

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

WATERSHED AND LAND MANAGEMENT
DIVISION OF RESILIENCE ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION
OFFICE OF DAM SAFETY & FLOOD ENGINEERING
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December 10, 2024

TO: Mayors, Administrators, and Floodplain Administrators of Morris County, NJ

Borough of Butler Borough of Chatham Borough of Chester Borough of Florham Park Borough of Kinnelon Borough of Lincoln Park Borough of Madison Borough of Mendham Borough of Morris Plains Borough of Mount Arlington Borough of Mountain Lakes Borough of Netcong Borough of Riverdale Borough of Rockaway Borough of Victory Gardens Borough of Wharton Town of Boonton Town of Dover Town of Morristown Township of Boonton

Township of Chatham
Township of Chester
Township of Denville
Township of East Hanover
Township of Hanover
Township of Harding
Township of Jefferson
Township of Long Hill
Township of Mendham
Township of Montville
Township of Morris
Township of Mount Olive

Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills

Township of Pequannock Township of Randolph Township of Rockaway Township of Roxbury Township of Washington

RE: 30-Day Data Submission Notification

Dear Morris County Community Leaders:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 2 Office and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) have finalized the draft Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) database for Morris County, New Jersey Partial Countywide study. The flood hazard data for all of Morris County was updated, excluding the areas covered by the Scientific Resolution Panel (SRP). Completing this draft database is a significant milestone for the flood risk project. It concludes the collection and analysis of the initial engineering data for your community and reflects the latest calculation of where water will collect and flow during a flood.

The draft FIRM database includes the proposed Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs) that will be mapped on the FIRM for your community. The SFHA is an area subject to inundation by the base (1-percent-

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annual-chance) flood. Over time, water flow, and drainage patterns can change dramatically. They can be affected by surface erosion, land use, and other factors. These factors may increase or decrease the likelihood of flooding in certain areas of your community. As a result, SFHA boundaries and zone type changes may have occurred.

The proposed SFHAs are available for your community's review in the form of digital workmaps, available on the FEMA Geoplatform https://arcg.is/100LXm. We encourage you to share this data with elected officials, staff, and other potentially interested individuals or organizations in the community to allow a thorough review before the formal community coordination meeting, called a Flood Risk Review (FRR) meeting, that will be held in-person on December 20, 2024.

Your community has 30 days from the date of the FRR meeting to review the draft FIRM database and provide technical information to supplement or modify the draft FIRM database. The data must be consistent with current engineering principles. Please send the data or comments on the draft FIRM database to the NJDEP and FEMA staff members identified below. Your community will have several additional opportunities to provide feedback on the resulting SFHAs and other flood hazard information before the data is finalized.

If your community would like to request a digital copy of the draft FIRM database or other flood hazard data, please reach out to the NJDEP or FEMA staff members listed below as soon as possible. Please note that this data is considered draft/provisional and is subject to change because it has not been through final reviews or an appeal period.

NJDEP and FEMA want your community to have current and accurate flood risk products. Your feedback, partnership, and local knowledge make this possible. We look forward to working with community officials and other stakeholders in Morris County to increase flood risk awareness and reduce risk to lives and properties from flooding. Any comments and suggestions will not affect your community's ability to provide feedback later, or to formally appeal the flood hazard information during the future appeal period.

Please submit all questions, data, and comments on the digital workmaps within 30 days of the December 20, 2024, FRR meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact Joseph Ruggeri, NJDEP Supervising Engineer at joseph.ruggeri@dep.nj.gov or 609-292-2296 or Juan C. Arevalo, FEMA Region 2 Project Officer, at juan.arevalo@fema.dhs.gov or 202-812-5595.

Sincerely,

cc:

Kunal Patel, Ph.D., P.E., CFM NJ State NFIP Coordinator

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NJDEP, Office of Dam Safety and Flood Engineering

Michael P. Foley, Chief Risk Analysis Branch FEMA Region 2

Michen P. For

Morris County Community Officials

Joseph Ruggeri, P.E., CFM, Supervising Engineer, NJDEP Juan C. Arevalo, Project Officer, FEMA Region 2

Carrie Sigrist, Project Manager, ARC Tolga Yilmaz, RSC 2 Lead, ARC

