

# Agenda Report

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL

**DATE:** August 7, 2006

**FROM:** CITY MANAGER

**SUBJECT:** DIRECT THE CITY ATTORNEY TO PREPARE AN ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 14.27 TO THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE TO INCLUDE FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS REQUIRED BY THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the City Council direct the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance adding Chapter 14.27 to the Pasadena Municipal Code to include Floodplain Management regulations required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency within 45 days.

## **BACKGROUND**

The City of Pasadena is a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), a Federal program enabling property owners in participating communities to purchase insurance as a protection against flood losses in exchange for State and community floodplain management regulations that reduce future flood damages. As a participant of the NFIP, the City is required to have an adopted floodplain management ordinance which meets the minimum NFIP regulations.

In March 2006, the City received notice from the State of California Department of Water Resources that new floodplain management regulations must be adopted before September 30, 2006, the date FEMA will publish a new Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map for Los Angeles County. FEMA regulations state that if a community does not adopt new floodplain management regulations or amend its existing regulations before the effective date of the flood map, the community will be suspended from the NFIP. If suspended from the program, property owners will not be able to purchase NFIP flood insurance policies and existing policies will not be renewed. Additionally, Federal disaster assistance for flood damage will be limited and certain Federal grants and loans will not be available in identified flood hazard areas.

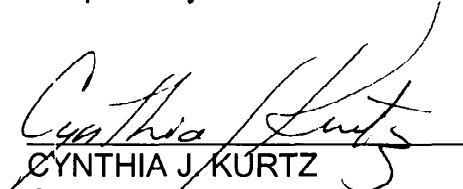
The City was provided a model floodplain management ordinance which will be incorporated, as a whole, within Title 14, Building and Construction, of the

Pasadena Municipal Code. The new regulations modify the City's standards for construction, subdivisions, new development, and utilities, and require the designation of a Floodplain Administrator, whose responsibilities include permit review and review of available flood data.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The adoption of new Federal floodplain management regulations will result in increased administrative and implementation cost to the city. The extent of new costs associated with the implementation have not yet been determined and staff will return at the time of adoption of the new ordinance with an estimate of these costs.

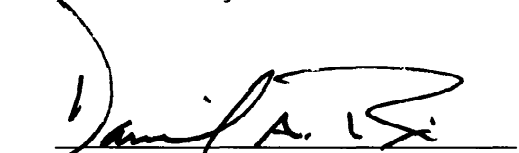
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