Downtown Orlando Community Report



Central Florida Florida Disaster Resilience Initiative Phase 1 Stage 2 2019



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Executive Summary

The Florida Disaster Resilience Initiative consists of 5 phases:

- 1: Elevating the Voices of Vulnerable Communities
- 2: Collaborative Systems for Preparedness & Response
- 3: Resolving Mission Critical Gaps
- 4: Establishing Communities of Opportunity with Social Equity
- **5**: Building a Blue-Green Political Economy for Regeneration

This report details work undertaken in Central Florida in 2019 as part of Phase I. This phase included training for Community Captains, community forums, and surveys conducted within each participating community. This report, and the accompanying online community presence in the <u>Central Florida Resilience System</u> comprise the documentation of these efforts.

Information included in this Community Report was gathered using the following methods:

- Formal and informal interviews with Organization Leads located in or serving the community;
- Community Forums where:
 - Gaps and proposed solutions were discussed and recorded, and
 - Assets, hot spots (areas of concerns), and proposed resilience hubs were discussed and mapped.
- 20 Household *Mission Critical Function Surveys*: These surveys are designed to determine if the community is tending toward resilience or vulnerability. Survey respondents rated twenty six critical functions on the following scale:



• 9 Household *Housing and Emergency Shelter Surveys:* Residents described their residence type, any damage to their home as a result of Hurricane Irma, the time taken to repair the damage, and funding sources for the repairs. This survey also documented where residents received information during and after Hurricane Irma, and their level of knowledge about disaster preparedness.



• Household *Skills and Equipment Inventory Surveys.* These list residents who have volunteered their services, skills, or property to be used in the community to assist their neighbors in the event of a disaster, together with their contact information. The information is confidential, and managed by the Community Captain.

Community Leadership

Luz Fernandez, from First Baptist Orlando, served as the Community Captain for Downtown Orlando and vicinity. Katherine Diaz, Director of Community Engagement, EOLA/ Episcopal Office of Latino Assistance, served as Community Captain Lead for supervising Community Captains in two additional communities. As Community Captain, Luz was responsible for holding and documenting a Community Forum; and for the completion and submission of community surveys.



Findings

The 20 Household *Mission Critical Function Surveys* identified these top priority gaps in Downtown Orlando and vicinity:

- Renewable vs Grid Energy
- Education System
- Agricultural Production Scale
- Water Infrastructure
- Management and Governance

Most of the few respondents to the Housing and Emergency Shelter Survey resided in apartments or attached homes. Few households reported damage to their homes after Hurricane Irma. The top 5 types of damage reported by the 9 respondents to the Household *Housing and Emergency Services Surveys* were:

- Electrical power outage
- Roof damage
- Water damage
- Tree damage
- Cooling System

The vast majority of respondents (88.89%) reported that they were able to secure the supplies they needed to shelter in place for Hurricane Irma.

There is a need for preparedness education in Spanish in Downtown Orlando, with a need to educate about the locations of designated emergency shelters, how to find out if they are open, how to get there, and what to take with them. Two thirds of respondents also did not know how to comply with boil water orders, where to get sand bags or the emergency radio stations. There are 2 Brownfields, and 4 Cleanup Sites in Downtown Orlando: 1 Active Petroleum Cleanup Site, 1 Pending Petroleum Cleanup Site, and 2 Active Other Cleanup Sites.



These materials were developed by Health Initiatives Foundation, Inc. in 2019. Surveys were conducted under the auspices of Health Initiatives Foundation, Inc.'s Florida Disaster Resilience Initiative, with funding from The Miami Foundation.

Community Description

The Orlando Central Business District is a Neighborhood in Orlando that is in the Orlando Metropolitan Area in Orange County, Florida. It is comprised of portions of Census Tracts **018800** and **018900**. The neighboring neighborhoods include: Callahan, College Park, Holden-Parramore, Lake Cherokee, Lake Dot, Lake Eola Heights, North Orange, Park Lake-Highland, South Division, South Eola, and South Orange. These neighboring neighborhoods include portions of Census Tracts **010200**, **010300**, **010400**, **010500**, **011300**, **011600**, **013900**, **014400**,**014502**, **015402**, **012600**, **012701**, **012800**, **015300**, **018500**, **018800**, and **018900**.







