



OBSERVER CORPS REPORT
Daytona Beach City Commission
Reported by Cindy Wakeland

December 17, 2025

The meeting featured an unscheduled presentation from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Jim McGrone updated the commissioners on flooding issues in the City of Daytona Beach and reviewed the progress made since his last briefing 18 months ago.

Mr. McGrone provided an overview of the local topography contributing to the flooding. The Corp has chosen to focus on an area in Daytona Beach that has experienced significant flooding due to not having access to proper drainage for its water runoff. The area is between Nova Canal (west), Ridgewood Avenue (east), Orange Avenue (north), and Beville Road (south).

This area contains Caroline Village, Hibiscus Park and Fairway Estates. All of these have experienced from 17 to 28 inches of flooding with Hurricanes Milton and Ian.

This area's western border is the Nova Canal and includes where the Navy Canal drains into the Nova Canal. This brings additional water to the Canal in addition to storm water. The closest Nova Canal outlets to the Halifax River are the 11th Street Canal on the north and the Reed Canal to the south (in South Daytona).

There are suggested relief options but all at considerable cost. Options include adding a Gate Structure & Pumping station at Reed Canal and 11th Street Canal. This requirement is essential to ensure the proper operation of all canals. Another proposal is to raise the height of the Nova Canal berm.

There is a planned public workshop for February 2026 on these findings and recommendations. There will be another presentation to the commissioners, and a public report will be released in October of this year.