

An aerial photograph of Miami Beach, showing the ocean on the left, a green park area with winding paths in the foreground, and several tall skyscrapers along the coastline. The sky is clear and blue.

Fight the Flood

City of Miami Beach Private Property Adaptation (PPA) Program

May 28, 2025

Juanita Ballesteros, *City of Miami Beach*

MIAMI BEACH
RISING
ABOVE

E&S DEPARTMENT AND MISSION

“We are dedicated to providing the highest quality services to our community by developing and implementing adaptation and mitigation initiatives to preserve, protect, and enhance our natural resources.”



MEET THE PPA TEAM

City of Miami Beach

Brizaga, Inc.



Amy Knowles
*Chief Resilience
Officer*



Juanita Ballesteros
*Sustainability &
Resilience Manager*



Samantha Sliger
*Resilience
Coordinator*



Michael Antinelli
*Principal and Co-
Founder*



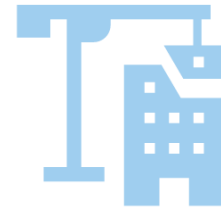


INFORM, PREPARE, ADAPT



93% OF BUILDINGS

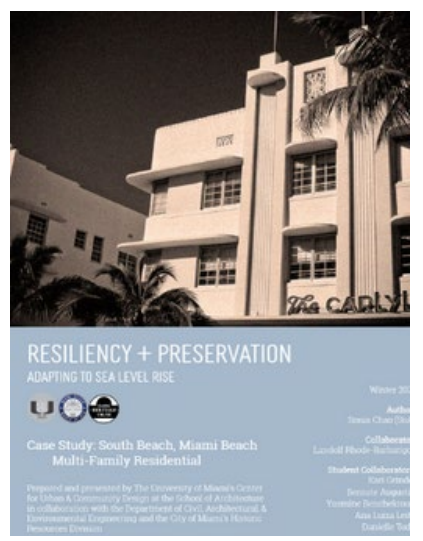
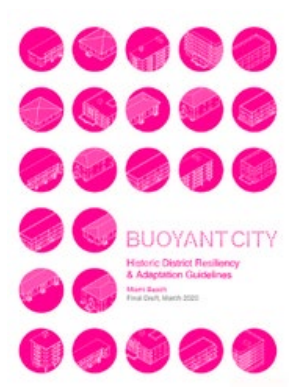
are located in a FEMA special flood hazard area (SFHA).
Protect your property with flood insurance.

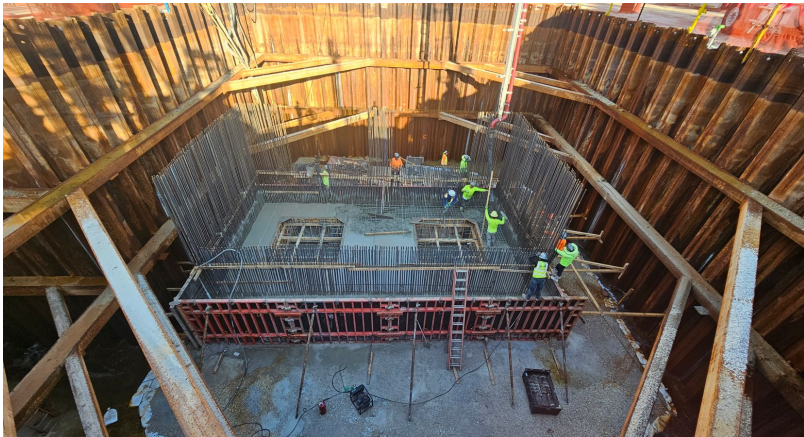


64% OF BUILDINGS

were constructed before FEMA Flood Insurance Rate
Maps that require higher construction.

- ▶ Generally, BFE of 8' NGVD
- ▶ Average 4.5' of elevation





PPA PROGRAM GOALS

Building holistic resilience in both public infrastructure and private properties that make up 75% of the island.

To reduce flood risk and increase the City's resilience by investing in flood risk mitigation.

How?

By increasing flood risk awareness and providing options and funding for flood risk improvements.



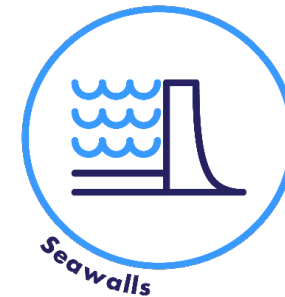
WHAT IS FLOOD MITIGATION?

Flood mitigation is focused on **reducing the depth, duration, and extent of flooding**, and reducing the potential damage caused by flooding.



