Nonstructural Flood Proofing Annual Status Report

RANDALL BEHM PE, CFM
MANNY PEROTIN PE, PMP, CFM
Introduction

The Nonstructural Flood Proofing Committee provides educational information to ASFPM members, government entities, homeowners, and business owners on acceptable nonstructural techniques commonly used to reduce flood damage and increase structure resiliency. Nonstructural measures can decrease the consequences of flooding to individual structures. Nonstructural techniques do not modify the existing flood characteristics (stage, velocity, and areal extent of flooding), as is the case with structural measures, and the techniques support ecosystem benefits.

The number of structures vulnerable to flooding continues to increase across the country, primarily due in part due to changes in rainfall/snowmelt runoff, development outpacing the creation of Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM), and outdated FIRMs being used for floodplain regulatory purposes.

Key Accomplishments

During 2021-2022, the Nonstructural Flood Proofing Committee has focused its efforts in the following areas:

- Supporting the ASFPM 2022 annual (virtual and in-person) national conference
- Conducting quarterly Committee conference calls highlighting guest presenters
- Supporting the Flood Science Center’s development of the Flood Mitigation Library
- Development of the Basement Mitigation Brochure for Residential or Commercial Structures

Priorities

The following items represent the Nonstructural Flood Proofing Committee’s current priorities:

- Support and participation of the 2022 ASFPM Annual National Conference.
- Participate and support to the ASFPM Committee Co-Chair and Board’s conference calls.
- Supporting the annual nomination and selection of a candidate for consideration of the John R Sheaffer Flood Proofing Award.
- Continued support in reviewing and commenting on ASFPM directed documents.
- Organizing and facilitating quarterly committee conference calls.
- Providing support to ASFPM’s Flood Mitigation Certification Program.
- Progress and support of activities identified within the Committee’s annual Work Plan.
- Increase committee membership and expand visibility of committee activities.
Recommended Actions

In support of the ASFPM Board’s current goals and objectives, as well as the committee’s current Work Plan, the Nonstructural Flood Proofing Committee foresees continuing advancement of the following activities:

- Development of two additional informational documents that promote and support Section 26 of the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act, recognizing the use of alternative flood proofing measures for residential and commercial structures. The second informational document “Actions to Protect a Flood-Prone House or Business with a Basement” is currently being finalized within the Nonstructural Flood Proofing Committee and the development of the third document “Actions to Protect a Flood-Prone House or Business with a Slab-on-Grade Foundation” will begin during 2022.
- Providing continued support to the Flood Science Center (FSC) on its development of the Flood Mitigation Library website through the Project Steering Committee.
- Provide support to beta testing the FSC’s Flood Mitigation Library website.
- Develop talking/discussion points for ASFPM on a new definition for dry flood proofing, as new technology continues to be developed, and several federal agencies are not in consensus on current terminology.