

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
FEMA Region VII
11224 Holmes Road
Kansas City, MO 64131



FEMA

October 4, 2021

Mr. Bob Missel
Chairman, Board of Supervisors, Dodge County
435 N. Park
Fremont, NE 68025

Subject: FEMA Concurrence with Dodge County Floodplain Management Compliance Plan

Dear Chairman Missel:

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is responsible for administering the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and ensuring communities adequately enforce floodplain management regulations and comply with NFIP participation requirements. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of our review of the Dodge County Floodplain Management Compliance Plan.

As a participating community in the NFIP, Dodge County is responsible for verifying and correcting violations. In a letter dated July 16, 2021, FEMA notified Dodge County of an apparent violation of Dodge County's adopted floodplain management ordinance and requested a plan for bringing the violation into compliance. On August 3, 2021, Sara Sopinski, Chief Deputy of the Dodge County Attorney's Office, submitted a compliance plan on behalf of the community. On August 31, 2021, representatives from Dodge County met virtually with Emily Hatcher and Shandi Teltschik, Floodplain Management Specialists with FEMA Region VII, to review and discuss the submitted plan. The community was given time to incorporate comments, and the plan was re-submitted by Ms. Sopinski on September 13, 2021.

FEMA Region VII concurs with the most recent submittal of Dodge County's compliance plan. A copy of the plan is enclosed. FEMA will continue to provide technical assistance and guidance as Dodge County implements this plan to remedy the violation in order to remain in good standing with the NFIP.

If Dodge County fails to effectively implement the mutually agreed upon plan, FEMA will move forward with the process to place Dodge County on probation with the NFIP. Probation represents formal notification to the community that its floodplain management program is regarded as not compliant with NFIP criteria. During the probationary period, flood

insurance coverage will remain available within Dodge County; however, a \$50 surcharge will be added to the premium of each new and renewed flood insurance policies sold within the community for a period of no less than one-year from the effective date of the probation. If the county is put on probation and fails to address the violation during the minimum one year probationary period, FEMA will move forward with suspending Dodge County from the NFIP. Suspension would mean that flood insurance through the NFIP would no longer be available to citizens in Dodge County, and Federal officers or agencies would be prohibited from providing financial assistance (loan, grant, guaranty, insurance payment, rebate, subsidy, or disaster assistance loan or grant in connection with a flood) for acquisition or construction purposes within special flood hazard areas in the community, per the provisions of Section 202(a) of Public Law 93-234, as amended.

We recognize and appreciate Dodge County's continued efforts to re-establish an effective and successful floodplain management program to protect the health, safety, and welfare of your community, and look forward to the resolution of this violation. All related documentation, questions, or concerns should be sent to Emily Hatcher at Emily.Hatcher@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Erin Cobb, Branch Chief
Floodplain Management & Insurance Branch
FEMA Region VII
Department of Homeland Security

Enclosure: Dodge County Plan for Compliance, final version

CC: Jean Andrews, Floodplain Administrator, Dodge County
Sara Sopinski, Chief Deputy, Dodge County Attorney's Office
Katie Ringland, Nebraska State NFIP Coordinator, NeDNR
Shandi Teltschik, Senior Floodplain Management Specialist, FEMA Region VII
Emily Hatcher, Floodplain Management Specialist, FEMA Region VII