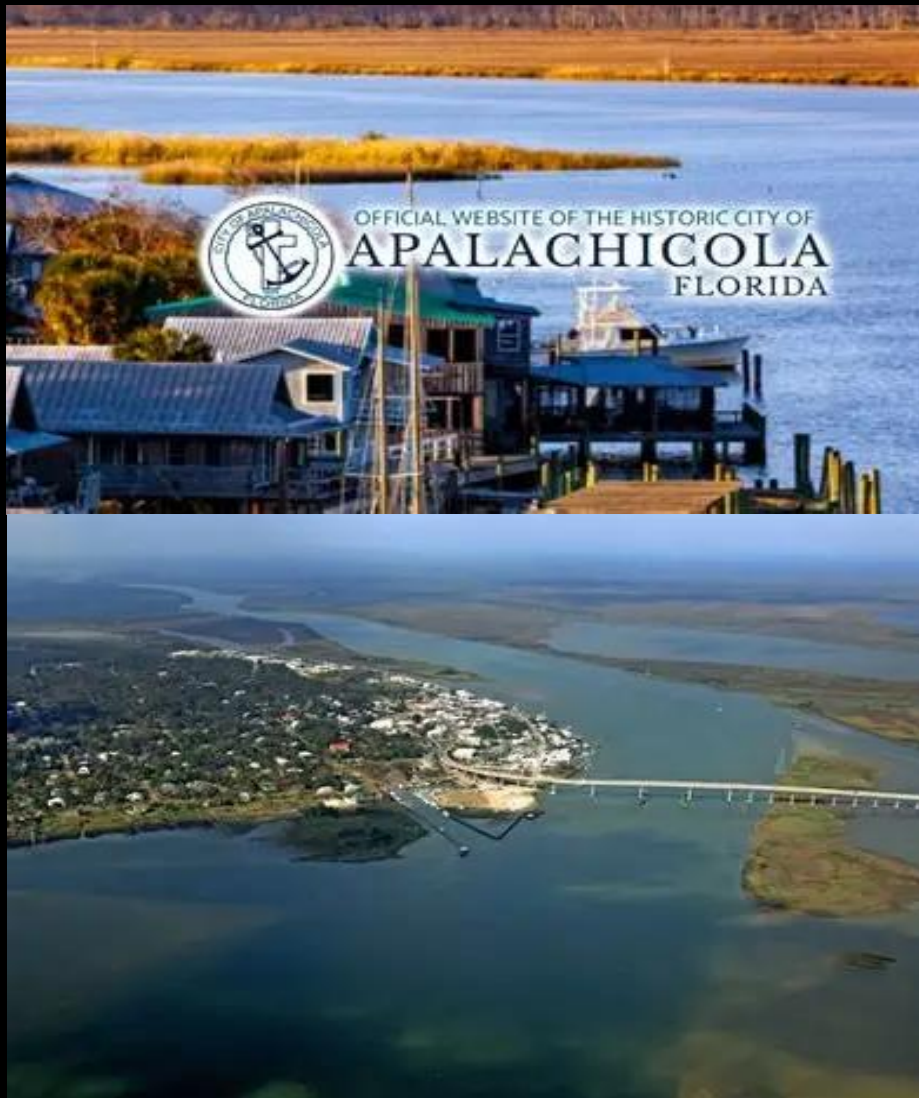


APALACHICOLA GRANT NEWS: YOUR FUTURE-OUR
PROJECTS-OVER \$40 MILLION IN FUNDING





[December 2025 Issue 1](#)

WATER & SEWER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Investing in Utility Infrastructure: Wastewater Treatment Plant Phase I

Florida's Department of Environment Protection awarded \$16 million to demolish and replace the headworks structure, screening and grit removal equipment, and in-plant and plant drain pumping stations. A new electrical building will be constructed with the facility being relocated out of the current flood zone. The contract has been given to North Florida Construction and work is underway with an estimated completion date of 2028. This project will be a comprehensive overhaul of the City's wastewater system, focusing on resilience, capacity, and environment.



