




Interoffice Memorandum

March 7, 2019

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings
and Board of County Commissioners

FROM:  Mark V. Massaro, P. E., Director, Public Works Department 

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SUBJ: Orange County Resolution - Orange County Floodplain Management Plan, Repetitive Loss Area Analysis, and Program for Public Information

Orange County participates in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System (CRS) program that provides reductions in flood insurance premiums. The CRS is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management activities that exceed minimum requirements. Orange County is currently rated a class 5 in the CRS program, which rewards County flood insurance policy holders with a 25% reduction in their flood insurance premiums. CRS program information is attached for your review.

Orange County is striving to improve its CRS standing from its current class 5 to a class 4 by documenting community floodplain management efforts currently being undertaken. There are 10,003 floodplain policies in force within Orange County. Under the current class 5 rating (25% premium reduction), policy holders save an estimated \$750,000, annually. A class 4 rating would result in a 30% premium reduction in policy premiums. The 5% reduction in premiums is estimated to result in an additional \$105,000 annual savings to policy holders.

Three plans were prepared to better document, describe, and enhance current activities being undertaken by the County. These plans were previously approved as a consent agenda item on December 18, 2018. Following FEMA's review of the plans, the Floodplain Management Plan was revised to incorporate a detailed description of the County's Flood Warning program. The revised plan will allow the County to apply for additional points under CRS Activity 610 – Flood Warning and Response. An estimated 225 CRS points may be granted by FEMA following approval and execution of a resolution by the Board approving all three plans, which are described below.

Repetitive Loss Area Analysis (RLAA)

The RLAA is a countywide assessment of flood related repetitive loss areas. The flooding source for each area was identified, documented, and viable mitigation strategies defined.

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Program for Public Information (PPI)

The PPI plan assesses and documents current and future outreach activities to better inform Orange County residents of flood related risks. The PPI is an ongoing effort to prepare, implement, and monitor a range of public information activities designed to meet local needs.

Floodplain Management Plan (FMP)

The purpose of the FMP is to reduce risk to people and property from flood hazards. A comprehensive assessment of countywide factors that contribute to flood risks was completed. The plan helps identify activities that can be undertaken to reduce safety hazards and property damage.

As part of this effort, Orange County created a Floodplain Management Planning Committee (FMPC) made up of County Staff, outside citizens, and stakeholders to conduct a planning process in the development of an FMP and PPI and involved property owners in the development of a RLAA. The FMPC worked for over a year on the planning process to develop the FMP and PPI so that it met all CRS requirements.

The backup documentation for this item has been delivered under separate cover. It may also be accessed online as part of the eAgenda by clicking [here](#).

Action Requested: Approval and execution of Resolution of the Orange County Board of County Commissioners regarding Orange County Floodplain Management Plan, Orange County Repetitive Loss Area Analysis (Public Version), and the Orange County Program for Public Information. All Districts.

MD/DN/mh