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**CITY OF TEMPE  
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Council Meeting Date: 05/26/2016  
Agenda Item: 6B1**

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**ACTION:** Introduce and hold the first public hearing to adopt an ordinance amending Chapter 12, Article II, Tempe City Code, relating to floodplain management, by amending Section 12-29, relating to standards of construction, and by amending Section 12-31, relating to standards for utilities within special flood hazard areas. The second and final public hearing is scheduled for June 9, 2016. (Ordinance No. O2016.33)

**FISCAL IMPACT:** No impact on City funds.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt Ordinance No. O2016.33.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), directed by the United States Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), administers the Community Rating System (CRS) of which the City of Tempe is a part. The CRS rates communities on how effectively they administer the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs) also known as the 100-year flood plains and other flooding matters within their jurisdiction. For participating in this system, Tempe property owners receive discounts on their flood insurance policy premiums. Currently, property owners in Tempe receive a 15 % discount on policies for property located within a SFHA and 5% discount for policies outside the SFHAs. As part of this system, FEMA and the NFIP require a review and recertification of all of our floodplain management activities including our ordinances every five years. To continue our current rating, staff from Engineering and staff from the City Attorney's Office have reviewed the CRS recertification and our ordinances and are recommending these revisions. This ordinance amends two provisions to provide greater clarity and specificity to the floodplain permit requirements for construction within SFHA. These changes conform City standards of construction to the State's model provisions.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Ordinance.

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Department Director: Don Bessler, Public Works Director  
Legal review by: Chuck Cahoy, Deputy City Attorney  
Prepared by: Gregg Kent, Principal Civil Engineer – Land Services