CITY WELL REHABILITATION AND MAINTENANCE-Completion scheduled for January 2026

The City nears completion of a \$500,000 municipal water project using Subsurface Technologies through the CDBG program operated by the Department of Commerce. Advanced techniques using Aqua Feed CO2 Injections, down-hole cameras, and new pump/motors are being used to recondition Wells 5 & 6, dramatically improving flow and capacity, clearing mineral buildup/biofouling, and restoring the aquifer's natural connection and efficiency, showcasing a significant upgrade in water infrastructure management. This cleaning process removed obstructions, allowing cameras to see 400+ feet, confirming the aquifer's natural pores were reopened. The combined cleaning and new equipment maximized the well's sustainable yield capacity and ensured reliable water supply for the residents of Apalachicola. Well 7 is beginning the rehabilitation process with full completion scheduled for January 2026.

PORTABLE WATER STUDIES-Completed

This Rural Infrastructure Fund grant for \$147,000 was completed and assessed existing water supply and treatment. The study proposed alternatives to improve water quality while protecting Apalachicola's Bay from pollution. Results of the study are being used for water treatment improvements and for future grant requests.

MARKET STREET VACCUM STATION-In Progress

The City received funding for the design of a new vacuum sewage station located at the intersection of Market Street and Avenue G. The project design and State approval were completed, and procurement and construction will begin pending FEMA approval. This project is part of the overall wastewater infrastructure upgrades for the historic downtown commercial district in Apalachicola. Funding for Phase II will be determined by FEMA and FDEM.

IGA AND ELLIS VAN FLEET LIFT STATIONS-In Progress

Using the Apalachicola Stewardship Act funding under the Apalachicola Bay Area of Critical State Concern (ACSC) to improve water quality, the City has executed a contract with Monolith Construction to repair and rebuild two specific lift stations previously identified as "CRITICAL" in 2023 due to existing corrosion and functionality issues. These projects are part of the ongoing effort to upgrade the wastewater infrastructure and prevent future backups and overflows. New generators will be purchased and installed at each lift station to ensure continuity of services. The City executed an agreement with DEP for \$1.3 million.

INFLOW & INFILTRATION STUDY-Completed

The City's aging water infrastructure is made of terra cotta pipes and faulty water lines. A State appropriation of \$300,000 funded an infiltration and inflow study that assessed local sources of surface water and/or groundwater prior to entering a sewage system. Smoke testing, dye testing, and visual inspections were used to locate structural defects or water stains to summarize existing data pertinent to the hydrologic conditions and hydrogeology in the study and surrounding area. Dewberry Engineering is compiling a final report that will reflect areas in need of repair.

SPRAYFIELD & SOLAR PROJECT-Completed

Apalachicola's "Spray Head and Solar Panels" project is part of a larger effort to upgrade the city's Wastewater Treatment Plant, focusing on crucial equipment including solar panels, spray heads for the treatment field, pumps, and related infrastructure. This equipment will improve water quality, meet environmental standards, reduce energy costs, and increase system reliability. Funded through a \$130,000 State Initiative, the project involved replacing old equipment, installing solar arrays to power operations, expanding connections with a new field house communication systems control, and repairing the access roadways personnel use to gain access to the spray houses.

STORMWATER DRAINAGE & FLOOD MITIGATION PROJECTS



AVENUES STORMWATER REPAIR PROJECT-*In Progress*

This significant infrastructure upgrade is funded by CDBG-DR for \$3.9 million, was awarded to Hinterland Construction who began implementation on 12/8/25. The initiative will improve the city's drainage, focusing on cleaning, videoing, and hardening and repairing stormwater systems and pipes along Avenues A through I, 5th Street, 6th Street, Water Street, and the Battery Park Outfall to reduce flooding.

STORMWATER & DRAINAGE ANALYSIS-*Completion scheduled for January 2026*

Another Rural Infrastructure Fund grant for \$300,000 was implemented to complete a Phase II drainage basin analysis through camera work on stormwater lines identifying deficiencies needed to plan water quality treatment at outfalls discharging into the Apalachicola River and Bay. The City will prioritize repairs in areas where localized flooding is present upon release of the final report by Dewberry Engineering in February 2026.

