

Meeting Date: October 11, 2011

Agenda Item 28  
Memorandum No. 11-405

REQUESTED COMMISSION ACTION:

Consent       Ordinance       Resolution       Consideration       Workshop

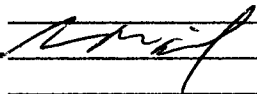
SHORT TITLE OR MOTION: Presentation on FEMA Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map update results, Outreach, Appeals and Adoption Process

Summary of Purpose and Why:

FEMA is updating the Flood Insurance Rate Maps for the first time in 19 years and the City received the preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM) on Monday, October 3rd. FEMA is holding three meetings in Broward County to explain the new maps and assist interested parties in understanding the mapping process and the implications of the results in regard to flood insurance requirements and costs. Staff will provide an explanation of the process that FEMA has established and how the City will be involved.

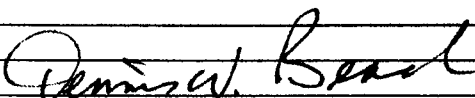
QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED BY ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT:

- (1) Origin of request for this action: Engineering, Development Services and Public Information
- (2) Primary staff contact: Jean E. Dolan / Robin M. Bird Ext. 5554
- (3) Expiration of contract, if applicable: N/A
- (4) Fiscal impact and source of funding: N/A

DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION	DATE	DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION	DEPARTMENTAL HEAD SIGNATURE
<u>Dev. Services</u>	<u>10/5/11</u>	<u>Provided Memo</u>	

Advisory Board

City Manager



ACTION TAKEN BY COMMISSION:

<u>Ordinance</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	<u>Resolution</u> 1st Reading	<u>Consideration</u> Results:	<u>Workshop</u> Results:
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading			



DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
CITY OF POMPAÑO BEACH
100 West Atlantic Boulevard - Room 316
Pompano Beach, FL 33060

MEMORANDUM NO. 11- 404

DATE: October 6, 2011
TO: Dennis W. Beach, City Manager
VIA: Robin M. Bird, Development Services Director
FROM: Jean E. Dolan, AICP, Principal Planner
SUBJECT: New FEMA Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRM) and FEMA Outreach Meetings

Background

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is preparing the first comprehensive review of flood zones throughout Broward County in 19 years (the City last adopted new FIRM maps in 1992), using a new "vertical datum," that enables consistent comparisons of land and water elevations across the nation.

Pompano Beach received the preliminary DFIRM maps on October 3, 2011 and based on a preliminary review, it appears the majority of the City is affected favorably. Many properties are no longer in areas requiring the purchase of flood insurance or they may have a higher base flood elevation which lowers the risk of flooding from an insurance perspective and thus may enjoy lower flood insurance premiums. There are some properties that aren't affected and their risk remains the same. Other properties are now mapped into a higher-risk area and/or show a new Base Flood Elevation requiring flood insurance where it was not previously required.

The updated flood maps will become effective after a series of public open houses and an appeal and adoption process. FEMA currently anticipates that the updated flood maps will be adopted in December 2012 and will then be used for:

- Determining flood insurance purchase requirements
Determining flood insurance rates
Establishing minimum finished floor elevations for new construction and substantial improvements to existing structures.

FEMA Outreach Meetings

The City of Pompano Beach is partnering with Broward County and FEMA to provide a venue for one of three open house style meetings FEMA is conducting to discuss the map modifications in Broward County. Attendees will be able to view the new preliminary flood maps and visit individual information tables staffed by federal and local government representatives to



address questions on flood insurance, the implications of map changes and the appeals process. There will be computer stations available where members of the public can look up their address and compare their current and proposed flood zone.

Property owners, realtors, lenders and insurance agents are encouraged to attend the open houses to learn more about how the changes to the flood maps may affect them. The dates and locations for the three Broward County meetings are as follows:

South Broward  
November 14, 2011, 4 - 7:45 p.m.  
South Regional Library  
7300 Pines Blvd.  
Pembroke Pines, Florida 33024

Central Broward  
November 15, 2011, 4 - 8 p.m.  
Volunteer Park Community Center  
12050 W. Sunrise Blvd.  
Plantation, Florida 33322

North Broward  
November 16, 2011, 4 – 8 p.m.  
Herb Skolnick Center  
800 SW 36 Avenue  
Pompano Beach, Florida 33069

### **How to Find Property Information**

For property owners or renters that can not attend one of the outreach meetings or would like to see if their flood zone has changed before the November meetings, the Engineering and Building Divisions both have the map on computers in their lobbies and can provide assistance. interested. Engineering can be reached at 954.786.4506 and the Building Division can be reached at 954.786.4670.

The City Staff is also working towards having a version of the new flood maps available on the City's website so interested parties can find their flood information from their personal computers. As soon as this service is available, Staff will release the information and appropriate links.

For people with questions regarding the vertical datum changes or the National Flood Insurance Program in general, they can contact the FEMA Map Assistance Center toll free at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627).

### **Appeals Process**

There is a 90-day appeal period for the new maps, beginning December 2011. During the appeal period, local governments and owners or lessees of property may submit information to FEMA on whether the proposed new flood elevations are scientifically or technically correct.

After the 90 day appeal period expires, FEMA will resolve any appeals and then issue a Letter of Final Determination. The City will have six months from the date of the Letter of Final Determination to amend Chapter 152, Flood Plain Regulations, to adopt the revised flood maps.