

Prepare on BoCC Letterhead

July 25, 2012

Bob Bissell
FEMA Region VII Mitigation Division Director
9221 Ward Parkway, Suite 300
Kansas City, Missouri 64114-3372

RE: Flood Risk Study Project – Sedgwick County, Kansas

Dear Mr. Bissell:

I am writing you on behalf of Sedgwick County which is currently under-going a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) update. Our community recently received notice that the ongoing flood hazard analysis within Sedgwick County would be placed on hold.

It was explained to us that Administrator Fugate, in a March 10, 2011 response to congressional inquiry, committed to assess the levee analysis approaches currently used to model the flood hazard risks in the areas affected by non-accredited levees on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs). It was explained that FEMA would temporarily halt the issuance of Letters of Final Determination (LFDs) for communities impacted by levees or levee systems which employed the current modeling approach.

Although our community is within a study area that is affected by the current modeling approach, we have reviewed the analysis and resultant mapping prepared for our community and would like to request the FEMA Region continue the preparation and processing of the FIRM panels for our community.

Our community would like to continue progressing towards the effective issuance of the FIRMs for the unincorporated areas of Sedgwick County, based on the preliminary maps currently being developed by the Kansas Department of Agriculture using the existing modeling approach for levees.

Thank you for reviewing our inquiry. If you have additional questions concerning our request, please feel free to contact our Floodplain Manager, Kelly Dixon, at (316) 660-1792 or via email at kdixon@sedgwick.gov.

Sincerely,

Tim R. Norton, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners