



FEMA

April 10, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR: Community officials in Bergen County and Essex County, New Jersey

FROM:

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SUBJECT:

Guidance for the use of Available Flood Hazard Information for Bergen County and Essex County, New Jersey in complying with FEMA Policy 104-008-2, 44 CFR § 9, and Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management)

Purpose: This memorandum provides guidance on the use of best available flood hazard information in Bergen County and Essex County, New Jersey.

Background: EO 11988 requires federal agencies to avoid or minimize occupancy of or disruptions to the nation’s floodplains. EO 11988 is codified in 44 CFR § 9. EO 11988 stipulates that the location of a particular floodplain (or Special Flood Hazard Area) is determined by the “best available” flood risk information. As flood risk is constantly evolving, ensuring the correct identification of the most current “best available” floodplain information is essential. The areas of special flood hazard are identified and defined in the following datasets prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency:

- a) Effective Flood Hazard Data
- b) Best Available Flood Hazard Data. Where applicable, these documents shall take precedence over effective panels and FIS in construction and development regulations only. Where the effective mapping or Base Flood Elevation conflict or overlap with the Best Available Flood Hazard Data, whichever imposes the more stringent requirement shall prevail.

Applicability: This memorandum identifies the source and location of the best available flood hazard data and information for certain communities in Bergen County and Essex County, New Jersey. Communities listed in Table 1 and Table 2 below should consult the Best Available Flood Hazard Data as well as the effective Flood Hazard Data for use in construction and development regulations. Communities not listed in Table 1 and Table 2 should consult their local floodplain ordinance.

Flood Hazard Information for Bergen County, NJ:

The status of the effective Flood Insurance Study (FIS), Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), and Best Available Flood Hazard Data for communities in Bergen County are identified in Table 1. Available data may change over the course of time, and this information may be updated periodically in the future without notice to reflect these changes.

Flood Hazard Information for Essex County, NJ:

The status of the effective Flood Insurance Study (FIS), Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), and Best Available Flood Hazard Data for communities in Essex County are identified in Table 2. Available data may change over the course of time, and this information may be updated periodically in the future without notice to reflect these changes.

Where to Find the Most Current Available Flood Hazard Information

Step 1. Download the most current available information, as of the date of this memo, as detailed in Table 1 and Table 2. It can be downloaded from the following web sites:

- For effective information on specific addresses: <https://msc.fema.gov/portal>
- For county wide information including preliminary and pending maps: <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/advanceSearch>
- Additionally, the FEMA Flood Map Changes Viewer is an interactive map where preliminary, pending, and effective data can be viewed. <https://msc.fema.gov/fmcv>

Step 2. Compare this information and the local elevation requirement of the community in which the action is occurring. The higher of the two requirements prevails.



Signed: Michael P. Foley, 4/10/2020

Table 1. Bergen County, NJ

COMMUNITY NAME	EFFECTIVE FLOOD HAZARD DATA (DATE)	BEST AVAILABLE FLOOD HAZARD DATA
ALPINE, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
BOGOTA, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
CARLSTADT, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
EAST RUTHERFORD, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
EDGEWATER, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
ELMWOOD PARK, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
ENGLEWOOD, CITY OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
ENGLEWOOD CLIFFS, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
FAIRVIEW, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
FORT LEE, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
GARFIELD, CITY OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
HACKENSACK, CITY OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
HASBROUCK HEIGHTS, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
LEONIA, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
LITTLE FERRY, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
LODI, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
LYNDHURST, TOWNSHIP OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
MAYWOOD, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
MOONACHIE, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
NEW JERSEY SPORTS AND EXPOSITION AUTHORITY	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
NORTH ARLINGTON, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
NORWOOD, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
PALISADES PARK, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
RIDGEFIELD, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
RIDGEFIELD PARK, VILLAGE OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
ROCHELLE PARK, TOWNSHIP OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
ROCKLEIGH, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
RUTHERFORD, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
SADDLE BROOK, TOWNSHIP OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products

SOUTH HACKENSACK, TOWNSHIP OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
TEANECK, TOWNSHIP OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
TENAFLY, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
TETERBORO, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
WALLINGTON, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products
WOOD-RIDGE, BOROUGH OF	8/28/2019	8/29/2014 preliminary products

Table 2. Essex County, NJ

COMMUNITY NAME	EFFECTIVE FLOOD HAZARD DATA (DATE)	BEST AVAILABLE FLOOD HAZARD DATA
BELLEVILLE, TOWNSHIP OF	4/3/2020; 6/4/2007	5/30/2014 preliminary products
NEWARK, CITY OF	4/3/2020; 6/4/2007	5/30/2014 preliminary products
NUTLEY, TOWNSHIP OF	4/3/2020; 6/4/2007	5/30/2014 preliminary products