TO: Mayor and City Council

SUBJECT: Revisions to Chapter 27.06 Floodplain Management (All Districts)

INITIATED BY: Department of Public Works & Utilities

AGENDA: New Business

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**Recommendation:** Place the amending ordinance of the revisions to Chapter 27.06 Floodplain Management on first reading.

**Background:** A routine update of the City’s floodplain maps by the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) has been underway with preliminary maps issued in January, 2015. These maps have been amended as necessary based on technical appeals and FEMA has issued a Letter of Final Determination meaning that the maps will become effective on December 22, 2016. FEMA requires the City to amend the floodplain ordinance in order to adopt the maps as the current effective documents prior to this date, and for continued participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

**Analysis:** City staff has drafted the proposed revisions with the assistance of the Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA). The proposed changes are by FEMA. Failure to adopt the revised floodplain ordinance would result in suspension from the NFIP. Suspension from the NFIP would mean citizens would not be able to purchase flood insurance or renew existing policies. The proposed ordinance changes are mainly for clarification and will bring existing language in line with federal codes. The proposed revisions have been shared with the development community. The Chief Engineer of KDA approved the proposed revisions on November 7, 2016. If approved by the City Council, the final step will require the adopted ordinance to be approved by FEMA for ongoing participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

City staff along with key stakeholders, identified a need for broader revisions to the ordinance and agreed a future effort will address additional needed revisions. It was necessary to limit revisions at this time to ensure the City’s ongoing participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

**Financial Considerations:** There are no financial considerations associated with this ordinance.

**Legal Considerations:** The Law Department has reviewed and approved the amending ordinance as to form.

**Recommendation/Action:** It is recommended that the City Council place the amending ordinance on first reading and authorize the necessary signatures.

**Attachments:** Summary of revisions and amending ordinance.