



FEMA

April 9, 2013

The Honorable Edwin M. Lee
Mayor of the City & County of San Francisco
City Hall, Room 200
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, California 94102

RE: FEMA California Coastal Analysis and Mapping Project / Bay Area Coastal Study

Dear Mayor Lee:

Thank you for your participation in the National Flood Insurance Program administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Under the Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) program, FEMA has prioritized Flood Insurance Rate Map and Flood Insurance Study updates for all populated coastal areas in the nation. Within California, the Risk MAP program shifts focus from digital flood mapping to new engineering analysis and mitigation.

A feature of the Risk MAP program is the study of the coastline for the state of California's coastal counties and communities. The California Coastal Analysis and Mapping Project (CCAMP) / Bay Area Coastal (BAC) Study involves new coastal flood hazard mapping and base-flood elevation determinations for the nine counties of: Marin, Sonoma, Napa, Solano, Contra Costa, Alameda, San Mateo, San Francisco, and Santa Clara. Under this project, many Bay Area communities will have coastal flood data and mapping updated for the first time in over 20 years. This study effort will improve the quality of the coastal data used for both floodplain management and planning purposes.

The City & County of San Francisco is an important participant in the CCAMP / BAC Study. The study is currently in the floodplain work map phase. FEMA is evaluating onshore coastal flood hazards due to high water levels and waves to determine new proposed base flood elevations. Upon completion of the coastal analysis and draft floodplain work maps for San Francisco, FEMA will facilitate a Flood Risk Review meeting to provide technical stakeholders an opportunity to view and comment on the engineering analysis and draft floodplain work maps, prior to the development of a preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map. The following topics will also be discussed at the Flood Risk Review meeting:

- Nature and intent of the re-study
- Study schedule and milestones
- Outreach opportunities to assist in communicating changes in the Special Flood Hazard Area, the area that is subject to flooding during the 1-percent-annual-chance flood event
- Initial assessment of flood risk factors and risk assessment data contributing to the BAC Study
- Key points of contact within your community, FEMA Region IX, and the Production and Technical Services Contractor (BakerAECOM, LLC)

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We have contacted your staff within the Office of the City Administrator to establish an available date for the Flood Risk Review meeting, anticipated to occur in May 2013. Information will be provided at that meeting regarding how your community may benefit from the Risk MAP program and the CCAMP / BAC Study. Additionally, a website has been established to provide information on the CCAMP / BAC Study online at www.r9coastal.org. This website allows each community to stay informed of the flood insurance study progress.

The BAC Study is the most comprehensive coastal hazard analysis of the San Francisco Bay coastal communities and has been a collaborative process involving multiple local, state and federal partners. The data and draft floodplain work maps are being shared with all the affected communities. The BAC Study data is intended to improve understanding of flood risk as well as enhance the City and County of San Francisco's floodplain management, land-use planning, and adaptation efforts.

We look forward to working with the City and County of San Francisco on this multi-year coastal mapping project. If you have questions about the CCAMP / BAC Study, you may contact Kathleen Schaefer, Regional Engineer, at (510) 627-7129, or by e-mail at Kathleen.Schaefer@fema.dhs.gov. An alternate FEMA contact is Raymond Lenaburg, Risk Analysis Branch Chief, at (510) 627-7181, or by email at Raymond.Lenaburg@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Sally Ziolkowski, Director
Mitigation Division

cc: Linda S. Yeung, Deputy City Administrator
Ricardo Pineda, California Dept. of Water Resources / NFIP State Coordinator
Senator Boxer, State Office
Senator Feinstein, State Office
Representative Pelosi, District Office