



# CITY OF IOWA CITY MEMORANDUM

04-30-09

IP5

Date: April 29, 2009  
To: City Council  
From: Jeff Davidson, Director of Planning and Community Development  
Re: Update: Flood-related activities

## Planning and Community Development

- Staff attended the Long Term Recovery Committee meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup>. The next meeting will be held on May 26<sup>th</sup>.
- \$1,340,461 in Jumpstart State and Federal funds have been distributed. Staff continues to distribute the remaining funds to homeowners.
- The CDBG Rental Rehabilitation program began this week; staff will work with the 5 landlord applicants to distribute available CDBG funds.
- The application to the Iowa Department of Economic Development for the Single-Family New Unit Production program was submitted on April 29. This \$2.3 million grant will assist up to 40 income eligible homeowners with downpayment assistance to acquire a new home. Staff is working with six developers/builders and six lenders to construct the 40 homes in six subdivisions scattered throughout Iowa City. The intent of the program is to replace the 40 homes lost during the flood. The homes will be accessible, will sell for less than \$180,000 and will have "green" features. The City chose the Housing Trust Fund of Johnson County to assist with the administration of this program.
- Staff is continuing to work to be prepared for when the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (buyout) application is approved. We are collecting receipts for duplication of benefits review, collecting abstracts for updating and ensuring the homeowner returns their citizen or qualified aliens form. Staff is also completing the HMGP administrative plan, which will be sent to City Council for their approval at the May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Iowa City will be receiving additional Community Disaster Grants funds. The additional amounts to be received are unknown at this point. The funds will be used for additional housing rehab or repair. Community Disaster funds will be sent to Iowa City in the next 2 weeks.
- Staff is working with the Engineering Department to complete an application for CDBG Public Infrastructure funds to elevate the Normandy Road/Manor Drive intersection.
- The legislature has completed their work and the city can now determine how the I-JOBS bonding proposal fits with their other disaster recovery funding options. The legislature did change their criteria to include disaster recovery and lessened the proposed match requirements. Disaster recovery projects now need only a 25% match while economic stimulus projects require a 50% match.
- The Community Foundation of Johnson County has allocated up to \$37,000 in addition to their previous allocation of just over \$57,000 to assist flood-affected homeowners with rental and mortgage payments. With this latest allocation, we have assisted 8 households with over \$22,000.00 in mortgage assistance. We have contacted another 6 households and are awaiting responses from them.
- The Jumpstart Business Recovery program was closed out April 15:
  - 56 applications
  - 51 approved for funding: totaling \$1,241,000.
  - 1 pending approval: totaling \$5,000
- The Business Rental Assistance Program Opened on April 16 and as of today, we have received 26 applications totaling \$335,300 in business rental assistance requests.