



FEMA

November 20, 2020

The Honorable Jonathan Bolen
Mayor, City of LaPrairie
City Hall
15 Park Drive
LaPrairie, Minnesota 55744

Prelim-EAP
Community Name: City of LaPrairie,
Itasca County,
Minnesota
Community No.: 270206

Re: National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
Preliminary Flood Insurance Study and Flood Insurance Rate Map

Dear Mayor Bolen:

We are pleased to present your community with Preliminary copies of the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for Itasca County, Minnesota and Incorporated Areas for your review and comment. We have produced the FIRM and FIS report in our countywide format, which means that flooding information for the entire county, including the City of LaPrairie and all other incorporated areas, is also shown. However, we have enclosed only those FIRM panels that actually cover your community.

We have prepared the enclosed Preliminary version of the FIRM using a process that involves capturing flood hazard information in a digital format and plotting map panels using computer technology. In so doing, we have incorporated all non-revised flood hazard information from all current effective FIRMs, Flood Hazard Boundary Maps, and Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps as appropriate.

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, FEMA has posted digital copies of the FIRM and FIS report materials to the following Website:

<https://www.fema.gov/preliminaryfloodhazarddata>

We will contact you shortly to schedule a formal community coordination meeting (a "Consultation Coordination Officer [CCO]" Meeting) to discuss the revised flood hazard information, ordinance adoption, and other frequently asked questions and concerns. In the meantime, 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. The review period provides community officials and citizens in the affected communities with 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:

Hilary Kendro
STARR II
3901 Calverton Boulevard, Suite 400
Calverton, Maryland 20705
or by email at Hilary.Kendro@atkinsglobal.com

Please submit comments (digital format such as shapefiles preferred) 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.

We reviewed our records to determine if any previous Letters of Map Change (LOMCs) (i.e., Letters of Map Amendment, Letters of Map Revision [LOMRs]) for your community will be superseded when the FIRM becomes effective. According to our records, no LOMCs have been issued for your community.

Your community should be aware that recently approved LOMCs, specifically LOMRs, may have been issued for your community. The LOMR process is dynamic and FEMA is reviewing LOMR applications regularly. To complete production of the Preliminary FIRMs which includes incorporating the effects of “mappable” LOMRs issued since the last map effective date, a specific cutoff was established. FEMA will address any approved LOMRs issued after the cutoff date when the final SOMA is distributed. If your community has concerns regarding a specific case, please submit the LOMR case number, as well as any appropriate documentation, before the end of the comment or appeal periods discussed below to assist us in keeping the map up to date. Please submit to:

Pamela Broviak
FEMA Region V
536 South Clark Street, 6th Floor,
Chicago, Illinois 60605

After the CCO Meeting, we will initiate a statutory 90-day appeal period for certain communities within Itasca County. A statutory 90-day appeal period is required when FEMA adds or modifies Base (1-percent-annual-chance) Flood Elevations (BFEs), base flood depths, SFHAs, flood zone designations, or regulatory floodways within a community, as shown on the Preliminary FIRM. If your community is identified as requiring an appeal period, we will send you a letter approximately 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 the FEDERAL REGISTER and 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 review and appeal periods have ended and we have addressed all comments/appeals, we will initiate final preparation of the FIRM and FIS report. The new FIRM and FIS report for your community will become effective approximately 7 to 10 months later. 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 one set of 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 Hilary Kendro, at STARR II, by telephone at (717) 612-4640 or by email at Hilary.Kendro@atkinsglobal.com. If you have general questions about mapping issues, please call our FEMA Mapping and Insurance eXchange (FMIX), toll free, at (877) 336-2627 (877-FEMA MAP) or e-mail our FMIX staff at FEMAMapSpecialist@riskmapcds.com.

Sincerely,



Mary Beth Caruso
Director, Mitigation Division
FEMA Region V

Enclosures: Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map panels
Preliminary Flood Insurance Study report

cc: Lisa Mrnak, City Clerk, City of LaPrairie
Ceil Strauss, Minnesota State NFIP Coordinator
Pamela Broviak, Regional Engineer, FEMA Region V