



City of Valdez
ALASKA
Planning Department

January 7, 2019

Re: Adoption of new floodplain ordinance to meet National Flood Insurance Program standards

Dear property owner,

The City of Valdez recently adopted the new 2019 Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. These maps were created as the result of a multi-year mapping process that included public meetings and hearings. In addition to adopting the new FIS and FIRM, the City of Valdez is required to update our flood hazard regulations to bring them into compliance with federal standards in order maintain our participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

The NFIP is a voluntary federal program that enables property owners in participating communities to purchase insurance protection against losses from flooding. Through City of Valdez participation in the Community Rating System Program, property owners receive a discount on their flood insurance. In order to maintain good standing in the NFIP and CRS programs, the City is required to update title 15.30 – our flood hazard protection regulations.

The proposed ordinance is based on the FEMA model ordinance and includes the minimum requirements for participation in NFIP, as well as recommendations for our area that will help maintain or improve our CRS rating and allow for property owners within the City of Valdez to obtain flood insurance at a more affordable rate. All of the updates to our floodplain ordinance are written to encourage sound floodplain management and reduce flood hazards in our most susceptible areas.

The proposed ordinance will go before City Council for public hearing at their next meeting on January 15, 2019 at 7:00pm. To view the proposed ordinance, see the City Council agenda packet, available at City Hall or on the city website this Friday (01/11/19). If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to the Planning Department at 907-834-3401 or the City Clerk at 907-834-3408.

Sincerely,

Rochelle Rollenhagen
Planning Director
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