



ADMINISTRATION

September 18, 2013

Message from Lafayette's Mayor and City Council

The events of the past week have brought with it much suffering and loss. While the impact on Lafayette was not as severe as in other communities, we know that damage was sustained by a number of community members. Our thoughts are with those residents and our neighbors who have been dealt extreme losses, both in their personal lives and in their community. As the extent of damage to families, personal property and public infrastructure is becoming more clear, we want to make sure that people know how they can receive assistance and provide it.

Boulder County is part of the national disaster recovery area and being supported through the national disaster recovery relief fund. On Monday Lafayette participated in a conference call with FEMA Director Fugate who outlined the steps of applying for disaster relief. It is important to stress that anyone impacted by the floods first and foremost must complete an application through the FEMA website <http://www.disasterassistance.gov/>. Not everyone will qualify for funding, but without this application you will not be considered. Those applicants without flood insurance will be referred to the SBA to be considered for low interest loans to assist with damage. Another option that may be available to applicants is a FEMA grant which is designed to support shared responsibility. These grants will not rebuild your home, but will help with short term housing. Another agency to look to for assistance is the Foothills United Way which supports Boulder and Broomfield Counties. Their website is <http://www.unitedwayfoothills.org/> and can be contacted at 866-760-6489.

Because of Lafayette's good fortune in averting widespread devastation, we are inspired to offer help to those who have been more severely impacted. The Lafayette City Council unanimously agreed to donate \$10,000 from the Council contingency to Elevations Credit Union's flood relief fund. The Elevations Foundation will match dollar for dollar our donation doubling the City's contribution. Elevations is working directly with local agencies to ensure all money collected will go to temporary housing for individuals and families displaced by this disaster.

Those looking to offer assistance can visit www.helpcoloradonow.com. This site connects donors and volunteers with appropriate agencies needing assistance.

The City of Lafayette has set up a website, www.cityoflafayette.com/Flood, which references various flood recovery resources. Continue to check this site as new information continues to be added.

We hope this message finds you and your loved ones safe. Know that our thoughts go out to everyone who has suffered losses and is facing the challenging effects of this disaster.

Sincerely,

Mayor Carolyn Cutler on behalf of the Lafayette City Council