

PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO THE
REBUILD FLORIDA GENERAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM ROUND II

The Bay Living Shoreline Flood Control Project

14 Day Public Comment Period Notice

Posted September 1, 2021

The US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced in 2018 that the State of Florida would receive \$633,485,000 in funding to support long-term mitigation efforts following Hurricanes Hermine, Matthew, and Irma through HUD's Community Development Block Grant-Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Program. This funding is intended to ensure the State of Florida is more resilient to future natural disasters. On February 2, 2021, HUD announced an additional \$46.9 million in federal mitigation funding for a total of 680,411,000. The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) allocated CDBG-MIT funds to the State, which launched the Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Program to provide funding to units of local government, state agencies, non-profits, and non-governmental organizations to implement mitigation activities that reduce hazard risks such as flooding, severe storms, tropical cyclones, coastal erosion, and wildfires.

The City of Sarasota (City) in conjunction with the Bay Park Conservancy is developing an application for the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity CDBG-MIT Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Program Round II. The City is applying for approximately \$10 Million in funding to mitigate the risks to the surrounding community by raising Van Wezel Way Road which is subject to flooding, creating a living shoreline, and floodable green space, which will allow flood waters to rise, be absorbed, and naturally recede to mitigate the effects of coastal storms and flooding from severe rainfall and king tide events. The grant funds would restore and improve hydrological and water quality conditions along Hog Creek which flows into Sarasota Bay, a state-designated Outstanding Florida Waterway. The grant application compliments the City's ongoing Sustainability Program and Climate Adaptation Plan. This project is part of a larger effort to revitalize the existing 54-acre park to increase the environmental resilience, public engagement and education, connectivity via multi-modal trails and boardwalks, and preserve the cultural and historic legacies of the area. The funding will mitigate risks to the protected Community Lifelines of 1) Safety & Security and 2) Transportation and 3) Health and Medical. **The applications must be submitted to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity by September 17, 2021.**

The City is seeking input from potential stakeholders and the public on the grant application. Please submit any comments to Laura Wittenbauer, at (941)263-6303, or e-mail: laura.wittenbauer@sarasotaFL.gov by **September 15, 2021**. A copy of this post and any public comments received will be supplied to the DEO as part of the application process.

For non-English speaking residents, Spanish and Haitian Creole versions of this Notice and the Application will be made available upon request.

Project Name:	The Bay Living Shoreline Flood Control Project
Grant:	Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Program (GIP)
Source of Funding:	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through the State of Florida Department of Economic Opportunities
Location in our Community:	Along the eastern shoreline of Sarasota Bay near Centennial Boat Ramp and the Van Wezel Performing Arts Center
What will Grant Money be used for:	Create a vegetated living shoreline to protect against severe coastal storms and reduce flooding, elevation of existing road for resilience, and restoration of Hog Creek.
Total Project Costs:	Approximately \$10,000,000
Public Comments must be Received by:	EOD September 15, 2021
To Request a copy of the Application or to submit Comments Please Contact:	Laura Wittenbauer or laurawittenbauer@sarasotaFL.gov