



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Public Works
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: July 17, 2018
Placement: Set Hearings on 7/17/18
for 8/14/18 on the Dept
agenda and 8/28/18 on
the Admin agenda
Estimated Time 30 minutes on 8/14/18
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, 568-3010
Director(s)
Contact Info: Thomas D. Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, 568-3436

SUBJECT: Set Hearings to Amend Chapter 15A of the Santa Barbara County Code relating to
Floodplain Management, All Supervisorial Districts

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

On July 17, 2018, set a hearing for August 14, 2018 to consider recommendations regarding an Ordinance Amending Chapter 15A of the Santa Barbara County Code relating to Floodplain Management as follows: (FOR August 14, 2018 ESTIMATED TIME: 30 MINUTES)

On August 14, 2018, your Board's action should include the following:

- a) Approve the introduction (first reading) of “ *An Ordinance amending Chapter 15A, of the Santa Barbara County Code Relating to Floodplain Management*”;
- b) Read the title of Ordinance and waive further readings; and
- c) Continue the hearing and set a hearing on the administrative agenda of August 28, 2018.

On August 28, 2018, your Board's action should include the following:

- i) Consider and approve the adoption (second reading) of “*An Ordinance amending Chapter 15A, of the Santa Barbara County Code Relating to Floodplain Management*” (ordinance introduced on August 14, 2018); and
- ii) Find that the proposed actions to amend Chapter 15A of the Santa Barbara County Code relating to Floodplain Management are organizational or administrative activities of the government that are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15378(b)(5), because they will not result in direct or indirect physical changes to the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to set hearings to adopt an Ordinance amending Chapter 15A of the Santa Barbara County Code relating to Floodplain Management (Attachment A).

This ordinance amendment was initially requested by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), to bring Chapter 15A into compliance with the State of California Department of Water Resources model floodplain ordinance. The Letters of Map Revision amendment is unrelated to the 1-9 Debris Flow.

On June 19, 2018, the Board of Supervisors and Board of Directors considered and approved the recommendation of the floodplain administrator to supplement the Flood Insurance Study with the FEMA Recovery Map pursuant to Section 15A-7. That decision to supplement the Flood Insurance Study with the FEMA Recovery Map was effective on June 19, 2018. Amendments to Sections 15A-5 and 15A-7, as shown in Attachment B, are recommended to clarify for the public using Chapter 15A which maps Flood Control will use in reviewing projects.

With the FEMA issuance of the Letter of Final Determination (LFD) on March 28, 2018, the revised coastal study Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) panels will be effective on September 28, 2018.

FEMA reviewed the local flood prevention ordinance (Chapter 15A) to confirm that it meets the minimum National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) regulations as required in 44 Code of Federal Regulations, 60.3 (d) and (e), which address riverine and coastal flood prevention requirements. FEMA has stated that the revisions to the Chapter 15A are required to be adopted by September 28, 2018. The recommended action schedule meets that requirement.

Background:

In the 1970s, the County of Santa Barbara became a participant in the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). A goal of the NFIP is to enable property owners in participating communities to purchase flood insurance as a protection against flood losses. To participate in the program a community must adopt and enforce a floodplain management ordinance to reduce future flood risk to new construction developed in floodplain areas. In exchange, FEMA provides floodplain identification and mapping, floodplain regulations, and makes flood insurance available to residents in the community. Residents of communities that choose not to participate in the NFIP are not able to purchase flood insurance.

The updates to Chapter 15A of the County Code bring Chapter 15A into compliance with the FEMA review and the State of California Department of Water Resources model floodplain ordinance, and acknowledge the Board of Supervisors and Board of Directors June 19, 2018 adoption of the FEMA Recovery Mapping dated June 11, 2018.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Narrative:

There are no fiscal impacts associated with adoption of this Ordinance to amend Chapter 15A of the County Code. However, Floodplain Management and Development Review are on-going programs of the Flood Control District so costs and staff time are included in the budget annually.

Special Instructions:

After the July 17, 2018 Hearing direct the Clerk of the Board to:

1. Publish the notice of the August 14, 2018 hearing pursuant to section 6061 of the Government Code in the Santa Barbara News-Press (once ten days before the first hearing).

After the August 28, 2018 Hearing direct the Clerk of the Board to:

1. Send copies of the adopted Ordinance, minute order, and stamped NOE to the Flood Control District, Attn: Christina Lopez and County Counsel, Attn: Jenna Richardson; and
2. Publish a copy of the ordinance with names of the members of the Board of Directors voting for or against the amendment in the Santa Barbara News-Press within 15 days of adoption of the ordinance pursuant to Government Code section 25124.

Attachments:

- Attachment A - An Ordinance amending Chapter 15A of the Santa Barbara County Code relating to Floodplain Management
- Attachment B - Track Changes version of Chapter 15A of the Santa Barbara County Code relating to Floodplain Management
- Attachment C - Notice of Public Meeting
- Attachment D - Notice of Exemption – Not a Project per CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5)
- Attachment E - PowerPoint

Authored by:

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