



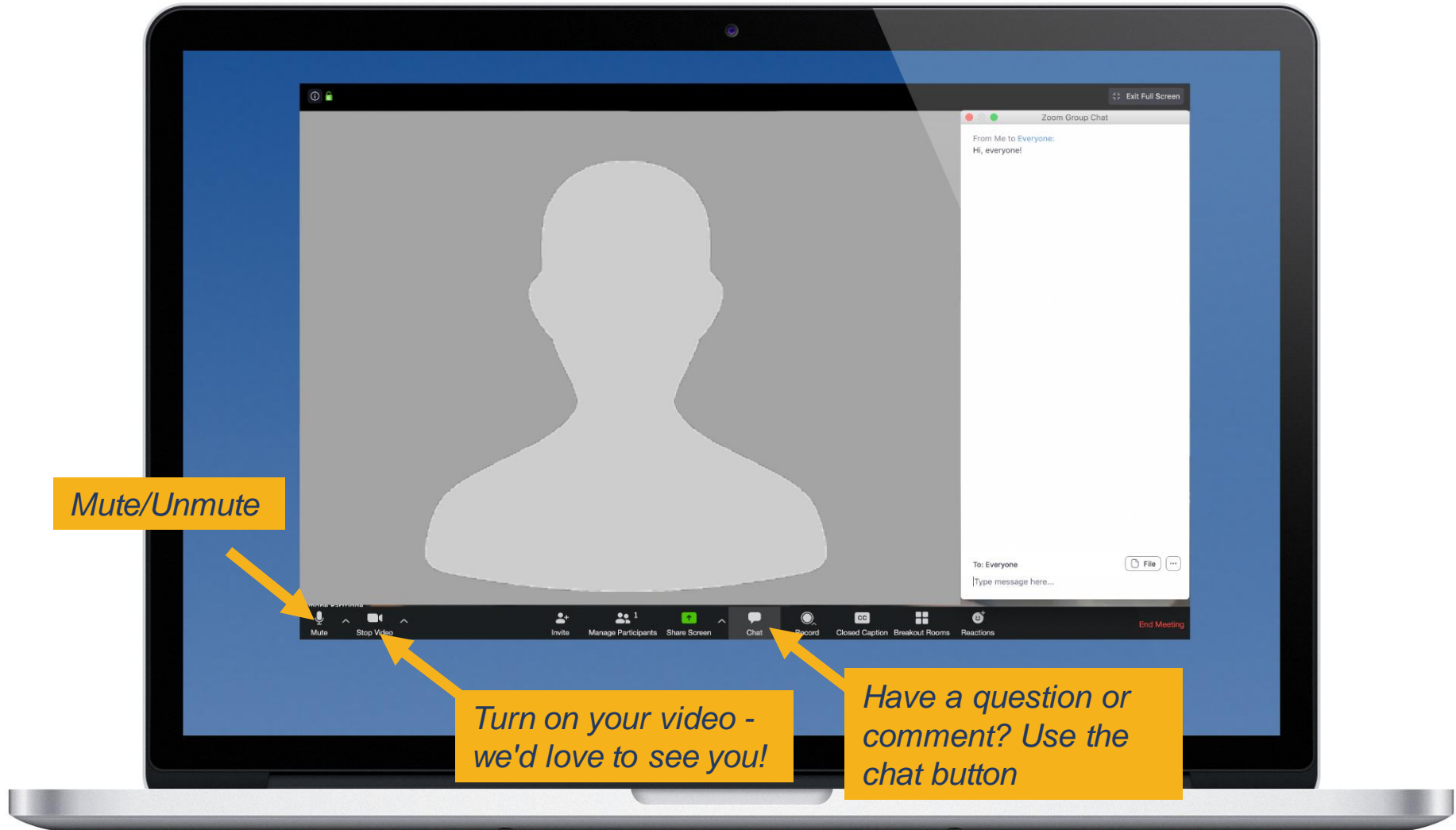
National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP):

Preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) Final Consultation
Coordination Officer (CCO) Meeting for Linn County, KS

September 5, 2023

*While we are waiting, please enter your
name and community in the chat box!*

How to use Zoom



Rules of the Road



- Attendees will be muted during the presentation, to help eliminate background noise.
- Check out the chat to ask questions during the presentation! Or feel free to “raise your hand.” We will pause for questions at various stopping points, and we have several poll questions.
- If you want to share your video, please do!
- For technical difficulties, send a private chat to Bill Pace or email William.Pace@ks.gov
- We’ll be recording this webinar for those who aren’t able to attend today.

Welcome & Introductions



FEMA – Region VII

- **Bryan Murdie**– *Risk Analysis Branch Chief*
- **Dawn Livingston**– *Regional Project Officer*
- **Chris Parsons** - *Insurance Program Specialist*

Cooperating Technical Partner – CTP

- **Tara Lanzrath, CFM**– *State NFIP Coordinator*
- **Joanna Rohlf, CFM, GISP** – *Floodplain Mapping Coordinator*
- **William Pace, CFM** – *Floodplain Mapping Specialist*
- **Cheyenne Sun Eagle, CFM**- *NFIP Specialist*

WSP – Mapping Contractor

- **Larry Sample, P.E.** – *Sr. Water Resources Engineer*
- **Lisa Tuckwin, CFM, GISP** – *Project Manager*
- **Erika Stanley** – *Post-Preliminary Specialist*

Today we will focus on the regulatory component of this work and how this affects your community.

