meetings, door-to-door, forums, 'brown bag' lunches, round-table discussions, etc.

Internal Communications (Intergovernmental)

Chapter 252.38 of the Florida Statutes, Emergency Management Powers of Political Subdivisions, provides Walton County with the authority to manage emergencies countywide. It calls for the creation of an emergency management agency in each county that will provide coordination of post-disaster activities within the county, municipalities and school board and be the liaison with the state. In Walton County, emergency management services are under the County's Sheriff's Office. The short-term internal communication processes following an event are outlined in the County's Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP). Recovery and redevelopment-related communication to Walton County staff following a major disaster will be coordinated through the County Public Information Officer.

Regional, State and Federal Communications

Walton County's primary point of contact for regional, state and federal agencies is the County Administrator. In the aftermath of a disaster, regional, state, and federal representatives will need to be in regular contact with additional County representatives to discuss specific activities or issues. These representatives should be pre-identified by the Support Services Division. The Support Services Division provides coordination between the Board of County Commissioners, Human Resources, Section 8/HUD,

Walton County Fire Rescue, Veteran’s Services, Animal Control, Recreation, and Safety Departments. The Support Services Division also coordinates the activities of assigned county departments and other agencies that provide direct, emergency and non-emergency services to the citizens of Walton County.

Public Communications

Public Information Officers (PIOs) coordinate governmental communications that are to be released to the public. Walton County has a County Citizen Services Office with a full time PIO. Following a disaster, the County PIO works closely with the Walton County Emergency Management Coordinator and relevant departments and agencies to communicate the status of emergency management operations to the community.

The dissemination of public information plays a critical role in the recovery process and it begins the moment a disaster occurs. Consistent communication regarding recovery efforts, even though emergency response activities are still taking place, will reassure the public that government agencies are working together to resolve the situation and to bring assistance to those who need it. Communications from the County’s PIO’s should be updated regularly, occur as often as necessary, and continue until recovery is complete.

As recovery transitions to redevelopment, the responsibility of communicating with the public will transition out of the EOC but will still remain the responsibility of the County PIO. Ensuring that the messages are accurate, complete, and consistent is a critical part of communicating with the public. All forms of communication should be monitored and inaccurate information must be addressed immediately.

The broadcast and print media is a crucial element in gaining community support, especially the support of community members that are not actively involved in the community but keep abreast of current developments. Well-developed and coordinated information, education strategies, and communications plans help to ensure that recovery and long-term redevelopment information can be disseminated to numerous audiences in a timely, accurate and consistent manner. **Table 6.1** below lists the communication methods the County currently utilizes to disseminate information on emergencies and/or hazards.

Table 6.1 Walton County Public Emergency Communication Outlets	
Walton County Government Website	
www.co.walton.fl.us	
(Phone / Email) County Emergency Communications	
Subscription-Based (Through Civicplus.com)	
Local Radio Stations	
WJSB / AM 1050	
WDSP / AM 1280	
WZEP / AM 1460	
WAKJ / FM 91.3	
WWEO / FM 103.9	
WKSM / FM 99.5	
WAAZ / FM 104.7	
WSBZ / FM 106.3	
Local Television Stations	

TV24 (Bright House Cable Channel 3; Cox Cable Channel 12)
WTVY Channel 4 (CBS)
WJHG Channel 7 (NBC)
WMBB Channel 13 (ABC)
Out of Area Stations (That Have Agreed to Air County News Releases)
Nashville, TN: WWTN / FM 99.7 WRQQ / FM 97.1;
Birmingham, Al: WDJC / FM 93.7; WYDE / FM 101.1 OR AM 1260
Dothan, Al: WJNN / FM 92.1; WAGF / FM 101.3; WAGF / AM 1320; WDJR / FM 96.9
Fort Walton Beach, Fl: WNCV / FM 100.3; WYZB / FM 105.5; WZNS / FM 96.5 and WFTW / AM 1260
Montgomery, Al: WBAM / FM 98.9; WQKS / FM 96.1; WJWZ / FM 97.9; WACV / AM 1170
Panama City, Fl: WILN / FM 105.9; WYYX / FM 97.7; WYOO / FM 101.1FM; WVVE / FM 100.1; WPCF / AM 1290
Pensacola, FL WTKX / FM 101.5; WTKX / FM 101; WYCL / AM 1073; WUWF / FM 88.1
Tallahassee, Fl: WTNT / FM 94.9; WXSX / FM 101.5; WBWT / FM 100.7; WTLY / FM107.1; WFLA/AM 1270
The Weather Channel and Sirius Satellite (Regional)

In an effort to communicate with all of Walton County’s residents alternative methods of dissemination should also be pursued. It is critical to establish positive relationships with a variety of media sources and to consider them partners in an ongoing public information campaign (before, during and after a disaster occurs). **Table 6.2** below lists additional media resources to consider for information dissemination.

Table 6.2 Additional Media Resources
Other Government Websites
defuniaksprings.net
Freeportflorida.gov
Welcometonorthwestflorida.com
Naval Air Station Whiting Field
Eglin Air Force Base
United States Coast Guard - Station Destin
Newsletter / E-zine
SoWal
Destindirect.com
Local Radio Stations
WTHA LPFM Radio
Local Television Stations
WEAR
WKRK
BLAB(COX)
WALA

WPMI
WPGX
Newspapers
The Emerald Star News
The Walton Sun
Beach Breeze
Florida Freedom Newspaper
Destin Log
Bay Beacon
Crestview News Bulletin
Northwest Florida Daily News
Military Voice
DeFuniak Herald

The Whole Community

In October of 2011 in a testimony before the House Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, FEMA’s Administrator Craig Fugate introduced a new disaster resilience initiative called “Whole Community.” The basic premise of this concept is to encourage emergency management practitioners to engage with and plan for the needs of their community. This includes people from all socio-economic backgrounds, people with disabilities and other access and functional needs, and populations that are sometimes underrepresented in civic governance.

Whole Community Themes:

- Understand community complexity;
- Recognize community capabilities and needs;
- Foster relationships with community leaders;
- Build and maintain partnerships;
- Empower local action;
- Leverage and strengthen social infrastructure, networks, and assets.

Developing a whole community will require looking at how social activity is organized on a normal basis (e.g., social patterns, community leaders, points of collective organization and action, and decision-making processes), which will reveal potential sources (e.g., individuals and organizations) of new collective action. A better understanding of the complexity of the community will help the County work with and support the community to meet its true needs. Additionally, the outcomes of this analysis will benefit all aspects of emergency planning, before, during, and after a disaster occurs.

Pre-Disaster Stakeholder Engagement

The LMS Working Group engages in numerous ongoing public outreach initiatives that could be built upon to include long-term recovery and redevelopment-oriented outreach to community members. Combining these efforts into one overall emergency management strategy and will enable the County to engage in ongoing, clear, and consistent community messaging.

A few potential emergency management options to consider for improving outreach include:

- Reach out and interact with the Walton County CERT. These persons have already demonstrated an interest in emergency management. (Over 170 persons have completed the County’s CERT training to date.)
- Discuss how organizations can have a formal role in the County’s emergency plan and long-term redevelopment, and, when feasible, include them in training activities and exercises.
- Use the power of social media applications (e.g., Facebook and Twitter) to disseminate messages regarding long-term recovery and redevelopment, create two-way information exchanges, and follow up on communication that is already happening within the community.
- Involve children and youth through educational programs and activities centered on individual, family, and community preparedness and include information about long-term recovery and redevelopment issues.
- Incorporate long-term recovery and redevelopment planning discussions into the existing format of community meetings. Multi-purpose meetings help increase participation, especially in communities where residents must travel long distances to attend such meetings.
- Identify barriers to participation in emergency management meetings (e.g., lack of childcare or access to transportation, and time of the meeting) and provide solutions where feasible (e.g., provide childcare, arrange for the meeting to be held in a location accessible by public transportation, and schedule for after-work hours).
- Consider physical, programmatic, and communication access needs of community members with disabilities when organizing community meetings.
- Promote the availability of key County staff for local radio call-in programs to answer questions about long-term recovery and redevelopment issues and to solicit input from the listeners on what they see as the top priorities for community recovery and resilience.

Special Needs

The County should attempt to define, identify, and plan for its access and functional needs populations that may be unable to take care of themselves or need special planning considerations before, during, and after a disaster occurs. People with access and functional needs and their advocacy groups must be involved in all four phases of emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. The special planning considerations should be based on the hazards identified in the risk assessment, the County’s demographics, and community resources. **Table 6.5** below shows potential data sources that can be used for special need populations planning in Walton County. Much of this data already exists and has been used for different mapping applications.

Table 6.5 Special Needs Data Sources	
Federal	
U.S. Census data	
Medicaid	
State & Local	
Social services listings (dialysis centers, Meals on Wheels, etc.)	
Paratransit providers	
Bureau of Motor Vehicles (accessible parking permit holders)	
Health departments	
Utility providers	
Job access services	
Congregate settings	
Group homes	
Nursing homes	

Long-term care facilities
Assistive living units
Summer camps
Hospice facilities
Schools (especially those with a significant number of students with disabilities or students enrolled in English as Second Language programs)
County emergency alert lists and registries
Hospitals
Day care centers (for children or senior citizens)
Places of worship
Homeless shelters

Business Outreach

Businesses play a key role in disaster recovery planning for communities. Businesses should be encouraged to develop continuity of operations plans to ensure their viability after a disaster for themselves as well as the community. Involving the business community in the County’s recovery planning assures the businesses that steps are being taken to develop economic resiliency. Likewise, the community is dependent on the services and resources they provide and can continue to provide in the aftermath of a disaster.

The Walton County Chamber of Commerce was involved in the development of this plan through active participation on the Stakeholder Committee. Chamber staff also held internal meetings to discuss economic redevelopment issues that will be important to the County in the event of a major disaster. The results of those discussions are incorporated into the Action Plan found in Section 8.

Summary

Long-term recovery and redevelopment messages will be coordinated internally through the Public Information Officer for the Board of County Commissioners. External communications and communications with the public will also be the responsibility of the Public Information Officer.

Walton County’s history of dealing with disasters and its vulnerability to future ones has resulted in numerous outreach and education initiatives for businesses and citizens. The County should undergo an annual review of all of the printed and electronic public information and materials to ensure that they are:

- Up to date;
- Consistent and coordinated in its message;
- Appropriate to the County’s unique demographics;
- Accurate; and
- Delivered in a variety of methods and formats.

Public information requirements in the aftermath of a disaster and in the redevelopment period will differ in that the communication dialogue will be more frequent. Any materials disseminated to the public should be more targeted based upon the type of disaster and its effects. Public information must be coordinated between many different levels of government and different types of message distribution.

Effective, well planned, communication between County staff, the public and external stakeholders will certainly aid in facilitating a successful recovery and redevelopment for Walton County.

SECTION 7: FINANCING STRATEGY

Introduction

This section of the plan provides a fiscal overview of Walton County, analyses of the potential service and revenue disruptions that could occur following a disaster, and establishes a framework for financing redevelopment activities before and after a disaster occurs.

Post Disaster Revenue

Local government revenue sources will decrease following a major disaster. Unfortunately, this will occur in tandem with an increase in budget needs to support community recovery and redevelopment activities. Understanding these impacts and potential shortfalls is the first step in developing post-disaster financing priorities. Developing a strategy to address these priorities should occur in a pre-disaster environment when there is sufficient time to evaluate and examine alternatives.

