



Update on Flood Insurance Rate Map Issues for Foster City

August 20, 2009

The City of San Mateo is continuing to work on their South Bayfront Levee Improvement Project. This project, once completed, would prevent parts of San Mateo and all of Foster City from being designated as a Special Flood Hazard Zone (Zone A – mandatory flood insurance is required for FDIC insured mortgages).

FEMA has indicated that based on their current schedule, the new Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) would become effective in September 2010. Construction of San Mateo's levee improvements is expected to begin in May 2010 and be completed by March 2011, which would result in Foster City being designated as Zone A from September 2010 until the completion of San Mateo's levee improvements project. The cities are, however, appealing to the Director of FEMA for consideration in extending the issuance of the new DFIRM to March 2011.

Additional information is listed below:

- 100% funding of the costs for San Mateo's levee improvements has been secured through the formation of an assessment district based on approximately 79% of returned ballots being in favor of the assessment district.
- A Conditional Letter of Map Revisions (CLOMR) has been secured by the City of San Mateo. The CLOMR assures that map revisions will be issued upon completion of the approved improvements.
- San Mateo has submitted permit applications to all state and federal regulatory agencies and is awaiting review and approval.
- Design consultants are under contract and design work is well underway. Completion of design is dependent on regulatory agencies' review and approval.
- The existing system of levees, lagoons and pumps that protect our communities continue to afford excellent protection from flooding, maintaining safe environments for our residents and businesses even while the levee improvements are being undertaken.

For more detailed information about the project, the Administrative Report regarding Public Hearing and Consideration of the Levy of Assessments for Proposed South Bayfront Levee and Flood Control Facilities Assessment District for the City of San Mateo (including Final Engineer's Report) is available on the San Mateo website at www.cityofsanmateo.org/DocumentView.aspx?DID=5180.