

**Highlands County - Adaptation Action Areas - Community/County/Municipality Comments**

Areas of Concern	Location	All Comments	Type of Hazard	Adaptation Strategy Bucket	Customized Strategies
South of Lake Rashard (yellow zoning color) Serenity Ave	Lake Placid	Corner where lots turn into a triangle washes out. They have been trying to do different remedies over the years. Lift station in that area? When we are talking about socioeconomics it is probably one of our lower income areas.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Enhance stormwater management systems, such as bioswales or detention basin to help control the flow of water
W Park Street and North Main Ave	Lake Placid	One of the largest flooding concerns; drain and dumps off at the tracks. The railroad track gets washed out from time to time. A lot of the Town's drainage goes to the railroad tracks - Railroad tracks north of the circle - North of East Center Lake - Drains westerly towards rail corridor	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Enhance the drainage system through regional detention, highwater bypass, or introduction of wetland flood zones. Conduct regular maintenance of the drainage systems in this area to ensure full function.
	Lake Placid	No stormwater ponds or real collection systems, minor collector systems and inlets and working with county to get them cleaned and monitoring over the summer and still washed out to depot.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Convert open space into detention areas and additional floodplain area.
Noah Street and Hillcrest behind the bank	Lake Placid	- Public right away washing out into a residence and now there is a giant wash-out area going to a sink hole - No stormwater conveyance or water treatment - Major concern is access the flooding to see how much and where. - Infiltration of flood waters along the ridge is fast; within 2 days water is gone	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Address the sinkhole to prevent erosion and ensure proper drainage. Installation of erosion control to reduce impact of flooding on houses. Installation of stormwater conveyance or green infrastructure to reduce the volume of water.
Historical Society Depot Museum near the Train Depot	Lake Placid	Very close to flooding if stormwater issue is not addressed.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Upgrade stormwater systems by providing upstream regional detention, highwater diversion, or increase upstream floodplain. Increase maintenance of drainage systems.
Hibiscus Street	Lake Placid	Floods heavily when it rains.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Enhance the drainage infrastructure around Hibiscus Street. Replace traditional asphalt or concrete with permeable pavement. Ensure drainage system is regularly cleaning and maintained. If feasible, elevate the road.
Highlands Park/Lake Huntley/Lake McCoy	Lake Placid	Experiences flooding during heavy rain.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Upgrade stormwater systems by converting portions of the park into detention areas and additional floodplain areas.
Taylor Street	Lake Placid	Stream rises and creek over flows during heavy rain.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement stormwater infrastructure with a focus on green infrastructure when feasible (e.g., bioswales, parks, greenways, buffers, stronger riparian area, etc.).	Restoring wetlands or creating green infrastructure around the lake to absorb excess water during heavy rains. Improve drainage infrastructure in the areas experiencing flooding.
Highlands Park	Lake Placid	Low income, not a lot of infrastructure, not a lot of sidewalk coverage, houses located too close to the street, many dilapidated structures.	Housing	Utilize federal, state, and local funding to support development/updates to affordable housing.	Seek opportunities to implement multi-use development to provide walkability to commercial and other services.
Highlands Park	Lake Placid	No buses or public transportation system.	Transportation	Identify grant funding opportunities.	Utilize grant funding opportunities to implement a County public transportation system with a focus on transportation in underserved communities.
Highlands Park	Lake Placid	Disaster recovery - blue tarps on my houses, tarp used until disintegrated, need new roofs.	Housing	Utilize federal, state, and local funding to support development/updates to affordable housing.	Implement grant programs for residents to provide disaster relief and assistance.
Highlands Park	Lake Placid	Homes in need of new roof - may be rental homes. Are homeowners aware of process for roof replacement? Landlords may not have insurance.	Housing	Utilize federal, state, and local funding to support development/updates to affordable housing.	Use funding programs to enhance residential building resilience prior to storms to decrease chance of damage.
Highlands Park	Lake Placid	Home with no A/C, some have window units, many with poor insulation.	Housing/Extreme Heat	Utilize federal, state, and local funding to support development/updates to affordable housing.	Implement strategies to aid communities with window unit or no A/C (tree planting, insulation, new windows).
