

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 16, 2009

Mayor Bud Norris
City of Mount Vernon
Post Office Box 809
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Dear Mayor Norris:

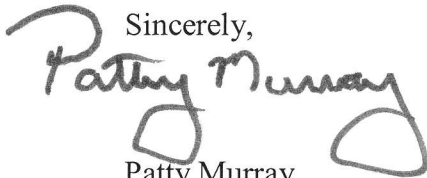
Thank you for your letter regarding the June 23, 2009, decision by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to suspend the processing of Mount Vernon's Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR).

Upon receiving your letter, our offices conducted a conference call with FEMA Region X staff to discuss the agencies decision to suspend the processing of the CLOMR. During the discussion, we expressed the City of Mount Vernon's displeasure with FEMA's recent decision and inquired on FEMA's due process for CLOMR applications. We informed FEMA that the City of Mount Vernon has questions regarding their recent decision to suspend the processing of their CLOMR. FEMA is willing to discuss any concerns the city may have and our district offices are ready to assist in facilitating a more detailed discussion on the CLOMR suspension between the City and FEMA.

It is clear that the City of Mount Vernon is dedicated to protecting its citizens and resources from the next 100-year flood, and we applaud the City's continued communication with FEMA on Skagit flood control efforts.

As your federal representatives we remain committed to helping local communities in Skagit Valley find a comprehensive and system-wide approach to flood control. Continued communication between the communities and federal agencies responsible for elements of flood control studies and projects is vital for continued progress toward protecting life and property throughout the river system.


Sincerely,



Patty Murray
United States Senator
Washington State



Maria Cantwell
United States Senator
Washington State



Rick Larsen
United States Congressman
Washington State, 2nd District