

# AN ASSESSMENT OF HOW THE CITY OF VENICE PREPARED FOR AND RESPONDED TO STORMS IN 2024

Prepared for the  
VENICE CITY COUNCIL

By the Citizens' Advisory Board NOVEMBER 2024

Draft of Mary Davis' thoughts - 12/18/2024

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The City of Venice experienced three tropical storms in rapid succession in August-September, 2024. The storms created wind and flooding that have never been seen before, particularly in the coastal and low-lying areas. There was substantial property loss. Due to preparations by the city, there were no human casualties. However, in the aftermath of such destructive forces in such a short period of time and with the likelihood of future such storms, the City must assess how they performed before and afterwards. The City is performing an assessment of their own operations. They have requested an assessment from the residents' point of view: what did they do well and what needs improvement in the future. This task has been assigned to the Citizen's Advisory Board.

**Task objectives:** The CAB will identify what residents think the City of Venice did well and what needs to be improved in their preparations for and responses to Tropical Storms Debbie, Helene, and Milton in 2024.

**Approach:** The CAB will take a stepwise approach to meet their study objective:

- Identify resident populations
  - Well-served (e.g., evacuation noticed, others)
  - Under-served (e.g., homeless, aged, tourist, Golden Beach, others)
- Obtain information from target populations
  - Identify information needs
  - Create online survey
  - Create alternative ways to get responses
  - Broadcast the request for information
- Survey City information/manuals/communications
  - hurricane preparedness
  - evacuations

- FEMA assistance
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The CAB will take about 1 year to complete this assessment.

Information sources/needs

Where?	Homes Stores Hospitals Hotels Evacuation centers Restaurants Roads Parks	Shorelines Waterways
Who?	Flood  Rain Low-lying  Surge Low-lying Coastal	Wind  Older homes Manufactured homes Metal buildings Sheds No shelter
What?	Debris  From previous storms Flying Floating  Water pollution Chemicals Building debris  Salt intrusion	Types  Roofing Insulation Home contents Shed contents Boats
How?	Power Water supply Sanitation Emergency services	Hurricane preparedness Resiliency study FEMA insurance study Facebook/social media

	Fire Debris management Communications Safety	Phones Internet Bulletin boards

# Venice Resident Populations

	Populations	Source of damage	City services *	Communication **
<b>Vulnerable</b>	Aged			
	Homeless			
	Tourist			
	Evacuees (in city)			
	Evacuees (leave city)			
	Stay at home			
<b>Prevention of damage and recovery from storm</b>	Living in low-lying, coastal (e.g., Golden Beach)	Wind, flooding, inundation, sand		
	Living in low-lying (e.g., mobile homes north of the north bridge)	Flooding, inundation, Wind		
	Living in coastal (e.g., within 2 blocks of beach)	Wind, flooding, sand		
	Living in manufactured homes	Wind		
	Older homes not up to code	Wind		
	Boat owners	Flooding		
	Shoreline residents	Flooding		
	Other residents	Wind		
<b>Business interruption</b>	Hospital			
	Grocery stores			
	Restaurants			
	Hotels			
	Other businesses			

<b>Community resources</b>	Roads	Flooding, wind		
	Waterways	Flooding, wind		
	Shorelines	Flooding, wind		
	Parks	Flooding, wind		

City services: Power, water supply, sanitation, emergency services, fire, debris management, communications, safety

Communications: Public meeting (PM), online survey (OS; e.g., Survey Monkey), service organization interview (SO; e.g., Chamber of Commerce, churches), personal interview (PI), other (?)