

## **ASFPM Updates**

Bill Nechamen, CFM Region 1 Chapter Coordinator, ASFPM Board of Directors October, 2019



#### **ASFPM'S MISSION**

Mitigate the losses, costs, and human suffering caused by flooding.

and...





Protect the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains.



#### So Let's Talk

- National Policy Issues Status
- ASFPM Research and Services
- ASFPM and State Chapters



#### What does ASFPM do?



- ✓ National and State Policy Issues
- ✓ National CFM® Certification
- ✓ Develop Tools, Publications, & Resources for State and Local Floodplain Managers
- ✓ No Adverse Impact (NAI)
- ✓ Conferences & Events
- ✓ Training (ASFPM Webinar Series)
- ✓ Research
- ✓ National Flood Barrier Testing and Certification Program



The broad problem of flood-loss reduction is that the rate at which flood losses are being eliminated by construction of engineering or land-treatment works is of about the same magnitude as the rate at which new property is being subjected to damage. - GFW





## Federal Budget (FY20)



Program	Administration	House	Senate
FEMA -Flood Mapping	\$100 m	\$263	\$148
FEMA – Pre Disaster Mitigation (PDM)	<b>\$0 m</b>	\$0	\$0
FEMA – Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)	\$175 m	\$175	\$175

- Record mapping funding from House!, but \$115 million cut in Senate
- PDM changes to formula program in FY20



#### **NFIP Reauthorization**

- NFIP expires 11/21/19.
- House bill HR 3167 and HR 3111 passed out of committee
  - Comprehensive bill, ASFPM supports
- Senate bill S 2187 introduced in July, similar to SAFE Act that was introduced last Congress
  - Comprehensive bill, ASFPM supports elements of the bill
- Similarities:
  - Positive changes to ICC (increase to 60K and allow payments in addition to claim amount)
  - State revolving loan fund for mitigation
  - Assistance to lower income property owners
  - Caps annual increases on flood insurance premiums
  - Begins to address urban flooding issue



#### **NFIP** Reauthorization

#### Differences

- House bill doesn't address debt; Senate bill would use interest payments for mitigation
- House bill authorizes \$500 million for flood mapping;
   Senate bill remains at \$400 million
- House bill has authorization for CAP-SSSE program and doubles its funding from current levels; Senate bill doesn't have this
- House bill has provisions for dealing with agricultural buildings from both a floodplain management and insurance standpoint
- ASFPM developed/updated Principles and Priorities documents for reform.



# Disaster Reform and Recovery Act (DRRA)

- Signed into law in October 5, 2018 it has several sections positively impacting floodplain management and hazard mitigation:
  - Sec 1206 allows for reimbursement through Public Assistance of mutual aid assistance for substantial damage and building inspections post-disaster (this is language ASFPM wanted in law)
  - Increases allowable grantee and subgrantee management costs under HMGP and PA; this will help build capability
  - Authorizes the availability of HMGP for fire management (FMAG) disaster declarations and identifies several specific types of eligible mitigation activities that impact flood risk management
  - Authorizes hazard mitigation assistance as part of Economic Development Administration economic adjustment grants
  - Deems that a disaster loan is not a duplication of benefits



# Disaster Reform and Recovery Act (DRRA)

- Big changes for the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program which will be called BRIC:
  - Authorizes new technical/financial assistance category for establishing, implementing, and enforcing latest building codes
  - Gives FEMA authority to withdraw PDM assistance and provide it to other states through a competitive program if awarded funds are not obligated in 3 years from initial obligation.
  - Adds two new criteria for PDM award selection/assistance which are to what extent has the applicant adopted and enforced the latest building codes and to what extent will the project increase the level of the community's resiliency
  - Changes the funding for PDM to a formula based on 6% of estimated disaster costs.



