

Coastal Resilience Partnership of Southeast Palm Beach County (CRP)

Guiding Principles

The CRP has established guiding principles for the partnership's work. These are common tenets that should frame the region's future growth and development. CRP guiding principles frame the analysis and recommendations geared to diverse aspects of community vulnerability, including socio-economic, environmental, real estate, and infrastructure considerations.

Partnership & Collaboration

- Climate change and its impacts do not stop at municipal borders, and the adaptation of one community can be strengthened or weakened by actions in another. The CRP will coordinate climate adaptation efforts across neighboring jurisdictions, consider public investments/initiatives, and examine opportunities for public-private partnerships.

Infrastructure & Built Environment

- Strategies to protect the built environment will incorporate the best available climate science and projections from the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact. Climate projections and adaptation strategies will be determined on a time horizon relevant to the lifespan and criticality of the asset(s) in question. The CRP recognizes that adaptation should balance engineering solutions, including nature-based strategies, with long-term planning strategies including managed retreat. The CRP will identify and use Adaptation Action Areas to prioritize public investments and limit new development in areas most vulnerable to climate impacts.

Economy

- Adapting to climate change is essential to the region's economy. Impacted sectors should be identified to mitigate economic losses and transition the labor force to growth sectors. Where economic development is appropriate, it will be accomplished in a manner that protects, maintains, and enhances coastal resources, the built environment, historic sites, and tourism. It will also respect local Land Development Regulations and evolving private property rights jurisprudence.

Natural Environment

- Policy development will consider climate change impacts based on the best available science and aim for highest possible level of protection of natural resources, biodiversity, natural systems, and environmental quality. Strategies identified within the Adaptation Action Areas will allow for green or planned open space, protect and possibly expand habitats, and reduce or mitigate sources of pollution.

Social Equity

- Adaptation and resilience strategies must protect human life, public and private property, and cultural resources from climate change impacts. Actions should be prioritized with consideration to economic and social vulnerability to ensure that climate impacts do not disproportionately affect disadvantaged communities and populations.

Emergency Response

- The CRP will apply policies, tools, and training standards to help municipalities prepare for and respond to major disruptions resulting from climate change impacts, with the goal of maintaining and quickly recovering critical operations to reduce adverse effects on people, property, and the environment.

Communication

- The CRP will provide standards and guidance for stakeholder outreach and messaging by navigating social and traditional media to reach all populations. Outreach materials should include a basic understanding of the issues, description of the solutions, and an expectation for the level of service possible in a changing environment with competing priorities. Messaging should be science-based, nonpartisan, and transparent with the aim of allowing stakeholders to make informed decisions.