ASFPM Floodplain Regulations Committee Status Report

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Introduction & Overview

The ASFPM Regulations Committee serves as ASFPM’s policy committee on floodplain regulatory, codes and standards. This includes the implementation of these codes and standards, advocating for improved regulations and tools to improve the enforcement of floodplain regulations.

In support of the ASFPM goals and objectives for 2016/2017, the committee had three broad focus areas. Those areas are 1) improve committee participation and productively through an increased active core of members, 2) Assist in the development of higher standards and technical guidance to support flood loss reduction 3) Work with the insurance committee on solutions to cross-cutting issues such underutilization of Increased Cost of Compliance mitigation and on floodproofing accreditation issues.

2016/2017 Committee Activities

- Continued participation on ad-hoc group comprised of Regulations, Insurance Committee members, and local floodplain administrators, led by Jennifer Gerbasi from Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana with a goal of recommending needed improvements in ICC. As of March 31, 2017 the group is awaiting a response from legal advisors to FEMA’s Insurance Advocate regarding language that will allow insurance companies to advise policyholders earlier in the claims/repair process that they have access to ICC funds to mitigate.

- Conducted a Regulations Committee conference call Feb. 8 primarily aimed at soliciting increased committee volunteerism and to discuss particular topics that require committee member assistance. This outreach call and follow-up communications resulted in a spreadsheet containing 43 committee members and their areas of interest and willingness to work.

- Provided FEMA with comments on draft updates to Technical Bulletin 5 Free-of-Obstruction Requirements.

Future Actions

Continue to work with FEMA to improve technical bulletins. As of March 2017, FEMA was accepting comments on TB 8 Corrosion Protection for Metal Connectors and Fasteners in Coastal Areas

Continue efforts to improve ICC effectiveness and implementation.
Continue working on issues related to the NFIP requirements for certification of flood-proofed properties, and increasing awareness of the need to incorporate these standards into floodproofing projects and regulations.