



FEMA

OCT 03 2014

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CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

The Honorable Greg Chilcott
Chairman, Ravalli County
Board of Commissioners
215 South Fourth Street, Suite A
Hamilton, Montana 59840

Oct 7, 2014
Ravalli County Commissioners

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Dear Chairman Chilcott:

I commend you for the efforts that have been put forth in implementing the floodplain management measures for Ravalli County, Montana, to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). As you implement these measures, I want to emphasize the following:

- Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) have been completed for your community;
- the FIS and FIRM will become effective on January 16, 2015; and
- by the FIS and FIRM effective date, the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Regional Office is required to approve the legally enforceable floodplain management measures your community adopts in accordance with Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations Section 60.3(d).

As noted in FEMA's letter dated July 16, 2014, no significant changes have been made to the flood hazard data on the Preliminary and/or revised Preliminary copies of the FIRM for Ravalli County. Therefore, Ravalli County should use the Preliminary and/or revised Preliminary copies of the FIRM as the basis for adopting the required floodplain management measures. Final printed copies of the FIRM for Ravalli County will be sent to you within the next few months.

If you encounter difficulties in enacting the measures, I recommend you contact the Montana Floodplain Management Program. You may contact Traci Sears, CFM, the NFIP State Coordinator, by telephone at (406) 444-6654, in writing at 1424 Ninth Avenue, Helena, Montana 59620-1601, or by electronic mail at tsears@mt.gov.

The FEMA Regional staff in Denver, Colorado, is also available to provide technical assistance and guidance in the development of floodplain management measures. The adoption of compliant floodplain management measures will provide protection for Ravalli County and will ensure its participation in the NFIP. The Regional Office may be contacted by telephone at (303) 235-4800 or in writing. Please send your written inquiries to the Director, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Division, FEMA Region VIII, at the Denver Federal Center, Building 710, Box 25267, Denver, Colorado 80225.

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You may have already contacted the NFIP State Coordinator and/or the FEMA Regional Office, and may be in the final adoption process or recently adopted the appropriate measures. However, in the event your community has not adopted the appropriate measures, this letter is FEMA's official notification that you only have until January 16, 2015, to adopt and/or submit a floodplain management ordinance that meets or exceeds the minimum NFIP requirements, and request approval from the FEMA Regional Office by the effective date. Your community's adopted measures will be reviewed upon receipt and the FEMA Regional Office will notify you when the measures are approved.

I appreciate your cooperation to ensure that your community's floodplain management measures are approved by the FEMA Regional Office by January 16, 2015. Your compliance with these mandatory program requirements will enable your community to avoid suspension from the NFIP.

Sincerely,



David H. Stearrett, CFM, Chief
Floodplain Management Branch
Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration

cc: Tony Russell, Acting Regional Administrator, FEMA Region VIII
Traci Sears, CFM, NFIP State Coordinator, Montana Floodplain Management Program
Brian Wilkinson, Floodplain Administrator, Ravalli County