Fiscal Overview

Analyzing current revenue sources will assist the County in identifying what types of revenue may be affected by a disaster and which ones could be utilized to support redevelopment. Walton County government relies on the revenues it collects from various sources to provide services for its citizens and visitors. The major categories of revenue are outlined in **Table 7.1** below.

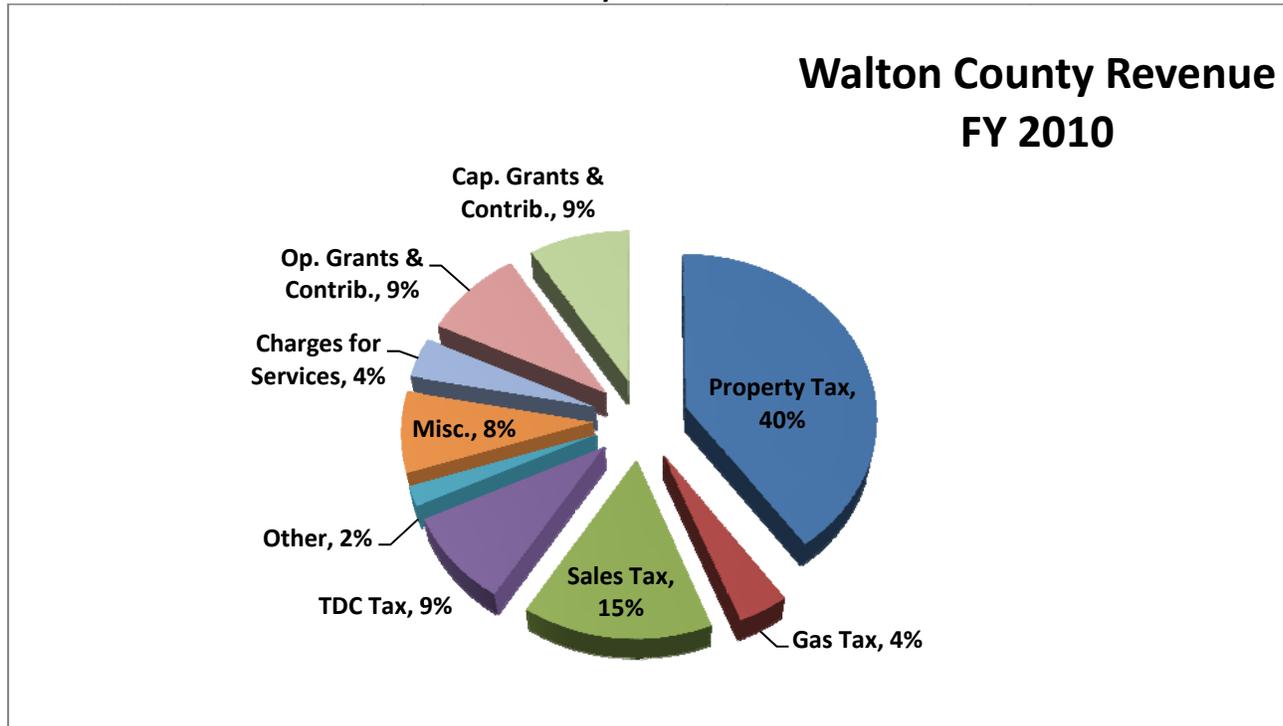
Table 7.1: Major County Government Funds	
Source	Description
Capital Projects Fund	Financial resources used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities (other than those financed by proprietary operations)
Fine and Forfeiture Special Revenue	Ad valorem taxes, fines, forfeitures, grants, expenditures and transfers to the County Sheriff's Department
General Fund	Resources devoted to financing the general services that the County performs for its citizens. Includes general tax revenue and other revenue used to finance the fundamental County operations
Solid Waste Landfill Special Revenue	A one cent County surtax, state grants, landfill fees, and scrap sales for landfill operations
Transportation Special Revenue	Ad valorem, motor fuel taxes, state revenue sharing and various grants designated for highway and road construction maintenance
Tourist Development Special Revenue	The local option tourist development tax arising from activities related to the tourist industry, designated for the promotion of tourism and beach renourishment

State and local taxes for 2010 were as follows:

Table 7.2: Walton County Taxation	
Source	Description
Countywide Ad Valorem Millage Rates	
Government	3.5563
Schools	5.0110
Special Districts	.0400
Total	8.6073
Ad Valorem Tax Exemption- No	
Retail Sales Tax (local option) – 1.00	
Federal Enterprise Zone - No	
State Enterprise Zone - EZ-6001, EZ-6002, EZ-6003	

According to the County’s 2010 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, sectors impacted from the nationwide recession included jobs (unemployment in September of 2010 for Walton County was 8.1%), Tourist Development Taxes (an 8.38% drop between 2009 and 2010 due to discounted lodging to attract visitors), and real estate. The real estate market has been the hardest hit sector from the recession, resulting in a 38.4% drop in taxable property values between 2008 and 2010. As shown in **Figure 7.1** below, property taxes provide the largest source of net available resources for Walton County (40%). Damages to private property from disasters would further affect the value and subsequently the amount of property tax revenue. The value of impacted areas will be lower after a disaster, which will affect property tax revenues.

Figure 7.1
Walton County Revenue Sources



The County's 2010 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report cited the rate of foreclosure as the County's biggest concern for the citizenry. The rate of foreclosure increased 343% between 2005 and 2010. Properties left uninhabitable following a disaster will greatly increase the number of tax delinquencies, bond defaults, bankruptcies, and mortgage foreclosures.

While the County is making efforts at diversifying economic opportunities, tourism and its related industries is an integral part of the local economy. The beaches at South Walton alone generate \$275 million in income annually. A disaster affecting the cultural and historic resources within the County could result in significant declines in the industry for years following the event, and reviving the tourism industry will require significant investments in reconstruction, marketing, and promotion.

Jobs, tourism, and other indicators of economic health are inextricably linked with the County's ability to restore physical infrastructure and housing and the ability to ensure continuity of health and social services. Additionally, an event that interferes with the production or delivery of products and services through the supply chain will cause a disruption in the economic activity within the County.

Post-Disaster Modeling

Potential impacts to revenue and services can be estimated through probabilistic modeling of disaster scenarios through Hazus and other programs. A risk assessment was performed on the most significant hazards Walton County is vulnerable to and is discussed in more detail in Section 3.

"While Florida has managed many significant disasters, it is the job of emergency management to plan for the next "what if" event, a catastrophic event. A direct hit by a Category 5 hurricane in a heavily populated area or a disaster that subsequently exceeds the response and resource capability of the State and Country combined, including a devastating impact, not only on Florida but the entire U.S. economy."

-Florida Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan ESF 15 Appendix February 2010 page 4

The Hazus study performed for the risk assessment indicated there were 27,929 buildings within the study area, with an estimated total dollar value of just over \$5 billion. The study revealed that a Category 5 hurricane striking the County could result in nearly 90% of the buildings becoming damaged and almost 15,000 households displaced as a result of the storm.

Summary

Walton County has already taken many laudable and proactive steps to lessen the impact of disasters and steer development away from vulnerable areas. In order to protect itself as well as the citizens and businesses that are served, the County must continue to make plans for the inevitable next event.

Financing Strategies

There are two primary goals involving finance in PDRP planning, one focusing on activities before a disaster occurs, the other focusing on activities after a disaster occurs.

- **Pre-Disaster** – Pursue projects with a variety of funding mechanisms to support planning
- **Post-Disaster** – Ensure that public funds are spent efficiently, effectively, and equitably

Pre-Disaster Strategies

1. Establish procedures to coordinate public and private funding to support pre- and post-disaster planning.
2. Identify and advocate for marginalized groups (location and demographic characteristics) of populations in the County that may need additional assistance and support before, during, and after a disaster.
3. Evaluate the unique types and levels of post-disaster assistance and support that may be required for catastrophic hurricanes, tropical storm winds, storm surges, floods, and wildfires.
4. Evaluate the governmental impacts to revenue and services as a result of catastrophic hurricanes, tropical storm winds, storm surges, floods, and wildfires and determine “acceptable / realistic levels of service” following these events.
5. Develop policies to address the unique financial requirements of post-disaster programs.
6. Incorporate financial strategies into the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and other fiscal reporting mechanisms so that post-disaster financial requirements remains a consideration in planning for Walton County’s future.
7. Identify and familiarize County staff and other community resources to assist with post-disaster funding requests and administrative procedures.
8. Involve and consult County citizens and businesses in all phases of planning before, during, and after a disaster.

Post-Disaster Strategies

1. Have community leaders communicate directly with marginalized groups to ensure their needs are being met.
2. Regularly communicate with community stakeholders regarding the recovery-oriented activities occurring within the County.
3. Document the recovery process and use this documentation to develop an after action report.

Long-Term Recovery and Redevelopment Funding

In the aftermath of a disaster, numerous state, federal, and other sources of aid become available to assist the community to recover from the event. The County cannot count on outside resources to provide all of the financing that will be required, however.

Local Reserves, Credit and Insurance

Establishing reserve funds and maintaining a strong line of credit are important considerations for post disaster planning. Reserve funds will allow the County to borrow from itself to finance operations and rebuild critical facilities until federal reimbursement funds begin to come in. FEMA’s Public Assistance program requires that local governments first pay for critical facility and infrastructure repairs before

they can be reimbursed for those expenses. If establishing a healthy local reserve for this contingency is not a viable option, the County may want to explore other options for funding post disaster expenditures.

The insurance industry also has a significant role in post disaster redevelopment. Local businesses and residents rely on the funds made available from private insurance companies. Working with private insurance companies to process and fund claims can be a cumbersome and difficult experience. Homeowners often do not realize they are underinsured and do not have appropriate coverage until a disaster has occurred and it is too late.

The Citizens Property Insurance Corporation (CPIC) is a Florida state government-run property and casualty insurer of last resort that will insure new homeowners in high-risk areas and others who cannot find coverage in the open private market. As of February 29, 2012, the CPIC had over 1.4 million policies in force statewide.

Additionally, many residents will not be able to rebuild or relocate within the county without government assistance. FEMA Individual Assistance program and Small Business Administration loans can provide various forms of assistance, but understanding the process and eligibility requirements can be challenging.

Ongoing education and outreach initiatives to residents, businesses, and elected officials before and after a disaster occurs would be a relatively simple and low cost initiative that could address these deficiencies.

State and Federal Resources, Grants, and Loans

Funding for post disaster redevelopment projects is available both before and after disasters occur. Regardless of the type or quantity of resources considered for a project, it is important to identify all of the potential resources, programs, and stakeholders that may be applicable for use in the post disaster planning process. Proactive partnering with these funding organizations will provide Walton County staff with an understanding of the organization's policies, timelines, funding uses and restrictions, types of aid, and recipient and project eligibility.

Many funding programs may have local match requirements, which can include in-kind services. In certain cases, funding organizations might allow waivers of certain criteria or allow creative financing solutions depending on the type or magnitude of the disaster, so it is recommended to ascertain whether these options exist.

There are numerous sources for governmental and non-governmental disaster relief programs and private donations that can support post disaster redevelopment. For example, the Florida League of Cities has developed a 370-page resource book entitled, *Financial and Technical Assistance for Florida Municipalities 2008-2009*, which provides information on grants, loans, technical assistance, and other resources that are available to Florida municipalities. This resource book includes information on various programs for topics such as community development and redevelopment, economic development, emergency management, critical facilities, coastal management, environmental, historic preservation, housing, and infrastructure. For more information visit: <http://www.flcities.com/membership/grant/>.

