## New Flood Maps Become Final in Collin County, Texas

Release Date: January 31, 2017

DENTON, Texas — Collin County will have new flood maps on June 7, 2017. The new maps include the cities of McKinney, Plano and Allen, and unincorporated areas of Collin County. Residents in those areas are encouraged to examine the maps to decide whether they need to buy flood insurance.

In learning about their risk of flooding, individuals and community leaders can make informed decisions about building and development.

Flooding is the #1 natural disaster in the U.S. and only flood insurance covers these unexpected, damaging and sometimes fatal events. Most homeowner insurance policies do not cover damages caused by flooding. Anyone without flood insurance runs the risk of uninsured losses to their homes, personal property and businesses.

Residents with federal mortgages must have flood insurance if the structures are in flood hazard areas. Flood insurance is available either through a private policy, or through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). It is a voluntary program administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Local floodplain administrators are a good resource to learn about the community participation in the NFIP. They can also help in locating the new flood maps for your area.

FEMA map specialists and flood insurance experts are available to answer questions. They can be reached by phone and online chat.

- To use the live chat service, visit <a href="http://go.usa.gov/r6C">http://go.usa.gov/r6C</a>. Click on the "Live Chat" icon.
- To contact a FEMA Map Specialist, call 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627) or send an email to FEMAMapSpecialist@riskmapcds.com.
- To view the new maps: <a href="http://maps.riskmap6.com/TX/Collin/">http://maps.riskmap6.com/TX/Collin/</a>



Page 1 of 2

FEMA encourages communities not currently participating in the NFIP to look at the benefits of joining the program. Contacting a local insurance agent is the first step to obtaining information about insurance. To locate an agent, visit <a href="www.floodsmart.gov">www.floodsmart.gov</a> or call 1-888-379-9531. For information about the NFIP, call 1-800- 621-3362 and select option 2 for assistance.

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