But remember that the ultimate goal is to understand your flood risk so you can better protect your community.



Today's Goals

Coming out of this meeting, we want you to understand:

1

The NFIP requirements related to this work and how we got to where we are today

2

Your flood map, what it means, and a property owner's options for a closer look
(i.e. LOMC!)

3

The appeals and map adoption process and what your role is

4

The importance of community outreach and flood insurance

Provide an overview of the NFIP requirements related to this work and how we got to where we are today

Goal 1



What is the NFIP?



FEMA

- The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) enables property owners in participating communities to purchase insurance to protect themselves from losses associated with flooding.
- Participation in the NFIP is voluntary, based on an agreement between a community and the Federal government: if a community will **adopt and enforce a floodplain management ordinance** to reduce future flood risks to new construction, the Federal government will make flood insurance available within the community.

High Risk Areas

What You Need to Know

- Where there is a 1% chance of flooding any given year.
- Mandatory flood insurance requirements for mortgages from federally-backed lenders when the floodplain touches the structure.
- If your community participates in the NFIP, residents are required to obtain a floodplain permit from the community for development within the floodplain. Regardless of participation, there may still be a requirement to obtain a permit from the State DWR.

Zones AE and A



*Please visit with Tara Lanzrath, the State NFIP Coordinator,
for more information*

NFIP Goals



FEMA

Reduce the loss of life and property caused by flooding

Reduce rising disaster relief costs caused by flooding

Provide flood insurance (short-range goal)

Encourage wise use of the floodplain (long-range goal)

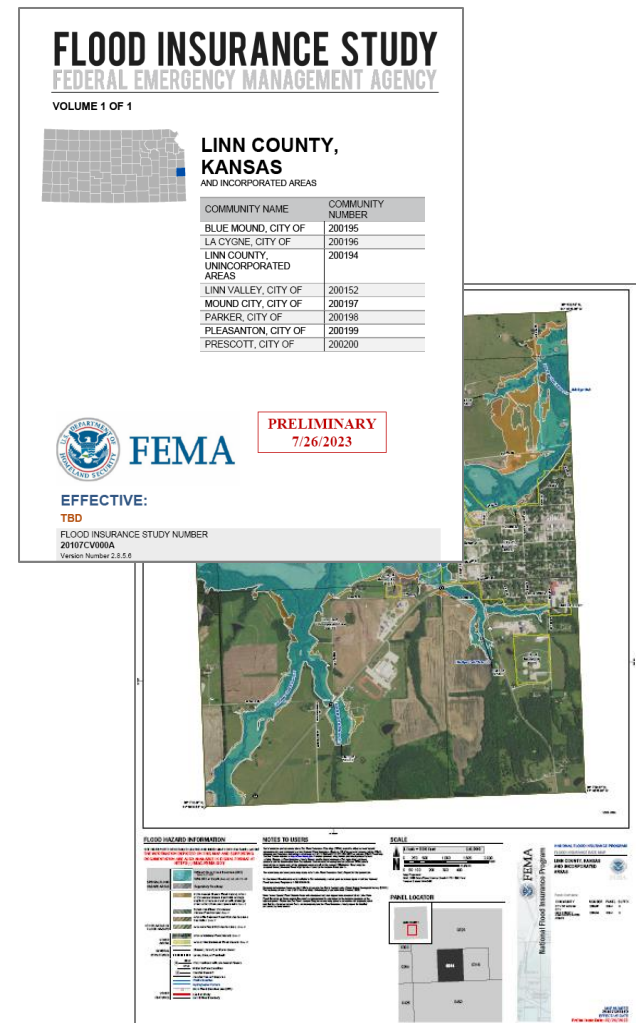


Accomplishing NFIP Goals



FEMA

- Publish maps that identify flood risk
- Educate the public about its risk
- Provide federally backed flood insurance to reduce financial risk
- Encourage development away from flood prone areas



Status Update

The Kansas Homeland Security Region J Hazard Mitigation Plan was updated in 2019.



9,796

Population Based On 2022 U.S. Census Estimate



\$ 0

Total Losses Paid Since 1978



6 NFIP PARTICIPANTS:

Cities of Blue Mound, La Cygne, Mound City, Parker, Pleasanton, and Linn County



In the last 20 years, there have been 6 Presidential Disaster Declarations for flooding in Region J.

