



Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

NOV 9 1999

**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

The Honorable Kim Muller
Mayor of the City of Oneonta
City Hall
258 Main Street
Oneonta, New York 13820-2589

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Case Number: 00-02-005P
Community Name: City of Oneonta,
Otsego County, New York
Community Number: 360667
Map Panel Number: 360667 0005
Effective Date of
this Revision: **MAY 9 2000**

102-D

Dear Mayor Muller:

The Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for the City of Oneonta, Otsego County, New York, has been revised by this Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) to reflect an updated analysis of the flood hazards affecting the area known as the Sixth Ward. The Sixth Ward is in the vicinity of the confluence of Mill Race with the Susquehanna River and is bordered by an existing levee along Mill Race to the west, Interstate Route 88 to the south, and a railroad embankment to the north. This revision also affects flood hazard information for the Town of Oneonta, Otsego County, New York. This revision was initiated as a result of a March 11, 1999, letter from The Honorable Sherwood Boehlert, Member of Congress, to The Honorable James L. Witt, Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), requesting that the necessary steps be taken to provide the city with a FIRM that would provide a more accurate description of the flood hazards in the city. Following that request, FEMA coordinated with the city to compile the necessary technical data to support a revision to the FIRM. The coordination included a field inspection and meeting with your community, held on August 20, 1999.

We received the following technical data from Mr. Joseph A. Bernier, Community Development Director and Engineering Administrator for the City of Oneonta, in support of this revision:

- for both of the drainage subbasins located within the independent watershed defined by the boundaries of the Sixth Ward, we received the following:
 - a hydrologic analysis, using TP-40, of the 1% (100-year) annual chance flood discharges; and
 - a hydraulic analysis, using Bernoulli's equation, of the capacity of the storm drainage system;
- a hydraulic analysis of overland flow in the subject area, determining that overland flow resulting from the portion of the 1% annual chance flood discharge not contained in the storm drainage system would result in average depths of less than 1 foot along the streets and be conveyed to a storage area located to the south of Wilcox Avenue;

- a report, titled Application of Geology, Soils and Hydrology, for Land-use Interpretation in the Oneonta and Silver Creek Watersheds, Oneonta, N.Y., dated February 17, 1981, which included detailed information about the geological composition and hydrological aspects of the subject area;
- a copy of a U.S. Geological Survey 7.5-minute series topographic quadrangle, titled Oneonta, New York, dated 1982, at a scale of 1:24,000, with a contour interval of 20 feet, showing the topography of the Sixth Ward;
- a map, dated February 12, 1998, titled City of Oneonta N.Y.S.D.O.T. Urban Area Map Overprint, at a scale of 1"=800', showing the boundaries of the Sixth Ward and the two drainage subbasins located within the Sixth Ward, and the locations of the federally designated wetlands located within the City and Town of Oneonta;
- a set of certified plans, titled Sixth Ward Drainage Project, dated December 1, 1975, showing details of the storm drainage system, spot elevations along the system at inlet points, detailed profiles of the storm drainage system, and cross sections and dimensions of the pipes used in the system; and
- a set of plans, titled Levee Construction Adjacent To Route I-88 In Oneonta, dated January 5, 1987, showing details of the levee constructed along Mill Race and providing the location and elevation information for the culverts under Interstate Route 88 that serve as the outlet points for the storm drainage system in the Sixth Ward.

Based on our review of the submitted data, we are issuing this LOMR to reflect the reclassification to a Zone B of a portion of the Sixth Ward floodplain. This reclassification represents an area subject to 100-year flooding with average depths less than one foot and contributing drainage areas of less than one square mile. This LOMR revises the City of Oneonta FIRM number 360667, panel 0005 B, dated September 29, 1978, as shown on the enclosed digitally reproduced portions of the FIRM. This revision does not involve any floodway changes; therefore we are not enclosing an annotated Flood Boundary and Floodway Map.

We based this determination on the 1% annual chance flood discharges computed in the aforementioned hydrologic analyses. Future development of projects upstream could cause increased flood discharges, which could cause increased flood hazards. A comprehensive restudy of your community's flood hazards would consider the cumulative effects of development on flood discharges and could, therefore, establish greater flood hazards in this area.