Lake Boulevard and Park Avenue	Lake Placid	Experiences flooding during heavy rain, hurricane, tropical storm.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Upgrade stormwater systems with the introduction of bioswales, wetland flood zones and detention. Increase maintenance of drainage systems.
Lake August	Lake Placid	Areas around the lake flood during heavy rains. Week and a half for flooding to recede.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement stormwater infrastructure with a focus on green infrastructure when feasible (e.g., bioswales, parks, greenways, buffers, stronger riparian area, etc.).	Upgrade stormwater systems by providing upstream regional detention, highwater diversion, or increase upstream floodplain. Increase maintenance of drainage systems.
Lake Rashard	Lake Placid	Lift stations in the area are impacted during flooding and erosion events.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Elevate lift stations to improve resiliency to flooding. Upgrade stormwater systems in the area to reduce flood frequency and severity.
County Road 29	Lake Placid	Narrow two-lane road, no sidewalk/shoulder, no street lights	Transportation	Improve roadway conditions based on context and functional classifications.	Provide bike and pedestrian sidewalks, solar lighting, covered rest areas and social gathering locations.

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Sebring Watershed Study	Sebring	SRF loan studying Sebring Country Estates and Country Falls will determine where problem areas are at. 6 months out before results come in. Focusing on Flooding and Water Quality.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Apply for infrastructure grants to implement changes in problem areas identified in study.
Thunderbird Rd and Cougar Blvd	Sebring	Considerable localized flooding during regular rain events	Flooding	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Upgrade stormwater systems with the introduction of bioswales, wetland flood zones and detention. Increase maintenance of drainage systems.
Wolf Creek	Sebring	Experiences flooding, especially during Hurricane Milton.	Flooding/Hurricane	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Provide upstream regional detention, highwater diversion, increase upstream floodplain, and roof drain barrels.
South Carolina Ave	Avon Park	Noticeable flooding in economically depressed area.	Flooding/Housing	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Upgrade stormwater systems by providing upstream regional detention, highwater diversion, or increase upstream floodplain.
Lake Tulane Area	Avon Park	Memorial Drive there is a Duke Energy eyesore that negatively impacts an already low income housing area.	Housing	Utilize federal, state, and local funding to support development/updates to affordable housing.	Utilize funding to support landscape screening.
West side of US 27 around Hal McRae Blvd.	Avon Park	How long are floods lasting: quick infiltration (less than 48 hours). Flooding behind Winn Dixie and turning into Aldi that backs up to 55 plus community.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement stormwater infrastructure with a focus on green infrastructure when feasible (e.g., bioswales, parks, greenways, buffers, stronger riparian area, etc.).	Implement bioswales, parks, greenways, buffers, and stronger riparian areas to decrease flood frequency and severity.
Avon Park Estates	Unincorporated Highlands County	Flooding issues.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Convert portions of the land into detention areas and additional floodplain area. Utilize open spaces.
Highway Park in Lake Placid	Unincorporated Highlands County	Underserved area.	Housing	Utilize federal, state, and local funding to support development/updates to affordable housing.	Provide upstream regional detention, highwater diversion, increase upstream floodplain, and roof drain barrels.
Washington Heights in Sebring	Unincorporated Highlands County	Underserved area.	Housing	Utilize federal, state, and local funding to support development/updates to affordable housing.	Provide upstream regional detention, highwater diversion, increase upstream floodplain, and roof drain barrels.
North of the college	Unincorporated Highlands County	Flooding concerns.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Convert portions of the land into detention areas and additional floodplain area. Utilize open spaces.
Brunns Road new mobile home community	Unincorporated Highlands County	Their detention basin was spilling out into the road (older mobile home parks in not great condition). Near the mall.	Flooding/Housing	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Upgrade stormwater systems with the introduction of bioswales, wetland flood zones and detention. Increase maintenance of drainage systems.
Behind Barn Swallow Ave	Unincorporated Highlands County	Possible flooding concerns.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Convert portions of the land into detention areas and additional floodplain area. Utilize open spaces.
Whispering Pine Village	Unincorporated Highlands County	Along corridor near YMCA there are some culverts and major drainage rehabilitation the mobile homes in proximity flood a lot → has a lot to do with lack of maintenance need to maintain ditches.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Provide upstream regional detention, highwater diversion, increase upstream floodplain, and roof drain barrels.
