



FEMA

June 29, 2018

The Honorable L. M. "Matt" Sebesta, Jr.
Judge, Brazoria County
111 East Locust Street
Suite 102A
Angleton, TX 77515

RE: Revised Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Report for the Unincorporated Areas of Brazoria County, Texas, Community No. 485458
Panels Affected: 48039C0040K, 48039C0200K, 48039C0340K, 48039C0375K
48039C0390K, 48039C0440K, 48039C0605K, 48039C0610K and 48039C0615K

Dear Judge Sebesta:

On June 30, 2017, the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provided your community with preliminary copies of the FIRMs and FIS Report dated June 30, 2017, for Brazoria County, Texas, and incorporated areas. Since that release, FEMA Region 6 has determined that revisions to several FIRM panels and the FIS Report are required. Enclosed for your information are copies of the Revised Preliminary FIRM panels and FIS Report dated June 29, 2018, for Brazoria County, Texas, and incorporated areas. This revised edition of the study reflects changes to Marys Creek (based on comments from the City of Pearland), the San Bernard River (based on new detailed study), Bastrop Bayou (based on comments from the City of Lake Jackson) and coastal flood hazards (based on revisions in Galveston County). We have enclosed only those FIRM panels with these changes that actually cover your community.

On June 29, 2018, FEMA posts digital copies of the Revised Preliminary FIRMs, FIS Report materials, and supporting database on the Flood Map Service Center. This data may be reviewed at the following link: <https://www.fema.gov/preliminaryfloodhazarddata>. This webpage contains a number of frequently asked questions pertaining to Preliminary Flood Hazard Data. If you click on the question, "Where Can I Access Preliminary Data," there is a link "Preliminary Data Search Tool" where you will be connected to the Preliminary FEMA Map Products page. On this page you may select your state and county from the drop down menus to access the current preliminary FIRMs, FIS Report materials, and supporting database. We also request that your community make the hard copy preliminary FIRMs and FIS Report available for review at your community's map repository located at the Brazoria County Annex Building, 451 North Velasco Street, Suite 210, Angleton, Texas 77515. To view an interactive hyperlinked index tool, click on your state from the map available on <http://riskmap6.com>, then select your county and project. This tool allows communities to utilize the digital preliminary index to select and view a

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specific preliminary FIRM panel. The user selects the blue box on the specific panel of interest in the preliminary index and the associated preliminary FIRM panel will open automatically.

We encourage you to circulate the enclosed copies as widely as possible among elected officials, staff, and other individuals or organizations in the community that would have an interest in the Revised Preliminary FIRMs and FIS Report so that they will have the opportunity to review them. The review period provides community officials and citizens in the affected communities with an opportunity to identify changes or corrections to non-technical information, such as corporate limits, road names, and stream names on the FIRMs or in the FIS Report. Please submit comments (digital format such as shapefiles preferred) no later than 30 days from the date of this letter. All comments and changes received during this review period will be incorporated, as appropriate, before the FIRMs and FIS Report become effective. Comments may be sent to:

Sandra Keefe
Mitigation Division Director
c/o Diane Howe, Appeals Coordinator
FEMA Region 6
Federal Regional Center
800 North Loop 288
Denton, TX 76209-3698

To assist you in this effort, we have listed the contact information of representatives who can answer your questions and respond to your concerns:

- **Mapping** – Larry Voice, Larry.Voice@fema.dhs.gov, (940)-898-5419
- **Compliance** – Gilbert Giron Jr., gilbert.giron@fema.dhs.gov, (940)-898-5594
- **Insurance** – Mark Lujan, Mark.Lujan@fema.dhs.gov, (940) 383-7327

We will initiate a statutory 90-day appeal period for Brazoria County and communities within Brazoria County. A statutory 90-day appeal period is required when FEMA adds or modifies Base (one-percent-annual-chance) Flood Elevations, base flood depths, Special Flood Hazard Areas, flood zone designations, or regulatory floodways within a community, as shown on the preliminary FIRM. FEMA will send you a letter approximately two weeks before the start of the 90-day appeal period to detail the appeal process. The letter will forward information regarding notifications to be published in the *Federal Register* and local newspaper(s) and will provide the first and second publication dates. The appeal period will start on the second publication date.

After the appeal period has ended and we have addressed all comments/appeals, we will initiate final preparation of the FIRM and FIS Report. The new FIRM and FIS Report for your community will become effective approximately seven to ten months later. Please note, your current effective mapping will continue to be used to rate insurance policies until the revised information is issued effective.

Prior to the effective date, you will be notified in writing of the official FIRM and FIS Report effective date and asked to adopt floodplain ordinances or modify existing ordinances, as

necessary, that correspond with the new FIRM or FIS Report. If you or other community officials have any questions regarding floodplain ordinances, you may address them with our FEMA Regional Office or you may discuss those issues with your National Flood Insurance (NFIP) State Coordinator. Several months before the effective date, we will mail one set of printed copies of the finalized FIRM and FIS Report and digital copies of the FIRM and FIS Report products.

A copy of the preliminary Summary of Map Actions (SOMA) was originally sent to your community on June 30, 2017. Since the distribution of the preliminary SOMA, there have been changes or additional Letter of Map Change (LOMCs) issued.

To assist your community in maintaining the FIRM, the enclosed Revised Preliminary SOMA documents previous LOMC actions that will be affected when the FIRM becomes effective. A fact sheet is included in this transmittal to assist your community in the review of this SOMA.

Your community should be aware that recently approved LOMCs, specifically Letters of Map Revision (LOMRs), may have been issued for your community. The LOMR process is dynamic and FEMA is reviewing LOMR applications regularly. To complete production of the preliminary FIRMs, which includes incorporating the effects of *mappable* LOMRs issued since the last map effective date, a specific cutoff was established. FEMA will address any approved LOMRs issued after the cutoff date when the final SOMA is distributed. If your community has concerns regarding a specific case, please submit the LOMR case number, as well as any appropriate documentation, to our FEMA Regional Office before the end of the comment or appeal period.

Your community's comments on the enclosed materials are an important part of our review process and will be carefully considered before we publish the FIRM in its final form. If you are interested in discussing the enclosed materials, the FEMA Regional Office in Denton, Texas is available to assist your community by telephone at (940) 898-5127.

Sincerely,


Sandra Keefe
Mitigation Division Director

Enclosures: Revised Preliminary FIRM panels 0040K, 0200K, 0340K, 0375K, 0390K 0440K,
0605K, 0610K and 0615K
Revised Preliminary FIS Report
CD containing the Revised Preliminary FIRMs in digital format
Revised Preliminary SOMA
Understanding FEMA's Summary of Map Actions and Revalidation Letter

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cc: Joe K. Ripple, Floodplain Administrator, County of Brazoria

Michael Segner, NFIP State Coordinator, Texas Water Development Board (CD/DVD only)

Jessica Baker, Regional Technical Coordinator, RSC 6 (CD/DVD only)