BUILDING SCALE RESILIENCY STRATEGIES

Manhattan Beach Community Group

March 22, 2017
FEMA is working in revising the New York City flood maps with more precise flood risk data for current conditions, in addition to creating a new map product for future conditions that account for climate change.
Existing Conditions

Mechanical equipment below the DFE subject to flooding

Base Flood Elevation (BFE) = Design Flood Elevation (DFE) + 1 to 2 feet to account for future flood risk from sea level rise

- Residential area below the DFE
- Mechanical equipment below the DFE subject to flooding
Critical systems are elevated

Below grade spaces are filled in

Residential space is converted into storage and outfitted with flood vents
Dry Floodproofing residential spaces does not lower flood insurance premiums
Relocation of Critical Systems above the DFE

Reduces time it takes to get back into home after flood

Results in potential loss of useable space

Building has to be able to withstand flood-related forces

Note: These strategies do not directly lower flood insurance premiums
Relocation of Critical Systems to New Structure

Reduces time it takes to get back into home after flood

No loss of space inside building

Potential loss of space in a yard

Must accompany a full retrofit project

Building has to be able to withstand flood-related forces

Note: This strategy may slightly lower flood insurance premiums
Enclosing Mechanicals in Vault/Wet Floodproofing

Provides flood protection for the mechanical and electrical equipment in the basement/cellar

Minimizes material replacement post flood

Equipment remains below the base flood elevation, may still be a risk

Building has to be able to withstand flood-related forces

Note: These strategies do not directly lower flood insurance premiums
Mitigates backflow of sewer into cellar, but unless building is properly sealed flooding can still occur from gaps in building structure.

**Backflow preventers require regular maintenance**

**Doesn’t prevent flooding from street**

**Note:** These strategies do not directly lower flood insurance premiums
Door Shields

Mitigates flooding into the cellar from street level

Barriers must be manually installed before flooding event

Building and foundation system has to be able to withstand the expected flood-related forces

Doesn’t prevent flooding from sewer backup

Note: These strategies do not directly lower flood insurance premiums
Always consult an architect or engineer before making major improvements
Flood Insurance and Retrofitting Resources

Flood risk information and address lookup: FloodHelpNY.org
Flood insurance agent lookup: floodsmart.gov
FEMA Map questions: 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627)
FEMA Flood Insurance agent referral: 1-888-435-6637

For more information and updates visit our website:
www.nyc.gov/resilientneighborhoods

or email us:
ResilientNeighborhoods@planning.nyc.gov