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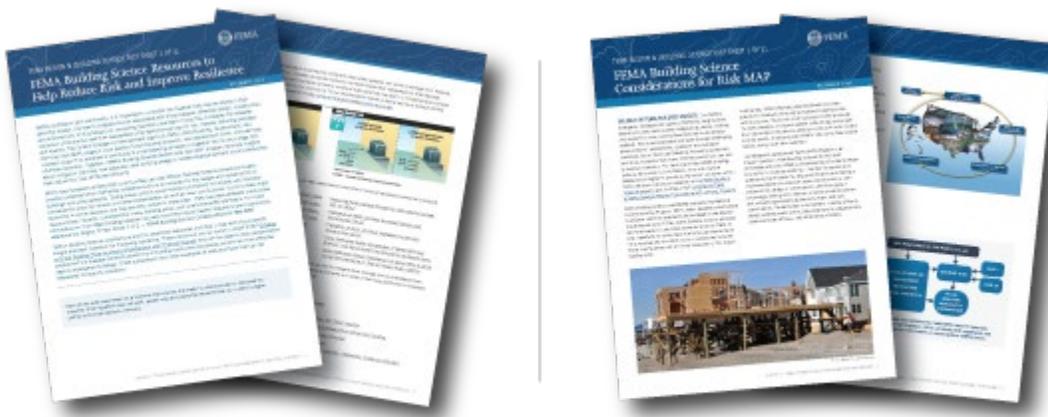
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2019 1:56 PM

Subject: FEMA Building Sciences at HQ (Building Science Branch) and Region IV Release Two Fact Sheets supporting Risk MAP efforts

FEMA Building Sciences at HQ (Building Science Branch – BSB) and Region IV are pleased to announce the [release of two fact sheets](#) aimed at reducing risk and improving resilience to buildings and their utility systems. The fact sheets explain that, before building in your community, it is important to recognize the hazards that may be present, their potential impact, and provides numerous considerations and resources to help mitigate those risks. Effective design, construction, code enforcement and building to or exceeding the latest standard of practice, increases the disaster resilience of structures and their associated utility systems exposed to risk, thereby reducing damages and injuries.

Risk MAP (mapping, planning and assessment) provides high quality flood mapping products, risk assessment tools, and planned outreach support to enhance a community’s understanding of their risk. This, in turn, will help improve risk-informed decision making, enabling various stakeholders to take action in reducing their vulnerabilities to hazards and increasing resilience for themselves and their community’s at large.

Fact Sheet one, entitled **“FEMA Building Science Considerations for Risk MAP”**, lists numerous Risk MAP Flood Risk products through which a Building Science lens can be applied by stakeholders to help minimize natural hazard impacts to their property or community. These include Depth Grids, changes since the last Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), Flood Risk Assessment, Community Engagement and Outreach, as well as other strategies, such as building above code, adopting and enforcing more stringent regulations and utilizing FEMA best practices.



The second fact sheet: **“FEMA Building Science Resources to Help Reduce Risk and Improve Resilience”** provides numerous resources to help foster disaster-resilient communities. Within the framework of Risk MAP, various stakeholders and communities can use building science resources to help better understand their vulnerabilities and risks, along with options available to them for implementing effective mitigation efforts to reduce building and utility damage and down time and reduce flood insurance premiums.

To do this, there are currently over two hundred BSB flood, wind, Building Code, Mitigation Assessment Team (MAT), Recovery Advisory and other resources available. Ultimately, BSB resources can enhance Risk MAP product utilization by stakeholders and communities incorporating disaster resilience or best practices into their building and utility planning, code enforcement, design and construction.

To download these fact sheets, [visit here](#).

For additional information on FEMA Building Sciences, visit: www.fema.gov/building-science

For additional information on FEMA Risk MAP, visit: www.fema.gov/risk-mapping-assessment-and-planning-risk-map