

OneFLORIDA

PROTECTING FLORIDA TOGETHER

RESILIENT FLORIDA GRANT PROGRAM

Eddy Bouza, Chief Resilience Officer
Florida Stormwater Association Winter Conference



December 3 - 5, 2025

RESILIENT FLORIDA

LEADING THROUGH ACTION



2021

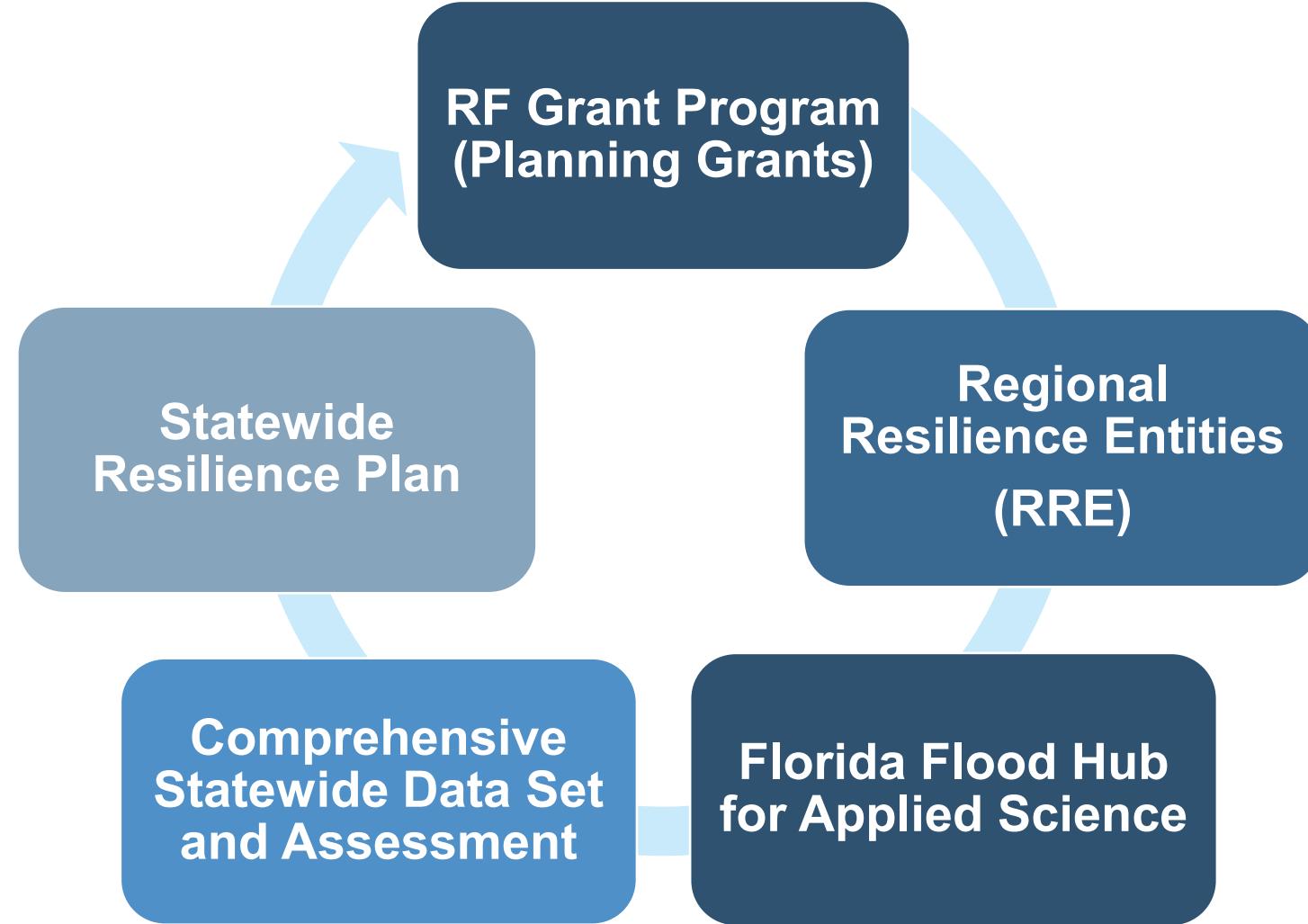
- **“Always Ready Bill”** established the program in s. 380.093, F.S.
- Senate Bill 1954 / House Bill 7019.
- *Unanimously passed in both chambers.*

