Introduction

During 2023 the Nonstructural Flood Proofing Committee continued to provide educational information to ASFPM members, government entities, homeowners, and business owners on acceptable nonstructural mitigation techniques commonly used to reduce flood damage and increase building resiliency. Nonstructural measures, when implemented appropriately, can decrease the consequences of flooding to individual buildings. 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. As the climate changes and the frequency and intensity of storms intensify, the number of buildings vulnerable to flooding continues to increase across the country.

Key Accomplishments

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

• Supported the ASFPM 2022 annual (virtual and in-person) national conference in Orlando, Florida, where a committee meeting was conducted, with guest speakers and dedicated discussion of workplan activities. Both co-chairs made presentations during the conference and conducted sidebar discussions relating to dry flood proofing and levee setbacks.

• Continued to conduct quarterly conference calls highlighting guest presenters and open discussions relating to topics associated with nonstructural flood proofing mitigation.

• Both co-chairs actively supported the Flood Science Center’s development of the Flood Mitigation Library and Reduce Flood Risk web-based program.

• Continuing the development of the Basement Mitigation Document for residential and commercial buildings, which is the third of three documents being developed as a user reference when considering mitigation. The first two documents focused on buildings with a crawlspace or slab-on-grade foundations.

• Presented talking points and conducted discussions on a proposed new definition for dry flood proofing, as new technology continues to be developed, and several federal agencies are not in consensus on current terminology.

Priorities

During 2023 and into the near future, the following items represent the Nonstructural Flood Proofing Committee’s priorities for advancement:

• Support and participation of the 2023 ASFPM National Conference in Raleigh, North Carolina.

• Participate in and provide support to the quarterly ASFPM Policy Committees Co-Chair and the Board’s conference calls.
• Supporting the annual nomination and selection of a candidate for consideration of ASFPM’s John R Sheaffer Flood Proofing Award.

• Provide support in reviewing and commenting on ASFPM directed documents, including the advancement of the Flood Mitigation Library and the Reduce Flood Risk web-based program.

• Organizing and facilitating quarterly committee conference calls, with a focus on legislation or government agency program modifications which may have an affect on nonstructural flood proofing mitigation.

• Continue to provide support to ASFPM’s Flood Mitigation Certification Program through monthly conference calls with ASFPM members, FM Approvals, and the USACE.

• Continue to advance progress on and support of activities identified within the Committee’s annual Work Plan.

• Increase committee membership, poll members for topics of interest, 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 a third informational document that promotes and supports the use of alternative flood proofing measures for residential and commercial buildings. Discussions regarding the development of the third document “Actions to Protect a Flood-Prone House or Business with a Slab-on-Grade Foundation” began during 2022.

• Providing continued support to the Flood Science Center on its development of the Flood Mitigation Library and the web-based Reduce Flood Risk program.

• Continue discussions and development of talking/discussion points for ASFPM on a new definition for dry flood proofing, as new technology continues to be developed, and several federal agencies do not appear to be in consensus on current terminology.