Your community must approve all proposed floodplain development and ensure that permits required by Federal and State law have been obtained. State or community officials, based on knowledge of local conditions and in the interest of safety, may set higher standards for construction or may limit development in floodplain areas. If the State of New York or the City of Oneonta has adopted more restrictive or comprehensive floodplain management criteria, those

criteria take precedence over the minimum National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requirements.

Because of funding constraints, we must limit the number of map republications. Consequently, we will not republish the FIRM to reflect this determination. However, we will incorporate this determination when we next republish FIRM panel 0005.

We will not print and distribute this LOMR to primary users, such as local insurance agents or mortgage lenders; instead, the community will serve as a repository for the new data. We encourage you to disseminate the information in this LOMR by preparing a news release for publication in your community's newspaper that describes the revision and explains how your community will provide the data and help interpret the NFIP maps. In that way, interested persons, such as property owners, insurance agents, and mortgage lenders, can benefit from the information.

We have enclosed a document titled "List of Current Flood Insurance Study Data," which includes this letter, to help your community maintain all information for floodplain management and flood insurance. If any of the items in that document are not filed in your community's map repository, please contact the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Map Assistance Center toll-free at 1-877-FEMA MAP (336-2627), for information on how to obtain those items.

We have made this determination pursuant to Section 206 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) and in accordance with the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended (Title XIII of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, P.L. 90-448), 42 U.S.C. 4001-4128, and 44 CFR Part 65.

Within 6 months from the date of this letter, your community must adopt, or show evidence of adoption of, floodplain management regulations that meet the standards of Paragraph 60.3(d) of the NFIP regulations as a condition of continued eligibility in the NFIP. These standards are the minimum requirements for continued NFIP participation and do not supersede more stringent State or local requirements. Your community must enact all of the standards specified in Paragraph 60.3(d) of the NFIP regulations in a legally enforceable document, including adopting the current FIRM and the modifications made by this LOMR. Your community should have enacted some of the standards already, as a condition of eligibility. Your community must meet any additional requirements by either:

- amending existing regulations to incorporate any additional requirements of Paragraph 60.3(d);
- adopting all of the standards of Paragraph 60.3(d) into one new, comprehensive set of regulations; or
- showing evidence that regulations have previously been adopted that meet or exceed the minimum requirements of Paragraph 60.3(d).

We have designated a Consultation Coordination Officer (CCO) to assist your community enact the floodplain management regulations. The CCO will be the primary liaison between your

community and us. Your CCO is the Program Specialist at our Region II Office, and can be contacted at the following address:

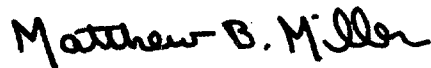
Mr. Michael Dabney, Director
FEMA, Mitigation Division
26 Federal Plaza, Room 1351
New York, New York 10278

We suspend from the NFIP communities that fail to enact the necessary floodplain management regulations. Suspended communities are subject to the prohibitions contained in Section 202(a) of the Act, as amended.

Use the map panel listed above and revised by this letter for all flood insurance policies and renewals issued in your community. This revision will be effective 6 months from the date of this letter; however, you may accelerate the effective date by submitting to your CCO earlier than the 6-month requirement evidence that the aforementioned actions have been taken.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Director, Mitigation Division of FEMA in New York, New York, at (212) 225-7200, or Philip M. Myers, Project Engineer, Hazards Study Branch, Mitigation Directorate, at our Headquarters Office in Washington, D.C., at (202) 646-2755, or by facsimile at (202) 646-4596.

