



FEMA

December 20, 2013

David Hill
Chairperson, Board of Selectmen
Town of Chebeague Island
Town Office
192 North Road
Chebeague Island, Maine 04017

Re: Updated Flood Insurance Rate Map – Announcement for the Cumberland County Meeting on January 8, 2014

Dear Mr. Hill:

We would like to invite you to the Consultation Coordination Officer's (CCO) Meeting on **Wednesday, January 8, 2014** where we will present the updated coastal Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) panels and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for Cumberland County. This meeting is being held to describe the map review process and address your initial questions regarding the flood hazard data that were released on November 5, 2013. The meeting will be conducted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region I, the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Floodplain Management Program, and STARR, a joint venture mapping contractor to FEMA.

Please feel free to pass this invitation along to other community officials who would benefit from this meeting. Two meetings have been scheduled. Please attend the one most convenient for your schedule.

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

1-3 PM

City of Portland
City Hall, Room 24
389 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101

This meeting room is in the basement and most easily accessed from the entrance on the Merrill Auditorium side of City Hall (Myrtle Street).

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

6-8 PM

Cumberland County Emergency Management Agency
Emergency Operations Center
22 High Street
Windham, Maine 04062

In the event of inclement weather, the meetings will be held on **Wednesday, January 15, 2014** at the **same venues and times**. We will contact your community via email or telephone to inform you of the change.

At this meeting, we will discuss how the Preliminary FIRM and FIS report were developed, and the process of reviewing and changing data where appropriate. The meeting is particularly relevant to planning staff, zoning administrators, building inspector/code enforcement officers, as well as your flood hazard administrative officer.

Subsequent to the CCO Meeting, we will initiate a statutory 90-day comment and appeal period. Communities should review the FIRM and FIS in detail, and identify any changes with labeling (e.g., road names) as well as any areas where they may have questions regarding the flood data. Changes in the Base Flood Elevations (BFE) or the extent of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) are subject to formal appeal. Your community will receive a letter approximately two weeks before the start of the 90-day appeal period, which will detail the appeal process. The letter will contain information regarding legal notifications to be published in local newspapers, and will identify the first and second publication dates. The appeal period will start on the second publication date. Additional instructions concerning the 90-day appeal period will be provided during the formal coordination meeting. During the appeal period, community officials and/or other interested parties may submit scientific or technical information that would serve to refute the proposed or proposed modified information on the FIRM.

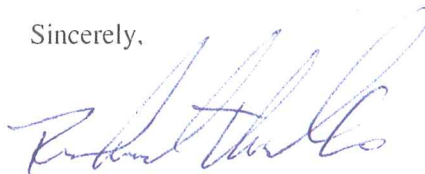
We encourage you to review the text in the FIS report as it pertains to your community and welcome your suggestions for updating or revising the text. If possible, please become familiar with the Preliminary FIRM as well as the FIS report prior to the meeting so that we may discuss your comments and questions. Community comments are an important part of our mapping process and will be carefully considered before Cumberland County FIRM and FIS report are published in final form.

All comments and appeals received through the end of the 90-day appeal period will be considered and incorporated as appropriate. Following the resolution of all comments and appeals, FEMA will issue a Letter of Final Determination (LFD). When FEMA issues the LFD, the community must adopt the new FIRM panels and FIS within 6 months in order to remain in good standing with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

The State coordinating office will be working closely with your community during the compliance phase to ensure that the local floodplain management ordinance is brought up to current standards. Your community should coordinate with Sue Baker, State NFIP Coordinator with the Maine Floodplain Management Program, Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry, regarding flood hazard area regulations and the process to update the municipality's ordinance/bylaws. Sue can be reached by email at Sue.Baker@maine.gov or by telephone at (207) 287-8063. Also available to answer questions is Kerry Bogdan, the FEMA Senior Engineer, at (617) 956-7576.

Please RSVP and send any questions or requests for additional information to Brian Caulfield of STARR, by email at Brian.Caulfield@starr-team.com or call (617) 452-6658. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter and look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,



Richard Verville, Chief
Hazard Mitigation Assistance Branch
FEMA Region I

cc: Ron Tozier, Code Enforcement Officer/Harbormaster, Town of Chebeague Island
Eric Dyer, Town Administrator/Road Commissioner, Town of Chebeague Island
Beth Howe, Chairperson, Planning Board, Town of Chebeague Island
Bob Earnest, Secretary/Shellfish Conservation Commission, Town of Chebeague Island
Michelle Jackson, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Town of Chebeague Island
Kerry Bogdan, Senior Engineer, FEMA Region I
Sue Baker, CFM, State NFIP Coordinator, Maine Floodplain Management Program, Department
of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry
Joseph Young, Mapping Coordinator, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry,
Floodplain Management Program
Alex Sirotek, Regional Service Center, STARR Region I
Brian Caufield, Project Manager, STARR Region I