



Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

IN REPLY REFER TO:
APPEAL START

December 7, 2020

The Honorable David Bunte
Supervisor, Township Board of Trustees
Township of Chikaming
13535 Red Arrow Highway
Harbert, Michigan 49115

Case No: 13-05-4209S
Community: Township of Chikaming
Berrien County, Michigan
Community No.: 260258

Dear Mr. Bunte:

On December 10, 2019, the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provided your community with Preliminary copies of the revised Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for Berrien County, Michigan (All Jurisdictions). FEMA has posted digital copies of these revised FIRM and FIS report materials to the following Website: <https://www.fema.gov/preliminaryfloodhazarddata>. The Preliminary FIRM and FIS report include proposed flood hazard information for certain locations in the Township of Chikaming, Berrien County, Michigan. The proposed flood hazard information may include addition or modification of Special Flood Hazard Areas, the areas that would be inundated by the base (1-percent-annual-chance) flood; base flood elevations or depths; zone designations; or regulatory floodways.

We have published a notice of the proposed flood hazard determinations in the *Federal Register* and will publish a public notification concerning the appeal process (explained below) in *The Herald-Palladium* on or about December 12, 2020 and December 19, 2020. We will also publish a separate notice of the flood hazard determinations on the "Flood Hazard Determinations on the Web" portion of the FEMA Website (www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/bfe). We have enclosed copies of the notice published in the *Federal Register* and the newspaper notice for your information.

These proposed flood hazard determinations, if finalized, will become the basis for the floodplain management measures that your community must adopt or show evidence of having in effect to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). However, before any new or modified flood hazard information is effective for floodplain management purposes, FEMA will provide community officials and citizens an opportunity to appeal the proposed flood hazard information presented on the Preliminary FIRM and FIS report posted to the above-referenced Website.

Section 110 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (Public Law 93-234) is intended to ensure an equitable balancing of all interests involved in the setting of flood hazard determinations. The legislation provides for an explicit process of notification and appeals for your community and for private persons prior to this office making the flood hazard determinations final. The appeal procedure is outlined below

for your information and in the enclosed document titled *Criteria for Appeals of Flood Insurance Rate Maps*.

During the 90-day appeal period following the second publication of the public notification in the above-named newspaper, any owner or lessee of real property in your community who believes his or her property rights will be adversely affected by the proposed flood hazard determinations may appeal to you, or to an agency that you publicly designate. It is important to note, however, that the sole basis for such appeals is the possession of knowledge or information indicating that the proposed flood hazard determinations are scientifically or technically incorrect. The appeal data must be submitted to FEMA during the 90-day appeal period. Only appeals of the proposed flood hazard determinations supported by scientific or technical data can be considered before FEMA makes its final flood hazard determination at the end of the 90-day appeal period. Note that the 90-day appeal period is statutory and cannot be extended. However, FEMA also will consider comments and inquiries regarding data other than the proposed flood hazard determinations (e.g., incorrect street names, typographical errors, omissions) that are submitted during the appeal period, and will incorporate any appropriate changes to the revised FIRM and FIS report before they become effective.

If your community cannot submit scientific or technical data before the end of the 90-day appeal period, you may nevertheless submit data at any time. If warranted, FEMA will revise the FIRM and FIS report after the effective date. This means that the revised FIRM would be issued with the flood hazard information presently indicated, and flood insurance purchase requirements would be enforced accordingly, until such time as a revision could be made.

Any interested party who wishes to appeal should present the data that tend to negate or contradict our findings to you, or to an agency that you publicly delegate, in such form as you may specify. We ask that you review and consolidate any appeal data you may receive and issue a written opinion stating whether the evidence provided is sufficient to justify an official appeal by your community in its own name or on behalf of the interested parties. Whether or not your community decides to appeal, you must send copies of individual appeals and supporting data, if any, to:

Shilpa Anand, STARRII
6110 Frost Place,
Laurel, Maryland 20707-2927
or by email at Shilpa.anand@stantec.com.

If we do not receive an appeal or other formal comment from your community in its own name within 90 days of the second date of public notification, we will consolidate and review on their own merits such appeal data and comments from individuals that you may forward to us, and we will make such modifications to the proposed flood hazard information presented on the revised FIRM and in the revised FIS report as may be appropriate. If your community decides to appeal in its own name, all individuals' appeal data must be consolidated into one appeal by you, because, in this event, we are required to deal only with the local government as representative of all local interests. We will send our final decision in writing to you, and we will send copies to the community floodplain administrator, each individual appellant, and the State NFIP Coordinator.

