

Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Jacky Morales-Ferrand

**SUBJECT: REBUILDING OUR COMMUNITY: FOLLOW-UP FROM THE 2017
COYOTE CREEK FLOOD** **DATE:** August 1, 2018

Approved

D. D. S. L.

Date

8/1/18

INFORMATION

Throughout the 2017 Coyote Creek flood, the City of San José deployed extensive resources into the community in response to this catastrophic event. During the response and recovery efforts, several City departments came together to address the needs of the community. Personnel, as well as existing City programs and services, were redirected to assist in the recovery efforts. Among those efforts, the Housing Department worked with its non-profit partners Habitat for Humanity and Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley to provide flood impacted residents with minor repairs that allowed families to reoccupy their homes. During the Mayor's 2017 March Budget Message¹, the Mayor acknowledged the work of these organization and the Council directed the Administration to work with the Mayor's Office of Strategic Partnerships to seek external funding to support the flood recovery efforts. This information memorandum provides the City Council with the results of those efforts.

BACKGROUND

Over the past several years, the City's Housing Department has funded Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley and Habitat for Humanity East Bay Silicon Valley to administer a minor repair program for low-income residents of San José. Each year, these agencies receive approximately \$1.5M collectively through the City's federally funded Community Development Block Grant program. Combined, these agencies assist approximately 350 households per year with repairs and improvements that allow low-income mobilehome and single-family owners to remain in their homes and live in a safe and healthy environment.

To support the flood recovery efforts, the Housing Department worked with both agencies to redirect their program resources and prioritize low-income residents impacted by the flood. Limited to serving low-income homeowners through this program, the Housing Department, in conjunction with both agencies, organized community meetings within the two mobilehome parks affected by the flood as well as the Olinder neighborhood to inform the community of resource options and assist residents with program applications.

¹ Mayor's 2017 March Budget Message (2.b)

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ANALYSIS

Through these efforts, Habitat for Humanity and Rebuilding Together assisted a total of 77 households with repairs to their flood damaged homes. The table below provides the final breakdown of City funded repairs:

Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley	
Golden Wheel Mobilehome Park – MobileHome Repairs	25
Olinder Neighborhood – Single-family Repairs	2
Total	27
Habitat for Humanity	
South Bay Mobilehome Park – MobileHome Repairs	49
Riverbend Mobilehome Park – MobileHome Repairs	1
	50
Total Homes Repaired	77

Work included, repair or replacement of damaged heating systems; water damaged structural supports; skirting replacement; electrical repairs; and mold remediation. The cost to the City for these repairs totaled \$269,000. Both agencies had sufficient funding under their existing contracts with the City to cover these costs at the time of the repairs. The Housing Department provided additional funding to both agencies in the FY 2017-2018 contracts to accommodate the backlog that both agencies experienced while focused on flood recovery.

As directed by the Council, City staff worked with both agencies to leverage outside resources. Habitat for Humanity leveraged \$16,000 in grant funding from the Sharks Foundation and Rebuilding Together was able to leverage \$15,000 from Bank of America. Each agency assisted five additional families, bringing the overall total to 87 families assisted.

While both agencies successfully leveraged external funding for the recovery efforts, perhaps the most impactful and meaningful resource leveraged was the volunteer resources that these agencies provide. Without the dedicated volunteers that support these organizations mission, many of these repairs would not have been possible or would have taken considerably more funding to complete. While the cost of labor and material can be easily calculated, the impact that these two organization and their volunteers have made on the lives of those 87 families is immeasurable.

/s/
 JACKY MORALES-FERRAND
 Director, Housing Department

For questions, please contact Jacky Morales-Ferrand, Housing Director at 408-535-3855.