

Town of Avon

60 West Main Street Avon, Connecticut 06001-3719 (860) 409-4300 • www.avonct.gov

November 15, 2023

Dear Property Owner:

I am writing to inform you that the <u>Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)</u> has identified property that you own within the Town of Avon as one that may be impacted by proposed changes to the <u>Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs)</u>. This letter is being sent to you by the Town on FEMA's behalf to provide further information and recommended next steps.

By way of background, FEMA generates flood maps as a tool to identify areas that have the highest risk of flooding. These maps are the basis of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) regulations and flood insurance requirements. In 2018, FEMA hired a consultant, CDM Smith/Compass, to assist with a flood risk study of the Farmington River Watershed which includes the Town of Avon and eighteen other Hartford County municipalities. The study utilized improved hydrologic and hydraulic analyses, new topographic and aerial imagery, and revised modeling. Preliminary FIRMs were created using this information and are now available for public review.

As your property may be impacted by the proposed changes to the FIRMs, FEMA suggests that you take the following steps at this time:

- 1. Review the preliminary maps at the FEMA Flood Map Service Center using the following link: msc.fema.gov/portal/home.
- 2. If you have questions about the preliminary maps and the impact to your property, contact the FEMA Mapping and Insurance eXchange (FMIX) Customer Care Center by calling 1-877-336-2627 or emailing FEMA-FMIX@fema.dhs.gov.
- 3. Should you wish to appeal map revisions to FEMA you may do so during the 90-day appeal period. While the appeal period has not yet begun, it is expected that it will begin in December 2023. The effective date for the new maps is tentatively scheduled for late 2024, early 2025.

On the reverse side of this letter, we have provided a document prepared by FEMA's consultant which provides further detail on the steps I have outlined above. A digital version has been posted on the Town's website at www.avonct.gov/engineering-sewer-and-gis-department should you wish to access the embedded links.

If you have any questions or need help accessing the FEMA information, please contact Lawrence Baril, P.E., GISP, Town Engineer at (860) 409-4322 or lbaril@avonct.gov.

Sincerely,

Brandon Robertson

Town Manager

Hartford, CT – Farmington Watershed: Preliminary Maps and Appeal Period

Preliminary Flood Maps were released for Hartford, CT on June 29, 2023 for public review. The updated maps were produced in coordination with local, state and FEMA officials.

How to View Your Preliminary Maps

When FEMA releases preliminary maps for your community, they are posted on the <u>FEMA Flood Map Service Center</u> (MSC). The maps can be viewed in two ways. One way is to search the MSC by entering your State, County, and Community name into the <u>Search All Products</u> screen. The second way is to search for your home or business address in the <u>Flood Map Change Viewer</u>. View the <u>Flood Map Changes Viewer Instructions</u> for more help finding your flood risk.

How to Ask Questions

The best way to get information about your new maps is contact the <u>FEMA Mapping and Insurance eXchange</u> (FMIX). Specialists at the FMIX Customer Care Center can help you with questions about flood mapping and insurance. You can reach FMIX by email or phone: FEMA-FMIX@fema.dhs.gov or 1-877-336-2627.

Where to Submit Comments

Before the maps become final, community members can raise questions or concerns about the information on the maps and participate in the 90-day appeal and comment periods. Contact your local Floodplain Administrator to review and submit your comments.

Next Steps for These Maps

After the appeal and comment period is complete, the maps will become final. When a map is final, it is adopted by your town and is used to regulate building and flood insurance for your community.

