



FEMA

February 29, 2012

Judi Jankosky
Assistant City Administrator
Arcadia City Hall
23 North Polk Avenue
Arcadia, FL 34266

Prelim-EAP
Community Name: City of Arcadia,
DeSoto County,
Florida
Community No.: 120073

Dear Ms. Jankosky:

We are pleased to present your community with Preliminary copies of the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for Desoto County, Florida 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 Arcadia 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 [revised] FIRM and FIS report materials to the following Website:
<http://www.bakeraecom.com/index.php/florida/de-soto/>

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 the Mapping Partner, c/o Scott Letasi, Southwest Florida Water Management District, 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, Florida 34604-6899. 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.

After the CCO Meeting, we will initiate a statutory 90-day appeal period for certain communities within DeSoto 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 30-day 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 the Mitigation Division of FEMA in Region IV at 770-220-5406 and ask for the Regional Project Officer assigned to your community, for assistance. 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,



Robert E. Lowe, Chief
Risk Analysis Branch
FEMA Region IV

Enclosures:

cc: Mr. Scott Letasi, Professional Engineer, Southwest Florida Water Management District
Ms. Joy Duperault, CFM, State NFIP Coordinator

bcc: Jonathan E. Westcott, FEMA Headquarters
Laura Algeo, FEMA Region 4
John Newcomb-Thompson, RSC4
IDIQ/CTP Case File
FEDD File