All appeal submittals will be resolved by consultation with officials of the local government involved, by an administrative hearing, or by submission of the conflicting data to an independent scientific body or appropriate Federal agency for advice. Use of a Scientific Resolution Panel (SRP) is also available to your community in support of the appeal resolution process when conflicting scientific or technical data are submitted during the appeal period. SRPs are independent panels of experts in hydrology, hydraulics, and other pertinent sciences established to review conflicting scientific and technical data and provide recommendations for resolution. An SRP is an option after FEMA and community officials have been engaged in a collaborative consultation process for at least 60 days without a mutually acceptable resolution of an appeal. Please refer to the enclosed "Scientific Resolution Panels" fact sheet for additional information on this resource available to your community.

FEMA will make the reports and other information used in making the final determination available for public inspection. Until the conflict of data is resolved and the revised FIRM becomes effective, flood insurance available within your community will continue to be available under the effective NFIP map and no person shall be denied the right to purchase the applicable level of insurance at chargeable rates.

The decision by your community to appeal, or a copy of its decision not to appeal, should be filed with this office no later than 90 days following the second publication of the flood hazard determination notice in the above-named newspaper. Your community may find it appropriate to call further attention to the proposed flood hazard determinations and to the appeal procedure by using a press release or other public notice.

If warranted by substantive changes, during the appeal period we will send you Revised Preliminary copies of the revised FIRM and FIS report. At the end of the 90-day appeal period and following the resolution of any appeals and comments, we will send you a Letter of Final Determination, which will finalize the flood hazard information presented on the revised FIRM and FIS report and will establish an effective date.

If you have any questions regarding the proposed flood hazard determinations, revised FIRM panels, or revised FIS report for your community, please call our FEMA Mapping and Insurance eXchange (FMIX), toll free, at 1-877-FEMA-MAP (1-877-336-2627) or e-mail the FMIX staff at FEMAMapSpecialist@riskmapcds.com.

Sincerely,



Luis Rodriguez, P.E., Director
Engineering and Modeling Division
Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration

List of Enclosures:

Newspaper Notice
Proposed Flood Hazard Determinations *Federal Register* Notice
Criteria for Appeals of Flood Insurance Rate Maps
"Scientific Resolution Panels" Fact Sheet

cc: Community Map Repository
Van Thornton, Community Floodplain Administrator, Zoning Administrator, Township of
Chikaming

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

**Proposed Flood Hazard Determinations for Berrien County, Michigan
and All Jurisdictions**

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency has issued a preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), and where applicable, Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report, reflecting proposed flood hazard determinations within Berrien County, Michigan and All Jurisdictions. These flood hazard determinations may include the addition or modification of Base Flood Elevations, base flood depths, Special Flood Hazard Area boundaries or zone designations, or the regulatory floodway. Technical information or comments are solicited on the proposed flood hazard determinations shown on the preliminary FIRM and/or FIS report for Berrien County, Michigan and All Jurisdictions. These flood hazard determinations are the basis for the floodplain management measures that your community is required to either adopt or show evidence of being already in effect in order to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. However, before these determinations are effective for floodplain management purposes, you will be provided an opportunity to appeal the proposed information. For information on the statutory 90-day period provided for appeals, as well as a complete listing of the communities affected and the locations where copies of the FIRM are available for review, please visit FEMA's website at www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/bfe, or call the FEMA Mapping and Insurance eXchange (FMIX) toll free at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627).



