

**REGULAR MEETING  
APALACHICOLA CITY COMMISSION  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026 – 6:00PM  
COMMISSION MEETING ROOM  
74 6<sup>TH</sup> STREET, APALACHICOLA, FLORIDA 32320**

**AGENDA**

You are welcome to comment on any matter under consideration by the Apalachicola City Commission when recognized to do so by the Mayor. Once recognized please rise to the podium, state your name for the record and adhere to the five-minute time limit for public comment. Comments may also be sent by email to the City Manager or to Commissioners.

- I. Call to Order**
  - A. Invocation**
  - B. Pledge of Allegiance**
- II. Agenda Adoption**
- III. Public Comment**
- IV. New Business**
  - 1. Arbor Day Proclamation**
  - 2. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading Ordinance 2026-01 – Repealing Ord. 2024-01 (Business License)**
  - 3. Appointment of Administrative Authority for Issuance of Final Plat Approval**
  - 4. Procurement Approval Contractor for Hill Community Project M0033**
- V. Unfinished Business**
  - None**
- VI. Mayor and Commissioner's Comments**
- VII. City Manager Communications**
- VIII. Attorney Communications**
- IX. Consent Agenda**
  - 1. December 2, 2025 – City Commission Workshop**
  - 2. December 2, 2025 – City Commission Regular Meeting**
  - 3. December 9, 2025 – City Commission Community Workshop**
  - 4. December 15, 2025 – City Commission Special Meeting**

**X. Department Reports – Included in Agenda Packet**

**Adjournment**

Any person who desires to appeal any decision at this meeting will need a record of the proceeding and for this purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made which includes testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. Persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the City Clerk's Office 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

**APALACHICOLA CITY COMMISSION  
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION  
Meeting Date: January 6, 2026**

**SUBJECT:** Arbor Day Proclamation

**AGENDA INFORMATION:**

**Agenda Location:** New Business  
**Item Number:** 1  
**Department:** Code Enforcement  
**Contact:** Charles Anderson  
**Presenter:** Charles Anderson

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** The Apalachicola Tree Committee will observe Arbor Day from 10AM to 12PM on January 31, 2026 in the parking lot of the Apalachicola Margaret Key Library by handing out free trees provided by the Florida Forest Service

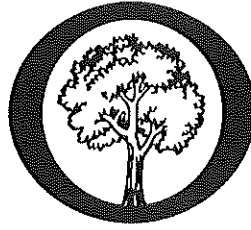
**RECOMMENDED MOTION AND REQUESTED ACTIONS:** Motion to approve Arbor Day Proclamation

**FUNDING SOURCE:** N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:** N/A

**STAFF'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:** Approve

## PROCLAMATION



### Arbor Day

Whereas, the Arbor Day Foundation has certified the City of Apalachicola as a Tree City, and

Whereas the City Commission has appointed a Tree Committee that will observe Arbor Day from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on January 31, 2026, in the parking lot of the Apalachicola Margaret Key Library by handing out free trees provided by the Florida Forest Service,

Whereas, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community,

Whereas, trees reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife,

Whereas, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, and countless other wood products, and

Whereas, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

Now, therefore, I, Brenda Ash, Mayor of the City of Apalachicola, do hereby proclaim January 31, 2026, as Arbor Day in the City of Apalachicola, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and

Further, I urge all citizens to plant trees to promote the well-being of this and future generations.

Signed:

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Brenda Ash, Mayor

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Date

**APALACHICOLA CITY COMMISSION  
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION  
Meeting Date: January 6, 2026**

**SUBJECT:** Business License/Tax Ordinance

**AGENDA INFORMATION:**

**Agenda Location:** New Business  
**Item Number:** 2  
**Department:** Administration  
**Contact:** Dan Hartman  
**Presenter:** Dan Hartman/Lee Mathes

**BRIEF SUMMARY:**

The Interim City Clerk was contacted by the City Insurer (Florida League of Cities) regarding the recently adopted (2024-01) updated Business License Ordinance. Florida Statutes states that Business License fees can only be increased by a certain percentage. The League had concerns regarding the license fee amount for some categories, as some categories were combined with other categories in the new ordinance. The Interim Clerk further advised that the software used to send renewal notices and issue City licenses is not consistent with the recent ordinance change. The fix recommended by the League and Interim Clerk is to repeal Ordinance 2024-01. Attached please find an Ordinance repealing Ordinance 2024-01 for consideration on 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION AND REQUESTED ACTIONS:**

Approve 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of the Ordinance 2026-01 and proceed with adoption process.

**FUNDING SOURCE:** N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:** Ordinance 2026-01

**STAFF'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**CITY OF APALACHICOLA**  
**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-01**

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ORDINANCE 2024-01 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR NEW CATEGORIES FOR OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE TAX, FIXING AMOUNTS AND REVERTING TO PRIOR STATUS (ORDINANCE 2005-11); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; REPEAL AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

FINDINGS:

**WHEREAS**, Article VII, Section 2 of the Florida Constitution provides that municipalities shall have governmental, corporate and proprietary powers to enable municipalities to conduct municipal government, perform municipal functions and render municipal services; and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 166, Florida Statutes, the “Municipal Home Rule Powers Act,” implements the applicable provisions of the Florida Constitution and authorizes municipalities to exercise any power for municipal purposes, except when expressly prohibited by law and to enact ordinances in furtherance thereof;

**WHEREAS**, It is in the public interest to identify and repeal ordinances that have been superseded by statute or inconsistent therewith;

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION:

Section 1. Ordinance 2024-01 is hereby repealed in its entirety. The regulation of Occupational license categories and amounts shall revert to the status set forth in the provisions of Ordinance 2005-11.

Section 2. Severability Clause. Should any provision or section of this ordinance be held by a Court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole, or any part thereof, other than the part so declared to be unconstitutional or invalid.

Section 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect upon approval by the City Commission.

PASSED FIRST READING ON: \_\_\_\_\_

PASSED SECOND READING ON: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY OF APALACHICOLA

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Brenda Ash, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sheneidra Cummings  
CITY CLERK

**APALACHICOLA CITY COMMISSION**  
**REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**  
**Meeting Date: January 6, 2026**

**SUBJECT:** Appointment of Administrative Authority for Issuance of Final Plat Approval as required by Section 177.071, F.S.

