PLAN ADOPTION

44 Code of Federal Regulations	
44 CFR §201.6(c)(5):	Documentation that the plan has been formally adopted by the governing body of the
	jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan (e.g., City Council, County Commissioner, Tribal
	Council). For Multi-Jurisdictional plans, each jurisdiction requesting approval of the plan must
	document that it has been formally adopted.

Plan Adoption

The LMS Working Group will submit the Hardee County 2025 Multi-Jurisdictional LMS to the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) for review and approval. FDEM has the authority to review the LMS on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). FDEM utilizes the Local Hazard Mitigation LMS Review Tool, which includes the 2023 Florida Local Mitigation Strategy Crosswalk, to review the LMS. Appendix F includes Hardee County's 2025 LMS Crosswalk. Following notification of "Approval Pending Adoption" of the 2025 Update by FDEM and FEMA, Hardee County, its jurisdictions, the Hardee County School Board, and all participating agencies as outlined in Section I may formally adopt the 2025 Hardee County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy.

Adoption by Jurisdictions

The Hardee County Clerk of the Circuit Court and each jurisdiction's Clerk (or other official keeper of records) shall maintain original signed copies of resolutions adopting the Hardee County 2025 Multi-Jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS). All jurisdictions must follow the participation requirements described in Section II to remain in good standing with the Hardee County 2025 Multi-Jurisdictional LMS. An executed adoption resolution along with compliance with LMS participation rules qualifies partners to submit qualified mitigation projects for Federal funding consideration.

A sample LMS adoption resolution is included at the end of this Section. Appendix H includes copies of adoption resolutions for each jurisdiction.

Adoption by Participating Agencies

Participating Agencies, as listed in Appendix A, must submit a letter of commitment supporting the Hardee County 2025 Multi-Jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS). All participating agencies must follow the participation requirements described in Section II to remain in good standing with the Hardee County 2025 Multi-Jurisdictional LMS. An executed supporting letter along with compliance with LMS participation rules qualifies partners to submit qualified mitigation projects for Federal funding consideration.

A sample LMS Letter of Commitment is included at the end of this Section. Appendix H includes copies of the Letters of Commitment.

Sample Resolution

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WAUCHULA, FLORIDA ADOPTING THE 2025 HARDEE COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY UPDATE.

- WHEREAS, areas of Hardee County, including the City of Wauchula, are vulnerable to the human and economic costs of natural, technological, and societal disasters; and
- WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Wauchula realizes the importance of reducing or eliminating those vulnerabilities for the overall public health, safety, and welfare of the community; and
- **WHEREAS**, a Local Mitigation Strategy presents a unified strategy to build a disaster-resilient community; and
- WHEREAS, State, local and tribal governments are required by Federal law (Title 42, Part 68 of the United States Code and Title 44, Part 201 of the Code of Federal Regulations) to adopt a hazard-mitigation plan as a condition for receiving certain types of emergency or nonemergency disaster assistance; and
- WHEREAS, the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires each local jurisdiction to have either its own local mitigation strategy or to actively participate in the development and maintenance of multi-jurisdictional mitigation strategy; and
- **WHEREAS**, the City of Wauchula actively participated in the development and maintenance of the Hardee County Local Mitigation Strategy as adopted in 1999, 2015, and 2020; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Wauchula has actively participated in the 2025 update to the Local Mitigation Strategy through the Hardee County Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group, which has established a comprehensive, coordinated planning process to eliminate or decrease these vulnerabilities; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Wauchula representatives and staff have identified, justified, and prioritized proposed projects and programs needed to mitigate the vulnerabilities of the City of Wauchula to the impacts of future disasters; and
- WHEREAS, the Hardee County 2025 Multi-Jurisdictional LMS incorporates these proposed projects and programs into the update that has been prepared and issued for consideration and adoption by the jurisdictions of Hardee County; and
- **WHEREAS**, the State of Florida Division of Emergency Management has issued an "Approval Pending Adoption" of the Hardee County 2025 Multi-Jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Commission of the City of Wauchula:

