



February 12, 2021

Mr. Mark Jinks
Alexandria City Manager
301 King Street, Room 3500
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Dear Mr. Jinks:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with the results of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS) field verification findings based on your 5-year cycle verification. The field verification report is enclosed for your records.

I am pleased to inform you that the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), has determined that the City of Alexandria will retain its current rating as a Class 6 in the NFIP CRS. The floodplain management activities implemented by your community qualify it for a 20 percent discount on flood insurance premiums for NFIP policies issued or renewed in Special Flood Hazard Areas on or after October 1, 2021. This savings is a tangible result of the flood mitigation activities your community implements to protect lives and reduce property damage.

Please note that Preferred Risk Policies, applicable in Zones B, C, and X on your community's NFIP Flood Insurance Rate Map, are not eligible for the CRS discount. Standard rated flood insurance policies in Zones B, C, X, D, AR, and A99 are limited to a CRS discount of 10 percent in Class 1–6 communities and 5 percent in Class 7–9 communities. The rates for the above-mentioned policies already reflect significant premium reductions.

The CRS rating for your community will automatically be renewed annually as long as there are no NFIP noncompliance actions, so a notification letter will not be sent every year. This annual renewal will take place as long as your community continues to implement the CRS activities you certify in your annual recertification documentation. If no additional modifications or new CRS activities are added, the next verification visit for your community will be in accordance with its established 5-year cycle. In the interim, FEMA will periodically send the *NFIP/CRS Update* newsletter and other notices to your CRS Coordinator to keep your community informed.

I commend you on your community actions and your determination to lead your community to be more disaster resistant. This commitment enhances public safety, property protection, and protects the natural functions of floodplains, and reduces flood insurance premiums.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the FEMA Region III Office, CRS Coordinator Richard Sobota, by telephone at (215) 931-5514.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William H. Lesser". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

William H. Lesser, CRS Coordinator
Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration

Enclosure

cc: Brian Rahal, P.E., CFM, CRS Coordinator



COMMUNITY
RATING
SYSTEM

VERIFICATION
REPORT

City of Alexandria, VA

Verified Class 6

NFIP Number: 515519

Cycle

Date of Verification Visit: November 14, 2018

This Verification Report is provided to explain the recommendations of Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO) to DHS/FEMA concerning credits under the Community Rating System (CRS) for the above named community.

A total of 2216 credit points are verified which results in a recommendation that the community remain classified as a CRS Class 6. The community has met the Class 6 prerequisite with a Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) Classification of 3/3. The following is a summary of our findings with the total CRS credit points for each activity listed in parenthesis:

Activity 310 – Elevation Certificates: The Department of Code Administration maintains elevation certificates for new and substantially improved buildings. Copies of elevation certificates are made available upon request. (38 points)

Activity 320 – Map Information Service: Credit is provided for furnishing inquirers with basic flood zone information from the community's latest Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). Credit is also provided for the community furnishing additional FIRM information, information not found on the FIRM, historical flood information and natural floodplain functions. The service is publicized annually and records are maintained. (90 points)

Activity 330 – Outreach Projects: Credit is provided for informational outreach projects, general outreach projects, and targeted outreach projects. These projects are disseminated annually. (126 points)

Activity 340 – Hazard Disclosure: Credit is also provided for state and community regulations requiring disclosure of flood hazards. (20 points)

Activity 350 – Flood Protection Information: Documents relating to floodplain management are available in the reference section of the Alexandria Library. Credit is also provided for floodplain information displayed on the community's website. (73 points)

Activity 360 – Flood Protection Assistance: Credit is provided for offering one-on-one advice regarding property protection and making site visits before providing advice. (55 points)

Activity 370 – Flood Insurance Promotion: Credit is provided for providing technical advice regarding flood insurance. (10 points)

Activity 420 – Open Space Preservation: Credit is provided for preserving approximately 78 percent of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) as open space. (1255 points)

Activity 430 – Higher Regulatory Standards: Credit is provided for enforcing regulations that require freeboard for new and substantial improvement construction. Credit is also provided for the enforcement of building codes, a BCEGS Classification of 3/3, and regulations administration. (139 points)

Activity 440 – Flood Data Maintenance: Credit is provided for maintaining and using additional map data in the day to day management of the floodplain and for maintaining copies of all previous FIRMs. (124 points)

Activity 450 – Stormwater Management: The community enforces regulations for stormwater management, low impact development, soil and erosion control, and water quality. (108 points)

Section 502 – Repetitive Loss Category: Based on the updates made to the NFIP Report of Repetitive Losses as of July 13, 2018, the City of Alexandria, VA has 11 repetitive loss properties and is a Category B community for CRS purposes. All requirements for a Category B community have been met. (No credit points are applicable to this section)

Activity 510 – Floodplain Management Planning: Credit is provided for the adoption and implementation of the Northern Virginia Hazard Mitigation Plan adopted June 13, 2017. A progress report must be submitted on an annual basis. (50 points)

Activity 530 – Flood Protection: Credit is provided for 5 buildings that have been modified to protect them from flood damage. (6 points)

Activity 540 – Drainage System Maintenance: Credit is provided for listing problem sites that are inspected more frequently, and for implementing an ongoing Capital Improvements Program and for maintaining storage basins. (92 points)

Activity 630 – Dams: Credit is provided for a State Dam Safety Program. (30 points)

Activity 710 – County Growth Adjustment: All credit in the 400 series is multiplied by the growth rate of the county to account for growth pressures. The growth rate for the City of Alexandria, VA is 1.11.

Attached is the Community Calculations Worksheet that lists the verified credit points for the Community Rating System.

CEO Name / Address:

Mark Jinks
City Manager
301 Kind Street, Room 3500
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

CRS Coordinator Name / Address:

Brian Rahal
Civil Engineer IV
2900-B Business Center Drive
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 746-4057

Date Report Prepared: October 14, 2020

720 COMMUNITY CREDIT CALCULATIONS (Cycle):

CALCULATION SECTION :

Verified Activity Calculations:		Credit
c310	38	38
c320	90	90
c330	126	126
c340	20	20
c350	73	73
c360	55	55
c370	10	10
c410	x CGA	=
c420	1131 x CGA 1.11 =	1255
c430	125 x CGA 1.11 =	139
c440	112 x CGA 1.11 =	124
c450	97 x CGA 1.11 =	108
c510	50	50
c520		
c530	6	6
c540	92	92
c610		
c620		
c630	30	30

Community Classification Calculation:

cT = total of above	cT = 2216
Community Classification (from Table 110-1):	Class = 6

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