NOTICE OF REVISED FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAPS FOR ETNA

For the past several years, the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has been revising the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for all of Allegheny County. This updating of FIRM maps has been periodically done by FEMA in the past.

As result of the most recent FEMA changes in July 2011, many Etna property owners had new flood hazard determinations for their properties and homes. As required by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), the Borough mailed out notices to all affected property owners that could be identified as moving either in or out of Special Flood Hazard Areas. Over 500 notices were mailed out to Etna property owners by the Borough.

The Borough also made comments to FEMA on some of the flood hazard determinations. After considering the comments, FEMA has made modifications to its flood hazard determinations in the Borough and issued Revised Preliminary Flood Hazard Maps. For most property owners there is no change from last year’s notices. However, there are changes to the map that now affect a small number of Etna property owners. The affected property owners will be notified by mail of these changes.

The Revised Preliminary Maps have now been made available for public viewing. They may be seen in either in the Borough Municipal Building or on-line at https://www.rampp-team.com/pa.htm. The first public notice was published in the Pittsburgh Tribune Review on April 18, 2013. The second notice that starts the 90 day period for appeals was published on or around April 25. During this period any owner or lessee of real property in Etna who believes their rights are adversely affected by the proposed flood hazard determinations must submit a written appeal to the attention of the Borough. The appeal can only be based on the knowledge or information that the proposed flood hazard determinations are scientifically or technically incorrect. Appeals will be submitted to FEMA who will send out its final decision in writing. For information on the statutory 90-day period provided for appeals, as well as a complete listing of the communities affected and the locations where copies of the FIRM are available for review, please visit FEMA's website at http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/bfe, or call the FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX) toll free at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627).

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-The Borough of Etna Council Floodplain Management Committee