COUNTY DEPARTMENT AGENDA REQUEST

Department:	Stormwater Management	Presenter(s):	Vanessa Birrell/Bryan Keller
Meeting Date:	Wednesday, June 3, 2009	Type of Request:	New Business

Wording for the Agenda:

Consideration of a report from the Stormwater Department concerning a change in Fayette County's National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System score which will result in a decrease in flood insurance premiums.

Background/History/Details:

Fayette County's National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System (CRS) score for unincorporated Fayette County has been improved from a score of 7 to a 6, as a result an an audit conducted by the NFIP. This new rating will reduce flood insurance premiums by 5 percent and become effect on October 1, 2009.

The NFIP's Community Rating System conducts a detailed audit every five years and assigns credit points for floodplain management activities conducted by the Stormwater Management Department and other departments that exceed minimum NFIP requirements. Fayette County received high marks for its efforts in preserving open space in the floodplain. This open space is achieved through implementation of Fayette County's Floodplain Management and Watershed Protection Ordinances.

Many residents that were previously outside floodplain and/or not paying for insurance are now being notified by their lending institutions that they must purchase flood insurance. Mortgage companies may require flood insurance for any property that might flood but are mandated by law to require insurance for any building within a FEMA flood area.

In May 2010, FEMA plans to increase premiums for the first time in 25 years as a result of the 2005 hurricanes including Hurricane Katrina. The lower CRS rating will help lower the increase of premiums on Fayette County citizens. Residents should be aware that they may defer flood insurance in some cases under new grandfathering clauses.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

None

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Has this issue come before the Commissioners in the past?	No	If so, when?	
Do you need audio-visual for the presentation?	No	Back-up Material Submitted?	Yes

STAFF USE ONLY

Approved by Finance	Yes	Reviewed by Legal	Yes
Approved by Purchasing	Yes	Approved by County Clerk	Yes
Administrator's Approval	Yes		

Staff Notes:

FLOOD INSURANCE RATES REDUCED FOR FAYETTE COUNTY

The Fayette County Stormwater Management Department recently improved The National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) score for Unincorporated Fayette County from a 7 to a 6. The improvement occurred when an audit was conducted by the NFIP CRS. The CRS Level 6 rating will reduce flood insurance premiums by 5 percent and will become effective October 1, 2009.

The audit assigned credit points for floodplain management activities conducted by the Stormwater Management Department and other departments that exceed minimum NFIP requirements. Fayette County received high marks for its efforts in preserving open space in the floodplain. This open space is achieved through implementation of Fayette County's Floodplain Management and Watershed Protection Ordinances.

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In May 2010 FEMA plans to increase premiums for the first time in 25 years as a result of the 2005 hurricanes including Hurricane Katrina. The lower CRS rating will help lower the increase of premiums on Fayette County citizens.

Residents should be aware that they may defer flood insurance in some cases under new grandfathering clauses.

Further information can be obtained on the Fayette County website; www.fayettecountyga.gov/stormwater_management under Flood Plain or by calling the Fayette County Stormwater Management office at 770-305-5410.