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Downtown Orlando includes Zip Codes 32801, 32803, 32804, and 32805. The Central Business District has a population of 3,573, with 2,444 households.¹

Table 1	Geography	of Census	Block	Groups	Survey	ved
	Geography	or census	DIOCK	oroups	ourvey	yeu

	Population 872 > East West Hwy to the North > E Gore St to the South > Summerlin Ave S to the East > Delaney Ave to the West
	Population 505 ➤ Virginia Dr to the North ➤ Marks St to the South ➤ Mills Ave N to the East (Rt 17) ➤ Highland Ave and N Orange Ave to the West
12095 018900 5	Population 3,112 ➤ W Colonial Dr to the North ➤ East-West Expy to the South ➤ N Magnolia Ave, N Rosalind Ave, and Lake Ave to the East ➤ I-4 to the West
12095 018400 1	Population 1,162 ➤ E Colonial Dr to the North ➤ East West Expy to the South ➤ N Semoran Blvd to the East ➤ N Primrose Dr to the West
	Population 2,210 ➤ Raleigh St to the North ➤ Metrowest Blvd to the South ➤ S Kirkman Rd to the East ➤ Hiawassee Rd to the West

¹ US Statistical Atlas

<https://statisticalatlas.com/neighborhood/Florida/Orlando/Central-Business-District/Overview>



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12095 014703 1	
12095 015201 1	Population 1,334 ➤ Seminole County Line to the North ➤ Kennedy Blvd to the South ➤ I-4 to the East ➤ N Keller Rd and Keller Rd S to the East

School and Legislative Districts

All of the neighborhoods listed are served by the Orange County Unified School District. Portions of Downtown Orlando are in Congressional District FL-7, and others are FL-10. Likewise, State Senate Districts FL-11 and FL-13 and State House Districts FL-46 and FL-47 apply to specific geographies in the Downtown area.²

<https://statisticalatlas.com/neighborhood/Florida/Orlando/Central-Business-District/Overview>



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² US Statistical Atlas

Orange County Local Mitigation Strategy 2016 Identified Risks

The Local Mitigation Strategy identifies older homes as a vulnerability. Census Block Group **018800**2 in the Orlando Central Business District is in the 98th percentile in the nation for the EPA EJSCREEN Lead Paint Indicator, which is the percentage of homes built prior to the 1960s.

Another potential vulnerability is the age of the housing structure. Well over half of all housing structures in Orange County (53.5%) were built prior to the implementation of the Florida Building Code in 1992.... This may mean an increased vulnerability as the standards developed following the devastation of Hurricane Andrew may not exist in many of these homes. There is some likelihood that many of the homes may have been brought up to the code due to renovations or other work to meet compliance. However, if they have not been, then a large number of homes may be more susceptible to many of the natural/severe weather and tropical system hazards to which Orange County is subjected to on an annual basis.³

The Quick Reference Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Summary (See Table 2) in the Orange County Local Mitigation Strategy 2016 assigns high Risk-Relative Threat to Heat Waves, Tornadoes, Sinkholes/Land-Subsidence, and Tropical Storms.⁴

The Orange County Local Mitigation strategy also includes a section on Hazardous Materials (Map 2). The following excerpts explain the probability, vulnerability and low risk (29%) rating for Extremely Hazardous Materials Incidents:

Facilities that store chemicals are scattered about the County and those with EHS chemicals are concentrated in the industrial areas. These areas are not as populated, but other facilities are located in more commercial and/or residential areas that may increase the chance of exposure.

