

RESILIENCE IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

PROJECT TYPES

Resilience Implementation Grants (RIGs) are available to Florida communities that are required to have a coastal management element in their comprehensive plan. The purpose of RIGs is to assist coastal communities in implementing their adaptation/resilience plans by supporting nature-based options for erosion and flood control, elevation of public structures, and projects specifically included in existing adaptation/resilience plans. Projects should be able to be completed in 10 months. Funding for the RPG program comes from the state budget; the total amount awarded will depend on funding made available by the Governor and Legislature. Individual awards will be up to \$500,000.

PROJECT TYPES

Each proposed project must fit into at least one of the following project types:

1. Nature-based options for erosion and flood control,
2. Elevation of public structures, and
3. Projects specifically included in existing adaptation/resilience plans.

Project types described below are listed in order of their program priority which will be reflected in application ranking.

Project Type 1: Nature-based options for erosion and flood control

Eligible projects include ecosystem restoration projects and the construction of natural, nature-based, and green-gray (hybrid) infrastructure, where tangible community resilience and conservation outcomes can be measured. Projects may include, but are not limited to, marsh restoration, living shorelines, stream restoration, including aquatic connectivity projects that reduce flood risk, and innovative stormwater management. Beach nourishment/dune construction projects are not eligible.

Projects proposed should be prioritized or address a specific threat and location that has been prioritized, ideally through a formal planning process that addresses coastal resilience (for example, an adaptation plan, or an adaptation action area, or a Local Mitigation Strategy). Priority will be given to projects that have completed all necessary designs and engineering planning for implementation and demonstrate an understanding of the permits and other approvals necessary for implementation. Projects that have secured all necessary permits will receive higher priority for funding.

If a project is proposed within a managed area, applicants must demonstrate local support for the proposed project by submitting letters of support or verifications of consistency from the resource manager(s) of the managed area.

Applicants proposing projects for either marsh restoration or living shorelines, or floodplain restoration are required to incorporate minimum standards for monitoring, to include baseline monitoring and monitoring for at least one year following construction. Funding may be included in the project budget to cover these minimum monitoring requirements.

Applicants proposing projects for living shorelines are required to show how the suitability of using a living shoreline treatment for the project location was determined.

Funds may not be used to support ongoing efforts to comply with legal requirements, including permit conditions, mitigation and settlement agreements.

Project Type 2: Elevation or relocation of public structures

Eligible projects are restricted to facilities owned by the applicant local government and may include recreation facilities, public meeting spaces, or small office buildings. Eligible projects must bring facilities at least 2 feet above base flood elevation (BFE) or out of the flood plain. (Base flood elevation is defined as “the computed elevation to which floodwater is anticipated to rise during the base flood. Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) are shown on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and on the flood profiles” (<https://www.fema.gov/base-flood-elevation>)).

Projects proposed should be prioritized or address a specific threat and location that has been prioritized, ideally through a formal planning process that addresses coastal resilience (for example, an adaptation plan, or an adaptation action area, or a Local Mitigation Strategy). Priority will be given to projects that have completed all necessary designs and engineering planning for implementation and demonstrate an understanding of the permits and other approvals necessary for implementation. Projects that have secured all necessary permits will receive higher priority for funding.

If a project is proposed within a managed area, applicants must demonstrate local support for the proposed project by submitting letters of support or verifications of consistency from the resource manager(s) of the managed area.

Project Type 3: Projects specifically included in existing adaptation/resilience plans

Eligible projects are those specifically included in an existing adaptation/resilience plan that has been developed by a local government with public participation. Projects will vary widely depending on the needs of each community, but may include stormwater infrastructure projects, projects in adaptation action areas (as defined in Florida Statutes), regrading, elevating electrical infrastructure, implementing low impact development alternatives, etc.

Priority will be given to projects that have completed all necessary designs and engineering planning for implementation and demonstrate an understanding of the permits and other approvals necessary for implementation. Projects that have secured all necessary permits will receive higher priority for funding.

If a project is proposed within a managed area, applicants must demonstrate local support for the proposed project by submitting letters of support or verifications of consistency from the resource manager(s) of the managed area.