



FLOOD MAP SCOPING MEETING

INTRODUCTION

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) holds a Scoping Meeting when a new flood map project is initiated in order to engage all local, state and federal stakeholders within the project county. The goals of the meeting are to:

- 1) Inform the local community officials within the project area that a new mapping project will be starting;
- 2) Educate local community officials on the mapping process – from initiating the project through adopting a final, effective map – and what role they will play in the process;
- 3) Seek out and gather as much data that can be used in the new map project as possible and promote local collaboration; and
- 4) Identify and capture mapping needs within the community, and establish what needs will be able to be addressed during this map update.

PREPARING FOR THE MEETING

There are just some questions to consider before the meeting. We realize that you may not be aware of all of the studies or data that may be discussed below, but these are just ideas to help you think about some of the information we'll be discussing at the meeting. If there is someone else in your community that may know more about some of these topics, please let us know or pass this along to them!

- Has a federal agency (e.g., Army Corps, NRCS, USGS) performed any flood studies or completed any flood control projects within your community since the effective date of your flood map? Also, were there any studies that were completed before the current flood map was released but was not incorporated into them?
- Has a state agency (e.g., DNR, DOT) performed or approved any studies to support new bridges, culverts, or developments within your community since your last flood map?
- Has your local community or a regional entity performed or contracted for any flood studies to support watershed plans, disaster mitigation plans, master stormwater planning or to address any other flooding concerns?
- Have any developments occurred in your community in which a developer completed a flood study?
- Has your community or county performed, contracted for or otherwise received topographic mapping (LIDAR, photogrammetry), aerial photography or other base mapping features?



- Are there areas undergoing high development pressure in your community in which you believe there is, or have witnessed, flood risk, however there is no identified floodplain on the FEMA flood maps?
- If you have witnessed a significant flood, how has that matched up to your existing flood maps? If there were discrepancies, were they because the flood elevation didn't correspond or were the elevations similar, but the areas that flooded didn't match the mapped floodplain boundaries?

WHAT TO BRING TO THE MEETING

If flood studies and engineering analyses have taken place in your community on any of your drains, creeks, streams or rivers, please bring whatever you have of the following:

- Details (see below) regarding the survey and topography used to create the analysis, as well as which streams are covered by the study and the extents within those streams.
 - Files of the engineering models used to determine the flood flows within the waterway (hydrology) and flood elevations (hydraulics) – digital files are preferred if you have them.
 - Any maps produced that use those calculated flood elevations to delineate the floodplain boundary.
 - Engineering report on the methods & models used in the study and a background of the data, plus certifications by licensed engineers of the work performed.
 - Any certification or acceptance by a local, state, or federal agency of the work that was performed.
- If topographic mapping, aerial photography and other base mapping are available in your community, please bring the following information pertaining to the data, as available:
 - The extent of the coverage (county, community, single watershed) and the date it was collected.
 - For topography, specifications such as the vertical accuracy of the data, the horizontal and vertical datum.
 - For photography, specifications such as the pixel resolution, whether the photos are in color or black & white, if the data is tiled or one large file, and the file format in which the data is saved.
 - A certification of the accuracy of the data.
 - Contact information to obtain a copy and any agreements necessary for data sharing.



If there are areas not previously mapped on FEMA's flood maps, but you believe there is flood risk that should be identified, please bring a marked-up map (existing flood map, USGS Quad Map, aerial photography or other GIS map) indicating the areas of concern.

If there are areas on your existing FEMA flood maps that you have witnessed inaccuracies in, or there have been changes to the watershed or waterway that may impact the existing study, please bring a copy of your existing flood map indicating those concerns.

WHAT TO DO AFTER TO THE MEETING

Please get in touch with Collis Brown, State NFIP Coordinator, if you have any additional data which may benefit this mapping project, or you need to follow up with data discussed during the meeting.

If you have any questions regarding the project at any point during the process, please contact the DNR or project lead identified during the meeting.

IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND THE MEETING

If you are able to send someone else from your community in your place, please do so. Plus there are several disciplines within your community that may be impacted or interested in this map project – any and all representatives of building, engineer, GIS, surveying, permitting, and development departments, as well as executive officers, are encouraged to attend the meeting.

If no one from your community can attend the meeting, please feel free to contact the DNR or the mapping contractor lead identified on the letter this fact sheet was enclosed with to obtain information and any handouts from the scoping meeting.

Scoping meetings are most successful and productive for those making the maps and those that ultimately use them when all related information and data is shared and there is full participation from the communities and local stakeholders. We look forward to your participation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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