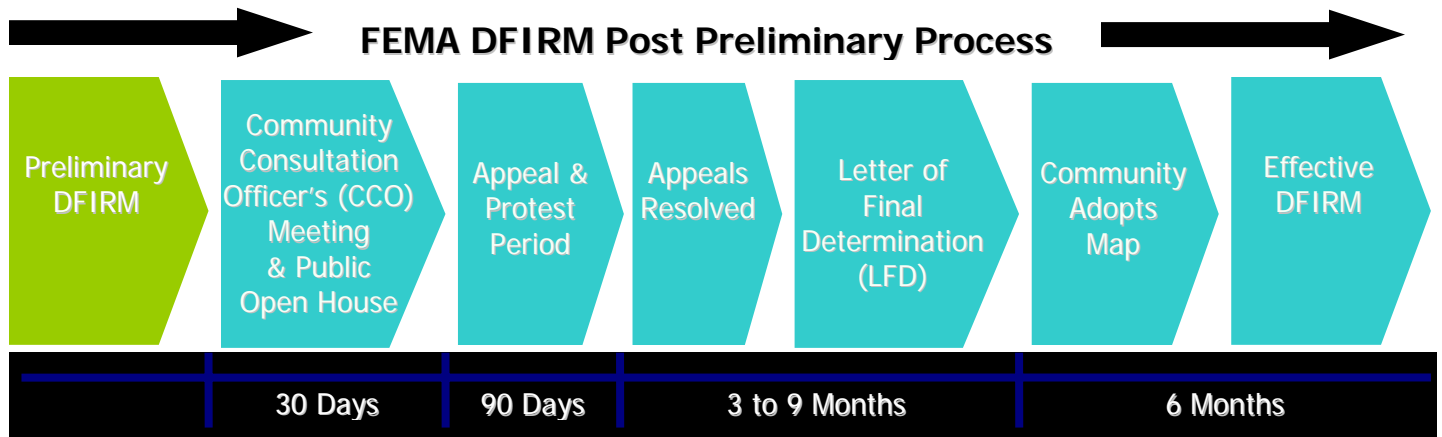


Community Outreach: FEMA Map Modernization Post Preliminary Fact Sheet



St. Mary Parish, LA DFIRM Development



Time frames given are approximate and vary from study to study

Post Preliminary Process Overview

- **Presentation of Preliminary DFIRMs**
- **90-Day Appeal Period**
- **LFD / Final Adoption**
- **Effective DFIRMs**

Presentation of Preliminary DFIRMs: St. Mary Parish is entering the Post Preliminary Processing phase of the Map Modernization Project. Upon release of the preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate maps (DFIRMs), the Parish and all incorporated communities will have approximately 30 days to review the preliminary information. During that time the FEMA Regional Office will coordinate a date and time to formally present the study results during a Community Coordination Meeting.

Approximately 3 to 4 weeks after the Community Coordination Meeting, FEMA will place notification of Proposed Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) in the local newspaper and on FEMA's website at: http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/st_mail.shtm. There will be two publications in the local newspaper(s) within a 10-day period immediately following the notification to the community.

90-Day Appeal Period: The second newspaper publication begins a 90-Day appeal period. The appeals period allows citizens to appeal modified BFEs or file protests for other concerns on the preliminary maps.

An appeal is a formal objection to proposed BFEs. Appeals may be submitted by a community or individual resident during the 90-day appeal period. They must be based on data that show the proposed BFEs are scientifically or technically incorrect. Any owner or lessee of real property within a community where a proposed BFE is established or revised can file an appeal.

Information about appeals and protests:

- An appeal is a proposed change to a BFE on the map.
- A protest is a proposed change to any information on the map other than a BFE.
- All inquiries of maps and requests for changes should be submitted with all formal appeals.
- The local community official will collect all appeals and protests, and submit them to FEMA.
- Appeals and Protests must be submitted to FEMA within the 90-day appeals period.
- FEMA will send a formal acknowledgment to the local community official that the information has been received.
- After all cases have been reviewed and determinations are finalized, if necessary, a Revised Preliminary is issued.

A protest is an objection to any information, other than BFEs, shown on a DFIRM that is submitted by community or interested citizens through the community officials during the 90-day appeal period.

Post Preliminary Process Overview, Continued

Appeals and protests must be collected by the local community, and then forwarded to the FEMA Region VI office in Denton, TX:

FEMA

Attention: Frank Pagano, Director
Mitigation Division
800 North Loop 288
Denton, Texas 76209

All appeals and protests will be reviewed and incorporated into the maps as appropriate. This may necessitate the issuance of Revised Preliminary DFIRMs.

LFD/Final Adoption: After all appeals and protests have been resolved, a Letter of Final Determination (LFD) will be issued. The LFD states that the maps will become effective in 6 months. This 6-month window is known as the compliance period, and it is during this time that communities must adopt revised ordinances incorporating the new DFIRM data to remain in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Effective DFIRMs: After the maps have become effective, another complete set of maps will be sent to your community. The time needed to complete this

process may vary, but usually takes between 12 and 24 months.

Who Should I Contact? For information about the study process, please contact the study contractors or the Project Manager. Questions regarding the ordinance process should be directed to the FEMA Compliance Specialist. Actual appeals and/or protests will be collected by local community officials, who will then forward them to Frank Pagano at FEMA.

Important Contacts:

FEMA:

FEMA Call Center
1-866-751-3989 (toll free)

Community Official:

Carol Vinning
Floodplain Administrator
cvinning@parish.st-mary-la.us
Ph: (337) 828-4100

LaMP Website

www.lamappingproject.com

Code of Federal Regulations 67.5

(Paraphrased) Right of Appeal: Any owner of property within a community where a proposed flood elevation determination has been made, who believes their property rights to be adversely affected by the proposed determination, may file a written appeal with their local floodplain administrator within ninety days of the second newspaper publication of the proposed determination.

