



**Management Association for Private Photogrammetric Surveyors**  
**An Association of Photogrammetry, Mapping, and Geospatial Firms**

**MAPPS Talking Points for FEMA Flood Map Reform Legislation**

The following are the talking points provided by MAPPS ([www.mapps.org](http://www.mapps.org)), a national professional association of more than 170 private mapping and geospatial firms.

- 1) FEMA should collect accurate ground elevation data using the latest, state-of-the-art commercial geospatial technologies. Language should also provide that hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) modeling be created to support all flooding sources. **[H] & [S]**
- 2) FEMA should coordinate mapping projects on a watershed basis, not to a county or political boundary basis. **[H] & [S]**
- 3) FEMA should re-establish the Technical Mapping Advisory Council (TMAC). Membership should include individuals from the private sector topographic mapping profession and the hydrologic and hydraulic engineering community. **[H] & [S]**
- 4) FEMA should include a National Structure Inventory so that, at a bare minimum, FEMA and first-responders can compare pre-disaster imagery with post-disaster imagery for damage assessments.
- 5) FEMA should access the Master Address File (MAF) maintained by the Census Bureau for floodplain management as well as disaster response.
- 6) FEMA should place a new emphasis on vertical positioning, lowest floor and lowest adjacent grade (LAG) elevations, in addition to the traditional focus on horizontal (latitude and longitude) – x, y and z (vertical – elevation) coordinate data.
- 7) FEMA should establish a national licensing program, in place of the current patchwork state-by-state program, to license Photogrammetrists, as a prerequisite for working on the FEMA program or any other Federal mapping program that will contribute data to the National Spatial Data Infrastructure that could be merged or integrated with the FIRM.
- 8) FEMA should create a suite of multiple-award, indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity (IDIQ) contracts, competed and awarded in advance and stood up on a contingency basis for the utilization of geospatial assets in protecting lives and property.
- 9) FEMA should create a National Levee Inventory with a “geospatial” component – X, Y and Z georeference coordinate data – included for each levee in the inventory. **[P]**
- 10) FEMA should accept and apply digital mapping to bridge the “digital divide” in transforming the program to utilize and make available digital mapping. **[S]**

**[H] included in House bill (H.R. 3121). See Section 22.**

**[S] included in Senate bill (S. 2284). See Sections 18 & 19.**

**[P] passed in previous legislation.**