



ASSOCIATION OF STATE FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS, INC.

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Association of State Floodplain Managers

Resolution

On Map Modernization

May 12, 2003

WHEREAS, the Congress, in passing the National Flood Insurance Program in 1968, recognized the importance and significance of flood hazard maps; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, as part of the National Flood Insurance Reform Act, Congress directed the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to establish the Technical Mapping Advisory Council to provide recommendations on ways to improve flood hazard maps and the mapping processes; and

WHEREAS, in November 1997, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, based on recommendations of the Technical Mapping Advisory Council, completed a report entitled "Modernizing FEMA's Flood Hazard Mapping Program, A Progress Report" identifying actions to improve the agency's flood hazard mapping program "to better serve the citizens of the United States"; and

WHEREAS, the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) and the Flood Map Coalition urged Congress to fund the program to modernize floodplain maps in order to realize "the desired benefits of saving lives and property"; and

WHEREAS, Congress approved \$150 million in additional funding for Map Modernization activities for FY 2003; and

WHEREAS, floodplain management officials of states, regional agencies, local governments and other floodplain management professionals that are represented in ASFPM are prepared to participate in Map Modernization activities;

THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of the Association of State Floodplain Managers does hereby resolve to urge the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, to take the following actions in support of modernizing the nation's flood hazard maps:

"Dedicated to reducing flood losses in the nation."

1. Work with States to update, certify and approve each of the state Map Modernization Implementation Plans and formally consolidate all of those plans into a preliminary nationwide Map Modernization Implementation Plan.
2. Adopt and enforce the following technical quality assurance standards to ensure minimum level of quality and accuracy in all future Flood Hazard Maps and/or data published by the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, regardless of time constraints:
 - The flood elevations and the floodplain delineations on the maps must correlate reasonably to the best available topographic information for the stream and adjacent corridor.
 - The planimetric features on the floodplain maps (streets and highways, stream centerlines, bridges and other critical hydraulic features, corporate limits, section lines and corners, survey benchmarks, etc.) must correlate reasonably to the best available aerial photos or other suitable imagery for the stream and the adjacent corridor.
 - The flood hydrology used to develop the floodplain map must still reasonably reflect the flood hazard and meet pertinent local, regional, state and federal technical standards.
3. Provide an annual base level of funding of \$100,000 per state to support the function of Map Coordinator for each of the 50 states and thereby ensure a minimum level of technical and administrative guidance for flood hazard mapping activities in each state.
4. Provide those states, regional agencies, and local governments that are both qualified and interested with the opportunity to manage as many Map Modernization activities as they are capable of managing within their respective jurisdictions and that they be provided the maximum flexibility in the selection of mapping priorities.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Association of State Floodplain Managers that we urge the President and the Congress of the United States to take the following actions in support of modernizing the nation's flood hazard maps;

1. Provide long-term funding, sufficient both in terms of annual funding levels and in terms of the minimum number of years of funding, to ensure the completion of the Map Modernization Plan for the entire country; and
2. If necessary, authorize the creation of and provide ongoing financial support for a technical resource and advisory group similar to the Technical Mapping Advisory Council, whose function would be to provide long-term monitoring of and technical recommendations for the implementation of the Map Modernization Plan, to ensure the highest possible performance standards for the program.

Approved by the Board of Directors May 12, 2003

Attested _____, Secretary