

Dry Creek Flood Control Project

On June 17, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued new floodplain maps for Dry Creek that reflect the \$10 million Dry Creek Flood Control Project constructed by Fort Collins Utilities. Photos at right show two of the 12 project components that included both stormwater detention and conveyance.

“For many years, flooding on Dry Creek posed a great risk to our community,” said Water Planning and Development Manager Bob Smith. “As a result of the efforts of this project, the area now has a revised floodplain and flood risk is greatly reduced.”

Affected Areas

With the revisions, some properties are no longer in the Dry Creek floodplain, while other areas now have a narrower and shallower 100-year floodplain. Other locations that were previously in the Dry Creek 100-year floodplain still remain in the Poudre River 500-year floodplain.

Flood Insurance

When a structure is mapped out of the floodplain, it is no longer subject to the mandatory flood insurance purchase requirement. Property owners should give a copy of the new floodplain map to their lender and insurance agent. Policy holders also may be eligible for a



Six concrete box culverts were built and installed under East Vine Drive.

partial refund of their flood insurance premiums for this year.

Flood Insurance Rate Maps

The Utilities interactive mapping site does not yet reflect the Dry Creek revisions but will be updated when the required digital data from FEMA is received. PDF images of the revised FIRMs (Flood Insurance Rate Maps) panels and information on the flood insurance study are posted at www.fcgov.com/stormwater/floodplain-maps.php.

Flood Risk Remains – Flood Insurance Recommended

The risk for flooding still exists. The Dry Creek project relies on mechanical systems to control the flow of flood water, and there is always a risk of failure. Also, the majority of the land that is no longer in the floodplain is located below the Larimer and Weld



Spillway modifications at Douglas Reservoir included an erodible dam designed to release water at a controlled rate, if overtopped.

irrigation canal. In the event of a breach in this canal, much of the area would experience flooding. While many areas are no longer in the Dry Creek floodplain, they are still mapped in the Poudre River 500-year floodplain. Also, localized drainage problems may exist.