2022 – 2025

- Added or modified definitions, eligible entities, eligible project types, due dates.
- More support for small and disadvantaged communities.
- Statewide Resilience Plan must include funding amount not less than \$100 M.
- Refinements to the State Plan’s scoring criteria.

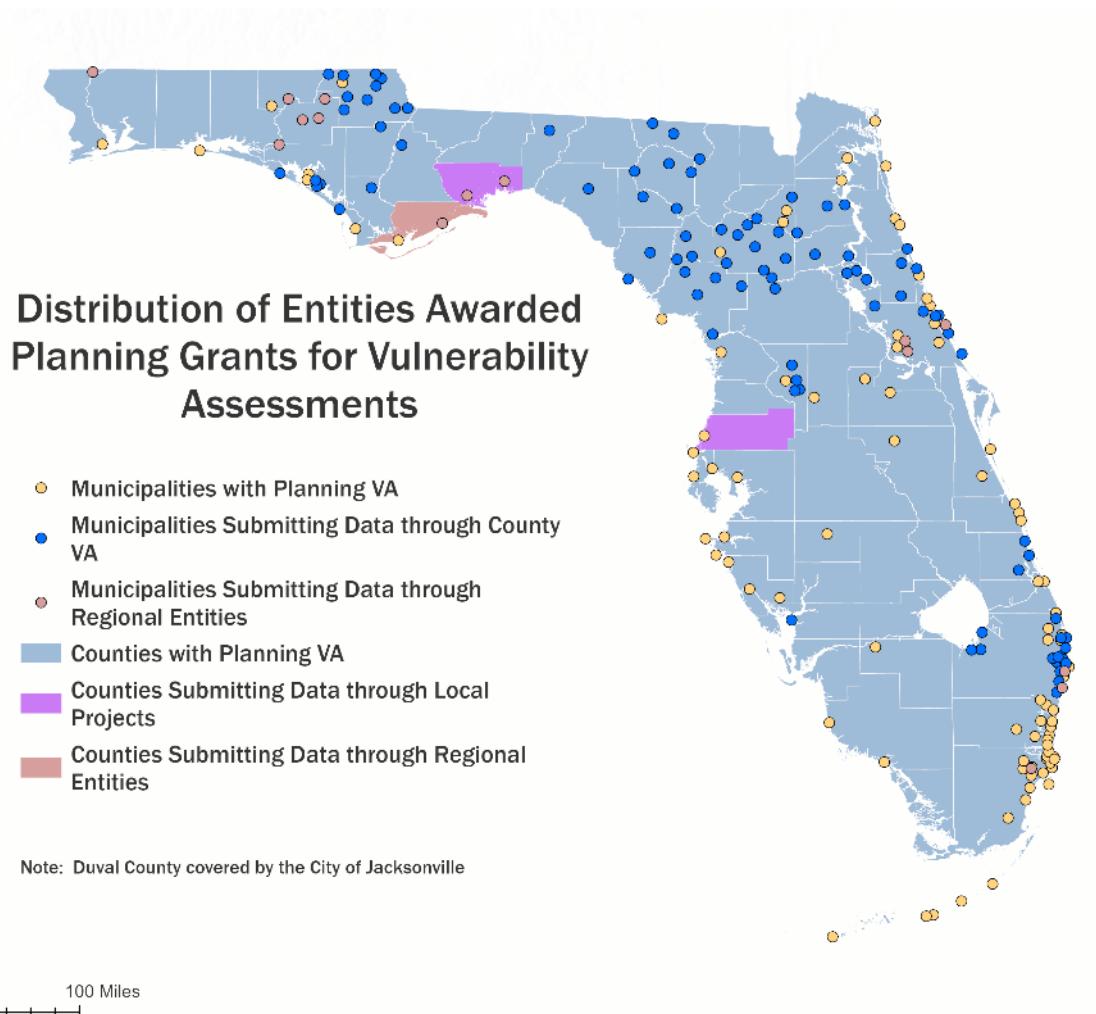


RESILIENT FLORIDA PROGRAM ELEMENTS



RESILIENT FLORIDA GRANTS

FOCUS ON PLANNING



- By the end of 2026, all 67 Counties set to meet statutory requirements to submit projects for inclusion in future iterations of the Statewide Resilience Plan.
