



CITY OF IOWA CITY

410 East Washington Street
Iowa City, Iowa 52240-1826
(319) 356-5000
(319) 356-5009 FAX
www.icgov.org

November 20, 2008

Dear Flood Affected Homeowner:

I have been hired to assist in the preparation of Iowa City's application for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) property acquisition project. At the October 6th City Council work session, the Council agreed to submit the application for those properties that were in the 100 year flood plain and received substantial damage (damage of at least 50% of pre-flood market value of the house) or met a Benefit Cost Analysis(BCA) of greater than 1.00. The BCA is a measure of cost effectiveness in reducing flood hazard risk. I have enclosed a map of the properties the Council agreed Iowa City should submit.

The City Council, at its November 17th work session, discussed several possible alternatives for reducing the impact of future floods. Along with the submission of this HMGP application, they discussed such things as possibly elevating streets, capping storm sewers, and using temporary or permanent flood barriers. The development of any plan will include many opportunities for public input. While the process is just starting, it should be noted that several of these measures, if part of the final plan, may have an impact on properties eligible for acquisition if the homeowners decide to remain in their home.

In July, the City sent to homeowners a questionnaire inquiring if they were interested in being included in the HMGP acquisition program. Since several people have contacted us and indicated they may have changed their minds regarding whether they wanted to be included, we are asking you to return the enclosed form to indicate your preference. Please return the form in the enclosed envelope by December 1, 2008.

The decision to be included in the application is voluntary. However, for those people that are interested, we will need to include the enclosed form with the HMGP application. Even if you sign the form, you may change your mind at any time prior to closing. However, when the application is submitted to the regional FEMA office in January, we will need to include information for all homeowners that might be interested.

I realize you may have questions regarding the process and whether you may want to be included in the application. Feel free to email me at david-purdy@iowa-city.org or call me at 319-356-5489.

Sincerely,

David Purdy
Flood Recovery Specialist

Enclosure

November 19, 2008



**City of Iowa City
Homeowner Interest and Voluntary Notice**

Please complete this form and return by December 1st to let us know if you want to be included in the property acquisition application to be submitted to FEMA in January. If you sign yes, you may change your mind at any time prior to closing.

Property Address:

Owner's Mailing Address:

Owner's Name:

Contact Phone Number:

The decision to participate in the FEMA property acquisition process is strictly voluntary. Neither the State nor Iowa City will use its eminent domain authority to acquire property for open space purposes if you choose not to participate in the FEMA property acquisition process, or if negotiations fail.

_____ Yes, I am interested in being included in the acquisition application

_____ No, I am not interested in being included in the acquisition application.

Owner Signature

Date

Owner Signature

Date

Please return by December 1 to:

**David Purdy
City of Iowa City
Flood Recovery Specialist
410 E. Washington Street
Iowa City, IA 52240**