



# CITY OF IOWA CITY MEMORANDUM

10-01-09

IP8

Date: October 1, 2009  
To: City Council  
From: Director of Planning and Community Development  
Re: Update: Flood-related activities

## **Planning and Community Development**

- The first nine homes acquired through the HMGP buyout program have been demolished.
- Iowa City has closed on 17 HMGP buyout eligible properties- 15 with HMGP funds and 2 with Community Disaster Grant funds. Several more homes in the HMGP program will be acquired over the next 2 weeks.
- Doug Ongie attended the Johnson County Long Term Recovery Committee Meeting. He updated the committee on the status of the housing buyouts in the Parkview Terrace and Taft Speedway area.
- Staff continues to review Jumpstart applications for disbursing State Jumpstart 3 funding. There is \$731,722 in Jumpstart 3 funds remaining for housing rehab/repair, down payment assistance, and interim mortgage assistance. Residents that have previously applied for Jumpstart funding do not need to apply again to be eligible for Jumpstart 3 funding.
- Jeff Davidson participated in the Mayor's cable television show on Wednesday, September 30 to discuss flood recovery projects.
- Several staff members from Planning, JCCOG, Engineering and the University of Iowa participated in a conference call with staff from the Rebuild Iowa Office, Iowa Department of Economic Development, Environmental Protection Agency, representatives from a private architectural firm and representatives from a market analysis company on Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss the redevelopment of the flood affected area near the north wastewater treatment facility. A series of workshops and neighborhood meetings will be held in mid-November.
- Planning staff attended a flood recovery coordination meeting with the University and Coralville.
- Planning staff walked Elks Club property that we are hoping to acquire and is assisting the City Attorney's Office with negotiations.
- The Business Rental Assistance Program is well underway. Applications have slowed, though there are still some coming in and we continue to take calls from realtors trying to get businesses in formerly flooded commercial properties. This week, the state added to the documentation required for each recipient, so staff will be working with folks who have already received funds and those eligible to, to gain the employee and payroll information now required.