**AGENDA INFORMATION:**

**Agenda Location:** New Business  
**Item Number:** 3  
**Department:** Legal  
**Presenter:** Daniel Hartman, City Attorney

**BRIEF SUMMARY:**

In 2025 the Florida Legislature passed an amendment to Section 177.071, F.S. The amendment removes the governing body of a City or County from the plat approval process in favor of an administrative plat (including replat) approval process. A local government's development standards must still be met, but a designated administrative authority provides the approval. The City needs to designate the administrative authority and officer who will approve Plats on its behalf.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION AND REQUESTED ACTIONS:**

1. Motion to Designate \_\_\_\_\_ as the Administrative Officer tasked with approving Plats consistent with Section 177.071, F.S.

Options as to who should fill this role would include:

- a. City Manager
- b. Planning Official
- c. Clerk (a Charter Officer)

**FUNDING SOURCE:** N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:**

A copy of Section 177.071, F.S.

**STAFF'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

We have a pending Plat approval and need to designate the Administrative Officer in order to process the application.



## The 2025 Florida Statutes

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[Title XII](#)  
MUNICIPALITIES

[Chapter 177](#)  
LAND BOUNDARIES

[View Entire Chapter](#)

**177.071 Administrative approval of plats or replats by designated county or municipal official.—**

(1)(a) A plat or replat submitted under this part must be administratively approved and no further action or approval by the governing body of a county or municipality is required if the plat or replat complies with the requirements of s. [177.091](#). The governing body of the county or municipality shall designate, by ordinance or resolution, an administrative authority to receive, review, and process the plat or replat submittal, including designating an administrative official responsible for approving, approving with conditions, or denying the proposed plat or replat.

(b) As used in this section, the term “administrative authority” means a department, division, or other agency of the county or municipality. For purposes of issuing a final administrative approval of a plat or replat submittal, the term also includes an administrative officer or employee designated by the governing body of a county or municipality, including, but not limited to, a county administrator or manager, a city manager, a deputy county administrator or manager, a deputy city manager, an assistant county administrator or manager, an assistant city manager, or other high-ranking county or city department or division director with direct or indirect oversight responsibility for the county’s or municipality’s land development, housing, utilities, or public works programs.

(2) Within 7 business days after receipt of a plat or replat submittal, the administrative authority shall provide written notice to the applicant acknowledging receipt of the plat or replat submittal and identifying any missing documents or information necessary to process the plat or replat submittal for compliance with s. [177.091](#). The written notice must also provide information regarding the plat or replat approval process, including requirements regarding the completeness of the process and applicable timeframes for reviewing, approving, and otherwise processing the plat or replat submittal.

(3) Unless the applicant requests an extension of time, the administrative authority shall approve, approve with conditions, or deny the plat or replat submittal within the timeframe identified in the written notice provided to the applicant under subsection (2). If the administrative authority does not approve the plat or replat, it must notify the applicant in writing of the reasons for declining to approve the submittal. The written notice must identify all areas of noncompliance and include specific citations to each requirement the plat or replat submittal fails to meet. The administrative authority, or an official, an employee, an agent, or a designee of the governing body, may not request or require the applicant to file a written extension of time.

(4) Before a plat or replat is offered for recording, it must be administratively approved as required by this section, and evidence of such approval must be placed on the plat or replat. If not approved, the governing body must return the plat or replat to the professional surveyor and mapper or the legal entity offering the plat or replat for recordation. For the purposes of this part:

(a) When the plat or replat to be submitted for approval is located wholly within the boundaries of a municipality, the municipality has exclusive jurisdiction to approve the plat or replat.

(b) When a plat or replat lies wholly within the unincorporated areas of a county, the county has exclusive jurisdiction to approve the plat or replat.

(c) When a plat or replat lies within the boundaries of more than one county, municipality, or both, two plats or replats must be prepared and each county or municipality has exclusive jurisdiction to approve the plat or replat

within its boundaries, unless each county or municipality with jurisdiction over the plat or replat agrees that one plat is mutually acceptable.

(5) Any provision in a county charter, or in an ordinance of any charter county or consolidated government chartered under s. 6(e), Art. VIII of the State Constitution, which provision is inconsistent with anything contained in this section shall prevail in such charter county or consolidated government to the extent of any such inconsistency.

**History.**—s. 1, ch. 71-339; s. 1, ch. 76-110; s. 1, ch. 77-152; s. 1, ch. 77-278; s. 103, ch. 94-119; s. 1, ch. 95-176; s. 6, ch. 98-20; s. 1, ch. 2025-164.

**APALACHICOLA CITY COMMISSION  
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION  
Meeting Date: January 6, 2026**

**SUBJECT:** Procurement Approval Contractor for Hill Community Project M0033

**AGENDA INFORMATION:**

**Agenda Location:** New Business  
**Item Number:** 4  
**Department:** Grants  
**Contact:** Leslie Glaze  
**Presenter:** Charles Anderson

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** Hydra Engineering had the only bid for the Hill Community Project. Florida Department of Commerce approved the sole bid and our attorney, Dan Hartman, concurred with Commerce's decision. We are on a strict timeline of 9/30/26 and must get construction started.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION AND REQUESTED ACTIONS:** Approve Hydra Engineering as the winning bid for the Hill Community Project-M0033.

**FUNDING SOURCE:** CDBG Funding through FL Dept of Commerce

**STAFF'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

A Workshop of the City Commission of the City of Apalachicola was held on Tuesday, December 2, 2025 at 5PM at the Commission Meeting Room located at 74 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Apalachicola, Florida.

Present: Mayor Brenda Ash, Commissioner Despina George, Commissioner Donna Knutson, Commissioner Donna Duncan, Commissioner Adriane Elliott, City Manager Charles Anderson, City Attorney Dan Hartman, Finance Director Lee Mathes, Grant Coordinator Leslie Glaze

Mayor Ash called workshop to order.

#### **AGENDA ADOPTION**

Motion to adopt agenda made by Commissioner George, seconded by Commissioner Elliott.  
Motion carried 5 to 0.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

#### **PRESENTATION OF DRAFT ADAPTATION ACTION PLAN BY BAY MEDIA SERVICES, LLC**

Cindy Clark outlined the City of Apalachicola's Adaptation Analysis and Action Plan. The City's Adaptation Plan is the next step toward mitigating challenges experienced from storm flooding and projected surge and sea level rise. The plan follows the 2025 Vulnerability Assessment in which the Exposure and Sensitivity Analyses identified specific focus areas and critical infrastructure most vulnerable to storm events. The Workshop is to present the report to the public along with an assessment of adaptive capacities, adaptation needs, identification of adaptation strategies, and to allow the public to provide community-specific input on the identified adaptation needs and strategies as identified in the draft AP as well as an opportunity to prioritize adaptation needs.

