University of Maryland College Park - The Brendan Iribe Center Waiver Review

Application of Coast Smart Waiver and Review Process

Joseph Abe, Coastal Policy Coordinator & Staff
to Coast Smart Council
MD Dept. of Natural Resources
Overview of Project

• The project consists of the construction of a new computer science building on lot XX at the intersection of Campus Drive and U.S. Rte. 1; adjacent to Paint Branch.

• It is anticipated that the building will be adjacent to (but outside) the 100-year floodplain and inside the 500-year floodplain.

• The building is expected to have a First Floor Elevation (FFE) of 74.0’ and include a basement.

• The basement will contain chiller pumps for the building mechanical system and will not include any of the building electrical systems.
• There are three (3) floodplain models currently in circulation for this area:
  
  o FEMA (Effective June 1987)
  o DFIRM (FEMA Preliminary Model – scheduled to be effective in April 2016)
  o PG County (Local Regulatory Requirement)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flood Plain Model</th>
<th>100-Year Elevation (feet, NGVD29)</th>
<th>500-Year Elevation (feet, NGVD29)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FEMA</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DFIRM</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PG County</td>
<td>67.8</td>
<td>71.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Requirements

• Finished Floor should be at least 2 feet above the 100-year flood elevation as required by the 2012 Executive Order.

• If basement, the burden will fall on UMD and the design team to demonstrate that the building can accommodate a 100-year flood and that the critical building operations will not be impacted.
  
  o Locating critical building systems above the basement level
  o Waterproofing of building and structural design to withstand hydrostatic pressure
  o Automatic shut-offs for any electrical service below the 500-year flood elevation
  o Pumps in basement with discharge at elevations at least 2’ above the 100-year elevation.
The project will include work in the 100-year floodplain will require a 404 permit from MDE.

The State has an Executive Order that is intended to eliminate critical facilities from the 500-year floodplain.

Enforcement of the new Executive Order is being phased in and is subject to the review of a committee being tasked with enforcing “Coast Smart” policies.

MDE recommends the UMD work with DNR to ensure that the project is consistent with pending policies and will not be subject to additional regulatory review.
• Project did not need a waiver since the project is not in a coastal flood area.

• The project would need to comply with MDE permitting process.

• Project highlighted "Potential Opportunity" to expand the scope of the Coast Smart Construction criteria beyond tidal flooding.
Questions?

Joseph Abe, Coastal Policy Coordinator & Coast Smart Council Staff
Chesapeake and Coastal Service
Maryland Department of Natural Resources

joseph.abe@maryland.gov

410-260-8740

Thanks for your attention and service to the Council!