

George County Board of Supervisors Community Development Office Ken Flanagan, Director

Office: 601-247-2104

Email: kflanagan@georgecountyms.gov

George County statement on FEMA floodplain notification letter

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"The George County Board of Supervisors is taking this FEMA letter and probationary period very seriously. As soon as official notification came, the Board scheduled an update with our Floodplain Administrator and placed this topic on the August 6 meeting's agenda for action.

This probation directly deals with the last of 13 properties identified during a FEMA visit and review more than three years ago. The homes or structures on these properties are in violation of the Floodplain Ordinance required by FEMA. Some of these violations are minor, such as an outside AC unit needing to be raised a few inches. But, some cases are far more difficult to fix. For example, a home needing to be raised several feet.

The County has given each of these property owners multiple notices, warnings, and as much time as possible to resolve their ordinance violations. This letter from FEMA is clearly ending this timeframe.

The Board during our August 6 meeting directed the County's Floodplain Administrator to send out a "final notice packet" to each of these property owners. Also several supervisors, including myself, agreed to personally reach out to residents on the list in a last effort.

After this warning, the Board's options will be limited. We could be forced to start proceedings to remove some of these properties from the flood insurance program. The Board will take all necessary steps to keep and safeguard flood insurance for the vast majority of our property owners in the floodplain."

Supervisor Larry McDonald, 2018 Board President

Statement Update:

- All "Final Notice Packets" have been mailed to property owners in violation of ordinance.
- The Board met on August 10 with MEMA representatives to discuss FEMA probationary period and update action plan.
- Three properties have already made required changes and are awaiting FEMA compliance approvals.

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