- Executive Order 23-06 calls on DEP & Chief Resilience Officer to build on efforts protecting communities from flooding and future storms – including support for completing these studies.

COMPREHENSIVE STATEWIDE DATA SET AND ASSESSMENT



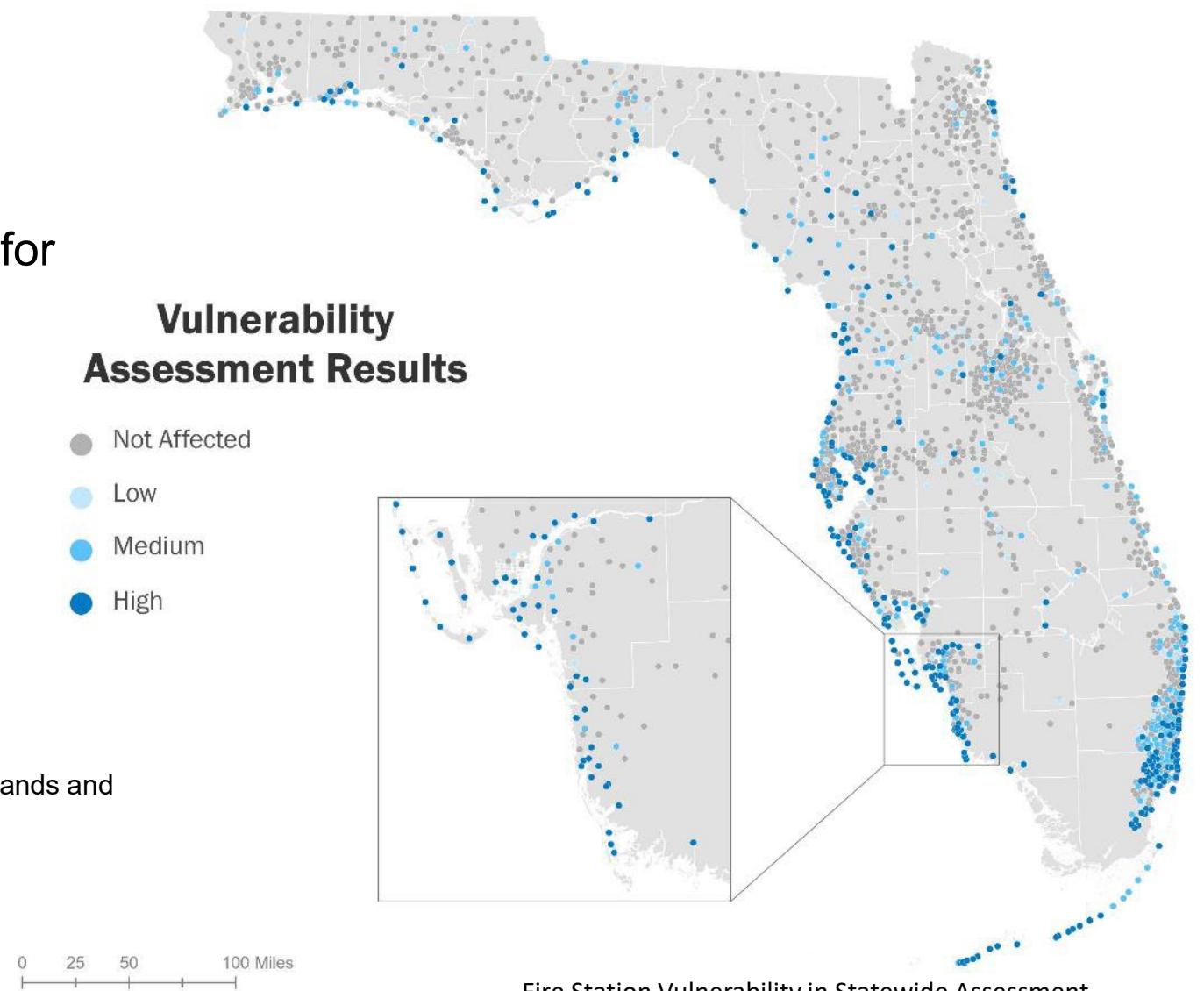
- Compile, review, organize and classify national, statewide and local **critical asset data**.
- Coordinate with Florida **Flood Hub** for review and hosting.
- Data used to develop **statewide vulnerability assessment**.
- **Data Set** completed May 2023.
- **Statewide Assessment** completed July 2024.

