

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNICATION  
MARCH 16, 2021 AGENDA**

<p><b>Subject:</b></p> <p>Revisions to the Floodplain Management Ordinance.</p> <p><b>Submitted By:</b></p> <p>Public Works Department</p>	<p><b>Action Required:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">√ <b>Ordinance</b> Resolution</p>	<p><b>Approved By:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Bruce T. Moore City Manager</p>
<p><b>SYNOPSIS</b></p> <p><b>FISCAL IMPACT</b></p> <p><b>RECOMMENDATION</b></p> <p><b>BACKGROUND</b></p>	<p>An ordinance to adopt and enforce at least a one (1)-foot freeboard requirement for machinery and equipment for all residential buildings and manufactured homes constructed, placed, erected, substantially improved, and/or reconstructed due to substantial damage throughout the Special Flood Hazard Area of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas.</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Approval of the ordinance.</p> <p>The City of Little Rock is a participant in the Community Rating System (CRS), which is a voluntary program that provides Flood Insurance premium discounts to communities that implement programs and measures that exceed the Minimum Floodplain Management Requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program. The CRS determines discounts based on credit points provided for floodplain management activities.</p> <p>On January 1, 2021, CRS implemented a new Class 8 prerequisite for freeboard for all participating and new CRS communities in order to maintain a Class 8 or better community in CRS.</p>	

**BACKGROUND  
CONTINUED**

To conform with this revision, the City of Little Rock must adopt and enforce at least a one (1)-foot freeboard requirement for machinery and equipment for all residential buildings including manufactured homes constructed, placed, erected, substantially improved, and/or reconstructed due to substantial damage throughout the Special Flood Hazard Area, where base flood elevations have been determined on the Flood Insurance Rate Map or in the Flood Insurance Study, except those areas that receive open space credit under Activity 420 (Open Space Preservation). City Code currently requires at least a one (1)-foot freeboard for finished floor elevations of residential buildings and manufactured homes; however, the Code does not go as far to require at least a one (1)-foot freeboard for servicing residential machinery and equipment such as HVAC units and associated equipment, electrical panels, meters, and other mechanical, electrical or electronic devices.

The adoption of this revision will maintain the opportunity for the City of Little Rock to maintain at least a Class 8 CRS Rating. Staff recommends approval of Floodplain Management Ordinance revisions requiring at least a one (1) foot freeboard for machinery and equipment associated with residential buildings and manufactured home in zones A, AE, A1-30, AH, and AO of the City of Little Rock Special Flood Hazard Area.