- 1. The City Commission of the City of Wauchula hereby accepts and adopts its designated portion of the "Hardee County 2025 Multi-Jurisdictional LMS".
- 2. Agency personnel of the City of Wauchula shall pursue available funding opportunities for implementation of the proposals and projects designated therein.
- 3. Agencies and organizations within the City of Wauchula will, upon receipt of such funding or other necessary resources, seek to implement proposals contained in the LMS.
- 4. The City of Wauchula will continue to participate in the updating and expanding of the LMS in future years.
- 5. The City of Wauchula will encourage businesses, industries, and community groups operating within Hardee County to also participate in updating and expansion of the LMS in the years ahead.
- 6. The City of Wauchula will continue to participate in the furtherance of public involvement opportunities.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED by the City Commission of the City of Wauchula, Florida, in regular session, this _____ day of _____, 2025.

(Signatures as appropriate for the jurisdiction)

Sample Letter of Commitment

LETTER OF COMMITMENT FOR HARDEE COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL LOCAL MITIGATION STRATEGY PLAN

<Date>

Lane Schneider, FAEM Director of Emergency Management Hardee County 404 W. Orange Street Wauchula, FL 33873

Dear Mr. Schneider:

<DATE>

RE: Letter of Commitment as Participant in the Hardee County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy Plan

Dear Mr. Schneider:

As the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Local Mitigation Strategy Plan requirements under 44 CFR §201.6 specifically identify criteria that allow for multi-jurisdictional mitigation plans and that many issues are better resolved by evaluating hazards more comprehensively by coordinating at the county, regional, or watershed level, the <PARTICIPATING PARTNER> is submitting this letter of commitment to confirm that <PARTICIPATING PARTNER> has agreed to participate in the Hardee County Multi-jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy Plan.

Furthermore, as a condition of participation in the mitigation planning, <PARTICIPATING PARTNER>, agrees to meet the requirements for mitigation plans identified in 44 CFR §201.6 and to provide such cooperation as is necessary and in a timely manner to Hardee County Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group to complete the plan in conformance with FEMA requirements.

<PARTICIPATING PARTNER> understands that it must engage in the following planning process, as more fully described in FEMA's Local Mitigation Planning Handbook, including, but not limited to:

- Identification of hazards unique to the jurisdiction and not addressed in the master planning document;
- The conduct of a vulnerability analysis and an identification of risks, where they differ from the general planning area;
- The formulation of mitigation goals responsive to public input and development of mitigation actions complementary to those goals. A range of actions must be identified specifically for each jurisdiction;
- Demonstration that there has been proactively offered an opportunity for participation in the planning process by all community stakeholders (examples of participation include relevant

SECTION VII: PLAN ADOPTION

involvement in any planning process, attending meetings, contributing research, data, or other information, commenting on drafts of the plan, etc.); and

• Documentation of an effective process to maintain and implement the plan.

Therefore, with a full understanding of the obligations incurred by participating in the FEMA hazard mitigation planning process as a participant in a multi-jurisdictional plan; I <NAME OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL>, commit <PARTICIPATING PARTNER> to the Hardee County Multi-Jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy. This letter provides formal adoption of the Multi-Jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy by the jurisdiction's governing body (each jurisdiction must officially adopt the plan).

This document is executed this <DAY OF MONTH> day of <MONTH>, <YEAR>.

Please contact <NAME OF CONTACT> at <PHONE NUMBER & EMAIL> with questions.

Sincerely,

<ADD SIGNATURE HERE OF PARTICIPATING PARTNER OFFICIAL'S SIGNATURE>

<FIRST AND LAST NAME OF PARTICIPATING PARTNER OFFICIAL> <TITLE> <PHONE> <FAX> <EMAIL>