



FEMA

January 19, 2010

Gordon F. Joseloff
First Selectman
Town of Westport
110 Myrtle Avenue, Room 310
Westport, Connecticut 06880

Reference: Updated Coastal Flood Insurance Study and Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) Fairfield County, Connecticut (All Jurisdictions).

Dear Mr. Joseloff:

In a few months, your community will be receiving updated Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs) through the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Map Modernization initiative. Now, through a second wave of flood map improvements under the new Risk Map Analysis and Planning Program (Risk MAP) Program, FEMA will be updating certain scientific data along the Connecticut coastline. This Risk MAP restudy will, over the next two years, result in more accurate technical data being further incorporated into communities coastal DFIRMS.

STARR is currently serving FEMA as a Production and Technical Services contractor under the Risk MAP Program. In support of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), STARR is initiating the coastal flood hazard analysis in Fairfield County. The Town of Westport is one of the communities in which new coastal flood hazard analysis and mapping will occur. The end product of this activity will be an updated Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and DFIRM for the coastal communities of Fairfield County in Connecticut. The current tasks will include: field survey and reconnaissance activities, review of the coastal hydrology, and updates to the hydraulic analysis for the shoreline of the Town of Westport. This data will then be utilized to produce an updated FIS and DFIRM panels for coastal panels in Fairfield County.

The field survey and reconnaissance activities will include a visual inspection of the shoreline to identify changes in physical conditions from the previous FIS, determine the condition of shore protection structures and natural barriers, and evaluate potential locations for transects used in our hydraulic analysis. The reconnaissance study will be completed on foot for coastal beaches and by boat for inner-harbor areas and in-accessible coastal areas. Two-person teams of STARR staff will be using hand-held Global Positioning Systems and digital cameras to document our findings. STARR plans to initiate the field activities during the week of January 25, 2010. It is anticipated that the field activities will be ongoing throughout the months of January, February, and March.

Additionally, we are requesting your assistance to identify the coastal mapping needs for your community. This information will allow STARR to efficiently perform hydrologic and

hydraulic analysis for the Town of Westport. Specifically, we are interested in the following information:

- Post-event surveys and investigations for major storms that have impacted your community
- Documented areas of repetitive coastal flooding
- Areas of significant beach or dune erosion
- Areas of recent residential development or identified future development or areas of rezoning
- Location, extent, condition, and owner of coastal protection structures (i.e. revetments, seawalls, etc.) or any other public or private project which may have impacted the floodplain
- Any and all available topographic data for the Town of Westport
- Areas with identified damage during storm events
- Areas where the existing DFIRM is inaccurate

Any of the above referenced information should be sent to the STARR Task Order Manager:

Amol Daxikar
One Cambridge Place
50 Hampshire Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

He can be reached at (617) 452-6386.

STARR will coordinate regional scoping meetings with you and other officials from your community, as well as those from other coastal communities in your county, to discuss this task and the requested information in greater detail. Staff from STARR will be contacting you in the immediate future to coordinate and answer any questions.

We look forward to working with the community officials of the Town of Westport to ensure that the goals of this Risk MAP project are met. We believe that this project is an important step to allow the Town of Westport to continue to administer effective floodplain management programs. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact David Mendelsohn of my staff. David can be reached at david.mendelsohn@dhs.gov or by telephone at (617) 832-4713. You may also contact Carla Feroni at the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection at carla.feroni@ct.gov or by telephone at (860) 424-3390.

Very truly yours,



Michael J. Goetz
Chief, Risk Analysis Branch
FEMA Region I

cc: Stephen Smith, Building Official & Fire Safety Code Inspector, Town of Westport
Alicia Mozian, Conservation Director, Town of Westport
Laurence Bradley, Director, Planning and Zoning, Town of Westport
Stephen Edwards, Director, Public Works Department, Town of Westport
Peter Ratkiewich, Town Engineer, Town of Westport



FEMA

January 29, 2010

Reference: Updated Coastal Flood Insurance Study and Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM)

To Whom It May Concern

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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact David Mendelsohn of my staff. David can be reached at david.mendelsohn@dhs.gov or by telephone at (617) 832-4713. You may also contact Carla Feroni at the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection at carla.feroni@ct.gov or by telephone at (860) 424-3390.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Goetz".

Michael J. Goetz
Chief, Risk Analysis Branch
FEMA Region 1