COMPREHENSIVE STATEWIDE DATA SET AND ASSESSMENT



- **Data Set and Statewide Assessment** completed July 2024.
- **Summary Findings** shows Vulnerability for different Critical Asset Types:
 - Critical Community: 41%
 - Critical Infrastructure: 29.8%
 - Transportation/Evac Routes: 52%
 - Natural/Cultural/Historical: 48.4% *

* Relative to assessed features, which excludes Shorelines, Wetlands and Surface Waters.





FLORIDA STATEWIDE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Statewide Vulnerability Assessment

SVA Map Viewer

Layers

Base Map

Legend

Location Filters

Credit: FDEP

Florida Statewide Vulnerability Assessment

Comprehensive Statewide Flood Vulnerability and Sea Level Rise Assessment July 2024

- The Florida Statewide VA was completed in July 2024
- Utilized Comprehensive Statewide Data Set
- Exposure and Sensitivity Analysis for 67 counties
- Will be updated every five years
- User-friendly webtool launched Feb. 2025



IMPLEMENTATION GRANT CYCLE TIMELINE FOR PORTAL APPLICATIONS

April – Sept.

Office Hours are held to assist applicants
Pre-application portal is open to draft proposals

JULY 1

Resilient Florida
project portal opens
to accept applications

SEPT. 1

Deadline to submit
proposed projects
through portal

DEC 1

Statewide Flooding
and Sea Level Rise
Resilience Plan due



IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT SCORING

TIER 1 – 2025 UPDATE

Tier 1 must account for 40% of the total score and consist of all of the following criteria:

Criteria		Achievable Points
Addresses risk in a vulnerability assessment or comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and SLR assessment.	Risk of flooding and sea level rise to critical assets and	4
	Risk of compound flooding to critical assets	4
Reduces risk to regionally significant asset.	Reduces or avoid risk to regionally significant asset	8
Reduces risk in areas with a higher percentage of vulnerable critical assets.	Percentage of total critical assets within the project impact area that are vulnerable critical assets	8
Contributes to existing flooding mitigation projects that reduce upland damage by incorporating new or enhanced structures or restoration and revegetation projects.	Contributes by incorporating new or enhanced structure or	4
	Contributes by incorporating natural system restoration and revegetation or	4
	Contributes by incorporating new or enhanced structure and incorporating natural system restoration and revegetation	8
Degree to which the project reduces the flood risk, and thereby increases the credits awarded to a community participating in the NFIP Community Rating System.		8
Tier 1 Maximum Points		40



IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT SCORING

KEY TAKEAWAYS

TIER 3 (20%)