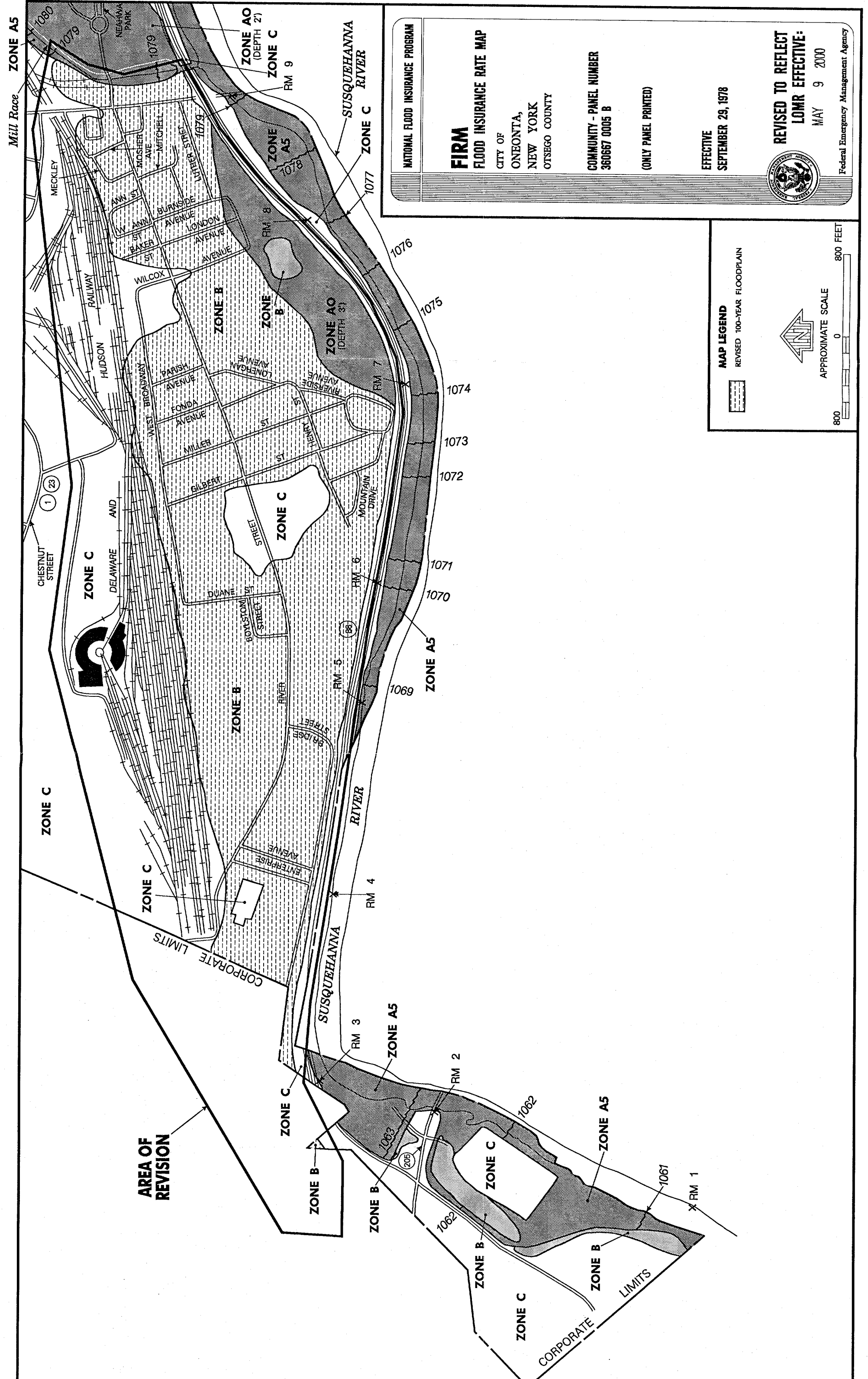
Sincerely,



Matthew B. Miller, P.E., Chief
Hazards Study Branch
Mitigation Directorate

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Joseph A. Bernier
State Coordinator



LIST OF CURRENT FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY DATA

This list is provided to document all information currently effective for your community for insurance and floodplain management.

Date: **NOV 9 1999**
Community: City of Oneonta, Otsego County, New York
Community Number: 360667
Page Number: 1 of 1

CURRENT EFFECTIVE FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY DATE: September 29, 1978

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

<u>Panel Number</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
0005 B	September 29, 1978

FLOOD BOUNDARY AND FLOODWAY MAP

<u>Panel Number</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
0005 B	September 29, 1978

LETTERS OF MAP REVISION

<u>Panel Number</u>	
0005 B	MAY 9 2000

LETTERS OF MAP AMENDMENT AND MAP REVISION BASED ON FILL

None

BEST AVAILABLE DATA LETTERS

None