PPA PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- ▶ For **residential** (single- and multi-family) and **commercial** properties
- ▶ Funds a **flood risk assessment** and the **implementation** of resilient flood improvements
- ▶ 50/50 **matching grant** up to \$20,000
 - ▶ \$2,500 for flood risk assessment funded by City
 - ▶ Property owners reimbursed half of project costs up to \$17,500
 - ▶ LMI properties do not need to provide matching funds
- ▶ Competitive, **reimbursement-based** grant program



PROGRAM PHASES

PHASE 1: ASSESSMENT

Property owners **apply online**
and submit documents.



Consultant meets participants
to conduct **site visit**.



Consultant and City create
and send **Assessment Report**
to participants.

PHASE 2: DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

Participant chooses project(s)
to submit for **Phase II Grant**
Agreement.



Participant solicits quotes and
hires contractor to complete
the project.



Participant submits
documentation and requests
reimbursement.

ASSESSMENT REPORTS

MIAMIBEACH
RISING
ABOVE



MIAMIBEACH
RISING
ABOVE



Figure 2A. View of existing front yard.



Figure 2B. Rendering of proposed conditions (Alternative B implemented). New rain garden installed.



INAUGURAL PHASE II KICKOFF EVENT

August 29th, 2023
Miami Beach Botanical Garden

I JOINED THE FIGHT!

**Miami Beach Fight the Flood
Private Property Adaptation Program (PPA)**

MIAMI BEACH
RISING
ABOVE

Learn how you can join the fight
and make Miami Beach a safer,
more resilient community!



Flood Barriers



Rain Gardens



Seawalls



Permeable Pavers



Rain Barrels



Phase II Process

Seek Quotes from Contractors

Continue seeking quotes from contractors and finalizing your scope of work prior to submitting your grant agreement.



Submit Grant Agreement

After receiving the Grant Agreement, participants must submit the Grant Agreement to the City along with project budgets, quotes, scope of work, and contractor information.



Project Status Reports

Project status reports are required to maintain eligibility through construction. These reports are due monthly or quarterly depending on the expected duration of the project.



Final Reimbursement

Upon approval of the reimbursement request, the City will begin processing the final reimbursement. A check will be mailed to participants.



Review the Phase II Grant Agreement

Read through the grant agreement and the requirements for project submission.



Attend the Phase II Kickoff

Participants attend the PPA Phase II Kickoff to network with other participants, meet City staff and consultants, and learn about the Phase II process.



Permitting and Construction

Once the agreement is reviewed and approved by the City, participants may have their permits issued and begin construction. If any changes are made to the scope or budget, promptly notify the City.



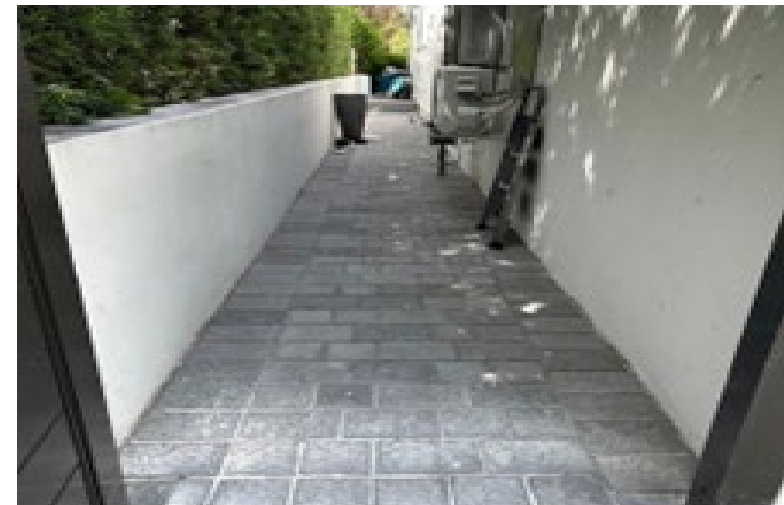
Reimbursement Request

Once work has been completed, permits have been closed, and the contractor has been paid, participants submit a reimbursement request to the City. The City reviews the request, inspects the work, and responds to the participant.

* Low-to-Moderate Income (LMI) participants will follow a different payment and reimbursement structure.

COHORT SUMMARY STATISTICS

- ▶ **Current Participants: 52**
 - 14 Active Projects with Signed Agreements
 - 32 Pending Agreements
- ▶ **2025 Applications Received: 90**
- ▶ **Reimbursed Projects: 6**
 - Total Disbursed: \$74,108.75



COHORTS I & II: SUMMARY STATISTICS

Cohort I: 2022

- **Applications Received:** 65
- **LMI Applicants:** 7
- **FEMA FMA:** 2 properties selected for further review
- **Site Visits Conducted:** 38
- **Common Project Types:** Seawall elevation, rain gardens, elevation of structures and mechanical equipment

Cohort II: 2024

- **Applications Received:** 48
- **LMI Applicants:** 7
- **Site Visits Conducted:** 38
- **Property Breakdown:** 35 Single-Family, 10 Multi-Family, 3 Commercial



Seawall Elevation Project



COHORT III: SUMMARY STATISTICS

Largest number of applicants to date— signaling increasing community interest and demand for individualized flood resilience support.

