

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-01
RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF
ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
February 26, 2025

On Motion of Commissioner _____, duly seconded and carried, the following Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, the California Legislature has in Government Code sections 65302, 65560, and 65800 conferred upon local governments the authority to adopt regulations designed to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of its citizenry. Therefore, the County of Orange has adopted floodplain management regulations; and

WHEREAS, the County has adopted the FP “Floodplain” Overlay District to establish criteria for land management and land use to prevent loss of life and property, to minimize economic loss caused by flood flows, and to regulate and control use of land below the elevation of base flood flow within the floodplain; and

WHEREAS, the FP “Floodplain” Overlay District regulations comply with criteria promulgated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the purpose of providing flood insurance eligibility for property owners; and

WHEREAS, the FP “Floodplain” Overlay District regulations comply with the Cobey-Alquist Floodplain Management Act requirements for floodplain management regulations; and

WHEREAS, FEMA implements the Community Rating System (CRS), a program that provides flood insurance premium discounts to communities that implement programs and measures that exceed the minimum floodplain management requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP); and

WHEREAS, the County of Orange has participated in the CRS program for many years and in 2017 the County achieved a CRS Class 5 rating, resulting in a 25% discount in flood insurance premiums for residents of Unincorporated Orange County; and

WHEREAS, participants in the CRS program undergo an annual recertification process, and a detailed in-person Cycle Verification Visit every 3 or 5 years, and the County is scheduled to have a 5-year Cycle Verification Visit in August 2025; and

WHEREAS, in preparation for the upcoming CRS Cycle Verification Visit, staff reviewed the County’s floodplain regulations in the Comprehensive Zoning Code and with the assistance of the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), it was determined that several revisions are required to satisfy the prerequisites for a Class 5 rating.

WHEREAS, the proposed Zoning Code amendment would revise the County’s Floodplain Overlay District regulations to meet the current floodplain management requirements of the CRS program prior to the 2025 Cycle Verification Visit and ensure the County could maintain its current CRS Class 5 rating.

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission reviewed and fully considered the proposed Zoning Code Amendment CA 25-01 (FP “Floodplain” Overlay District), heard, and considered the public comments that were presented to it at the public hearing held on this project, and has determined after review and consideration to recommend adoption by the Board of Supervisors of proposed Zoning Code Amendment CA 25-01 (FP “Floodplain” Overlay District).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDS THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Find that the proposed project is exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to Guidelines Section 15061 (b) (3) since this project has no potential for causing any significant effect on the environment.
2. Adopt Zoning Code Amendment CA 25-01 that will revise section 7-9-42, FP “Floodplain” Overlay District to ensure compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and Community Rating System (CRS).

The foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Orange County Planning Commission, on February 26, 2025, to wit:

Ayes:

Noes:

Excused:

Abstained:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution No. 2025-01 was adopted on February 26, 2025, by the Orange County Planning Commission.

Justin Kirk
Executive Officer, Orange County Planning Commission

Attachment:

- A. Proposed Zoning Code Amendment CA 25-01 (FP “Floodplain” Overlay District) – Strikethrough Version

Date of Adoption: February 26, 2025

DRAFT