State and county	Location and case No.	Chief executive officer of community	Community map repository	Online location of letter of map revision	Date of modification	Community No.
Lorain	City of Elyria (19-05-3354P).	The Honorable Frank Whitfield, MBA, Mayor, City of Elyria, City Hall, 131 Court Street, Suite 301, Elyria, OH 44035.	Lorain County Administration Building, 226 Middle Avenue, Elyria, OH 44035.	https://msc.fema.gov/portal/advanceSearch .	Jan. 22, 2021	390350
Lorain	Unincorporated Areas of Lorain County (19-05-3354P).	Ms. Lori Kokoski, President, Board of Commissioners, Lorain County, 226 Middle Avenue, Elyria, OH 44035.	Lorain County Administration Building, 226 Middle Avenue, Elyria, OH 44035.	https://msc.fema.gov/portal/advanceSearch .	Jan. 22, 2021	390346
Medina	City of Brunswick (20-05-0885P).	The Honorable Ron Falconi, Mayor, City of Brunswick, 4095 Center Road, Brunswick, OH 44212.	City Engineer, 4095 Center Road, Brunswick, OH 44212.	https://msc.fema.gov/portal/advanceSearch .	Jan. 6, 2021	390380
Oregon: Multnomah ...	City of Troutdale (20-10-0496P).	The Honorable Casey Ryan, Mayor, City of Troutdale, 219 East Historic Columbia River Hwy., Troutdale, OR 97060.	City Hall, 219 East Historic Columbia River Hwy., Troutdale, OR 97060.	https://msc.fema.gov/portal/advanceSearch .	Jan. 11, 2021	410184
Multnomah ...	Unincorporated Areas of Multnomah County (20-10-0496P).	Ms. Deborah Kafoury, Chair, Multnomah County, 501 Southeast Hawthorne Boulevard, Suite 600, Portland, OR 97214.	Multnomah County Office of Land Use and Planning, 1600 Southeast 190th Avenue, Portland, OR 97233.	https://msc.fema.gov/portal/advanceSearch .	Jan. 11, 2021	410179
Utah: Morgan	Unincorporated Areas Morgan County (20-08-0579P).	Mr. Roland Haslam, Chair, Morgan County Board, 48 West Young Street, Morgan, UT 84050.	Morgan County Community Development Department, 48 West Young Street, Morgan, UT 84050.	https://msc.fema.gov/portal/advanceSearch .	Jan. 20, 2021	490092

[FR Doc. 2020-24294 Filed 11-2-20; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 9110-12-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Docket ID FEMA-2020-0002; Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-B-2065]

Proposed Flood Hazard Determinations

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Comments are requested on proposed flood hazard determinations, which may include additions or modifications of any Base Flood Elevation (BFE), base flood depth, Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) boundary or zone designation, or regulatory floodway on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), and where applicable, in the supporting Flood Insurance Study (FIS) reports for the communities listed in the table below. The purpose of this notice is to seek general information and comment regarding the preliminary FIRM, and where applicable, the FIS report that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has provided to the affected communities. The FIRM and FIS report

are the basis of the floodplain management measures that the community is required either to adopt or to show evidence of having in effect in order to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). In addition, the FIRM and FIS report, once effective, will be used by insurance agents and others to calculate appropriate flood insurance premium rates for new buildings and the contents of those buildings.

DATES: Comments are to be submitted on or before February 1, 2021.

ADDRESSES: The Preliminary FIRM, and where applicable, the FIS report for each community are available for inspection at both the online location <https://www.fema.gov/preliminaryfloodhazarddata> and the respective Community Map Repository address listed in the tables below. Additionally, the current effective FIRM and FIS report for each community are accessible online through the FEMA Map Service Center at <https://msc.fema.gov> for comparison.

You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. FEMA-B-2065, to Rick Sacbibit, Chief, Engineering Services Branch, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, FEMA, 400 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-7659, or (email) patrick.sacbibit@fema.dhs.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rick Sacbibit, Chief, Engineering Services Branch, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, FEMA, 400 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-7659, or (email) patrick.sacbibit@fema.dhs.gov; or visit the FEMA Mapping and Insurance eXchange (FMIX) online at https://www.floodmaps.fema.gov/fhm/fmx_main.html.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: FEMA proposes to make flood hazard determinations for each community listed below, in accordance with section 110 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, 42 U.S.C. 4104, and 44 CFR 67.4(a).

These proposed flood hazard determinations, together with the floodplain management criteria required by 44 CFR 60.3, are the minimum that are required. They should not be construed to mean that the community must change any existing ordinances that are more stringent in their floodplain management requirements. The community may at any time enact stricter requirements of its own or pursuant to policies established by other Federal, State, or regional entities. These flood hazard determinations are used to meet the floodplain management requirements of the NFIP and are used to calculate the appropriate flood insurance premium

rates for new buildings built after the FIRM and FIS report become effective.

