

# Pensacola Bay Eastern Sub-Basin 2015 Action Plan

## Stormwater Flood Reduction Recommendations

City of Pensacola | Escambia County



This diagram gives an overview of the recommendations gathered in the Sub-basin Action Plan. The actions listed on this page have originated in the basin studies, community plans and reports, and public engagement workshops held in January 2015. For more complete information read the actual Action Plan provided by the City of Pensacola and Escambia County on their respective websites.

[www.cityofpensacola.com](http://www.cityofpensacola.com)

[www.myescambia.com](http://www.myescambia.com)



**A** **Develop a fully dynamic hydrologic and hydraulic model** for the entire eastern sub-basin. The right combination of projects could be phased within the model resulting in proper coordination and savings.

**B** **Delano Street Drainage Improvements** should be implemented according to the 2014 study update prepared by HDR. These projects will help to alleviate flooding throughout the sub-basin.

**C** **Englewood CRA recommendations** for Pace Blvd. & Englewood Park, include integration of green low-impact development with traditional stormwater management techniques.

**D** **The Long Hollow retention pond** no longer provides the necessary storage for stormwater run-off in this part of the City. After the Delano project is implemented, the new H&H study will offer insight into appropriate solutions for this area.

**G** **Update stormwater master plans** as needed; the City's plan dates from the late 1980's, while the County's plan dates from the early 1990's. So much development has taken place since then, and a new H&H model will inform the update process.

**I** **The Town & Country shopping center** is an under-utilized complex that would benefit from low-impact strategies, after the Delano projects have been constructed.

**K** **A joint City-County Impervious Area Plan** has been recommended by Atkins in their Long Hollow Drainage Report. Such a coordinated plan would go a long way toward reducing stormwater run-off throughout the basin in the future.

**O** **"Chain of parks" and greenway concepts** give stormwater places to go during the rain, but can be enjoyed by the public on sunny days. These project types are highly favored by the community, and should be incorporated into as many traditional projects as possible.

**E** **An on-site retention program** is a basin-wide project that includes everyone! If each property owner does their best to keep rain on their property, there will be less run-off to deal with throughout the entire basin.

**H** **The City's 2015 Downtown Drainage Study** conducted by HMM-HDR offers a number of potential solutions to downtown flooding, but recommends further coordination to bring about the best option for controlling flooding at an affordable cost.

**J** **The Tarragona Street Streambed** is a concept that might prove to be useful. A safely constructed dry streambed that can openly convey stormwater during rain events, outfalling into stormwater conveyance systems closer to the bay may help to avoid more costly underground systems.

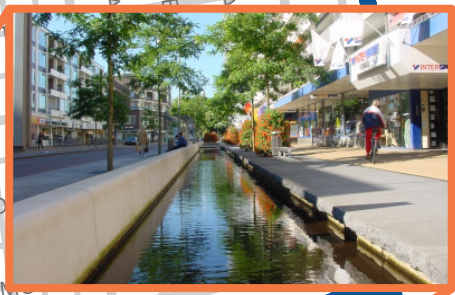
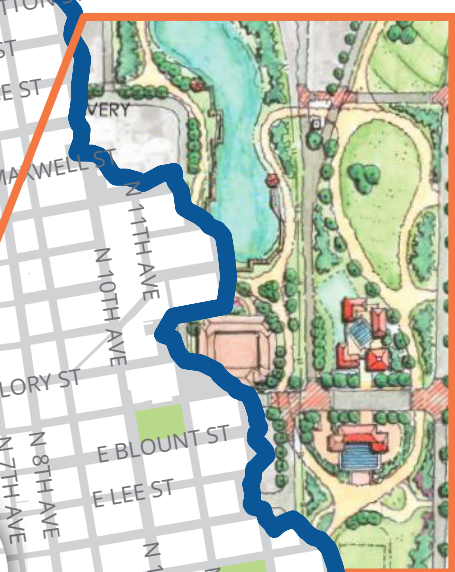
**L** **Downtown drainage projects** can include exciting economic revitalization and community-partnerships when green infrastructure is included. The Urban Redevelopment Advisory Committee has suggested that the City should "develop and fund a streetscape program for the central core."

**P** **The historic Spring Street spring** was once the source of the San Gabriel (Washerwoman) Creek. What if this spring and creek could once again move visibly through the downtown area, with pretty streamside cafes and shops?

**Recommended Policies:**

- Consider adopting a 100-year design flood event
- Consider adopting a stormwater retrofit policy
- Consider waiving or amending height restrictions under particular circumstances
- Take every opportunity to incorporate green infrastructure into local projects
- Restore or re-create historic streams wherever possible

**F** **The Palafox-Maxwell intersection** is a depressed area that holds water during even average rain events. Atkins recommends raising this intersection and surrounding roads to eliminate the sump condition.



**M** **The San Miguel Creek** once flowed from a marsh in the eastern part of downtown, through the Gateway area. Flooding still flows along the historic path of the creek, which presents ideas for a green approach.

**N** **The Aragon Court Drainage Basin Concept Report** prepared by Atkins in 2014 demonstrates the difficulty of dealing with the amount of stormwater that enters the lower portion of the sub-basin. The dynamic H&H model recommended may help to focus efforts for Aragon more effectively.

**Q** **The I-110 terminus** needs improvement for better traffic flow into the downtown area. This needed traffic project can be a catalyst for a number of green low-impact projects such as greenways or a chain of parks, incorporated into traditional stormwater conveyance systems.

**R** **The Main Street Road Diet** proposed by the Community Redevelopment Agency sets the goal of creating a beautiful eastern gateway to the City. How attractive to enter the downtown area by crossing a perfect bridge over the restored estuary of green marshes and blue bay waters!