

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Kevin McDonnell](#); [Brian Barnacle](#)  
**Cc:** [-- City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Agenda #11 Flood and SLR Mapping updates/ Workshop  
**Date:** Monday, January 8, 2024 12:07:32 PM  
**Importance:** High

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Hi Kevin and Brian -

The questions I have for tonite primarily focus on a couple of things:

- the current modeling being developed does NOT include predicted climate change impacts for either pluvial (flooding due directly to precipitation) or fluvial flooding (flooding due to overflow and out-of-bank flows of creeks and rivers). In Petaluma above the COE flood weir and in our tributary creeks, that is a significant source of flooding. While WEST and Sherwood are explicitly addressing Sea Level Rise and anticipated tidal inputs to the model, predictive pluvial and fluvial data have not been included in their modeling.

- There are some very significant discrepancies between the draft flood model mapping that WEST and Sherwood have produced so far, and the predictive climate change flood modeling, parcel-specific, including depths, damages and frequencies produced by and available from the First Street Foundation (Flood Factor) (<https://firststreet.org/risk-factor/flood-factor> )

The modeling and assumptions used for Flood Factor should be addressed and included in our modeling.

In Petaluma, we have a long history of continually underestimating the risks, damages and costs to our residents and businesses from flooding of all types. With climate change impacts now allowed by FEMA to be included in the FIRM mapping, and with our new General Plan writing underway, we should be doing what we can to minimize the climate-change risks to our community.

Importantly, the City Council must explain clearly the choices you make for protection, including the benefits, residual risks, and expected costs and losses.

Thank you both for asking. I will be at tonite's workshop to listen, and to explain my concerns in more detail. I'm happy to answer your questions!

Sincerely,

David Keller  
Petaluma River Council

