

## **Climate Change Impacts / Flooding**

Changes to Earth's climate and the increase in temperatures worldwide are having widespread effects on the global environment.

Climate change impacts are resulting in:

- More frequent, severe, longer-duration rainfall events that reduce the time needed for standing water to drain.
- Sea level rise, directly contributing to coastal flooding problems. Sea levels across Florida are as much as 8 inches higher than they were in 1950, and the rate of sea level rise is accelerating.
- Increasing groundwater levels reduce drainage capacity and result in hydrostatic flooding, when water builds up underground and pushes upwards.
- An increasing frequency of flooding caused by high tide floods, such as King Tides, resulting in seawater washing over roadways and into storm drains.

The results of climate change are being felt throughout the United States and worldwide, particularly in coastal communities where sea levels are overwhelming existing protective natural and man-made water barriers and infrastructure.

Hollywood, like surrounding communities, has not been immune to the impacts of climate change. Recent examples include the more than 20 inches of rain that fell over the City during the April 12, 2023, and June 11-13, 2024, flood events. The City and its local and state partner agencies continue to take short-term, intermediate, and long-term steps to address the flood-related impacts associated with climate change. They include, but are not limited to:

- Increasing the number of stormwater pumps in flood-prone areas.
- Enhancing catch basin (4,000+ Citywide) clearance and maintenance throughout the City continuously.
- Improving drainage and water retention capacity through dredging work in flood-prone areas such as Sunset Park and sections of the 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue corridor.
- Evaluating all parks and open spaces for increased stormwater capacity.
- Completing roadway resiliency and drainage projects such as on State Road A1A in north Hollywood Beach.
- Educating residents on flood safety, the importance of flood insurance, and opportunities to mitigate private properties against flooding.

The Hollywood City Commission has adopted a Stormwater Master Plan that includes \$1-2 billion in phased stormwater drainage enhancements and capital improvement projects Citywide over the next two decades. The Plan addresses the impacts of sea level rise throughout east Hollywood; drainage ditch improvements and maintenance; the installation of additional stormwater pumps in flood-prone areas; saltwater intrusion reduction; better aquifer protection; restoration of swales on public rights of way; raising seawalls and flood-prone roadways; and other drainage and protection initiatives. The Plan's implementation will make Hollywood more resilient against the impacts of climate change.