



COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 4

Fort Bend County, Texas

Ken R. DeMerchant
Commissioner

August 21, 2019

Congressman Al Green
3003 South Loop West, Suite 460
Houston, TX 77054
Phone: 713-383-9234

Senator John Cornyn
517 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510
Phone: 202.224.2934

Congressman Pete Olson
2277 Plaza Drive Suite 195
Sugar Land, TX 77479
Phone: (281) 494-2690

Senator Ted Cruz
404 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510
Phone: 202.224.5922

Dear Sirs,

I am the County Commissioner for Fort Bend County - Precinct 4. I am writing this letter, along with Levee Improvement District (LID) and Municipal Utility District (MUD) Board of Directors, requesting your assistance in defining Risk Rating 2.0 and the changes the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) plans to implement. The majority of Fort Bend County's LIDs and MUDs that act as LIDs are in Precinct 4. It is imperative that prior to **October 1, 2020**, we understand FEMA's definition of "Rating Characteristics" as well the cost impact it could have on our residents.

NFIP and Risk Rating 2.0 must not forgo the affordability of flood insurance nor punish the residents that have flood insurance. The program changes must acknowledge local efforts to mitigate flood risk and avoid flood events, particularly when they conform to the federal government's standards.

The Fort Bend County levee system has provided significant protection from flooding, including during Hurricane Harvey. My concern is that a new system may not take into account the level of protection afforded by our levee districts which will result in rate increases for many of our residents.

I ask that you do everything in your power to stop any negative impacts from Risk Rating 2.0 and help ensure that any new NFIP reauthorizations take into consideration our successful efforts to build and maintain flood control infrastructure.

Sincerely,

Ken R. DeMerchant
Fort Bend County, Commissioner Precinct 4
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