

FEB 26 2014



FEMA

The Honorable Robert Freeman  
Mayor, City of Van Buren  
1003 Broadway  
Van Buren, AR 72596

Dear Mayor Freeman:

Congratulations! The Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), has determined that your community will increase to a Class 7 in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS). The floodplain management activities implemented by your community qualifies it for a 15 percent discount of the premium cost of flood insurance for NFIP policies issued or renewed in Special Flood Hazard Areas on or after October 1, 2013. This increase in CRS class is based on a field verification of your 5-year cycle CRS application. I am enclosing the field verification report showing the results of your application review for your records.

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 CRS Class 1-6 communities and 5 percent in CRS Class 7-9 communities. The rates for these zones already reflect significant premium reductions.

If your community does not change its floodplain management practices, the CRS rating for your community will automatically be renewed annually and a notification letter will not be sent to your community. This renewal will occur as long as your community continues to implement the CRS activities you certify each October. 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's actions and your determination to lead your community to be more disaster resistant. This commitment enhances public safety, protects property, preserves the natural functions of floodplains, and reduces flood insurance premiums.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the FEMA Region VI Office, CRS Coordinator, Jack Graham, by telephone at (940) 898 - 5463.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David L. Miller".

David L. Miller  
Associate Administrator  
Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration

Enclosure

cc: Wes Cleland, GIS Coordinator



COMMUNITY  
RATING  
SYSTEM

VERIFICATION  
REPORT

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City of Van Buren, AR

Verified Class 7

NFIP Number: 050053

Cycle

Date of Verification Visit: August 27, 2012

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 1505 credit points are verified which results in a recommendation that the community improve from a CRS Class 9 to a CRS Class 7. The community has met the Class 7 prerequisite with a Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) Classification of 6/6. 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 City Hall maintains elevation certificates for new and substantially improved buildings. Copies of elevation certificates are made available upon request. (56 points)

**Activity 320 – Map Information Service:** Credit is provided for furnishing inquirers with flood zone information from the community's latest Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), publicizing the service annually and maintaining records. (140 points)

**Activity 330 – Outreach Projects:** A community brochure is mailed to all properties in the community on an annual basis. An outreach brochure is mailed annually to all properties in the community's Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). The community also provides flood information through displays at public buildings. (197 points)

**Activity 350 – Flood Protection Information:** Documents relating to floodplain management are available in the reference section of the Crawford County Library. Credit is also provided for floodplain information displayed on the community's website. (68 points)

**Activity 360 – Flood Protection Assistance:** The community provides technical advice and assistance to interested property owners and annually publicizes the service. (52 points)

**Activity 430 – Higher Regulatory Standards:** Credit is provided for enforcing regulations that require freeboard for new and substantial improvement construction, protection of natural and beneficial functions and state mandated regulatory standards. Credit is also provided for the adoption of the Arkansas Fire Prevention Code, for a BCEGS Classification of 6/6 and for staff education and certification as a floodplain manager. (309 points)

**Activity 440 – Flood Data Maintenance:** Credit is provided for maintaining and using digitized maps in the day to day management of the floodplain. Credit is also provided for maintaining copies of all previous FIRMs and Flood Insurance Study Reports. (162 points)

**Activity 450 – Stormwater Management:** The community enforces regulations for freeboard in non-SFHA zones and soil and erosion control. (58 points)

**Activity 510 – Floodplain Management Planning:** Based on the updates made to the NFIP Report of Repetitive Losses as of January 31, 2012, the City of Van Buren has 0 repetitive loss properties and is a Category A community for CRS purposes. Credit is provided for the adoption and implementation of the Floodplain Management Plan. **Since the City of Van Buren is a community with an approved Floodplain Management Plan, a progress report must be submitted on an annual basis.** (95 points)

**Activity 540 – Drainage System Maintenance:** A portion of the community's drainage system is inspected regularly throughout the year and maintenance is performed as needed by the Van Buren Street Department. Records are being maintained for both inspections and required maintenance. Credit is also provided for an ongoing Capital Improvements Program. The community also enforces a regulation prohibiting dumping in the drainage system. (315 points)

**Activity 630 – Dam Safety:** All Arkansas communities currently receive CRS credit for the state's dam safety program. (53 points)

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

**CEO Name / Address:**

Robert D. Freeman  
Mayor of Van Buren  
1003 Broadway  
Van Buren, Arkansas 72956

**CRS Coordinator Name / Address:**

Wes Cleland  
GIS Coordinator  
1003 Broadway  
Van Buren, Arkansas 72956  
(479) 353-3840

Date Report Prepared: February 20, 2013

**720 COMMUNITY CREDIT CALCULATIONS (Cycle):**

**CALCULATION SECTION :**

Verified Activity Calculations:	Credit
c310      56	56
c320      140	140
c330      197	197
c340	
c350      68	68
c360      52	52
c410      _____ x CGA      _____ =	
c420      _____ x CGA      _____ =	
c430      269      x CGA      1.15      =	309
c440      141      x CGA      1.15      =	162
c450      50      x CGA      1.15      =	58
c510      95	95
c520	
c530	
c540      315	315
c610	
c620	
c630      53	53

**722 Community Classification Calculation:**

cT = total of above

cT = 1505

Community Classification (from Appendix C):

Class = 7

**CEO Name/Address:**

Robert D. Freeman  
 Mayor of Van Buren  
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