



STATE OF IOWA

TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
CHUCK GIPP, DIRECTOR

July 3, 2012

Mr. Charlie Kuester
Planner, Planning & Housing Dept.
City of Ames
PO Box 811
515 Clark Avenue
Ames, Iowa 50010

Re: FEMA Physical Map Revision (PMR): Flood Study Review Meeting

Dear Mr. Kuester:

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) has scheduled a Flood Study Review Meeting to give the City of Ames and Story County opportunity to review and comment on draft flood mapping products being developed for a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Physical Map Revision (PMR). This PMR, being completed in areas along College Creek and Worle Creek, will result in new enhanced (detailed) floodplain mapping and updated Flood Insurance Study (FIS) products. The study will result in changes to Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) and floodways. The PMR will result in more accurate Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMS) for the areas studied. These flood studies are being completed in compliance with FEMA requirements under authority of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 - as amended, and the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973.

The IDNR, as a Cooperating Technical Partner (CTP) with FEMA, has hired a consulting firm to perform work associated with the PMR. Flood mapping products will be available so stakeholders can review and comment on the engineering analyses and draft work maps. The consulting firm, as well as FEMA and the IDNR, will be available to answer general and technical questions about the flood mapping products.

City of Ames and Story County Flood Study Review Meeting

When: Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Time: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Where: City Hall

Room 235

515 Clark Ave

Ames, Iowa 50010

After this meeting, Preliminary FIRMS will be produced and distributed to the City and County, followed by Base Flood Elevation (BFE) noticing and appeals resolution, internal quality reviews and a compliance period. This process of map production and post-preliminary processing will take approximately 18-24 months. Once FEMA

completes these steps, the new flood mapping products can be adopted by the City of Ames and Story County.

Letters of invitation have been sent to chief elected officials and floodplain administrators of the City of Ames and Story County, and while we encourage you to attend, we hope you will extend this invitation to members of your staff or community officials who may have a special interest in floodplain mapping - such as representatives from planning, building, zoning, engineering, public works, environment, resource management, GIS administration, emergency management, and public safety.

FEMA has appointed Richard Leonard, Chief of the Risk Analysis Branch in Region VII, as the Consultation Coordination Officer for this study. Mr. Leonard may be contacted at (816) 283-7009 or through email at Richard.leonard@fema.dhs.gov.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Attendance at this meeting will help ensure your engagement as an active partner in the study process.

If you have any questions about the meeting or the flood mapping study, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Scott A. Ralston, P.E., CFM
Floodplain Mapping Coordinator
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(515) 281-8121

cc: Bob Franke, FEMA Region VII
Ann Campbell, Mayor, City of Ames
Steve Osguthorpe, Planning & Housing Director, City of Ames