Discussion held.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Elliott, seconded by Commissioner Knutson. Motion carried 5 to 0.

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Brenda Ash, Mayor

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Lee Mathes, Finance Director

A Regular Meeting of the City Commission of the City of Apalachicola was held on Tuesday, December 2, 2025 at 6PM at the Commission Meeting Room, 74 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Apalachicola, Florida.

Present: Mayor Brenda Ash, Commissioner Despina George, Commissioner Donna Knutson, Commissioner Donna Duncan, Commissioner Adriane Elliott, City Manager Charles Anderson, Finance Director Lee Mathes, City Attorney Dan Hartman, Chief of Police Bobby Varnes, Grants Coordinator Leslie Glaze

Regular Meeting opened by Mayor Ash followed by Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **AGENDA ADOPTION**

Motion to adopt agenda made by Commissioner Elliott, seconded by Commissioner Duncan.  
Motion carried 5 to 0.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Allen Palmer – Thanked the City for cleaning and installing new stop and street signs.
2. Karen Kessel – Expressed concern regarding the Panhandle Players shed that sits in front of the Chapman Building stating that it is a code violation.

#### **IGA LIFT STATION CONTRACT AWARD APPROVAL**

Motion to award the contract to Monolith Construction in the amount of \$337,595.11 for the IGA Lift Station Project made by Commissioner George, seconded by Commissioner Elliott. Motion carried 5 to 0.

#### **WASTEWATER COLLECTION UPGRADE CONTRACT AWARD APPROVAL**

Motion to award contract to Flo-Vac Technology for the Wastewater Collection Upgrade Project with a start date of January 5, 2026 made by Commissioner Elliott, seconded by Commissioner Knutson. Motion carried 5 to 0.

#### **AVENUES STORMWATER REPAIR PROJECT CDBG-DR CONTRACT AWARD APPROVAL**

Motion to award contract to Hinterland Group, LLC for the Avenues Stormwater Repair Project CDBG-DR in the amount of \$1,686,080 with a start date of December 8, 2025 made by Commissioner Elliott, seconded by Commissioner Duncan. Motion carried 5 to 0.

**RATIFY HISTORIC FLOODPLAIN EXEMPTION FOR HISTORY, CULTURE, & ART BUILDING**

Cindy Clark outlined request to ratify a floodplain exemption for the HCA building stating that construction in all rated A&V zones require either floodproofing or meeting FIRM elevation requirements, but historic structures can be exempted from this requirement with an administrative variance which an exemption was issued for the ADA bathroom construction.

Motion to approve ratifying floodplain exemption for HCA building based on historic designation of structure made by Commissioner Elliott, seconded by Commissioner Duncan. Motion carried 5 to 0.

**MAYOR & COMMISSION COMMENTS**

1. Mayor Ash asked Attorney Hartman for an update on the Housing Authority property associated with the Sylvester Williams FRDAP grant.

Attorney Hartman stated that the local Housing Authority board has referred this matter to HUD as the local Housing Authority board does not have the authority to sign the quick claim deed. The County is proceeding with the Sylvester Williams Park FRDAP grant as the piece of property that is located within the park and owned by the Housing Authority is not included within the scope of the current FRDAP grant project.

2. Mayor Ash asked Attorney Hartman for an update on the Denton Cove IGA Lift Station litigation.

Attorney Hartman stated he contacted Denton Cove council advising them the Commission wants to proceed with the \$70,000 settlement. A settlement hearing with the court has been filed and will keep Commission updated as the case progresses.

3. Mayor Ash asked Attorney Hartman to provide an update on the Panhandle Players portable building located at the Chapman Building.

Attorney Hartman stated that Planning & Zoning Commission did discuss this matter, but he will need to confirm whether or not the County has to comply by going through the Planning & Zoning process to obtain a permit.

Mayor Ash asked Attorney Hartman to research this matter and report back to Commission.

4. Mayor Ash stated a new liaison needs to be appointed to the Fire Department

Motion to appoint Commissioner Duncan as liaison to the Fire Department made by Commissioner Knutson, seconded by Commissioner Elliott. Motion carried 5 to 0.

5. Commissioner Knutson inquired about zoom capability for Commission meetings.

City Manager Anderson stated the current system does not provide for zoom capability as this system is for live broadcast and recording.

6. Commissioner George requested a report outlining the projects allocated to the \$5 million state appropriation.

City Manager Anderson stated a report on projects allocated and future allocations will be brought back to the Commission.

7. Commissioner George stated that when the Commission Meeting Room sound system was installed, it was conveyed that zoom capability was available.

City Manager Anderson stated he will contact Howard Technology for clarity.

8. Commissioner George inquired about the encroachment ordinance as the City currently has no Code Enforcement Officer.

City Manager Anderson stated anyone can contact City Hall and someone will come look at the situation. The Police Department will be utilized if necessary.

9. Commissioner Elliott inquired about the status of the rate study.

City Manager Anderson stated that will be coming next month.

10. Commissioner Elliott gave update on Team Franklin progress.

#### **CITY MANAGER COMMUNICATIONS**

City Manager Anderson read memorandum outlining background and updates on the local bill transferring the City of Apalachicola's utility system.

Discussion held concerning scheduling community workshop, utility system regionalization, and utility system asset ownership.

Commission agreed to hold a community workshop on Tuesday, December 9, 2025 at 6PM with location to be determined.

**ATTORNEY COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion to approve consent agenda made by Commissioner George, seconded by Commissioner Elliott. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner George, seconded by Commissioner Elliott. Motion carried 5 to 0.

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Brenda Ash, Mayor

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Lee Mathes, Finance Director



A Community Workshop of the City Commission of the City of Apalachicola was held on Tuesday, December 9, 2025 at 6PM at the Chapman Auditorium located at 155 Avenue E, Apalachicola, Florida.

Present: Mayor Brenda Ash, Commissioner Despina George, Commissioner Donna Knutson, Commissioner Donna Duncan, Commissioner Adriane Elliott, City Manager Charles Anderson, City Attorney Dan Hartman, Finance Director Lee Mathes, Grants Coordinator Leslie Glaze

Community Workshop called to order by Mayor Ash.

