

Appendix 4-1: NFIP Survey

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP) SURVEY

JURISDICTION: BALTIMORE CITY (NFIP#240087)

1. FLOODPLAIN IDENTIFICATION AND MAPPING			
Requirement	Recommended Action	Yes/No	Comments
a. Does the jurisdiction maintain accessible copies of an effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)/Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM)? Does the jurisdiction maintain accessible copies of the most recent Flood Insurance Study (FIS)?	Place these documents in the local libraries or make available publicly.	Yes	
b. Has the jurisdiction adopted the most current DFIRM/FIRM and FIS?	State the date of adoption, if approved.	April 2, 2014	
c. Does the jurisdiction support request for map updates?	If yes, state how.	Yes	Requests for map updates are reviewed as a Letter of Map Amendment. Additionally, any request is reviewed for compliance with Baltimore City code.
d. Does the jurisdiction share with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) any new technical or scientific data that could result in map revisions within 6 months of creation or identification of new data?	If yes, specify how.	Yes	For example, the City is conducting a series of stream restoration projects where new studies are being conducted. The City floodplain management staff has coordinated meetings with the State NFIP Coordinator to share the new data. Additionally, CLOMR/LOMR is required where stream restorations trigger submission.
e. Does the jurisdiction provide assistance with local floodplain determinations?	If yes, specify how.	Yes	The City reviews building permits in accordance with the Baltimore City Floodplain Management Code. This requires base flood elevation determinations to assess where flood protections are needed. The City also provides Map Information Services as part of our Community Rating System program. These services are provided to anyone inquiring about the flood risk at a property, including flood zone, flood depth, and base flood elevation.
f. Does the jurisdiction maintain a record of approved Letters of Map Change?	If yes, specify the responsible office.	Yes	The Department of Planning maintains Letters of Map Change

2. FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT			
Requirement	Recommended Action	Yes/No	Comments
a. Has the jurisdiction adopted a compliant floodplain management ordinance that, at a minimum, regulates the following:	If yes, answer questions (1) through (4) below.	Yes	
(1) Does the jurisdiction issue permits for all proposed development in the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs)?	If yes, specify the office responsible.	Yes	Development that meets compliance with the Baltimore City Floodplain Management Code is permitted by the Department of Planning.
(2) Does the jurisdiction obtain, review, and utilize any Base Flood Elevation (BFE) and floodway data, and/or require BFE data for subdivision proposals and other development proposals larger than 50 lots or 5 acres?	If yes, specify the office responsible.	Yes	The Department of Planning
(3) Does the jurisdiction identify measures to keep all new and substantially improved construction reasonably safe from flooding to or above the BFE, including anchoring, using flood-resistant materials, and designing or locating utilities and service facilities to prevent water damage?	If yes, specify the office responsible.	Yes	The Department of Planning
(4) Does the jurisdiction document and maintain records of elevation data that document lowest floor elevation for new or substantially improved structures?	If yes, specify the office responsible.	Yes	The Department of Planning
b. If a compliant floodplain ordinance was adopted, does the jurisdiction enforce the ordinance by monitoring compliance and taking remedial action to correct violations?	If yes, specify how.	Yes	The Baltimore City Floodplain Management Code gives the City the authority to issue a stop work order and/or a violation notices to non-complaint structures.

2. FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT			
Requirement	Recommended Action	Yes/No	Comments
<p>c. Has the jurisdiction considered adopting activities that extend beyond the minimum requirements? Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in the Community Rating System • Prohibition of production or storage of chemicals in SFHA • Prohibition of certain types of structures, such as hospitals, nursing homes, and jails in SFHA • Prohibition of certain types of residential housing (manufactured homes) in SFHA • Floodplain ordinances that prohibit any new residential or nonresidential structures in SFHA 	If yes, specify activities.	Yes	<p>The City:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regulates to the 500 year floodplain • adopted a 2 foot freeboard • has a history of acquiring properties in Special Flood Hazard Areas • calculates substantial improvements to include cumulative construction costs over a 6 year period • prohibit manufactured homes • requires the replacement of electrical, mechanical, and plumbing that is less than substantial to be at or above the flood protection elevation except when the components have been made water tight in accordance with ASCE 24-14

3. FLOOD INSURANCE			
Requirement	Recommended Action	Yes/No	Comments
a. Does the jurisdiction educate community members about the availability and value of flood insurance?	If yes, specify how.	Yes	The City is active at community events and meetings
b. Does the jurisdiction inform community property owners about changes to the DFIRM/FIRM that would impact their insurance rates?	If yes, specify how.	Yes	Mailers
c. Does the jurisdiction provide general assistance to community members regarding insurance issues?	If yes, specify how.	Yes	The Department of Planning's floodplain management staff will provide general assistance and/or coordinate with the Maryland Insurance Agency to do so.