Another resource for Walton County is the Florida Disaster Recovery Fund that serves as a funding and management source for recovery needs that have not been met by relief organizations, government agencies and insurance. Private corporations and foundations may donate funding to a program such as

the Florida Disaster Recovery Fund or provide funding through other vehicles after a disaster has occurred. For more information visit: <http://www.flahurricanefund.org/>.

Another important tool available to Walton County is the Resource Identification Strategy (RIS) database that was developed in conjunction with the Department of Community Affairs and the Florida Public Affairs Center at Florida State University. The RIS is designed to identify traditional and non-traditional funding sources for local governments looking to implement disaster preparedness, response, mitigation, recovery and long-term redevelopment projects. The RIS can be accessed by visiting: <http://www.flris.org>.

Through FEMA's Community Disaster Loan program, Walton County may be able to obtain a maximum of \$5 million dollars to cover operating costs for the fiscal year in which the event occurs. Under extraordinary circumstances these loans may exceed \$5 million dollars and in rare cases, the loans are forgiven. However, following a major disaster, Walton County will likely be faced with a financial crisis that far exceeds the cap that is placed on this program and will need funding outside of the fiscal year in which the event occurred.

Walton County has identified numerous vulnerability reduction measures in the existing *Local Mitigation Strategy* (LMS) Projects and *Local Comprehensive Plan* Capital Improvement Projects. Projects placed on either of these lists have a greater likelihood of being funded by federal funding programs. For example, a hazard mitigation project must be listed in the LMS as a condition for receiving Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Section 404 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) grant funding. Having an approved LMS positions a community to be eligible for FEMA Section 406 Public Assistance hazard mitigation funding, which is easier and quicker to receive than HMGP funding as funds are granted earlier in the recovery process on a non-competitive grant application basis. An approved LMS is also required for local governments to be eligible to receive grant funding for permanent work (i.e., road systems and bridges, water control facilities, public buildings and contents, public utilities, and parks and recreational facilities).

Walton County staff should continue to familiarize themselves with potential funding programs, organizations, and requirements. The County should also keep in mind existing staff levels and capabilities and remember that depending on the workload faced following a disaster, extra staff may be needed to help manage grants or loans once received. A detailed listing of state and federal grant and loan programs are provided at the end of this section.

Commercial Loans

In addition to the various potential funding sources described above, the County may need to pursue commercial loans to cover all of the disaster costs. These are most often provided through local banks and/or credit unions that have a local stake in the community. Walton County should consider working with the local banking industry to explore different ways they can work together to further recovery activities following a disaster.

One of the types of assistance that private banks within the county could provide to local businesses following a disaster is the bridge loan program. Bridge loans are short term loans that can be used for a variety of purposes, but the primary purpose of these loans in a post disaster environment would be to help the County and / or local businesses recover from the disaster until the County or the local businesses could secure a more permanent source of financing.

Mutual Aid Agreements

Mutual aid agreements facilitate and expedite recovery, as other local governments that unaffected by the disaster can provide staffing and other resources to assist the impacted jurisdiction. For example, mutual aid agreements can be developed to include staffing and services: planners, permit specialists, debris removal staff and equipment, geographic information system (GIS) specialists, public information officers (PIO), etc. Currently, Walton County has no mutual aid agreements in place for long-term recovery staffing needs.

Pre-Established Recovery Contracts

Pre-established contracts are helpful for expediting the goods and services needed for post disaster recovery. These contracts are more readily executed since they have already been reviewed and approved by the Walton County’s Financial Management Department. Although FEMA will reimburse local governments for emergency contracts, reimbursements are typically limited to services provides within the first 72 hours of work. There are cases when sole source contracts are utilized, but there are special requirements that must be adhered to per the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 13.36. Walton County currently has pre-established contracts with debris monitoring and removal companies to provide these post-disaster services.

Private, Non Profit and Other Resources

Non-Profit organizations and private foundations are potential resources for funding and other partnerships. The Trust for Public Land, Habitat for Humanity, and community foundations are examples of project partners.

Public and private colleges or universities can be valuable resources for projects. Depending on the project, timing, and location, these organizations could provide technical assistance, project management, funding, research, and project development.

Following a major disaster, Walton County may become inundated with donations from private entities and non-profit organizations. The County has established ESF 15 in the emergency operations plan to address the provision of donated resources to meet the needs of the disaster survivors and the impact area. The County may want to consider developing a specific set of policies for receiving these donations.

Table 7.3 below is a listing of potential funding resources for recovery and mitigation. This list includes federal pre- and post-disaster funding programs and programs available from State of Florida government.

Table 7.3: Potential Funding Resources for Recovery and Mitigation		
Federal Pre-Disaster Funding Programs		
Program	Program Purpose	Contact Information
Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)	To assist communities to implement hazard mitigation programs designed to reduce overall risk to the population and structures before the next disaster occurs.	Division of Emergency Management 2555 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100 (850) 413-9966
Community Assistance Program State Support Services Element	To ensure that communities participating in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) are achieving flood loss reduction measures consistent with program direction. The CAP-SSSEE is intended	Federal Emergency Management Agency Mitigation Directorate Program Implementation Division

(CAP-SSSE)	to identify, prevent and resolve floodplain management issues in participating communities before they develop into problems requiring enforcement action.	500 C Street SW Washington, DC 20472 (202) 646-2719
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) (also see post-disaster funding)	Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) provide for long-term needs, such as acquisition, rehabilitation or reconstruction of damaged properties and facilities and redevelopment of disaster-affected areas. Funds may also be used for emergency response activities, such as debris clearance and demolition, extraordinary increases in the level of necessary public services.	Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Planning and Development 451 7 th Street, SW Washington, DC 20410 (202) 708-3587 www.hud.gov
Emergency Management Program Assistance (EMPA)	To administer the Emergency Management Preparedness and Assistant Trust Fund, count base grants, and incoming federal, state, or private funding. Within this program is the Municipal Grant Program. Localities can apply for up to \$50,000 worth of grant money. Also included is the Open Competitive Grant Program in which cities, counties, not for profits, etc. can apply for up to \$300,000 in grant money.	Emergency Management Program Assistance (EMPA) Division of Emergency Management 2555 Shumard Oaks Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100 (850) 413-9966
The Federal Assistance for Beach Renourishment Program	Provides up to 65% of the costs to renourish beaches and for up to 50 years of periodic maintenance.	Southeast Atlantic Division US Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District (904) 232-1697
Flood Control Projects	To reduce flood damages through projects not specifically authorized by Congress.	Commander US Army Corps of Engineers Attn: CECW – OE Washington, DC 20314 (202) 272-1975
Flood Mitigation Assistance	To fund cost effective measures to states and communities that reduce or eliminate the long term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other insurable structures.	Program Implementation Division Federal Emergency Management Agency 500 C Street SW Washington, DC 20472 (202) 646-3619
Flood Plain Management Services	To promote appropriate recognition of flood hazards in land and water use planning and development through the provision of flood and flood plain related data, technical services, and guidance.	US Army Corps of Engineers Attn: CECW – PF Washington, DC 20314-1000 (202) 272-0169
Flood Prevention, Emergency Advance Measures	To mitigate, before an event, the potential loss of life and damages to property due to floods.	USACE CECW-OE DoD Washington, DC 20314 (202) 761-0251

Grants & Loans for Public Works & Development Facilities	To provide financial assistance for the construction of public facilities needed to initiate and encourage the creation or retention of permanent jobs in the private sector in designated areas where economic growth is lagging.	Economic Development Administration The Federal Building Room 423 80 N. Hughey Ave. Orlando, FL 32801 (407) 648-6572
Hazardous Materials Training Program - Implementation of the Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986	To make funding available to support programs of state, local, and tribal governments, and universities to improve emergency planning, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery capabilities. These programs must provide a special emphasis on emergencies associated with hazardous chemicals.	Federal Emergency Management Agency Support Systems Branch, Training Division 16825 S. Seton Ave. Emmitsburg, MD 21727 (301) 447-1142
Hurricane Program	To reduce the loss of life, property, economic disruption, and disaster assistance costs resulting from hurricanes.	Director Program Implementation Division Mitigation Directorate FEMA 500 C Street SW Washington, DC 20472 (202) 646-4621
Insurance Program, National Flood (NFIP)	To enable individuals to purchase insurance against losses from physical damage to or loss of buildings and or contents therein caused by floods, mudflow, or flood-related erosion, and to promote wise floodplain management practices in the nation's flood prone areas.	Claim and Underwriting Division FIA FEMA 500 C Street SW Washington, DC 20472 (202) 646-3422
Payments to States in Lieu of Real Estate Taxes	To compensate local taxing units for the loss of taxes from federally acquired lands, 75 percent of all monies received or deposited in the Treasury during any fiscal year for the account of leasing of lands acquired by the United States for flood control, navigation and allied purposes, including the development of hydroelectric power, are paid at the end of each year to the States in which such property is situated.	Headquarters US Army of Corps of Engineers Attn: CERM-FC 20 Massachusetts Ave. NW Washington, DC 20314-1000 (202) 272-1931
Protection, Clearing and Straightening Channels	To restore channels for purposes of navigation or flood control.	Commander US Army Corps of Engineers Attn: CECW-OD Washington, DC 20314-1000 (202) 272-8835
Protection of Essential Highways, Highway Bridge Approaches, and Public Works	To provide bank protection of highways, highway bridges, essential public works, churches, hospitals, schools, and other nonprofit public services endangered by flood caused erosion.	US Army Corps of Engineers Attn: CECW-PM Washington, DC 20314-1000 (202) 272-1975

Public Works Impact Projects Program (PWIP) (11.304)	To provide financial assistance in the construction of public facilities for the purpose of providing immediate useful work to unemployed and underemployed persons in designated project areas.	Economic Development Administration The Federal Building, Room 423 80 N. Hughey Ave. Orlando, FL 32801 (407) 648-6572
Snagging and Clearing for Flood Control	To reduce flood damage.	US Army Corps of Engineers Attn: CECW-PM Washington, DC 20314-1000 (202) 272-1975
Federal Post-Disaster Funding Programs		
Program name	Program Purpose	Contact Information
Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)/Entitlement Grants	To develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low to moderate income individuals.	Entitlement Communities Division Office of Block Grant Assistance CPD, HUD 451 7 th Street SW Washington, DC 20410-7000 (202) 708-3587
Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)/State's Program	To develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low to moderate income individuals.	State and Small Cities Division Office of Block Grant Assistance CPD, HUD 451 7 th Street SW Washington, DC 20410-7000 (202) 708-3587
Cora C. Brown Fund	To assist disaster victims for unmet disaster related needs. When Cora C. Brown of Kansas City, Missouri, died in 1977, she left a portion of her estate to the Federal Government as a special fund to be used solely for the relief of human suffering caused by disasters.	Human Services Division Response and Recovery Directorate FEMA 500 C Street SW Washington, DC 20472 (202) 646-3642
Disaster Emergency Loans –Farmer Programs	To provide financial assistance to eligible applicants to help them overcome the adverse effects of a natural disaster to their farm operations.	Rural Economic and Community Development 4440 NW 25 th Place PO Box 147010 Gainesville, FL 32614-7010 (904) 334-3440
Disaster Reserve Assistance	To provide emergency feed assistance to eligible livestock owners, in a state, county, or area approved by the Secretary or designee, where because of disease, insect infestation, flood, drought, fire, hurricane, earthquake, hail storm, hot weather, cold weather, freeze, snow, ice, and winterkill, or other natural disaster, a livestock emergency has been determined to exist. The program provides assistance to eligible livestock producers for losses of feed grain crops, forage, and grazing.	Dept. of Agriculture Farm Service Agency Emergency and Noninsured Assistance Program Division STOP 0526 1400 Independence Ave. SW Washington, DC 20250-0526 (202) 720-3168

Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL)	To assist businesses suffering economic injury as a result of certain Presidential, Secretary of Agriculture, and/or SBA declared disasters.	Office of Disaster Assistance SBA 409 3 rd Street SW Washington, DC 20416 (202) 205-6734
Emergency Conservation Program	To enable farmers to perform emergency conservation measures to control wind erosion on farmlands, or to rehabilitate farmlands damaged by wind erosion, floods, hurricanes, or other natural disasters and to carry out emergency water conservation or water enhancing measures during period of severe drought.	Consolidated Farm Service Agency Dept. of Agriculture PO Box 2415 Washington, DC 20013 (202) 720-6221
Emergency Operations Flood Response and Post Flood Response	To provide emergency flood response and post flood response assistance as required to supplement state and local efforts and capabilities in time of flood coastal storm.	Commander US Army Corps of Engineers Attn: CECW- OE Washington, DC 20314-1000 (202) 272-0251
Emergency Shelter Grants Program (ESG)	To provide financial assistance to renovate or convert buildings for use as emergency shelters for the homeless. Grant funds may also be used to operate the shelter (excluding staff) and pay for certain support services.	Community Planning & Development Dept. of Housing and Urban Development 325 West Adams Street Jacksonville, FL 32202-4303 (904) 232-2626
Federal Emergency Shelter Grants Program for the Homeless	For the provision of emergency shelter and essential support services to the homeless. Funds may be used for structural improvements to shelters, shelter operating expenses, furnishings and equipment, and other services.	Benefit Recovery & Special Program Economic Services Program 1317 Winewood Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0700 (850) 487-2966
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)	To prevent future losses of lives and property due to disaster; to implement State or local hazard mitigation plans; to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during immediate recovery from a disaster; and to provide funding for previously identified mitigation measures to benefit the disaster area.	Director Program Implementation Division Mitigation Directorate FEMA 500 C Street SW Washington, DC 20472 (202) 646-4621
Physical Disaster Loans (Business)	To provide loans to businesses affected by declared physical type disasters for uninsured losses.	Office of Disaster Assistance SBA 409 3 rd Street SW Washington, DC 20416 (202) 205-6734
Public Assistance Program	To provide supplemental assistance to States, local governments, and certain private nonprofit organizations to alleviate suffering and hardship resulting from major disasters or emergencies declared by the President. Public Assistance (PA) provides funding for the repair, restoration, reconstruction, or replacement of a public facility or	Infrastructure Support Division Response and Recovery Directorate FEMA 500 C Street SW Washington, DC 20472 (202) 646-3026

	<p>infrastructure damaged or destroyed by a disaster. Eligible applicants at the county level include local governments and certain private non-profit (PNP) organizations. Eligible PNP's include educational, emergency, medical, rehabilitation, and temporary or permanent custodial care facilities, utilities, and other PNP facilities which provide essential governmental services to the general public. PA Funds are available for debris removal, emergency protective measures, road systems and bridges, water control facilities, public buildings and contents, public utilities, and parks and recreational facilities. PA funds may not be used when other funding sources are available, such as insurance, to avoid the duplication of benefits.</p>	
Florida State Programs		
Program name	Program Purpose	Contact Information
Community Facilities Loan Program (10.423)	To construct, enlarge, extend, or otherwise improve community facilities providing essential services to rural residents.	Rural Economic and Community Development 4440 NW 25 th Place PO Box 147010 Gainesville, FL 32614-7010 (904) 334-3440
Conservation and Recreation Lands (CARL)	To conserve environmentally endangered lands and provide resource conservation measures for other types of lands.	Florida Department of Environmental Protection Division of State Lands Marjory Stoneman Douglas Bldg. 3900 Commonwealth Blvd., MS 100 Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000 (850) 245-2555 www.dep.state.fl.us/lands/
Florida Communities Trust (FCT)	This grant program facilitates the purchase of lands for conservation and/or recreation purposes by local governments. This land acquisition program helps to implement conservation, recreation, open space, and coastal elements of local comprehensive plans. The Board of Florida Communities Trust has latitude to consider innovative financing arrangement, loans, and land swaps. However, most of the Trust's funding is for land acquisition. Land acquisition projects in which matching funds are available will receive more favorable consideration, although a portion of available funds may be awarded on outright grants.	Florida Department of Economic Opportunity Florida Communities Trust 2555 Shumard Oaks Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399 (850) 922-2207 www.dca.state.fl.us/ffct/florida_forever.htm
Expanded Local Management Hazardous Waste Program	The primary purpose of this fund is to cover costs incurred to establish the expanded local hazardous waste management program as stated in FS403.7238 including training for county personnel, materials & equipment for educational activities.	Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection 2600 Blair Stone Rd. Tallahassee, FL 32399-2400 (850) 488-0300

SECTION 8: RECOVERY AND REDEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Introduction

This section of the Plan provides the blueprint for Walton County in implementing a successful post disaster recovery and redevelopment strategy. It is based on general consensus of the stakeholders involved in the planning process (described in Section 2 of this plan) and the findings of the *Capacity Assessment* and *Vulnerability Identification*. This section consists of the following subsections:

- Introduction
- Identification and Analysis of Recovery and Redevelopment Activities
- Recovery and Redevelopment Goals
- Selection of Recovery and Redevelopment Actions for Walton County

Identification and Analysis of Recovery and Redevelopment Activities

In formulating Walton County's Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan, certain categories of recovery and redevelopment activities were considered in order to help achieve the established recovery and redevelopment goals and subsequent recovery and redevelopment tasks / actions included in Section 9: *Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan*. These categories include:

- Land Use
- Housing
- Economic Redevelopment
- Infrastructure and Public Facilities
- Health and Social Services
- Environment

Recovery and Redevelopment Goals

The Stakeholder Group identified the following goals for Walton County's Post Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment Strategy:

Goal 1: Land Use Goal

Work to establish land use policy changes that will help Walton County take advantage of the opportunities to change previous development decisions in both pre- and post- disaster states.

Goal 2: Housing Goal

Work to establish plans and procedures that will ensure timely provision of temporary housing and rapid repair and reconstructions of permanent housing that meets needs of all residents' incomes following a disaster.

Goal 3: Economic Redevelopment Goal

Through partnership with the private sector, work to ensure the ability of the Walton County economy to rebound following a disaster, including return of jobs, tourism, and capital investments.

Goal 4: Infrastructure and Public Facilities Goal

Plan now for post disaster restoration of infrastructure and public facilities (including upgrading, mitigating and relocating as needed) as their successful restorations are prerequisites for successful recovery.

Goal 5: Health and Social Services Goal

Protect socially and economically vulnerable populations by ensuring a smooth transition of health and social services from short-term recovery ops to long-term redevelopment assistance.

Goal 6: Environmental Goal

Plan for post disaster protection and restoration of the unique coastal and inland ecosystems of Walton County to ensure successful long-term recovery and citizens' quality of life.

Selection of Recovery and Redevelopment Actions for Walton County

For each of the post disaster recovery and redevelopment issues and related goals discussed above, Walton County has identified Tasks / Actions to address those issues. These Tasks / Actions have been included in the ***Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan*** found in Section 9. These actions were identified by Walton County staff, officials, and other stakeholders over the course of development of this plan.

Walton County Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan

Action #	Proposed Action	Background	Site and Location	Hazard Addressed	Pre- or Post-Disaster	Short- or Long-Term Impact	Priority	Estimated Cost	Lead Agency	Opportunity for Cooperation	Potential Funding Sources	Comments
Land Use												
LU-1	Create planning/permitting approval process which will expedite approvals for developments which do not increase previously approved densities/intensifies.	Recently taken place through our EAR process and will continue to change as we update our Land Development Code and amend our Comprehensive Plan.	County-wide	All	Pre	Long	High	N/A	Planning Dept.	Moderate	General Fund, Grant	No Comment
LU-2	Document/understand location and scale of legal non-conforming development to the Comprehensive Plan and/or the Land Development Code.	County-wide mapping process has begun to document where these legal non-conforming developments are located, but has yet to be formalized. Additional work needs to be done as to the scale of these developments.	Unincorporated County	All	Pre	Long	Medium	Staff Time	Planning Dept.	Moderate	General Fund, Grant	No Comment
LU-3	Recognize the restoration/rehabilitation of historic properties will take time, effort, and considerations beyond the "normal" redevelopment timeframe and procedures.	Recognition of these historic properties are in our Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code. Additionally, DFS municipality has a historic district.	County-wide	All	Pre	Long	Medium	Staff Time	Planning Dept.	Moderate	General Fund, Grant	No Comment

Walton County Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan

Action #	Proposed Action	Background	Site and Location	Hazard Addressed	Pre- or Post-Disaster	Short- or Long-Term Impact	Priority	Estimated Cost	Lead Agency	Opportunity for Cooperation	Potential Funding Sources	Comments
LU-4	Encourage further mitigation measures (beyond required code) for public facilities in South Walton.	Bridge closes at 40 mph winds, requiring these buildings/ properties to be beyond the standard code.	South Walton	Hurricane, Tornado, Fire	Pre	Short and Long	Medium	Staff Time	Planning Dept.	Good	General Fund, Grant	No Comment
LU-5	Develop a list of legal, non-conforming structures and uses pre disaster.	This work began in 2005. Additional work is needed.	County-wide	All	Pre	Long	Medium	Staff Time	Planning Dept.	Good	General Fund, Grant	No Comment
LU-6	Document historic structures with detailed descriptions and photographs.	Detailed documentation will assist in rebuilding to previous standards and serve as a record for both rebuilding and as an archive for structures not rebuilt.	Defuniak Springs Historic District	All	Pre	Long	Medium	\$50,000 to conduct study	City of Defuniak Springs, University	University School of Architecture	Unknown	No Comment
LU-7	Adopt an emergency/recovery ordinance for expediting the permit process, debris management, right of entry, moratoriums, emergency fee schedules, and other needed recovery actions.	Previous disaster require d and emergency ordinance to expedite permitting for impacted areas "after the fact"	N/A	N/A	Pre	Short and Long	High	Staff Time	EOC, Planning Dept, County Attorney	Good	Not Needed	No Comment

Walton County Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan

Action #	Proposed Action	Background	Site and Location	Hazard Addressed	Pre- or Post-Disaster	Short- or Long-Term Impact	Priority	Estimated Cost	Lead Agency	Opportunity for Cooperation	Potential Funding Sources	Comments
Infrastructure and Public Facilities												
IPF-1	Determine how to manage the washout of the highway bridge 331/331 causeway (possible boat landing or ferry service).	If 331 Causeway/ Bridge is severely damaged the County would need a contingency plan in place to address how the area south of the bay will be accessed.	South Walton	Hurricane, Flood, Storm Surge, Bridge Damage	Pre	Short	Medium	N/A	Public Works	FDOT	State and Federal Funds	County will develop a comprehensive pre-disaster procedure to address this potential issue.
IPF-2	Explore option of parks/forest land as temporary debris sites.	County has pre-existing plans and staging areas in place; additional staging areas such as parks/forest land could be identified as areas to be used in an extreme disaster.	South Walton	Hurricane, Flood, Storm Surge	Pre	Short	Medium	N/A	Public Works	Forestry Dept.	State and Federal Funds	County will survey practical locations in South Walton to serve as backup staging areas.
IPF-3	Determine if a new bridge inspection process is necessary during a post-disaster situation.	County has approximately 209 bridges and has pre-existing arrangements with FDOT to provide inspections on these bridges.	County-wide	Hurricane, Flood, Storm Surge	Pre	Short	High	N/A	Public Works	FDOT	State and Federal Funds	Formalize an SOP on when FDOT will be contacted and a request made for emergency inspections.

