

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

785A



FROM: Transportation and Land Management Agency

SUBMITTAL DATE:
June 5, 2014

SUBJECT: Initiation of an Amendment to Riverside County Ordinance No. 458 (Regulating Flood Hazard Areas and Implement the National Flood Insurance Plan) – All Supervisorial Districts [\$0]

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopt an order to initiate an amendment to Riverside County Ordinance No. 458 that regulates development in flood hazard areas and establish procedures to implement the National Flood Insurance Program, as further described below; and
2. Direct the Transportation and Land Management Agency and County Counsel to work with the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District to prepare and process the amendment to Ordinance No.458.

BACKGROUND:

Summary

(Continued on page 2)



Mike Lara
Director of Building and Safety

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL
BY: *Synthia M. Gunzel*
DATE: 6-5-14
SYNTHIA M. GUNZEL
Departmental Counselor

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost:	POLICY/CONSENT (per Exec. Office)
COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	

SOURCE OF FUNDS: Budget Adjustment: N/A
For Fiscal Year: N/A

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE
BY: 
Tina Grande

County Executive Office Signature

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- A-30
- Positions Added
- 4/5 Vote
- Change Order

3-56

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FORM 11: Initiation of an Amendment to Riverside County Ordinance No. 458 (Regulating Flood Hazard Areas and Implement the National Flood Insurance Plan) – All Supervisorial Districts [\$0]

DATE: June 5, 2014

PAGE: Page 2 of 2

BACKGROUND:

Summary (continued)

A recent review of Riverside County Ordinance No. 458 (Ordinance) by Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") to assess the adequacy for compliance with the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program, it was determined that Ordinance No. 458 is not consistent with the minimum provisions required to be in compliance with FEMA's regulations. As stated in Title 44, part 59.24(a) of the Code of Federal Regulations (44CFR§59.24), a community with a non-compliant ordinance for flood plain management regulations subjects the community to suspension from the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The County has a limited time to amend its ordinance before FEMA will suspend the County from the NFIP. Therefore, time is of the essence in updating the Ordinance to reflect current standards.

Administrative revisions are proposed to the Ordinance to provide consistency and direction for administering the regulations. Proposed revisions include:

- Revising and adding definitions to provide clarification
- Revising the list of effective floodplain maps
- Establish procedure for calculating Substantial Improvement/Damage threshold.
- Establish process to amend floodplain maps through Board resolution
- Clarify Separate Application process for certain development permits and establish procedure to verify if previous review is still in compliance with current FEMA standards
- Update reference numbers for FEMA documents to current forms

By remaining compliant with the NFIP program through this Ordinance amendment, the County allows the residents within its jurisdiction to meet a minimum eligibility requirement for Federal disaster aid, and to continue to purchase flood insurance. Moreover the County remains eligible for federal grants and loans.

Transportation and Land Management Agency, County Counsel and Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District will coordinate to prepare, process and implement the ordinance amendment. The cost for staff to complete this work is estimated to be \$5,000.

Impact on Citizens and Businesses

If suspended from the NFIP program, real estate transactions in identified Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs) cannot be completed until potential buyers provide proof of flood insurance. Because NFIP flood insurance policies cannot be sold in suspended communities, buyers would be forced to obtain flood insurance from the private sector which is usually at a significantly higher premium. Continued implementation of Ordinance No. 458 will assist in reducing the risk of flood hazards to future development and construction.

SUPPLEMENTAL:

Additional Fiscal Information

N/A

Contract History and Price Reasonableness

N/A