Probability: There are over 200 fixed facilities that house extremely hazardous substances in Orange County. The probability of an incident occurring is high as there will continue to be hazardous materials present through the continued use of chemicals at fixed facilities and their transport to, from, through, and within Orange County and its jurisdictions. With Orange County being part of a large metropolitan area and centrally

<https://orlando.novusagenda.com/AgendaPublic/AttachmentViewer.ashx?AttachmentID=70336&ItemID= 41681>



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³ Orange County Local Mitigation Strategy 2016, p. 25

">https://orlando.novusagenda.com/AgendaPublic/AttachmentViewer.ashx?AttachmentID=70336&ItemID=41681>

⁴ Orange County Local Mitigation Strategy 2016, p. 170

located in the State, it is a primary highway and freight passage in the region for goods that are being transported north and south on the Florida peninsula to Jacksonville or Miami, as well as east or west between Daytona Beach/Port Canaveral and Tampa. The likelihood for transportation incidents is amplified due to the number of possible encounters that can occur in a multi-modal setting. The most likely incident that may occur would involve a petroleum product spilling onto a roadway or other impermeable surface that would then require some kind of clean-up.

Other releases at fixed facilities will also continue to happen. While the number of instances will be likely be lower than the transportation incidents, the chemicals involved, such as EHS chemicals like chlorine, ammonia, sulfur dioxide, will be greater in their severity than petroleum products. The degree to which these releases or spills impact the county, either in quantity, severity, or location is an unknown variable. Continued emergency planning, accuracy for inventory reporting, and preparedness training must continue to occur to help reduce the number of occurrences.⁵

Risk: Low – 29%

Even with a high probability of incidents, minor to moderate anticipated or potential impacts, and a moderate vulnerability, the risk of hazardous materials is low. This is a result of the significant amount of mitigation measures that take place in the county to prepare for a release in advance. Training happens on a regular basis throughout the year and an exercise with a HazMat-based scenario is conducted by the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) on, at least, a bi-annual basis, if not more frequently. The specialized equipment and HazMat teams provide a consistently high level of support for responding the incidents.⁶

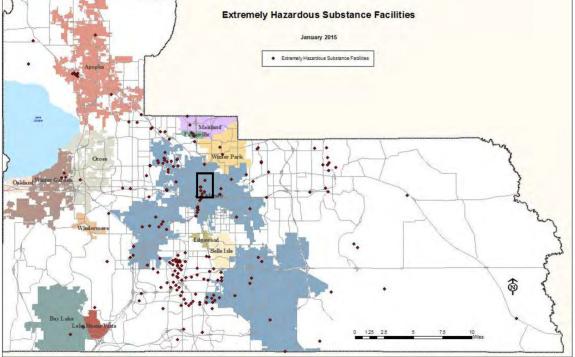
⁶ Orange County Local Mitigation Strategy 2016, p. 86



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⁵ Orange County Local Mitigation Strategy 2016, p. 83

Map 2. Orange County Local Mitigation Strategy 2016 Map of Extremely Hazardous Facilities in Orange County, FL⁷



Black rectangle surrounds the Downtown Orlando area.

Source: E-Plan – Emergency Response Information System, 2013 Chemical Inventories

⁷ Orange County Local Mitigation Strategy 2016, p. 91

<https://orlando.novusagenda.com/AgendaPublic/AttachmentViewer.ashx?AttachmentID=70336&ItemID= 41681>



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Table 2. 2016 Quick Reference Risk and Vulnerability Assessment	,
Summary for Orlando	

Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Summary					
Hazard Name	People	Property	Environment	Program Operations	Risk – Relative Threat
Diseases and Pandemic	Low	High	Moderate	High	Moderate 48%
Animal	Low	High	Moderate	High	Moderate 44%
Human	Moderate	Moderate	Low	High	Moderate 43%
Plant/Agriculture	Low	High	Moderate	High	Moderate 51%
Extreme Temperatures	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate 54%
Drought	None	Low	Moderate	High	Moderate 57%
Freezes/Winter Storms	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate 41%
Heat Waves	Low	Low	Moderate	Low	High 62%
Floods	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate 43%
Severe Thunderstorms	Low	Moderate	Low	Moderate	Moderate 59%
Hail	None	Moderate	Low	Low	Moderate 52%
Lightning	Low	Moderate	Low	Low	Moderate 52%
Tornados	High	High	Moderate	High	High 71%
Sinkholes/Land- subsidence	Low	High	Low	Moderate	High 62%
Hazardous Materials	Moderate	Low	Low	Moderate	Low 29%
Terrorism/CBRNE	High	High	Low	High	Moderate 32%
Tropical Systems	High	High	High	High	High 67%
Wildfires	Low	High	Low	High	Moderate 52%



