



# Chatham County, NC

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 17-2256, **Version:** 1

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A request by the Planning Department to schedule a legislative public hearing for August 21, 2017 at 6:00 PM to adopt revisions to the Chatham County Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.

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### **Action Requested:**

### **Introduction & Background:**

Chatham County entered into the Flood Damage Prevention program in February 1997, which makes property owners eligible for flood insurance. The ordinance is based on a model provided by the NC Department of Emergency Management (NCDEM) with modifications specific to Chatham County. Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) are also provided by NCDEM, in coordination with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), to establish the regulatory floodplain boundaries. The FIRMs are periodically updated with the most recent revisions becoming effective in 2007.

### **Discussion & Analysis:**

On May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the FEMA provided the County Manager a notice that final flood hazard determinations had been made by the agency. FEMA received no requests for changes in the flood hazard determinations made in the preliminary Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and proposed Flood Insurance Rate Map, which were published on August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The effective date for the modified flood hazard information and revised FIRM panels is November, 17<sup>th</sup> 2017. As a condition of continued eligibility in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), Chatham County is required to adopt floodplain management regulations that meet the standards of Section 60.3(d) of the NFIP regulations by November, 17<sup>th</sup> 2017. The North Carolina Division of Emergency Management has revised their Flood Damage Prevention Model Ordinance to reflect the floodplain management regulations that meet the standards of Section 60.3(d) of the NFIP regulations. The current Chatham County Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance is modeled after an earlier version of the NCDEM model ordinance, and therefore, must be revised to reflect the changes to the NCDEM model ordinance, in order to allow Chatham County to remain eligible in the NFIP.

None of the changes to the NCDEM model ordinance will impact how Chatham County currently regulates flood hazard areas. The day-to-day floodplain administration of Chatham County should remain the same.

### **Recommendation:**

The Planning Department recommends that the Board of Commissioners set a public hearing date for August 21, 2017 to adopt revisions to the Chatham County Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.