

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 3, 2011
TO: City Council
FROM: John Pietig, City Manager

SUBJECT: FRIDAY UPDATES

SBA Disaster Assistance!! – The Administrator of the Small Business Administration (SBA) office has approved assistance for Orange County which makes low-interest loans available for homeowners, business owners and renters that meet the requirements. Please see the attached news release describing the programs. There will be an SBA assistance center at the Chamber of Commerce starting February 10.

10th Avenue Hedge Height Appeal – This appeal has been scheduled for March 22 to work with the property owner's schedules. It will be a De Novo hearing. Councilmember Boyd appealed the item.

Odor Control System Status – The odor control system treating the North Coast Interceptor (the City's primary transmission pipeline) has been offline for several months due to pump damage at Laguna SOCWA lift station and to allow for sound attenuation equipment to be installed at Bluebird SOCWA lift station. At the Laguna SOCWA sewer lift station, a special pump was installed on Monday and it is back on-line. The other half of the system's odor control, at the Bluebird SOCWA lift station, remains offline pending the installation of the sound attenuation equipment which is scheduled for the first week in March.

OTC permit fees for flood victims – The waiver of over-the-counter fees to help flood victims safely return to the residents and businesses has been extended through the end of February. Examples of these types of permits include electrical, plumbing and dry wall repair permits. This waiver does not apply to permits for building new improvements or renovations.

Caltrans Speed Determinations for Laguna Canyon Road (Highway 133) – As a result of the City Council's objection, Caltrans will *not* be increasing the speed limit on the 133 from Cliff Drive to Coast Highway from 25 mph to 30 mph – the posted speed will remain at 25 mph. However, despite the City's objections, Caltrans has determined that the posted speed limit for southbound traffic on the 133 from the Festival area to Cliff Drive should increase from 35 mph to 40 mph and that the posted speed limit for southbound traffic on the 133 between the toll road (73) and El Toro will increase from 45 mph to 50 mph.

Junior Guard Program - The preparations for the Summer 2010 Junior Lifeguard programs kicks off later this month. The Marine Safety and Community Services department will host the first swim test for the 2011 Junior Guard program on February 26 at the Community Pool from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm. The test is required for youth new to the program. It is anticipated that 480 girls and boys between the ages of 8 and 15 will participate in the 2011 Junior Lifeguard session.

Sarah Thurston Park Restored – Sarah Thurston Park was covered with 180 tons of mud and debris from the December storm. City crews have removed the soil and debris. It will take a couple of months for the grass to reestablish.

Attachment



DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

Release Date: February 3, 2011
Release Number: CA 12459-01

Media Contact: Richard Jenkins
Phone: (916) 735-1500

SBA Offers Disaster Assistance to California Residents and Businesses Affected by Severe Winter Storms, Flooding, and Debris and Mud Flows

Sacramento, CA – Low-interest federal disaster loans are available to California residents and business owners affected by the severe winter storms, flooding, and debris and mud flows that occurred December 17, 2010 through January 4, 2011, U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Administrator Karen G. Mills announced today. SBA acted under its own authority to declare a disaster following the denial on January 27, 2011 of the state’s request for a major disaster declaration.

The disaster declaration makes SBA assistance available in the California counties of **Inyo, Kern, Kings, Los Angeles, Monterey, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara**, the neighboring Arizona counties of **La Paz and Mohave** and the neighboring Nevada county of **Clark**.

“The U. S. Small Business Administration is strongly committed to providing the most effective and customer-focused response possible to assist those residents and businesses affected by the severe winter storms, flooding, and debris and mud flows with federal disaster loans,” said Mills. “Getting our businesses and communities up and running after a disaster is our highest priority at SBA.”

“Low-interest federal disaster loans are available to homeowners, renters, businesses of all sizes and private, non-profit organizations whose property was damaged or destroyed by the disaster,” said Elizabeth Echols, SBA’s Regional Administrator. Beginning Tuesday, February 8, customer service representatives will be on hand at the following SBA Disaster Loan Outreach Centers to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA’s disaster loan program, explain the application process and help each individual complete their application. The centers will be open on the days and times indicated. No appointment is necessary.

<p>Orange County Disaster Loan Outreach Center Orange County Fire Authority 1 Fire Authority Road Irvine, CA 92602</p> <p>Mondays through Wednesdays 8 am – 4:30 pm Opens: Tuesday, February 8 <i>Until further notice</i></p>	<p>Orange County Disaster Loan Outreach Center Laguna Beach Chamber of Commerce 357 Glenneyre Street Laguna Beach, CA 92651</p> <p>Thursdays and Fridays 9 am – 5:30 pm Opens: Thursday, February 10 <i>Until further notice</i></p>	<p>San Bernardino County Disaster Loan Outreach Center Highland Family YMCA 7793 Central Avenue Highland, CA 92436</p> <p>Mondays through Fridays 9 am – 5:30 pm Opens: Tuesday, February 8 <i>Until further notice</i></p>
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San Bernardino County
Disaster Loan Outreach Center
High Desert Government Center
15900 Smoke Tree Street
Hesperia, CA 92435

Mondays through Fridays
8 am – 4:30 pm
Opens: Tuesday, February 8
Closes: Friday, February 11
Reopens: Tuesday, February 22
Until further notice

San Luis Obispo County
Disaster Loan Outreach Center
Ramona Garden Park Center
993 Ramona Avenue
Grover Beach, CA 93433

Mondays through Fridays
9:30 am – 6 pm
Opens: Tuesday, February 8
Until further notice

Disaster loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property.

Businesses of any size and private, non-profit organizations may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. SBA can also lend additional funds to homeowners and businesses to help with the cost of making improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

For small businesses and most private, non-profit organizations of any size, SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any property damage.

Interest rates can be as low as 2.25 percent for homeowners and renters, 3 percent for private, non-profit organizations and 4 percent for businesses, with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by SBA and are based upon each applicant's financial condition.

Disaster loan information and application forms are also available from SBA's Customer Service Center by calling SBA toll-free at (800) 659-2955, emailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov, or visiting SBA's Web site at <http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance>. Hearing impaired individuals may call (800) 877-8339.

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via SBA's secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

The filing deadline to return applications for property damage is **April 4, 2011**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **November 2, 2011**.

*For more information, visit SBA's Web site at <http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance>.
SBA Field Operations Center - West, P.O. Box 419004, Sacramento, CA 95841*

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