Demographics

The very young and the elderly are vulnerable populations. Within the three Census Block Groups in the Central Business District, there is a high concentration of elderly in Census Block Group 0103002 (35%, which is in the 97th percentile in the US) and Census Block Group 0189005 (24%, which is in the 89th percentile in the US). The highest concentration of the population under age 5 is in Census Block Group **018800**2 (13%, which is in the 94th percentile in the US). The Minority Populations ranged from 15% of the population in Census Block Group **018800**2 in the Central Business District to 94% in Census Block **015201**1 farther north toward the Seminole County line. The Census Block Groups in the Central Business District had overall lower Minority Populations and Low income Populations than the neighboring Census Block Groups. The highest percentage of Linguistically Isolated Population overall was in Census Block Group **018400**1, at 18%, which is in the 91st percentile in the US.. In the Orlando Central Business District alone, the highest ranking for Linguistically Isolated Population was in Census Block Group **010300**2, at 11%. Across all Census Block Groups, the percent of the Population with Less Than a High School Education ranged from 4% to 13%.⁸

Table 3. Percent of Population for Demographic Indicators

Census Block Groups highlighted in blue are within the Orlando Central Business District. The additional Census Blocks are neighboring communities from which residents responded to the survey.

Indicator	Census Block Group					
	010300 2	018800 2	018900 5	018400 1	014703 1	015201 1
Minority Population	29%	15%	27%	81%	78%	94%
Low Income Population	35%	19%	25%	41%	46%	79%
Linguistically Isolated Population	11%	0%	5%	18%	6%	0%
Population with Less Than High School Education	12%	9%	6%	27%	4%	13%
Population under Age 5	2%	13%	3%	9%	9%	9%
Population over Age 64	35%	8%	24%	7%	2%	7%

⁸ EPA EJSCREEN: Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen>



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Environmental Health Concerns

Within the three Census Block Groups that comprise the Orlando Central Business District, EPA air quality indicators for NATA Diesel Particulate Matter, NATA Air Toxics Cancer Risk and NATA Respiratory Index are ranked among the highest in the nation: between the 80th and 100th percentile in the nation. All Census Block Groups, with the exception of **014703**1, which is farther to the West, have high Traffic Proximity and Volume, measured as Daily Traffic Count divided by the distance to the road from the residences. The three Census Block Groups in the Orlando Central Business District were in the 98th, 85th, and 97th percentiles in the country. Census Block Group **018400**1, with the Orlando Minicipal Airport, is within the 80th to 90th percentile in the US. Across Census Block Groups surveyed, the proximity to Superfund sites, measured by Superfund Site count divided by the distance to the sites in kilometers. Percentile rankings of proximity to facilities that are required to file Risk Management Plans range from the 84th to the 98th percentile in the US, whereas the percentile rankings for proximity to Hazardous Waste sites ar much lower, from 38th percentile to the 65th percentile in the US.



Table 4. Percentile in the US for Environmental Indicators

Indicator	II					
	010300 2	018800 2	018900 5	018400 1	014703 1	015201 1
NATA Diesel Particulate Matter (ug/m3)	80-90th Percentile in US	90-95th Percentile in US	95-100th Percentile in US	70-80th Percentile in US	70-80th Percentile in US	70-80th Percentile in US
NATA Air Toxics Cancer Risk (risk per MM)	90-95th Percentile in US	90-95th Percentile in US	95-100th Percentile in US	80-90th Percentile in US	70-80th Percentile in US	70-80th Percentile in US
NATA Respiratory Hazard Index	90-95th Percentile in US	90-95th Percentile in US	90-95th Percentile in US	80-90th Percentile in US	80-90th Percentile in US	70-80th Percentile in US
Traffic Proximity and Volume (daily traffic count/distance to road)	98th Percentile in US	85th Percentile in US	97th Percentile in US	93rd Percentile in US	57th Percentile in US	92nd Percentile in US
Lead Paint Indicator (% pre-1960s housing)	67th Percentile in US	98th Percentile in US	19th Percentile in US	73rd Percentile in US	20th Percentile in US	61st Percentile in US
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	83rd Percentile in US	87th Percentile in US	85th Percentile in US	82nd Percentile in US	76th Percentile in US	85th Percentile in US
Proximity to facilities w Required Risk Management Plans (facility count/km distance)	93rd Percentile in US	98th Percentile in US	92nd Percentile in US	84th Percentile in US	87th Percentile in US	95th Percentile in US
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	65th Percentile in US	63rd Percentile in US	62nd Percentile in US	37th Percentile in US	47th Percentile in US	38th Percentile in US