## Other FY20 Legislation

- Digital Coast Act (S. 1069, H.R. 2189)
  - Introduced in both House and Senate. Passed Senate unanimously last Congress, we are hopeful!
- Water Resource Development Act
  - ASFPM participated in kickoff hearing in July
  - Congress wants to maintain schedule of WRDA every two years
- Reforming Disaster Recovery Act (H.R. 3702)
  - Codifies the CDBG-DR program
  - Establishes an Office of Disaster Recovery and Resilient Communities in HUD
  - Focuses on technical assistance and capacity building for local governments
  - Sen Schatz is co-sponsor of Senate version.



## Non-Traditional Resources for Flood Risk Reduction





#### **NFBTCP**

## National Flood Barrier Testing and Certification Program

- Challenge: High demand for reliable flood mitigation solutions
- Opportunity: Manufacturers
  have the means to obtain thirdparty certification with the
  National Flood Barrier Testing &
  Certification Program
- Benefit: Product differentiation by proving it meets consensus standard and the national program's rigorous protocol



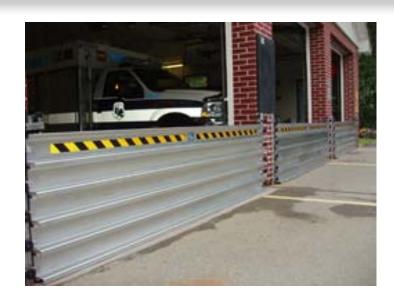
Temporary (Perimeter) Barrier, Certified Silver Level



#### **NFBTCP**

## National Flood Barrier Testing and Certification Program

- Currently tests/certifies:
  - Perimeter barriers
  - Opening barriers
  - Backwater valves
  - Mitigation (flood abatement) pumps
  - Sealants

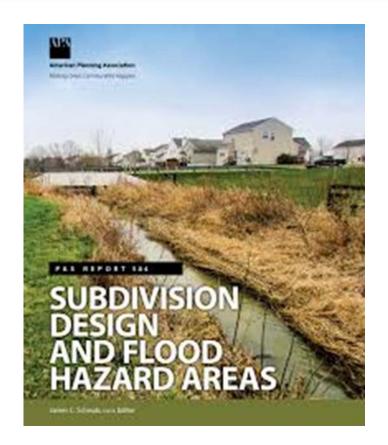


Closure Device (Opening Barrier), Certified Platinum Level



### **PAS 584**

- Subdivision Design and Flood Hazard Areas
  - Collaboration between APA and ASFPM
  - Companion to 1997 report with the same name
  - Recommends over 60 standards that can be used to maximize flood loss reduction
  - PAS report available for free on FEMA's website





#### **General Principles**

- 1. Maintain natural and beneficial functions of the floodplain
- 2. Adopt a No Adverse Impact Approach to Floodplain Management
- 3. Avoid New Development in the Floodplain Whenever Feasible
- Focus on Data-Driven Decision
   Making to Assess Risk and Inform
   Decisions
- Consider Future Conditions of the Floodplain Including Development Impacts and Climate Change





## No Adverse Impact (NAI)

- Even if we perfectly implement the current standards, damages will increase because we are putting development in the path of disaster.
- No Adverse Impact (NAI) is an approach that ensures that the action of any community or property owner, public or private, does not adversely impact the property and rights of others.





## **Benefits of the NAI Approach**

- Will reduce future flood damages
- Will reduce future suffering
- Will protect the communities natural resources and amenities
- Will improve the quality of life
- Will provide for more sustainable growth within the community
- Will reduce the community's liability



