



# Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

March 3, 2016

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Case No.: 15-06-0805R

The Honorable Richard J. Berry  
Mayor, City of Albuquerque  
P. O. Box 1293  
Albuquerque, NM 87103

Community Name: City of Albuquerque, NM  
Community No.: 350002

Dear Mayor Berry:

We are providing our comments with the enclosed Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) on a proposed project within your community that, if constructed as proposed, could revise the effective Flood Insurance Rate Map for your community.

If you have any general questions regarding the floodplain management regulations for your community, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), or technical questions regarding this CLOMR, please contact the Director, Mitigation Division of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Regional Office in Denton, Texas, at (940) 898-5127, or the FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX) toll free at 1-877-336-2627 (1-877-FEMA MAP). Additional information about the NFIP is available on our Web site at <http://www.fema.gov/nfip>.

Sincerely,

Luis Rodriguez, P.E., Chief  
Engineering Management Branch  
Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration

List of Enclosures:

Conditional Letter of Map Revision Comment Document

cc: The Honorable Maggie Hart Stebbins  
Chair, Bernalillo County Board of Commissioners

Mr. John Mechenbier  
Americus, LLC

Mr. Curtis Cherne, P.E.  
Floodplain Manager  
City of Albuquerque

Mr. Don R. Briggs, P.E., CFM  
Floodplain Administrator  
Bernalillo County

Ms. Genevieve L. Donart, P.E.  
Isaacson & Arfman, P.A.  
Consulting Engineering Associates



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## CONDITIONAL LETTER OF MAP REVISION COMMENT DOCUMENT

COMMUNITY INFORMATION		PROPOSED PROJECT DESCRIPTION	BASIS OF CONDITIONAL REQUEST
COMMUNITY	City of Albuquerque Bernalillo County New Mexico	CULVERT CHANNELIZATION	HYDRAULIC ANALYSIS HYDROLOGIC ANALYSIS UPDATED TOPOGRAPHIC DATA
	COMMUNITY NO.: 350002		
IDENTIFIER	The Foothills	APPROXIMATE LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE: 35.158, -106.498 SOURCE: USGS QUADRANGLE DATUM: NAD 83	
AFFECTED MAP PANELS			
TYPE: FIRM* NO.: 35001C0161G DATE: September 26, 2008		* FIRM - Flood Insurance Rate Map	
TYPE: FIRM* NO.: 35001C0142H DATE: August 16, 2012			

### FLOODING SOURCES AND REACH DESCRIPTION

See Page 2 for Additional Flooding Sources

Pino Arroyo – from just downstream of Tramway Boulevard to approximately 1,070 feet downstream of Tramway Boulevard

### PROPOSED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Flooding Source	Proposed Project	Location of Proposed Project
Pino Arroyo	New Culvert	from approximately 1,020 feet downstream of Tramway Boulevard to approximately 520 feet downstream of Tramway Boulevard
	Channelization	from approximately 520 feet downstream of Tramway Boulevard to approximately 290 feet downstream of Tramway Boulevard
	New Culvert	at Tramway Boulevard

### SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO FLOOD HAZARD DATA

Flooding Source	Effective Flooding	Proposed Flooding	Increases	Decreases
Pino Arroyo	Zone AO	Zone AE	Yes	None
	Zone AO	Zone X (unshaded)	Yes	None
	No BFEs*	BFEs	Yes	None

\* BFEs - Base (1-percent-annual-chance) Flood Elevations

### COMMENT

This document provides the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) comment regarding a request for a CLOMR for the project described above. This document is not a final determination; it only provides our comment on the proposed project in relation to the flood hazard information shown on the effective National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) map. We reviewed the submitted data and the data used to prepare the effective flood hazard information for your community and determined that the proposed project meets the minimum floodplain management criteria of the NFIP. Your community is responsible for approving all floodplain development and for ensuring that all permits required by Federal or State/Commonwealth law have been received. State/Commonwealth, county, and community officials, based on their knowledge of local conditions and in the interest of safety, may set higher standards for construction in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), the area subject to inundation by the base flood. If the State/Commonwealth, county, or community has adopted more restrictive or comprehensive floodplain management criteria, these criteria take precedence over the minimum NFIP criteria.

