



**FEMA**

May 13, 2019

The Honorable Tim Keller  
Mayor, City of Albuquerque  
1 Civic Plaza Northwest  
Albuquerque, NM 87102

RE: National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP); Community Assistance Visit (CAV)

Dear Mayor Keller:

This letter advises you of the results of the CAV meeting conducted by Trey Rozelle, FEMA Floodplain Management & Insurance Specialist and Veronica Chavez, New Mexico NFIP State Coordinator, on March 15, 2019. During the visit, Mr. Rozelle and Ms. Chavez met with Doug Hughes, PE, CFM, Albuquerque Principal Engineer, to discuss Albuquerque's participation in the NFIP. A CAV is a comprehensive study of a community's program. CAV's consist of a field review of the identified Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), review of permits for recent SFHA development, review of the Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance (FDPO), and a meeting with local officials.

As discussed in the March 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, there are two items which must be addressed for the completion of a CAV. For the Albuquerque CAV specifically:

1. The first CAV item is verification of NFIP compliance for development identified in the tour of the SFHA. I ask to receive within 30 days of the date of this letter, copies of the floodplain development permits and as-built documentation for two residential structures and a retaining wall in the Signal Avenue subdivision. Mr. Rozelle and Mr. Hughes discussed these cases and more information is enclosed.
2. The second CAV item was a review of Albuquerque's FDPO. We found the FDPO in good order, it does meet the minimum criteria of the NFIP.

After the above-mentioned reviews are completed with findings of compliance we will close the CAV. That status will assure the continued availability of NFIP policies within the City of Albuquerque. Mr. Rozelle and Ms. Chavez were impressed with the competency and expertise of Albuquerque's floodplain management team and appreciate the attention to detail realized in permit files and construction documentation. We also appreciate the implementation of higher standards which effectively reduce future flood damages in Albuquerque.

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For your information, there are currently 750 NFIP policies in force within the City of Albuquerque, providing \$202 million in coverage. Policyholders filed 53 claims since 1974, resulting in total claim payments of \$1.18 million. Your class 8 rating within the NFIP's Community Rating System provides a 10 percent discount for most policies and means approximately \$46,760 dollars less spent annually by your citizens for NFIP premiums.

Thank you for the courtesies extended to Mr. Rozelle during the CAV and the cooperation offered by the community in this regard. He looks forward to working with Mr. Hughes towards a timely and successful completion of the CAV. If you have any questions regarding this information or would like any further assistance, please let me know by writing to the letterhead address or by contacting Mr. Rozelle at (940) 898-5412, or via email at [trey.rozelle@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:trey.rozelle@fema.dhs.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles Cook".

Charles Cook  
Floodplain Management & Insurance Branch Chief

Enclosure: CAV Site Survey, City of Albuquerque, NM

cc: Veronica Chavez, CFM, NFIP State Coordinator  
James D. Hughes, PE, CFM, Albuquerque Principal Engineer

CAV Site Survey, City of Albuquerque, NM

	<u>Address</u>	<u>Finding</u>	<u>Requirement</u>
1	8923 Signal Avenue	Structure built in SFHA, grading and drainage plans composed with site survey vertical datum conversion error	Provide elevation certificate or documentation substantiating compliance with FDPO
2	8927 Signal Avenue	Structure built in SFHA, grading and drainage plans composed with site survey vertical datum conversion error	Provide elevation certificate or documentation substantiating compliance with FDPO
3	Signal Avenue Subdivision retaining wall	Retaining wall built without floodplain management related permits, created by NAVD88 conversion error and shift;	Provide permit substantiating compliance with FDPO, compliance with 44CFR60.3(c)(10), and community higher standards related to arroyo proximity.