



FEMA

APR 29 2019

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

The Honorable Gary Paxton
Mayor, City and Borough of Sitka
100 Lincoln Street
Sitka, Alaska 99835

Dear Mayor Paxton:

I commend you for the efforts that have been put forth in implementing the floodplain management measures for the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska, to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). As you implement these measures, I want to emphasize the following:

- a Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) have been completed for your community;
- the FIS and FIRM will become effective on August 1, 2019; and
- by the FIS and FIRM effective date, the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Regional Office is required to approve the legally enforceable floodplain management measures your community adopts in accordance with Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations Section 60.3(d) and (e).

As noted in FEMA's letter dated February 1, 2019, no significant changes have been made to the flood hazard data on the Preliminary and/or revised Preliminary copies of the FIRM for the City and Borough of Sitka. Therefore, the City and Borough of Sitka should use the Preliminary and/or revised Preliminary copies of the FIRM as the basis for adopting the required floodplain management measures. Final printed copies of the FIRM for the City and Borough of Sitka will be sent to you within the next few months.

If you encounter difficulties in enacting the measures, I recommend you contact the Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development. You may contact Jimmy C. Smith, the NFIP State Coordinator, by telephone at (907) 269-4132, in writing at 550 West Seventh Avenue, Suite 1640, Anchorage, Alaska 99501, or by electronic mail at Jimmy.Smith@alaska.gov.

The FEMA Regional staff in Bothell, Washington, is also available to provide technical assistance and guidance in the development of floodplain management measures. The adoption of compliant floodplain management measures will provide protection for the City and Borough of Sitka and will ensure its participation in the NFIP. The Regional Office may be contacted by telephone at (425) 487-4600 or in writing. Please send your written inquiries to the Director, Mitigation Division, FEMA Region X, at 130 – 228th Street, Southwest, Bothell, Washington 98021-8627.

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You may have already contacted the NFIP State Coordinator and/or the FEMA Regional Office, and may be in the final adoption process or recently adopted the appropriate measures. However, in the event your community has not adopted the appropriate measures, this letter is FEMA's official notification that you only have until August 1, 2019, to adopt and/or submit a floodplain management ordinance that meets or exceeds the minimum NFIP requirements, and request approval from the FEMA Regional Office by the effective date. Your community's adopted measures will be reviewed upon receipt and the FEMA Regional Office will notify you when the measures are approved.

I appreciate your cooperation to ensure that your community's floodplain management measures are approved by the FEMA Regional Office by August 1, 2019. Your compliance with these mandatory program requirements will enable your community to avoid suspension from the NFIP.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rachel Sears", with a stylized, flowing script.

Rachel Sears, Director
Floodplain Management Division
Mitigation Directorate | FEMA

cc: Mike O'Hare, Regional Administrator, FEMA Region X
Jimmy C. Smith, NFIP State Coordinator, Alaska Department of Community and Economic
Development
Patrick Swedeen, Building Official, City and Borough of Sitka