**DISCUSSION – RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT – LOCAL BILL TRANSFERRING APALACHICOLA UTILITY SYSTEM**

City Manager Anderson stated the purpose of the community workshop is to give the public an opportunity to voice their concerns regarding the local bill transferring City of Apalachicola's utility system.

Public expressed their concerns to the Commission regarding the local bill.

Topics of discussion included transfer of assets, regionalization, appointment of special district members, rate increases, lack of collaboration between the City and State, lack of accountability if local bill passes, lack of local control if local bill passes, feasibility study, JLAC audit, and Attorney General audit.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Elliott, seconded by Commissioner George. Motion carried 5 to 0.

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Brenda Ash, Mayor

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Lee Mathes, Finance Director

A Special Meeting of the City Commission of the City of Apalachicola was held on Monday, December 15, 2025 at 1PM at the Commission Meeting Room, 74 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Apalachicola, Florida.

Present: Mayor Brenda Ash, Commissioner Donna Knutson, Commissioner Donna Duncan, Commissioner Despina George, Commissioner Adriane Elliott, City Manager Charles Anderson, City Attorney Dan Hartman, Finance Director Lee Mathes

Special meeting called to order my Mayor Ash.

### **AGENDA ADOPTION**

Motion to adopt agenda made by Commissioner Elliott, seconded by Commissioner Knutson.  
Motion carried 5 to 0.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Bobby Miller – expressed concern about City of Apalachicola giving up control of the City’s utility system and water rights.
2. Bonnie Davis – encouraged Commission to look for a compromise that will allow some monitoring and a plan.
3. Linda Buchanan – recommended the City retained control of the City utility system.
4. Byron Blan – expressed concern about the State taking over the City’s water system.

### **COMMISSION DISCUSSION/DECISION – LOCAL BILL TRANSFERRING UTILITY SYSTEM**

Mayor Ash stated the purpose of this special meeting was for the Commission to hear options and make a decision on a path forward while the local bill transferring the utility system is still going through the approval process.

City Manager Anderson updated the Commission and public on additional information regarding the latest bill language and Commissioner meetings related to the establishment of the Apalachicola Water and Sewer District. City Manager Anderson stated the community workshop was well attended and the Commission heard good options that were presented by the public.

Commission discussed collaboration and partnership, rate study results, transfer of assets, creation of new special district and regionalization, bill language as it is currently written, special district oversight and accountability, loss of local control, role of City Commission, plans for moving forward as a Commission and community, and delaying the passing of the bill at this time until further information can be obtained.

Motion to request that Senator Simon and Representative Shoaf do not file the bill by January 9, 2026 and work with Commission over the next year or two, so the City is in a better position to be a partner or a leader in regionalization made by Commissioner Knutson, seconded by Commissioner George. Motion carried 5 to 0.

Attorney Hartman recommended the Commission appoint a spokesperson to speak on behalf of the Commission.

Mayor Ash stated she will be the designated spokesperson, but each Commissioner will also have the opportunity to voice their comments.

Attorney Hartman stated he feels it is appropriate to have the Mayor state the Commission's position, but the whole Commission can also speak on important points.

Discussion held.

Motion to appoint City Manager Anderson as Commission Spokesperson at the delegation meeting made by Commissioner George, seconded by Commissioner Elliott with discussion.

Commissioner Elliott asked how Attorney Hartman and City Manager Anderson felt about the situation.

Attorney Hartman stated someone needs to state the Commission's position, and the Mayor typically speaks first, and then whatever order the rest of the Commission wants to speak.

City Manager Anderson stated he will participate as needed.

Commissioner Elliott stated that City Manager Anderson, speaking on operational points, could be a strategic point for the City.

Discussion held.

Commissioner Elliott asks Commissioner George if she would consider amending the motion to simply have City Manager Anderson speak to the operational points.

Commissioner George leaves motion as originally stated. Motion failed 1 to 4. Opposed: Commissioner Duncan, Commissioner Knutson, Commissioner Elliott, Mayor Ash.

Special Meeting – 12/15/25 – Page 3

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner George, seconded by Commissioner Duncan. Motion carried 5 to 0.

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Brenda Ash, Mayor

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Lee Mathes, Finance Director

CITY OF APALACHICOLA  
Finance/City Clerk Report  
October – December 2025

1. Processed payroll all pay periods.
2. Processed retirement and insurance payments.
3. Finance Clerk processed purchase orders, accounts payable, and completed other duties as assigned by Finance Director and City Manager.
4. Finance Director updated all grant accounting notebooks and submitted TDC reimbursements for Police Department overtime.
5. Uploading FY 24/25 information to auditor online portal so audit can began after holidays.
6. FY 24-25 budget amendment has been finalized and passed.
7. FY 25/26 budget process has been finalized and passed TRIM regulations without any errors.
8. Completed various Human Resources duties.
9. Completed FY 25/26 insurance renewals for health, dental, vision, and FMIT coverage.
10. Completed DEP submerged land lease annual report.
11. Working with Grants Coordinator to get projects reimbursed as quickly as possible.
12. Updated FY 25/26 monthly utility billing summary report for auditors.
13. Audited the monthly utility billing activity.
14. City Clerk Duties: Assembled agenda packets and distributed to Commission, posted minutes and meeting dates to website, completed Commission minutes, assisted front staff with utility billing issues and duties, and other miscellaneous duties.
15. Met with City Manager on various issues. Completed tasks as directed by City Manager.
16. October – December financials will be completed by February meeting. Budget expense report along with financials will be distributed when completed.

Lee Mathes, Finance Director

## APALACHICOLA POLICE DEPARTMENT

November 2025

## APALACHICOLA POLICE DEPARTMENT

November 2025

This month we participated in holding security for the Seafood Festival and Chunky Sunday. We will also participated in the Fall Festival at the Sheriff's office, as well as giving out Halloween Treats at the office. Officer Shuman did patrol at the ABC fall festival. Our department has been providing extra security at the Franklin County Schools basketball games. Officer Shuman also provided extra patrol at this years Downtown Christmas Celebration.

