

MIAMI-DADE  
COUNTY



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# ADAPTATION PLAN

## LITTLE RIVER ADAPTATION ACTION AREA (AAA)

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY OFFICE OF RESILIENCE



# LITTLE RIVER ADAPTATION ACTION AREA (AAA)

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This is a working adaptation plan and will continue to be improved upon in collaboration with the community.

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There are many areas in Miami-Dade County that are prone to flooding, some more than others, and mainly because they are low-lying. However, the flooding challenges in Little River area are particularly acute. This area is a microcosm of the entire County and is an example of the challenges ahead for other areas as sea levels rise.

This study looked at areas around the Little River closest to Biscayne Bay. This area is home to many neighborhoods that make up the "Little River Adaptation Action Area" (AAA). The study area includes the Village of El Portal, the northern edge of the City of Miami and two areas of Unincorporated Miami-Dade County (known as "UMSA").

For many residents in the AAA, flooding exacerbated by sea level rise is not a theoretical or future problem. It is, for many, a well-known reality of the past and present. During heavy rainfall events and king tides, drainage infrastructure is overwhelmed, septic tanks fail and cause untreated sewage to backup into homes or leak into the waterways and Biscayne Bay, families are temporarily displaced, streets are flooded and the flooring in the building is damaged... again.

Not everyone can bounce back as quickly or to the same degree. For many, these floods have caused real financial hardship. The root causes of these disparities go back decades. The AAA represents a diverse mix of neighborhoods and many areas are seeing more rapid changes.

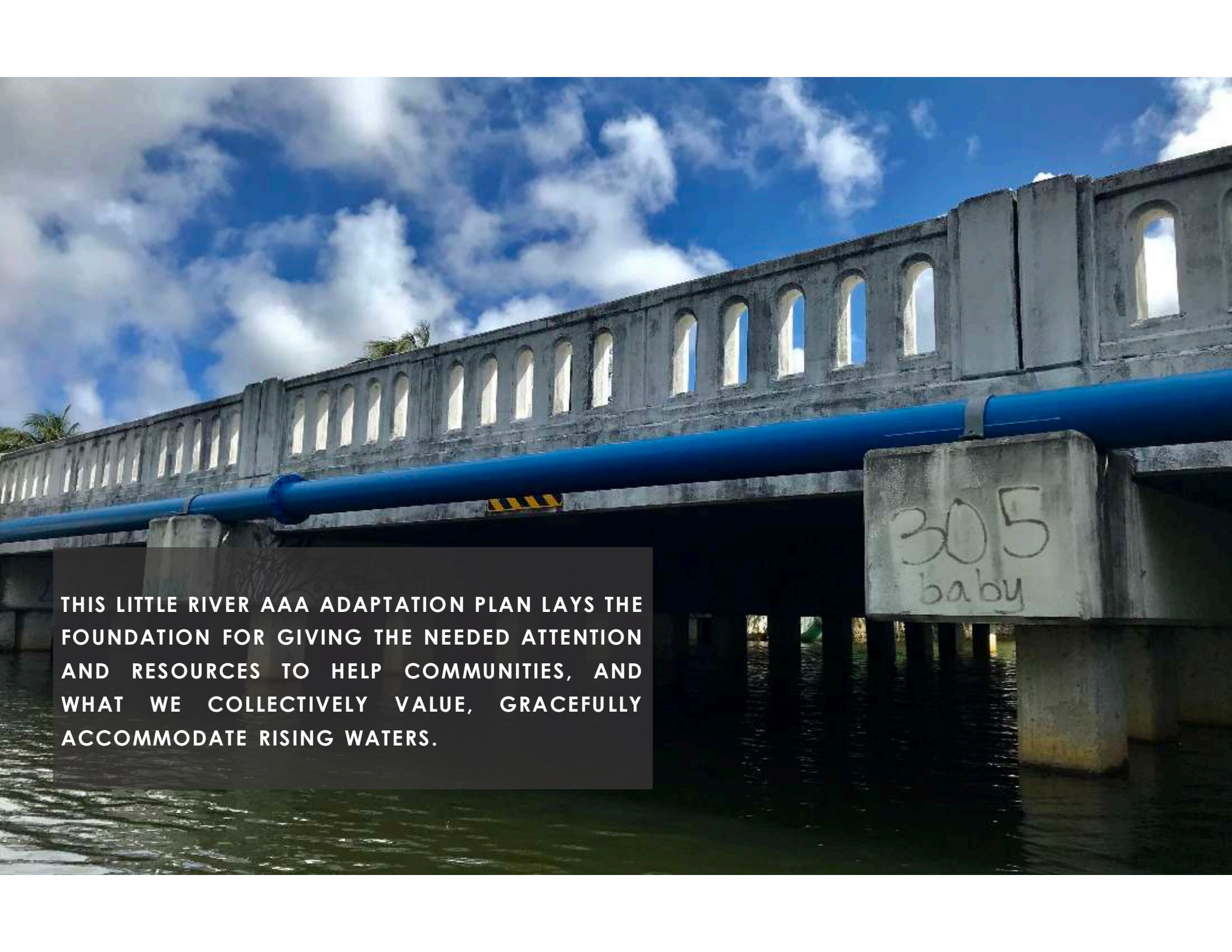
With sea level rise, a consequence of a warming climate, the ripple effect of environmental, economic, and social impacts will become a growing force and won't be felt equally by all. Along with great change, comes great risk... but also opportunity.

As the first key action to implement the County's Sea Level Rise Strategy, this AAA planning effort has enabled the County and its partners to:

- align data and an array of capital projects
- educate and collaborate with community members
- guide future planning and coordination

This collaborative adaptation planning effort is a continuation of the efforts that came before it, but with emphasis on working across boundaries and gaining a fresh and more grounded perspective on the long-standing inequities and emerging challenges. This Little River Adaptation Plan helps lay the foundation for giving the needed attention and resources to help communities, and what we collectively value, gracefully accommodate rising waters.

Through continued collaboration, community conversations, and shared investment, the County and its partners can start by following the Next Steps outlined in this plan. They include implementing a coordinated capital improvement strategy, taking immediate action on recommended policies, and tracking progress to ensure implemented projects are equitable and multi-beneficial.



**THIS LITTLE RIVER AAA ADAPTATION PLAN LAYS THE FOUNDATION FOR GIVING THE NEEDED ATTENTION AND RESOURCES TO HELP COMMUNITIES, AND WHAT WE COLLECTIVELY VALUE, GRACEFULLY ACCOMMODATE RISING WATERS.**