



CITY OF IOWA CITY MEMORANDUM

Date: November 12, 2008
To: City Council
From: David Purdy, Flood Recovery
Re: HMGP Buyout Application update

At your October 6 work session, you identified the properties you wanted to be included in the application to the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) for buyout assistance.

We have started working on several aspects of the buyout application. One of the first steps is to contact the homeowners to see if they are still interested in being included in the buyout application. As Jeff Davidson indicated at the meeting on October 6, there are a few homeowners who may have changed their minds since the initial questionnaire was sent to them in July. Their participation is voluntary. We will be sending the homeowners a letter this week to verify their interest in participation in the buyout.

A requirement of the HMGP application is that the applicant have a FEMA approved Hazard Mitigation Plan. Since Iowa City's Hazard Mitigation Plan will not be completed at the time of application, the City will be seeking a waiver to file the full plan at a later date. The City, as well as Johnson County and Coralville, hired ECICOG to complete the Hazard Mitigation Plan. ECICOG will complete the waiver on behalf of the City.

We are proceeding with other parts of the application including obtaining full legal descriptions, collecting environmental and historic preservation information, establishing a budget, etc. These items should be more fully completed in the next few weeks.

City staff has met with the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management office several times and they will be assisting us in reviewing the application before it is submitted to the FEMA regional office.

Please let me know if you need further information. I can be contacted at David-Purdy@iowa-city.org or by calling 356-5489.

Cc: Michael Lombardo, City Manager
Dale Helling, Assistant City Manager
Eleanor Dilkes, City Attorney
Jeff Davidson, Director of Planning & Community Development
Marian Karr, City Clerk