5,255

HOUSING UNITS



16

Number of Flood Insurance Policies



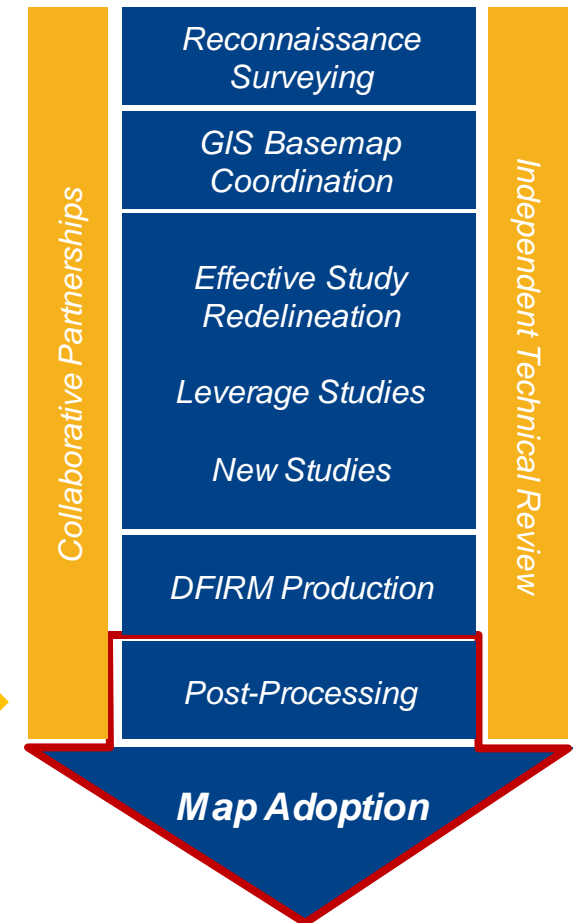
\$4,551,000

Flood Insurance Coverage

Project Tasks

- ① Scoping
- ② Base Map Preparation
- ③ Survey and Topography
- ④ New Detailed Studies
- ⑤ DFIRM and FIS Production
- ⑥ Post-Preliminary

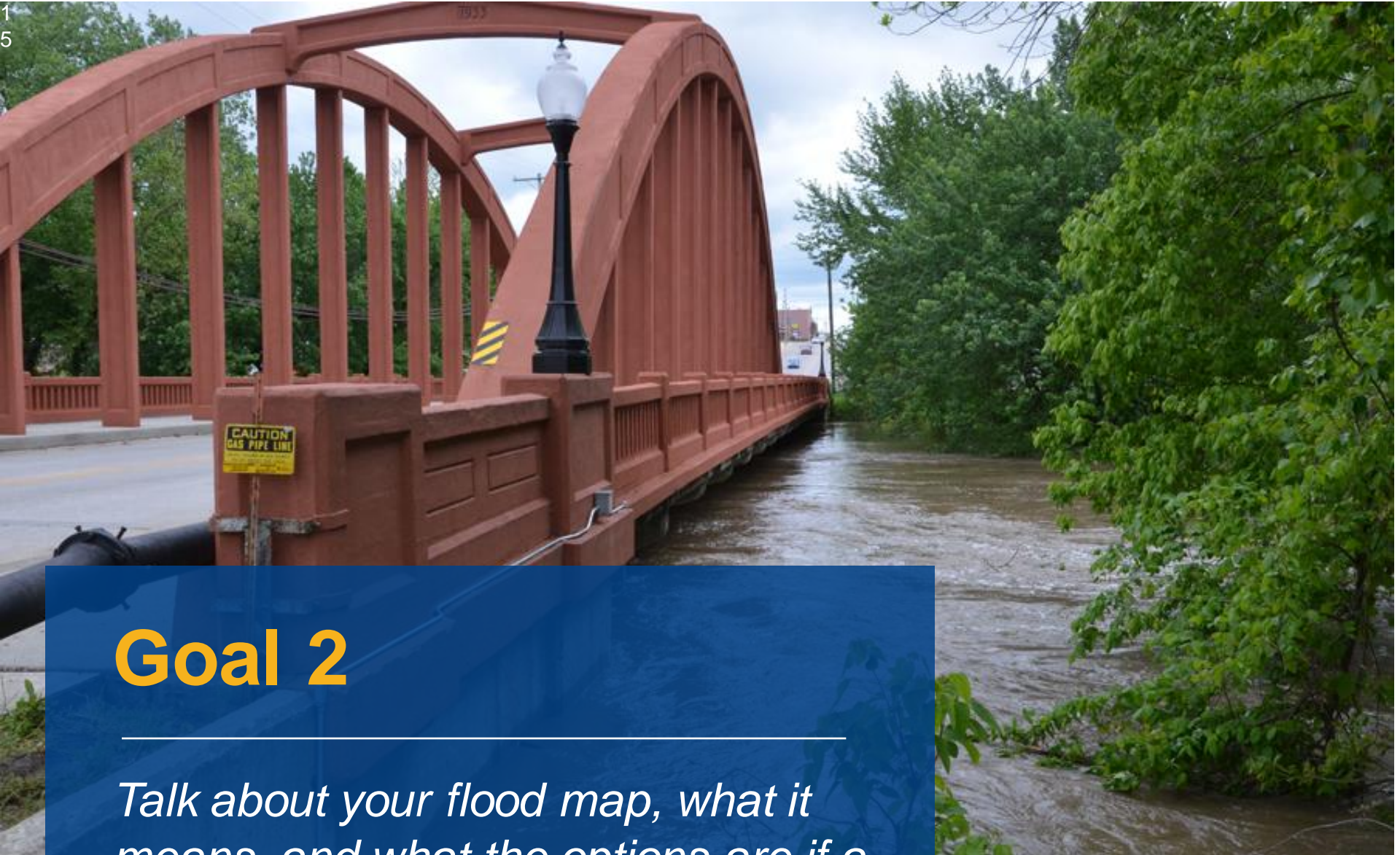
Entering this Phase →



Background

- *Osage Custom Watershed Discovery Meeting*
 - *February 5, 2020*
- *Project Kick-Off Meeting*
 - *July 22, 2021*
- Map Production
 - *2021-2023*
- Flood Risk Review (FRR) Meeting
 - *July 13, 2022*
- Public Open House
 - *January 25, 2023*
- Preliminary Map Distribution
 - *July 26, 2023*
- Preliminary DFIRM Community Coordination Meeting
 - *September 5, 2023*