The communities affected by the flood hazard determinations are provided in the tables below. Any request for reconsideration of the revised flood hazard information shown on the Preliminary FIRM and FIS report that satisfies the data requirements outlined in 44 CFR 67.6(b) is considered an appeal. Comments unrelated to the flood hazard determinations also will be considered before the FIRM and FIS report become effective.

Use of a Scientific Resolution Panel (SRP) is available to communities in support of the appeal resolution process. SRPs are independent panels of experts in hydrology, hydraulics, and other pertinent sciences established to

review conflicting scientific and technical data and provide recommendations for resolution. Use of the SRP only may be exercised after FEMA and local communities have been engaged in a collaborative consultation process for at least 60 days without a mutually acceptable resolution of an appeal. Additional information regarding the SRP process can be found online at https://www.floodsrp.org/pdfs/srp_overview.pdf.

The watersheds and/or communities affected are listed in the tables below. The Preliminary FIRM, and where applicable, FIS report for each community are available for inspection at both the online location <https://www.fema.gov/preliminaryfloodhazarddata> and the

respective Community Map Repository address listed in the tables. For communities with multiple ongoing Preliminary studies, the studies can be identified by the unique project number and Preliminary FIRM date listed in the tables. Additionally, the current effective FIRM and FIS report for each community are accessible online through the FEMA Map Service Center at <https://msc.fema.gov> for comparison.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance No. 97.022, "Flood Insurance.")

Michael M. Grimm,

Assistant Administrator for Risk Management, Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Community	Community map repository address
Berrien County, Michigan (All Jurisdictions) Project: 13-05-4209S Preliminary Date: December 10, 2019	
Charter Township of Benton	Benton Township Office, 1725 Territorial Road, Benton Harbor, MI 49022.
Charter Township of Lake	Lake Township Hall, 3220 Shawnee Road, Bridgman, MI 49106.
Charter Township of Lincoln	Lincoln Township Hall, 2055 West John Beers Road, Stevensville, MI 49127.
Charter Township of St. Joseph	Township Hall, 3000 Washington Avenue, St. Joseph, MI 49085.
City of Benton Harbor	City Hall, 200 East Wall Street, Benton Harbor, MI 49022.
City of Bridgman	City Hall, 9765 Maple Street, Bridgman, MI 49106.
City of New Buffalo	City Hall, 224 West Buffalo Street, New Buffalo, MI 49117.
City of St. Joseph	City Hall, 700 Broad Street, St. Joseph, MI 49085.
Township of Chikaming	Chikaming Township Center, 13535 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert, MI 49115.
Township of Hagar	Hagar Township Hall, 3900 Riverside Road, Riverside, MI 49084.
Township of New Buffalo	Township Office, 17425 Red Arrow Highway, New Buffalo, MI 49117.
Township of Royalton	Royalton Township Hall, 980 Miners Road, St. Joseph, MI 49085.
Village of Grand Beach	Village Hall, 48200 Perkins Boulevard, Grand Beach, MI 49117.
Village of Michiana	Village Hall, 4000 Cherokee Drive, Michiana, MI 49117.
Village of Shoreham	Shoreham Village Hall, 2120 Brown School Road, St. Joseph, MI 49085.
Village of Stevensville	Village Hall, 5768 St. Joseph Avenue, Stevensville, MI 49127.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Docket ID FEMA-2020-0001]

Notice of Adjustment of Disaster Grant Amounts

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency, DHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: FEMA gives notice of an adjustment to the threshold for Small Project subgrants made to state, tribal, and local governments and private

nonprofit facilities for disasters declared on or after October 1, 2020.

DATES: This adjustment applies to major disasters and emergencies declared on or after October 1, 2020.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tod Wells, Recovery Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-3834.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207, as amended by the Sandy Recovery Improvement Act, Public Law 113-2, provides that FEMA will annually adjust the threshold for assistance provided under section 422, Simplified Procedures, relating to the Public Assistance program, to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index for

All Urban Consumers published by the Department of Labor.

FEMA gives notice that \$132,800 is the threshold for any Small Project subgrant made to state, tribal, and local governments or to the owner or operator of an eligible private nonprofit facility under section 422 of the Stafford Act for all major disasters or emergencies declared on or after October 1, 2020.

FEMA bases the adjustment on an increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers of 1.3 percent for the 12-month period that ended in August 2020. This is based on information released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics at the U.S. Department of Labor on September 11, 2020.