



The draft floodplain presented on www.sariverauthority.org/DraftFPM will remain draft while the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) prepares the Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Report using the draft floodplains and supporting data.

When the Preliminary FIRMs and FIS Report are published, there will be a federally mandated 90-day appeal period. The dates of the appeal period will be published in the Federal Register and in the news media. The River Authority will also notify the community through our website when the FEMA appeal period begins.

During the 90-day appeal period, any owner or lessee of real property in an impacted community who believes his or her property rights will be adversely affected by the proposed flood hazard determinations may file an appeal with their municipality's floodplain administrator. If the property is in an unincorporated area, the appeal may be filed with the county floodplain administrator.

The appeal request should present the scientific and/or technical data which demonstrates that the data in the Preliminary FIRM and/or FIS are incorrect.

The respective floodplain administrator will review and consolidate any appeal data and issue a written opinion stating whether the evidence provided is sufficient to justify an official appeal in their own name or on behalf of the interested parties. The floodplain administrator must submit the appeal data to FEMA during the 90-day appeal period.

Anyone interested in submitting an appeal is encouraged to reach out to their floodplain administrator to begin coordination early, even ahead of the 90-day appeal period. However, the appeal request cannot be finalized until the Preliminary FIRMs and FIS Report are published by FEMA.

Note that the 90-day appeal period is statutory and cannot be extended. However, FEMA will consider comments and inquiries regarding data other than the proposed flood hazard determinations (e.g., incorrect street names, typographical errors, omissions) submitted during the appeal period, and will incorporate any appropriate changes to the revised FIRM and FIS report before they become effective.

For information on the statutory 90-day period provided for appeals, please visit FEMA's website "Community Members' Guide to Initiating Map Revisions" at <https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/change-your-flood-zone/guide-community-members#appeal-comment/> or "Appeals and Comments: Information for Property Owners" at https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_appeals-comments-info-property-owners.pdf.