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# City Code Chapter 18-52 Flood Damage Protection Ordinance Amendments

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Planning and Economic Development

- Santa Rosa City Code 18-52 Flood Damage Protection is the local operational/physical element of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) under FEMA
- The Ordinance sets-forth requirements for construction and development within designated flood-prone areas



- FEMA has recently completed a Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for areas within Sonoma County and primarily outside Santa Rosa.
- The study was focused on Todd Creek and its tributary areas
- In a letter from Rachel Sears, Director of the Floodplain Management Division, Mitigation Directorate, FEMA; it was noted: “no significant changes have been made to the flood hazard data on the FIRM”
- The FIS and FIRM will become effective July 19, 2022, necessitating the adoption of changes to our local Ordinance to maintain participation in the National Flood Insurance Program

# Changes to the Ordinance

- The majority of changes are to provide clarifying terms, definitions and procedural requirements

## **Highlighted Changes**

- Addition of the definition of Recreational Vehicle
- Addition of standards for locating recreational vehicles in designated flood-prone areas
- Procedural clarifications for applying requirements to development within flood-prone areas
- Addition of one technical requirement to require establishment of floor elevations in flood-prone areas to be 1-foot above the base flood elevation (BFE)

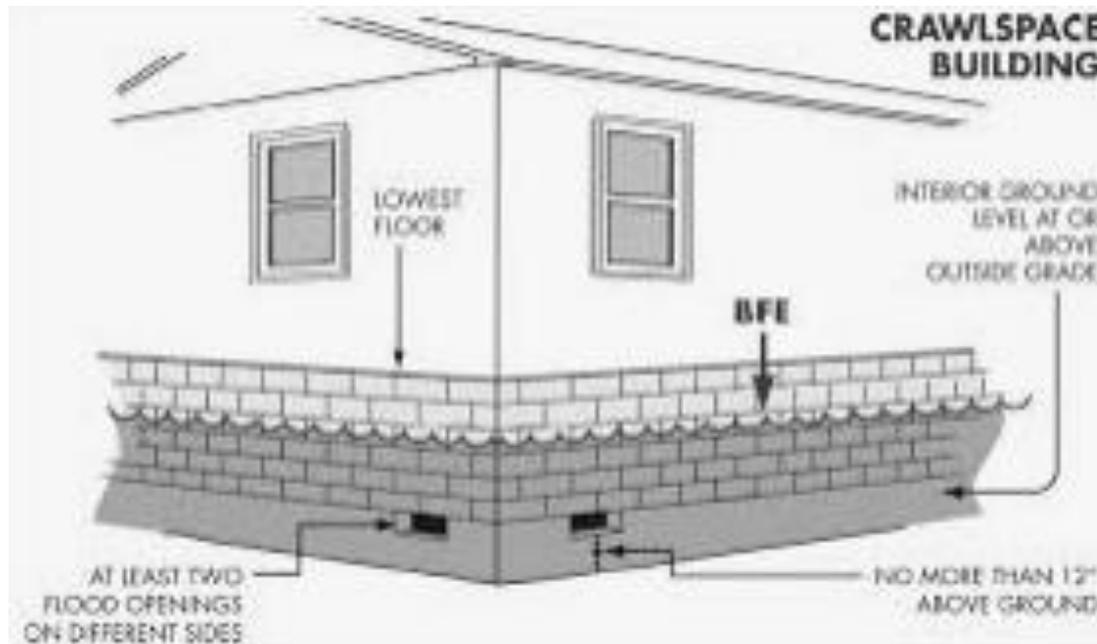
## Technical Change to the Ordinance Example

- Old requirement – Lowest floor at or above BFE



## Technical Change to the Ordinance Example

- New requirement – Lowest floor at or above 1-foot above BFE (commonly-termed “Freeboard”)



It is recommended by the Planning and Economic Development Department that the Council, by resolution:

- 1.) Introduce an Ordinance adopting amended City Code Chapter 18-52, Flood Damage Protection to comply with regulatory requirements that our ordinance coincide with 44 Code of Federal Regulations 60.3. , and
- 2.) Adopt a resolution setting a public hearing on July 12, 2022, for adoption of the Ordinance.