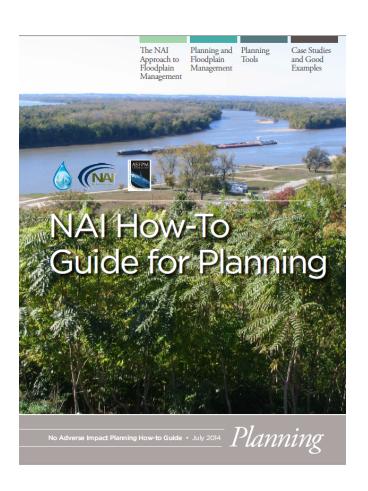




#### **NAI How-To Guides**

#### Features:

- 5 NAI level tools in each guide
- Case studies and "How-To" information
- Based on 7 building blocks in NAI Toolkit:
  - Mitigation
  - Infrastructure
  - Planning
  - Education / Outreach
  - Regulations
  - Emergency Services
  - Mapping





## **ASFPM Legal Research**

#### Liability

- Successful suits against communities result from actions such as inadequate construction or inadequate maintenance of dams, levees, roads, and bridges which increase flood damages on other lands.
- "Act of God" defense is less and less defensible. Even rare floods are predictable. As are residual risks from levees and dams.
- If a community permits development that results in an adverse impact, your community may be liable, even if you meet code standards.



## **ASFPM Legal Research**

#### **Takings**

 No cases found where a landowner prevailed in a regulatory takings suit against a community's denial of use, where the proposed use would have had any substantial offsite impacts or threatened public safety.

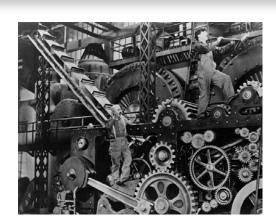


 Courts have broadly supported restrictive regulations for high risk flood areas based upon public safety, nuisance prevention, public trust and other concerns.



#### In the Works!

- Capital Improvement Planning for future flood conditions (partnership with APA)
- Update of Elected Officials Guide to Addressing Community Flood Problems
- Post-flood compliance and building local (community) capacity
- Historic flood documentation
- Research into effectiveness of floodways
- Update cost model for finishing mapping in the nation
- Monthly National Policy Briefing (new benefit)





#### **ASFPM Science Services**

- https://www.floodsciencecenter.org/
- Navigate to On-Going Programs and Projects – Too Many to Mention All
  - ASFPM Flood Resource Library
  - Benefits of 2D Modeling
  - Building Coastal Resilience
  - Floodplain Management 273 Course
  - Flood Mapping for the Nation
  - New Mapping Open House Analysis
  - State to State Mentoring



## **ASFPM Chapter Services**

- Dedicated Staff Member Gigi Trebatoski
  - gigi@floods.org
- Chapter Newsletter & Quarterly Calls
- Back up of Chapter's essential docs
- Resources for Chapters on ASFPM Website
- Chapters Meeting at ASFPM Conference



## **ASFPM Chapter Services**

- Speaker at Chapter Conferences
- Marketing through ASFPM Events Calendar
- Access to ASFPM Membership Directory
- Discounted Pricing for ASFPM Webinars
- ASFPM Conference Registration at Member Rate for 2 Chapter Reps
- Training Assistance



## **ASFPM Chapter Services**

- Public Policy Assistance
  - Chapter Alerts
  - Assistance with Chapter Topical Calls
  - Use of ASFPM Committee Reports
- Permission to reprint ASFPM newsletter articles with attribution
- Chapter to Chapter Newsletter Sharing
- Chapter vote in ASFPM elections
- Chapter Directors (me!)



## Improving Chapter Services

- As Chapter Director, along with the four other chapter directors across the country, we would like to know how ASFPM can better serve you
- ASFPM and State Chapters need each other!
  - Chapters gain from ASFPM full time staff and policy deep dives
  - Chapter concerns help guide ASFPM



#### Some Ideas

- Chapter to Chapter Mentoring Program
- Improving Inter-Chapter Dialogue
- Online Forum
- Training Curriculum for Chapter Use
- Speakers Bureau
- Handouts for Chapter Use
- Assistance w/ Chapter Conf Registrations
- Technology Assistance for Webinars
- Assistance with Outreach to Elected Officials
- Other?



#### Thank You

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