

TEMPORARY SANITARY SEWER DISASTER RECOVERY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Background:

Severe thunderstorms and heavy rains affected the entire Lincoln metro area on October 1, 2014 and May 6-7, 2015. Both storms were extraordinarily intense rain events and overwhelmed the capacity of the City's wastewater treatment facilities. The storms caused sewer back-ups in a number of Lincoln neighborhoods.

This Temporary Sanitary Sewer Disaster Recovery Assistance Program is designed to limit long term public health problems from exposure to sanitary sewer back-ups by providing recovery assistance to homeowners, renters, and small business owners impacted by sanitary sewer back-ups caused by those storms.

Purpose:

To make available financial resources for the purpose of providing supplemental recovery assistance in the aftermath of the two storms that impacted Lincoln residents and business owners, for which insurance or other disaster recovery assistance is inadequate or not available. Such assistance is intended to aid in preventing public health problems associated with exposure to untreated sewage.

Fund Administration:

The Temporary Sanitary Sewer Disaster Recovery Assistance Program (the "Program") will be administered by Neighborworks, a nonprofit Lincoln housing support agency with support and advice supplied by the City's Law Department. Final approval of reimbursement expenses will be made by the Law Department.

Qualifications:

Under the Program, homeowners, renters, and business owners may be eligible to receive supplemental disaster recovery assistance funding for damage mitigation reimbursement, subject to the documentation of disaster-related damage, documentation of uninsured losses, and the availability of Program funds. Government entities will not be eligible for reimbursement under this program.

Damage must be directly attributable to and verifiably the result of sanitary sewer back-ups related to the storms that occurred on October 1, 2014 and May 6-7, 2015 that are not otherwise eligible for other sources of disaster aid. Costs eligible for reimbursement will be limited to remediation expenses which resulted from sewage backing up into homes, businesses, and other structures. Affected homeowners, renters, and businesses must be able to document expenses that are not covered by individual or group private insurance policies, including, but not limited to, homeowners, personal property, flood or other similar insurance policies or disaster aid.

Other Program requirements and conditions may apply.

Amount of Fund:

The total amount of the funding for the Program is \$1,000,000.00, including administrative costs. The disbursement of the Program funds shall be on a first come, first serve basis. The funding for the Program will come from the City's Risk Management pool.

Reimbursement Limits:

Up to \$5,000 reimbursement for either the October or May storm or both, per dwelling or business unit.

Application For and Disbursement of Funds:

Affected homeowners, renters, and business owners who meet the aforementioned qualifications, or are otherwise eligible for assistance, must submit an application and documentation for assistance no later than July 15, 2015 for either or both storms.

Applicants who suffered damage in May must contact the Public Works Department by June 30, 2015 to request that an inspection be scheduled. Affected homeowners, renters, and business owners who suffered damage on October 1, 2014 must be able to provide sufficient documentation of the nature of their damage in order to be eligible to submit an application for reimbursement for remediation.

Examples of remediation expenses would include materials and services used to drain or remove sewage from a home or structure, removal of building materials damaged and likely to result in mold, cleaning services, and supplies used to remove or disinfect sewage impacts, removal of furnishings, and other items within a home that may be damaged by contact with sewage.

All aid recipients will be expected to sign a release of all claims against the City related to the October and May rain storms.