

The City of Bonita Springs has been actively preparing for the upcoming storm season over the last several months. Although the city continues to complete projects post IRMA, the damage was extensive and there is still more work to be done. It is a priority for the city to continue to work to remove Irma related debris and continue working on repairs. The city is pursuing additional funding resources for these projects. As funding resources become available, the city continues to prioritize clearing conveyances and making repairs. Partnerships with agencies like the Department of Environmental Protection, South Florida Water Management District, Lee County and the Federal Emergency Management Agency are needed to complete projects and assist with funding.

Efforts to keep you informed are ongoing. Below you will find a list that includes examples of work being done. Please note that this isn't a comprehensive list of all work. This list will be updated often, please call the city of Bonita Springs with any questions 239-949-6262.

Immediately following Irma, the city of Bonita Springs

- Coordinated removal of 523,891 cubic yards of debris in the city;
- retained the South West Florida Regional Planning Council to conduct with the Flood Reduction Study;
- prioritized communication to our residents regarding damage, clean up and available resources;
- replaced and repaired damaged street signs; and
- City Council convened weekly to work on Irma related projects to ensure an expedited recovery process and that the study was initiated in a timely manner to pursue an expedited long term recovery process.

Repairs since the storm

- repaired sidewalks damaged by utility trucks;
- repaired storm water retention pond inlet structures citywide;
- restored the Luke Street road failure, culvert and road damage on Imperial Harbor Blvd. entrance for old 41 and the East Terry Street shoulder. Re-established and regraded East Terry St. swale, coordinated swale restoration with FDOT and I-75 right away. Regraded Southern Pines Dr. Swale system;
- regraded Circle Dr. swale system, cleared flow way along Pine Trail Ct.;
- cleared flow way along Pine Crest Ln.;
- snag and clearing to the Imperial River, Kehl Canal, Lietner Creek Canal and bypass, Rosemary Canal ; and
- applied for grant funding to USDA to snag & clear Leitner Creek. The City has received notice of award for grant funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture via the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Emergency Watershed Program in April. Developed bid package for snagging and clearing project along the natural portion of Leitner Creek for the summer.

Financial Impact

- Total expenses for the storm paid so far are approximately \$7.7 million. (There still are repairs from hurricane damage that need to be completed.); and
- staff continues to submit information to FEMA relating to the damages. We are awaiting approval of funding.

Ongoing Resolution

- The City is working with the South Florida Water Mgmt. District to snag and clear Oak Creek. Meetings were held in May to discuss logistics and project details. Recently, the South Florida Water Management District committed to clearing debris in Oak Creek;
- worked with the South Florida Water Mgmt. District to model regional flow way along the Logan Blvd. Rd. corridor to re-establish historical storm water flow patterns sending water into the Cocohatchee and thereby removing it from the Imperial River Watershed;
- continue to coordinate efforts with Lee County Natural Resources and their concurrent Flood Recovery and Assessment efforts;
- incorporated components of Logan Blvd. flow way into Logan Blvd. Roadway design for construction in the upcoming year;
- the South Florida Water Management District is working to permit and construct a North/South flow-way, in addition to Logan Blvd. flow-way, in Eastern Bonita to re-establish additional flows in the Cocohatchee;
- City Council reaffirmed at a recent workshop that the number one priority for the city is Storm Water Management;
- City Council has solicited letters of interest for firms to assist the city in the establishment of a storm water utility/fee funding mechanism to pay for additional storm water infrastructure improvement projects. Subsequently a firm was selected and contract negotiations are underway ;
- working with the Lee County Local Mitigation Strategy Committee to prioritize projects that were identified in the city's flood reduction study for funding through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program;
- retained a Federal Funding Consultant to assist the city in its pursuit of additional funding opportunities as they become available; and
- working with Lee County's Multijurisdictional Program for public information about Flood Hazard and Flood Insurance Rate Maps.

Community

- EOC Long Term Recovery Committee continues to work with those with the most extreme challenges and worst difficulties as a result of the storm;
- April 26th community hurricane preparedness event held at Bonita Springs Recreation Center; and
- continue to update email list for contact with community representatives.

Training

- Municipal Emergency Preparedness training exercises;

- FEMA Incident Command Training; and
- Everbridge Software Training

Storm Preparation

- Emergency Preparedness messaging shared on all city media;
- city media supports the Emergency Operations Center messaging;
- updating and disseminating the City's Emergency Action Plan;
- desilting storm water piping throughout the city;
- continue to monitor weather and inspect the storm water system;
- continue to share storm preparation information from the Lee County Emergency Management Center; and
- continue to share public information regarding preparation for flood events and information that residents can use to protect themselves with Insurance in a flood event. *For example: One tip we are sharing from insurance experts is that residents should closely review their flood insurance policy to be sure it covers both structure and contents. Content coverage may not be included your policy. Residents are encouraged to contact their flood insurance agent with questions.*

As we enter another storm season, work has been completed and there is also more to be done. This list will be updated often, please call the city of Bonita Springs with any questions 239-949-6262. Residents are encouraged to get their emergency plan in place. Visit: www.leegov.com/publicsafety/emergencymanagement/plan for more information.