



**Cochise County
Community Development**

Highway and Floodplain Division

Public Programs...Personal Service
www.cochise.az.gov

DATE: December 3, 2015
TO: Flood Control District Board
FROM: Joaquin Solis, P.E., Assistant Director Highway & Floodplain J.S.
SUBJECT: **Approve the Revisions to the Floodplain Regulations Ordinance**

Recommendation: This department recommends approval of the updated Floodplain Regulations Ordinance authorizing the adoption of needed changes to the floodplain regulations.

Background (Brief): The Floodplain Regulations Ordinance was updated in January 2013. Since we are currently in the process of updating our FEMA floodplain maps, the Arizona Department of Water Resources has reviewed our regulations as part of the updating of our floodplain maps. The current rules and regulations are not in compliance with State and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requirements and in some cases vague as to exact requirements for property owners and commercial development when building within a special flood hazard area. This current draft reflects needed changes and would put us in good standing with FEMA – National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and the Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR/State liaison for FEMA).

Fiscal Impact & Funding Sources: If approved, there will be no fiscal impact.

Next Steps/Action Items/Follow-up: If approved, staff will administer development within affected areas with the new floodplain regulations.

Impact of Not Approving: Should the item not be approved, the County will be suspended from the NFIP, denial of update floodplain map revisions, and loss of our Community Rating System (CRS) rating, which provides all citizens of Cochise County a 5% discount on flood insurance.

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