

# Memorandum



DATE March 11, 2011

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT FEMA Remapping of Areas Behind Levees

FEMA has announced that it will suspend its use of mapping areas behind levees that do not meet the 100-year protection level as if the levees do not exist. Extensive pressure throughout the country has led to FEMA issuing a memorandum stating that they will seek an alternative methodology to mapping areas of potential flood risk behind levees that are not certified.

City staff has been informed by Region VI FEMA officials that all work on Dallas' pending preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps has been halted for at least a month. City staff will continue conversations with FEMA over the next several weeks to further understand what the ultimate timeline will be for the issuance of the new floodplain maps but **it is important to note that it continues to be the City's goal to complete the levee improvements in December 2011 and prepare for re-certification at that time. The US Army Corps of Engineers remains committed to this timeline.**

Further information will be shared once we have clarity about the remapping timeline. The levee work will continue moving forward as planned and, thus, it is with confidence that the 100-year flood protection level certification will be provided prior to FEMA's release of new maps.

Please contact me if you have questions.



Mary K. Suhm  
City Manager

C: Ryan S. Evans, First Assistant City Manager  
Jill A. Jordan, Assistant City Manager  
A.C. Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager  
Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager  
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Thomas P. Perkins, Jr., City Attorney  
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor  
Judge C. Victor Lander  
Helena Stevens-Thompson, Asst. to the City Manager  
Frank Libro, Director, Public Information Office