



# LOWELL REGIONAL WASTEWATER UTILITY

WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND TREATMENT



MARK A. YOUNG  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SERVING LOWELL  
CHELMSFORD  
DRACUT  
TEWKSBURY  
TYNGSBORO

TO: Eileen Donoghue, City Manager *EMD*

FROM: Mark A Young, Executive Director *M.A.Y.*

DATE: March 28, 2019

SUBJ: C. Cirillo – Request City Manager provide an update to Council regarding Status of the LOMR process with FEMA

The Wastewater Utility and the engineering firm of Hazen and Sawyer are coordinating a mail response to the appropriate citizens impacted by the Letter Of Map Revision (LOMR) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

These letters will be mailed certified and sent out the week of April 1st. The mailing will include the attached cover letter to explain the timeline and next steps the citizens can take, and the Letter Of Map Revision from FEMA.

The good news for those citizens is that the Letter Of Map Revision revises the local Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and is effective May 9, 2019.

Dear *[Property Owner]*,

Recently, the City of Lowell completed repairs to a flood pump station near Lakeview Avenue and West Street. The West Street Pump Station is part of a Flood Damage Reduction (FDR) system that was built in the Centralville neighborhood by the US Army Corps of Engineers (Army Corps) in 1941.

For several years, the city has been working with the Army Corps and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in order to make repairs to this FDR system. Now that the pump station is operational, FEMA is updating its local Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) in order to more accurately reflect the current flood risks in areas adjacent to the FDR system.

Enclosed is a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) that revises the local FIRM, effective May 9, 2019. Please use the annotated map panels enclosed in the LOMR for flood management purposes, and for all flood insurance policies and renewals in the affected areas within Lowell. As a result of these flood map revisions, some property owners may realize lower flooding risks associated with their properties.

Once these flood map revisions are in effect, certain mortgage holders may relax their requirements for flood insurance. If so, property owners may have the option to voluntarily maintain flood insurance at a significantly lower premium, or reconsider the need for continuing to purchase flood insurance in order to protect their property's value. The City is not recommending that you cancel your flood insurance, but rather making you aware that your lender may no longer require that you have flood insurance once the FIRM is updated.

Individual property owners are encouraged to initiate a conversation with their insurance agents and mortgage holders about their flood insurance needs. You are also invited to visit the following website in order to learn more about the local flood map revisions: [floodmap.lowellma.gov](http://floodmap.lowellma.gov). If you have any questions or concerns about the proposed revisions or the effects on your property, please contact me (978-674-1675) or Engineering Manager Mike Stuer (978-674-1606).

Sincerely,

Mark A. Young  
Executive Director  
Lowell Wastewater Utility