Informing Homeowners Considering Housing Buyouts

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**Problem**

Uninformed homeowners make suboptimal decisions when faced with a housing buyout; local governments could provide better information about their options and situation.

**What is a housing buyout?**

A voluntary program where the government buys homes from residents to mitigate future hazards such as flooding.

**Statistics**

- in damages is mitigated for every dollar spent by FEMA through the HMGP
- months is the average time for a FEMA buyout program to purchase a property
- of structures flooded in Houston during Harvey were outside the 100-year floodplain

**Inaccuracy of floodplain maps**

The yellow represents the flooded structures inside the 100-year floodplain, the red are the flooded structures outside of the floodplain.

**Conclusion**

We want clear, accurate, and up-to-date information to be accessible for all who are faced with a housing buyout.

**References**