COMPREHENSIVE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT and ADAPATION PLAN-*Completed*

The City of Apalachicola was awarded \$272,500 through Resilient Florida to conduct this project as an update to the City's 2017 Vulnerability Assessment. The assessment determined the impact of sea-level rise, storm surge, and rainfall flooding. Impacts of flooding were mapped over a planning horizon that extends to 2070 with critical assets, vulnerable infrastructure, and historic properties being identified.

Following the 2025 Vulnerability Assessment, an award of \$67,000 allowed the City to prepare an infrastructure plan for flood protection using public and stakeholder engagement. The Adaptation Plan was presented to the Commission and Public on 12/2/25, the next step toward mitigating challenges experienced from storm flooding and projected surge.

RESILIENT FLORIDA-CRITICAL ASSET FLOOD MANAGEMENT-*In Progress*

The City contracted with Inovia in March 2025, for \$2.4 million, to identify drainage projects in the city and repair known nuisance flooding drainage issues in 29+ locations throughout the city. The City's Critical Asset Flood Mitigation Projects include the replacement and retrofit of pipe systems at multiple roadway intersections, addition of inlets, pipes, water quality vaults, crown reconstruction, and construction of roadway conveyance systems. Mapping the drainage issues is complete and repairs begin early in 2026.

STORMWATER PIPE RELINING & BACKFLOW DEVICES-*Completed*

A State Appropriation of \$100,000 was awarded to repair damaged pipe joints throughout the City. Repairs have been completed by the City and Jason White Construction performed additional exploration work revealing future work areas that will need additional funds for completion.

APALACHICOLA SEWER UPGRADE COLLECTION SYSTEM-*In Progress*

Using the Apalachicola Stewardship Act funding under the Apalachicola Bay Area of Critical State Concern (ACSC) to improve water quality, a \$1.1 million dollar award for Flo-Vac Technology is being used through vacuum pressure, not gravity, to move sewage to a central station. This is ideal for difficult terrain as wastewater flows to a collection pit, a sensor triggers a valve when full and suction pulls waste, plus air, through sealed pipes to a pump station, which then

pumps it to treatment. This sealed, negative-pressure system prevents leaks, reduces installation cost, and keeps gases contained.

MARINA AND DOCK REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT PROJECTS



BATTERY PARK V-PIER RESTORATION PROJECT- *In Progress*

The City was funded for Phase I of the V-Pier Restoration Project by the Franklin County Tourist Development Council. Thanks to this funding partnership, the City contracted with HG Harder's and work has begun restoring the pier as an accessible public place for fishing, sightseeing, and enjoyment of the Apalachicola River. Phase II will begin in Fall 2026 and upon completion, V-Pier will provide a welcoming space for everyone, local and visitors alike. Total funding this project is \$1 million divided evenly per Phase.



BODIFORD PARK PIER- *In Progress*

The City has been granted funding from FEMA in the amount of \$52,000 to restore Bodiford to its pre-Michael condition. The City executed a new contract with Coastline Clearing in October 2025 and the project will be completed by early Spring 2026.

SCIPIO CREEK MARINA DOCK REPAIRS AND ELECTRICAL UPGRADES-*In Progress*

The City was given \$73,000 from FEMA to complete the dock repairs at Scipio with under a contract executed with Coastline Clearing in October 2025. Dock repairs will be completed in Spring 2026, with the electrical upgrades following completion of dock repairs. Electrical upgrades are being funded by Franklin County Board of Commissioners for \$130,000 and the City will be using its Capital improvement Plan funding for approximately \$300,000. Procurement will begin in January 2026 for a qualified electrical firm.

Fire Hydrant Replacement & Installation Project

FIRE MARSHALL STATE APPROPRIATION-*Completion 1/26*
\$275,000 was awarded to install 78 fire hydrants and additional 15 to be bought and installed. 78 Hydrants have been installed.