Walton County Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan

Action #	Proposed Action	Background	Site and Location	Hazard Addressed	Pre- or Post-Disaster	Short- or Long-Term Impact	Priority	Estimated Cost	Lead Agency	Opportunity for Cooperation	Potential Funding Sources	Comments
IPF-3a	Develop a post-disaster bridge inspection plan that identifies who will do it (County, DOT, etc.) and how long it will take.	County has approximately 209 bridges and has pre-existing arrangements with FDOT to provide inspections on these bridges.	County-wide	Hurricane, Flood, Storm Surge	Pre	Short	High	N/A	Public Works	FDOT	State and Federal Funds	Formalize an SOP on when FDOT will be contacted and a request made for emergency inspections.
IPF-4	Ensure there is a public access television channel and radio channel in place before a disaster. To date, neither avenue of communication exists.	None	County-wide	All	Pre and Post	Short and Long	Medium	Unknown	Public Information Officer	Multiple County Departments	County	County should be able to use Channel 24.
IPF-5	Consider additional temporary debris sites. Forest area could be used for temporary debris sties if needed (this area will likely be clear from a disaster).	County has pre-existing arrangement to provide this service.	South Walton	Hurricane, Flood, Storm Surge	Pre	Short	Medium	Unknown	Public Works	Forestry Dept.	State and Federal Funds	County will need to survey practice location in South Walton to serve as backup staging areas.
IPF-6	Determine who will replace cell towers if downed in a disaster.	None	County-wide	Hurricane winds, tornadoes, severe storms	Post	Short	Medium	Unknown			None needed	No Comment
IPF-7	Maintain or establish transportation access to South Walton. Once done or assured begin restoration or infrastructure. Assess redevelopment possibilities.	None	South Walton	Hurricane, Flood, Storm Surge	Post	Long	High	Unknown	FDOT	FDOT and Public Works, Emergency Management	State and Federal Funds	No Comment

Walton County Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan

Action #	Proposed Action	Background	Site and Location	Hazard Addressed	Pre- or Post-Disaster	Short- or Long-Term Impact	Priority	Estimated Cost	Lead Agency	Opportunity for Cooperation	Potential Funding Sources	Comments
Housing												
H-1	Develop a temporary housing plan.	Need for temporary housing for persons displaced due to disaster events; i.e., County had a number of Katrina refugees who stayed temporarily following event	County-wide	Primarily Major Hurricanes	Pre	Long	High	Unknown	County, Cities	All County Departments and Municipalities, Eglin AFB	State and Federal Funds or County funds if needed and/or available	No Comment
H-2	Identify a site(s) for temporary housing.	See H-1	TBD	Primarily Major Hurricanes	Pre	Short	High	Unknown	County	All County Departments and Municipalities, Eglin AFB	State and Federal Funds or County funds if needed and/or available	No Comment
H-3	Develop a "Housing Team" center that would coordinate housing, placement of people, and permitting for rebuilding in the post-disaster recovery environment.	See H-1, this should be part of the Housing Plan	TBD	Primarily Major Hurricanes	Pre	Long	High	Unknown	County, Cities	All County Departments and Municipalities, Eglin AFB	State and Federal Funds or County funds if needed and/or available	No Comment
H-3a	Expedite housing permits.	None	County-wide	Hurricanes, Flooding, Tornadoes, Severe Storms	Post	Long	Medium	Overtime pay if needed	County Building Dept		County in-house function	No Comment

Walton County Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan

Action #	Proposed Action	Background	Site and Location	Hazard Addressed	Pre- or Post-Disaster	Short- or Long-Term Impact	Priority	Estimated Cost	Lead Agency	Opportunity for Cooperation	Potential Funding Sources	Comments
H-3b	Determine pre-approved contractors prior to disaster.	None	County-wide	Hurricanes, Flooding, Tornadoes, Severe Storms	Post	Long	Medium	N/A	County Building Dept		County in-house function	No Comment
H-3c	Increase approval of housing plans.	None	County-wide	Hurricanes, Flooding, Tornadoes, Severe Storms	Post	Short	Low	Overtime pay if needed	County/ City Housing		County in-house function	No Comment
H-4	Identify private location where people could stay temporarily.	See H-1, this should be part of the Housing Plan	TBD	Hurricanes, Flooding, Tornadoes, Severe Storms	Pre	Short	Low	N/A	County/ City Housing	All County Departments and Municipalities, Eglin AFB, Red Cross	County in-house function	No Comment
H-5	Establish Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with housing organizations (i.e., Habitat for Humanity).	See H-1, this should be part of the Housing Plan	TBD	Hurricanes, Flooding, Tornadoes, Severe Storms	Pre	Long	Medium	N/A	Counties, Cities, Habitat, HUD, Rural Dev.	Habitat for Humanity and other housing organizations	County in-house function	No Comment
H-6	Ensure mobile offices for health services, counselors, police, insurance, etc. at temporary housing sites.	See H-1, this should be part of the Housing Plan	County-wide	Hurricanes, Flooding, Tornadoes, Severe Storms	Pre	Short	High	Unknown	County	All County Departments and Municipalities	County in-house function	No Comment
H-7	Ensure kennel for pets and animals on temporary housing sites.	See H-1, this should be part of the Housing Plan	County-wide	Primarily Major Hurricanes	Pre	Short	Medium	Unknown	County Animal Shelter, Local Private Shelters/Foster Networks	All County Departments and Municipalities	County in-house function	No Comment

Walton County Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan

Action #	Proposed Action	Background	Site and Location	Hazard Addressed	Pre- or Post-Disaster	Short- or Long-Term Impact	Priority	Estimated Cost	Lead Agency	Opportunity for Cooperation	Potential Funding Sources	Comments
H-8	Coordinate with Eglin AFM for a temporary housing site.	See H-1, this should be part of the Housing Plan	Eglin Reservation	Primarily Major Hurricanes	Pre	Short	Medium	N/A	County, Eglin AFB	All County Departments and Municipalities, Eglin AFB	County in-house function	No Comment
H-8a	Explore opportunities to split costs—get a grant that would help up-fit the site or split costs between Department of Defense and County.	See H-1, this should be part of the Housing Plan	TBD	Primarily Major Hurricanes	Pre	Long	Medium	Unknown	County, DOD	All County Departments and Municipalities, Eglin AFB	County in-house function	No Comment
Environmental												
ENV-1	Determine how to deal with forestry debris.	None	Various locations	Debris Management	Post	Short	High	Unknown	Public Works	State DOF	Unknown	Community has permitted debris staging sites.
ENV-2	Create a plan to perform environmental review of temporary debris sites.	None	Debris staging locations	Debris Management	Pre	Short	Medium	Unknown	Public Works	Undetermined	County in-house function	County and FDEP review yearly.
ENV-3	Develop a plan or procedures for beach access via private property in a post-disaster situation. Coordination is needed between homeowners and agencies.	None	Beach access points	Debris Management	Pre and Post	Short	High	Unknown	Public Works	Homeowners and Tourist Development Council	??	Access to beach for cleanup is coordinated through County beach access points.

Walton County Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan

Action #	Proposed Action	Background	Site and Location	Hazard Addressed	Pre- or Post-Disaster	Short- or Long-Term Impact	Priority	Estimated Cost	Lead Agency	Opportunity for Cooperation	Potential Funding Sources	Comments
Economic Redevelopment												
ED-1	Contact the SBA post disaster to notify them and find out what recovery products are available for the business community (i.e., Disaster Recovery Loans).	None	Chamber	Any	Post	Short and Long	Medium	\$0	Chamber	EDA, TDC	SBA	No Comment
ED-2	Focus on economic diversification so that a disaster does not devastate all sectors of the local economy.	None	None	Any	Pre	Long	High	\$0	EDA	Chamber	N/A	No Comment
ED-3	Apply for marketing grants post disaster to spread the word that we are open for business and to help with economic diversification.	None	None	Any	Post	Short and Long	Medium	\$0	EDA for ED, TDC for tourism	EDA, TDC	State and Federal	No Comment
ED-4	Contact the SBDC post disaster to notify them and find out what recovery products are available (i.e., Emergency Bridge Loans).	None	None	Any	Post	Short and Long	Medium	\$0	Chamber	EDA, TDC	N/A	No Comment
ED-5	Educate the business community regarding all available resources to aid them in their recovery.	None	None	Any	Post	Short	Medium	\$0	EDA, TDC, Chamber		N/A	No Comment

Walton County Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan

Action #	Proposed Action	Background	Site and Location	Hazard Addressed	Pre- or Post-Disaster	Short- or Long-Term Impact	Priority	Estimated Cost	Lead Agency	Opportunity for Cooperation	Potential Funding Sources	Comments
Health and Social Services												
HSS-1	Plan for closure of Sacred Heart Hospital Emerald Coast on south end of county, in major storm situation (patients and staff relocated; considerable time to rebuild facility) - Identify available community and regional medical health facilities and capabilities prior to a disaster.	SHHEC is not likely to remain intact or functional. Though the building is resilient, land travel access to the facility is likely to be severed. This would affect supplies, staff, support and emergency services access.	SHHEC	Damage to health infrastructure, disruption of services, local resources depleted, overwhelmed, or inaccessible	Pre	Short and Long		Costs to repair or replace damaged infrastructure; costs to compensate losses.	SHHEC	Walton EM/EOC, ESF 8, Healthmark Regional Medical Center, Regional Sacred Heart System, National Disaster Medical System	Scale back non-essential actions, post-disaster donor pledging, FEMA	(1) ESF 8 will identify available health and medical facilities post-impact. (2) ESF 8 and County health/medical facilities will perform post-disaster assessment. (3) SHHEC may access inter-hospital transfer agreements if not already completed pre-disaster. (4) SHHEC may implement Hospital ICS. (5) SHHEC maintains staff list for post-disaster recovery and redevelopment. (6) ESF 8 and health and medical partners will establish a triage system for disaster operations. (7) Implement agency specific surge plans. (8) Request activation of Medical reserve Corps, deployment of state Medical response Team or Disaster Medical Response Team.