Lake Jackson - US 98 - SR 8 heading to Venus	Unincorporated Highlands County	Community floods.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Enhance the drainage system through regional detention, highwater bypass, or introduction of wetland flood zones. Conduct regular maintenance of the drainage systems in this area to ensure full function.
FL-8 heading towards Lake Placid	Unincorporated Highlands County	Mobile home community built in a bowl (there was an attempt to create program for county to buy that property and for them to move).	Flooding/Housing	Establish County buy-out program and offer incentives to community to move out of flood zones. Educate community on repetitive flooding.	Provide incentive and explanation for residents to move out of repetitive loss areas.
Near treatment facility off Lake Jackson and Hwy 27	Unincorporated Highlands County	Flooding occurs near that location.	Flooding	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Upgrade stormwater systems by providing upstream regional detention, highwater diversion, or increase upstream floodplain. Increase maintenance of drainage systems.
Josephine Creek W of Hwy 27	Unincorporated Highlands County	Working with FAU to do higher standards floodplain mapping. Lots are platted; however, they are not populated yet.	Flooding	Identify grant funding opportunities.	Apply for grant opportunities to expand floodplain mapping.
Dockside Blvd. 55+ community (Buttonwood Bay)	Unincorporated Highlands County	4 different 55+ mobile home communities experiencing flooding impacts.	Flooding/Housing	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Upgrade stormwater systems by converting portions of the area into detention areas and additional floodplain areas.
Venus Community	Unincorporated Highlands County	Year round flooding, there is always water out in this community. The Grade of the road is too low. FEMA did a buyout and not everyone did it. Running water 3-4 inches on top of the roadway.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Establish County buy-out program and offer incentives to community to move out of flood zones. Educate community on repetitive flooding.	Provide incentive and explanation for residents to move out of repetitive loss areas.
Hwy 66 at Burkett Ave	Unincorporated Highlands County	Backs up and comes down to SR 66 and then pours over into the neighborhood (blighted area). The basin is being studied right now. The water flows north in this area.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Implement diversion channels and regional detention.



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Leisure Lane	Unincorporated Highlands County	Tried to ditch the water to help move it through the neighborhood. Flooding in the entire community.	Flooding/Severe Storm	Implement stormwater infrastructure with a focus on green infrastructure when feasible (e.g., bioswales, parks, greenways, buffers, stronger riparian area, etc.).	Restoring wetlands or creating green infrastructure around the lake to absorb excess water during heavy rains. Improve drainage infrastructure in the areas experiencing flooding.
Venus	Unincorporated Highlands County	Experienced considerable damage during Hurricane Milton	Hurricane/Flooding	Identify grant funding opportunities.	Use funding programs to enhance residential building resilience prior to storms to decrease chance of damage.
Venus	Unincorporated Highlands County	Still experiencing standing water from Hurricane Milton	Flooding/Hurricane	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Use funding programs to enhance residential building resilience prior to storms to decrease chance of damage.
Venus	Unincorporated Highlands County	Damage county-wide from Hurricane Irma. Mobile homes were hit the hardest	Hurricane/Flooding	Identify grant funding opportunities.	Implement grant programs for residents to provide disaster relief and assistance.
Unincorporated housing	Unincorporated Highlands County	9 repetitive loss properties.	Flooding/Housing	Establish County buy-out program and offer incentives to community to move out of flood zones. Educate community on repetitive flooding.	Provide incentive and explanation for residents to move out of repetitive loss areas.
Lake Placid/Countywide	Countywide	Elderly residents rely on friends, neighbors, and family for transportation.	Transportation	Identify and apply for grant funding/partnership opportunities to expand public transportation options.	Establish a community shuttle service that operates on fixed routes to key locations such as shopping centers, medical facilities and employment hubs.
Lake Placid/Countywide	Countywide	Lack of multi-use paths - County-wide but especially in Lake Placid	Transportation	Increase multi-use path construction throughout the county.	Look for opportunities to convert old rail lines into bicycle and pedestrian pathways.
Lake Placid/Countywide	Countywide	Difficult to access healthy foods.	Healthy Foods	Develop partnerships to create mobile markets and farm-to-community program.	Develop partnerships with local farmers to increase access to affordable healthy foods.
