LARIMER COUNTY
COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OFFICE

Suzanne Bassinger, PE
Recovery Manager
200 W. Oak Street
Post Office Box 1190
Fort Collins, Colorado 80522-1190
(970) 498-7148
Fax (970) 498-7006
E-mail: sbassinger@larimer.org

Dear High Park Fire Area Homeowner,

Hopefully the beginning of this spring season finds you well. I am writing to inform you of some new funding (and volunteer) programs that may possibly impact you, or your neighbors.

As you are keenly aware, the occurrence of the September 2013 floods presented a huge challenge to Larimer County and our residents, including you, the residents just starting to recover from the High Park Fire. The High Park Fire was declared a Presidential Disaster, yet it did not receive a classification allowing Individual Assistance from federal funds. The September 2013 Flood, which caused extensive state-wide damage, was also a Presidentially-declared Disaster, but it did receive higher levels of federal assistance, including Individual Assistance (IA). What does this mean? Please read on:

· A significant source of Individual Assistance released by the federal government is called the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Relief (CDBG-DR) program.

· Originally released only for Flood-2013 survivors, many state and local agencies worked hard to include previous declared disasters– including the High Park Fire – as retroactively eligible through the CDBG-DR program.

· CDBG-DR provides assistance to primary-home owners in rebuilding and repairing their homes and driveways, and can also provide down-payment assistance for those choosing to relocate to a home in another part of Larimer County.

· This is a federal program, and there are applications and conditions for eligibility that must be met; but if you qualify, the assistance may be worth the process.

Although the High Park Fire occurred in 2012, I know many of you are still working at getting your lives back to a "new normal" and may be getting used to a new home, or are in the rebuilding process, or may be just starting to think of rebuilding, or purchasing another home. We are sending this letter in hopes that this CDBG-DR program might benefit you.

The State of Colorado has designated the Loveland Housing Authority as the agency responsible for administering the CDBG-DR program for all of Larimer County, not just the Loveland area. The Loveland Housing Authority is charged with taking applications from residents for the CDBG-DR program, whether they were impacted by the High Park Fire or the September 2013 Flood. Assisting the Loveland Housing Authority will be the Larimer County Long Term Recovery Group (LTRG) and the Colorado Spirit – Mountain Outreach Team. Both of these groups were formed after the High Park Fire, and their services were continued in the aftermath of the 2013 Flood.

Both the LTRG and the Mountain Outreach Team are now ready to assist the Loveland Housing Authority in reaching out to High Park Fire residents still in need. The LTRG has been strengthened and improved due to the experience gained after our two back-to-back disasters, including a more organized, active volunteer coordination group waiting to hear if there are High Park area homeowners with projects in need of assistance in 2015. The LTRG can be reached at (970) 461-2222. You may also visit their website www.larimerLTRG.org.

Please take a moment to read the attached summary of the CDBG-DR program and be sure to contact the **Loveland Housing Authority at (970) 667-3232** if you think there is any possibility you may be eligible for this funding.

As always, I am available at (970) 498-7148 to also answer any questions or concerns you may have regarding the new CDBG-DR program, or potential projects in need of volunteers. Thank you for your attention and I wish you the best.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Bassinger

Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery

For High Park Fire Survivors

Assistance is now available for *High Park Fire Survivors* with the release of 2nd round Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds. These funds are allocated by the Federal Government to respond to disasters across the country. The State creates an Action Plan identifying community needs and as a part of the State of Colorado's plan, a request for assistance for High Park Fire was included and approved. Below is an overview of the programs we can offer.

In addition to the programs listed below, reimbursement may be available to homeowners for personal funds spent on rebuilding between June 28, 2012 and June 28, 2013. To be eligible for reimbursement, a homeowner's income must be 80% or below of the area median income and homeowner also must show an unmet need after insurance or other assistance. *(A request is being made to the Federal Government for an extension of the June 28, 2013 deadline for reimbursement)*

Program Highlights

Rebuilding	Home Access	Home Purchase
• Funding up to $100,000 • Income restrictions may apply. *(call for details)* • Rebuilding of a primary residence. • Funding must fill the gap and be an unmet need after insurance or other assistance was expended. • Generally, home should be similar in nature to home prior to the fire.	• Repair or replacement of private bridges, culverts and roads. • Priority is given to low/moderate income households but there are no income restrictions. • County roads or public/private access roads are not eligible. • Assistance is generally for roads/bridges serving 1 to 5 homes on a pro rata basis – homes must be primary residences.	• Funding up to $50,000 • Income may not exceed 80% of the area median income. *(Call for details)* • Assistance for the purchase of replacement housing. • Home must be a primary residence. • Applicants must have been directly displaced by the fire.

The Loveland Housing Authority, is the managing agent for these CDBG-DR programs for all of Larimer County. Call (970)-667-3232 and ask to speak to a Disaster Recovery staff person if you are interested in learning more about these programs and all requirements.

LOVELAND Housing Authority

Department of Local Affairs

Larimer County Long Term Recovery Group