



October 15, 2015

The Honorable Sarah Strommen
Mayor, City of Ramsey
7550 Sunwood Drive NW
Ramsey, MN 55303

Dear Mayor Strommen,

CONDITIONAL STATE APPROVAL OF FLOODPLAIN ORDINANCE & REQUIRED NEXT STEPS

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) received via email on October 7, 2015, a draft floodplain management ordinance amendment for the City of Ramsey from City Planner Chris Anderson. This ordinance is being amended in order to incorporate the *Flood Insurance Study, Anoka County, Minnesota and Incorporated Areas* and the accompanying Flood Insurance Rate Map panels with an effective date of December 16, 2015.

The draft ordinance will need a few minor corrections and additions to meet state and FEMA standards. These are all corrected on the attached draft:

- Our mistake: the map panel numbers need a "C" inserted after the "27003" – this was an oversight on our part.
- The definition of "manufactured home" should be added to the ordinance in order to meet FEMA requirements for this very specific definition. The definition could be noted as applicable only to the floodplain districts.

Apart from the above items, the draft floodplain management ordinance is in compliance with *Statewide Standards and Criteria for Management of Floodplain Areas of Minnesota*, Minnesota Rules, Parts 6120.5000 to 6120.6200. Therefore, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103F, I hereby give conditional state approval of the draft floodplain management ordinance, provided the abovementioned revisions are made. To the best of my knowledge, this draft ordinance will then also be in compliance with the floodplain management standards of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

This approval is valid upon adoption of the draft ordinance by the city and receipt by this office of **one (1) copy each of the adopted ordinance (signed and stamped with the community seal), the affidavit of publication, and the completed "Ordinance Certification Checklist"** that I have enclosed. Please forward these documents to Ceil Strauss, the DNR's State NFIP Coordinator in St. Paul at the address below in the footer. Upon receipt and verification, Ms. Strauss will transmit one copy of these materials to Mr. John Devine at FEMA's Chicago Regional Office.



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Please remember, FEMA must receive a signed, certified, and in-effect ordinance no later than December 16, 2015. To allow sufficient time for processing and transmittal, we request that you submit the requested materials to the DNR no later than December 11, 2015. ***If FEMA has not received the documentation by the map effective date, FEMA will suspend the city from the National Flood Insurance Program***

Please be advised that any future amendments of this ordinance or change in the designation of flood prone areas require prior approval of the Commissioner. In addition, you are required to send copies of hearing notices and final decisions pertaining to variance, conditional uses, and ordinance amendments to this agency. Please send those to State NFIP Coordinator Ceil Strauss at the above address. Should you have any questions on this ordinance or related matters, please contact Ms. Strauss at (651) 259-5713 or ceil.strauss@state.mn.us.

While our office in St. Paul will continue to be the main contact for the ordinance update, your DNR Area Hydrologist will continue to be your main contact for day to day assistance with administering your floodplain management ordinance and questions about other DNR water-related programs and permits. Your Area Hydrologist is Kate Drewry, who can be contacted at 651-259-5753 or kate.drewry@state.mn.us.

The DNR greatly appreciates your community's cooperation and initiative in providing for the reduction of flood damages through the adoption and administration of this ordinance.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Shillcox
Land Use Section Supervisor

Enclosure: Ordinance Certification Checklist

ec: Chris Anderson, City Planner
John Devine, FEMA
Terri Yearwood, DNR Eco-Waters' Regional Manager
Jeanne Daniels, DNR Eco-Waters' District Manager
Kate Drewry, Area Hydrologist