

2.0 AGENCY AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND DATA COLLECTION

2.1 AGENCY COORDINATION

Coordination with stakeholders throughout the investigation was critical in meeting the objective of the study. The following entities were identified as stakeholders in this investigation: Fairfax County Stormwater Planning Division; Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT); and the City of Alexandria, Virginia. Multiple meetings were held between USACE and the agencies throughout the investigation. The agencies, which provided vital data and studies to USACE, were kept apprised of the study progress and findings. The agencies also coordinated other related ongoing activities.

2.2 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

As part of this study, a number of residents in Huntington were contacted to (1) determine the residents' perception of the flood risk at their property prior to the June 2006 flood event and (2) gather information on the history of flooding in Huntington. Approximately 30 residents were called. Of the 30 called, twelve (12) were reached and asked questions regarding flooding at their properties. Below is a list of the questions asked and a general summary of the results.

1. Did your home/property flood during the June 2006 Flood Event? To what extent? Do you know how the water entered your home (basement window, sewer)?

All residents contacted did indeed flood during the June 2006 flood event. Flooding depths ranged from 3 feet to 10 feet, which inundated all basements. One resident had flooding of the first floor. Water entered the homes through sewers, windows, doors, and walls.

2. How long have you lived in your home?

Three of the residents lived in their home less than three years and five between three and 25 years. The remaining four residents lived in their homes more than 25 years.

3. Did your home/property ever flood in the past? If so, when?

Nine of the residents stated that their homes have never flooded in the past. The other three residents, who have been living in Huntington since 1971, experienced previous flooding during Tropical Storm Agnes in 1972, which resulted in a few inches of floodwater in the basements. It was not determined how the water entered the structures that flooded during Tropical Storm Agnes.

4. Prior to the June 2006 Flood Event, did you feel your property was at risk of flooding?

Eleven of the twelve residents contacted stated that they did not feel there was a risk of flooding at their property prior to the June 2006 Flood Event. One resident stated that they felt a risk of flooding during Hurricane Isabel in 2003.

5. Did you have flood insurance?

Six of the residents contacted had flood insurance. Six of the residents did not have flood insurance.

6. Did you apply for and receive a Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) from FEMA determining that your house is outside/above the “100-year floodplain”?

Eleven of the residents contacted stated that they did not receive a LOMA from FEMA. One resident did obtain a LOMA. However, most of the residents did not know what a LOMA was.

2.3 DATA COLLECTION

Existing USACE data, along with data collected by various Federal, State, and local agencies, were used in this investigation. Data was collected from the following resources: City of Alexandria Department of Transportation and Environmental Services (Alexandria DTES); Fairfax County Stormwater Planning Division (FCSPD); Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT); United States Geological Survey (USGS); Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); and Lake Barcroft Watershed Improvement District (LBWID). An inventory of the data collected and used for this investigation is located in Appendix A.