


*Robert Cennamo*

FROM	NAME & TITLE	Robert Cennamo, Budget Director	CITY of BALTIMORE <b>MEMO</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Finance Room 432, City Hall		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 21-0040 – Floodplain Management Code-Revision		

TO

DATE:

The Honorable President and  
Members of the City Council  
City Hall, Room 400

May 4, 2021

**Position: Does Not Oppose**

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 21-0040, Floodplain Management Code-Revision, the purpose of which is to modify the City's floodplain management laws and to meet or exceed requirements of eligibility in the National Flood Insurance Program and other requirements of federal and State law.

**Background**

This legislation aims to address recent updates from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to the Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM). In addition, this legislation will update the City's floodplain policy based on FEMA requirements that will make the Code more transparent and implementable, thereby clarifying its intention and likely eliminate the need for a manual for implementation.

These updates must be in effect by June 16, 2021, per FEMA, in order to maintain the City's participation in the National Flood Insurance Program, which provides City residents the opportunity to enroll in federally subsidized flood insurance.

**Fiscal Impact Analysis**

The Department of Finance does not anticipate a fiscal impact to the City from this bill. However, if this bill is not in effect by June 16, the City will not be able to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) which is a Federal program that allows property owners in participating communities to purchase insurance protection against losses from flooding, and thus will have to join private Floodplain insurance group.

**Other Considerations**

In general, the Department of Finance supports the bill and urge that it be passed and codify on the date it is signed by the Mayor to avoid missing the FEMA June 16<sup>th</sup> deadline.

**Conclusion**

This legislation modifies the City's floodplain Code to address recent updates from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which must be in effect by June 16, 2021. There is not anticipated cost for the implementation of this legislation.

**For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance does not oppose City Council Bill 21-0040.**

cc: Natasha Mehu  
Nina Themelis