



## THE CITY OF KEY WEST

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May 14, 2021

Mapping Partner  
c/o Michael Taylor  
AECOM  
1360 Peachtree Street Northeast, Suite 500  
Atlanta, Georgia 30309

RE: Appeal, City of Key West [120168]

Dear Mr. Taylor:

The City of Key West has been working with Woods Hole Group to review and prepare an appeal of the preliminary FEMA flood maps that were issued on December 27, 2019. Our appeal contains a wealth of scientific and technical data, and its submission falls within the 90-day appeal period that commenced on March 19, 2021.

Through its own extensive independently engineered research, the City finds FEMA's proposed flood hazard determinations are scientifically and technically incorrect. They were inappropriately based upon mainland storm modeling covering large areas with geographic and topographic features quite unlike our Florida Keys island community, lacked certain critical model validations, contained errors, and did not employ the best available and most recent scientific data and information.

Our appeal includes an alternative set of flood maps that we urge FEMA to accept in lieu of its proposed maps. These alternative maps were specifically modeled for our unique location and topography, include model validations where none existed, correct for errors, and incorporate the best and most recent scientific data from Hurricane Irma (2017) that was not considered while drafting FEMA's proposed maps.

The attached report from Woods Hole Group details our appeal. This letter serves as notification that the City of Key West - with assistance from Woods Hole Group - is appealing the preliminary flood maps. Please include staff from Woods Hole Group and the City of Key West in any communication regarding this appeal. WHG's contact:

Nadine Sweeney, Executive Assistant  
Woods Hole Group  
107 Waterhouse Road, Bourne, MA 02532  
Tel: 508-495-6207  
Fax: 508-540-1001  
nsweeney@woodsholegroup.com  
www.woodsholegroup.com

The attached report and supporting information can be accessed through Woods Hole Group's FTP site below:

[REDACTED]

An external hard drive including the entire appeal and all supporting updates to FEMA's TSDN is also being sent to your attention via UPS.

Scott G. Fraser

Scott G. Fraser, CFM  
Floodplain Administrator

Cc: Teri Johnston, Mayor City of Key West

*Key to the Caribbean – average yearly temperature 77 ° Fahrenheit.*