June 27, 2019

SUBJECT: Summary of Changes to Harris County Floodplain and Infrastructure Regulations in Response to NOAA Atlas 14 information Release

Summary of Changes:

Regulations of Harris County, Texas for Flood Plain Management:

Preface
- Added preface to illustrate reasoning behind these regulation changes
Section 2.03
- Added definition for “Administratively Complete”
Section 2.24
- Updated “Floodplain Mitigation” definition.
Section 2.33
- Removed “Subdivision” from “Manufactured Home Park” definition
Section 2.40
- Added definition of “Plan”
Section 2.45
- Removed “Substantial Damage” processes from “Substantial Improvement” section, detailed Substantial Damage process added to the Regulations in Section 5.01.
- Excluded demolition from the definition of “improvement”
Section 2.46
- Added definition of “Substantial Modification” – increase of impervious cover, volume, peak discharge
Section 2.47
- Added definition of “Substantial Damage”
Section 2.49
- Added definition of “Vested Rights”
Section 4.02
- Added process to define a permit application as incomplete if an outstanding violation exists on a property
Section 4.03
- Added a requirement to maintain drainage at all times
Section 4.04
- Updated requirements for permit application submittals
Section 4.05
- Updated determination of permit eligibility
Section 4.07
- Changed floodplain fill mitigation requirement from 100 to 500 year
- Added requirements for Manufactured Home Parks
Section 4.09
• Removed “Term of Permits” sections requiring construction to begin within 180 days of permit issuance
Section 4.10
• Added “Vested Rights” definition and procedure for grandfathering projects.
Section 4.11
• Added procedure for vested rights determination
Section 5.01
• Added Substantial Damage definition and process for determining substantial damage to a structure
Section 5.02
• Added a requirement to bring substantially damaged structures into compliance with the Floodplain Management regulations
Section 5.03
• Added a process to issue Temporary Repair Permits pending the submittal of final documents to include Proof of Loss statement detailing flood insurance payment
Section 6.05
• Added a timeline to the procedure to revoke a permit

**Regulations of Harris County, Texas for the Approval and Acceptance of Infrastructure:**

Preface
• Added preface to illustrate reasoning behind these regulation changes
Section 2.04
• Added definition of “Buildable Area”
Section 2.13A
• Added definition of “Floodplain Easement”
Section 2.24
• Added definition of “Residential Lot”
Section 2.28
• Added definition of “Substantial Modification”
Section 4.03
• Added requirement for Surveyor to delineate the floodplain on a plat and establish a floodplain easement if necessary
Section 4.05
• Added that the plat will be promoted to Court upon approval of the plat application by the County Engineer
Section 4.06
• Added requirement for Surveyor to delineate the floodplain on a plat and establish a floodplain easement if necessary
Section 4.07
• Added requirements for Floodplain Easements
Section 4.08
- Added dedicatory language for Floodplain Easements

Section 4.09
- Added Alternate Planning Criteria

Section 5.06
- Added Supplemental Requirements to be included in plan submittals

Section 6.01
- Revised Drainage Policy to further detail street design requirements and structural flooding protection requirements

Section 6.02
- Added rainfall intensity for storm sewer design to use Region 3 data

Section 6.03
- Updated storm sewer detention rate from 0.65 ac-ft/ac to 0.75,

Section 8.0
- Added requirement to provide physical markers to delineate any Floodplain easements on properties

Section 12.03
- Added requirement for Roadside Signs

Section 15
- Added “Vested Rights” definition and procedure for grandfathering projects.

Table 7.3
- Updated number of bars in 10-inch concrete, minor correction of oversight from previous update

Appendix G
- Updated to reference floodplain regulations for projects in 100 or 500 year floodplains.

Appendix H
- Updated intensity duration curves and charts