



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Hon. Stephanie A. Miner, Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: August 22, 2016

CONTACT: Alexander Marion
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OPEN HOUSE FOR RESIDENTS IMPACTED BY FLOODMAP CHANGES TO BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 8 AT SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY CENTER

*City Organizes Open House to Give Residents and Property Owners Opportunity
To Meet One-on-One with Federal, State, Local Officials to Learn More*

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Following the release of new floodplain maps by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which are scheduled to take effect in November, 2016, the City of Syracuse has coordinated an open house for impacted residents to meet one-on-one with representatives from FEMA, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), City engineers, and flood insurance agency representatives. The open house will take place on **Thursday, September 8, 2016 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** at the Southwest Community Center located at 401 South Avenue in Syracuse.

The City of Syracuse Department of Engineering has sent postcards to affected property owners informing them of the upcoming open house. Earlier this year, FEMA issued new flood insurance maps following a decade-long process of City officials pressuring the federal agency to produce more accurate maps. On August 9, 2016, the Syracuse Common Council held a committee meeting where federal and state floodplain experts along with City engineers answered questions from Councilors and citizens about the new maps.

Property owners now added to the floodplain map who believe they were added in error can opt to complete a letter of map amendment, including a survey from a licensed surveyor, and submit it to FEMA, which will make a final determination. The property owner will then be required to provide FEMA's determination to their mortgage holder.

The City of Syracuse participates in the National Flood Insurance Program which lowers rates for customers by subsidizing flood insurance for businesses and residents. To be eligible to participate in this program, the City must adopt the new federal Flood Insurance Rate Maps. In the original floodplain map, there were 963 parcels included. Of those, 237 were removed as a result of the City's effort. Those remaining 726 parcels will benefit from the City's floodplain management strategies, which allowed these property owners to receive a 15% discount on their flood insurance. An additional 876 parcels were added as a result of the new federal mapping. Individuals who own these properties will be able to purchase Newly Mapped Procedure Insurance, which is available at a discounted rate.



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For more information, residents can visit a new City webpage, www.syr.gov.net/flood, with information about insurance programs and federal research.

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