### November 2025 Totals

Traffic Stops/ Warnings/ citations	40/5/2
Arrests/ Warrant Requests	12
Traffic Accidents	5
Burglary/Theft calls	3
Assist Citizens/ Complaints/Investigations	400
Trespass Warnings/agreements	2
Business alarm calls/building checks/welfare checks	550
assist county call/other agencies	20
Assist Animal control	0
Domestic cases involving violence/disturbance calls	2
Total calls from dispatch	1020

## APALACHICOLA POLICE DEPARTMENT

December 2025

This month APD participated in the festivities and the Sheriff Department "Jingle at the Jail" and also had a great time decorating cookies with the Seniors at the ECCC.

### December 2025 Totals

Traffic Stops/ Warnings/ citations	20 /5/3
Arrests/ Warrant Requests	5
Traffic Accidents	3
Burglary/Theft calls	2
Assist Citizens/ Complaints/investigations	200
Trespass Warnings/agreements	2
Business alarm calls/building checks/welfare checks	500
assist county call/other agencies	25
Assist Animal control	0
Domestic cases involving violence/disturbance calls	0
 Total calls from dispatch	 1000



## **City of Apalachicola | Planning and Community Development**

### ***Monthly Report December 2025***

#### **December Planning and Zoning Board**

- Attended December P&Z Board regular meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
- Prepared December P&Z Board regular meeting minutes.
- Attended December P&Z Board quasi-judicial public hearing on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
- Prepared December P&Z Board public hearing meeting minutes.

#### **January Planning and Zoning Board**

- Accepted and reviewed one application (*submission deadline 12:00 P.M. December 24<sup>th</sup>*):
  - 99 Butler Street.
- Prepared January P&Z Board regular meeting draft agenda.

#### **Miscellaneous**

- Updated general P&Z application to include:
  - 2026 meeting dates and time.
  - Site plan requirements for protected trees.
  - Link to LDC and Comprehensive Plan on Municode.
- Drafted acknowledgement of plat/replat application notice letter pursuant to F.S. 177.071(2) for review by City Attorney.
- Answered questions from applicants, city staff, and the public:
  - Accessory structures and their regulations.
  - Protected trees and tree permits.
  - Sidewalk permits.
  - Short-term rentals.
  - Lots of record.
  - Subdivision improvements.



## City of Apalachicola Public Works Monthly Report December 2025

The public works department, services city vehicles and replaces all the tires on city vehicles, services all the mowers and weed eaters, cut all city parks, cut all city properties, empty all garbage cans downtown and city parks, clean city right of ways, cut city right of ways, and patch holes on city roads as needed.

- Cut and clean up lafette park
- Cut and clean up around scipio creek
- Painting and straightening up the poles and putting new rope on them at 6<sup>th</sup> street and ave D
- Straightening up poles and painted at snow hill cemetery
- Working on cut grass off sidewalks off 12<sup>th</sup> street
- Straighten polls and changing out signs around city area
- Cut and clean up around water tower for DEP inspection
- Cut disease palm trees down on 5<sup>th</sup> street and 7<sup>th</sup> street and haul to land filled
- Cleaning ride away out on 23<sup>rd</sup> street
- Took down trees on 26<sup>th</sup> street lift station for water and sewer
- Put miled asphalt on 16<sup>th</sup> street and Ave D
- Working on ditch map

### **\*Building and Maintenace Crew**

- . Put picnic table together for the new library
- . Moved 8 tables from HCA to the 6<sup>th</sup> street build
- . Put 2 tablets together at holy family
- . Replaced all air filters in city buildings
- . Changed oil in all hustler lawn mowers

Completed by Greg Harris

**Apalachicola Margaret Key Public Library**  
**December 2025**



Library hours are 10am to 6pm Monday – Friday.

We are YOUR City of Apalachicola Library. Come sign up for your FREE Apalachicola library card. Any library offering is FREE to the public.

Our 'Friends of the Library group' is the Patrons of the Apalachicola Library Society (PALS).

They are a 501c3 nonprofit and membership forms to join are in the library.

Follow us on Facebook or Instagram @Apalachicolapubliclibrary for the latest!

December 2025 Statistics:

- 2,098 patrons visited our library - 19 new accounts opened!
- 238 patrons used our computers - 410 books/movies/items circulated
- 156 items donated to the library - \$514.18 collected as library revenue – 125 hours donated by our wonderful volunteers – 35,856 people reached on social media

Ho, Ho, Ho! December kept us in full holiday swing with a visit from Santa Claus, the Grinch, and Santa's elves. Thank you to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, Bring Me A Book Forgotten Coast, and to our PALS volunteers for helping! This month we also decorated cookies, made holiday ornaments, and handmade gifts during our Arts and Crafts hour. "Reindeer Games" in STEAM brought out a crowd and was organized by PALS member Richard Lenhart, with assistance from Elly Bissen and Greg Gologowski. Holiday fly-tying was another hit, thanks to student expert, Ken E. We are excited to offer new activities in January, and an international spin on our beloved Music Series!

Remember, this is YOUR library. We also welcome out-of-town visitors! We invite you to come in, grab a calendar, a free cup of coffee or tea, a few books, and enjoy fellowship with other library visitors. Your City of Apalachicola Library helps with reading, writing, and learning, and offers a suite of print/copy/scan/fax/and notary services. We loan FREE books, movies, puzzles, board games, and items from our Library of Things, and offer FREE audio books, e-books, and digital magazines through the Libby app. We also have a Book sale space on-site with FREE magazines. All donations go to our Friends of the Library group, PALS. Free Legal Help through volunteers from Legal Services of Northwest Florida is available each month; appointments are required. We also offer Yoga weekly (in a by-donation class) on Mondays @ 6:15pm, Bring Me A Book Forgotten Coast hosts 'Books for Babies' weekly on Tuesday mornings @ 10:30am, and Mahjong meets Mondays and Wednesdays mornings @ 10. Our once-a-month Book Club meets each 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday @ 6pm; and Homework Help (FREE tutoring!) is by appointment.

Let us know how we can serve you!

Call: 850-653-8436 or email: [apalachicolalibrary@gmail.com](mailto:apalachicolalibrary@gmail.com)

Isel Sánchez-Whiteley, Library Assistant  
Lucy Carter, Library Director

### **City of Apalachicola Grant Projects:**

1. **Title: COA Critical Asset Flood Management (24SRP65)**  
**Grantor Agency:** Florida Dept of Environmental Protection Resilient Florida  
**Amount:** \$2,403,500  
**Contractor:** Inovia  
**Purpose:** Fund projects that help communities adapt to and mitigate the impacts of flooding and sea-level rise by identifying nuisance flooding drainage issues. Apalachicola will replace and retrofit pipe systems at multiple roadway intersections, add inlets, pipes, water quality vaults, crown reconstruction, and construction of roadway conveyance systems.  
  
