

August 28, 2019

Press Release

Cook County Residents Invited to Attend Coastal Flood Map Open House

Members of the public can review preliminary flood maps showing the Lake Michigan shoreline and talk to experts about how the maps can affect communities and property owners

WINNETKA, Ill. –On Sept. 26, representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will host a Flood Risk Open House for the Lake Michigan shoreline communities in Cook County. The Open House will give residents the chance to review preliminary versions of a recently completed Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report and its accompanying preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM).

This FIS report and FIRM provide information on the base flood (also known as the 1-percent-annual-chance event) and on the areas of the shoreline that are subject to significant flood hazards. They also offer information that public officials will use when managing development in the floodplain.

At the Open House, representatives from various local, state, and federal agencies will provide the most current information about flood risk, flood insurance, floodplain development regulations, and the process used to map Cook County's floodplains. The newly prepared maps will be on display. Once these maps become effective, they will be used as the basis for flood insurance rates and for local floodplain management ordinances adopted under the National Flood Insurance Program. FEMA also encourages public officials to use the effective maps as tools to assist planning processes and outreach efforts, to prepare the community to quickly respond to and recover from future events. Details for the Cook County meeting are as follow:

WHAT: Public Flood Risk Open House for Cook County

WHEN: Thursday, September 26, 2019, from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: Winnetka Village Hall
Council Chambers
510 Green Bay Rd.
Winnetka, Ill. 60093

In the United States, 98 percent of counties have experienced a flooding event. Property owners, Realtors, lenders, and insurance agents are urged to take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about coastal flood risk and hazard mitigation within their community. Digital files of the Preliminary FIRM and FIS report can be downloaded from www.fema.gov/preliminaryfloodhazarddata. For more information, contact the FEMA News Desk at FEMA-R5-News-Desk@fema.dhs.gov.

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