Walton County Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan

Action #	Proposed Action	Background	Site and Location	Hazard Addressed	Pre- or Post-Disaster	Short- or Long-Term Impact	Priority	Estimated Cost	Lead Agency	Opportunity for Cooperation	Potential Funding Sources	Comments
HSS-2	Public Safety Service levels re-established - Plan for closure of fire rescue station on south end of county - Identify available local, regional, and state facilities and capability prior to a disaster	South Walton Fire/EMS not likely to remain intact or functional. Though station is resilient, land access to facility and within area is likely to be severed. This would affect ability to provide life-saving and/or transportation services, supplies, staff, support, and emergency services.	South Walton Fire/EMS	Inability to provide transport and EMS services	Pre				South Walton Fire and Rescue	Walton EM/EOC, ESF8, North Walton Fire Dept, Regional or State Partners	EM/EOC request for assist. and reimbursement	(1) South Walton Fire and Rescue will conduct inventory of existing service capacity; provide continuous monitoring of ambulance use; obtain additional local resources per interagency agreements if available). (2) Employ agency specific surge plans; request additional surge units from neighboring service areas; Obtain alternate use vehicles by coordinating with local transportation assets. (3) Request for additional human resources through EOC / ESF's 4, 8, and 9. (4) Request state assistance through Ambulance Deployment Plan

Walton County Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan

Action #	Proposed Action	Background	Site and Location	Hazard Addressed	Pre- or Post-Disaster	Short- or Long-Term Impact	Priority	Estimated Cost	Lead Agency	Opportunity for Cooperation	Potential Funding Sources	Comments
HSS-3	Plan for the vulnerability of the Freeport High School (FHS) Shelter (also only special needs shelter). The alternative shelter would be Walton High School (WHS). Special needs (SpNS) shelter would be moved to Walton Middle School (WMS).	FHS SpNS is close to the gulf - winds and storm surge. Not in flood area. If building is damaged, unable to move during storm.	Freeport, FL	Damage to building, long-term sheltering needs, transportation issues, set up time for alternate SpNS	Pre	Short	Medium		EOC/EM	WCHD, WCSD, ARC, ESF 1, ESF 6, ESF 7, ESF 8, ESF 11, surrounding counties, State level ESF 8	Local agency planning funds, State, Federal reimbursement	No Comment

Walton County Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan

Action #	Proposed Action	Background	Site and Location	Hazard Addressed	Pre- or Post-Disaster	Short- or Long-Term Impact	Priority	Estimated Cost	Lead Agency	Opportunity for Cooperation	Potential Funding Sources	Comments
HSS-4	Plan for those with "functional needs," such as non-native English speakers	Not all at-risk populations will need sheltering, but all at-risk individuals' needs have to be integrated in to planning for disaster response. Walton County needs to understand the nature of the vulnerabilities that put individuals more at risk and identify needs and strategies for meeting those needs during disasters. Needs not addressed prior to an event become the responsibility of Emergency Management, EOC, and ESF 8.	Walton County - need GIS mapping of vulnerable populations	All	Pre and Post	Short and Long	High	Agency specific planning costs	EM/EOC, ESF 8	Local, Regional, State agencies, ESF 8 distribution list		Review vulnerable Population Profile for Walton County Florida 2010-2011 http://www.doh.state.fl.us/demo/bpr/PDFs/Walton_2011.pdf http://www.doh.state.fl.us/demo/bpr/PDFs/VPAssessmentTool.doc (1) Establish local committee of partners currently serving vulnerable populations. (2) Identify vulnerable population demographics for County and develop accommodations for their needs. The Profile and Local Vulnerable Population Assessment Tool may help. (3) Planning considerations for: transportation; shelter or dispensing sites; extended sheltering in place or social distancing; communication; and recovery.

Walton County Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan

Action #	Proposed Action	Background	Site and Location	Hazard Addressed	Pre- or Post-Disaster	Short- or Long-Term Impact	Priority	Estimated Cost	Lead Agency	Opportunity for Cooperation	Potential Funding Sources	Comments
HSS-5	Work to re-energize the local CERT program by providing organization, training, and equipment	Currently there are over 150-200 trained CERT members that are loosely organized. Only one group is active. County officials are working to get the program back into a more organized state by identifying those already trained and those that would like to be involved.	Countywide	All	Pre and Post	Short	Medium	Unknown	ERD	Yes	Grants, Budget	This is not necessarily health and social services/CHD/ESF 8 related
HSS-6	Increase public / private partnerships to respond and recover from disasters.	None	Countywide	All	Pre	Long	Medium	Unknown	ERD and LMS	Yes	Grants, Budget	This is not necessarily health and social services/CHD/ESF 8 related

Walton County Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan

Action #	Proposed Action	Background	Site and Location	Hazard Addressed	Pre- or Post-Disaster	Short- or Long-Term Impact	Priority	Estimated Cost	Lead Agency	Opportunity for Cooperation	Potential Funding Sources	Comments
HSS-7	Develop Volunteer Intake System to identify volunteers, identify needs, and match / maximize deployment of volunteers.	The specific type of event will dictate needs. Specialty teams may be needed to augment local needs.	Countywide	All	Pre	Short and Long	Medium	Unknown	Walton Health Dept.	Local health and medical agencies; American Red Cross, Medical Reserve Corp, State Medical Response Team, FDOH / Strike Teams	Staff Time	(1) Assess needs and provide additional human resources for expanded care. (2) Implement agency specific surge plans, perform initial assessment, and provide continuous monitoring. (3) Obtain additional local resources, request additional (human) resources through EM/EOC/ESF 8, Medical Reserve Corp, Public Health Strike Teams
HSS-8	A plan is needed to develop long term agreements with assisted living facilities in nearby states and regions.	None	Countywide	All	Pre	Short	High	Unknown	ERD		Staff Time	No Comment
HSS-9	Ensure schools are functional in post-disaster situation. In the event that schools are damaged, develop a plan to bus students throughout county to attend class. Develop a plan for double sessions if needed.	None	Countywide	All	Pre	Short	Medium	Unknown	School Board		Staff Time	Create a policy to address this.

Chamber = Chamber of Commerce
 EOC = Emergency Operations Center
 EM = Emergency Management

EDA = Economic Development Alliance
 FDOT = Florida Dept. of Transportation
 ERD = Emergency Response Division

TDC = Tourist Development Council
 HUD = Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
 LMS = Local Mitigation Strategy

SECTION 10: PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES

This section of the plan contains information about how the Walton County Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan will be implemented and subsequently maintained and updated over time. It contains the following subsections:

- Plan Implementation
- Monitoring, Evaluation and Enhancement
- Continued Public Involvement
- Plan Training and Exercising

Plan Implementation

The Walton County Board of County Commissioners is the governing body that will oversee all redevelopment operations following a disaster and the County Administrator has overall responsibility for all functions of the redevelopment process. Following a major disaster, the County Administrator shall authorize activation of the Long-term Redevelopment Task Force to implement actions in the Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan as needed. The Redevelopment Task Force shall meet as frequently as determined by the Director of the Redevelopment Task Force.

The Walton County Long-term Redevelopment Task Force is a standing task force that is established in order to provide a coordination mechanism to oversee the recovery and redevelopment process and to serve as an advisory committee to the Walton County Board of County Commissioners. Some of the major duties of the Long-term Redevelopment Task Force are to:

- Establish uniform policies for effective coordination to accomplish Walton County redevelopment tasks resulting from a natural or man made hazards
- Recommend and coordinate efforts to restore normalcy to areas adversely impacted by a disaster
- Help identify mitigation opportunities and resources

Table 10.1 provides a listing of the membership of the Long-term Redevelopment Task Force.

Table 10.1: Long-term Redevelopment Task Force
TITLE / DEPARTMENT
Walton County Administrator - Chair
Walton County Attorney
Walton County Public Information Manager
Building Official/Walton County Building Division
Director / Walton County Planning and Development Services
Director / Walton County Emergency Response Department
Director / Walton County Public Works Department
Director / Walton County Property Appraiser
Director / Walton County Geographic Information Systems
Director / Walton County Finance Department
Director / Walton County Support Services

Table 10.1: Long-term Redevelopment Task Force	
TITLE / DEPARTMENT	
Director / Walton County Environmental Resources	
Director / Walton County Parks	
Walton County Sheriff	
Walton County Schools Superintendent	
West Florida Planning Council	
Walton County Tax Collector	
Walton County Clerk of Courts	
Walton County Planning Commission Chairman	
Walton County Health Department	
Defuniak Springs Municipal Liaison	
Freeport Municipal Liaison	
Paxton Municipal Liaison	
Walton County Tourist Development Council	
Walton Area Chamber of Commerce	
Board of Realtors	
Home Builders Association	
Health Care Industry	
Walton County Economic Development Alliance	

In addition to the Long-term Redevelopment Task Force, all County employees are aware that following a major disaster, normal county operations are suspended and personnel may be reassigned during portions of redevelopment operations. It may also be necessary to hire additional temporary staff members to perform various redevelopment-related duties (for example, additional administrative support for various departments). All additional hiring will be coordinated through the Human Resources department at the direction of the County Administrator. Whenever possible, funding for filling such positions will be provided by sources other than Walton County through funding provided from state and federal programs (grant funds, federal programs). If no additional funding sources are available, emergency funds may need to be spent to fill additional staffing needs. Authorization of the expenditure of emergency funds may only be approved by the Board of County Commissioners.

In addition to the post disaster implementation actions discussed above, the Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan (Section 9) requires that each agency, department, or other partners participating be designated as being responsible for implementing specific recovery / redevelopment actions as prescribed. These actions will require ongoing implementation. Status on the implementation of these actions will be reported through the monitoring, evaluation and enhancement process described below.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Enhancement

In order to ensure that the Walton County Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan remains an effective and useful document, the plan should be updated on a regular basis. The plan shall be updated in accordance with the following situations:

- Reviewed at least every five years
- Following a disaster event or other events where the plan was used to guide redevelopment operations

The Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan will be reviewed and updated in conjunction with the review of the Local Mitigation Strategy. The review will be coordinated by the Walton County Planning Department and the following tasks should be accomplished during the review:

- Address any membership or leadership changes in the Long-term Redevelopment Task Force
- Provide update / status report on the Recovery and Redevelopment Action Plan and make additions as necessary
- Prepare a brief Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan status report for the Board of County Commissioners

Also, as Walton County continues to update the comprehensive plan, the County will integrate relevant policies and elements from the LMS and PRDP into the Comprehensive Plan.

Continued Public Involvement

Public participation is an integral component to the post disaster redevelopment planning process and will continue to be essential as this plan evolves over time. Other efforts to involve the public in the maintenance, evaluation and revision process will be made as necessary. These efforts may include:

- Advertising meetings of the Post Disaster Redevelopment Planning Committee in local newspapers, public bulletin boards and/or County office buildings
- Designating willing and voluntary citizens and private sector representatives as official members of the Post Disaster Redevelopment Planning Committee
- Utilizing local media to update the public of any maintenance and/or periodic review activities taking place
- Utilizing the Walton County Web site to advertise any maintenance and/or periodic review activities taking place, and
- Keeping copies of the plan in public libraries

Plan Training and Exercising

The Walton County Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan is a complex plan that involves the participation and coordination of many different organizations and agencies, County and municipal departments, and other stakeholders. Because of this complexity, it is imperative that the plan be exercised on a regular basis so that all of those tasked with implementing the plan are familiar with their duties and responsibilities.

APPENDIX A: SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Items included in this Appendix include:

- PDRP Stakeholder Group Meeting Minutes
- Capacity Assessment Survey

Walton County Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan
Kick-off Meeting/Initial Stakeholder Meeting
Wednesday, December 7, 2011
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Although several conference calls between the county and consultants had taken place, this was the first meeting with the county, consultants, and stakeholders. Therefore, the purpose of this meeting was to inform stakeholders about the project and how they would be involved. Nathan Slaughter of Atkins (project manager) led the meeting. Caroline Cunningham of Atkins and Michael Wood of Michael Wood Planning were also in attendance to assist in meeting facilitation.

Kevin Laird, Walton County GIS Manager, initiated the meeting by thanking attendees and introducing Nathan to begin the presentation.

Mr. Slaughter provided brief introductions of present consulting team members and then gave an overview of the history of the statewide initiative, as well as Atkins's experience with post-disaster recovery and redevelopment planning.

