

**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

**RESEARCH DIVISION**

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**CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON RESILIENCY**

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND CONTINUED OPERATIONS**

**Hybrid Virtual/In-Person Meeting**

**February 18, 2021**

**4:15 p.m.**

**Location:** City Council Chamber and online via the Zoom app

**In attendance:** Subcommittee members Garrett Dennis and Randy DeFoor; Citizen subject matter experts Lisa King, Adam Hoyles, Mark Green, Jim Seaton, Amanda Polematidis, Nicole Hamm

**Also**: Jeff Clements, Yvonne Mitchell – Council Research Division; Steve Cassada, Eric Grantham and Melanie Wilkes – Council Support Services; Kelsey Cox – Public Works Department; Susan Grandin – Office of General Counsel; Tommy Carter – Council Auditor’s Office;

**Meeting Convened**: 4:16 p.m.

Chairman Dennis convened the meeting and the members introduced themselves for the record. Mr. Dennis thanked the citizen subject matter experts for their outstanding contributions to the research and report of the subcommittee. He called on Jim Seaton to review the draft final report.

Mr. Seaton said his understanding was that a small group of the subject matter experts had been polishing the document he drafted and he did not have the latest version. Chairman Dennis read the mandate of the subcommittee and Mr. Seaton led a review of the draft report he had prepared.

1. Quantify the magnitude of Jacksonville’s resilience requirements (7 issue areas)
2. Adopt one sea level rise figure to guide infrastructure project planning and construction across the City (6 issue areas)
3. Update the Building Code (2 issue areas)
4. Incorporate neighborhood-specific criteria while prioritizing resilience decisions (2 issue areas)
5. Promote the private sector business case for resilience (2 issue areas)
6. Promote developer/property owner resilience roles (5 issue areas)
7. Explore ways to disclose flood zone and prior flooding information on real estate transactions and lease agreements (4 issue areas)
8. Examine how the North Florida Land Trust could potentially acquire land to provide flood storage capacity
9. Identify flood-prone areas where people and homes are the most vulnerable and recommend solutions to protect those neighborhoods (5 issue areas)
10. Publicize the drainage system’s 92 outfall spot cleaning locations in a way that the general public is aware of where the work is taking place to prepare for potential heavy rains (4 issue areas)
11. Submit projects for inclusion in the 2022 federal Water Project Bill (3 issue areas)
12. Assess private sector assets such as grocery stores, gas stations, hospital, etc. to see how vulnerable they are and their impact on the community if damaged
13. Review the Master Stormwater Management Plan (MSMP) update (2 issue areas)
14. Pursue creative funding measures to address the City’s resilience needs (4 issue areas)
15. Consider resilience when appointing JEA board members (3 issue areas)

Susan Grandin of the Office of General Counsel said she and other City staff had met with Smart Home America representatives about the Florida Building Code and its comparison of that code with their Alabama coastal zone building code. She learned that the Florida Building Code was determined to be very strong in most areas. It was suggested that Jacksonville could consider improvements in its code regarding venting, underlayment and exterior sheathing for roofs.

Public Comment

John Nooney talked about the FEMA repetitive loss program funding the removal of structures suffering repeated flood damage and said that there will likely be a large number of these remediation projects proposed to the City Council. He would like to know how many properties in the City are potential candidates for this program and how much the total cost of removing those structures might be. He thanked the Chair for allowing public comment before a vote was taken on the report.

**Motion** (DeFoor): adopt the subcommittee report as submitted and reviewed today – **approved 2-0** (Dennis and DeFoor in favor).

Mr. Dennis and Ms. DeFoor again thanked the citizen subject matter experts for their tireless efforts and said that the draft final report of the full Special Committee will be distributed electronically to the special committee members and to all of the subject matter experts for their review before the Special Committee’s final meeting next

**Meeting adjourned:** 4:46 p.m.

Minutes: Jeff Clements, Council Research Division

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