Goal 2

Talk about your flood map, what it means, and what the options are if a property owners disagrees with what they see for their structure

Linn County- Mapping Update



- **New Enhanced Zone A** – rainfall run-off or gage hydrology with 2D HEC-RAS hydraulic – models include field measured structures
 - Marais des Cygnes River and Tributary near La Cygne
 - Middle Creek Tributary near Linn Valley
 - Little Sugar Creek and Tributary near Mound City
 - Muddy Creek and Tributary near Pleasanton

Linn County- Mapping Update



- **New Static Zone AE—** HEC-HMS
 - Lake South of Mound City on Mine Creek
- **New Zone A** – rain on mesh hydrology and 2D HECRAS hydraulics
 - Remaining streams in the county

Determining Your Flood Risk



Nearly everyone is at risk of flooding. Your map characterizes the degree of that risk.

High Risk

Identified as Zone A or Zone AE, a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) on flood maps

Medium Risk

Shaded Zone X areas on maps. This means you still have flood risk we want you to know about, but you aren't required to purchase flood insurance

Low Risk

Unshaded Zone X areas on maps

High Risk - Enhanced Studies

What You Need To Know



Zone AE

- We performed detailed engineering on streams for certain areas of higher population and/or areas that were previously detailed studies
- These areas on the map include:
 - Floodways and 1%-annual-chance (100-year) flood zones – HIGH RISK
 - 0.2%-annual-chance (500-year) flood zones identified
 - Base Flood Elevations (BFEs), which show the elevation of the 1%-annual-chance flood
 - Delineated floodplains using LiDAR data

High Risk - Base Studies

What You Need to Know



Zone A

- Updated modeling was performed for these streams using standard methods.
- For these areas, the map includes:
 - The 1%-annual-chance (100-year) flood zone (Zone A)
- The map does NOT include:
 - Floodways
 - BFEs

However, BFEs are on the KDA web map and specific BFEs can be requested via KDA's Base Flood Elevation Portal

Note that the delineated floodplains use LiDAR data

Medium Risk Areas

What You Need To Know



Shaded Zone X

- Shaded Zone X provides important information on:
 - Areas of the 0.2%-annual-chance (500-year) flood,
 - where we are seeing flooding here more and more
 - Areas adjacent to levees
 - where you still really want to keep an eye on flood risk, should the levee fail
 - Areas that will likely be future 1% floodplains, and therefore not ideal for future development

While there are no mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements in this zone, flood insurance is encouraged

Low Risk Areas – Unshaded Zone X



- Areas outside the 1%- and 0.2%-annual-chance flood zones
- No mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements



SYCAMORE ST
ELM ST
LINN ST
S 1ST ST
S 2ND ST

City of
La Cygne
200196

Unshaded Zone X

LIMIT OF
STUDY

ZONE A

ZONE A

E 2150 RD

S 4TH ST

0.2% chance
shaded Zone X

Zone A - Approximate Study

Marechal Des Cygnes River Tributary S-1
RAILROAD

Base Flood Elevation Portal



Kansas Base Flood Elevation Portal

Home

About

Help

Portal Registration

First Name

Last Name

User name

Title

Phone

Email Address

Address

City

Zip

State

Register

Here's where you can request BFE data for Zone A floodplains.

http://maps.kgs.ku.edu/fpm_bfe/

PER ASPERA



Options for Property Owners

Letters of Map Change

- Due to scale limitations, flood maps cannot reflect every rise and fall in terrain. A building may be shown in an SFHA even though it is above the BFE.
- To remedy this, FEMA uses the Letter of Map Change process
- This process allows property owners to submit information about the site and elevation of their structure when they believe that it has been inadvertently included in a designated flood zone



LOMA Candidate

LOMA (Letter of Map Amendment)

A letter from FEMA stating that an existing lot or structure that has not been elevated by fill would not be inundated by the 1%-annual-chance (100-year) flood

LOMA (Out As Shown)

A letter from FEMA stating that an existing structure is located outside the 1%-annual-chance (100-year) floodplain, even if portions of the property are within it

LOMR-F (Letter of Map Revision, based on Fill)

A letter from FEMA stating that an existing structure or parcel of land that has been elevated by fill would not be inundated by the 1%-annual-chance flood



