

MIAMI BEACH IS RISING ABOVE ARE YOU?

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RISING
ABOVE

STEPS FOR UPGRADING YOUR OLD SEAWALLS AND OTHER OPTIONS TO REDUCE FLOOD RISK

As the city continues to upgrade aging infrastructure, invest in public spaces and adapt to climate change, you too can play a role and protect your home. The sea level rise projection from the Southeast Florida Climate Change Compact provides information about the importance of short and long-term planning. The city ensures that new seawalls and renovated seawalls are built to a higher elevation.

There are many ways to reduce flood risk. If your seawall is old, in need of repair, or is just not functioning properly over time, here are the steps to upgrade, invest and protect your home. Investing in your seawall can protect against tides now and for years in the future.

WHY IS REDUCING FLOOD RISK IMPORTANT?

- 93% of buildings in Miami Beach are located in a FEMA special flood hazard area (SFHA).
- One out of four residents are not satisfied with their home's flood risk protections. (source: 2019 Resident Survey)

1. Call the City of Miami Beach Floodplain Manager, your local professional expert in FEMA rules related to flood protection and insurance.

The manager can provide guidance and common tips to help reduce the risk of flooding now and in the future for your private home and property. It's best to obtain an Elevation Certificate before your site visit. Contact the City's Floodplain Manager to see there is an Elevation Certificate on file and to schedule a site visit. 305.673.7610.

Options include higher seawalls, home elevation, wet flood proofing, dry floodproofing, raising mechanical electrical and plumbing, redirecting rain and flood waters through techniques like elevated driveway edges, providing drainage from the structure, and increasing green space.

2. Call your insurance agent to understand the details of your policy and ask if any investments in your property can reduce flood insurance or other insurance costs.

3. Get quotes by calling a few licensed general contractors, professional engineers, or other construction professionals. Share the ideas from your discussion with the Floodplain Manager and your insurance agent. Do your homework, check references, and compare costs. Your contractor too may have suggestions.

4. Consider financing and payment options. Call your local banker and apply for a home equity loan or construction loan if that is the right move for you.

5. Hire a qualified and knowledgeable contractor. If you are upgrading your seawall, as a start, visit www.MBRisingAbove.com for a list of contractors. While many contractors do work throughout Miami-Dade County, these contractors have performed work on our public seawalls. Permitting is required and is typically handled by the seawall contractor. Permits are needed from the city, the County, the State, and the Army Corps of Engineers.

6. Construct your new seawall, including all inspections to close out your permits. The typical lifespan of a seawall is 30 to 50 years.

Thank you for doing your part and keeping Miami Beach Rising Above!



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