Mr. Slaughter gave an overview of the importance of planning for post-disaster recovery and redevelopment. He indicated that planning helps:

- To have an organized approach to recovery and redevelopment following an event
- To facilitate the attempt to return the community to pre-disaster conditions as quickly as possible
- To ease suffering of citizens (and local government officials)
- To better position the participating jurisdictions to take full advantage of post-disaster opportunities

He also explained the difference between short- and long-term recovery. He explained that short-term recovery generally begins immediately following the disaster and last for approximately the first 30 days. During short-term recovery, those essential services needed to allow residents to return to the area are restored. Long-term recovery generally begins 60-90 days following the event and involves the rebuilding of the community. Mr. Slaughter stated that the Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan mainly deals with long-term recovery issues. Those short-term recovery issues that can have long-term implications will be addressed as well.

Mr. Slaughter then provided examples of several elements of post-disaster planning in the categories of land use, housing, environment, economic redevelopment, infrastructure, and social needs. This explanation culminated into an exercise where participants were asked to spend fictitious money that could become available following a disaster. The purpose of the exercise was to help gage the county's interest in specific redevelopment areas. In addition, attendees were asked to indicate whether each of the post-disaster recovery areas are "not important," "somewhat important," or "very important" on an individual level. Further, stakeholders were asked to write out any issues or concerns they want to address that were not covered in the presentation. This was an additional method of determining the issues most important to Walton County.

Mr. Slaughter also reviewed what work had been accomplished to date on the project and what would need to be completed. Of greatest importance, was the tight schedule in which the plan would need to be completed. Stakeholders were informed that monthly meetings (and possibly more) would be necessary to complete the plan before the submittal deadline. He also reminded stakeholders that their active participation was imperative to the plan's success. Further, they would have an opportunity to review draft sections of the plan.

Following the presentation, a question and answer session ensued. The following questions were asked and answers provided:

One meeting participant asked how the cities within the county would be involved in the process. Mr. Wood stated that they would be invited to participate in the planning process, and stressed the importance of their participation, but that the plan was primarily being developed for the unincorporated areas of the County.

Another participant asked what hazard or hazards this plan will address. Mr. Slaughter stated that the plan will be developed to address any hazard event that is destructive enough to cause the County to need to think about post disaster redevelopment. The plan is not necessarily to address only the hurricane hazard.

Walton County Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan
Stakeholder Group Meeting
Wednesday, January 25, 2012
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

The second meeting of the Walton County Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan (PDRP) Stakeholder Group began with Mr. Nathan Slaughter, Project Manager from Atkins giving a brief introduction and overview of the agenda for the day. He then asked meeting attendees to introduce themselves.

Next, Mr. Slaughter provided a quick recap of post disaster redevelopment planning. He provided the definition of a post disaster redevelopment plan and discussed the importance of developing such a plan. He also discussed how a PDRP fits into a community's overall planning for disasters and provided a graphic of the steps involved in the PDRP planning process.

Mr. Slaughter reminded the stakeholders that the six main categories of PDRP issues are land use, housing, economic redevelopment, infrastructure and public facilities, health and social services and environment. He then provided the results from the previous meeting's ice breaker exercise where each meeting participant was asked to "spend" money on the six PDRP issues categories by placing fictitious money in cups that were labeled with each of the six PDRP categories. The results were as follows:

- Infrastructure and Public Facilities: \$152
- Health and Social Services \$80
- Housing \$76
- Economic Redevelopment \$71
- Environment \$40
- Land Use \$31

The results collected from the issue identification handout were then presented. There were a total of 19 respondents from the previous meeting that indicated which PDRP issues were most important to them. Those results are as follows:

- Infrastructure and Public Facilities: 16 people said very important
- Economic Redevelopment: 14 people said very important
- Housing: 13 people said very important
- Health and Social Services: 11 people said very important
- Environment: 7 people said very important
- Land Use: 6 people said very important

With this understanding of what PDRP issues were initially identified as being the ones on which to focus, Mr. Slaughter shifted the discussion to the tasks involved in developing the Walton County PDRP. He listed the ten tasks that will be completed in the development of the plan and briefly discussed each. He then stated that the results from three tasks would be discussed in more detail. Those tasks were Local Plan Integration, Institutional Capacity Assessment and Vulnerability Identification.

Mr. Slaughter then turned the presentation over to Michael Wood from Michael Wood Planning to present the findings of the Local Plan Integration and Institutional Capacity Assessment. Mr. Wood started the discussion by providing the list of plans that were reviewed as part of the plan integration assessment. He stated that the focus of the review was placed on the Comprehensive Plan, the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) and the Land Development Code (LDC). He stated that in general, there is a strong set of plans, policies and regulations guiding the county to respond and recover from a disaster.

Mr. Wood then shifted the discussion to specific recommendations for ways to improve local plan integration to assist with post disaster redevelopment and recovery. He stated that the county needed to attempt to do the following:

- Complete Economic Redevelopment Plan
- Complete Debris Removal Plan
- Participate in the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System
- Develop a Post Disaster Redevelopment Ordinance and
- Develop a Public Information / Communication Plan to disseminate information in the post disaster environment

Mr. Wood made specific recommendations for the County to consider for the CEMP. These recommendations are to:

- Participate in the Emergency Management Accreditation Program
- Develop Emergency Support Functions for
 - Animal Protection / Management
 - Business / Industry Economic Stabilization
 - Long Term Recovery
- Strengthen the Temporary Housing Plan

Mr. Wood also made specific recommendations for the County to consider for the Comprehensive Plan. These recommendations are to:

- Reward hazard mitigation within the Density Bonus provisions
- List LMS principles and priorities within the Comprehensive Plan
- Include manmade disasters – not just natural disasters
- Harden / re-locate utility infrastructure
- Encourage utility emergency inter-connections
- Prohibit certain hazardous waste in primary storm surge areas
- Clarify language to consider hazard mitigation during CIP

Mr. Wood also discussed the initial findings from the Institutional Capacity Assessment. Following the kickoff meeting, a capacity assessment survey was distributed to the County Planning and Emergency Management Departments as well as the participating jurisdictions. The surveys were processed and Mr. Wood presented the findings from the assessment of the surveys. He stated that Walton County has good capacity to respond and recover from a disaster. He also stated that the municipalities recognized that they will need assistance from the County and beyond to recover from a disaster and that both the County and the municipalities may need outside resources to respond and recover depending on the size and scope of the event.

Following Mr. Wood's discussions, Caroline Cunningham from Atkins gave an overview of the findings from the Vulnerability Identification. In order to set the stage for the work group discussions, Ms Cunningham presented findings from a modeled scenario of a Category 5 hurricane crossing through the middle of the County. The scenario was modeled using Hazus (FEMA's loss estimation software) and GIS overlay analysis of parcel data and digital flood information.

Following these discussions, and for the remainder of the meeting, the stakeholders were asked to break into small groups to discuss PDRP issues. Work areas were set up for each of the six PDRP issues. Each group was presented with questions that were designed to prompt conversations amongst workgroup participants.

With about twenty minutes remaining in the meeting, Mr. Slaughter stopped the discussions of the working groups and asked each group to report on the discussions that took place. The results of the discussions can be found at the conclusion of these meeting minutes.

The meeting concluded with Mr. Slaughter discussing next steps in the planning process. He stated that the next meeting would occur either late in February or early March. There being no further questions or concerns, the meeting was adjourned.

Walton County Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan
Stakeholder Group Meeting
Workgroup Discussion Results
Wednesday, January 25, 2012

Economic Redevelopment Group

There was no participation in this work group.

Environmental Group

There was no participation in this work group.

Health and Social Services Group

Action 1: Plan for closure of hospital on south end of county in major storm situation (patients and staff relocated; considerable time to rebuild facility)

Action 2: Plan for closure of fire rescue station on south end of county

Action 3: Plan for the vulnerability of the Freeport High School Shelter (also only special needs shelter). The alternative shelter would be Walton High School. Special needs shelter would be moved to Walton Middle School.

Action 4: Plan for those with "functional needs," such as non-native English speakers

Action 5: Work to re-energize the local CERT program by providing organization, training, and equipment

- Currently there are over 150-200 trained CERT member that are loosely organized. Only one group is active. County officials are working to get the program back into a more organized state by identifying those already trained and those that would like to be involved.

Action 6: Increase public/private partnerships to respond and recover from disasters

Action 7: Develop Volunteer Intake System to identify volunteers, identify needs, and match /maximize deployment of volunteers

Assumed that hospital staff would have some training with mold, asbestos

Confirmed by public service group that EMS vehicles would be moved in a disaster situation

Infrastructure and Public Facilities Group

Action 1: Determine how to manage the washout of the highway bridge 331/331 causeway (possible boat landing or ferry service?)

- The bridges on Highway 331/331 Causeway will like be gone after a category 3 storm
- Main tax revenue is in south area of the county

Action 2: Explore option of parks/forest land as temporary debris sites

Action 3: Determine if a new bridge inspection process is necessary during a post-disaster situation

Housing Group

Action 1: Develop a Temporary Housing Plan

- Several of the following actions would be included in the plan

Action 2: Identify a site(s) for temporary housing

Action 3: Develop a “Housing Team” center that would coordinate housing, placement of people, and permitting for rebuilding in the post disaster recovery environment

- Action 3a: Expedite housing permits
- Action 3b: Determine pre-approved contractors prior to disaster
- Action 3c: Expedite approval of housing plans

Action 4: Identify private location where people could stay temporarily

Action 5: Establish Memorandum of Understanding (MOU’s) with housing organizations (Habitat for Humanity, for example)

Action 6: Ensure mobile offices for health services, counselors, police, insurance, etc at temporary housing site(s)

Action 7: Ensure kennel for pets and animals on temporary housing site(s)

Action 8: Coordinate with Eglin AFB for a temporary housing site

- Site is well-suited with water and communication lines, but would need some upgrading for semi-permanent or permanent structures
- **Action 8a:** Explore opportunities to split costs - the County to get a grant that would help up-fit the site or split costs between Department of Defense and County

Land Use Group

Action 1: Create Planning / Permitting Approval Process which will expedite approvals for developments which do not increase previously approved densities / intensities.

- An example here would be allowing an apartment complex that is rebuilding the same number of units (same footprint) to go through an expedited process
- A drawback could be loss of revenue to the planning department

Action 2: Document / Understand location and scale of Legal Non-Conforming Developments to the Comprehensive Plan and /or the Land Development Code

- They could have additional legal issues

Action 3: Recognize the restoration / rehabilitation of historic properties will take time, effort, and considerations beyond the “normal” redevelopment timeframe and procedures.

- Three properties on national trust in DeFuniak Springs (remaining are on state list)

Action 4: Encourage further mitigation measures (beyond required code) for public facilities in South Walton

- It is not feasible to relocate these buildings

Walton County Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan
Stakeholder Group Meeting
Wednesday, February 29, 2012
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

The third meeting of the Walton County Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan (PDRP) Stakeholder Group began with Mr. Nathan Slaughter, Project Manager from Atkins giving a brief introduction and overview of the agenda for the day. He introduced the handouts that were distributed for the meeting. These included the following:

- Agenda
- Meeting minutes from the 1/25/12 meeting
- Presentation Slides
- Handout about Outreach and Coordination Strategy and Financing Strategy
- PDRP Action Worksheet
- Issues/Actions identified at last meeting

He then asked meeting attendees to introduce themselves. Following introductions, Mr. Slaughter gave a brief project recap including an explanation of what a PDRP is, the need for developing a PDRP and a discussion of how a PDRP fits into the planning framework of Walton County. He listed the main types of PDRP issues (land use, housing, economic redevelopment, infrastructure and public facilities, health and social services and environmental) and discussed how the Stakeholder Group initially ranked the issues during the icebreaker exercise that was conducted at the project kickoff meeting.

