

Community Resilience

The proposed project will assist the City of Marianna with hurricane anticipation, withstanding and recovery. First, flash flooding is reduced and issues related to children drowning in the ditch are eliminated, because the stormwater ditch will be enclosed pipe with landscaping. Soil stability is better due to lack of erosion, and up-rooting of trees and power poles will be reduced. This will also provide protection to homes. Sewer and water pipe breakage due to washouts will be reduced, also decreasing the chances of sewage spills and low water pressure in the service area due to a storm event. With the overall reduction of issues related to the stormwater drainage in this area, the recovery time for this neighborhood will also be improved thereby making the area of the proposed improvements more resilient.

The proposed project will reestablish and reinforce existing and newly created shorelines. The high stream velocity from the existing ditch causes bank erosion and more sedimentation downstream, which further deteriorates habitats and property. This creates a scenario where areas that rarely flooded, now flood with regularity. Often new soil is brought in to replace soil that has been washed away. The sediment leads to the need for removal at a great cost from culverts, storm drains and the Chipola River to restore their capacity. In addition to sediment, the stormwater carries oil, grease, nutrients, heavy metals, pathogens and other materials that may accumulate on land between the rains. The improvements will reduce erosion issues. The stormwater detention pond will have newly established shorelines. This will allow for the re-establishment of river banks and shorelines.