Agenda Item #:4B-1

#### PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

## **AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date:	May 25, 2021	[]	Consent Ordinance	[X] []	Regular Public Hearing
Department:	Administration				
Submitted By:	Administration				

## I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

**Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to authorize:** the County Administrator to submit an appeal of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's 2019 Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and associated Flood Insurance Study (FIS) reports for Palm Beach County.

**Summary:** In December 2019, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) published preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for eastern Palm Beach County. FIRMs and associated Flood Insurance Study (FIS) reports provide information on the existence and severity of flood hazards that are used to establish flood insurance premiums. In 2020, Palm Beach County (County) conducted a review and evaluation of the data and methods used by FEMA to prepare the preliminary FIRMs. Based on technical issues, concerns and deficiencies identified during this evaluation, the County, in February 2021, initiated the development of additional technical information for use during FEMA coordination and to support the submittal of a formal appeal of the preliminary FIRMs. The intent of the County's technical work is to ensure that the FIRMs and FIS reports provide accurate and appropriate flood hazard information. An appeal must be submitted prior to July 15, 2021, which is the end of FEMA's 90-day appeal period. Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 (MJ)

#### **Background and Policy Issues:**

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is a federal program intended to reduce flood damage through locally adopted and enforced floodplain regulations and provide protection for property owners by enabling the purchase of federally-backed flood insurance. FEMA is responsible for administering the NFIP and periodically updates information on flood hazards. In 2013, FEMA initiated the Coastal Flood Risk Study Project for the South Florida Study Area, which includes Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties. At the September 22, 2020 BCC Workshop, staff presented key findings of the County's review and evaluation of FEMA's data and methods. At the May 25, 2021 BCC Workshop, staff provided an overview of the results of the technical work conducted to date, provided potential forward paths related to filing an appeal and summarized coordination activities with FEMA and other local governments and stakeholders. Based on coordination with FEMA to date, the technical issues, concerns and deficiencies related to the FIRMs identified by the County will not be resolved by FEMA unless additional information is submitted as part of an appeal.

#### Attachments: None

Recommended by:	9-MeB2-	5-17-2021		
	County Water Resources Manager	Date		
Approved By:	Assistant County Administrator	SINZI Date		
	Assistant County Administrator	Date		

## **II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS**

## A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

<b>Fiscal Years</b>	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Capital					
Expenditures					
<b>Operating Costs</b>					
External					
Revenues					
Program					
Income(County)					
In-Kind					
Match(County					
NET FISCAL					
IMPACT					
#ADDITIONAL					
FTE					
POSITIONS					
(CUMULATIVE					

Is Item Included in Current Budget?	Yes	<u>No</u>
Does this item include the use of federal funds?	Yes	<u>No</u>
Dudget Account Net		

Budget Account No:		
Fund	Dept	Unit

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

# C. Departmental Fiscal Review:

#### **III. REVIEW COMMENTS:**

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:

M6 5/17/21

5/17/21 (Zh

 $\mathcal{A}$ Contract Dev. & Control 5-17-21 Tu

B. Legal Sufficiency

5/19/2021 M. Jones **Assistant County Attorney** 

- Contract Dev. & Control 5-17-21 Tu
- C. Other Department Review

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(THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT.)