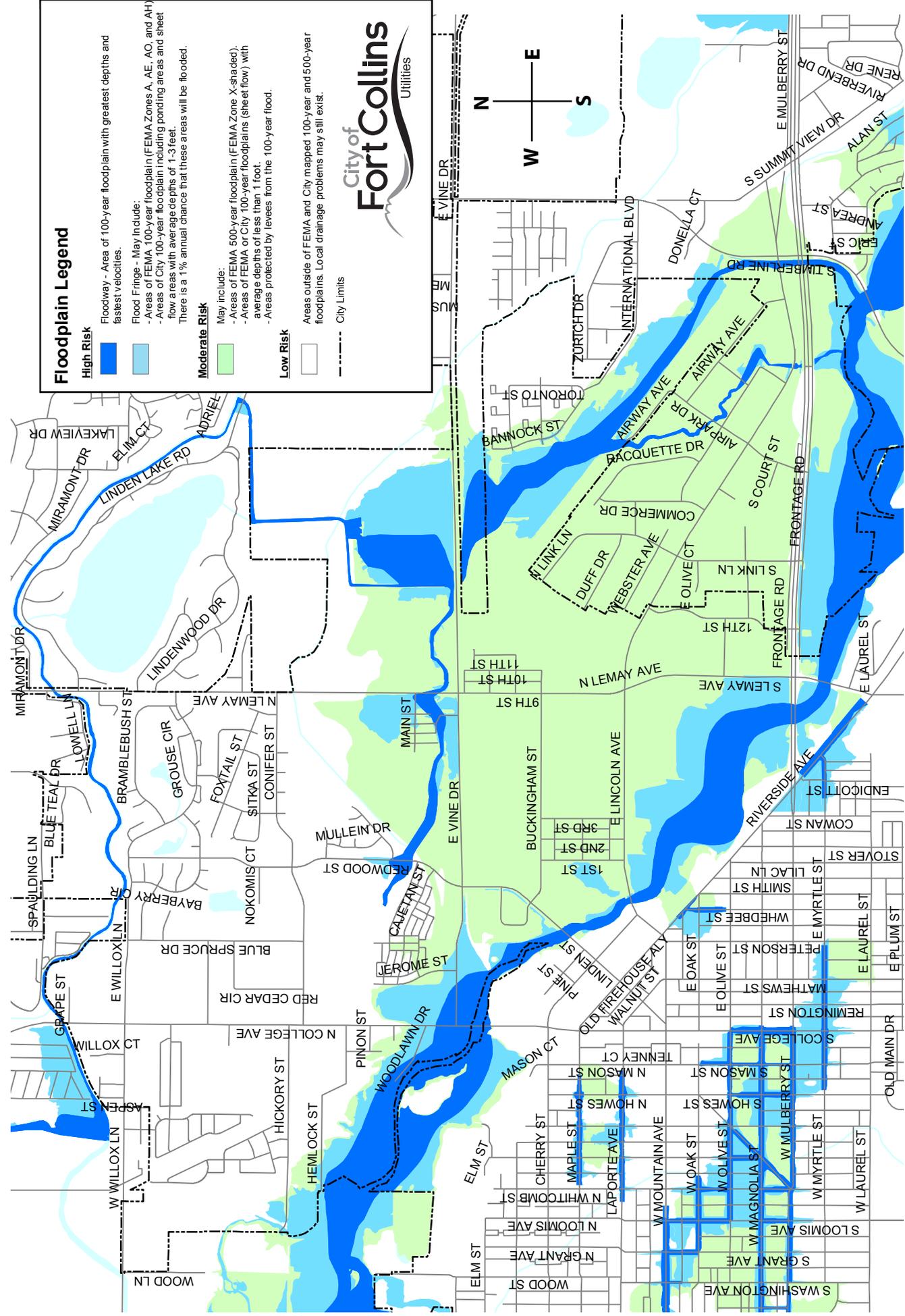
Given these risks, flood insurance is still recommended. However, because many areas are no longer in the floodplain, the cost will be much less. Property owners should ask their insurance agent about a *Preferred Risk Policy* that combines structural coverage with contents coverage. Nationwide, 30 percent of flood insurance claims come from areas outside the mapped floodplain.

Utilities Contact Information

- Phone: (970) 221-6700
- TDD: (970) 224-6003
- E-mail: utilities@fcgov.com
- Web: www.fcgov.com/stormwater

To get a copy of the new map:

Visit FEMA's Web site at <http://msc.fema.gov> or contact Fort Collins Utilities and ask for a floodplain determination. You will receive a copy of the new map in three to five days.



Floodplain Legend

High Risk

Floodway - Area of 100-year floodplain with greatest depths and fastest velocities.

Flood Fringe - May include:

- Areas of FEMA 100-year floodplain (including ponding areas and sheet flow areas with average depths of 1-3 feet. There is a 1% annual chance that these areas will be flooded.

Moderate Risk

May include:

- Areas of FEMA 500-year floodplain (FEMA Zone X-shaded).
- Areas of FEMA or City 100-year floodplains (sheet flow) with average depths of less than 1 foot.
- Areas protected by levees from the 100-year flood.

Low Risk

Areas outside of FEMA and City mapped 100-year and 500-year floodplains. Local drainage problems may still exist.

City Limits



City of Fort Collins Regulatory Floodplain Map After Dry Creek Diversion Project

All floodplain boundaries are approximate.

0 750 1,500 3,000 Feet

This information is based on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and the City of Fort Collins Master Drainage Plans. This letter does not imply that the referenced property will or will not be free from flooding or damage. A property not in the Special Flood Hazard Area or in a City Designated Flood plain may be damaged by a flood greater than that predicted on the map or from a local drainage problem not shown on the map. This map does not create liability on the part of the City, or any officer or employee thereof, for any damage that results from reliance on this information.