

NEWS

From the County of San Bernardino
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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County to conduct community meeting on flood threat

The office of Second District Supervisor Paul Biane and the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Works/Flood Control District along with the Devore Rural Protection Association will conduct a community meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 29 on flood issues in Devore.

The meeting will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Kimbark Elementary School cafeteria, 18021 Kenwood Ave. The meeting's purpose is to provide Devore residents with an update regarding Greenwood Avenue and other local flooding issues facing the community of Devore. County staff will discuss the actions taken to date and also present the US Army Corps of Engineers preliminary report on alternatives for potential future protective measures.

Last year's wildfires have left Devore and other communities below the burn area particularly susceptible to flash flooding, debris flows, and mudslides. The county has taken dozens of measures to protect residents from the flooding that occurs following major wildfires. Most recently the Board of Supervisors has approved more than \$5.2 million in projects throughout the county to increase the capacity of county flood control facilities along the foothills and prevent debris, mud, and water from entering populated areas.

While the 2003 wildfires were still burning, the county began preparing flood basins and warning residents of the increased flood risk. The county created the Flood Area Safety Task Force made up of public safety and flood control experts to make preparations for possible flooding.

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The county's public outreach campaign, launched while the fires were still burning, included door-to-door contacts, community meetings, creation and dissemination of literature, news media outreach, and a warning letter mailed to every household in the flood area. The county also created an automated telephone notification system to warn residents about impending hazards.

Information on the post-fire flood risk has been available on the county's Internet site since November 2003 – shortly after the wildfires were extinguished. The information can be viewed at <http://www.sbcounty.gov/floodinfo/>.

Community Meeting

Regarding an Update on
**Greenwood Avenue and Other
Flooding Issues in Devore**

With Supervisor Paul Biane's office,
the San Bernardino County
Department of Public Works and the
Devore Rural Protection Association

When: Wednesday, September 29
Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Place: Kimbark Elementary School
Cafeteria