

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

January 20, 2012

The Honorable Jerry G. Brown, Jr.
State Capitol Building, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

Representing the San Gabriel Valley cities most impacted by the November 30 through December 1, 2011 windstorm, we urge you to approve recovery assistance allowable under the California Disaster Assistance Act. For the past seven weeks, our cities have been struggling to recover from this unprecedented windstorm that dramatically affected our communities and impacted our citizens. The cost of the emergency response and cleanup approaching \$40 million and will continue to climb until the clean-up and repairs are completed.

Initially, we experienced challenges determining the cost for this event. One of the greatest was the early joint damage assessment conducted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the California Emergency Management Agency. While still responding to the emergency and attempting to restore power, we were asked to provide a preliminary damage assessment when the full extent of the damage was not yet determined. Quite frankly, we underestimated the true impact in the immediate aftermath of the storm. When a request for an extension of time was made to provide accurate data it was denied by Cal EMA.

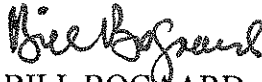
Receiving word that this event did not qualify for FEMA reimbursement was devastating to every jurisdiction affected. Even though the statewide per capita damage did not meet the FEMA threshold, we sustained an extraordinary level of damage in a fairly concentrated area. In addition, although critical facilities did not suffer permanent long-term damage the economic impact to affected cities, already straining financially, have been huge.


Attached is a list highlighting the damages and financial losses for each impacted city.

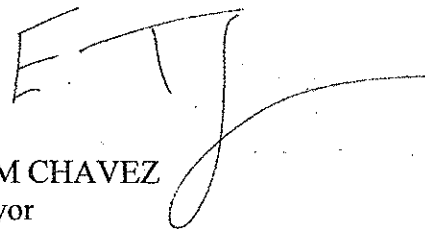
We respectfully request that you grant recovery assistance funds under the California Disaster Assistance Act which allows state reimbursement of the cost of damages sustained. Without such assistance, the cost of coping with the natural disaster will fall on local government

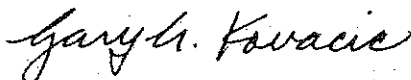
alone and may further impact our ability to maintain levels of services, invest in critical infrastructure, and be responsive to the next major natural disaster.


Sincerely,

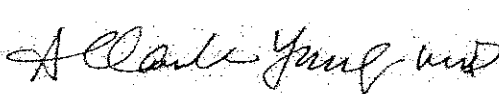

BILL BOGAARD
Mayor, Pasadena

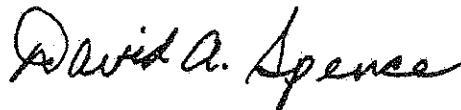

JOHN BUCHANAN
Mayor
City of Sierra Madre


TOM CHAVEZ
Mayor
City of Temple City


GARY A. KOVACIC
Mayor
City of Arcadia


MICHAEL A. CACCIOTTI
Mayor
City of South Pasadena


ALLAN YUNG, MD
Mayor
City of San Marino


DAVID SPENCE
Mayor
City of La Canada Flintridge

BB/dac
/attachment

Windstorm Statistics by City

SIERRA MADRE

- \$1.3 to \$1.7 million estimated expenditures for windstorm. The City's General Fund \$4.5 million in reserves which is 50% of the City's annual revenues
- Approximately 3,500 hours, including 1,000 are overtime hours, which is equivalent to the City's entire Public Works Department working on debris removal for five straight weeks.
- \$100,000 was spent on mutual aid as the City required additional personnel from West Coast Arborists and Calif. Conservation Corporation to assist
- 5,500 tons of debris collected which is equal to six months of City's annual trash removal
- \$200,000 was spent on dumping fees
- Civic Center and Water Department generators failed that provides emergency back-up to City Hall, Police and Fire services/9-1-1 dispatch system.
- Since 2008, the City of Sierra Madre has experienced a fire in the foothills and three years of mud and debris flows. The City has used \$800,000 in reserves to pay the City's cost share of these emergencies. The 2011 windstorms will further erode the small reserve balance of the City leaving it with less than 30% of its General Fund.

TEMPLE CITY

- \$1.2 million estimated clean-up costs
- \$10 million in projected damage costs
- Over 1,000 calls for service received
- Over 500 fallen trees (accounts for 10% of City public trees)
- 70 miles of impacted streets from debris
- 30 homes sustained significant damage
- 4,000 properties sustained damage or approximately 40% of City's housing stock
- Total of 7 days without electrical service
- 19 days to complete clean-up

ARCADIA

- Over \$2.7 million in damage and clean-up costs. This does not include numerous additional costs for damage that are not FEMA-eligible for reimbursement.
- Within Arcadia's 11 square miles, a total of 570 public trees were destroyed by the winds, leading not only to the massive clean-up efforts and expense, but also to a large number of residents being without power for a full week's time.
- A total of 10,000 tons of debris removed.
- A total of 921 calls for service to the Public Works Services Department and over 1,300 calls to the Police Department.
- A total of 23 units were red-tagged as uninhabitable through the disaster with significant damage to 61 homes. Public safety costs were significant as blocked streets and downed power lines created numerous hazards during the clean-up effort.

- In addition, Los Angeles County facilities within Arcadia's boundaries, such as the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden and Arcadia County Park, suffered major damage from the storm not included in the \$2.7 million in City costs.

PASADENA

- Over \$17 million in estimated clean-up costs
- 6,330 or 10% of electric customers without power
- 54 housing units red-tagged
- 38 structures yellow tagged
- 100 transformers damaged
- 30 utility poles required temporary repair and permanent replacement
- 6,407 incidents reported to the Public Works Department
- 325 miles of streets experienced falling trees, falling limbs, utility poles and/or wires
- 1,500 mature tree street and park trees down, uprooted or unstable
- 525 city trees requiring removal
- 50,000 tons (100 million pounds) of debris collect all of which is 100% recycled

SOUTH PASADENA

- \$2 million in total damages
- 150 trees destroyed
- 350 truckloads of green waste collected
- \$419,000 of uninsured losses to personal property
- 2 residential homes destroyed
- \$8,110.00 due to loss of power at reservoirs, water pressure fell to critical levels. Residents were asked to conserve through December 1st. City purchased over 7 acre feet of water (over 2.2 million gallons)

SAN MARINO

- \$1.5 million in total damages representing 7% of the city's General Fund Budget
- 305 fallen trees or heavy branches
- 69 blocked roadways
- 14 homes that sustained significant damage
- 3 vehicles damaged
- 48 down electrical wire incidents:
- 2 damaged/broken traffic signals
- 59 damaged street lights
- 14 damaged street signs

LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE

- \$300,000 is estimated for clean-up costs
- 600 tons in windstorm waste/debris collected