FEMA HUURICANE HELENE-Completed

The City completed 4 FEMA projects due to Hurricane Helene that included Odor Scrubber Repairs, Vacuum Station Pump Replacement, Battery Park Marina Electrical Repairs, and Emergency Preparedness Costs for a combined award over \$150,000.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT-Completed

Critical Generator Project Awards for over \$425,000 were completed with generators procured and installed for protection and storm mitigation at City Hall, the Police/Fire department, and a Vacuum Station.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION-Completed

The City contracted with North Florida Construction and Urban Catalyst for \$568,000 to remedy the underground issues on Leslie Street by updating the terra cotta pipes to concrete, repairing the entire street length, rebuilding brick manholes, and installing new road signs. City procured North Florida Construction, and the project was completed with a ribbon cutting ceremony in March 2025.



MUNICIPAL REVITALIZATION PROJECTS

CDBG COMMUNITY INITIATIVES



HILL COMMUNITY PROJECT- In Progress

This project will revitalize 2 businesses within the Hill Community through exterior work and repairs. Procurement for the buildings is complete, and work will begin in January 2026. Future portions of this project will also create sidewalks and lighting in the Hill area to spur economic development through walkable connectivity. The bid Package for Sidewalk and Lighting will go out in January 2026. Project completion is scheduled for 9/30/26. Total project award \$935,000.



HOMETOWN REVITALIZATION RIVERFRONT- In Progress

This project revitalizes the businesses and public areas in the riverfront district. This work includes private business docks along with public docks, sidewalks, lighting, parking areas, and a new pump-out station at Anders Pier. Procurement is pending a US Army Corps of Engineering Permit. Total project award is \$4.4 million.

FL DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL & HISTORICAL PROGRAM



AFRICAN AMERICAL MUSEUM-*In Progress*

This \$1.25 million dollar grant award began construction in September 2025 with a ground-breaking ceremony in front of Holy Family Senior Center taking place on 9/09/25. The museum is expected to open in the Fall of 2026. This project has been championed by the North Florida African American Corridor. It's intent is to preserve local Black history, stories, photos, and artifacts through an archive and library, bringing a tangible "home" for community heritage and memorialize the contributions of African Americans to the region, state, and nation by archiving local oral histories and artifacts while fostering cultural pride and connection with one's descendants.

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION-DHR



HARRISON-RANEY BUILDING-*In Progress*

Phase II of the Harrison-Raney Building for mitigation and repair was approved which includes windows, doors, and masonry work. Legislative budget did not fund this Special Category for 2025-26 but this project will be reconsidered for \$350,000 during 2026-2027.



HISTORICAL, CULTURAL, & ARTS BUILDING (HCA)-*In Progress*

Home Depot Government Solutions began working on a new ADA restroom in conjunction with the local history museum and the Tourist development Council for \$25,000.



OLD CITY HALL PHASES II, III, IV-In Progress

The Middlebrook Building restoration in Apalachicola, FL, is an ongoing, \$500,000, multi-phase historic preservation project, with recent activity of contractor selection for Phase III, where Oliver Sperry was chosen to continue work, following prior phases with the same contractor. Phase III completes the second-floor structural work, interior/exterior masonry repair of the second floor and will complete the mechanical and plumbing not completed in Phase II for the first floor and access for the second floor through an elevator making the building ADA accessible.



FL DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES FORESTRY

Lafayette Park-Completed

This project awarded \$20,000 to plant 34 Native species of trees in Lafayette Park along with a scheduled irrigation program. The plantings were completed in September 2025.

Tree Health Care-Application Pending

A tree trimming health program grant application for \$50,000 has been submitted to use an arborist to trim the City's trees and treat tree diseases, pests, and nutritional deficiencies using science-based methods such as proper pruning, fertilization, and soil health to maintain tree vitality.



We are grateful for this opportunity to improve local infrastructure and appreciate the support of every resident. These projects represent significant steps forward for our town's sustainability goals. We remain committed to

seeking diverse funding sources for growth and improvement. We will share details on present and future initiatives each month in the Grant Newsletter.



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