This comment is based on the flood data presently available. If you have any questions about this document, please contact the FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX) toll free at 1-877-336-2627 (1-877-FEMA MAP) or by letter addressed to the LOMC Clearinghouse, 847 South Pickett Street, Alexandria, VA 22304. Additional Information about the NFIP is available on the FEMA Web site at <http://www.fema.gov/nfip>.

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## CONDITIONAL LETTER OF MAP REVISION COMMENT DOCUMENT (CONTINUED)

### COMMUNITY INFORMATION

To determine the changes in flood hazards that will be caused by the proposed project, we compared the hydraulic modeling reflecting the proposed project (referred to as the proposed conditions model) to the hydraulic modeling used to prepare the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) (referred to as the effective model). If the effective model does not provide enough detail to evaluate the effects of the proposed project, an existing conditions model must be developed to provide this detail. This existing conditions model is then compared to the effective model and the proposed conditions model to differentiate the increases or decreases in flood hazards caused by more detailed modeling from the increases or decreases in flood hazards that will be caused by the proposed project.

The table below shows the changes in the BFEs:

BFE Comparison Table

Flooding Source: Pino Arroyo		BFE Change (feet)	Location of maximum change
Proposed vs.	Maximum increase	0.5	just downstream of Tramway Boulevard
Existing	Maximum decrease	7.7	approximately 630 feet downstream of Tramway Boulevard

NFIP regulations Subparagraph 60.3(b)(7) requires communities to ensure that the flood-carrying capacity within the altered or relocated portion of any watercourse is maintained. This provision is incorporated into your community's existing floodplain management ordinances; therefore, responsibility for maintenance of the altered or relocated watercourse, including any related appurtenances such as bridges, culverts, and other drainage structures, rests with your community. We may request that your community submit a description and schedule of maintenance activities necessary to ensure this requirement.

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## CONDITIONAL LETTER OF MAP REVISION COMMENT DOCUMENT (CONTINUED)

### COMMUNITY INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

#### DATA REQUIRED FOR FOLLOW-UP LOMR (continued)

• FEMA's fee schedule for reviewing and processing requests for conditional and final modifications to published flood information and maps may be accessed at <https://www.fema.gov/forms-documents-and-software/flood-map-related-fees>. The fee at the time of the map revision submittal must be received before we can begin processing the request. Payment of this fee can be made through a check or money order, made payable in U.S. funds to the National Flood Insurance Program, or by credit card (Visa or MasterCard only). Please either forward the payment, along with the revision application, to the following address:

LOMC Clearinghouse  
Attention: LOMR Manager  
847 South Pickett Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22304-4605

or submit the LOMR using the LOMC portal at <https://hazards.fema.gov/femaportal/onlinelomc/signin>.

After receiving appropriate documentation to show that the project has been completed, FEMA will initiate a revision to the FIRM and FIS report. Because the flood hazard information (i.e., base flood elevations, base flood depths, SFHAs, zone designations) will change as a result of the project, a 90-day appeal period will be initiated for the revision, during which community officials and interested persons may appeal the revised flood hazard information based on scientific or technical data.

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**CONDITIONAL LETTER OF MAP REVISION  
COMMENT DOCUMENT (CONTINUED)**

**COMMUNITY INFORMATION (CONTINUED)**

**COMMUNITY REMINDERS**

We have designated a Consultation Coordination Officer (CCO) to assist your community. The CCO will be the primary liaison between your community and FEMA. For information regarding your CCO, please contact:

Ms. Sandy Keefe  
Director, Mitigation Division  
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region VI  
Federal Regional Center, Room 206  
800 North Loop 288  
Denton, TX 76209  
(940) 898-5127

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luis Rodriguez".

Luis Rodriguez, P.E., Chief  
Engineering Management Branch  
Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration