

## Text Version Map Adoption Process Video

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Hello - my name is Wendy Shaw, and I'm an engineer with FEMA Region X. In this video we will discuss the flood map adoption process.

When FEMA releases Preliminary Maps, this comes with a public process and appeal period to allow the constituents of the communities, that fall within the map area, to help ensure the mapping appropriately shows the flood risk.

While there has been a fair amount of work to collect the latest technical information to inform our understanding of the flood risk, it is important to provide an avenue for people that are affected by these maps to provide feedback and very specific local knowledge on these maps. The official appeal period that comes with the maps is 90 days long.

The requirement of an appeal is that it must demonstrate how and why the preliminary information is incorrect and it must be accompanied by an analysis that shows how it should have been done more correctly. This can sometimes be challenging to prove if one is not well versed in the technical models that are used so there is also the ability to provide comments to point us in the direction of why the results may not look right (the canary in the coal mine).

The bottom line is that we want to make sure we get it right. To make a change to the maps, we do need some better technical information. If one can highlight a feature that does not appear to be factored into the analysis, or if one has more detailed complete survey information, then this can sometimes be enough for us to be able to make a change. Keep in mind that the flood risk we are showing is a 1% chance flood – so this is a rare, large flood that one might not have seen in our lifetime.

If you are considering submitting an appeal or comment, we do recommend talking to our engineers first to best understand how the analysis was done and they can help speak to what information they may need to make a change. Appeals should be submitted through the community and that contact information is on the website. We have also provided an example of a form one can complete to submit a comment or appeal. One can choose to use this as it helps to provide some background for us as we try to resolve the concern, but it is not required. All appeals and comments must be submitted before the appeal period closes.

If you need more information on the process to change these maps or just to understand how this flood risk was determined, please contact us at the email shown with information on the location you are interested in and some background on what you would like to understand better – and one of our experts will contact you to talk in further depth. It is likely easiest if you provide your email and/or phone number and an address in the area you are asking about.

Thank you for your interest in making these maps as good as they can be.