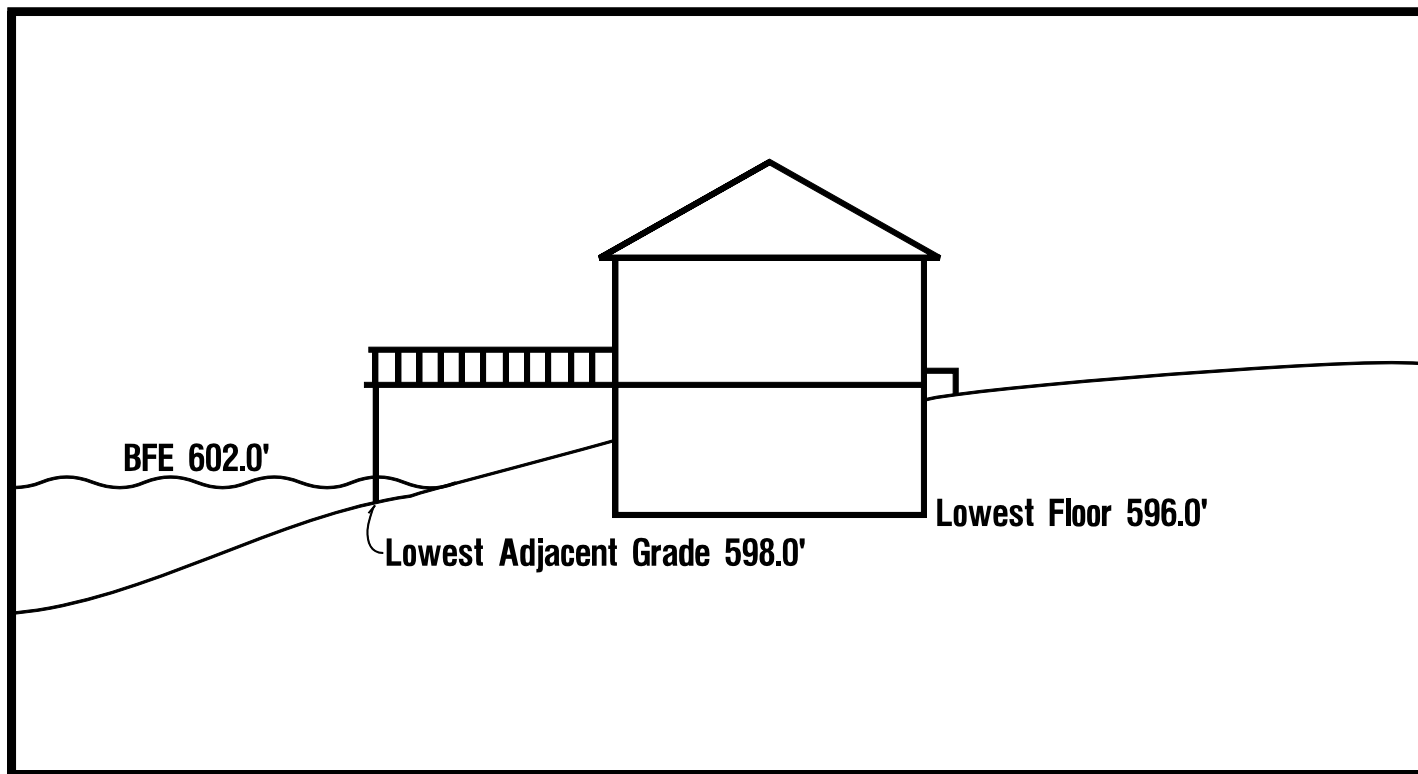
LOMA OAS

LOMA (Letter of Map Amendment): Natural Ground



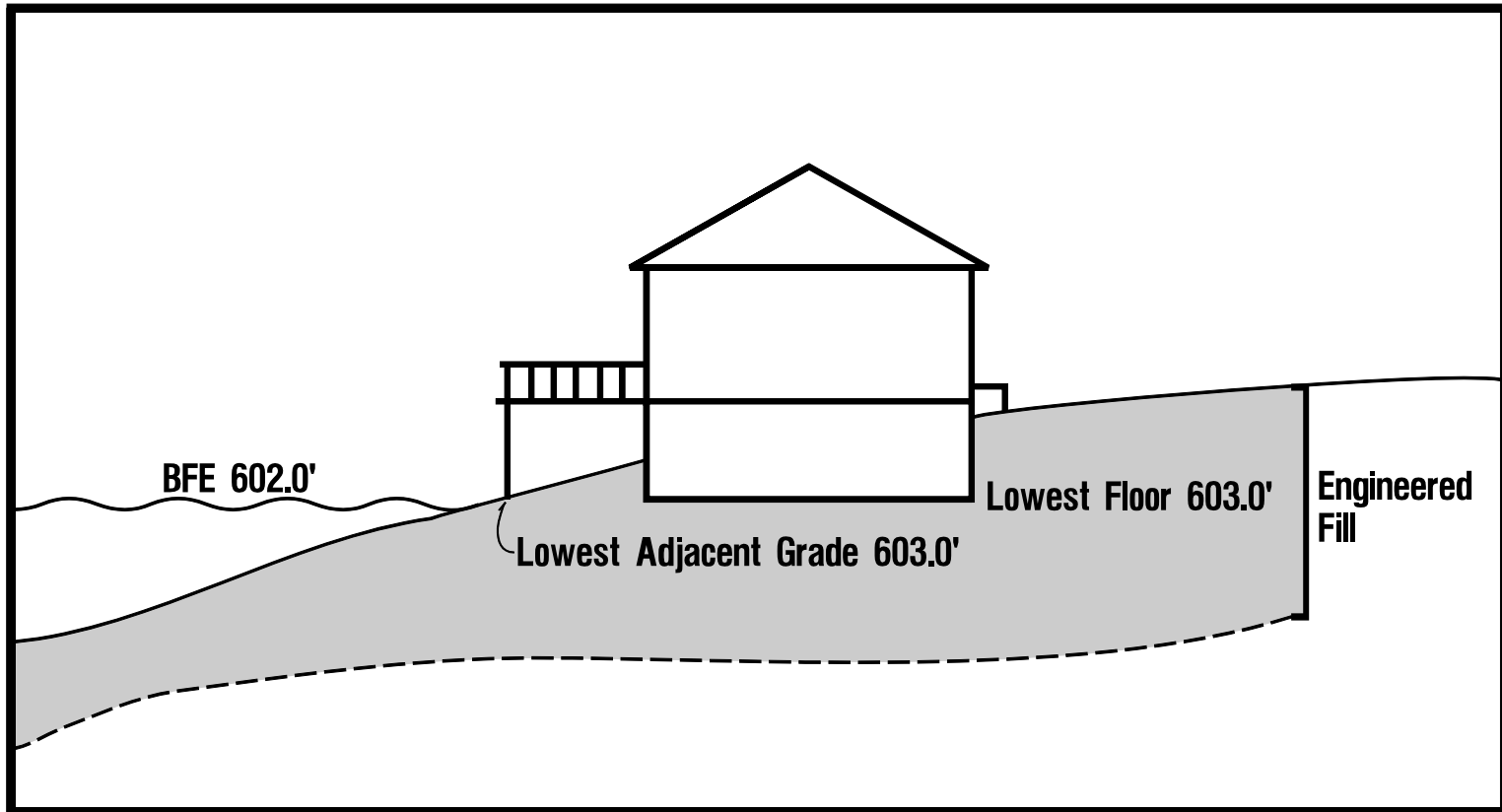
Part 70 of the NFIP regulations requires that the lowest ground touching the structure be equal to or higher than the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) for the 1%-annual-chance flood

LOMA Request: Cross-Sectional View



The Lowest Adjacent Grade (LAG) must be at or above the BFE for a LOMA request to be granted. The LAG is measured at the lowest point the ground touches the structure, including all attached structures, such as decks or garages.

LOMR-F Request: Cross-Sectional View



LOMR (Letter of Map Revision)

A letter from FEMA officially revising the current National Flood Insurance Program map to show changes to floodplains, floodways, or flood elevations

Used when there are significant changes to the flood zone or flooding characteristics (e.g. hydrology, bridges, stream channelization, retention/detention basins)

CLOMR (Conditional Letter of Map Revision)

A letter from FEMA commenting on whether a proposed project, if built as proposed, would justify a map revision (LOMR), or proposed hydrology changes

- Should be filed when a proposed project will, upon construction, affect the hydrologic or hydraulic characteristics of a flooding source.

SOMA (Summary of Map Actions)



The SOMA is a document produced by FEMA's Mapping Information Portal that describes how the previously issued Letters of Map Change (LOMCs) will be affected by the revised DFIRM.

PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF MAP ACTIONS

Community: LINN COUNTY Community No: 200194

To assist your community in maintaining the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), we have summarized below the effect of the enclosed revised FIRM panel(s) on previously issued Letter of Map Change (LOMC) actions (i.e., Letters of Map Revision (LOMRs), Letter of Map Revision based on Fill (LOMR-Fs), and Letters of Map Amendment (LOMAs)).

1. LOMCs Incorporated

The modifications effected by the LOMCs listed below have been reflected on the Preliminary copies of the revised FIRM panels. In addition, these LOMCs will remain in effect until the revised FIRM becomes effective.

LOMC	Case No.	Date Issued	Project Identifier	Original Panel	Current Panel
			NO CASES RECORDED		

2. LOMCs Not Incorporated

The modifications effected by the LOMCs listed below are either not located on revised FIRM panels, or have not been reflected on the Preliminary copies of the revised FIRM panels because of scale limitations or because the LOMC issued had determined that the lot(s) or structure(s) involved were outside the Special Flood Hazard Area, as shown on the FIRM. These LOMCs will be revalidated free of charge 1 day after the revised FIRM becomes effective through a single revalidation letter that reaffirms the validity of the previous LOMCs.