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*The National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment (NATA) is EPA's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. EPA developed the NATA to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that NATA provides broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. More information on the NATA analysis can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/national-air-toxics-assessment.

Brownfield Sites

There are two Brownfield Sites in the Downtown Area of Orlando that are on the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Contamination Locator Map, although one of them (the Dr. Phillips Orlando Performing Arts Center) has received its rehabilitation completion notice.

Area ID	Area Name	Site ID	Site Name
<u>BF480401000</u>	DEEDS Orlando Expanded	<u>BF480401004</u>	Future Dr. P. Phillips Orlando Performing Arts Center
		BF480401001	Orlando Events Center

Table 5. Brownfield Sites in the Downtown A	rea of Orlando
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Contaminated Sites

In addition to the 2 Brownfields, there are 4 Cleanup Sites in Downtown Orlando: 1 Active Petroleum Cleanup Site, 1 Pending Petroleum Cleanup Site, and 2 Active Other Cleanup Sites as listed below with links to their documentation.

Active Petroleum Cleanup Sites

 HUGHEY AVE & SOUTH ST at ROADWAY AT HUGHEY & SOUTH; Facility Id: 9810753 <u>Watch This Site</u> <u>Documents</u>

Pending Petroleum Cleanup Sites

 AMOCO-DOWNTOWN at 261 S MAGNOLIA AVE; Facility Id: 8512655

 Watch This Site
 Documents

Active Other Cleanup Sites

- 1. DOWNTOWN EVENTS CENTER/ CITY OF ORLANDO (BF) at 3 BLOCK AREA FROM JACKSON TO HUGHEY PL; Facility Id: COM_273675 Watch This Site Documents
- 2. STREAMLINE CLEANERS I-4/SOUTH STREET CONTAMINATION PLUME

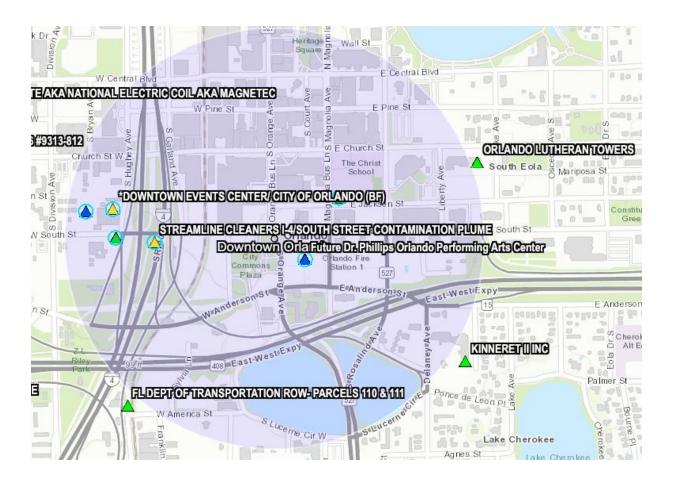


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NEAR SOUTH STREET AND GARLAND AVE; Facility Id: COM_299503 Watch This Site Documents

Map 3. Contamination Locator Map Downtown Orlando⁹

Cleanup types: \triangle Brownfields \triangle Petroleum \triangle Superfund \triangle Other Waste Cleanup



⁹ Florida Department of Environmental Protection Contamination Locator Map http://prodenv.dep.state.fl.us/DepClnup/viewmap.do



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Surveying Completed

Survey Tools used in the Downtown Orlando area appear in the Appendices. Many Survey respondents in Downtown Orlando did not divulge their addresses. However, they did report the neighborhoods in which they live. All of these neighborhoods are located in the Orlando Metropolitan Area in Orange County, Florida.

