



Meeting Date: 05 / 05 /09

ACTION	TYPE OF ITEM
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved Recommendation	<input type="checkbox"/> Info/Consent
<input type="checkbox"/> Ord. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Report
<input type="checkbox"/> Res. No(s). _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing (Info/consent)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Study Session

Prepared By: Lou Balderrama, City Engineer

Agenda Item No. R-1

Reviewed By: City Manager [Signature]

City Attorney [Signature]

Finance [Signature]

Public Works

DATE: April 24, 2009

TO: City Council

FROM: Ken Ortega, Public Works Director
Public Works Department [Signature]

SUBJECT: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)/ Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) Public Outreach Program

RECOMMENDATION

That City Council receive a verbal presentation from the Public Works Director on the status of the FEMA/ FIRM Public Outreach Program and provide direction to the Director regarding the program.

DISCUSSION

A Santa Clara River flood insurance study (SCR FIS) prepared by FEMA has reevaluated storm water flows within the Santa Clara River. This SCR FIS replaces the analysis performed prior to implementation of the 1985 Flood Insurance Rate Map ("FIRM"). The SCR FIS reports a significantly higher base flood flow mainly from the change of river hydraulics due to material deposition in the river bottom and the collection and use of approximately 25 years of additional rainfall/runoff data. FEMA's updated maps from the SCR FIS now place numerous property owners of northwest Oxnard within the areas of special flood hazard. Property owners within the flood zone can anticipate yearly insurance premiums of approximately \$1,700 if such insurance is required by their mortgage holder. The new maps would likely become effective in late 2009 or early 2010. The City will actively pursue funding for design and construction of flood protection along the south bank of the Santa Clara between Highway 101 and the River Ridge Golf Course to improve the levee system and mitigate potential flooding during significant storm events. During the study session, the Public Works Director and the Development Services Manager will provide a presentation to Council that addresses a plan for public awareness to property owners that are financially impacted in obtaining flood insurance.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact.