CAC-CAV Chapters: Key Changes

Chapter 1 General Information: Key Changes

1. Added State Roles and general updates

Chapter 2 Community Selection Process: Key Changes

1. Introduced Risk-based CAV selection concept
2. Refined/clarified/updated Selection criteria based on Risk-based approach
3. Required 5-year goal for Tier 1 communities to receive a CAV
4. Formalized CRS communities who require a CAV (New Applications & Class 1)
5. All Tier 2 Communities receive CAC or other contact
6. Clarified only FEMA can conduct CAVs on Tribal Governments.

Chapter 3 Community Assistance Contact: Key Changes

1. Describes the difference between a CAC and Technical Assistance
2. Recommends checking the number of LOMCs and CLOMRs issued to determine the level of activity in the floodplain
3. Recommended discussion of open CLOMRs and their permitting limitations
4. Inquire how long the current Floodplain Administrator has been in the job, if CFM and any training needs and opportunities
5. Use new CIS data report to prepare for CACs.

Chapter 4 Community Assistance Visit Preparation: Key Changes

1. Addresses current issues on building codes as they relate to floodplain management regulations and ordinances
2. Recommends checking community web site for information on floodplain management (ordinances, permits, Elevation Certificates)
3. Review Report of FEMA grant projects to develop sample of flood acquisition (open space) and elevation (compliance) project
4. Request community to provide permit data in digital format in the SFHA - over the last 3 to 5 years when available.
5. Assemble digital camera, GPS equipment, a laptop or tablet computer and other equipment for documenting the CAV findings.
6. Provide NFIP related handout materials (or library) to community officials in an electronic format.
Chapter 5 Community Assistance Visit: Key Changes

1. Emphasized the value of doing a floodplain tour with the local floodplain management official
2. Encouraged the use of digital cameras, GPS units, laptop and portable computers to help navigate and document the floodplain tour findings
3. Added reminder to check for 60.3 (a) (2) Other Federal State and local permits to assure that this is reviewed and that ESA (section 9/10) compliance in particular, is checked
4. Increased emphasis on the requirement to elevate/ensure water resistance of mechanical and electrical systems in SFHAs
5. Emphasized discussion of CLOMRs and their permitting limitations
6. Discussion on concept of State, Tribal, and Team CAVs

Chapter 6 Community Assistance Visit Documentation: Key Changes

1. Added emphasis on the importance of identifying the cause of any violation
2. Required CAV results and findings to be entered into the CIS with the goal to eliminate paper reports except letters to communities
3. Development of a good chronology.

Chapter 7 Community Assistance Visit Follow up: Key Changes

1. Cited expectation that CRS communities must maintain full compliance and added Appendix for FEMA CRS retrograde policy
2. Recommends follow up by e-mail or phone call on each scheduled corrective action date and documentation of that as part of the compliance chronology
3. Assure that local officials identify and implement any enforcement options they have available through their building codes or planning and development regulations.
4. Added clarification of Precedence Clause for higher standards.

Appendices: Key Changes

1. Updated all to match new Guidance
2. Replaced Community Contact and Visit Report Forms with required entry screens in the new CIS that follow previous form format and can be printed.
3. Converted Appendix A “Sample Letter Conforming CAV” to a fill-able document.
5. Added Appendix F: Community Rating System