

## **EXHIBIT "F"**

## OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Item 8.1

PRESENT TO BOARD: AUGUST 27, 2025

TO: SOUTH FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FROM: FRED HAWKINS Washing

SUBJECT: LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION STRATEGY (LMS) PLAN

College staff worked closely with Highlands County staff and several other local governments and associations to update the multi-jurisdictional Highlands County Local Hazard Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Plan. The plan was prepared in accordance with federal regulations and has been approved by the State of Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), pending adoption of the plan by participating entities (see attached letter from FDEM). The College has participated in the development and implementation of the LMS since inception, with staff participating in amendments and updates throughout the years.

A major objective of the five-year update to the LMS is to maintain eligibility to apply for and/or receive project grant funding for Highlands County and its participating jurisdictions. Local governments must have an LMS approved by FEMA in order to be eligible for hazard mitigation assistance programs, including the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and the Pre-Disaster Mitigation, Flood Mitigation Assistance, and Severe Repetitive Loss programs.

Our staff has reviewed the plan and recommends adoption of the attached resolution.

## SUGGESTED MOTION:

Move to accept and adopt the Highlands County Multi-hazard Local Mitigation plan.