Availability of matching funds, previous state commitment, and exceeding minimum construction requirements

TIER 1 (40%)

Addressing risks to critical assets and **reduces risks to regionally significant assets**, existing efforts to reduce upland costs, and **increases credits awarded to community in NFIP CRS**



TIER 4 (10%)

Innovative technologies to reduce costs and provide regional collaboration, and assistance for financially disadvantaged communities

TIER 2 (30%)

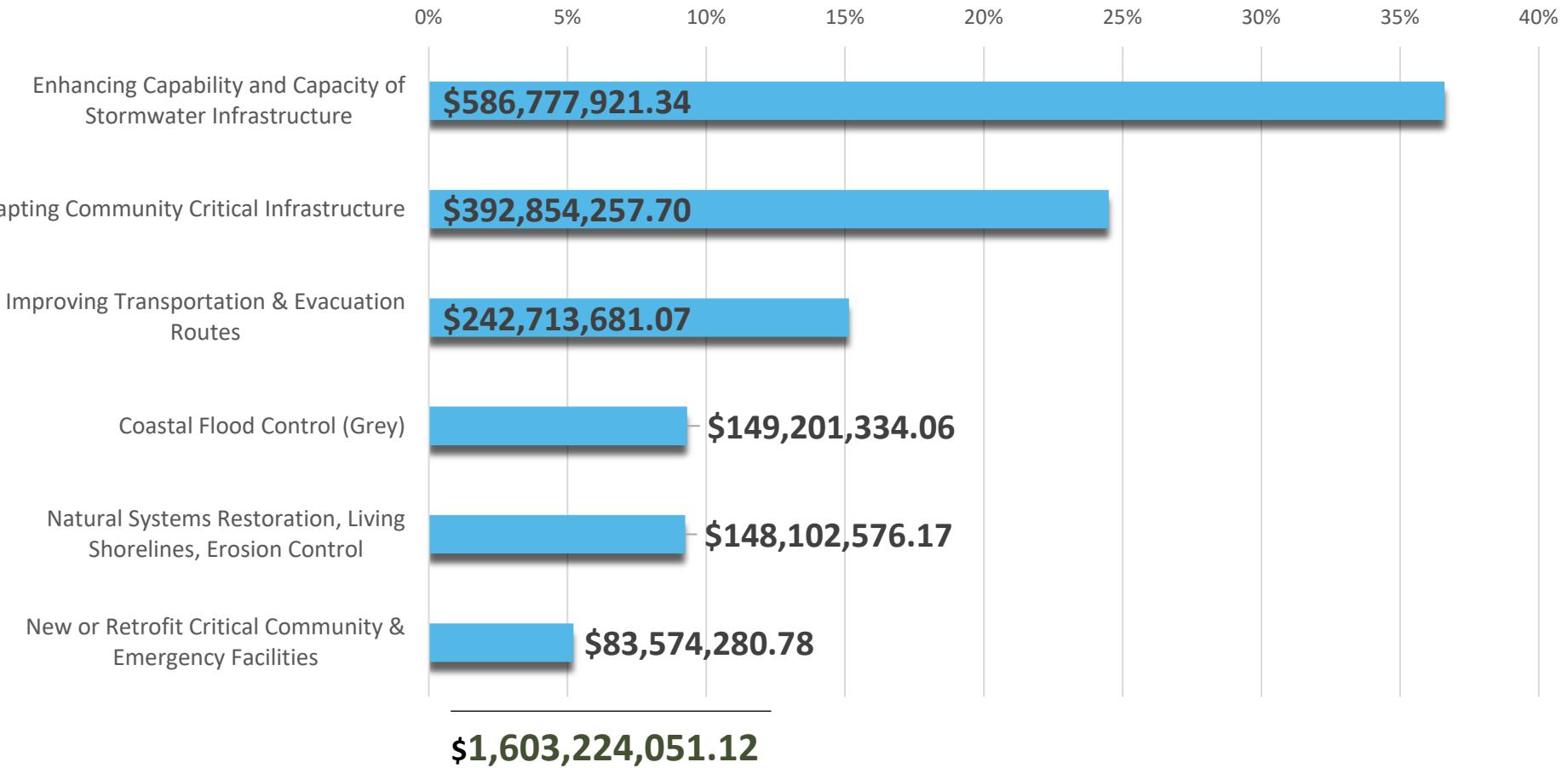
Existing flooding conditions (severity and frequency), **readiness to proceed (status of design & permitting)**, environmental options and exceeding minimum requirements, and **cost effectiveness**