Mr. Slaughter presented a list of project tasks that are to be completed during the PDRP planning process and reminded the stakeholders that the Local Plan Integration, Institutional Capacity Assessment and Vulnerability Identification tasks were presented at the previous meeting of the Stakeholder Group. He stated that the Outreach and Coordination Strategy, Financing Strategy and Action Plan would be the focus of this meeting.

Mr. Slaughter stated that the objective of the outreach and coordination strategy is to develop a strategy for long-term recovery information collection and dissemination both before and after a disaster. He also stated that the strategy will address regional and state coordination during disaster recovery and public participation in redevelopment decisions. Members of the Stakeholders Committee agreed that better communication is needed. Stakeholders stated that during Hurricane Ivan, cell phone service went out early on; however, the land line survived.

Michael Wood made a comment that the County needs to be prepared to make plans to communicate with people that are not all nearby and that sometimes they are widely scattered. He stated that Manatee County determined that the County's website was vital for communication. He also stated that the County needs to prepare for the fact that government officials will need to get out into the neighborhoods to listen to citizen needs and to disseminate information about recovery and redevelopment

Mr. Slaughter then discussed the financing strategy. He stated that the objective of the financing strategy was to recommend how the following can be put into practice following a disaster:

- Local revenues, reserves and loans
- State and federal assistance programs

- Private sector and non-profit contributions
- Mutual aid agreements
- Pre-established recovery contracts

Mr. Slaughter asked several questions of the stakeholders to initial conversation about the financial preparedness of the County. He stated that the County needs to be prepared for the increased need for planning staff but keeping in mind that there are no FEMA funds available to pay for planners.

One stakeholder asked if pre-disaster funds are available for IT systems and other systems that would aid in dissemination of information (such as GIS systems). Mr. Slaughter said he was unsure and that he would follow-up on that question.

Another stakeholder asked whether business interruption insurance was a possibility. It was determined that this was a potential action to include in the plan.

Following the discussion about the financing strategy, Mr. Slaughter discussed the importance of priority redevelopment areas. He stated that because of limited time, funds and materials that there is a need to prioritize areas for redevelopment. He stated redevelopment should be encouraged in areas that serve as economic center of activity, serve as location for critical facilities and correspond with the County's vision for the future.

Mr. Slaughter presented a map of the County and asked the stakeholders to identify potential priority redevelopment areas based on the criterion listed above. The members of the Stakeholder Group identified the following areas for consideration:

- Sandestin (commercial, residential and tourism center)
- Miramar Beach (commercial, residential and tourism center)
- Freeport (Fuel facility, water plant, good road and rail transportation, several areas permitted but not built yet – could expedite housing process)

Following the discussion of Priority Redevelopment Areas, and for the remainder of the meeting, the stakeholders broke into six small groups and worked on identifying PDRP issue and solutions (actions) to be included in the plan. The results of these discussions can be found in the Action Plan portion of the PDRP.

Walton County Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan
Stakeholder Group Meeting
Tuesday, May 1, 2012
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

The fourth meeting of the Walton County Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan (PDRP) Stakeholder Group began with Mr. Nathan Slaughter, Project Manager from Atkins giving a brief introduction and overview of the agenda for the day. He introduced the handouts that were distributed for the meeting. These included the following:

- Agenda
- Meeting minutes from the 2/29/12 meeting
- Presentation Slides
- Proposed PDRP Goals
- PDRP Action Plan

Mr. Slaughter then asked meeting attendees to introduce themselves. Following introductions, Mr. Slaughter gave a brief project recap including an explanation of what a PDRP is, the need for developing a PDRP and a discussion of how a PDRP fits into the planning framework of Walton County. He listed the main types of PDRP issues (land use, housing, economic redevelopment, infrastructure and public facilities, health and social services and environmental) and discussed how the Stakeholder Group initially ranked the issues during the icebreaker exercise that was conducted at the project kickoff meeting.

Mr. Slaughter presented a list of project tasks that are to be completed during the PDRP planning process and indicated that the two remaining tasks to be completed were the Implementation Plan and the delivery of the Final Plan.

Mr. Slaughter provided an overview of the sections that have already been presented and pointed out key highlights and summarized those sections. He presented some additional information about the Vulnerability Identification including wildfire vulnerability results and summary findings from the Vulnerability Identification. These had not been presented at previous meetings.

Mr. Slaughter then began discussing the Implementation Plan. He stated that this section of the plan provides the procedures for evaluating and enhancing the plan over time. He stated that this section also includes the procedures for continuing to involve the public in the process of implementing the plan.

Mr. Slaughter discussed the need for Walton County to establish a Long-Term Recovery Task Force to oversee implementation of the plan in both pre and post disaster environments and discussed potential membership of this group. He also stated the need of the County to develop a Post Disaster Recovery and Redevelopment Ordinance to codify some of the policies and procedures that have been discussed over the course of the project, including the Long-Term Recovery Task Force.

Mr. Slaughter then led the discussion of goals of the PDRP. Proposed goals were developed by the consultant team for consideration by the group. Mr. Slaughter stated that the proposed goals were developed based on the previous discussions by the Stakeholder Group and the PDRP issues and actions that have been identified. After review and discussion of the proposed goals by the Stakeholder Group, it was determined that the goals would be established as the goals of the plan.

Mr. Slaughter presented the outline for the final plan and discussed the timeframe for review by the Stakeholder Group and the State. He presented the draft Recovery and Redevelopment Action plan and emphasized the need to fill any remaining gaps with the actions. He presented the next steps in the process and then asked if there were any remaining questions. There being none, the meeting was adjourned.

Local Capacity Assessment Survey

Jurisdiction/Agency: Walton County

Phone: (850)-892-8157

Point of Contact: Renee Bradley

E-mail: brarenee@co.walton.fl.us

1. PLANNING AND REGULATORY Capacity - Please indicate whether the following planning or regulatory tools (plans, ordinances, codes or programs) are currently in place or under development for your jurisdiction by placing an "X" in the appropriate box. Then, for each particular item in place, identify the department or agency responsible for its implementation and indicate its estimated or anticipated effect on disaster recovery and redevelopment (Strongly Supports, Helps Facilitate or Hinders) with another "X". Finally, please provide additional comments or explanations in the space provided or with attachments.

Planning / Regulatory Tool	In Place	Under Development	Department / Agency Responsible	Effect on Recovery/Redevelopment			Comments
				Strongly Supports	Helps Facilitate	Hinders	
Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan		X	Walton County Planning and Development Services	X			
Post-disaster Redevelopment / Reconstruction Ordinance		X	Walton County Planning and Development Services	X			
Comprehensive Land Use Plan (or General, Master or Growth Mgt. Plan)	X		Walton County Planning and Development Services	X			
Floodplain Management Plan	X		Walton County Planning and Development Services	X			
Open Space Management Plan (or Parks & Rec./ Greenways Plan)	X		Walton County Planning and Development Services	X			
Stormwater Management Plan / Ordinance	X		Walton County Planning and Development Services	X			
Natural Resource Protection Plan	X		Walton County Planning and Development Services	X			Habitat Protection Plan
Flood Response Plan	X		Walton County Planning and Development Services	X			
Emergency Operations Plan	x						
Recovery Annex to Emergency Operations Plan	x						
Continuity of Operations Plan	x						
Evacuation Plan	x						

Local Capacity Assessment Survey

Planning / Regulatory Tool	In Place	Under Development	Department / Agency Responsible	Effect on Loss Reduction			Comments
				Strongly Supports	Facilitates	Hinders	
Hazard Mitigation Plan (Local Mitigation Strategy)	X		Walton County Planning and Development Services				
Capital Improvements Plan	X		Walton County Planning and Development Services				
Economic Development Plan		x					
Historic Preservation Plan							No - historic assets concentrated in DeFuniak Springs
Floodplain Ordinance (or Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance)	X		Walton County Planning and Development Services	X			
Zoning Ordinance	X		Walton County Planning and Development Services	X			
Subdivision Ordinance	X		Walton County Planning and Development Services	X			
Unified Development Ordinance	X		Walton County Planning and Development Services	X			
Building Code	x						
Fire Code	x						
Debris Management Plan	x						Detailed actions for private contractor to handle debris removal
Temporary Housing Plan							
Communications Plan (If yes, does the plan address communication during disaster declarations?)							
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)	x						
NFIP Community Rating System (CRS Program)			Walton County Planning and Development Services				

Local Capacity Assessment Survey

2. ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL Capacity - Please indicate whether your jurisdiction maintains the following staff members within its current personnel resources by placing an "X" in the appropriate box . Then, if YES, please identify the department or agency they work under and provide any other comments you may have in the space provided or with attachments.

Staff / Personnel Resources	Yes	No	Department / Agency	Comments
Planners with knowledge of land development and land management practices	X		Walton County Planning and Development Services	
Engineers or professionals trained in construction practices related to buildings and/or infrastructure	X		Walton County Public Works	
Planners or engineers with an understanding of natural and/or human-caused hazards	X		Walton County Public Works	
Emergency manager	x			
Floodplain manager	X		Walton County Planning and Development Services	
Land surveyors	X		Walton County Public Works	
Scientist familiar with the hazards of the community	x			
Staff with education or expertise to assess the community's vulnerability to hazards	x			
Personnel skilled in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and/or FEMA's HAZUS program	x			
Public Information Officer	x			WSO
Resource development staff or grant writers	x			Grants Coordinator within Finance Dept

Local Capacity Assessment Survey

3. FISCAL Capacity - Please indicate whether your jurisdiction has access to or is eligible to use the following local financial resources (including as match funds for State of Federal grant funds). Then, identify the primary department or agency responsible for its administration or allocation and provide any other comments you may have in the space provided or with attachments.

Financial Resources	Yes	No	Department / Agency	Comments
Capital Improvement Programming	x			
Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)	x			Small Cities Program
Special Purpose Taxes (or taxing districts)				If desired in future
Gas / Electric Utility Fees				No
Water / Sewer Fees	x			
Stormwater Utility Fees				If desired in future
Development Impact Fees	x			
General Obligation, Revenue and/or Special Tax Bonds				If desired in future
Partnering arrangements or intergovernmental agreements	x			
Other: _____				

Local Capacity Assessment Survey

4. POLITICAL Capacity - Political Capacity can be generally measured by the degree to which local political leadership is willing to enact policies and programs relevant to post-disaster recovery and redevelopment, even if met with some opposition. Examples may include guiding redevelopment away from identified hazard areas, restricting public investments or capital improvements within hazard areas, or enforcing local development standards that go beyond minimum State or Federal requirements (e.g., building codes, floodplain management, etc.). Please identify some general examples of these efforts if available and/or reference where more documentation can be found.

Local Capacity Assessment Survey

5. SELF-ASSESSMENT OF CAPACITY - Please provide an approximate measure of your jurisdiction's Capacity to effectively implement a recovery and redevelopment strategy that would help facilitate a successful recovery and redevelopment period following a major disaster. Using the following table, please place an "X" in the box marking the most appropriate degree of capacity (Limited, Moderate or High) based upon best available information and the responses provided in Sections 1-4 of this survey.

	DEGREE OF CAPACITY		
	LIMITED	MODERATE	HIGH
Planning and Regulatory Capacity			
Administrative and Technical Capacity			
Fiscal Capacity			
Political Capacity			
OVERALL CAPACITY			

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