



Date: February 12, 2010

To: Patrick H. West, City Manager

From: Casey Chel, Manager, Disaster Management
Angela Reynolds, AICP, Manager, Neighborhood Services

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: Low Interest Loans for Residents With Flood Damage

On Tuesday, February 9th, staff conducted a field visit with representatives from LA County, California Emergency Management Agency, and a federal representative from the Small Business Administration (SBA). The SBA makes loans to residents that have sustained storm damage.

Staff visited seven (7) locations found to have sustained the most significant storm damage. At all locations, residents had sustained major damage to both their homes and personal property. The SBA needed to document what had been reported on the storm damage hotline, which was set up and monitored by the Community Development Department. In order to receive assistance from the SBA, Los Angeles County must have at least 25 cases of major storm damage. The criteria used to define major storm damage is as follows:

1. Property owners must have sustained at least 40 percent structural loss and at least 40 percent of personal property loss, or
2. Renters must have sustained at least 40 percent loss of their personal property.

The SBA reported 22 such losses on February 9th in Long Beach alone and still had other areas to visit. Once the SBA finds and documents at least 25 instances of major storm damage, any and all individuals that have sustained losses, either to personal property or to their homes, are eligible to apply for low interest loans from the SBA.

Once the SBA makes a determination that LA County qualifies, Long Beach will be notified. Staff will then contact all of the individuals that have reported damage on the hotline and the press will also be notified. Staff will continue to take reports of storm damage and ensure that applications are being distributed to all the affected residents.

Once the SBA receives completed applications, it will be up to the SBA to send out representatives to visit each site, document the storm damage and process the applications for qualified residents.

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
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If you should have any additional questions, please call either Casey Chel at (562) 570-9251 or Angela Reynolds at (562) 570-6369.

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CC: SUZANNE FRICK, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
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