



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

93 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0093

WALTER E. WHITCOMB
COMMISSIONER

January 21, 2015

Ms. Denise Griffin, Selectwoman
Town of Boothbay Harbor
11 Howard St.
Boothbay Harbor, ME 04538

[Certified Mail]

RE: New FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps and requirement for adoption into local ordinance for compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

Dear Ms. Griffin:

Your community should have recently received a Letter of Final Determination (LFD) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) which sets the effective date of the new Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs) for all of Lincoln County for July 16, 2015. This letter marks the beginning of a six month time period for communities to update their local Floodplain Management Ordinances to reflect any changes since the last ordinance was adopted and to incorporate the new map date. **Your community must adopt an updated Floodplain Management Ordinance which references the new map date on or before July 16, 2015 in order to avoid being immediately suspended from the NFIP.**

Enclosed is a copy of the most current state model Floodplain Management Ordinance that has been customized specifically for your community. Participation in the NFIP provides protection to those members of your community who may be affected by flooding. In addition, federal flood insurance is available to those who have federally backed mortgages in the floodplain. Another important benefit is your community's eligibility for disaster funding and low interest loans when your county is in a declared disaster area. This is all possible by way of your community's commitment to adopt, administer and enforce its floodplain ordinance and your commitment to regulate development within flood prone areas.

Adoption of the new maps prior to the final map date will assure uninterrupted and continued participation in the NFIP. The enclosed ordinance contains all the changes that have occurred at the federal and state level since your ordinance was last adopted. Also enclosed is an instruction sheet that explains the ordinance adoption process. Since FEMA has very specific requirements regarding ordinance language we encourage communities to adopt the ordinance without changes. However, if you would like to make any changes, you should discuss them with this office prior to local consideration. This is to ensure that the ordinance remains compliant.

Please make sure your community does not adopt any prior versions of the ordinance that we may have previously sent to your community.

17 ELKINS LANE, WILLIAMS PAVILION
www.maine.gov/acf

PHONE: (207) 287-2801

FAX: (207) 287-2353

We filled in the application fee (in Article III) and permitting authority using the ordinance that is in effect now for your community. The application fee is set by the municipality so if you would like to review other fee options or change it, just let us know.

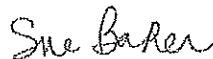
Some communities have expressed concern about adopting maps that do not become effective until several months after they are adopted. Please note that is acceptable for the community to set the effective date of the ordinance to coincide with the day the new maps become effective.

Once your ordinance has been adopted, and certified by the Town Clerk, please send this office an electronic copy (if possible) and two (2) certified printed copies. We will forward one copy each to the FEMA regional office and the regional planning commission. An electronic copy will be filed here at the Maine Floodplain Management Program.

If you have not already done so, please provide us with contact information for the person who will be responsible locally for coordinating the ordinance update process. We would also like to know the scheduled dates for your public hearing and town meeting as we must track this information for all of Lincoln County. Please contact Janet Parker at 287-9981 or janet.parker@maine.gov as soon as this information is available.

Over the next few months we expect to host at least two public outreach meetings in Lincoln County. Usually one is scheduled for the afternoon and one in the early evening. These will be public informational sessions so that we can answer questions as to how folks will be affected by the new maps, particularly with regard to flood insurance. We hope you will have at least one local official in attendance and that you'll spread the word so that property owners have the opportunity to get their individual questions answered. Please feel free to contact me (287-8063 or sue.baker@maine.gov), Jenn (287-8051 or jennifer.curtis@maine.gov), or Janet (298-9981 or janet.parker@maine.gov) at any time throughout this process if you have questions or need additional assistance.

Best Regards,



Sue Baker, CFM
State NFIP Coordinator

Enclosures: Customized 2015 Model Ordinance
Adoption Instructions
Update of Changes
Optional/Alternate Language

Cc: Michelle Farnham, Town Clerk
Thomas Woodin, Town Manager
Michael Tomko, Planning Board
Geoff Smith, Code Enforcement Officer
FEMA Region I
Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission