



Fenway Community Development Corporation

Full Mitigation Best Practice Story

Suffolk County, Massachusetts

Boston, MA - The Fenway Community Development Corporation owns and manages a building on Peterborough Street. This building is an affordable residence for the sick, elderly, and disabled. In 1996 the building was flooded twice. Most notably in October of 1996 flood waters and sewage entered the building via the main waste line, the garage area, and the elevator sump. Flooding caused damage to five living units, the fire alarm, fire suppression system, the elevator (a vital evacuation tool for the disabled), and the basement area which was used for an after-school program.



During repairs to the building, the Fenway Community Development Corporation worked with FEMA Region I and Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency to develop a flood mitigation project. This project included the following building retrofits: (1) The elevator sump depth was increased and equipped with a larger pump and debris screen; and (2) A check valve was installed on the main waste line to prevent sewage backup.

In June of 1998, the area flooded again. There was no damage to the building. These mitigation steps have saved over \$60,000 in avoided damages from this event alone. The protection has given the residents of the building an increased sense of security.

Standard Homeowner's insurance policies do not cover flood damage. The National Flood Insurance Program makes Federally backed flood insurance available to homeowners, renters, and business owners in participating communities.

Activity/Project Location

Geographical Area: **Single County in a State**

FEMA Region: **Region I**

State: **Massachusetts**

County: **Suffolk County**

City/Community: **Boston**

Key Activity/Project Information

Sector: **Public**
Hazard Type: **Flooding**
Activity/Project Type: **Flood-proofing; Retrofitting, Non-structural**
Structure Type: **Steel Frame**
Activity/Project Start Date: **01/1997**
Activity/Project End Date: **07/1997**
Funding Source: **Other FEMA funds/ US Department of Homeland Security**
Funding Recipient: **Critical Facility - Medical**
Funding Recipient Name: **Fenway Community Development Corporation**

Activity/Project Economic Analysis

Cost: **\$19,396.00 (Estimated)**

Activity/Project Disaster Information

Mitigation Resulted From Federal
Disaster? **Yes**

Federal Disaster #: **1142 , 10/25/1996**

Value Tested By Disaster? **Yes**

Tested By Federal Disaster #: **No Federal Disaster specified**

Year First Tested: **1998**

Repetitive Loss Property? **Unknown**

Reference URLs

Reference URL 1: <http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/>

Reference URL 2: <http://www.mass.gov/>

Main Points

- The Fenway Community Development Corporation owns and manages a building on Peterborough Street. This building is an affordable residence for the sick, elderly, and disabled.
- This project included the following building retrofits: (1) The elevator sump depth was increased and equipped with a larger pump and debris screen; and (2) A check valve was installed on the main waste line to prevent sewage backup.
- In June of 1998, the area flooded again. There was no damage to the building. These mitigation steps have saved over \$60,000 in avoided damages from this event alone. The protection has given the residents of the building an increased sense of security.