**Project Update:** Inovia has Schematic Design plans complete and will have a procurement package ready for bid by Jan 15, 2026.
2. **Title: African American Museum-Project Complete September 2026**  
**Grantor Agency:** DOS and DHR  
**Amount:** \$1,250,000  
**Contractor:** Monolith Construction and Bret Hammond Design  
**Purpose:** Construction of the African American Museum in front of the Holy Family Senior Center.  
  
**Project Update:** Concrete and the foundation is complete, and walls will be going up in January and roof in February.
3. **Title: Drainage Basin Analysis Phase II + Camera Work of Stormwater Lines (D0260)-Project Completion Feb 2026**  
**Grantor Agency:** FL Dept of Commerce Rural Infrastructure Fund  
**Amount:** \$300,000  
**Contractor:** Bay Media and Dewberry  
**Purpose:** Addresses localized flooding and planning for water quality treatment in the drainage basin that borders Apalachicola River and Bay. Documents stormwater conveyance characteristics, structural and natural, along with deficiencies that have contributed to localized flooding within 18 drainage basin areas comprised of 310 acres & 2 previous basins from 2018.  
  
**Project Update:**  
City prioritize repairs based on report from Dewberry due on Jan 15, 2026. Report will be in front of the Commission for the Feb meeting and will be used to develop a water quality treatment plan at the outfalls discharging in the Apalachicola River.  
  
**Challenges:** City is applying for additional funding to repair identified areas.
4. **Title: Inflow & Infiltration Study (LPA0451)-Project Complete by Feb 2026**  
**Grantor Agency:**  
**Amount:** \$300,000  
**Contractor:** Dewberry  
**Purpose:** City has an aging infrastructure made of terra cotta pipes and faulty water lines, and this study will assess local sources of surface water and/or groundwater prior to entering a sewage system using smoke testing, dye testing, and visual inspections to locate structural defects or water stains to summarize existing data pertinent to the hydrologic conditions and hydrogeology in the study and surrounding area. This will produce a pre-design report that will detail the scope

of the problem in the analysis area, outline design options, and identify the tasks required to complete a resolution to the problem.

**Project Update:**

Smoke testing was completed, and final report due to the City by Dec/Jan 26. Report will be before the Commission at the Feb meeting.

5. **Title: Avenues Stormwater Repair Project (M0016)-Project until Sept 2027**

**Grantor Agency:** Florida Department of Commerce, CDBG

**Amount:** \$3,691,869

**Contractor:** Gouras, Dewberry, and Hinterland

**Purpose:** Infrastructure projects to repair stormwater systems damaged by Hurricane Michael. Fund repairs and upgrades for Avenues Stormwater Drainage System by cleaning, videoing, and rehabilitating 6400 linear feet of the City's Stormwater Infrastructure.

**Project Update:**

Hinterland Construction won the construction bid, approved by DOC to proceed, 11/4/25. Contractor began work 12/08/2025.

6. **Title: Wells Rehab (M0016)-Project will be complete January 2026**

**Grantor Agency:** Florida Department of Commerce, CDBG

**Amount:** \$555,000

**Contractor:** Dewberry, Subsurface Technologies, Inc

**Purpose:** Well Rehab for City's three Wells 5, 6, 7 using new technology carbon dioxide to clean wells by chemically and physically dislodging mineral and biological deposits that reduce water flow. The process involves injecting gaseous and liquefied into the well to create carbonic acid, which dissolves deposits, and also uses the rapid expansion of to create physical agitation that loosens material. The resulting dislodged material is then pumped out, restoring the well's capacity, with up to 90% of the being captured and stored to mitigate carbon emissions.

**Project Update:** All 3 Wells require new pumps and motors and are being configured to operate on a dedicated electrical service and control system. Well 5 & 6 are complete and operate 2x as fast at full capacity. Well Camera can see 401 feet compared to 70 feet, a highly positive indication of a successful well rehabilitation with a dramatic increase in visibility and clarity due to significant obstructions, water quality issues, and fine particles that were blocking the camera's view being removed. Well 7 rehabilitations have begun and will be completed Jan/Feb 26.

7. **Title: Wells Rehab Maintenance**

**Grantor Agency:** DEP and SAHM Funding

**Amount:** \$502,610

**Contractor:** Subsurface

**Purpose:** Preventive well maintenance system for 3 newly modernized existing municipal wells using advanced resilient technology to reduce mechanical failure and improve operational reliability.

**Project Update:** The City was only recently notified of this award and will work with Subsurface on executing a maintenance contract.

8. **Title: Odor Scrubber/Aerator-Project Complete**

**Grantor Agency:** FEMA, City Insurance

**Amount:** \$500,000

**Contractor:** SGS, ECS, Dewberry

**Purpose:** Odor scrubber aerator used for city water to remove foul odors by introducing oxygen through aeration, which converts odor-causing gases like hydrogen sulfide into less pungent compounds. It also oxidizes iron and manganese and removes volatile organic chemicals, improving overall water quality and taste.

**Project Update:** Odor Scrubber/Aerator delivered, piping created, and equipment configured for operation. Odor Scrubber/Aerator became fully operational Wed, Nov 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

9. **Title: Sprayfield and Solar Project (LPA0452)-Project Complete**

**Grantor Agency:** State Appropriation and DEP 2024

**Amount:** \$130,000

**Purpose:** Apalachicola has upgraded its wastewater treatment plant sprayfield with new spray heads and solar panels. The sprayfield project aims to improve the efficiency and environmental protection of the treatment process, while the 2 new solar arrays will generate power for the city.

**Project Update:** Completed the replacement and repair of spray heads, solar panels, and a single-use pump at the wastewater treatment plant's sprayfield. Project will improve the efficiency of the wastewater treatment process, ensure water quality, and protect the environment, and help generate clean, sustainable energy for the City of Apalachicola.

10. **Title: HMGP Market Street Vacuum Station (M0142)-Phase 1 Complete**

**Grantor Agency:** FDEM and Dept of Commerce Match

**Amount:** \$120,000 with Match of \$37,500

**Contractor:** CPWG Madrid Phase 1 and Halff Associates Phase II

**Purpose:** Design of a new vacuum sewage station located near intersection of Market Street and Avenue G. Project to provide protective measures to wastewater infrastructure of the historic downtown commercial district in Apalachicola.