- Application Period: February 26 – April 25, 2025

90 Applications



4 historic



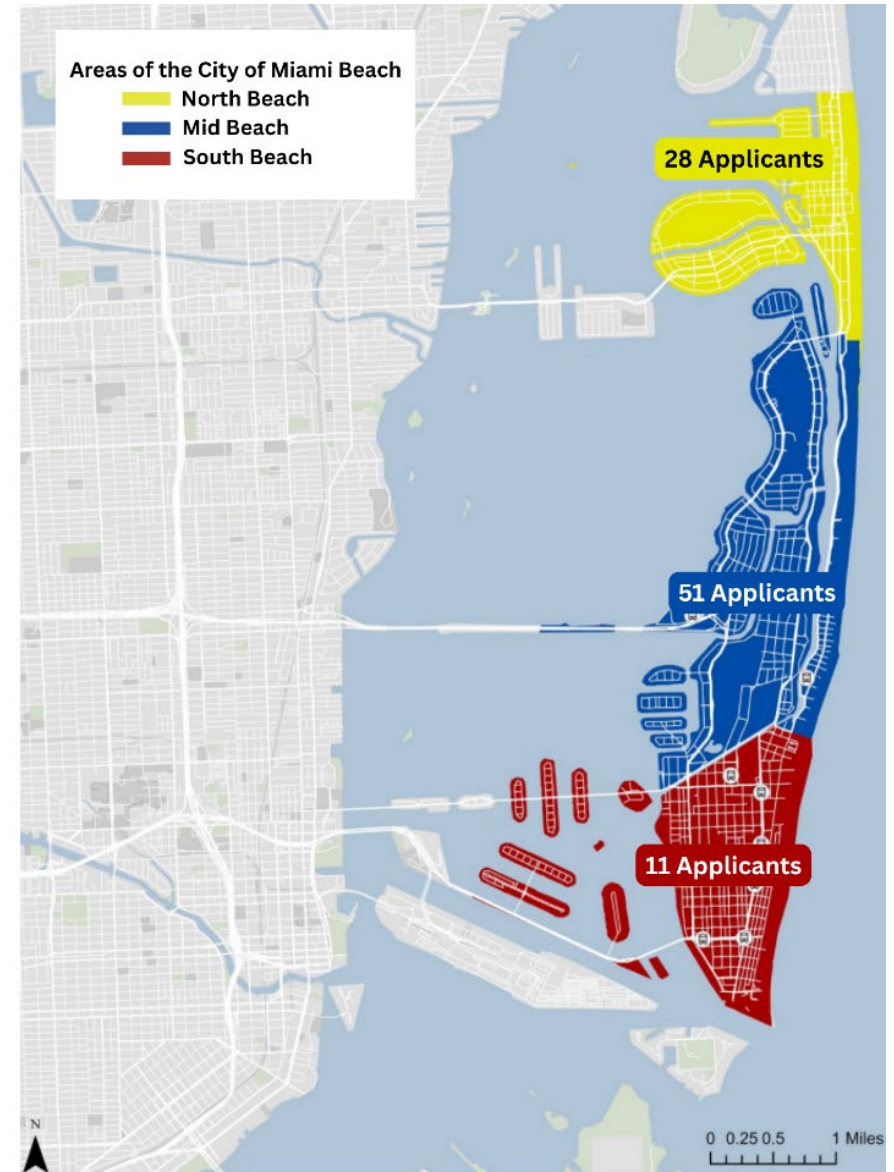
21 multifamily



7 commercial



10 LMI



LEARNINGS

- ▶ Participants valued the third-party professional expertise provided on flood mitigation.
 - ▶ Many do not have knowledge on flood mitigation concepts and don't know how to start.
 - ▶ Some are ready to go!
- ▶ The contractor market is still developing for residential flood mitigation.
- ▶ The PPA program contributes to a portion of larger projects. A combination of other funding and financing mechanisms are often needed to make these projects accessible.



THANK YOU!

Juanita Ballesteros

Sustainability & Resilience Manager

mbrisingabove@miamibeachfl.gov

www.mbrisingabove.com/ppa

The logo for Miami Beach Rising Above is contained within a white square with a thin black border. It features the words "MIAMIBEACH" in a smaller, green, sans-serif font, followed by "RISING" and "ABOVE" in a larger, blue, sans-serif font, stacked vertically.

MIAMIBEACH
RISING
ABOVE