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Town of Fort Myers Beach Receives FEMA Letter Detailing NFIP CAV Findings

Town of Fort Myers Beach, FL — The Town of Fort Myers Beach has received a formal letter from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) outlining findings from the Community Assistance Visit (CAV) conducted July 15-17, 2025. The purpose of the visit was to assess the town's compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and review progress made since the start of this process in April 2024.

The letter identifies areas for improvement and deficiencies in the town's floodplain management practices. FEMA also acknowledged the town's recent regulatory updates, including Ordinance 24-03, and confirmed that while it meets NFIP's minimum requirements, additional enhancements and corrective actions are required by Aug. 8, 2025, to maintain compliance and support the town's reinstatement into the Community Rating System (CRS) program by April 1, 2026.

Required enhancements and corrective actions include:

- Providing a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) that documents the substantial damage/substantial improvement determination process and the permitting process.
- Submitting revised permitting procedures and supporting documentation addressing failures by private providers to meet the town's requirement for submitting Under Construction Elevation Certificates.
- Removing non-compliant temporary structures.

In addition, FEMA provided a site-specific list of 252 properties requiring mitigation, further documentation or removal of non-compliant structures. Town staff are reviewing these items and will begin outreach and corrective actions immediately.

“We are committed to addressing FEMA’s findings and improving our floodplain management efforts,” said Town Manager Will McKannay. “Our goal is to ensure full compliance with NFIP regulations and to better protect our residents and infrastructure moving forward.”

The FEMA letter and additional information on the town’s floodplain management efforts are available at www.fmbgov.com/NFIP.

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The Town of Fort Myers Beach is on Estero Island off the southwest Florida coast of the Gulf of Mexico. The beach stretches for seven miles and is known for white sand, shell finds, and sunsets. The Town took a direct hit in September 2022 from Hurricane Ian, a category five storm, and is in active recovery. Many shops and restaurants are restored and open for business! The Town has been incorporated since 1995.