



FEMA

December 5, 2013

The Honorable Michael Bloomberg  
Mayor, City of New York  
City Hall  
New York, New York 10007

RE: Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map and Flood Insurance Study Report  
Community Name: City of New York (Bronx, Queens, New York, Kings and Richmond Counties)  
Community No: 360497

Dear Mayor Bloomberg:

We are pleased to present your community with Preliminary copies of the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for the City of New York, New York for your review and comment. This preliminary version of the FIRM and FIS report incorporates updated flood hazard analyses for the entire coastline for the City of New York and redelineation of the riverine Zone AE and Zone A flood hazard areas based on updated topographic information generated by LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) data that was collected and processed by New York City. The LiDAR data was collected from April 14, 2010 to May 1, 2010. This revision also converts the datum from the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD29) to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88).

We are sending the preliminary copies at this time to give your community an opportunity to review them. Additionally, in an effort to assist you in circulating the information, the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has posted digital copies of the revised FIRM and FIS report materials to the following website:

<http://www.fema.gov/preliminaryfloodhazarddata>. We encourage you to circulate the enclosed copies as widely as possible among elected officials, staff, and other individuals or organizations in the community that would have an interest in the FIRM and FIS report so that they will have the opportunity to review them thoroughly before the formal community coordination meeting discussed below. This initial review period is intended to provide community officials and citizens an opportunity to identify changes or corrections to non-technical information, such as corporate limits, road names, and stream names on the FIRM or in the FIS report. Comments may be sent to the following persons and addresses:

Mr. Paul Weberg, P.E.  
Senior Engineer  
Risk Analysis Branch  
FEMA Region II  
Jacob K. Javits Federal Office Building  
26 Federal Plaza, Room 1351  
New York, New York 10278

Mr. William Nechamen, CFM  
State National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Coordinator  
New York Department of Environmental Conservation  
625 Broadway  
Albany, New York 12233-3504

Mr. J. Andrew Martin, CFM  
FEMA Region II Regional Support Center (RSC) Coordinator  
Dewberry  
560 Broadway, Suite 304  
New York, New York 10012

Please submit comments (digital reference files and/or locator map recommended) no later than 30 days from the date of this letter. All comments and changes received during this review period will be incorporated, as appropriate, before the FIRM and FIS report become effective.

FEMA will be scheduling a formal community coordination meeting (a “Consultation Coordination Officer [CCO]” Meeting) with the City of New York in the near future. During that meeting, we will discuss the revised flood hazard information, ordinance adoption, and other frequently asked questions and concerns. After that meeting, FEMA will initiate a statutory 90-day appeal period for the City of New York. A statutory 90-day appeal period is required when FEMA adds or modifies Base Flood Elevations, base flood depths, Special Flood Hazard Areas, flood zone designations, or regulatory floodways within a community, as shown on the Preliminary FIRM. We will send you a letter approximately two (2) weeks before the start of the 90-day appeal period to detail the appeal process. The letter will forward information regarding notifications to be published in local newspaper(s) and will provide the first and second publication dates. The appeal period will start on the second publication date. Additional information concerning the 90-day appeal period will be provided during the CCO Meeting.

After the 30-day review period provided for non-technical comments and the statutory 90-day appeal period have ended and we have addressed all comments/appeals, we will initiate final preparation of the FIRM and FIS report and issue a Letter of Final Determination (LFD). The new FIRM and FIS report for your community will become effective six (6) months after the LFD is issued. Before the effective date, you will be notified in writing of the official FIRM and FIS report effective date and asked to adopt floodplain ordinances or modify existing ordinances as necessary that correspond with the new FIRM or FIS report. If you or other community officials have any questions regarding floodplain ordinances, you may raise them with our FEMA Regional Office or you may discuss those issues with your State NFIP Coordinator. Several months before the effective date, we will mail printed copies of the finalized FIRM and FIS report and digital copies of the map and report products.

Your community’s comments on the Preliminary FIRM panels and FIS report are an important part of our review process, and we will consider them carefully before we publish the FIRM and FIS report in their final form. If you have any questions regarding the Preliminary copies of the FIRM and FIS report, please contact Mr. Paul Weberg, P.E., FEMA Region II, Risk Analysis Branch, at (212) 225-7229 or by

email at paul.weberg@fema.dhs.gov. If you have general questions about mapping issues, please call our FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX), toll free, at (877) 336-2627 (877-FEMA MAP) or e-mail our FMIX staff at FEMAMapSpecialist@riskmapcds.com.

Sincerely,



Timothy P. Crowley  
Director  
Mitigation Division  
FEMA Region II

Enclosures:

Preliminary Summary of Map Actions  
DVD containing the Preliminary materials  
Preliminary FIRMs (<http://www.fema.gov/preliminaryfloodhazarddata>)  
Preliminary FIS report (<http://www.fema.gov/preliminaryfloodhazarddata>)  
Flood Hazard Mapping Fact Sheet (<https://www.rampp-team.com/ny.htm>)  
Coastal Flood Hazard Mapping Fact Sheet (<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/32751?id=7565>)  
SRP Fact Sheet ([http://www.fema.gov/pdf/media/factsheets/2011/srp\\_fs.pdf](http://www.fema.gov/pdf/media/factsheets/2011/srp_fs.pdf))  
SRP Request Form ([http://www.floodsrp.org/pdfs/srp\\_request\\_form.pdf](http://www.floodsrp.org/pdfs/srp_request_form.pdf))  
Floodplain Management Bulletin 1-98, *Use of Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Data as Available Data* (<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/7401?id=2231>)  
*Adoption of Flood Insurance Rate Maps by Participating Communities* ([http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1903-25045-4716/fema\\_495.pdf](http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1903-25045-4716/fema_495.pdf))

cc:

Mr. Cas Holloway, Deputy Mayor for Operations, City of New York  
Mr. Robert LiMandri, Commissioner for the New York City Department of Buildings  
Ms. Amanda Burden, Chair, New York City Planning Commission, and Director of the Department of City Planning  
Mr. Daniel Zarrilli, Director of Resiliency, New York City Mayor's Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability  
Mr. James Colgate, Assistant Commissioner of Technical Affairs, and Floodplain Administrator, New York City Department of Buildings  
Ms. Carrie Grassi, Senior Policy Advisor, New York City Mayor's Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability  
Mr. William Nechamen, CFM, State NFIP Coordinator

4

bcc: RAMPP Case File  
FEDD File