



## STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Dear Property Owner:

**Re: July 2017 Flooding and September 18<sup>th</sup> Response Deadline**

As you may know, your property is located in the 100-year floodplain and may be subject to flooding. The Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (SMC) administers a voluntary buyout program for flood-prone properties. In this program, we apply for grant funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), that provides a portion of the project cost, with local funding providing the balance. Project expenses include acquisition, demolition and restoration of the property. If you choose to participate in the program, your property will be reviewed towards meeting the program minimum criteria, and subject to approval by FEMA. If approved, the buildings would be demolished and the site restored to open space with the City of Highland Park being responsible for maintaining the land.

This program is voluntary, you can drop out at any time and are under no obligation to participate. If you choose to participate, and the project is approved by FEMA, an independent appraisal company will be assigned to perform a fair-market value appraisal on your property. Then the SMC would make you an offer to buy your property for the fair-market value. At that point; you could accept the offer, contest the offer and have your own appraisal done, or reject the offer and drop out of the program. The application process is competitive and the program requires several components to be considered for funds, including evidence of flooding of each building submitted in the application.

Participation responses from property owners to SMC are due in our office **September 18<sup>th</sup>** and the SMC application to FEMA is due November 1<sup>st</sup>. If you are interested in participating, please fill out the enclosed forms and send back via email, or in the enclosed envelope at your earliest convenience. Please call our floodplain buyout program lead, Sharon Osterby at (847) 377-7706 [sosterby@lakecountyl.gov](mailto:sosterby@lakecountyl.gov) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
LAKE COUNTY STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Warner".

Michael Warner, PE, CFM  
Director

enclosures