



## Board of County Commissioners

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**Item Title:** Approval to Submit a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Application for the Thomas Creek Land Acquisition Project  
**Date:** May 12, 2025  
**Department:** Stormwater and Drainage Management

### Background:

Flooding along Thomas Creek Watershed has been an area of concern for the County and its residents for many years. Roads, homes, and other structures flood in both large and small storms alike. The soils and topography in this watershed make this area particularly difficult to mitigate retroactively with engineering designs. Previous efforts to mitigate flooding with structural components, drainage system maintenance, and snag and clearing have been futile.

Nassau County BOCC approved the Thomas Creek Land Acquisition Plan in 2022. This plan outlines in detail, with a scoring plan, to purchase properties most vulnerable in the Thomas Creek Watershed. This program is 100% voluntary to property owners and staff has had twenty (20) property owners volunteer for this program to date.

Thomas Creek Land Acquisition Project's purpose is to remove structures within the most vulnerable areas along the Thomas Creek watershed to protect the entire watershed from flooding by increasing the natural floodplain and riverine buffer; and establish of a thick vegetative buffer will increase the drought tolerance of the area. The strong root systems can also help break strong wind concerns within the watershed.

Each fiscal year as grants become available, money should be allocated for this project.

This application is for \$244,729.61 in grant funding. The County has a required 25% match in the amount of \$81,576.54.

### Request:

Approval to submit electronically a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Application, in the amount of \$244,729.61, for the Thomas Creek Land Acquisition Project with local match of 25% (\$81,576.54).

### Financial/Economic Impact to Future Years Budgeting Process or Effect on Citizens:

This grant is needed to fund the Thomas Creek Land Acquisition Project. Without this grant, the County would not have these additional funds to further the Thomas Creek Land Acquisition Project. Acquiring the land now instead of subsequent years will allow the residents to relocate within Nassau County and alleviate the flooding risks and rescue efforts for vulnerable structures.

### Action Requested and Recommendation:

Approval to submit electronically a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Application, in the amount of \$244,729.61, for the Thomas Creek Land Acquisition Project with local match of 25% (\$81,576.54).

### Is this action consistent with the Nassau County Comprehensive Land Use Plan?

Yes. Conservation Element, Objective CS.01, and CS.02.

### Funding Source:

TBD - \$244,729.61  
TC004 - \$81,576.54

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### Additional Information Needed for Contracts/Agreements (If Applicable)

#### Contract Number assigned by Contracts Management:

N/A

#### For non-governmental agencies, has the document been sent to the vendor for signature?

N/A

#### Does the document need to be recorded? If so, who will pay the recordation fee?

No

**Are there any special mailing instructions? (Include contact name, address, deadline for submittal, how to mail such as express mail, FedEx, etc.):**

N/A

**How many originals are needed?**

Please send one copy to Katie Peay ([kpeay@nassaucountyfl.com](mailto:kpeay@nassaucountyfl.com)).