Policy Brief

Date: 02/28/2024

To: Mayor Steve Meiner

From: Jarred Randall

Re: Miami Beach Flood Inundation Modeling & Planning Center (FIMPC) Proposal

Executive Summary

Miami Beach is at extreme risk of flooding over the next 30 years which will impact the overall economic well-being of the city and the day-to-day life of the community. Currently there are 9,520 properties in Miami Beach that have a greater than a 26% chance of being severely flooded over the next 30 years, this represents 99% of all Miami Beach Properties (Risk Factor, 2023). The establishment of a Flood Inundation Modeling & Planning Center (FIMPC) in Miami Beach is proposed to mitigate these impacts through advanced planning, modeling, and community engagement. This center would serve as a critical step forward in our ongoing efforts to protect lives, property, and the economy from the devastating impacts of floods.

FIMPC Goals and Actionable Intelligence:

The primary goal of the proposed Miami Beach FIMPC is to mitigate flood-related disasters across the city by leveraging state-of-the-art flood inundation mapping, real-time data analytics, and community-focused planning tools. This center will collect comprehensive hydrological data, including precipitation patterns, river flow rates, and sea level rise information. The Miami Beach FIMPC will utilize advanced hydrological models to predict flood events and inundation maps to visualize potential flood impacts. The results will be made accessible through an online platform, providing real-time flood forecasts, inundation maps, and risk assessments. The center will develop guidelines for local authorities to implement flood mitigation strategies, emergency response plans, and community preparedness programs.

Political Barriers:

In order to achieve the goals and objectives of the Miami beach FIMPC it will require overcoming political obstacles associated with inter-agency cooperation, securing funding, and ensuring the sharing of data among various municipalities and jurisdictions. To address these hurdles, it is crucial to demonstrate the center's potential to significantly reduce economic and infrastructure losses.

Conclusion:

The proposal to establish the Miami Beach Flood Inundation Modeling & Planning Center represents a vital strategic initiative to enhance our city's resilience against flooding and the threat of sea-level rise. By adopting a proactive approach to flood management, through advanced modeling, planning, and community engagement, we can transform Miami Beach into a model of flood resilience. Your support for the Miami Beach FIMPC is not only a step towards mitigating the immediate threats but also a long-term investment in our city's enduring health and prosperity.