

**FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
COMMUNITY PARTNER MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

AGREEMENT is made on July 23, 2001 by these parties: Puerto Rico Planning Board and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

BECAUSE the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), established by the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, has several purposes, the most significant being:

- To better indemnify individuals from losses through the availability of flood insurance;
- To reduce future flood damages through community floodplain management regulations; and
- To reduce costs for disaster assistance and flood control.

BECAUSE a critical component of this program is the identification and mapping of the nation's floodplains to create a broad-based awareness of the flood hazard and to provide the data necessary for community floodplain management programs and to actuarially rate flood insurance;

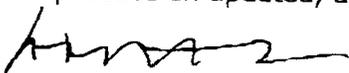
BECAUSE FEMA administers the NFIP and is authorized by §1360 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4101), to establish and update flood-risk zone data in floodplain areas. Further, in the identification of flood-prone areas, FEMA is authorized to consult with, receive information from, and enter into agreements or other arrangements with the head of any State, regional, or local agency in order to identify these floodplain areas;

BECAUSE FEMA encourages strong Federal, State, regional, and local partnerships for the purposes of reducing flood losses and disaster assistance; and FEMA and its State, regional, and local partners have determined that it is advantageous to encourage and formalize greater cooperation in the flood hazard identification and mapping processes;

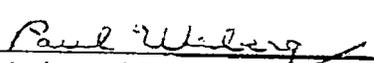
BECAUSE the Puerto Rico Planning Board participates in the NFIP and shares flood protection and/or floodplain management responsibilities for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and Puerto Rico has been deemed by FEMA to be in good standing in the NFIP; and

BECAUSE the Puerto Rico Planning Board has expressed a desire to cooperate with FEMA in the flood hazard identification process and have worked with FEMA to identify and prioritize Puerto Rico's flood mapping needs and develop a scope of study to produce an updated, digital flood map.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is mutually agreed that the parties enter into this agreement to work together to produce an updated, digital flood map for Puerto Rico.



Community Authorized Representative



FEMA Authorized Representative

7/23/01

date

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date