**Project Update:** Grant management tasks have been completed for Phase 1 and design/plans for new Vacuum Station awaiting Federal FEMA approval to begin procurement process.

**Challenges:** We are on a strict time frame to complete this project by June 30, 2027. Expectation that this project will take approximately 16 months-Bid to Completion.

11. **Title: Wastewater Treatment Plant Package A & B (WG038 and 22SRP17)**

**Grantor Agency:** DEP

**Amount:** \$13,381,516

**Contractor:** Dewberry, Gouras, North Florida Construction

**Purpose:** Constructing facility improvements including demolishing and replacing the headworks structure, screening and grit removal equipment, demolishing and replacing the in-plant re-use pump station, demolishing and replacing the plant drain pumping station, a new electrical building with new electrical equipment, controls, emergency diesel-driven generator and transfer switch.

**Project Update:** Bids were extended due to Engineer and Consultant issues until 10/17/2025. Contractor selected for WWTP is North Florida Construction for \$9.3 million. ODP equipment has begun and the City will be starting procurement for equipment Jan 2026.

**Challenges:** City has \$7.5 million for Package B to complete the project. Applying for grants in Jan 2026 to make up the difference of approximately \$3 million dollars.

**12. Title: IGA Lift Station and Ellis Van Fleet Lift Station (DEP)-Project Complete by Sept 2026**

**Grantor:** DEP

**Amount:** \$1.45 million

**Contractor:** Monolith Construction and Dewberry

**Purpose:** Repair the 2 Lift Stations as IGA is not working and a bypass pump is being used through Ellis Van Fleet. Lift stations use powerful pumps to lift wastewater from lower elevations to higher elevations, allowing it to flow where gravity alone cannot move the waste.

**Project Update:** Bids opened on 11/17/25 and Monolith selected. Contracts are executed and the City and Monolith have met several times and the project has begun.

**13. Title: Flo-Vac Sewage Collection Upgrades**

**Grantor:** DEP

**Amount:** \$1.19 million

**Contractor:** City

**Purpose:** City needs to be able to monitor stormwater issues throughout the City and receive alerts immediately resulting in quick repairs to prevent stormwater flooding.

**Project Updates:** The City is 60% complete with the project using Flo-Vac technology with the individual monitors reporting to a centralized station. Flo-Vac Technology was selected during procurement and will begin work January 12, 2026, with expected completion before the end of the year.

**14. Title: Riverfront Revitalization Community Projects:**

**Grantor:** DEO/CDBG Funding

**Amount:** \$4.8 million

**Contractor:** Halff and Gouras

**Purpose:** Revitalization of business and public areas in the Riverfront District to include private business docks, public docks, sidewalks, lighting, and parking areas.

**Project Updates:** Only remaining item is to obtain the US Army Corps of Engineering Permit, and the City can bid out the project. Bid Package has been reviewed by Commerce and the Environmental Review at Commerce. Pophma Building had to be taken out of the grant due to the State's Historical Dept refusing to declare the building no longer has structural integrity. If Pophma kept in, the time delay for the additional historical review could be up to 4-5 months which is not feasible if the City wishes to keep the \$4.8 million. Estimate costs of Pophma debris cleanup is approximately \$25K.

**Challenges:** US Army Corps of Engineers permit is the only barrier to beginning procurement.

**15. Title: Hill Community Project Building Section Completed by May 2026.**

**Grantor:** DEO/CDBG Funding

**Amount:** \$935,000

**Contractor:** Hydra Engineering

**Purpose:** Revitalize the Hill Community and its economic vitality by repairing and upgrading 2 buildings-The Mini-Mart and AJ's. Sidewalks and lighting will follow the building portion.

**Project Update:** Hydra Engineering was selected to repair the 2 buildings. Contract needs to be approved by the Commission.

**Challenges:** City has requested additional funding for the sidewalks and lighting as the prices originally budgeted a couple of years ago no longer hold.

**16. Title: Bodiford Docks-Project will be complete by June 2026.**

**Grantor:** FEMA and the City

**Amount:** \$53,824

**Contractor:** Coastline Clearing

**Purpose:** Repair the docks to pre-Michael Status.

**Project Update:** Demolition of the dock is complete and rebuilding is underway.

**17. Scipio Dock and Electrical Repair-Project will be complete by August 2026.**

**Grantor:** FEMA, County, and the City Capital Improvement Funds

**Amount:** \$74,090 plus electrical costs which are estimated to be approx.: \$400,000.

**Contractor:** Coastline Clearing

**Purpose:** Rebuild Scipio to pre-Michael status and improve the electrical panels at Scipio.

**Project Update:** Construction has started on the dock and the City will be bidding out the electrical portion of the project in January 2026. Dock work will be completed by June 2026. Electrical work is estimated to take 6 months including procurement.

**18. Title: V-Dock Piers Project complete by 2027.**

**Grantor:** Tourist Development Council

**Amount:** \$1,000,000

**Contractor:** HG Harders

**Purpose:** Rebuilding the V-Pier dock for locals and tourists alike.

**Project Update:** Project has begun construction and Phase I will end Sept 2026 with Phase II following right after with TDC splitting the payments \$500,000 per phase.

**19. Title: Fire Hydrant Installation Project-Project Complete January 2026.**

**Grantor:** Fire Marshall Appropriation

**Amount:** \$275,000

**Contractor:** Extreme Construction and Core & Main

**Purpose:** Continue the City's projects to replace all the fire hydrants over the course of 3 years. 15 additional hydrants were bought in addition to the 78 that were installed since August 2025.

**20. Title: HCA ADA Bathroom Remodel-Project Complete**

**Grantor:** Tourist Development Council

**Amount:** \$25,000

**Contractor:** Home Depot

**Purpose:** Remodel the restroom at the HCA building to be ADA Compliant.

**21. Title: New Well Construction**

**Grantor:** DEP and SAHM Funding

**Amount:** \$1,500,000

**Contractor:** Dewberry

**Purpose:** Development of one new municipal well incorporating the same resilient design standards, including associated pipeline infrastructure to ensure redundancy and service continuity.

**Project Update:** The City was only recently notified of the award and will need to compile a bid package for a contractor and engineer to oversee the construction of this well.

