

A G E N D A

JAMES CITY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

READING FILE

June 24, 2014

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

1. Updated Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps
2. Clean Copy of Ordinance

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 24, 2014
TO: The Board of Supervisors
FROM: Christy H. Parrish, Proffer Administrator
SUBJECT: Updated Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Maps

This information is an update to the previous Reading File memorandum provided on March 25, 2014, regarding the updated Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rates Map.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) conducted a coastal analysis and mapping study for communities along the mid-Atlantic coast. This study included the entire Chesapeake Bay and its tributary rivers and streams to better estimate coastal flood hazards and more accurately define the limits of tidal flooding based on improved technology available. Detailed information regarding this study can be found at www.R3Coastal.com.

FEMA released updates to the coastal flood maps, known as Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), for James City County (JCC). These updates were preliminarily issued to the County and the incorporated areas on March 28, 2014. The FIRMs indicate flood-prone coastal areas in the County and changes to the Powhatan Creek Floodplain, which became effective on March 6, 2014. Insurance companies use FIRMs to determine flood insurance rates for buildings and contents.

In addition to the above changes, FEMA is also adding a Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LiMWA) line to the FIRMs that primarily follow the shoreline. The LiMWA line is for informational purposes and indicates the potential of moderate waves of less than three feet that may cause damage to structures. This will not impact flood insurance rates but could affect building requirements for structures between the LiMWA line and the water body.

JCC along with FEMA representatives will hold a public **Coastal Flood Risk Open House** on the updates at **Legacy Hall on August 13, 2014, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.** Using interactive flood maps at this open house, representatives from the State, the City of Williamsburg, JCC, as well as FEMA and their mapping partners will be available to answer flood risk and insurance questions, and explain the preliminary maps. There will be a significant outreach effort to the community to maximize public awareness of the open house.

JCC residents and property owners are encouraged to learn more about their flood risk and the updates shown on the preliminary maps. Flooding is the number one natural disaster in the United States; it is vital for property owners to understand their risk and take advantage of tools and programs available to them, including flood insurance to help reduce flooding impacts.

The preliminary maps that will be shared at the open house are an update of the existing FIRM, which dates back to 2007. These preliminary FIRMs and the associated Flood Insurance Study provide the basis for flood risk education and floodplain management measures. JCC is required to adopt updated maps to continue participating in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), which makes flood insurance available to the community.

As a result of these map updates, some buildings in JCC may, for the first time, be included in a high-risk flood zone, known as the Special Flood Hazard Area. This may result in mandatory purchase of flood insurance for

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those property owners who are affected. FEMA staff will be at the open house and will be available to talk to property owners about these updates and what it means to them.

Additional information is available at www.jamescitycountyva.gov/planning/floodplainsand and more information, including links to the interactive mapping website, can be found on www.R3Coastal.com.

Once the new maps become effective, the JCC Zoning Ordinance will need to be reviewed and updated to ensure compliance with the NFIP. The map update process, which involves the adoption of the new maps and revised zoning ordinance by the Board of Supervisors, will take more than a year and is currently projected to be complete in mid-2015.

As you are aware, the County participates in the FEMA Community Rating System (CRS) which recognizes communities that carry out floodplain management activities and rewards communities that carry out floodplain management activities beyond the minimum criteria of the NFIP by reducing flood insurance rates in the community. The County's participation in the CRS has resulted in a 15-percent discount in flood insurance premiums by citizens. This discount is automatically applied to policy rates issued for properties in the County.


Christy H. Parrish

CONCUR:


Allen J. Murphy, Jr

CHP/gb
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ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REORDAIN CHAPTER 13, MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, ARTICLE I, IN GENERAL, SECTION 13-7, ADOPTION OF STATE LAW; AND ARTICLE II, DRIVING AUTOMOBILES, ETC., WHILE INTOXICATED OR UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ANY DRUG, SECTION 13-28, ADOPTION OF STATE LAW, GENERALLY.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of James City, Virginia, that Chapter 13, Motor Vehicles and Traffic, is hereby amended and reordained by amending Section 13-7, Adoption of state law; and Section 13-28, Adoption of state law, generally.

Chapter 13. Motor Vehicles and Traffic

Article I. In General

Sec. 13-7. Adoption of state law.

(a) Pursuant to the authority of section 46.2-1313 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, all of the provisions and requirements of the laws of the state contained in title 46.2 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, and in force on July 1, 2014, except those provisions and requirements the violation of which constitutes a felony, and those provisions and requirements which by their very nature can have no application to or within the county, are hereby adopted and incorporated in this chapter by reference and made applicable within the county. Such provisions and requirements are hereby adopted, mutatis mutandis, and made a part of this chapter as fully as though set forth at length herein, and it shall be unlawful for any person within the county to violate or fail, neglect or refuse to comply with any provision of title 46.2 of the Code of Virginia which is adopted by this section; provided, that in no event shall the penalty imposed for the violation of any provision or requirement hereby adopted exceed the

penalty imposed for a similar offense under title 46.2 of the Code of Virginia.

(b) It is the intent of the board of supervisors that all future amendments to sections of the Code of Virginia incorporated by reference in the provisions of this article be included in this article automatically upon their effective date, without formal amendment of this article by the board of supervisors.

State law reference-Authority to adopt state law on the subject, Code of Va., § 46.2-1313.

**Article II. Driving Automobiles, Etc.,
While Intoxicated or Under the Influence of any Drug**

Sec. 13-28. Adoption of state law, generally.

Article 9 (section 16.1-278 et seq.) of chapter 11 of title 16.1 and article 2 (section 18.2-266 et seq.) of chapter 7 of title 18.2, Code of Virginia, as amended and in force July 1, 2014, are hereby adopted and made a part of this chapter as fully as though set out at length herein. It shall be unlawful for any person within the county to violate or fail, neglect or refuse to comply with any section of the Code of Virginia as adopted by this section.

State law reference-Authority to adopt state law on the subject, Code of Va., § 46.2-1313.

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