



CITY OF IOWA CITY

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

November 21, 2008

Dear Jumpstart/CDBG Applicant,

With winter weather arriving, I am sure many of you are anxious to secure your flood-affected homes, and at times, frustrated with the funding process. I hope this letter will inform you of recent developments and give you a better idea of what you can expect in terms of receiving funds and how much you might receive.

Jumpstart State

The City is currently in the process of delivering the Jumpstart state funds. To date we have issued and/or distributed \$163,202 to six recipients; we have committed an additional \$426,047 to another 8 households. Please note that the remaining committed dollars are maximum eligibility amounts; the actual amount distributed to a household will vary based on actual repair estimates, actual interim mortgage payments and actual down payment assistance needed to purchase a specific home. These projections do not reflect households that may choose CDBG funds so there is a possibility that the Jumpstart State funds could stretch further.

Jumpstart Federal (CDBG)

The City of Iowa City and other flood affected communities are working to get the Iowa Department of Economic Development (IDED) to remove the current restrictions they have imposed regarding lead abatement and comprehensive rehab that includes bringing all household components up to building standards, even if they were not damaged by the flooding. The current restrictions imposed by the IDED are prohibiting many cities from being able to effectively distribute the \$1.2 million in CDBG funds. Mayor Bailey recently sent a letter to Governor Culver addressing these issues and we are waiting to hear a final decision. For an explanation of the issues, please see the letter from Mayor Bailey to the Governor at www.icgov.org/recovery.

New: Community Foundation of Johnson County Housing Assistance

The Community Foundation of Johnson County has joined forces with the City to create an interim housing assistance fund. This \$50,000 fund will provide flood-affected homeowners with up to \$1,000/month for 3 months in rent or mortgage assistance. The eligibility criteria for these funds are similar to CDBG eligibility criteria except that the homeowner's flood affected residence must not be slated for buyout and their income must be 120% or below median. Letters have been sent to the first 16 eligible households; the City is hoping that additional funds will be available in the near future to assist more households.

As always, please feel free to call me with any questions at 356-5479 or nasseem-moradi@iowa-city.org. Also, please check www.icgov.org/recovery for flood recovery updates.

Nasseem Moradi
Flood Recovery