22. Old City Hall was not funded again in this year's Governor's Budget, but when Phase III concludes in Summer 2026, the City will be able to occupy the building. Phase IV will have to wait until category is funded or we find other streams of funding. The same goes for the HCA building where funds for a second-required stair access were not part of the Governor's Budget, but the building can be used by the City with the new bathroom complete.
23. FEMA projects including Emergency Prep, Vacuum Pump, Marina Electrical Repairs are all complete and FEMA and the State are releasing payment.
24. Lafayette Tree Project is complete and project closeout papers have been filed.
25. The Critical Generator Projects consisting of generators at City Hall, Police/Fire, and a portable generator for the Vacuum Sewage Station have been completed, and the City is filing closeout paperwork.
26. The City has an active, open application with the FDACS for \$50,000 to hire a certified tree arborist to treat our trees and develop a trimming/pruning program that will save the City's trees.



### Additional City Projects:

#### Lafayette Park Tree Project: (\$20,000)

34 trees planted and ground cover will be planted by December and project complete by end of year.

#### Fire Hydrants (\$275,000)

90 New Fire Hydrants are being installed through CBC Construction, and the project is 75% complete.

#### HCA Building: (

New ADA Restroom is being installed by Home Depot and elevator and additional

### Gouras issues WWTP

2 weeks of Extensions had to bc Gouras and Dewberry did not include the Outreach requirement and advertising had to be continued till 10/17, 2025-

4 weeks from Bid Opening to getting the documents to DEP for approval

Gouras is asking the City for continual assistance to include reporting at the last minute every month and quarter, all Fair Housing and Section 3 for CDBG.

WWTP: Challenges: City prepared required Outreach Letters 8/12/2025 and Gouras did not send out the letters until 9/17/2025 resulting in a 5 week delay getting the contractor certified.

### **Regulatory and Planning Capacity**

*(excerpted from COA Adaption Action Plan 2025)*

Prior to official State Resilience legislation, the City of Apalachicola had already begun many planning initiatives aimed at making the City more resilient to flooding - both from storms and sea level rise even though those efforts were not then recognized as adaptation planning.

Apalachicola's early growth management efforts set the trajectory for Apalachicola's resilience efforts in that

it put low density, lot coverage restrictions, stormwater management and floodplain management priorities into place to ensure water quality protection.

**Early Efforts** Apalachicola was designated an Area of Critical State Concern in 1985 with the legislative intent to protect the natural and economic resources of the Apalachicola Bay Area through comprehensive land planning, promoting compatible economic growth, improving water quality, and promoting resource protection. As part of the ACSC designation, the City was tasked with creating an ACSC work plan by which progress on the objectives of the designation is provided to the state on a semiannual basis.

Beginning in 2017, Apalachicola initiated several important planning studies which have led to the development of regulatory measures designed to officially address resiliency planning in the City.

**The following is a summary of projects that have helped formulate the base for the City's Resilience initiatives relating to infrastructure**

**2017 #DO108 - Vulnerability Analysis** One of the City's earliest resilience efforts, this grant funded two important resilience planning initiatives which have set the stage for several implementation projects:

- Complete a vulnerability analysis for the entire City by utilizing NOAA sea level rise data and create an ArcGIS-compatible shapefile to analyze the anticipated impacts of low, moderate, and high levels of inundation by flooding on all parcels in the City.

- Work with an architect experienced with historic preservation to create a brochure that includes illustrations of building

facades (elevations) and examples of flood resistant techniques compatible with the goals of historic preservation.

**2018 - DEO PO295 - Community Planning Technical Assistance Grant** Intended to build on the City's initial resiliency planning efforts, this grant funded a multi-faceted planning project to update the City's comprehensive plan, draft land development regulations and implement a floodplain management permitting system.

**2019 Achieving Resilience Through Hazard Mitigation - MESC/Dauphin Island Sea Lab Subcontract 2667RE-003- Applying Mitigation Measures to Apalachicola's Vulnerable Historic and Economically Significant Resources**

The City of Apalachicola received a hazard mitigation planning grant in 2019 from the Northern Gulf of Mexico Sentinel Site Cooperative to assess and prepare site specific analysis and recommendations for 10 flood vulnerable and economically important historic structures in the City's commercial downtown district. The purpose of the grant was to study and recommend mitigation measures to floodproof and/or elevate publicly and privately-owned economically and historically-important structures identified as either repetitively flood-damaged or vulnerable to storm surge floodin. The result of this project was funding from the National Park Service through the Florida Department of State Division of Historic Resources to repair and mitigate against future flooding four of Apalachicola's Historic publically-owned buildings, including two historic churches. The work also resulted in the City being named the prestigious Spirit of Community Award recipient in 2020 from the Gulf of Mexico Climate and Resilience Community of Practice (COP).

**2019 Drainage Basin Analysis - DEO R1903**

Funded a 208-acre drainage basin analysis with a block by block analysis of culvert size and conveyance descriptions which was used to develop recommendations for mitigating nuisance flooding in the basin. Recommended repairs from the 2019 report are being implemented as part of a DEP 2024 resilience grant #24SRP65.

**2024-25 - DEP 22PLN10 Apalachicola Vulnerability Analysis update**

The 2024 updated analysis identifies six separate focus areas that encompass the entire City that contain important critical assets. Each focus area, ranked by vulnerability to storm surge flooding, has also been prioritized by the number and importance of the publicly-owned assets contained within each area. The exposure and sensitivity analysis identified vulnerabilities for each of the City's asset categories for specific storm surge scenarios and within each of the City's six Focus Areas.

**Coastal Management Element,**

**City of Apalachicola Comprehensive Plan** Within the regulatory and planning capabilities, Apalachicola's Coastal Management Element in the Comprehensive Plan has defined goals for protecting coastal resources and addressing future development in relation to flood hazards. The main resilience goals of this element include the following:

- Protect and Prioritizes Repair and Construction of stormwater infrastructure projects and include recommendations into the City's annual Capital Improvements Element and updated ACSC plan. Supporting policies require regular cleanout of stormwater drains

- Enforcing Federal Flood Regulations. Requires all development in Areas of Special Flood Hazard to be elevated or

floodproofed in accordance with FEMA flood regulations.

- Restrict public funding for facilities within coastal high-hazard areas. - Establishes a lower priority for the expenditure of City funds for public infrastructure in the Coastal High Hazard Area.
- Limit Density in CHHA - Directs population concentrations away from high-risk areas through land development regulations.
- Post-Disaster Redevelopment - Establishes coordination with county, state and federal agencies to implement redevelopment strategies to reduce future flood risk.