

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: [County Official]
[County Official Contact number/email]

[FEMA Representative]
[FEMA Contact number/email]

PROPOSED FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP REFLECTS CHANGES TO LOCAL FLOOD RISK

90-Day Appeal Period for Filing Appeals and Comments Begins X

[City, State], [Date] — [County name's] flood insurance rate map update is nearing completion. The new maps will provide [County name] with up-to-date flood risk information and tools that can be used to enhance local mitigation plans, and help local officials and residents make informed decisions about reducing flood risks and purchasing flood insurance. The local mapping project is part of a nationwide effort led by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to increase local knowledge of flood risks and support actions to address and reduce those risks. Before new flood insurance rate maps become effective, there will be a 90-day Appeal Period during which local residents and business owners can provide additional data for consideration before the maps are finalized. This appeal period starts on (Day, Month).

“During the past couple of years, we have worked closely with FEMA to make sure we have the most accurate picture possible of our flood risk,” said [Community CEO, Emergency Manager, Floodplain Manager]. “This information will ensure that our homes and businesses are insured appropriately against flooding, while also helping us make more informed decisions about how to protect [County] from what might otherwise be devastating flood events.”

The new maps are preliminary and [County] officials encourage residents and business owners to review the proposed flood insurance rate maps to learn about local flood risks, potential future flood insurance requirements, and identify any concerns or questions about the information provided.

If you have technical and scientific information, such as detailed hydraulic or hydrologic data, you may be able to appeal the flood risk information on the preliminary flood insurance rate maps during the 90-day Appeal Period. For further details on this process, visit [enter website address].

KEY MAPPING MILESTONES

[Date] — Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps released

[Date] — Flood Risk Open House

[Date] — Start of 90-day Appeal Period

[Target Date, Month, or Season—e.g., Fall 2014]* — New Flood Insurance Rate Maps become effective; new flood insurance requirements take effect

Visit [enter website address] to see the preliminary flood insurance rate maps.

For general information, call [Name of local call center or contact] at [phone #].

Open [hours of operation].

*Date subject to change pending completion of appeal review process.

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