

October 14, 2008

To the Honorable Common Council
Zoning, Neighborhoods and
Development Committee
City of Milwaukee

Dear Committee Members:

File Nos. 080622 and 080676 are files accepting and ratifying the Federal Emergency Management Agency Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps dated September 26, 2008 for various waterways within the City of Milwaukee, and making various revisions to the City's zoning regulations for floodplains to reflect the most current version of the "Model Floodplain Ordinance" prepared by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as well as other changes suggested or requested by the WDNR and the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

These files will bring the City of Milwaukee into compliance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps ("DFIRM") dated September 26, 2008 as mandated by the Federal government. In the past, these maps were produced by FEMA and distributed on paper. FEMA is implementing a map modernization initiative to upgrade the map development process in which the maps will be created and distributed in a GIS digital format. Several actions have been taken by Common Council in the past with regard to Flood Plain District Boundaries, including:

- On June 22, 1999, the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee ("Common Council") approved the amendment of the Flood Plain District Boundary along a portion of the Menomonee River watershed.
- On November 28, 2000, the Common Council approved the amendment of the Flood Plain District Boundary along a portion of the Milwaukee River watershed.
- On November 26, 2002, the Common Council approved the amendment of the Flood Plain District Boundary along a portion of Wilson Park Creek, being a part of the Kinnickinnic River watershed.
- On November 15, 2005, the Common Council approved the amendment of the Flood Plain District Boundary along a portion of Lincoln Creek.
- On May 9, 2006, the Common Council approved Flood Plain District Boundary adjustments in the Menomonee River watershed.
- On October 1, 2008, the Zoning Code Technical Committee met and found that, with respect to legality and enforceability, administration efficiency, and consistency with the format of the zoning code, the proposed ordinance meets these standards.

On October 13, 2008, the City Plan Commission held a public hearing, and at that time nobody spoke on the files. Since the files are necessary to bring the City into compliance with FEMA mandates and since the Zoning Code Technical Committee found the files relating to revisions to the floodplain regulations to meet their requirements, the City Plan Commission at its regular meeting on October 13, 2008, recommended approval of the files.

Sincerely,

Rocky Marcoux
Executive Secretary
City Plan Commission of Milwaukee

c: E. Richardson