



County of Santa Cruz 235

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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ALVIN D. JAMES, DIRECTOR

November 18, 1998

AGENDA: November 24, 1998

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, California 95060

LANDSLIDE HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM STATUS REPORT

Dear Members of the Board:

On November 10, 1998, your Board deferred a status report related to the Landslide Hazard Mitigation Program to today's agenda. The Planning Department is pleased to advise your Board that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has awarded \$1.9 million in Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds to the County of Santa Cruz for ten residential properties affected by landslides in the county during this past winter's El Niño storms. FEMA's announcement of the Landslide HMGP awards has been included as Attachment 1 for your Board's review. Although we have been verbally apprized by FEMA and the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) that all of our applications were approved, the Planning Department has not yet received the formal written notification of the HMGP award from FEMA and OES. The list of approved properties is as follows:

ADDRESS	ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER(S)
1105 Amesti Road	108-371-12
1 108 Amesti Road	108-371-11
1133 Amesti Road	108-371-03
1175 Amesti Road	108-371-09 and 108-371-10
609 White Road	049-022-08
226 Hayward Drive	041-091-17
19320 Hidden Springs Lane	089-391-21
18704 Highway 9	087-1 1 I-O I and 087-1 1 I-02
380 Heartwood Hill	086-082-46
400 Heartwood Hill	086-082-45

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Additionally, the Public Assistance (PA) Section of FEMA is currently working on completion of Damage Survey Reports (DSRs) to fund demolition work at the landslide project sites; and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has announced that they are making \$9.1 million in Individual Assistance (IA) funds available to the State. These Individual Assistance funds can be applied to costs incurred by the property owners that are not covered by the Landslide HMGP. When we receive formal notification of these funding sources, we will provide the information to the affected property owners.

On September 15, 1998, we reported to your Board that the HMGP landslide properties could be acquired by a geologic hazard abatement district (GHAD). The Planning Department is currently working with the County Administrative Office, County Counsel, Public Works and Real Property on the formation of the GHADs for acquisition of the HMGP landslide properties. It is anticipated that the GHADs will also take all actions related to demolition or relocation of the residential structure(s) as well as debris removal and/or mitigation or stabilization measures taken to reduce the threat of future land movement. We are prepared to return to your Board by December 15 with recommendations regarding the formation of the geologic hazard abatement districts for the Landslide Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.


It is therefore RECOMMENDED that your Board:

1. Accept and file status report on the Landslide Hazard Mitigation Grant Program; and
2. Direct the Planning Department to report back on or before December 15, 1998 with program recommendations.

Sincerely,


Alvin D. James, AICP
Planning Director

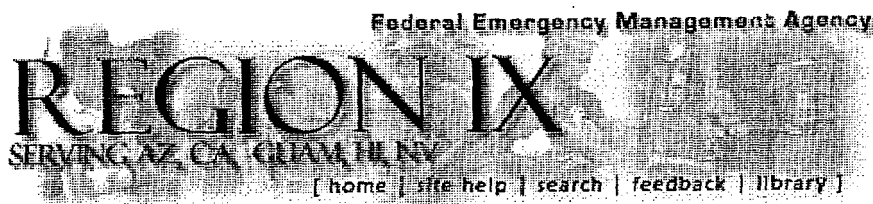
RECOMMENDED:


SUSAN A. MAURIELLO
County Administrative Officer

ADJ:DG.hmgp\1203awardbos.wpd

Attachment

cc: County Administrative Office
County Counsel
Public Works
Real Property
Auditor-Controller



More Than \$22 Million Going To California Communities Affected By El Nifio Landslides

San Francisco, November 17, 1998 -- Landslide-stricken California communities will receive grants totaling more than \$22 million, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES).

The money is for the communities' use in acquiring 165 residential properties affected by landslides during this past winter's El Nifio storms. The properties are now uninhabitable or remain at risk from further landslide activity.

Funding from FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) was made available after the El Nifio disaster struck. The program is administered in California by OES.

Last August, the two agencies identified HMGP dollars available for a statewide landslide acquisition or relocation program. Local communities that suffered El Niño slides applied for "buyout" funds through OES, which reviewed and prioritized all proposals. OES then recommended eligible projects to FEMA for its review and funding.

"This acquisition program is unique and unprecedented," said Martha Whetstone, regional director for FEMA Region IX. "FEMA has been working closely with our state and local partners. Our ultimate goal is to ensure the safety of the communities. This is a major, cost-effective step in helping the affected cities and counties become more disaster resistant."

"This is the first time California has applied mitigation funds to reduce landslide risks," said Richard Andrews, director of OES. "Local governments were very responsive in providing excellent and detailed application information, which enabled us to get mitigation projects to FEMA for approval in record time."

The total cost of the various local acquisitions was approved for \$30 million, of which \$22 million, or 75%, is the federal share. (An accompanying table shows funding recipients and amounts.)

Any structures that remain on the acquired properties will be demolished. Land will be kept as open space, to be maintained by the appropriate local government entity.

In the past, FEMA and the state have used mitigation funds in California to acquire properties that had been flooded repeatedly. However, this is the first time money is being provided for local governments to buy or relocate homes affected by landslides.

Not including the landslide-related acquisitions, FEMA and the state have already approved \$15.5 million on housing assistance and emergency repair, individual and family grants, infrastructure repair and reconstruction, and hazard mitigation following the El Nifio disaster. Of that sum, \$12.8 million was allocated for hazard mitigation projects.

ACQUISITION GRANTS - CALIFORNIA LANDSLIDES
1998 El Niño Storms Disaster (FEMA-DR#1203-CA)

Jurisdiction	# of properties	FEMA/federal grant \$
City of Laguna Niguel	32	6 million
City of Laguna Beach	1	124,400
City of Los Angeles (Canoga Park, Northridge, Studio City)	10	2.4 million
City of Santa Paula	1	126,000
City of Santa Barbara	7	1.1 million
County of Humboldt (Trinidad)	17	1.3 million
County of 'Los Angeles (Malibu, Topanga)	4	860,500
City of Oakland	4	310,000
County of San Mateo (La Honda, Loma Mar)	11	1.2 million
City of Pacific&	10	1.2 million
County of Sonoma (Monte Rio, Rio Nido, Santa Rosa, Sebastopol)	44	3.4 million
City of Berkeley	1	216,100
County of Monterey (Watsonville)	10	1.5 million
County of San Benito (Aromas)	1	348,000
City of Daly City	2	254,000
County of Santa Cruz (Aptos, Boulder Creek, Watsonville)	10	1.9 million
TOTALS:	165 properties	\$22 million

Updated: November 18, 1998

Federal Emergency Management Agency