



**City of Missoula, Montana  
City Council Committee Agenda item**

**Committee:** Land Use and Planning

**Item:** Ordinance Amending Title 18 Floodplain Hazard Management Regulations

**Date:** September 21, 2023

**Sponsor(s):** Community Planning, Development, and Innovation

**Prepared by:** Cassie Tripard, Planning Supervisor and City Floodplain Administrator

**Ward(s) Affected:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 4
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 5
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All Wards	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

**Action Required:**

9/27 LUP: Schedule City Council first reading of an ordinance generally amending Title 18, The City of Missoula Floodplain Hazard Management Regulations.

**Timeline and Recommended Motions:**

**Committee:** September 27, 2023

**Recommended Motion:** Set first reading on October 2, 2023 to preliminarily adopt an ordinance generally amending Title 18, Missoula Municipal Code, the City of Missoula Floodplain Hazard Management Regulations, to incorporate revisions to Appendix A depicting updated Flood Insurance Studies and Map Revisions, and to incorporate revisions to Sections 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 1.7, 2, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 6.1, 8.4, 9.10, 9.13, 9.15, 10.2, 10.3, and 10.4 in alignment with the updated Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) model ordinance.

**City Council Consent Agenda:** October 2, 2023

**Recommended Motion:** [First reading and preliminary adoption] Set a public hearing on October 16, 2023 and preliminarily adopt an ordinance generally amending Title 18, Missoula Municipal Code, the City of Missoula Floodplain Hazard Management Regulations, to incorporate revisions to Appendix A depicting updated Flood Insurance Studies and Map Revisions, and to incorporate revisions to Sections 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 1.7, 2, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 6.1, 8.4, 9.10, 9.13, 9.15, 10.2, 10.3, and 10.4 in alignment with the updated Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) model ordinance, and refer the item to Land Use and Planning Committee on October 4, 2023.

**Committee:** October 4, 2023

**Recommended Motion:** No motion. Informational presentation and discussion on the proposed ordinance.

City Council Public Hearing  
& Final Consideration:  
Recommended motion:

October 16, 2023

[Second and final reading] (Adopt/Deny) an ordinance generally amending Title 18, Missoula Municipal Code, the City of Missoula Floodplain Hazard Management Regulations, to incorporate revisions to Appendix A depicting updated Flood Insurance Studies and Map Revisions, and to incorporate revisions to Sections 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 1.7, 2, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 6.1, 8.4, 9.10, 9.13, 9.15, 10.2, 10.3, and 10.4 in alignment with the updated Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) model ordinance. The effective date of the ordinance is 30 days after adoption.

**Background:**

Community Planning, Development, and Innovation is proposing an ordinance to update Title 18, the Floodplain Hazard Management Regulations. The Clark Fork and Bitterroot River floodplain remapping project is still in process. However, the updated mapping for the Clearwater River is being adopted by Missoula County. The Clearwater River and associated floodplain are not within City limits. Missoula County and the City of Missoula share a flood insurance study (FIS). A flood insurance study contains the detailed studies and base flood elevation cross sections for a community. The Clearwater River mapping update is resulting in a new flood insurance study and map index numbers. The regulatory data for property within City limits will not be changing with the new flood insurance study. Title 18 references the current effective flood insurance study and flood insurance rate maps (FIRMs) in Appendix A. Updates to Title 18 are necessary to reference the new study and new index maps. Additionally, a Letter of Map Revision for a portion of Butler Creek was approved by FEMA. The ordinance will also amend Appendix A to reference the Butler Creek Letter of Map Revision.

In addition to updating Appendix A, the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) is requiring language updates to the regulations. These updates mostly include revising and adding definitions to provide more guidance and clarity. Amendments to Sections 4, 6, and 8 of the regulations result in more legible language and better explanations of current processes. CPDI is also including amendments to correct typographical and organization errors in the regulations.

For more information on specific text amendments, view the explanations in the attached draft ordinance.

**Financial Implications:**

None.