



FEMA

March 17, 2021

**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

The Honorable Eric Garcetti
Mayor, City of Los Angeles
City Hall
200 North Spring Street, Room 303
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Mayor Garcetti:

I am writing this letter as an official reminder that the City of Los Angeles, California, has until April 21, 2021, to adopt and have the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Regional Office approve floodplain management measures that satisfy 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 60.3(d) and (e) of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) regulations.

The City of Los Angeles must adopt floodplain management measures, such as a floodplain management ordinance, that meet or exceed the minimum NFIP requirements (copy enclosed) by April 21, 2021, to avoid suspension from the NFIP. If suspended, your community becomes ineligible for flood insurance through the NFIP, new insurance policies cannot be sold, and existing policies cannot be renewed.

The NFIP State Coordinating Office for your State has verified that California communities may include language in their floodplain management measures that automatically adopt the most recently available flood elevation data provided by FEMA. Your community's floodplain management measures may already be sufficient if the measures include suitable automatic adoption language and are otherwise in accordance with the minimum requirements of the NFIP. The NFIP State Coordinator can assist you further in clarifying questions you may have about automatic adoption.

Under the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, as amended, flood insurance must be purchased by property owners seeking any Federal financial assistance for construction or acquisition of buildings in Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs). This financial assistance includes certain federally guaranteed mortgages and direct loans, federal disaster relief loans and grants, as well as other similarly described assistance from FEMA and other agencies.

In addition, all loans individuals obtain from Federally regulated, supervised, or insured lending

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institutions that are secured by improved real estate located in SFHAs are also contingent upon the borrower obtaining flood insurance coverage on the building. However, purchasing and maintaining flood insurance coverage on a voluntary basis is frequently recommended for properties located outside SFHAs.

Your NFIP State Coordinator and FEMA would like to assist the City of Los Angeles to ensure it remains in good standing with the NFIP and avoids suspension from the Program. If your community is suspended, it may regain its eligibility in the NFIP by enacting the floodplain management measures established in 44 CFR Section 60.3 of the NFIP regulations. As stated in my previous correspondence, I recommend you contact your NFIP State Coordinator or the FEMA Regional Office if the City of Los Angeles is encountering difficulties in enacting its measures.

I recognize that your community may be in the final adoption process or may have recently adopted the appropriate floodplain management measures. Please submit these measures to the Floodplain Management Program at the California Department of Water Resources. Kelly Soule, P.E., MBA, the NFIP State Coordinator, is accessible by telephone at (916) 574-2314, in writing at 3464 El Camino Avenue, Room 200, Sacramento, California 95821, or by electronic mail at Kelly.Soule@water.ca.gov.

The FEMA Regional staff in Oakland, California, is also available to assist you with your floodplain management measures. The FEMA Regional Office may be contacted by telephone at (510) 627-7100 or in writing. Please send your written inquiries to the Director, Mitigation Division, FEMA Region 9, at 1111 Broadway, Suite 1200, Oakland, California 94607.

In the event your community does not adopt and/or submit the necessary floodplain management measures that meet or exceed the minimum NFIP requirements, I must take the necessary steps to suspend your community from the NFIP. This letter is FEMA's final notification before your community is suspended from the Program.

Additional information on community suspensions as proposed, other notices of current NFIP community status information, and details regarding updated publication requirements of community eligibility status information under the NFIP can be found on the Community Status Book section of our website at www.fema.gov. Please note that per *Revisions to Publication Requirements for Community Eligibility Status Information Under the National Flood Insurance Program*, 85 FR 68782 (October 30, 2020) (codified at 44 CFR pts 59 and 64), notices for scheduled suspension will no longer be published in the *Federal Register* as of June 2021 but will be available at www.fema.gov. Individuals without internet access will be able to contact their local floodplain management official and/or NFIP State Coordinating Office directly for assistance.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Eric Garcetti
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rachel Sears". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Rachel Sears, Director
Floodplain Management Division
Mitigation Directorate | FEMA

Enclosure

cc: Robert J. Fenton, Jr., Regional Administrator, FEMA Region 9
Kelly Soule, P.E., MBA, NFIP State Coordinator, California Department of Water Resources
Gary Lee Moore, City Engineer, City of Los Angeles