



**FEMA**

January 15, 2021

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

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

Dear Mayor Garcetti:

I commend you for the efforts that have been put forth in implementing the floodplain management measures for the City of Los Angeles, California, to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). As you implement these measures, I want to emphasize the following:

- a Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) have been completed for your community;
- the FIS and FIRM will become effective on April 21, 2021; and
- by the FIS and FIRM effective date, the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Regional Office is required to approve the legally enforceable floodplain management measures your community adopts in accordance with Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 60.3(d) and (e).

As noted in FEMA's letter dated October 21, 2020, no significant changes have been made to the flood hazard data on the Preliminary and/or revised Preliminary copies of the FIRM for Los Angeles County. Therefore, the City of Los Angeles should use the Preliminary and/or revised Preliminary copies of the FIRM as the basis for adopting the required floodplain management measures. Final printed copies of the FIRM for the City of Los Angeles will be sent to you within the next few months.

If you encounter difficulties in enacting the measures, I recommend you contact the California Department of Water Resources. You may contact Kelly Soule, P.E., MBA, the NFIP State Coordinator, by telephone at (916) 574-2314, in writing at 3464 El Camino Avenue, Suite 200, Sacramento, California 95821, or by electronic mail at [Kelly.Soule@water.ca.gov](mailto:Kelly.Soule@water.ca.gov).

The FEMA Regional staff in Oakland, California, is also available to provide technical assistance and guidance in the development of floodplain management measures. The adoption of compliant floodplain management measures will provide protection for the City of Los Angeles and will ensure its participation in the NFIP. The Regional Office may be contacted by telephone at (510) 627-7100

The Honorable Eric Garcetti  
January 15, 2021  
Page 2

or in writing. Please send your written inquiries to the Director, Mitigation Division, FEMA Region IX, at 1111 Broadway, Suite 1200, Oakland, California 94607.

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.

You may have already contacted the NFIP State Coordinator and/or the FEMA Regional Office, and may be in the final adoption process or recently adopted the appropriate measures. However, in the event your community has not adopted the appropriate measures, this letter is FEMA's official notification that you only have until April 21, 2021, to adopt and/or submit a floodplain management ordinance that meets or exceeds the minimum NFIP requirements, and request approval from the FEMA Regional Office by the effective date. Your community's adopted measures will be reviewed upon receipt and the FEMA Regional Office will notify you when the measures are approved.

I appreciate your cooperation to ensure that your community's floodplain management measures are approved by the FEMA Regional Office by April 21, 2021. Your compliance with these mandatory program requirements will enable your community to avoid suspension from the NFIP.

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](http://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](http://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.

The Honorable Eric Garcetti  
January 15, 2021  
Page 3

Sincerely,

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

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