

An Important Announcement

Single Family Home Repair Program –

Suspension of New Application Intake

Because of the high volume of applications in the current workload, the Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD) has suspended accepting any new applications for assistance under the Single Family Home Repair Program (SFHRP), except applications for assistance under the “Emergency Home Repair Program”.

An Emergency is defined as a situation or condition that occurred recently (generally within two (2) weeks) without warning that is a threat to the life, health or safety of a Homeowner and requires immediate action (within 24-72 hours). To qualify for consideration under the “Emergency Home Repair Program”, the applicant must meet the following criteria:

- The homeowner must be at least 62 years of age and/or meet HCDD disability requirements;
- The homeowner must pay property taxes to the City of Houston; and
- The request for assistance must be within two (2) weeks of the occurrence of the emergency event and are typically, limited to the following situations:
 - gas leak
 - water main break or presence of raw sewage
 - electrical power hazard
 - sudden structural damage to the foundation or roof
 - handicap retrofit (due to sudden medical emergency)

As of the date of this posting, HCDD is processing nearly 2,000 applications to determine eligibility. For applications already accepted, qualified applicants will continue to be processed for home repair assistance under the Hurricane Disaster Relief Program, Tier II (Home Rehabilitation) and Tier III (Home Reconstruction) Programs.

Applications must be fully completed before HCDD will authorize the initiation of home repairs. Fully completed applications for qualifying applicants are accepted on a first come, first serve basis. As such applicants are strongly encouraged to complete and submit all documentation needed to verify eligibility for assistance in a timely manner.

Barring unforeseen circumstances, except for the “Emergency Home Repair Program”, HCDD does not expect to accept any new Home Repair applications for assistance until sometime after December 31, 2011.

To check the status of a submitted application or for answers to a specific question, please contact Becky Benitez within HCDD at 713-868-8339 or email becky.benitez@houstontx.gov.

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