

**Memorandum****To:** Mayor and City Council

February 9, 2010

**From:** Suja Lowenthal, Second District  
Gary DeLong, Third District  
Gerrie Schipske, Fifth District  
Dee Andrews, Sixth District**Subject:** Flood Victim Assistance**REQUESTED ACTION:**

Request the City Manager identify ways to assist victims of flooding caused by our most recent set of storms including, but not limited to, waiving building and utility fees, expediting building plan review and low-interest loans funded by State of Emergency assistance funds.

Request the City Manager utilize the web-based property damage survey already established by the City shortly after the flooding to determine potential cost impacts and communicate with residents about the permit and loan opportunities.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The deluge of rain and winds hitting Long Beach during the week of January 18<sup>th</sup> caused millions of dollars in damage to private and public property. Review of rainfall numbers indicates that Long Beach received approximately 7.19 inches of rain over 7 days, including 1.5 inches within a one-hour period on Wednesday, totals that were among the highest for cities in Southern California. Storm drain systems and sand bag supplies at Fire Stations were overwhelmed during the torrential downpour as city crews, residents and businesses tried to contain rising floodwaters. Unfortunately, properties throughout the City were damaged by flooding, leaving residents without a place to stay and businesses without space to operate.

As residents and businesses assess damage and determine next steps for repairing or rebuilding facilities on their property, City government should identify ways to support their efforts such as waiving building permit or utility hook-up fees, expediting approval processes and offering low-interest loans. We would expect these efforts to occur in concert with insurance companies. Despite the City's own budget shortfall and storm-related damages, we can make a difference in the lives of our constituents through these small, but earnest gestures to assist them in a time of need.



**City of Long Beach Memorandum**  
*Working Together to Serve*

## REQUEST TO ADD AGENDA ITEM

**Date:** February 4, 2010  
**To:** Larry Herrera, City Clerk  
**From:** Councilmember Suja Lowenthal  
**Subject:** Request to Add Agenda Item to Council Agenda of **February 9, 2010**

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Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 2.03.070 [B], the City Councilmembers signing below request that the attached agenda item (due in the City Clerk Department by Friday, 12:00 Noon) be placed on the City Council agenda under New Business via the supplemental agenda.

The agenda title/recommendation for this item reads as follows:

Flood Victim Assistance

Council District	Authorizing Councilmember	Signed by
2	Suja Lowenthal	
3	Gary DeLong	
5	Gerrie Schipske	

Attachment:

CC: Office of the Mayor