RESILIENT FLORIDA IMPLEMENTATION

PROJECT TYPES



Implementation Grants - Project Types

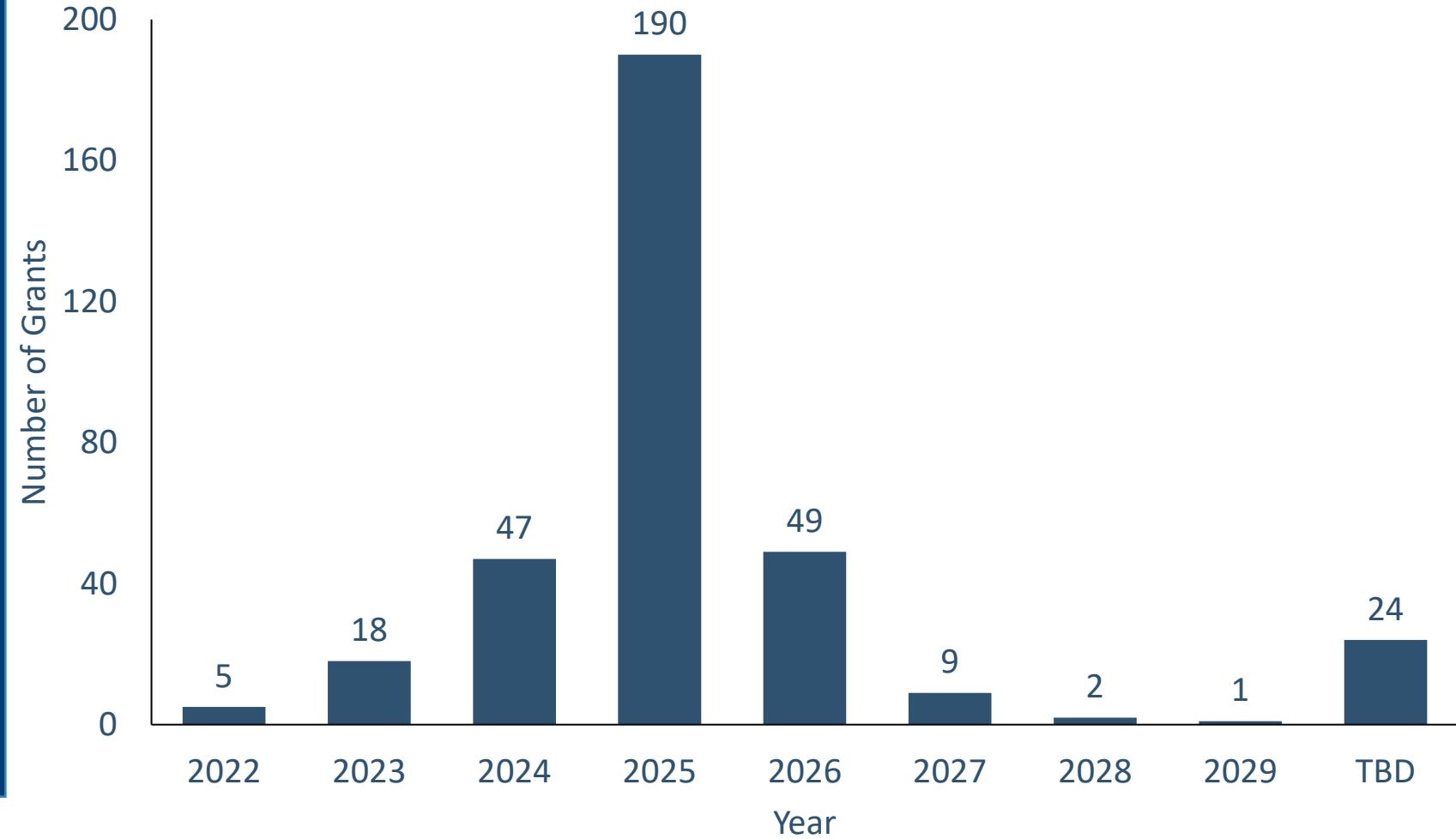


PROJECT START DATES BY YEAR

RESILIENT FLORIDA PROGRAM



- Construction start year for each implementation grant and estimated out years.
- 74 projects estimated to start construction in Oct. – Dec. 2025.

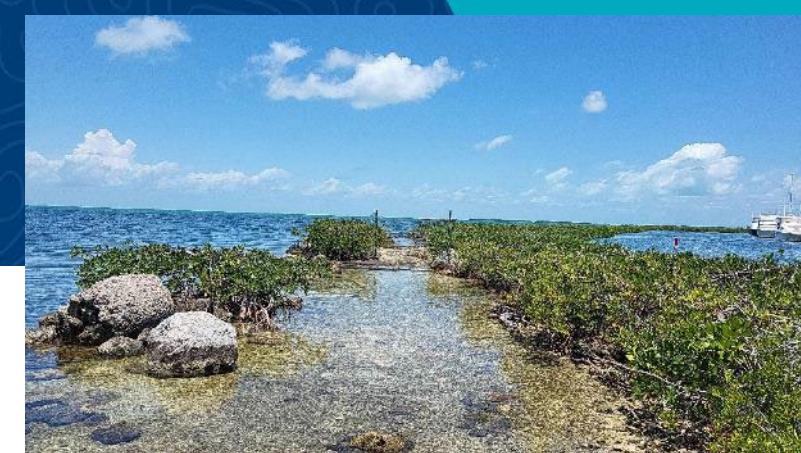


IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS

Islamorada Founders Park Breakwater Restoration

Project includes:

- Increasing the breakwater width and crest elevation to protect against sea level rise, peak tidal surge, and flooding.
- Adding armor stone (rock) and earthen fill to increase the breakwater width and crest elevation to approximately +2.5 ft North America Vertical Datum of 1988.
- DEP Funding: \$ 1,903,754.
- Metric: 1,580 feet of infrastructure added or improved.



IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS

Palm Beach County Wastewater Lift Station Hardening

Project includes:

- Constructing the improvements to Lift Station No. 637 by elevating critical components, such as access hatches, power supply, and instrumentation system.
- DEP Funding: \$ 754,000.
- Metric: Number of pumps/lift stations upgraded: 1.



RESILIENT FLORIDA IMPLEMENTATION

BY THE NUMBERS



12,500

Olympic size pools of
stormwater storage
capacity added

~87 mi.

Infrastructure
piping
upgraded

13,017

Acres of land
restored to
natural state

~60 mi.

critical roadways
better protected

1,200

Acres of infrastructure
by area

~165 mi.

Of coastal protection

LOOKING AHEAD

RESILIENT FLORIDA PROGRAM LESSONS LEARNED



Planning effort challenges:

- Extended timelines for completion
- Inconsistent approaches
- Limitations on allowable activities

Implementation project challenges:

- Timing of grant and match fund awards
- Match fund eligibility
- Design and permitting delays
- Implementation of complex projects in existing environment
- Scope of work adjustments during design and/or unexpected changes required during construction



THANK YOU

For any questions contact:

Eddy Bouza

Eddy.Bouza@FloridaDEP.gov

850-245-7562