Table 6. Census Block Groups Surveyed

Blue indicates Census Block Groups in the Central Business District of Orlando or Neighboring Neighborhoods.

Census Block Group	MCF	Housing & Emergency Shelter Surveys
12095 010300 2	2	0
12095 018800 2	1	0
12095 018900 5	16	4
12095 010400 1	0	1
12095 014703 1	1	0
12095 015201 1	0	1
Other	0	3
Total	20	9



Misson Critical Functions Surveys

The categories with the lowest average ratings were in the "Resilient" range; considered to be the most vulnerable functions by the respondents.

Vulnerability Scores graphed below are the average scores from the 20 respondents. The most vulnerable functions ratings were for Renewable vs Grid Energy, followed by the Education System, Agricultural Production Scale, and Water Infrastructure. The two functions ranked "Resilient and Sustainable" were Psychosocial Resilience and Value Chains. Value Chains provide resilience through local jobs and adequate banking and financial structure.

Graph 1. Average Mission Critical Function Ratings for Each Function

The 26 Mission Critical Functions are listed to the left of the bars on the graph.



Vulnerability Score (1:Destroyed - 7: Resilient & Sustainable)

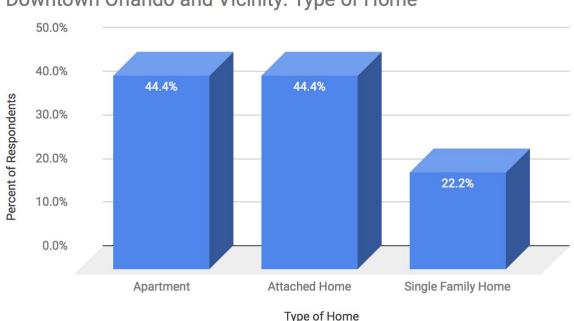


Housing and Emergency Shelter Survey

There were 9 Housing and Emergency Shelter Surveys returned within the Downtown Orlando area and vicinity, although additional surveys from other geographies were collected in Downtown Orlando. Those surveys were assigned to their respective communities, and do not appear here.

Type of Housing was a multiple choice question, with Single Family Home, Apartment, Attached Home (duplex, townhome, etc.), Manufactured Home, and Trailer as options. No respondents resided in Trailers or Manufactured Homes, and 22.2% resided in Single Family Homes. The remaining 88.8% of respondents were evenly divided between residing in Apartments (44.4%) and residing in Attached Homes (44.4%).

Graph 2. Housing

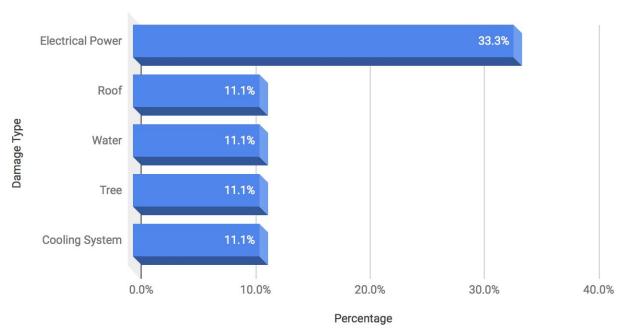


Downtown Orlando and Vicinity: Type of Home



Type of Damage to Respondents' Residences: A third of survey respondents (33.3%) reported loss of electrical power. Roof, water, tree and cooling system damage were each reported bt 11.1% of respondents. All reported damage was repaired in less than 6 months.

Graph 3.



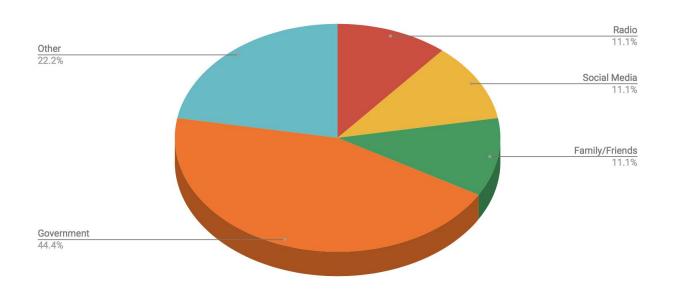
Downtown Orlando & Vicinity: Percent Damage By Type



Sources of Information: Of those having looked for information, 44.4% indicated that they received it from government sources. Unspecified "Other" sources provided information for another 22.22% of respondents. Radio, Social Media, and Family/Friends were sources of information for 11.1% of respondents each.