2A. LOMCs on Revised Panels

LOMC	Case No.	Date Issued	Project Identifier	Original Panel	Current Panel
LOMA	08-07-0949A	05/29/2008	PORTION OF SECTION 33, T20S, R24W	20107C0200C	20107C0200D
LOMA	16-07-0002A	11/05/2015	SECTION 16, T20S, R22E -- 19310 DEVLIN ROAD	20107C0150C	20107C0150D
LOMA	16-07-1475A	06/28/2016	LOTS 3 & 4, SECTION 3, T21S, R24E	20107C0200C	20107C0200D
LOMA	17-07-0951A	03/15/2017	SECTION 3, T21S, R24E -- 18761 EAST 1600TH ROAD	20107C0200C	20107C0200D
LOMA	19-07-1811A	09/25/2019	SECTION 18, T21S, R22E, 6TH PM, LOT 1 -- 13903 BOTKIN ROAD	20107C0275C	20107C0275D
LOMA	20-07-0390A	01/31/2020	SECTION 33, T19S, R24E -- 814 EAST LINCOLN AVENUE	20107C0182C	20107C0182D
LOMA	08-07-1579A	10/30/2008	20999 RAGAINS ROAD	20107C0203C	20107C0203D

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Incorporated LOMCs

This means that the existing LOMC has been reflected on the new FIRM and will remain in effect until the revised FIRM becomes effective.

Not Incorporated LOMCs (Valid)

This means that the LOMC will not be reflected on the new FIRM due to scale limitations or because lot(s) or structure(s) involved in the existing LOMC are now outside of the SFHA.

Superseded LOMCs (no longer valid)

This means that the LOMC will not be reflected on the new FIRM because the new detailed flood hazard information or the information available was not sufficient to make a determination. These LOMCs will no longer be in effect when the revised FIRM becomes effective.

To Be Redetermined LOMCs

FEMA will review the data previously submitted for the LOMC and issue a new determination for the affected properties after the effective date of the revised FIRM.

SOMA Status in Linn County

LOMCs Incorporated

- None

LOMCs Not Incorporated

- Linn Co. – 7
- Mound City – 2
- Pleasanton - 1

LOMCs Superseded

- None

LOMCs to be Redetermined

- None



Goal 3

Review the appeals and map adoption process and learn about your role

Comments & Appeals

- To ensure due process, FEMA has devised procedures for local governments, organizations, and citizens to submit comments and appeals regarding the proposed flood maps
- A **90-day** comments/appeals period is initiated for the entire study area.
 - *The comments/appeals period for **Linn County & Incorporated Areas** begins after the Proposed Flood Hazard Determinations Notice is published in the Federal Register. It is expected to be published within the next couple of months.*
 - *The **90-Days** will begin on the second publication of a notice run in your local paper. The appeal period is estimated to occur from **December to February**.*
 - *Comments and appeals are currently being accepted and will continue to be until the end of the 90-days.*

Comments & Appeals

- Which newspaper(s) should we use to publish notice of the appeals period?
- Community Map Repository- what is it and where is it? Is it correct in the preliminary FIS?



Table 30: Map Repositories

Community	Address	City	State	Zip Code
Blue Mound, City of	City Hall 411 East Main Street	Blue Mound	KS	66010
La Cygne, City of	City Hall 206 North Commercial Street	La Cygne	KS	66040
Linn County, Unincorporated Areas	Linn County Court Office 315 Main Street	Mound City	KS	66065
Linn Valley, City of	City Hall 22412 East 2400th Road	Linn Valley	KS	66040
Mound City, City of	City Hall 112 South 2nd Street	Mound City	KS	66065
Parker, City of	City Hall 314 West Main Street	Parker	KS	66072
Pleasanton, City of	City Hall 1608 Laurel Street	Pleasanton	KS	66075
Prescott, City of	City Hall 202 West 4th Street	Prescott	KS	66767

Comments

- Comments are generally based on non-technical errors or oversights, or cosmetic changes to the map (e.g. corporate limits, road names, and floodplain boundaries in some instances)
- Please submit comments to Joanna Rohlf with KDA.
- Comments need to be submitted before the end of the 90-day appeal period.

Appeals

- The statutory requirement for an appeal is outlined in **44 CFR 67**
- Further guidance is provided in the **Criteria for Appeals of Flood Insurance Rate Maps**
- Appellants who contend that the flood hazard determinations (FHDs) are incorrect because better methodologies or data could have been used **must provide an** alternative analysis that incorporates such methodologies, assumptions, or data and that quantifies their effect on the FHDs
- All appeals must be submitted in writing to the community CEO for initial processing. The CEO will forward all appeals, with a written opinion, to FEMA.

When to Submit an Appeal



- Appeals about SFHA boundaries must be for those areas on your map with **new** detailed or basic studies.
 - Base Flood Elevations, base flood depths, Special Flood Hazard Zone designations
- Appeals can show:
 - Scientifically incorrect information (requires an engineering analysis), AND/OR
 - Technically incorrect information (no engineering analysis required but supporting documentation to show information is incorrect is helpful)
- Appeals involving topographic data also have technical requirements in order to be accepted

NOTE: The appendix of this presentation has more information on these qualifications.



If you are planning to submit an appeal, contact KDA and we can help you through that process!