Environmental Justice Communities: - Serenity Area - East Royal Palm - Poinsettia - (all income restricted)	Countywide	Some of the flooding concerns are county owned property; mix of city and county properties	Flooding/Severe Storm	Identify grant funding opportunities.	Identify grant opportunities to implement flood mitigation projects.
Countywide	Countywide	There are open lots that could act as retention areas.	Flooding	Identify grant funding opportunities.	Identify land acquisition grants to purchase the land and convert to open space and wetland flood zones.
Countywide	Countywide	Community Champions - East Hibiscus —> newest development, resident was speaking on behalf of the neighborhood, seem well connected. - Ms. Calon. - Neighborhood of Highway Park as an underserved community.	Housing	Utilize federal, state, and local funding to support development/updates to affordable housing.	Leverage government subsidies and grants to increase affordable housing initiatives.
Countywide	Countywide	Additional work on watershed PL or all of Highlands minus Peace River Basin (WET Project —> doing the whole watershed)			
Countywide	Countywide	County/organizations in need of bilingual staff to help with housing issues. Large portion of housing clients are Hispanic.	Housing	Utilize federal, state, and local funding to support development/updates to affordable housing.	Develop and distribute bilingual information materials such as brochures, websites, and signs.
Countywide	Countywide	Affordable housing is a major issue.	Housing	Utilize federal, state, and local funding to support development/updates to affordable housing.	Leverage government subsidies and grants to increase affordable housing initiatives.
Countywide	Countywide	Real transportation is a major issue.	Transportation	Identify and apply for grant funding/partnership opportunities to expand public transportation options.	Expand public transportation options such as a bus route that has multiple stops in underserved communities.
Countywide	Countywide	Overgrown drainage ditches.	Flooding	Implement/strengthen stormwater systems. Increase maintenance of drainage systems and infrastructure.	Update maintenance procedures to ensure drainage ditches are cleaned regularly and shortly after heavy rain events.
Countywide	Countywide	River flooding from the Kissimmee River.	Flooding	Implement stormwater infrastructure with a focus on green infrastructure when feasible (e.g., bioswales, parks, greenways, buffers, stronger riparian area, etc.).	Provide room for the river with the reintroduction of floodplains, highwater diversion, wetland flood zones, and recreational areas that allow flooding.
Countywide	Countywide	No public transportation other than medical.	Transportation	Identify and apply for grant funding/partnership opportunities to expand public transportation options.	Expand public transportation options such as a bus route that has multiple stops in underserved communities.
Countywide	Countywide	Elderly residents rely on friends, neighbors, and family for transportation.	Transportation	Identify and apply for grant funding/partnership opportunities to expand public transportation options.	Establish a community shuttle service that operates on fixed routes to key locations such as shopping centers, medical facilities and employment hubs.
Countywide	Countywide	Lack of multi-use paths - County-wide but especially in Lake Placid	Transportation	Increase multi-use path construction throughout the county.	Look for opportunities to convert old rail lines into bicycle and pedestrian pathways.
Countywide	Countywide	County once had rental scooters but no more.	Transportation	Identify and apply for grant funding/partnership opportunities to expand public transportation options.	Identify companies that would bring rental scooters and bicycles back to the County.

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Countywide	Countywide	Difficult to access healthy foods.	Healthy Foods	Develop partnerships to create mobile markets and farm-to-community program.	Develop partnerships with local farmers to increase access to affordable healthy foods.
Countywide	Countywide	Grocery store food delivery - at an additional expense.	Healthy Foods	Develop partnerships to create mobile markets and farm-to-community program.	Increase accessibility to food drives by setting up in underserved communities. A location that would not require a vehicle for most residents.
Countywide	Countywide	Food banks around the County but difficult to find transportation to and from locations.	Healthy Foods/Transportation	Identify and apply for grant funding/partnership opportunities to expand public transportation options.	Expand public transportation options such as a bus route that has multiple stops in underserved communities.
Countywide	Countywide	Most food banks only provide canned food, not fresh food.	Healthy Foods	Develop partnerships to create mobile markets and farm-to-community program.	Initiatives such as mobile markets can make food drives more accessible for underserved communities.
Countywide	Countywide	Not enough specialty doctors in the area. Many residents outsource doctors.	Healthcare	Promote telehealth services to provide remote consultations and reduce the need to travel for medical care.	Promoting telehealth services can decrease the need to travel long distances for medical care and consultations.