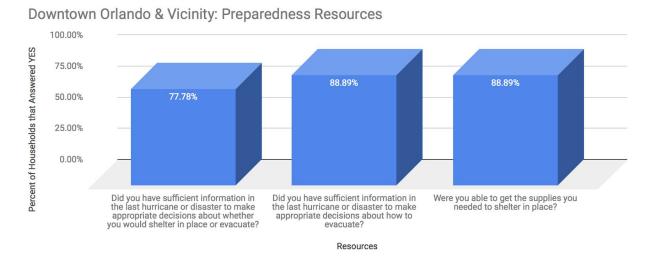
Graph 4.

Downtown Orlando & Vicinity: Source of Information During Hurricane Irma Recovery





Preparedness Resources: More than three quarters of respondents (77.78%) stated that they had sufficient information to decide whether to shelter in place or to evacuate, and 88.89% stated that they had the information they needed to evacuate. The vast majority of respondents (88.89%) reported that they were able to secure the supplies they needed to shelter in place for Hurricane Irma.

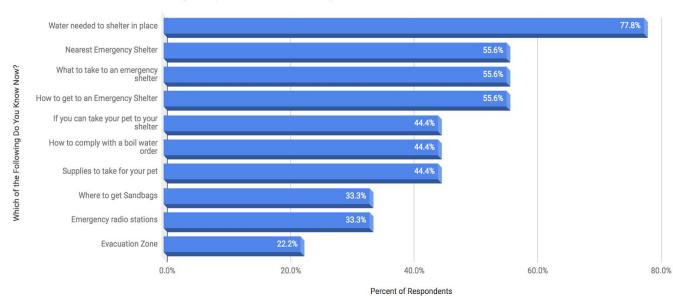


Graph 5.



Preparedness Knowledge: There is a need for preparedness education in Spanish in Downtown Orlando. More than three quarters (77.8%) of respondents knew how much water was needed to shelter in place, but only 55.6% of respondents knew where their nearest emergency shelter was, what to take to an emergency shelter, or how to get to an emergency shelter. Less than half of the respondents knew if they could take a pet to their shelter or what pet supplies to bring to a shelter, how to comply with a boil water order. Only a third of respondents knew where they could get sandbags or their emergency radio stations. There is a need to educate about the locations of designated emergency shelters, how to find out if they are open, and how to get there.

Graph 6.



Downtown Orlando and Vicinity: Preparedness Knowledge



Community Forum Identified Gaps and Solutions

Residents from part of the Downtown Orlando area reported not being prepared for hurricanes and shared the top two priority issues and proposed solutions:

Gaps	Solutions
Communication and Access to Information	Use outlets such as social media and printed materials.
Housing and Environmental Safety: trees and emergency shelters during hurricanes have been reported to be an issue.	Have shelters available, easily accessible, and known by the community

Community Leader Identified Priority Gaps and Solutions

Training Call #6 engaged Community Leaders in Gap Prioritization beginning with a selection of the top two priorities from among the top 5 Gaps identified in the Phase 1 Stage 1 CFL After Action Report. Community Captain Luz Fernandez provided this detail on the top two priority gaps:

Downtown Orlando - Luz Fernandez- First Baptist of Orlando

Priority #1: Communication/Access to information

Possible solution: Social media posts, and flyers

Resources Needed: Technical resources in designing interesting ads for posts on social media

Potential Champions: Luz Fernandez

Priority #2: Housing/Environmental Safety (Trees are an issue)

<u>Possible solution:</u> Having shelters available and easily accessible as well as known by the community

<u>Resources Needed:</u> Technical resources and a designed informational post for social media would do good to inform the community on shelters in place.



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Potential Champions:

- Luz Fernandez
- First Baptist of Orlando