Submit Comments To:

Joanna Rohlf

KDA Division of Water Resources
Topeka Field Office
1131 SW Winding Road, Suite 400
Topeka, KS 66615
(785) 296-7769
joanna.rohlf@ks.gov

Submit Appeals To:

Dawn Livingston

FEMA Region VII
Risk Analysis Branch
11224 Holmes Road
Kansas City, MO 64131
(816) 283-7055
Dawn.livingston@fema.dhs.gov

AD ASTRA PER ASPERA



Resolving Appeals & Comments



Appeals and comments will be resolved by the following procedures:

Written acknowledgement by FEMA of the receipt of an appeal

Acknowledge the receipt of comments

– Either in writing, or documented phone conversation

FEMA or the mapping partner will evaluate any scientific or technical data submitted

FEMA or the mapping partner will request any additional scientific or technical data required to properly review the appeal

FEMA or the mapping partner will make a recommendation to FEMA on the resolution of the appeal or comment

FEMA or the mapping partner will draft an appeal resolution letter *(if all the criteria for an appeal are met)*.

A Critical Step

- After any appeals and comments are resolved, a Letter of Final Determination (LFD) is issued to communities indicating final BFEs and the date their new map will go into effect
- The LFD is issued 6-months before the new maps become effective
 - Linn County's estimated LFD date is **May 2024**
 - Linn County's estimated effective FIRM Date is **November 2024**



Goal 4

Discuss how you can best inform your community about changes in the new maps and the importance of flood insurance

Educating Landowners



Risk Rating 2.0 - came into effect October 1, 2021

- Ratings no longer use FEMA Flood Zone and FEMA Base Flood Elevation as the main criteria for calculating a premium.
- The FEMA floodplain maps will still determine whether flood insurance is required as a condition of a mortgage.
- New ratings use nationally available datasets based on the building's geographic and physical characteristics. Factors include; distance from and height above flood source, replacement value, building and foundation type, number of floors, first floor height and ground elevation.

How should this information be given to the landowners in Linn County?

Educating Landowners

Important Information for those properties newly identified as being within an SFHA (Newly Mapped Procedure)

- If your community participates in the NFIP, newly mapped properties may be eligible for a discount if the policy effective date is within 12 months of the effective FIRM revision date.
- An Elevation Certificate (EC) can be submitted to provide better data on First Floor Height (FFH) above Lowest Adjacent Grade (LAG). This may result in a lower insurance premium should the Risk Rating 2.0 engine have an error in the calculation.

Educating Landowners



- There are automatic discounts to flood insurance if your community has signed up for the Community Rating System (CRS) with FEMA. CRS discounts are uniformly applied regardless of zones.
- Mitigation actions may reduce the insurance premium. Most common examples include; elevating a home, floodproofing measures, installing proper flood openings in a crawlspace, and elevating machinery/equipment.

Are there ways insurance premiums can be reduced in Linn County?

How Will You Get the Word Out?

KDA can provide information to help you inform your residents!

Things to consider:

- Social Media
- Press Releases
- Newspaper Articles / Radio Interviews
- Literature / Fact Sheets
- Signs? Mailers? Booth at the Fair?



We can assist you in informing your communities!

Map Adoption & Ordinance Questions



Tara Lanzrath

KDA Division of Water Resources
Topeka Field Office
1131 SW Winding Road, Suite 400
Topeka, KS 66615
(785) 296-2513
tara.lanzrath@ks.gov

Permit Contact Info

(785) 564-6654
KDA.WaterStructures@ks.gov

FEMA

Region VII
Map adoption & Ordinances
FEMA-R7-Floodplain@fema.dhs.gov



Questions?



Appeals

- Scientifically incorrect BFEs, base flood depths, SFHA zone designations, or regulatory floodways
- New hydrologic analysis based on alternative methodology and if applicable, updated hydraulic/floodway analyses based on the updated discharge values;
- New hydraulic/floodway analysis based on alternative methodology and proposed flood discharge values (if the appeal does not involve the hydrologic analysis);
- Explanation for superiority of alternative methodology;
- As applicable, revised Summary of Discharges Table, Flood Profiles, and Floodway Data Table; and
- Revised SFHA zone boundaries and, if applicable, regulatory floodway boundary delineations.

Appeals

- Technically Incorrect BFEs, Base Flood Depths, SFHA Zone Designations, or Regulatory Floodways
 - The methodology was not applied correctly
 - The methodology was based on insufficient or poor-quality data
 - The application of the methodology included indisputable mathematical or measurement errors.
 - The methodology did not account for the effects of natural physical changes that have occurred in the floodplain

Appeals

- Appeals to SFHA Boundaries
- Flooding sources studied by enhanced methods
 - Results in a Zone AE, AO, AH
 - Topographic data and the revised SFHA zone boundaries
 - Must reflect existing conditions
- Flooding sources studied by basic methods
 - Results in a Zone A
 - Published flood maps that are more recent or more detailed than those used by FEMA
 - Analyses that are more detailed than those performed by FEMA or that are based on more detailed data than those used by FEMA
 - Topographic data and resulting updated SFHA boundaries

Appeals

- Submittals Involving Topographic Data
- The data must be more detailed/accurate, and/or reflect more recent topographic conditions, and be in a digital Geographic Information System (GIS) format;
 - Identify the flooding sources appealed based on the updated topographic data;
 - Updated SFHA boundary delineations that reflect the submitted topographic data;
 - All topographic data submitted must adhere to FEMA's current data capture standards for such data;
 - If necessary, a data sharing agreement must be provided.
 - Certified by a Registered Professional Engineer or a Licensed Land Surveyor; or
 - Prepared by an authoritative source (USACE, USGS, State DOT)