



FEMA

December 16, 2009

The Honorable Thomas E. Holden, Mayor
City of Oxnard
305 W. Third Street
Oxnard, California 93030

Dear Mayor Holden:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that officials from the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IX Office recently met with Ventura County Watershed Protection District and City of Oxnard staff to review the new Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for the County. During this meeting, it was agreed that the new FIRM will be issued as scheduled on January 20, 2010, and that FEMA will issue a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) to your office on January 21, 2010 that will revise the new FIRM for portions of the City of Oxnard, to reflect the flood risk information shown on the currently effective FIRM. This LOMR will impact map panels 06111C0770E, 0905E, and 0910E for the City of Oxnard and will have the effect of revising the new FIRM without reprinting the affected map panels.

The revision will be accomplished by removing the Special Flood Hazard Areas that are identified in the ongoing Santa Clara River flood study from the new FIRM, and identifying the SCR-3 levee (FEMA levee ID 86) along the Santa Clara River as a Provisionally Accredited Levee (PAL). The LOMR will show the area that is protected from the 1%-annual-chance flood event by this levee as a moderate risk area, designated as Zone X (shaded). The boundaries of this area will be based on the currently effective 1%-annual-chance flow rate for the Santa Clara River.

When the Santa Clara River flood study is completed in approximately 30 months, revised FIRM panels for affected portions of the City of Oxnard will be issued to reflect the results of the study. This future revision will incorporate the results of FEMA's review of all certification data and documentation submitted by the Ventura County Watershed Protection District for the levees impacting the City of Oxnard. Levees that are in full compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program regulations cited at Title 44, Chapter 1, Section 65.10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (44 CFR 65.10) will be accredited on the revised FIRM panels. Levees that are not in full compliance with 44 CFR 65.10 will be de-accredited.

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We will continue to work with the Ventura County Water Protection District as the Santa Clara River flood study progresses, and the future FIRM revisions are produced to reflect the flood risk for the City of Oxnard. If you have questions or need additional information regarding the flood mapping for your community, please contact Edward Curtis, Senior Engineer, of our Risk Analysis Branch, at 510-627-7207, or by e-mail at edward.curtis@dhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Sally Ziolkowski, Director
Mitigation Division

cc: Mr. Edmund F. Sotelo, City Manager, City of Oxnard
Mr. Rob Roshanian, Director, Building and Engineering Services, City of Oxnard
Mr. Steve Bennett, Chair, Board of Supervisors, Ventura County
Mr. Jeff Pratt, Director, Ventura County Public Works Agency
Ms. Norma Camacho, Director, Ventura County Watershed Protection District
Mr. Gerard Kapuscik, Special Projects Manager, Ventura County Watershed Protection District
Representative Elton Gallegly, District Office
Representative Lois Capps, District Office
Senator Dianne Feinstein, State Office
Senator Barbara Boxer, State Office