

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Bonita Springs announces Hurricane Irma Voluntary Home Buyout Program

Bonita Springs, Florida – July 24, 2019 – The State of Florida has allocated \$75 Million to the most impacted and distressed areas of the state through the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Voluntary Home Buyout Program. The goal of the program is to reduce the risk of flooding through the purchase of damaged or destroyed properties impacted by Hurricane Irma. Properties located in the flood plains will receive priority review.

The City is applying for this Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds. The grant application is due August 15, 2019. Should the City receive grant funds, acquisition efforts will be focused in the Quinn/Downs Street areas of Bonita Springs. The project boundaries are Interstate 75 on the east, Bonita Beach Road on the south, Lime Street on the west and the Imperial River on the north. City staff will be canvassing this neighborhood on Monday, July 29; Tuesday, July 30; and Wednesday, July 31 explaining the program.

If you are interested in this program and your property falls within the project boundaries noted above, the City would like to meet with you to discuss the purchase of your property. The City is holding two neighborhood meetings outlining the program specifics. The neighborhood meetings will be held at City Hall, 9101 Bonita Beach Road on:

Thursday, August 1 – 6:30pm to 8:00pm

Tuesday, August 6 – 6:30pm to 8:00pm

The City of Bonita Springs is also seeking citizen participation, public comment, and input for the Florida Voluntary Home Buyout Program at the Public Hearing scheduled for August 7, 2019 at 5:30 P.M.

Please understand that there is no guarantee that funds will be available in the future to buy your property. This is a voluntary program intended to provide you a Fair Market Value for your property. The power of eminent domain will not be used to acquire property.

Any questions, comments or inquiries regarding the programmatic requirements of the funding source can be addressed to Elly Soto McKuen, Senior Project Manager at (239) 949-6246 or through email at Elly.McKuen@Cityofbonitasprings.org.