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## UPPER DARBY SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTED TO BUILDING NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN THE 69TH STREET AREA

Upper Darby School District's Comprehensive Facilities Plan includes 69th Street area elementary school

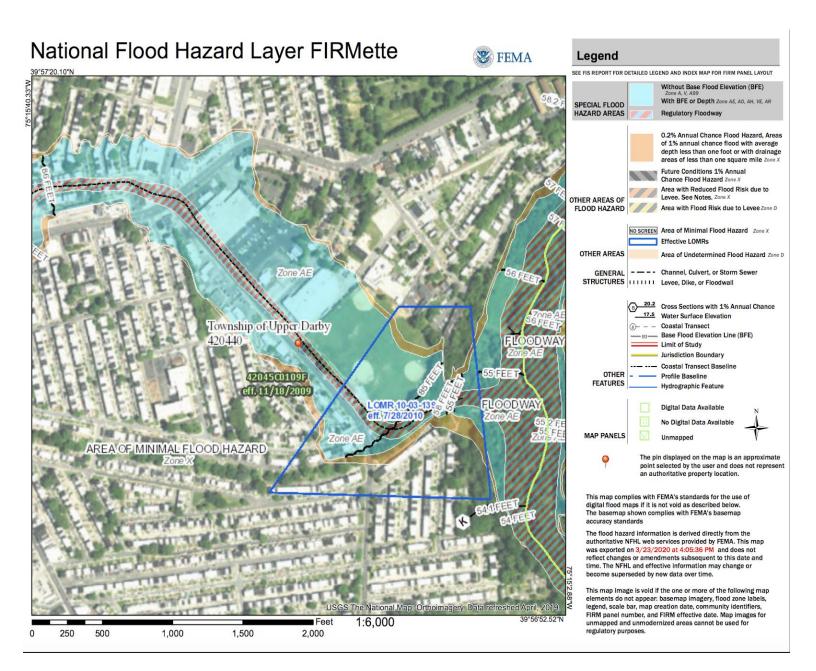
**Upper Darby**, **PA** - Upper Darby School District, faced with overcrowding in their Elementary and Middle Schools, remains committed to building a new elementary school in the 69th Street area.

The District has reviewed information from FEMA that the 69th Street site is designated as a flood plain (see <u>attached FEMA document</u>). The FEMA Flood Map included in this communication features the area(s) included in the flood hazard area, with the area under consideration for the new elementary school site (the athletic fields located at 69th Street) highlighted in blue.

The District acknowledges that building in the FEMA-designated flood prone zone would require several State and Federal reviews. A project completed in a flood zone may also lead to increased insurance costs as well as additional management and maintenance costs. The location also requires a change with current Township zoning ordinances because current ordinances do not permit the building of a school at that location. As a result of such considerations and guidance from the District's legal team and architectural consultants, the District will need to reconsider submitting a proposal to build in the flood prone area located on 69th Street.

"We are aware that there is a lot of messaging out in the community about the possibility of the District building a new elementary school on the athletic field located on 69th Street," says Dr. Daniel McGarry, Superintendent of Schools. "While this particular area has been deemed as a zone that is not advisable to build a brand new elementary school on, we remain committed to building a new elementary school in the most densely populated area of our school district."

\*\*Note: See the National Flood Hazard map from FEMA on the attached page.\*\*



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